



RETURN OF THE BELLS

As the bells came round after three hours and nine minutes of Yorkshire Surprise Royal on 8th September 2018, the band had the satisfaction of knowing we had rung the first peal on the restored bells of St Mary's Berkeley and suitably commemorated the life of Mr RJG Berkeley, our patron and generous donor.

The restored bells first rang out for the Remembrance Day civic service in November 2017 and the first peal was attempted in February this year. Unfortunately, the Grandsire Caters was lost after an hour due to the forgetfulness of the conductor (the author) in a turning course.

After over 4 years of very limited ringing, much hard work raising funds towards the bell tower appeal and work on the tower by volunteers, the bell tower project is complete.

In 2010, cracks in the bell frame were discovered during a routine check of the bells. There was also a crack in the stone work which the architect had been monitoring for a while and had been getting worse. One louvre window was boarded up and ringing of the 4th bell had to cease. Estimates for the repairs, revealed that approximately £100,000 was needed.

In 2013 under the Chairmanship of Steven Chandler, assisted by John Cornock, and with patrons Mr RJG Berkeley, Lord Cope of Berkeley and Professor Mark Horton, an appeal committee was formed. The St Mary's Bell Tower Appeal was formally launched, with a drinks reception in the Great Hall of Berkeley Castle, in September 2014.

Two years of fundraising followed with events such as Vintage Teas, a Michael Berkeley concert and a ringers' lunch, raising over £12,000. We are grateful to the War Memorial Trust, Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund for their generous contributions (over £30,000), and to Chris Smith, our then Treasurer, for his meticulous work in approaching these and other grant bodies to obtain funding. We would also like to thank all the individual donors who, in total, gave over £52,000 to the Appeal. The

final total raised, including VAT refunds, was £115,500.

In September 2016, with fund raising progressing well, the Parochial Church Council gave the go ahead for work to begin the following year. Churchwarden Jane Fisher oversaw the building aspects and Tower Captain Tim Soanes the work on the bells. This began in April 2017 when the bells and frame were removed from the tower by the John Taylor Bell Foundry (Loughborough) Ltd, assisted by a team of local volunteers, and taken to the foundry for storage.

In May, scaffolding went up and local firm Kilcot Conservation began the repair work to the tower. As well as repairing the crack, the work involved replacing the ringing chamber ceiling, re-asphalting the tower roof, installing a new door to the roof, re-planking the floor of the clock chamber and the replacement of some of the stonework at the top of the tower. Repointing to the outside of the parapet and repair of string courses was carried out using a team of abseilers.

Re-asphalting the roof meant that the obsolete Ordnance Survey Trig Point on the roof (Trig point Station number T056 Secondary block ST57 Berkeley Church Tower) was destroyed (with the knowledge and permission of OS).

Once work to the tower began, it became apparent that additional work was needed. Iron cramps in the string courses had rusted and displaced the masonry, some of which

was loose. The cracked louvre window was found to be too weathered and fragile to repair and a new replacement panel had to be carved and inserted.

With the building work complete, the bells were returned from Taylors foundry, where they had meanwhile been cleaned and re-tuned, in September 2017. Again, a willing team of volunteers led by Tim Soanes assisted the experts from Taylors in reinstalling the newly built frame and bells in the ringing chamber.

The works were completed on time and within budget and the bells rung for the first time on 7th November 2017.

Our patron Mr John Berkeley suggested we hold a celebratory event and offered Berkeley Castle as a venue. Very sadly he didn't live to see that event.

...continued on Page 7...



Road Closure

Details have been issued regarding closure of the A38 Bristol Road for resurfacing from Friday 5th October until Monday 22nd October.

Overnight closures will be on week

days from 7pm until 7am and will cover a stretch of road going north from the junction with Berkeley Road, near the Prince of Wales Hotel.

The official diversion will be in place and will be similar to the one that was

in place when the bridge was being replaced - taking people via Stonehouse on the A419, then on the A46 towards Old Sodbury, the A432 and then the A4174 at Filton before re-joining the A38.

OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

What a glorious summer we have had! My garden has been a hive of activity with lots of butterflies and bees taking advantage of the many perennials I have planted over the years. Shrubs such as Buddleya and Potentilla Dawn have flowered from early June and still have flowers on them even now. My best perennials for long flowering are Geraniums (Rozanne), Helenium (Ruby Charm), Alstromeria, Salvias (Neon and Love Wishes), Lobelia (Sparkling Ruby), Anthemis (E C Buxton), and Astrantia (Hadspens Blood) and some Dahlias which I have grown from seed called Bishops Children. Two annuals which have flowered nonstop are French Marigolds and Zinnia Elegans. All have given great pleasure to me and the wildlife throughout the whole of the Summer. So if you need something new in your garden give them a try.

I have been busy with seed collecting and taking hardwood cuttings of gooseberries and blackcurrants. If you would like to take some hardwood cuttings you will need stems that are about pencil thick, strong and healthy. Each stem can be cut into several cuttings. It may be easy to forget which end of the cutting is which so cut stems into 15-23cm (6"-10") long, make a straight cut at the base under a leaf node and a sloping cut at the top away from a bud. Treat the base with hormone rooting powder. They can be placed directly into the soil outside in a sheltered spot or into deep plant pots filled with compost with added grit and put into a cold frame or greenhouse. They will produce roots by Spring.

Tender and half hardy plants such as Dahlias, Fuschias, Cannas and Pelargoniums will need protection now. This means finding a home for them in a greenhouse or shed. Keep them on the dry side during Winter.

The Strawberry patch needs a tidy at this time of year. If you have used straw under the fruits this must be lifted and placed on the compost heap. Removing this will increase air flow throughout the bed which will stop mould developing. Trim off the old foliage at the same time as this will encourage fresh healthy leaves in the spring. Also cut off runners that have grown. You could use these for extra plants for a new strawberry plot.

If you have a pond in your garden it is an ideal time to clear out overgrown plants and weeds that are choking it up. Don't leave it until Spring when pond dwellers are breeding. All the debris that you remove should be left by the side for several days to allow accidental evacuees to scramble back into the pond.

Spring bedding can be planted out in containers or borders. There may be gaps where you have cleared out summer plants when they have finished flowering. These gaps can be filled with Sweet William, Forget-me-nots, Bellis, Wallflowers, Pansies and Polyanthus. Spring time would be all the poorer without the sight and scent of these displays.

Another job to be done if you have the time is to treat timber with preservatives. Sheds, fences, wood garden furniture all need to be protected from the Winter weather. There are many different types of timber preservatives on the market in a range of colours. Make sure they are not harmful to plants. The weather this month is often dry which allows painting jobs to be done.

At this time of the year there is always the age old problem of what to do with all the fallen leaves. If they are left lying around plants this may encourage slugs and snails. It seems to be something of a tradition to burn leaves in the Autumn but this is a waste of a valuable commodity so why not create a container for the leaves in which they can decompose and will produce after a year or two some wonderful organic matter. A container can be constructed with four stakes and some chicken wire netting. Just drive the posts in the ground to form a square and nail the netting around the posts. The leaves will look tidier and will not blow away all round the garden. If you do not have room for this then put the leaves in a black polythene bag with a few holes in it and tie them up. This could be put behind the shed and left for a year and then used as valuable compost.

It is this time of the year when I take stock of my garden, make notes of what has done well and what I would like to grow next year. Why not take a break from gardening if the weather is bad and make a plan. You will be surprised at how useful notes and photos can be when you start to order seeds and plants for the coming year.

Happy gardening until next time.

Ann Legg

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Sarah's Field

Firstly a great big thank you to all of the local residents who have donated carpets and given kind supportive comments on the progress so far. We have enough carpet now to line the ponds so we won't be collecting any more, but thank you all. Both ponds are now lined with a patchwork of colourful carpets. They will be lined with 2 layers of fabric, a layer of butyl rubber and a pond dipping platform will be constructed made from recycled plastic.



Despite the dry conditions, most of the fruit trees are healthily growing and have produced some fruit. We plan to make some sustainable labels for the fruit trees.

With those two subjects in mind; please come along on Saturday October 6th to a Ponds and Apple Day.

Bring plenty of windfalls of both cooking and eating apples as ripe as possible as we will be chopping, pulping and pressing them to make fresh, rich amber coloured juice.

Please also provide containers for the juice which will keep for a day or two in the fridge. We will also be landscaping around the ponds, laying stepping stones and other activities on the open day.

We had a visit from Radio

Gloucestershire Tuesday 21st August and were interviewed for the Sunday morning show. If you want to hear the interview it can be found on BBC iPlayer, broadcast Sunday 2nd September between 09:00 and 10:00

A couple of lovely, locally made wooden benches have been bought and are being positioned so that visitors to the field can really enjoy spending time overlooking the ponds area and the whole site.

We continue to mow the paths, scythe the grasses and nettles and attempt to manage the brambles as much as possible.

If you would like to come along any Tuesday from 10:30 until 2:30 please do. There is always plenty to do. We have started to plant some bulbs around the site using the random bulb throwing technique and are planning the entrance to improve the access.

As the days go by, each week people have been calling in and recounting their tales of past Berkeley folk and past events including a circus that used to come to the field. If you have any stories to tell from days gone by, please call in or email them, see email address below.

So again, please do come along on October 6th to join in with some autumnal fun in Sarah's Field, 12:00 until 16:00.

Contact for more details:
fred@stroudvalleysproject.org

"INTO THE WOODS" – TMTG'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY MUSICAL

Rehearsals are in full swing for Thornbury Musical Theatre Group's next show, the fairy tale musical "Into the Woods". In our 50th Anniversary year we have opted to perform something a little different giving our audiences a chance to see a musical which is rarely seen on the amateur stage.

Performances are at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from Wednesday 24 to Saturday 27 October at 7.30pm nightly, including a matinée on Saturday at 2.30pm.

"Be careful what you wish for" seems to be the ongoing theme in this story which follows The Baker and his wife who wish to have a child, Cinderella who wishes to go to the King's Festival, and Jack who wishes his cow would give some milk. Along the way, we meet Little Red, who is trying to visit her grandmother, the Wolf who loves tasty little girls, the Witch's daughter Rapunzel, and the Princes chasing after their loves. There are many twists and turns along the way, sometimes funny, sometimes sad, revealing the darker side to fairy tales. Consequently, the show is suitable for children of Key Stage 2 and older.

Tickets from £10.50. Contact the Box Office on 07516 270140 or book online at www.tmtg.org.uk. Tickets are also available at Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings at 53 High Street, Thornbury. The staff are big fans of TMTG and always delighted to meet our audience members, but remember it's a very busy office so please be patient if they're not available the first time you call.

For more information about "Into the Woods" go to our website www.tmtg.org.uk or follow us on Facebook.

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Berkeley Gardening Club

A well attended meeting last month of Berkeley Gardening Club listened to Tim Hancock from Tortworth Plants.

Why not come along this month to Berkeley Library and listen to Nick Morgan a retired Curator from RHS Wisley talk about managing garden pests and diseases.

Join us on Wednesday 17th October at 7.30pm



independence trust

Community Wellbeing Service – Stroud and Berkeley Vale

Many things affect our health and wellbeing, such as where we live, how we spend our time, our financial situation and our relationships with friends and family.

Sometimes, we need a bit of help, for example, when coping with a short or long term health situation, or when life throws other challenges our way. This is where we can help! Our Community Wellbeing Agents (you may remember them as Social Prescribers or Village Agents) are part of a countywide service who tailor their advice to your needs.

Independence Trust is one of a number of Community Wellbeing providers in Gloucestershire who have been commissioned to offer the service. We offer the service in Stroud and Berkeley Vale and our Community Agents are experts in the locality.

Who can access the service and what can the service offer?

Community Wellbeing Service is a free and confidential service for anyone over the age of 16. The aim of the service is to connect you to local services, organisations and groups that can help you to improve your general wellbeing and meet your wider social needs. Community Wellbeing Agents can help you with:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Long term health conditions
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- Social isolation Housing and environment
- Debt and finance

How do I refer?

Contact us at your local GP Surgery or call us directly on 0345 863 8323 (press option 2) or visit www.independencetrust.co.uk



Operation Christmas Child

Last Christmas we were very pleased to send over 100 gift-filled shoe boxes to deprived children in Bulgaria, via the charity Samaritan's Purse.

If you would like to help again in this years Shoe Box Appeal please contact Grace King 811138 for more information.

Severn Vale Flower Club

Our Open Meeting will be held in the Armstrong Hall Thornbury on Monday evening 5th November. Doors open at 6.30pm for 7.30pm. There will be refreshments, raffle and charity sales tables.

"A Classic Christmas" is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Michael Bowyer M.B.E. Michael comes from Salisbury and is a well-known demonstrator, speaker, judge and teacher, and has been involved with many flower festivals.

For tickets and more information, the nos. to ring are 01453 811089 or 01454 885213.

Berkeley Educational Swimming Trust (BEST)

September Draw

Winner	Brian Butcher	Ball No. 18	£20.00
Runner Up	Lawrence Beresford	Ball No. 3	£15.00

The draw took place on 3rd September by Laine at Longfield. On behalf of BEST may I thank Longfield for their continuing support.

Gill Badsey, Lottery Manager for BEST

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Berkeley Town FC Update – Aug/Sept

Following a busy summer break behind the scenes, the new football season is well and truly underway. The First team, who are once again being managed by Terence Stevenson, have had a strong start in Northern Senior 1. Already, the league is looking really competitive and with no real stand out sides, it looks likely to be a very competitive season. Despite losing their opening fixture at Longlevens, they have put together a four game unbeaten run, and at the time of writing, they sit 4th in the table having Played 5, Won 2, Drawn 2, Lost 1.

The Reserves on the other hand, have had a really tough start as Hunter's stalwart Pete Lavis adapts to his new role of Reserve team manger. Although only 3 games in and only 1 point on the board, their record reads Played 3, Drawn 1, Lost 2. The season doesn't end in September and if one thing's for sure, once holidays are over and players return, Pete will have more continuity within his squad and should be able to turn fortunes around.

Training is now being held at Rednock School, Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. All welcome.

Off the field, the summer has been relentless for those involved behind the scenes. Following a sizeable investment into the playing surface, Groundsman Andy Tayler faced a continuing battle with Mother Nature into trying to ensure that the pitch was

ready for the new season. A huge well done to him and his team in achieving this as a number of teams have already commented on the quality of the surface. Links with Severnside Youth Football club have now been forged with them now using Canon Park as their base and we as a Club, are grateful for this. Who knows, this could be the new generation of Berkeley Firsts?

In the Clubhouse, a number of decorating and remedial works have been carried out, to enable a better experience for those utilising the building. As we are now working in tandem with Severnside, Youth Club and New Berkeley Harriers, it is imperative that we don't rest on our laurels and continue to forge links with the wider community of Berkeley. Following the success of a few functions held recently, the Clubhouse is available for hire for parties etc, please contact Diane Edwards for more details or email berkeleytownfc events@gmail.com with details of event and dates.

For those who are social media savvy, you can follow all of the up to date goings on at the Club (Matchday info/ events) on our Facebook page - Up the Hunters.

Finally, as we are celebrating our 120th Anniversary as a Club, we are holding a celebratory ball on Friday 17th November at Cattle Country. All current and former players are welcome to attend as well as followers/

supporters and friends of the Club. The format will be black tie with a 3 course meal and live entertainment - £45 per head. Please contact Andy or Sarah Tayler for more details.

Forthcoming Home Fixtures/ Events

Sat. 6th October – 1sts v Welland (League – 15:00 ko)

Sat. 13th October – Reserves v Chalford 3rds (League – 14:30 ko)

Sat 20th October – No Games – Children's themed party and Screening of "The Greatest Showman" – Contact Vicki Kerr for details.

Sat. 27th October – Firsts v Charlton Rovers (League – 14:00 ko)

The Bar and kitchen is open all Matchdays and we usually screen the live football showing on BT Sport.



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RETURN OF THE BELLS...continued from the front page

On Sunday 12th November 2017 over 100 people gathered in the Great Hall of Berkeley Castle for a drinks reception to celebrate the completion of the bell and bell tower restoration work. Lord Cope and Charles Berkeley welcomed those present. Steven Chandler and Tim Soanes gave a talk about the works undertaken.

The Bishop of Gloucester, the Right Reverend Rachel Treweek, visited St Mary's on Sunday 21 January 2018 to re-dedicate the bells. We rang before the Choral Communion service which was attended by about 135 people, including our Patron, Lord Cope, and members of the Berkeley family. In the middle of the service the Bishop with her Chaplain processed to the (detached) tower led by the Crucifer, the Tower Captain, a Reader, the Vicar and the Churchwardens. All gathered in the Ringing Chamber where the Bishop re-dedicated the bells and led prayers. The bells rang out as the procession returned to the Church and the service then continued.

After the service we rang a quarter peal of 1282 Yorkshire Surprise Royal, with Tim Soanes and Steve Chandler representing the Berkeley ringers. Only ten months later did we finally succeed in ringing the full peal of 5040 changes, which was fitting insofar as it marked the final closure of the parish accounts for the bell tower appeal, with all grants having been received and invoices settled.

Steve Chandler JP, Chairman of the Appeal

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association, Berkeley, Gloucestershire

St Mary the Virgin

Saturday, 8 September 2018 in 3h 9m (21-1-3 in E□)

5040 Yorkshire Surprise Royal

Composed by Edmund Shuttleworth

1	Jane D Bull	6	Ian P Unsworth
2	John Cornock	7	Ian D Bucknell
3	Anthony M Bulteel	8	Andrew A Ward
4	Steven D Chandler	9	D Paul Smith
5	James M Joynson	10	Andrew M Bull (Conductor)

First peal on ten: 5. First peal on the bells since rehanging and retuning.
First peal on the full ten for 9 years. Rung in celebration of the life of Mr. John Berkeley, joint patron and major supporter of the restoration appeal.

CHANGES TO RECYCLING CENTRE OPENING TIMES

To reflect the 25 per cent reduction in custom throughout the winter months, the five household recycling centres (HRC's) in Gloucestershire will be reducing their opening hours.

From 28th October Gloucestershire County Council's Household Recycling Centres will be closed one day mid-week, either on a Tuesday, a Wednesday or a Thursday.

As the evenings get colder and darker, the HRCs across the county receive almost 30 per cent less waste and recycling. In order to reflect this and save taxpayers money, HRCs will be open from 10am until 4pm, six days a week.

On Tuesdays, Fosse Cross (Cirencester) and Oak Quarry (Coleford) will be closed.

On Wednesdays, Pyke Quarry (Horsley near Stroud) and Wingmoor Farm (Bishops Cleeve) will be closed.

On Thursdays, Hempsted (Gloucester) will be closed.

The council collected data from recycling centres and this told us that midweek is the quieter period at our sites. Importantly, the closure rota also means HRCs in the county will still be open on Bank Holiday Mondays and Good Friday, which are especially busy days at the sites.

Residents will have a reasonable alternative recycling centre with this closure pattern, by closing sites at opposite sides of the county. The new opening arrangements and how the sites are used will be monitored.

When summer returns in 2019, HRC's will open an hour earlier at 9am and close an hour later at 5pm. Each site will still close one day a week.

The information on the closure days and new seasonal times are now online at www.recycleforgloucestershire.com.



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KERALA DISASTER RELIEF FUND

Hello,

The Gloucestershire Malayalee Association (GMA) is a non-profitable community having more than 200 families from Kerala are living in Gloucestershire. We are working together to help and support the people who are affected in Kerala.

As you are aware that the state of Kerala, India has been facing unusually high rainfall since early July this year, which has led to statewide floods taking several lives and causing severe damage.

Rescue operations to evacuate stranded residents across Kerala from flash floods, landslides, house collapse and overflowing rivers have been hampered due to inclement weather. Even though army personnel and teams from National Disaster Relief Force have reached Kerala and people of all parts of India are extending their help, still some areas they are unable to reach as roads are blocked either by floods or landslides. Almost all areas are under water and all districts are worst affected.

According to the government, there hasn't been a flood of this scale in last 100 years. The death toll currently stands

over 500. More than 500,000 people have been living in relief camps now. The total loss is over 10 billion pounds. Ten out of 14 districts are badly affected. Over 30 dams in the state were opened due to water rise 24/7 continued to open. More than 40,000 houses were totally ruined, about 6500 miles of public roads were also destroyed. People will have to bear the loss of this disaster for a long time. We need to continue the support at present and for the future as the after effect is unimaginable.

We are fund raising to help people across the state in all possible ways. It will be extremely helpful if you could donate as much as you can.

Please refer to the news report for further information:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-45232327>

Account Name : Gloucestershire Malayalee Association
UK Account : 81855212
Sort code : 40-22-09

Donate through Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/donate/287489885386623/>

Thank you for your great kindness.

Vinod Mani, President, GMA

A WONDERFUL DAY OF DISCOVERY

On August Bank Holiday Monday 2018 Dr Jenner's House hosted their first ever Discovery Day, a celebration of Jenner's ongoing legacy.



© David Ackerman

With 244 visitors that was five times as many visitors as would be expected on the busiest of days! They were treated to a debate and a wide range of talks from 9 amazing speakers.

The release of weather balloon was very popular with many people gathering in the herb garden to watch its release by Dr Jenner, pictured left. The balloon made it all the way to

South London, over 100 miles in just under 2 hours, with valuable weather data collected on the way. The amazing aerial image below was taken from the balloon shortly after take off and has been kindly shared by Peter Gibbs, the veteran BBC weatherman who helped with the launch of the balloon.

In the main garden a number of marquees provided a base for activities ranging from science experiments from the Cheltenham Science Group, games from the British Society for Immunology, a chance to get your hands on some dinosaur bones provided by Bristol Museum and some crafting courtesy

of local Tomatojack Arts who with the help of the visitors created a giant mosaic smallpox virus and a mosaic balloon which will now be displayed in the museum.



In the house there was a chance to try a new virtual reality game: The Chantry and a selection of microbe themes mobile games.

Refreshments were available in the form of delicious ploughman's lunches and a wide variety of cakes, a welcome break on such a busy day!

Congratulations to everyone involved in such an informative and enjoyable day.



© Peter Gibbs



A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

The summer has passed. Holidays spent with friends and family captured on camera and the long sultry days basking in Mediterranean-like sunshine are behind us.

That chapter in our lives is now over. A page has been turned, and we've begun writing the next chapter of the life and times of Berkeley Primary School.

This chapter opens with the start of a fresh and exciting new academic year welcoming small but very confident Reception children into our midst, who are ready to do business with Mrs Anderson (teacher) and Mrs Combes (teaching partner). Most of our Reception children have previously attended Little Jester Pre-School, and therefore have made the transition from Little Jesters to Reception extremely smoothly.

All staff have been creative in crafting imaginative topics for their classes which will stimulate, excite, extend and challenge the children. Themes for example include: Awesome Animations (Y3), Enchanted Woodland (Y1) and The Blitzed Brits (Y6).

Our aim is to develop a rich curriculum which caters to the needs and interests of the children, one which will inspire them even more in their learning. We listened carefully to the children and have produced a curriculum which includes drama, music, cooking, sport and anything outdoors! We are delighted to be able to draw on the expertise of Miss Blyth who will deliver drama and music lessons. Mrs Clarke-Smith will continue to deliver music lessons to our younger children and individual tuition in our 'new music room'. Sporting activities have been extremely popular, and therefore we are particularly appreciative of the work of our sports specialists who will continue to provide outstanding provision as well as additional sports coaching which will include 'alternative sports' and education on the impact of health and fitness on our children's lives as they grow. There may even be some advice on hand from an England international footballer to motivate our children.

We would like to instil in our children that they are built for success, and success should be recognised and celebrated. With this in mind we have introduced a new house point



system. To encourage excellence, we are rewarding the winning house each term with an active treat, of which there will be six throughout the year. The first of these treat days will be on Friday 19th October for the children in the winning house. We have organised for mobile climbing walls and instructors to come to school to facilitate this amazing opportunity. Our superheroes will literally be climbing walls just like Spiderman! Next term, will see them being put through their paces with some Royal Marines!

In a previous Flyer article we announced the imminent arrival of Bertie the Bus. We are delighted to inform you that he has arrived! Yes! He is here! Miss Robbins (head teacher) has waited seven years for her dream to come true. Dressed in magnificent rainbow colours, Bertie unashamedly takes his place on the edge of the school field overlooking Y1

classroom. The bus has been converted into a library on the lower deck and an additional classroom on the top deck. We are grateful First Bus in Bristol for their generous donation and the work of the engineers for the splendid transformation. Watch this space for the forthcoming Grand Opening!

The story of Bertie the Bus is a lesson of how a challenge became an opportunity. As the school roll increased, the school library was converted into a classroom to accommodate a growing pupil population. This ever increasing population also needed feeding. Consequently, another classroom was lost to make way for modern catering facilities. Not fazed by this challenge, Miss Robbins looked for an imaginative solution which has now come to fruition and will serve the children and staff at Berkeley Primary School for many years to come.

We are just at the initial stages of this thrilling chapter in the life of Berkeley Primary School. Who are the authors of this thrilling chapter? Every individual of the school community: children, parents, staff, governors and members of the local community whose lives make up the tapestry of the life of the school.

If you would like to know more about our story, visit our website at www.berkeleyprimary.org.uk.



Books and a Brew

Loads of secondhand books for sale and, of course, sweet treats and hot drinks to keep you sustained while you browse.

Saturday 6 October
10:00am - 1:00pm

Free Entry



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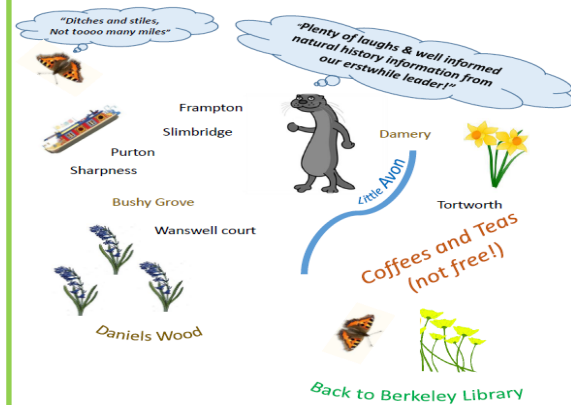
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What's On This Month...

Berkeley Walking Group. Meets Tuesdays

10am in the Library Car Park. Free
(Out and about for a few hours!)



The DODS were very pleased to return to Berkeley Castle for a photoshoot to promote our upcoming Autumn play, Blackadder III! A stage adaptation of the classic British sitcom starring Rowan Atkinson, it will be performed at the Chantry Centre, Long Street, Dursley from the 10th - 13th October at 7:30pm.

The play comprises three classic episodes from the acclaimed second series and features all the best-loved characters, from the dull-witted Lord Percy and the petulant Queen Elizabeth to the dashing Lord Flashheart and the grotesque Baby-eating Bishop of Bath & Wells!

Tickets are available now at www.the-dods.com or by calling 07890 203318. Alternatively you can book in person from the box office at the Chantry Centre from 28th September on a Friday and Saturday morning, 9am to 12pm.



COFFEE MORNING at the EVANGELICAL CHURCH

SATURDAY 13th October, 10.00 - 11.30am

You must have missed the taste of our delicious cakes during August because we were delighted by the large number of friends old and new who turned up to welcome us back in September. I don't think I've made so many coffees since last Christmas. Thank you all so much for your continuing support.

If you haven't been tempted yet by the smell of the freshly brewed coffee and even looked at our display of home made cakes, large and small, then why not come along in October and give us a try? We don't make a charge for anything and you can eat as much cake as you want and have refills of tea and/or coffee until it's time to leave. Everyone, young, young at heart, regulars or passers by are all most welcome. We look forward to meeting you.

If you would like more details of help with transport; please contact Dawn 810494 or Grace 811138

Ali's Get Dancing Tots



Wednesday's 9.10 - 9.55am

Berkeley Scout Hut, Berkeley GL13 9TB

For crawlers, toddlers and pre-school aged children

Book your child's place now ready for September!

Call Ali on 07795215319 or email

aligetdancing@gmail.com

BA (Hons) QTS Dance

Hamfields Leisure

Saturday 6 Oct
Hells Bells
If you like AC/DC you'll love this performance.

Saturday 22 December
Christmas Party Night - Take That
Guaranteed to get you on the dance floor..

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What's On Diary

For 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 7.30pm

Stay & Play Kids - Sharpness Village Hall

9.45am - 12 noon contact Sue Boxall on
07526101287

Youth Club - Sharpness Village Hall

6.30pm - 8.30pm contact Darren Brown on 07799067237

Beavers/Scouts

Scout HQ., Park View

Scouts 10½ to 14 years old 7.00pm - 8.30pm

FitFix Exercise - Stinchcombe Village Hall

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Tuesday

Community Bank - Town Hall,

Tuesdays 9.15am - 11am

Poetry Circle: 1st Tuesday of the month

2-3pm at Berkeley Library. Informal group for reading, writing and enjoying poetry. Bring your favourites along

Town Planning & Finance Meetings

2nd Tuesday of the month 7.30pm

Berkeley Community Library

Tuesdays 10.30am - 4.30pm

Telephone 810520

Line Dancing/Ballroom Dance Class

Hamfields Leisure 7.00pm - 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 - 7.30pm

FitFix Exercise - Cam Memorial Hall

9.45am - 10.45am

Crochet Group - Berkeley Library

11.00am. £1 per session.

Everyone is welcome.

Just bring a crochet hook and some wool.

Berkeley Walking Group

Meet 10 a.m. The Library Car Park. (Free) Coffee optional afterwards in The Library.

Free Legal Sessions

1st Tuesday of month, Coventry Building Society

Wednesday

Craft Club - Berkeley Library

Last Wednesday of the month. 10.30am - 1.30pm.

£2 all welcome

Dog Training - Sharpness Village Hall

from 7pm contact Mike Vine 01453 822134

Berkeley Under 5's

Town Hall Toddlers - 9.30am - 11.30am

Ali's Get Dancing Tots

9-9.55am, Scout Hut, term time, 07795215319

P3 Community Based Drop In

Town Hall, 10am - 12pm

Citizens Advice Bureau

Town Hall, 1pm - 3pm

Berkeley Youth Club

Canon Park Pavilion 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

FitFix Exercise - Stinchcombe Village Hall

7.30pm - 8.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Berkeley Steps

Town hall, 7.30pm - 8.30pm, Town Hall

Thursday

Extend Exercise Classes for 60+ Scout Hut

From 10.30am Contact Barbara 01453 766421

Bingo - Sharpness Village Hall

from 7.30pm contact Jimmy Thomas

01453 811339

Coffee Morning

Union Church Schoolroom 10.00 - 11.00am

Art Group

Berkeley Library. £3.00 per session

10.00am—1pm. Bring own materials

Circuit Training/Keep Fit

Hamfields Leisure 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Contact Sam Greenland 07443 501500

NatWest Mobile Bank

In the Police parking bay (outside Sema4 Graphics)

10.15am - 12.30 pm

Beavers Scouts for 6 to 8 years

Scout HQ, Park View, 4.30pm -

5.30pm

Friday

Computer Club

1st Friday of the Month at the Library 11am

Berkeley Community Library

10.30am - 4.30pm

Berkeley Rainbows

The Scout Hut 4.15 - 5.30pm

Berkeley Brownies

The Scout Hut 6.00pm - 7.30pm

FitFix Exercise - Cam Memorial Hall

10am - 11am

Saturday

Berkeley Community Library

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

St Dominic RC Church, Kingshill, Dursley

Berkeley Union Church

Salter Street, Berkeley. (Next to Town Hall)

Sunday Services 10.00am - 11.00am

Coffee, Tea and biscuits to follow

St Mary's Church

7th October

9.30 a.m. Choral Matins

11 a.m. Messy Church: Harvest

14th October

10.30 a.m. Harvest Festival Benefice Communion

6 p.m. Evening Prayer

21st October

9.30 a.m. Choral Communion

11 a.m. All-Age Worship

28th October

11 a.m. All-Age Worship

6 p.m. Evening Prayer

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Vale of Berkeley Railway

The photograph is of one of our volunteers proudly test driving a Wickham trolley which he and others have lovingly restored over 18 months. When it arrived, it was a pile of twisted, rusty metal, but this has now been restored to full working order. Many of the components were broken or missing and have had to be remade in our machine shop.

The main focus in August was the undergrowth clearance in Oldminster Sidings. Under the terms of the ecological survey this had to stop at the end of August, but a magnificent effort by the volunteers enabled us to complete the job. An impressive turnout of 15 people on August 31st saw the last of the undergrowth cleared. Under the restrictions placed on us by Network Rail, power tools were not permitted, but the volunteers have cleared a 2.5 acre site using manual tools in 4 months. This is a wonderful effort, and major thanks are due to all who contributed.

It is a joy to see how the wildlife is moving in to what had been a barren area, choked with ivy and brambles. Wrens and blackbirds are taking up residence in the new hedges, and there are numerous butterflies. We even had a young buzzard come to check on our progress. We have started to level and sow the strip along the road with a meadow and wildflower mixture. This will greatly enhance both the appearance and wildlife-friendliness of the site.

Work has also started on the 2 containers, one at the Berkeley station site and one at Oldminster Sidings. These will provide us with shelter and storage facilities at the sites. They had been used to house generators and signalling equipment, but this has all been stripped out now. They are a little scruffy, but are being sanded and painted to prevent them appearing an eyesore. The one at Berkeley station is going to be a fetching shade of LMS

maroon, while one of the creative volunteers at Oldminster has made a small stove out of an old gas cylinder. This will be greatly appreciated once the colder and wetter weather arrives.

The new machinery at the engine shed, 3 lathes, a grinding machine, and a horizontal borer, are being cleaned, painted and refurbished. This equipment is most valuable because when we are



restoring locomotives and wagons that are getting on for 100 years old it is impossible to find spares. Nearly everything has to be made by hand by a highly skilled team. Anyone who is interested in machining will find some very knowledgeable tutors at the shed.

The Jacker/Packers and slewers donated by our friends on the Forest of Dean railway have arrived at Sharpness to be refurbished. These are very useful pieces of kit for straightening, levelling and packing track work. They are basically sound, but need to be stripped, cleaned and checked, and have some of the hydraulic hoses replaced. They will then be available to both railways for Permanent Way work.

We are also starting on a series of training courses to improve the knowledge and skill levels of the volunteers. In October we will be holding a First Aid course. This is necessary as we will often be working in inaccessible locations. We will also run a Personal Track Safety course. This is a mandatory requirement for anyone working on a live

railway.

Our monthly talks resume at the Berkeley Arms on Thursday September 20th at 7:30. This one is entitled "Being a Railwayman in the 1970s". VoBR member Gordon Ferris recalls his 37 year railway career, starting in 1963 as a Junior Porter on Wigan North Western station, and ending in 2000 as Managing Consultant of his own railway contracting company.

The October talk will be of particular interest to fans of the London Midland and Scottish railway. One of their main classes of express locomotives was the "Patriot". In the haste to scrap all steam engines in the 1960s, every one of this class was cut up before any could be saved. A project has been running for the last few years to build a completely new "Patriot" locomotive, using the original LMS plans and drawings. This will be named "The Unknown Warrior" in memory of the dead of 2 world

wars. On October 18th we are lucky to have a talk by Kevin West, the chief engineer of this project.

Please note that until further notice we will be holding all the talks at the Berkeley Arms in Berkeley, as this has better facilities than the engine shed, such as a licensed bar. Non members are welcome, and there is no entrance fee.

If anyone would like to see what we are up to, we are at the engine shed in Sharpness Dock and at Oldminster Sidings on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and at Berkeley station on Wednesdays, and would be glad to show you around.

You can also become a 'Friend of Berkeley Station' by joining the Facebook group of that name, and helping us to start the process of giving Berkeley back its station. This also contains pictures of the various activities.

Email: valeofberkeleyrailway@gmail.com

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