



PARKRUN TO COME TO BERKELEY

Great news for the community of Berkeley and the Vale! You may have heard that we're in the process of setting up a parkrun at Berkeley Green (the old Magnox laboratories). We have the permission of the site manager and landowner (SGS) and they are proactively supporting the parkrun. We also have a route and a group of local volunteers who will make up the core team, not to mention we have strong support from the local running club - New Berkeley Harriers and surrounding clubs too.



Parkruns have become popular in recent years and are free, weekly, 5km-timed runs which take place around the world. They take part in 19 countries and give people the opportunity to run with others and get timed for free. They are open to absolutely everyone, and people of all abilities are encouraged to take part, whether you're a first-time runner or an Olympian, a junior, or an experienced runner. You can run, jog or walk. Every week many people (more than 40 local runners from Berkeley and many more from the surrounding areas) travel to the nearest parkruns of Kingsway, Chipping Sodbury, Wotton or Thornbury. Based on discussions with local residents and through the running community we believe there is now a significant appetite for a parkrun in Berkeley.

Berkeley Green parkrun has a route planned for paths and all-hard surfaces so it is ideal for an all-year round event, completely buggy-friendly and totally suitable for runners of all ages and all abilities (we also have volunteers who will be guide runners for the blind). The site and route is entirely safe and plenty of space for supporters too. We have permission to use the car parks and restaurant which means that the pre-race briefing will take place in the dry on those winter Saturday mornings.

Furthermore (and this is the exciting bit), we plan for all groups and societies within the community to have the opportunity to play a part. We're hoping that non-runners will come and marshal, time or scan bar codes and feel part of this phenomenon. Additionally, we will offer the opportunity for a group, society or club each week to sell refreshments after the run, in turn they have the opportunity to raise money for their own cause. We will also gladly welcome young people participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme embracing the volunteering aspect of the award.

As we will be one of only a few parkruns in the area that is run on completely hard surfaces and we are buggy-friendly, we anticipate that residents from the following communities will make use of Berkeley Green parkrun:

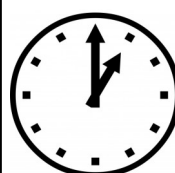
- * Berkeley, Sharpness, Ham and Hill
- * Stone and Alkington
- * Slimbridge
- * Cam, Dursley, Uley and Nympsfield
- * Thornbury
- * all other surrounding areas in between.

Plus, many parkrun tourists will visit too bringing lots of benefit to the community.

We're currently in the process of sourcing funding for the parkrun. The start-up amount is £3,000 - £1,500 has already been donated by local businesses, Hinton Parish Council and through local crowdfunding. If you would like to donate towards the start-up funds, please visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/1reb0h7uyo>

Just to recap that there are many opportunities where Berkeley Green parkrun will benefit the community in terms of runners of all ages and abilities, volunteers, other clubs, groups or societies getting involved, Duke of Edinburgh participants, and much, much more. We're really excited by this potential and looking forward to welcoming you very soon.

Ian & Amanda Cole



Don't forget...clocks go
back on Sunday 27th
October

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

The monthly meeting was held in Berkeley Town Hall on Thursday September 12th at 7.30 pm. The President Frances

Denton opened the meeting and welcomed those present. As there was no August meeting it was a relatively brief session. Topics covered included planned outings to Concorde Museum in late September, trip to see the Downton Abbey film at Wotton cinema (date to be confirmed) and the WI centenary celebration weekend in Gloucester Cathedral 12th/13th October. Berkeley WI have submitted a resolution to be reviewed by National WI public affairs committee. The resolution is entitled "Fear of fraud". Since the closure of thousands of bank branches fraudulent activities against individual bank customers by scammers and fraudsters have soared. The banks say that the customer is the weak link. While it is obvious that the bank branches will not be replaced customers need more support/training from the banks in how to deal with cold callers (not engage with them). We will find out in October whether the NFWI will take this resolution forward to the membership.

Ongoing activities:

Skittles : Both Berkeley and Stone WIs despite their valiant efforts are out of the plate and cup WI skittles competitions but will continue with their joint skittles practice afternoons at 3pm on the last Thursday of the month in The Boars Head.

Book group: First Thursday of the month at 7:30pm in the Berkeley Arms.

Craft group: to be arranged

Speaker was Ian Caskie a retired primary school headteacher from Bristol who is devoting his retirement to being the Talks Programme Speaker for the SS Great Britain. His talk was entitled "From Launch to relaunch of The SS Great Britain". It was an enthralling presentation from start to finish. Ian took us on trip through the ships history which is quite remarkable.

In the 1830s The Great Western Steam Ship Company wanted to compete with Samuel Cunard in bidding for the trans Atlantic mail boat contract between Liverpool and the USA. 4 wooden paddle steamers were to be built but then....

Isambard Kingdom Brunel was picked to design the ship which was in itself extraordinary - he was a railwayman not a naval architect. Of the 4 ships to be built - The Great Western was the first but then Brunel saw new ideas being used - one being a ship with an iron hull.

Counterintuitively so much wood is required to build a wooden ships hull that iron is actually lighter and therefore faster and iron allows for a longer ship to be built.

The other new invention was the use of the screw propeller rather than paddle wheels. The SS Great Britain was both iron hulled and driven by a screw propeller. She was launched on July 19th 1843 in the presence of Prince Albert. She was designed to take passengers and the mail. On her maiden voyage there were only 45 paying passengers - many fewer than anticipated but it took only 15 days to travel from Liverpool to New York. A record. On the fifth voyage the SS Great Britain left Liverpool in the fog and the decision was taken to go South to the Isle of Man and to then strike west on sighting the navigation light but somehow the light was missed and the SS Great Britain ran aground in Dundrum Bay in Ireland where she was stuck for a year. She bankrupted the Great Western Steamship Company.

The advent of the Australian gold rush in 1851 created huge demand for passenger ships. The SS Great Britain was sold and refurbished as a sailing ship with all passenger accommodation for 700. The sailing time to Melbourne was 2 months. By the late 1870s the SS Great Britain had sailed over 1 million miles having carried troops to Crimea, the England Cricket Team to Australia and the gold diggers. She was docked in Liverpool and bought to carry coal. The top ship sides were clad in pine and all the accommodation was stripped out. In 1882 she left Penarth with a cargo of coal bound for San Francisco. On such a trip she was rounding Cape Horn and being caught in a storm beached in the Falkland Islands where she remained in Sparrow Cove until 1970. Until

the 1930s she was used by the Falkland Islanders as a store ship.

How the SS Great Britain returned to Bristol is a great story. In the late 1960s a Mr Ewan Cornett wrote to The Times suggesting that the SS Great Britain should be salvaged. This letter was read by Sir Jack Hayward and he put up most of the money got a salvage team together and sent them to the Falkland Islands. In order to get her back to the UK the removal of her three masts was required. Then a large crack through her midships was discovered - this crack effectively split the hull in two. Ever resourceful, enough bed mattresses were acquired from the Falkland Islanders to plug the crack. The ship was then floated and a pontoon placed underneath her and so she was towed across the Atlantic back to Britain and when the tide was right on July 5th up the River Avon. Several WI members remembered watching her being towed up the Avon. It was a huge event in Bristol's maritime history. Two weeks after that memorable day were the tide conditions right to float her over the sill into her dry dock where she still resides.

How is she today?

Well The SS Great Britain has been voted The most friendly and welcoming visitor attraction in Western Europe.

Her restoration, preservation and "relaunch" over the last 49 years has involved hundreds of experts and volunteers. Different parts of the ship have been refurbished to show it's various different inceptions. The entire visitor experience is for everyone - deliberately interactive to keep children engaged - for the brave there is the opportunity to climb 25 metres up the main mast and step out across the yardarm. For the less adventurous the tour starts in the Great Western Dockyard moving on to the "underwater viewing of the dry dock and the hull of the ship with screw propeller, pick up a boarding card and board the ship. On board view the different classes of berth, the glorious first class saloon and the kitchens (very important part of life at sea). Find out much more about Brunel. Take the grandchildren for a sleepover with a difference (an adult has to stay the night too!). Functions and weddings can be booked. Some evenings when the night

sky is right the ship is a planetarium There is truly something for everyone.

It was a revelation as to how much has been done to make this a fabulous yet educational experience. Well worth a day in Bristol.

The WI will be planning a visit so keep a look out for details if anyone would like to join us.

Start 2019 off in a positive way with

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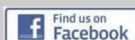


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A MESSAGE FROM THE BERKELEY ENTERTAINMENTS COMMITTEE

We promised you a show like no other, an utterly unique and never to be repeated **1940s Variety Show**. We do hope you will agree that our talented cast and crew certainly obliged.

From talented songstress Mrs Kilby, to the Berkeley Square Players and their Guide to Victorian Melodrama, and from Taylor and Glover's inimitable take on *Underneath the Arches*, to the cast's hilarious rendition of *If I Were Not Upon The Stage*, we were able to showcase some of the wonderful talents of the people of Berkeley. Everything was held together by the stories of Bert the ARP Warden, which veered from the comic to the poignant, and the patient piano accompaniment of Greg Ryan. And the less said about the Barker Boys and their raffle, the better.

A huge thank you to our cast and crew and to all those who came out to support our event; we couldn't have asked for a better, or more generous audience. With your help we were able to raise £550 to be split between two very worthwhile charities, Alzheimer's Society and Mind, in memory of Eileen Gower, the grandmother of our director Owen Gower. In the UK, 1 in 14 people are living with dementia and every year 1 in 4 people will experience some form of mental health difficulty. To find out more about Owen's fundraising efforts this year, and to donate, please head to <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Owen2019>

Ladies and gentlemen, we have been The Berkeley Entertainments Committee and if you missed us then maybe, just maybe, we could be persuaded to come back next year. Watch this space.



Marybrook Medical Centre Update

I just wanted to update everyone on progress with the Marybrook Medical Centre. As you are aware, following retirement of the partners the CCG agreed to take over the running of Marybrook and keep it going until such time as a suitable new partnership could be put in place. As I write this article, tender documents have gone out and come back, presentations have been made and received and final decisions will actually have taken place by the time you read this.

The current plan going forward is that on appointment, the new partnership will work with the current operators over a two month period handing over completely in early January.

I am subject to a confidentiality agreement at this time and so I can't give you any more details. All I can say is that having sat in meetings, plus met and listened to the plans of the candidates, I think you will be very pleased and I hope to be able to share more with you in the next flyer.

Gordon Craig



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THE GARDEN IN OCTOBER

Autumn is officially here in all its glory! The ground is wet with heavy dew each morning and the garden is covered in shiny cobwebs but still some days are glorious and warm but there may be the first frost this month. The leaves will start to fall in abundance and summer flowers and other crops are coming to an end. Preparation for the Winter is in full swing with fruits that are ready to be brought in and stored in a frost free dry place. It is now time to collect seeds from your favourite plants ready for next Spring.

This is the ideal month to move trees and shrubs that are in the wrong place and also time to plant a new hedge. You can lift and divide any overcrowded perennials while the soil is still warm from the Summer's sun. Both garlic and onions can be planted ready for cropping next Summer.

Now it's really worth cleaning out your greenhouse thoroughly after the tomatoes and cucumbers have finished cropping. This will prevent pests hibernating in it over the Winter months which could leap into action next Spring. Wash all the glass inside and out as this will allow maximum light in over the coming months. The benches and other fixtures can be cleaned with disinfectant and make sure you hose the whole place down really well afterwards. For effective fumigation move all the plants out, shut the vents and light a sulphur candle in the middle of the floor and make a speedy retreat shutting the

door and waiting until the smoke and fumes have completely dispersed before going back inside. The greenhouse should be pest free and ready for you to move in the tender plants from outside that need protection from the cold weather.

One of the simplest ways to help wildlife in your garden is to make a log pile in a quiet corner of the garden. Pile the logs randomly in a part of the garden where they will not be disturbed then leave them to rot creating crevices which will make a lovely home for a hedgehog (hopefully!).

Maybe you could also invest in a bird bath and some new bird feeders this Autumn. Remember that hedgehogs and birds are a gardener's friend as they will keep pest numbers down.

If you have suffered with maggoty apples this year then you may prevent the winter moth from climbing up the trunk of the apple tree by placing grease bands around the base of the tree. The wingless females will soon emerge from the soil as they attempt to crawl up the tree. They will be trapped by the grease bands. This will prevent them laying their eggs in the developing apples come the spring. If you like to have some Hyacinths or Narcissus Paper White to flower over the Christmas period now is the time to plant them using bulb fibre. Summer flowering shrubs such as Buddleia and Lavatera should be cut back by half now to prevent damage caused by wind rock over Winter. Prune and tie in climbing and rambling roses now they have finished flowering.. First cut out diseased or damaged branches to ground level or a healthy bud. Side

shoots can be cut back by two thirds to an outward facing bud and tie in horizontally to encourage flowering shoots. Collect fallen leaves from under bushes so they don't carry disease over to next year.

On wet and cold days it is time to spend some time indoors in the warmth and and sit with the new seed and plant catalogues and plan what to grow next year. It is one of the most pleasant jobs to be done. In my garden there are two half hardy annuals that I have grown which have given most freely of flowers. One is Cosmos Brightness Mix which is a mixture of gold and yellow and red duplex flowers and the other is Didiscus known also as blue lace flower which has flowered right through the summer. The bees have enjoyed them a great deal. These I will definitely grow again so why not try them. I will leave you to peruse the catalogues until next month

Ann Legg

Berkeley Books Community Library 2020 Calendar Photographic Competition

Thanks to everyone for their entries this year, a lovely variety of scenes were received.

The judges this year had a difficult task to choose the 12 to use for the calendar, but the winning photographers were: B. Wetton; B. Gibbons; S. Kingscott; Mr J Stanton; W. Dimery.

Look out for the new calendar which will be on sale in plenty of time for Christmas!

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District Councillor General Update

Highways : As you know, although it's not our responsibility, we always keep pressure on Gloucestershire Highways to prioritise our roads and I am pleased to say that very soon we are to have a new surface going through Slimbridge, a new surface going into Purton and here in Berkeley, a new surface on the High Street pavement and at long last a new surface in Park View. Gloucester Highways like to prioritise main roads so Park View took a while. (Sorry Park View residents but got there in the end !)

Support for Elderly:- Insulating our homes for the winter is really important but never more so than for the elderly. Stroud District Council recently obtained a government improvement grant aimed at Park Homes and I am pleased to say that we got it all for Berkeley. 100% of it was spent on 15 units in Berkeley Vale Park. Warm winter nights for lovely warm hearted local people, just great!

Policing:- On the 5th September I had the opportunity to ask the Police Commissioner Martin Surl about his plans for the police college in Berkeley. He was able to confirm that it will not be residential so there will be a traffic impact as cadets come and go each day. This is something we will now take up with the County Council to ensure that the highways department is on top of it. It appears that the County Police Driving school will be based at the college so we can expect a lot of MARKED POLICE VEHICLES on our roads which will no-doubt provide a huge deterrent to crime and should be a great thing. The college is expected to open early next summer.

While we are on policing, could I remind everyone that High Street now has a 3.5t weight limit on it and agricultural vehicles are no longer exempt from this. Number plate recognition cameras are in use and the photographs are being reviewed at Dursley police station. I understand that initially warnings will be given but please spread the word.

Tourist Information :- Work is progressing well with the setting up of Berkeley Tourist Information Centre. As you will be aware we managed to secure some seed funding for this from Stroud District Council. The base will be at the Library but the delivery will be modern and far reaching, tapping into large databases and utilising QR codes on signage both inside and out of the area. Progress is such that it should be in operation early next year, helping to make our town thrive and keep facilities open and available for our use. Berkeley Vale Ward Councillors - Gordon Craig, Lindsey Green, Haydn Jones

Berkeley is hosting the 3rd in a series of 'start-up' workshops organised by our climate action group and Transition Stroud.

The workshop is for anybody from Berkeley and neighbouring parishes who would like to be involved in their community response to climate change.

It will put you in touch with like-minded people who are keen to make a difference no matter how small. In time, our cluster of parish groups will help inform Stroud District Council in meeting its target of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

The workshop is on Sunday 17th November, 14:00 - 17:00 in the Chapel Rooms, Union Chapel, Salter Street.

To book a place go to www.eventbrite.co.uk Search for events in the Bristol area on 17th November. Click on 'How can our local communities respond to climate change?' and click on 'register'. Alternatively, send an email to janerobertson.60@hotmail.co.uk and I'll get back to you.

Don't be scared to come - we're a friendly bunch!

Jane Robertson, Berkeley Area Climate Action



**Slimbridge
Wetland Centre**

Important information

Please note that our centre will be CLOSED on Thu 10 & Fri 11, Mon 14 - Fri 18, Mon 21 & Tue 22 October. This is due to road closures in Slimbridge village. Weekends are unaffected.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. For more information: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/county-resurfacing-works/slimbridge-resurfacing

Berkeley Educational Swimming Trust (BEST)

September Draw

Winner	Lucy Gorton Williams	Ball No. 18	£20.00
Runner Up	David Smith	Ball No. 92	£15.00

The draw took place in Aldridges, and on behalf of BEST I would like to thank Aldridges for their continued support.

Gill Badsey, Lottery Manager for BEST

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The middle of July saw Tyndale Photography Club hold its triennial exhibition at Dursley Methodist Church.

The event, which was part of the Dursley Festival, was opened by Dursley Mayor Neil Grecian and was held from Friday evening to the end of Saturday afternoon. The exhibition included over 200 prints taken by 23 club members which were displayed around the church. There was also a digital slide show with relaxing music on offer for people to sit and watch.

The photos displayed were of a wide variety of different genres, ranging from wildlife to speedway, and included a mix of pictures taken in the local area and further afield.

The exhibition was a big success and people were very impressed with the quality of the photos on display. One



visitor to the exhibition said: 'I am truly inspired by the subject matter and the brilliance of the presentation of all the images'.

If you are interested in photography why not join us, our 2019/2020 season starts on Thursday 3rd October at 7:30pm in North Nibley Village Hall. The meetings are informal with light refreshments

served part way through the evening.

For more information visit www.tyndalephoto.org where you will find details about the club and be able to view winning photographs from our previous competitions.

Attached images are ... Making splash in the Welsh Rally and Old Jack ... by David Arkwell



The Police and Crime Commissioner is required to produce an annual report reflecting how he has carried out his responsibilities over the past 12 months and progress in delivering the Police and Crime Plan. In line with his role as a democratically elected representative, the report is then presented to Gloucestershire County Council's Police and Crime Panel and in addition to seeing it, the Panel has asked for it to be communicated and distributed as widely as possible.

A link to the report can be found online at www.gloucestershire-pcc.gov.uk/reports/ Hard copies are

also available from the OPCC at ppc@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk

As a summary of the twelve months from April 2018-March 2019, this year's annual report highlights the challenge of dealing with a growing range and complexity of crimes, complicated by additional social issues around mental health and lack of youth provision. It reflects on key announcements regarding collaboration with bordering forces and Gloucestershire's Fire and Rescue Service, budget details, award winning services and the continuing success of the Commissioner's Fund.



Dr Jenner's House
Museum and Garden

More Tales of Old Berkeley

Tuesday 12 November / Thursday 14 November 7:30pm

To celebrate Museums at Night, we've been hunting in the archives at Dr Jenner's House, Museum and Garden for more tales from the darker side of Berkeley's history.

Following on from last year's sold out tours, we have new surprises galore as we dig below the surface of our ancient town.

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UPDATE ON EMERGING PLAN PROPOSALS FROM OUR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The emerging local plan review presses on and we expect that during November and December there will be a second round of public consultations. We know that like us, most of you believe that the numbers proposed for our area are disproportionate and it is really important that you make your views known at this consultation. In addition if you are aware of key influencers such as your employers, please ask them to contribute as well- and now is a good time to get them on board! The impacts can be more far reaching than you might think and with that in mind we have recently written the following letter to:-

THE MAYOR OF BRISTOL

THE MAYOR OF THE SOUTH WEST

THE LEADER OF SOUTH
GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS ENGLAND

Dear Sir,

**Ref:- Emerging Local Plan Review -
Stroud District Council**

You are probably wondering why we are writing to you on this matter. The reason is that outcomes from this plan could have a huge impact on traffic levels and commuting into Bristol, with a particular focus on the Almondsbury Interchange. Wider infrastructure could also be adversely effected – and there are alternative options that could mitigate the impact.

We are aware that there are plans to build up to 10,000 new homes in the north of South Gloucestershire at

Charfield, Buckover, Thornbury, Falfield and Yate. We are also aware that current South Gloucestershire plans have not received a positive response at examination so far. You are no doubt even now considering the impact these developments will have on M5 traffic levels, particularly on Ju 14, even more particularly on the Almondsbury Interchange and of course thereafter into the city.

Given this situation, we feel you should also be aware that Stroud District Council currently propose, in their emerging strategy, to concentrate housing and employment predominately towards the south of the district by building 4,390 new homes in Berkeley/Sharpness and Wisloe. This is an area of little local employment and residents naturally commute to Bristol, thereby increasing the scale of your problem significantly. We know that at this time, projected inward traffic to the Almondsbury interchange and Bristol from the north is not your only consideration as you contend with significant projected increases from the West, following the removal of tolls from the Severn Bridges.

With all this in mind, we want to make you aware that there are anomalies and indeed options with the emerging Stroud review that present opportunities to nullify the significant impact these current plans might have on Bristol and its environs. We feel you may wish to consider these implications for your area and region and comment on the forthcoming Stroud District Council consultation which is currently planned to take place from early November 2019 through to the New Year.

Key points

1. Stroud District already has a live plan which recognises an employment zone towards the north of the district, beside the M5, bordered by Stroud, Cheltenham and Gloucester. Land close to this area has not yet been built out and there is sufficient available land there to take a significant proportion of the numbers currently proposed for Sharpness and Wisloe.

2. Were the draft plans to be amended in this way commuter traffic would gravitate either to the further developed local employment zone or to Stroud, Cheltenham or Gloucester.....NOT TO BRISTOL !

We feel that in arriving at its plan, Stroud District Council may have been unduly influenced in particular by the eagerness of potential developers for Sharpness and Wisloe and that a failure to properly consider the impact on Bristol, in moving the focus of their review south, could have negative consequences for existing infrastructure serving your city, access to the west country and surrounding authority areas. We feel that proactive intervention at this stage by yourselves could help to ensure co-operation that spreads the load effectively and makes best use of available infrastructure without constraining future strategic planning.

Lindsey Green, Haydn Jones, Gordon Craig.

All Stroud District Councillors Berkeley Vale Ward



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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

The 25th October marks the 59th anniversary of the Severn Bridge Disaster and Angela Moran has shared this poem to remember.

On an evening tide in October nineteen sixty,
Many vessels were bound for Sharpness,
By Berkeley Pill a thick fog descended,
Quietly swirling amongst the darkness,
Two sister tankers Arkendale and Wastdale were amongst the crowd,
Both later to be doomed,
Underneath the fog's chill shroud.

At Sharpness the fog-warning bell rang out far and wide,
Too late for these tankers They'd passed by on the tide,
Helplessly drifting with fuel fully loaded,
Amongst dark waters fierce turbulence,
They both hit the bridge and with a flash all exploded,
Against the ensuing fire there was no defence.

There are many today who can remember that night,
The red ball of flame, the sounds, smells and sight,
And families relive their loved-one's plight.

Now the setting sun over the west bank nettles,
A skeletal-like sculpture lies entombed in the sands,
All that remains of the two hapless vessels,
Like arthritic fingers on two entwined hands.

So quiet here on the east side of the river,
No more the sounds of a passing train,
Five men lost along with the rail link,
Memories, sorrow and peace now remain,
Time to reflect on elements that rule far and wide,
Over many brave men who set forth on the tide.

Angela Moran

I'm living in Berkeley and have not been here long and one day in August I realised I had lost my purse when I came home, I was about to phone the last shop I had been into when there was a knock on my door and the police were there, they asked me my name and had my purse. When I asked the police who it was who had returned it, they said it was a member of the public but wouldn't give me their name, I just wanted to say thank you so so much to this person for this. I had everything in my purse and it would have been terrible to have lost it, I hope the person who returned it to the police is reading this so I can say thank you so much to them

Ann, Berkeley

SILENT DISCO RETURNS

Back in January, Violet Palmer and Macey Spiers (age 13 now) organised a silent disco for school years 4-9 and they raised an amazing £1000 for the children's charity NSPCC. It was such a great success they've decided to do it again. They've set the date, ordered the headsets and booked the D.J's for **Friday 8th November**.

Please keep an eye out for their posters and Facebook event for details of how you can get tickets for your children. Tickets will again be priced at £5. The girls haven't decided yet which charity to raise funds for so please let us know if you have any suggestions. They would like it to be a children's charity and preferably a local one.

Contact Lisa Palmer 07885 881145 or Claire Spiers 07500 801972 for further information.



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Berkeley Swimming Pool

The 2019 swimming season is over until next year.

We have had a lovely season despite some very mixed weather. Lots of families have enjoyed using the pool. For the pool to be able to open lots of different people give up their time and invest their expertise in the pool. The pool is run by a committee chaired by Eugene Camper with membership of Angela and Gordon Barnes, Nathan Wolstenholme, Pip Greenaway, Gill Badsey, Becky Sawicki-Gregg, Steve Roberts and Ellie Gent. All of the committee believe that the pool is too valuable a resource to be lost and work hard to keep it open.

Thanks are due to:

Lifeguards: Annabelle, Charlie, Dylan, Fiona, Isaac and Lucy - all qualified with the NPLQ and first aid trained. Berkeley Pool never opens without a lifeguard present on poolside. Most of our lifeguards are Berkeley based and have their training paid for by BEST. Part of the pools philosophy is to support proficient local young swimmers to gain a qualification that they can use not only for paid employment at the pool but going forwards can take the qualification to college/university or as a career move.

Gate Persons: Becky, Becky, Bobbie, Ellie, Heidi, Kate, Nicola and Tina - all volunteers so anyone thinking that they might like to help on the gate in 2020 let us know - an expression of interest is not a commitment. We welcome all so no need to have a swimmer in the pool or swim yourself. It is a fun chance to sit outside in the sunshine (mostly) and

meet other people.

Thanks are due to those who offered to do the gate but due to dates and timings were not availed of their help. Also Nicola Clark very kindly supported the pool by purchasing the ice creams and making a donation as well.

Pool Managers - Nathan and Pip. Currently in the holidays these two are the only people qualified to keep the pool running with 2x daily water chemical testing - so a huge commitment. The Pool and Spa Plant Operators Course qualification is a two day course and is underpinned by The Institute of Swimming Pool Engineers. Pip is now a certified trainer for the course so if there is anyone who might have an interest in helping in 2020 just let us know.

The pool is now shut. The winter cover is on, the tables and chairs are all undercover and the portaloos have been collected by the contractor.

BUT the pool being shut we now have to focus on fundraising.

Pool Lottery: Thanks are due to Gill Badsey who with the support of Becky Sawicki- Gregg runs the pool lottery scheme. This is a vital part of our fundraising so early next year when the signs go up around town please consider supporting the pool. The lottery is £12:00 per number - so one entry into every monthly draw for twelve months.

Salutation Quiz: Thursday November 21st. Pete Tiley is very kindly hosting the quiz in the skittle alley at The Salutation. The question master will be Pip

Greenaway and the theme is Water (no surprises there!). Any quizzers out there please come and join us. More information available on the Salutation website.

Queen tribute: Hopefully by now all have seen the advertisements around town for A Queen Tribute at Hamfields Leisure on Saturday November 30th at 7.30 pm. Tickets are available from Hamfields Leisure; Coventry Building Society and online at

www.ticketsource.co.uk/purequeen/t-dovlv

Please support us if you are a Queen fan and look forward to seeing you there.

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What's On



COFFEE MORNING: SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER 10.00 - 11.30AM at THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

It was a pleasure to see so many friends old and new enjoying their time at the September coffee morning. A great start to our coffee year.

Our team of cake makers had excelled themselves, there seemed to be an even bigger selection than usual of tempting home bakes. The teas, coffees and soft drinks flowed almost continuously and if the level of the sound of laughter was anything to go by, there was an enormous amount of Summer catch up taking place.

Our next coffee morning will be on the second Saturday in October. We do hope that you will be able to come; the cakes are delicious!

If you would like any information please get in touch with Dawn: 07716 442071 or Grace: 811138

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group 'BARNUM'

Award winning Thornbury Musical Theatre Group are well advanced in their rehearsals for the circus based musical 'Barnum' which will be performed at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th October. This show marries musical theatre and circus to tell the true story of a charming man who wanted to sell his vision to the world. Phineas Taylor Barnum, the self-proclaimed Greatest Showman on Earth, will never be satisfied unless he is living a life full of colour, fame and fortune. From humble beginnings selling lottery tickets to being one of the world's most celebrated showmen, courted by Presidents, Kings and Queens and producing such greats as the magnificent Tom Thumb, Jenny Lind and Jumbo the Elephant. A joyful and moving musical portrait of the nineteenth century's

greatest show-biz legend, 'Barnum' is a colourful, dynamic spectacle full of circus, side-show legends, toe-tapping songs and immense heart. Come follow the band!

Performances will be at 7.30pm every night and also a matinée on the Saturday at 2.30pm.

Tickets start at £10.50 and are available online at www.tmtg.org.uk or contact the Box Office on 07516 270140. 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 'Barnum' go to our website www.tmtg.org.uk or follow us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

THORNBURY AND DISTRICT U3A has nearly 1,900 members and around 90 different interest groups meeting at various venues throughout the area but there is always room for more!

The groups mainly meet during the day and interests range from Archaeology to Walking. Some meet weekly, others less often and they include physical activities, crafts, board and card games, organised visits to gardens, concert and theatre as well as purely "educational" topics. Detail of all our groups can be found on our website – www.thornburyu3a.org.uk.

We will be holding our next Welcome Meeting for new and prospective members on Monday, 7th October 2019 from 3:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Road, Thornbury, BS35 1DR. Please come along; we would love to meet you and bring your friends.

For further information visit our website or phone our Membership Secretary, Jackie Gitsam on 01454 858438 or Chairman, Alison Makepeace on 01454 415019.



Berkeley Amateur Dramatic Society

Murder Mystery Evening

by Patricia Gay



7.30pm Friday 18th October 2019
Sharpness Village Hall

Ticket only event, tickets not available on the door
Doors open at 7pm - Wine and soft drinks available

£10 each including Ploughman's supper plus pudding

Tickets on sale 1st October from
The Berkeley Pharmacy
or The Post Office/Mace Shop, Sharpness

Email: info@bads.biz www.bads.biz

Severn Vale Flower Club Open Meeting

"It's Christmas, Let's Sparkle" This is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Lorena Dyer on Monday evening 4th November. Lorena is a National Demonstrator from the Midlands. There will be Refreshments, Raffle & Sales Tables.

Doors open 6.30pm for 7.30pm. For further information and tickets the nos. to ring are 01453 811089 or 01454 885213. Our open meetings are popular events so come and join us and sparkle.

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 with Sam 07793 755240
Fat burning & toning for all

Physio-Led Modified Pilates Class

Town Hall— Advance Booking essential

Contact Miranda 07813513516

Monday's 10am -11am , 11.15am—12.15am &
7.15pm-8.15pm

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

Thornbury Macular & Low Vision Support Group

1st Tuesday of month, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Methodist Church Hall, Castle Court, Thornbury

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

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

6.30pm with Sam 07793 755240

Fat burning & toning for all

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

NatWest Mobile Bank

In the Police parking bay (outside Sema4 Graphics)

10.15am -12.30 pm

Beavers Scouts for 6 to 8 years old

Scout HQ, Park View, 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Berkeley Brownies

The Scout Hut 6.00pm - 7.30pm

New Berkeley Harriers Running Club

6.30pm at Canon Park Pavilion

FOOD BANK

A food bank can now be
found at
St. Mary's Church

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

FitFix Exercise - St Dominics Hall

9.30am with Sam 07793 755240

Fat burning & toning for all

Saturday

Berkeley Community Library

9.30am - 12.30pm

Coffee Morning

Every 2nd Saturday of the month

10.00 - 11.30 at The Evangelical Church

Physio-Led Modified Pilates Class

Town Hall— Advance Booking essential

Contact Miranda 07813513516

10am -11am

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

6th October

11.00 Messy Harvest

6 p.m. Evensong

13th October

10.30 Harvest Festival Communion

20th October

9.30 Choral Communion

11.00 All Age Worship

27th October

11.00 All Age Communion

6 p.m. Evening Prayer

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Vale of Berkeley Railway

D2069, our very own BR '03' 0-6-0 diesel shunter, has now gone to the Dean Forest Railway for 'shake-down' trials and running-in before being hired out for industrial use. The picture shows her in the Forest of Dean shed, waiting for her next run. She is performing well. A few minor issues have been found and these are being fixed by a dedicated support team. She is scheduled to run extensively at the DFR diesel gala on September 14th and 15th. We need to get through some 200 hours of running in to prove that everything is working properly. We will take advantage of the trials to train some of our members in the intricacies of driving the engine.

In addition to this shunter, we have an 0-4-0 Vanguard shunter. This diesel shunter was built at Thomas Hill Vanguard in 1967 and is a 4wDH, works number TH 184V. It spent most of its working life at the British Gypsum works in Mountfield, moving wagons of gypsum from the mine to the exchange sidings next to the Hastings line. When no longer required it moved, along with British Gypsum No 1 to Electro Motive at its Longport, Stoke on Trent repair facility. Later the loco was moved to Shildon and then to our facility at Sharpness in April 2016 where a team of our volunteers set to work on servicing and repainting the shunter. This was completed last year and she is currently being hired out to Axiom where she is running well and earning her keep.

The refurbishment of the VOBR's own brake van is now under way. It has been parked in sidings for several years so will need completely stripping down and refurbishment. This is an interesting project as it involves both metal work and woodwork. All the wood needs to be stripped out, including the side walls, and internal desks and storage boxes. The metal structure will then have to be sanded and repainted before the reconstruction can start. If anyone would like to be involved with this project, you will be made most welcome. Woodworking skills would be most useful.

The planning applications have now gone in to Stroud DC, and we await their deliberations. This application covers the erection of platforms at Berkeley and Newtown which would enable us to start running a rail service, so it is a highly significant step.

A key part of our plans is to build a "run round" loop at Berkeley for the use of the DRS nuclear flask trains. This would remove the need for their trains to go all the way to Sharpness to "run

round". When this is done, DRS will no longer need the 2 mile section of line between Berkeley and Sharpness, and it is planned that it will be released to VoBR to start running trains on. The plans are complete. The track layouts and point work have been drawn up and have been approved. We have the necessary points, sleepers and track, and await the approval to start work. Before this, a detailed survey of the existing track bed will be required. A ground frame to operate the points is being constructed.

A great deal of progress has been made on our 0-6-0 "austerity" tank engine. As with a lot of restoration projects, she came to us for some relatively minor repairs, but once she had been taken apart she was found to be in a far worse state than it seemed. It turned out that one of the main parts of the boiler, the front tube plate, needed to be replaced. This involved cutting the old one off, making a new one out of a piece of steel plate weighing over a ton, drilling 40 holes of various sizes through one inch thick steel plate, and then welding it back on to the rest of the boiler. The firebox itself also needs considerable amounts of remedial welding. Fortunately in our machine shop we have the machines and engineers capable of doing the job.

We now have a superbly equipped machine shop capable of machining anything from very large components down to tiny precision engineered parts. With all the machinery we now have, we are able to offer engineering services such as turning (up to 40 inch diameter), gear cutting and surface grinding, so if anyone has a complex machining requirement please get in touch with the machine shop in the engine shed at Sharpness Dock.

We are taking a rest from talks for the summer holidays. The next talk will be another in the series by Rich Kelsey and Dave Lamb, providing an aerial view of our Cotswold canals. This will be held on Wednesday October 16th in the Berkeley Arms in Berkeley from 7:30. Admission is free, and non members are welcome.

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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Grace & Dave King 811138

ADVERTISING: www.theberkeleyflyer.co.uk or
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PRINTING:

Cotswold Marketing: 22 High St, Cam.
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PUBLICATION DATE : 1st of each month

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