



PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



Platinum Jubilee "Party in the Park"

What a day! We were blessed with perfect weather, that meant the event was supported by our community very well, at one stage there appeared to be almost 500 on the park.

The entertainers were all excellent and well received. The face painter didn't stop all afternoon, the bouncy castle and circus skills kept the children well entertained.

As a result of the generosity of the cake contributors, thank you, we raised £275. Your enthusiastic support of our raffle raised £290. All of this will be donated to local town charities.

Once again we must thank our sponsors that without whom the event would not have happened, Gloucestershire County Council, Scott-Law, JC Aldridge & sons Ltd and Berkeley Pharmacy. Our thanks also to the local Coop store which donated £150 in goods to support the event. We are also grateful for the support of residents who helped on the day. We must not forget the football club that worked hard all day in the bar and on the BBQ.

Finally my thanks to the working party that worked from January to June ensuring the success of the day, Justine Hopkins, Diane and Tony Edwards and some of your Town Councillors.

Paul Turner

For pictures from the Jubilee Celebrations please go to pages 6 & 7. We'd love to see more photos from the various street parties that took place over the Jubilee weekend. Please send them into us at editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk so that we can share more next month.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

First of all, I'd like to say a great big THANK YOU to everyone that organised & ran the Party In Park to celebrate the recent Jubilee. It was a great success: even the weather played its part to make for a really enjoyable day.

Thanks also to everyone who shared their thoughts about the proposed Town Centre Improvements. We're looking at the responses in detail, but at first glance it seems the idea of doing something to make the town an even nicer place to be is generally supported. There were lots of questions about the details of course, in particular around parking, so we will take our time to make sure we consider all the points raised properly. Having said that, there are a few ideas about improving parking (including disabled parking) that we may be able to do ahead of the bigger Improvement Plan, so we will be talking to Gloucestershire Highways urgently to see what is possible. We will also be asking Gloucestershire Highways to reduce the speed limit on the B4066 bypass from 60mph to 40mph.

The newly-restored Tithe Map of Berkeley vale (from the 1800s) has recently been installed in the main meeting room in the Town Hall, & later in the year we will be arranging open days to allow anyone who's interested to come and view it. We will also be launching a much-improved website for the town, to give access to bookings, information about the town & the council, & have links to useful other information. It will also include an online copy of the Tithe Map.

The Youth Club sadly closed down a couple of years ago, when Covid struck. Thankfully we have recently decided to re-launch the Youth Club, & starting in September Krunch, a team from Thornbury, will be starting a Youth Club here in Berkeley. It will initially be for those in Year 6-8, and if all goes well a second club will follow on for Year 9 & above.

Finally, I would like to welcome a new town councillor, Fiona Scott. Fiona volunteered to joined the council in June, bringing us up to full strength, & helping us try to make sure Berkeley continues to be a great place to live.

Peter Hall

JUNE IN THE GARDEN

by Ann Legg

The garden will now be looking its very best with many roses reaching their peak and the air will be filled with the scent of them along with Sweet Peas. Gardening in hot weather needs to be taken at a leisurely pace although there is still a lot to be done. Keep everything well watered either in the evening or morning – especially newly planted trees and shrubs- it is an endless job this time of year! The continuing deadheading of perennials so that they will continue to flower throughout the Summer is another job. Ventilate the greenhouse and damp down each day in hot weather. Keep your eye on any pest and disease as you go round the garden and deal with as you like! If you have to spray when you have a heavy infestation do it in the evening when the bees have returned to their hive for the night. Black spot and mildew are more of a problem in Summer. To minimise the spread of diseases gather up and burn all affected foliage that has fallen to the ground. Never put it on your compost heap as it will spread the disease all around the garden.

Cut Lavender for drying. Prune early flowering shrubs such as Weigelia and Philadelphus. Now is a good time to take cuttings of tender perennial plants that you have growing in the garden and may be frost damaged in the winter. Fuschia, Penstemon, Salvia, Solanum, Verbena and Dianthus are a few of them. I pot them up when they

are rooted and over winter them in a cold greenhouse. Continue to make regular sowings of salad crops and carry out regular hoeing of weeds throughout the garden. Side shoots of Tomatoes can be removed after they have set fruit. They can be fed with a high Potash feed applied every two weeks. The bottom leaves can be removed from each Tomato plant so that the fruits can ripen and it will allow better circulation of air around the plants – This will stop disease such as leaf mould and botrytis.

I am sure some of you have an area in the garden that will be in the shade for part or most of the day and wonder what to plant that would survive there happily. First make the border as wide as possible so that you can plant in layers or large blocks. Think of what plants do well in shade and position contrasting leaf shapes and colours of flowers next to each other which will give an added impact. Also think about which flowers you like so that you will have something of interest to look at throughout the year. You will need height and different foliage shapes. I have chosen a tree in the centre of the plot to give me height. Betula Utilis (Silver Birch) with beautiful white stems to admire all year round. Three shrubs to give structure at the back of the border are Skimmia Rubella, Viburnum Tinus and Sarcococca confuse – which has a lovely scent. Perennials to give colour are Geranium Rozanne, Astilbe " Vision Volcan", two Heucheras – "Lime Marmalade" and "Wildberry".

Include Hydrangea "Annabella" also add a fern – Dryopteris and the grass Carex "Shiro". This will add texture and for wonderful foliage add Hosta "Sun and Substance" and Brunnera "Silver Heart" For Spring flowers include Hellebores and Digitalis. You could also plant spring flowering bulbs between the shrubs and perennials.

As you walk around your garden for your morning or evening stroll take time and jot down in a notebook what is working well in the border or a planting scheme that is disappointing and how it may be put right. Take a few photos – This will help with planning for the future. Make the most of the long Summer evenings and enjoy your weekends to the full. Relax and entertain friends and family. Show them your garden and be proud of what you have achieved. Here's to Happy Gardening until next month

Ann Legg

A friendly word of warning.

At a recent meeting with the parking dept of SDC, it was stated that the lapse of patrols due to the pandemic by Parking Enforcement Officers has come to an end.

They now have a full compliment of officers who will be regularly patrolling the town to ensure that all parking restrictions are enforced. Therefore please ensure you are thoughtful of this when parking in town, no one enjoys receiving a ticket.

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Covid 19 virus has reduced class numbers to avoid disappointment please check availability and call

Barbara Weldon 01453 766421
email: bandbweldon1@gmail.com
website: extend.org.uk

BERKELEY COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL

The pool is open for the season and looks magnificent. As I write this the sun is shining and the water is 27 degrees!

Brian Budd has very kindly been creating the new murals - recognisable sea dwelling cartoon characters.

Safety - there is always a lifeguard on duty on poolside. The lifeguards word is final. As at any public pool, appropriate in-pool and poolside behaviours are expected. There are volunteer gate people who sign in swimmers and take monies.

Until the end of the school term (22nd July) the pool is open for public swimming at weekends only £3 per swimmer Saturday and Sunday swim sessions are 2-3 and 3-4pm. Under 2's swim free (swim nappies please) but a paying adult must be in the water with them. 4-5pm is adult only swim. There are 2 swim sessions 2-3 and 3-4.



From July until the end of the school summer holidays in addition to the weekend swimming the pool will open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 2-4pm for community swimming.

Information is on The Berkeley Pool Facebook page. The A board outside Ye Olde Shoppe is always up to date and there are posters in many of the local shop windows.

Alert: We are in need of more volunteers to man the pool gate. There would be the potential to open more days in the holidays if we could get more gate people. Please consider supporting us. Thanks

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

The June meeting was brief business matters and a vote of thanks to Vicki Young. She very kindly hosted a much enjoyed indoor WI Jubilee Pimms and trifle evening when unfortunately the heavens

opened. The best laid plans! It was to have been a garden party. All reported how much they enjoyed it.

The talk was delivered in Tudor costume by Kirsty Bingham from John Moore's Museum, Tewkesbury. Well the talk was described as "The Naughty Bits of the Tudors". I think that all 23 ladies present learnt something that afternoon. Suffice to say that the talk was about how Tudor women managed the spicier elements of their lives as well as practical needs.

Next months meeting is on Thursday July 14th at 2pm in The Pavilion in Canon Park. The talk is "Butterflies of Gloucestershire". All women welcome.



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The Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II is a once-in-a-lifetime event that has not

been overlooked or ignored by the nation or the nations of the Commonwealth. Many have spent countless months planning and preparing to celebrate the seventy years of the Queen's reign which began on 2 June 1953. Beacon lighting, tree planting, street parties, parades, pageants, the Party at the Palace and even the creation of a Platinum Jubilee desert; the nation entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of celebrating the reign of our longest serving monarch. Here at Berkeley Primary School, we too marked this momentous event throughout the school during our return from the half-term break.

Each Year group was given a decade of the Queen's reign to study. This included studying an inspirational and diverse art, such as pop art, collage, portrait, surrealism, and expressionism to produce a picture of the Queen in that style. Exemplary pieces of artwork were shared during our Celebration Assembly and it was evident from the collaborative and individual masterpieces that we have some budding artists in our midst.

An opportunity for each Year

group to focus on just one decade of the Royal Family's life enabled them to piece together a timeline of significant historical events during that era. Our children now have a knowledge that what they have discovered about that time in our nation's history has been lived through and witnessed by our Queen. During this time of discovery, the children have been listening to the Big Hits of that decade. Yes, some children have been humming along with Doris Day and Nat King Cole!

Opportunities have not been missed. For example, during Guided Reading, children were able to learn about the life of the Queen, her family, and interests. New vocabulary was explored, such as coronation, monarch, abdication, and reign. Budgeting skills were called for when planning a fictitious Platinum Jubilee Celebration. The Year 6 children discovered that £1,000 does not go so far nowadays compared to 1953!

The culmination of this week of celebration was the Jubilee Lunch. Children and staff wore red, white, and blue or dressed as royalty. With bunting, flags and pictures of the Queen rolling on the big screen in our dining hall we were all able to raise a cup of water to the Queen's health!

If you would like to know more about your local primary school, please visit our

website

www.berkeleyprimary.org.uk



Berkeley Town Council

Berkeley Youth Club will be reopening in September, run by Krunch South West, in partnership with Berkeley Town Council.

We have a vacancy for two dynamic, creative and enthusiastic youth workers to join our team!

The role will involve working one/two evenings a week (3/6 hrs) at the youth club, including setting up/packing down. Skills needed are a passion to work alongside young people, initiative, sense of humour and great communication. Knowledge/experience of youth work and the issues affecting young people (especially in Stroud District) would be advantageous. We are particularly looking for someone who can run engaging sports activities with young people, and we would welcome applicants from the local area.

Volunteers also welcome!

Qualifications are preferable but not essential.

This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

Post open until filled.

For more information, please contact Penny Baker on 07735 405175. To request an application pack please email liz@krunch.org.uk.

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Berkeley Primary School	01453 810254
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Gloucestershire County Council	01452 425000
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Samaritans	0845 7909090
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BVCAN

Made to be Remade! Sustainable clothing. Dursley entrepreneur Chris Blackman, has started Planeteer, a company offering 100% recyclable organic cotton t-shirts 'n' totes online.

Chris orders his designs from Teemill who produce certified low-impact products which can be returned to Teemill when worn out. New products are manufactured from the cotton material that's recovered.

Organic cotton production uses less pesticides, artificial fertilisers and plastic, than non-organic farming methods. There are higher earnings for farmers with better soil quality and water security, and with food crops grown on the same soil in the dry season. However, even organic cotton is a thirsty crop. So, where you grow it matters. The fields that grow the organic cotton for Chris's products are in the North of India, where the monsoons fill reservoirs that supply almost all the water needed.

The Teemill factories on the Isle of Wight, in India and in Europe, are audited for a wide range of social and sustainability criteria and powered by renewable energy.

Planeteer products are only made after Chris has placed an order to Teemill so there is no waste. The t-shirts and tote bags are 'made to be remade'. When worn out they can be returned to Teemill for recycling. The attractive Planeteer packaging is plant-based and designed to be reused or recycled.

To check out Planeteer clothing visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/PlaneteerClothing>

<https://planeteerclimbing.co.uk>

Wildlife Day at St. James' Church, Dursley

There's to be a Wildlife Day at St. James' Church, Dursley on Saturday, 9th July, from 10 – 1pm. It promises to be an interesting event, showing wildlife in and around the church. Tea and cakes will be available too!

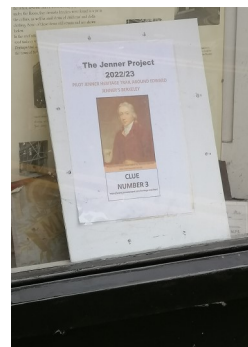
From all the BVCAN Team

berkeleyvaleclimateaction@gmail.com



The Jenner Project 2022 | 23

Come and have a go at our free-to-enter pilot Jenner Heritage Trail before it ends on July 15th. There are prizes for winners and copies of the Trail are available in St Mary's Church, Ye Olde Shoppe, the Community Library in School Lane the Museum, the Castle and Cattle Country. We are also hoping to have a tethered balloon event accompanied by music soon.



We had a wonderful launch dinner in May at which the newly formed Jenner Community Choir (including members of the church choir) performed extracts of the work being composed by Dr Liz Lane. Our guest speaker,

Dr Adrian Hill from The Jenner Institute at the University of Oxford provided us with fascinating insights into the development of vaccines. Going forward we aim to involve as many members of the community of Berkeley



Vale as possible in our musical celebration of the bicentenary of the death of Dr Edward Jenner. The final performance will provide future generations with the legacy and a recording of a musical score.

We are a Sub Committee of Berkeley Community Trust Charity Number 1108635. Any profit at the end of the Project will be shared among local charities including Dr Jenner's House Museum and Garden. You can learn more from our social media sites (#jennerproject, <https://www.facebook.com/jennerproject>) or, if you would like to participate, email us on jennerproject23@gmail.co.

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The Platinum Jubilee Beacons was the first community event of the four-day Jubilee Weekend, 2nd-5th June 2022 and Berkeley had its own Community Beacon at Berkeley Castle.

A beautiful summer's evening ensured a good turnout for the lighting of the beacon, with the added bonus of a piper in the castle grounds to add to the lovely atmosphere.

The main community event in Berkeley was the Party in the Park on Saturday 4th June at Canon Park.



The event was started in style with a fancy-dress parade from the Library to the Park which was well supported by the Scouting and Guiding groups as well as local families. Our Town Mayor and Charles Berkeley led the parade with musical accompaniment, lots of flag waving and plenty of support from those that they passed.

They then gathered at Canon Park where all those who took part received a treat and prizes were awarded for the best fancy dress. It was then time to explore the tents and settle down with food and drink to enjoy the entertainment.



Berkeley Vale Foodbank



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The weather was very kind and everyone could settle down to enjoy the entertainment. Starting with the mellow tones of Leon Daye followed by some energy from Georgia May Mathews and wrapping up with some crowd pleasers from the Déjà Vu Band.

Meanwhile faces were painted, castles were bounced on, beer was drunk, burgers were eaten and circus skills were demonstrated. Fun in the park from lunchtime through to the evening. Thanks to everyone involved.

On other days over the weekend street parties were popping up as neighbours came together to spend time together and make the most of the extended bank holiday weekend. The photo below is from the Trevisa Crescent street party. We'd love to see more photos of other street parties so please email them into us here at the Flyer. Send them to editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk



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TYNDALE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Michael Krier MA(Photo) ARPS AFIAP made a Zoom 'visit' to Tyndale Photography Club to show the audio visual presentation of The 9th Cheltenham International Salon of Photography (2021).

A Salon of Photography is an exhibition, created by a photographic society or camera club, with a set number of sections. International associations support and give patronage to these salons and also supply a range of awards to recognise photographic merit. Images are judged to the standards set by whoever a club has received patronage from and photographers from around the world are able to submit images into any of the worldwide salons held each year.

In 2021, 738 photographers, from 55 countries, entered 9006 images into the Cheltenham Salon, giving the panel of five international judges quite a challenge. 2028 (22.5%) of the entered images were accepted and of those 60 were awarded medals.

A selection of the accepted entries in each of the five sections were displayed in turn, with the images given awards shown at the end of their respective section.

The five audio visuals that Michael showed were produced by Martin Fry FRPS EFIAP/p AV-EFIAP ABPE APAGB and, as in all other years, the images and accompanying music were matched together perfectly.

The evening began with the TRAVEL section and this displayed a wide variety of landscapes, portraits and characteristics of various cultures. The MONOCHROME section was an amazing group of photographs, they displayed the power that black and white images can give in emotion and texture. The CREATIVE section definitely showed a 'different' type of photography, creative thinking and post processing produced some

unbelievable and unique images. The NATURE section as you would expect, covered images from insects to animals, birds to butterflies and even a few fungi shots. The final section was COLOUR and in this section it seemed that as it was colour it was OK, the variety of subjects was wide ranging and included landscapes and portraits, it was pleasing to see such an assortment.

The excellent audio visual was well presented and displayed an amazing variety of stunning photographs, it was most definitely a celebration of photography from around the world.

Four of our members had between them seven images accepted into the salon and luckily each had at least one image chosen to be shown in the audio visual presentation.

ELIZABETH RESTALL ARPS had two acceptances in the monochrome section - '13.55 at Canary Wharf' and 'Spiral Staircase'.

GEORGE RYSKE had an acceptance in the creative section - 'Happy Meal'.

DON GRUNDELL had an acceptance in the monochrome section - 'Bristol Eye' and an acceptance in the creative section - 'American Dream'.

BRIAN WETTON had two acceptances in the travel section - 'Indian Musician' and 'Buddhist Monks, Hanoi'.

Well Done to you all!



Berkeley Vale Foodbank
Part of Stroud District Foodbank and supported by The Trussell Trust

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PhysioNet is a North Yorkshire based charity that provides disabled adults and children in low and middle income countries with physiotherapy, equipment, wheelchairs, mobility/amenity items and some hospital hardware.

We have contacted organisations and many caring people throughout Britain who are eager to provide us with their redundant items free of charge. In addition we have nursing and therapy professionals who provide technical support and regularly help with repairs. A team of enthusiastic volunteers assists with the collection and packaging of equipment before it is shipped to countries around the world where there is an almost insatiable need.

The therapy team concentrate time, effort and equipment on individual overseas centres for children and adults with disabilities.

The objective is to provide them with the best equipment and trained staff, thus setting an example to similar organisations in that country.

To date the programme has been successful in Romania, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Fiji and Kenya with other countries in the pipeline.

We have just set up a South West hub based at Berkeley Green. We have moved from temporary accommodation in a thatched barn on the edge of Dartmoor (where we had been for a number of years) with limited access for large HGV's.

We collect from Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Hampshire, Shrewsbury, Wales and Bristol to name but a few. This can be from waste disposal sites, Care homes, Hospices, hospitals and individuals.

We are looking for volunteers to help with collections, cleaning, packaging, maintaining an inventory etc.

We will have a van and costs to cover collections are provided.

We are working closely with The Cotswold Men's shed also at Berkeley who have been maintaining wheelchairs, walkers and children's equipment.

The team is led by Harry and Sarah, a physiotherapist who ensures that the equipment is safe and fit for purpose.

I would be happy to show people around storage and explain in more detail the work involved. Currently we have no set days or times and this is not essential nor a permanent agreement to do a set amount of time. Training and support on what is done/required will be given. All that is needed is enthusiasm and a sense of humour.

Contact sarah.cowlam@hotmail.com Text 07970643757

Or Harry physionetsw@gmail.com

Severn Vale Flower Club

What an achievement for Severn Vale Flower Club to celebrate our 65th Anniversary. It is more notable as it is in the same year as the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

Our Members Day with competitions was on Monday 12th June at St Mary's Church Hall Thornbury. This was our first Members Day held here since the closure of the Armstrong Hall. We were not sure how it would all work out, considering it was a smaller hall and we were not sure many entries we would have for each competition. However, after our committee were coerced into putting in at least one arrangement each, we had seventy entries including photographs. This proved to be an immense success with many positive comments. Members judged the photos by putting a few coins against the ones they liked best with the money going to our chosen charity. Kathleen Taylor judged the competitions which she found challenging as there were so many entries to choose from. Margaret Orchard won the Kay Evans trophy. Sue Williams won the Carmen Pitts award. Susie Rees won the Nancy Robbins award and the Kathleen Hawkins award. Christine Mullins won the award for a flower in a vase, which was a lovely crimson clematis. Members had a chance to look at the entries before enjoying nibbles and a cake, kindly made by June Lyons.

On Monday afternoon 11th July at Eastwood Park we will be having an afternoon tea with a small demonstration. This is for members and friends. If you are interested in coming to any of our afternoon demonstrations, the next one is on Monday afternoon August 8th. when Margaret Heal will be our demonstrator. On Monday September 12th Liz Gordon will be the demonstrator.

For more information, the numbers to ring are 01453 811089 or 01454 885213.



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**Facebook page
Doggy Days of Berkeley**

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WHATS ON

www.hamfieldsleisure.co.uk

Friday 8th April 2022

Peter Kay Tribute Night – with live music from Dave Cain

Tickets **£10 each**

Saturday 30th April 2022

Queen Tribute Night

Tickets **£15 each**

Saturday 17th September 2022

The Essential Jersey Boys –

Tribute to Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons

Tickets **£15 each**

Saturday 22nd October

Madonna – Tribute Night

Tickets **£10 each**

Tickets for our events available from The Club,

our website or Ticket Source.

Get in Touch: Phone **01453 810413**

Hamfields Lane Berkeley GL13 9TN

Email **Hamfields@aol.com**

To hire our premises, get in touch for availability & prices.

Food – we are delighted to be partnering Hamfields Kitchen to offer Sunday Lunches, our Fortnightly Friday Menu & catering for events.

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for details of Events & News

St Mary's Church, Berkeley

Sunday 3rd July

9.30am Communion at All Saints' Stone

11am 'Eleven' with Baptism at St Mary's Berkeley

6pm Choral Evensong at St Mary's Berkeley

Wednesday 6th July

11am Coffee & Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

Sunday 10th July

9.30am Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

6pm Cafe Church at St Mary's Berkeley

Sunday 17th July

9.30am Communion with Baptism at All Saints' Stone

11am Morning Prayer at St Michael's Hill

11am 'Eleven' at St Mary's Berkeley

6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's Berkeley

Sunday 24th July

8am BCP Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

9.30am Choral Morning Prayer at St Mary's Berkeley

11am 'Eleven' with Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

Sunday 31st July

10.30am Benefice Communion at St Mary's Berkeley

Please look at our website for more details: www.stmarys-berkeley.co.uk. Here you will also be able to access the Herald – the monthly magazine for the Berkeley Benefice which is now back once again. Hard copies are available in each of our three churches.

ST PETER'S HOSPICE - GARDEN PARTY

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Grove House, The Street, Alveston (BS35 3SX) to a Garden Party to be held on Sunday 17th July, 2.30pm – 5.00pm (by kind permission of Geoff and Carol).

Entrance is £5.00 to include tea and cake. Raffle.

Bring a picnic chair, listen to the musical entertainment and enjoy the gardens.

Please come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.

BERKELEY PLAYERS

BERKELEY PLAYERS HAVE STARTED BACK WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS, SO WE HAVE BEEN BUSY DOING WORKSHOPS TO GET US BACK INTO HARNESS.

HOPEFULLY WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO OUR ANNUAL PANTOMIME AGAIN IN DECEMBER.

WE FINISH AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL TERM AND START BACK AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER.

WE REALLY DO NEED HELP IN MANY DEPARTMENTS - PLEASE SEE OUR NOTICE BOARD OUTSIDE THE TOWN HALL.

**Need a good chat? Someone to listen?****Or just want to talk to somebody different?**

Berkeley Benefice are here for you, offering support to the whole community.

Throughout the Benefice we have people happy to help. Whether you are shielding, self isolating, or simply feeling alone at a difficult time, we can provide assistance, even if it's just someone to talk to.

Our first points of contact are:

Berkeley, Jan on 01453 810752

Hill, Mark on 01454 260750

Stone, Naomi on 01454 260376

When you call, we'll match you up with the right person for you. Our offer is not limited to those locations, or by denomination. We are here for everyone.

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THE JENNER PROJECT 2022 | 23

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to celebrate Edward Jenner's flight*

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OR EMAIL US ON JENNERPROJECT23@GMAIL.COM

There may be a chance to get into the basket
You will be able to watch the balloon inflate
You can learn how Jenner might have flown to Kingscote



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What's On Diary

PLEASE CONTACT THE ORGANISER TO CHECK THAT THESE EVENTS ARE GOING AHEAD IN THE CURRENT EPIDEMIC

Due to Covid-19 some groups and clubs are not running. They have been included so people have contact info and details of what clubs normally run so you can make plans for when restrictions are eased.

Monday

Town Council Meeting

3rd Monday of the month 7.00pm

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

Berkeley Rainbows

The Scout Hut 4.15 - 5.30pm

Scouts - Scout HQ, Park View

Scouts 10½ to 14 years old 7.00pm - 8.30pm

FitFix Exercise - Stinchcombe Village Hall

6.30pm Combat with Sam 07793 755240
Suitable for all abilities

Last Orders Picture House

Salutation Inn at Ham

Alternate Mondays at 7.30

Book via www.sallyatham.com.

Sharpness Guides Sharpness Scout & Guide Hut

10 - 14 years old, 6:30 - 8:00pm

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Severn Vale Flower Club

St. Mary's Church Hall, Eastland Close Thornbury
3rd Monday of month from 13th Sept at 2.15pm

Wednesday

Craft Club - Berkeley Arms

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

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

Citizens Advice Bureau

Closed until further notice

Berkeley Gardening Club

3rd Wednesday of the month

Library 7.30pm

Crochet Group - Berkeley Library

11.00am. £1 per session.

Everyone is welcome.

Just bring a crochet hook and some wool.

FitFix Exercise - UAC Sharpness

6.30pm HiiT with Sam 07793 755240

Interval training with varied weights - all abilities

Alcoholics Anonymous Berkeley Steps

Town hall, 7.30pm - 8.30pm, Town Hall

St Mary's Church

Open for private prayer 1.00 - 4.00pm

Berkeley Guides Scout HQ, Park View

10 - 14 years old, 6:30 - 8:00pm

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Thursday

Extend Exercise Classes for 60+ Scout Hut

From 10.30am Contact Barbara 01453 766421

Berkeley Congregational Church

Thursday Coffee Mornings have now resumed starting at 10am. Everyone is most welcome. Please come along. A warm welcome awaits you.

Art Group

Berkeley Library . £3.00 per session
10.00am—1pm. Bring own materials

NatWest Mobile Bank

Salter Street 10.15am -12.30 pm

Beavers Scouts for 6 to 8 years old

Scout HQ, Park View, 4.45pm - 5.45pm

Berkeley Brownies

The Scout Hut 6.15pm - 7.30pm

New Berkeley Harriers Running Club

6.30pm at Canon Park Pavilion

Berkeley Players Meet in the Town Hall

From 7pm—8.30 Young People

From 8.30 Adults

Friday

Berkeley Community Library

10.00am - 4.00pm

Saturday

Berkeley Community Library

10.00am - 12.00pm

Sunday

Roman Catholic Mass

Sundays 8.30am, 10.30am

St Dominic RC Church, Kingshill, Dursley

Berkeley Union Church

(also known as the Congregational Church)

Church Services start at 10am

St Mary's Church

Please check church website for details of services and open times for private prayer.

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Tuesday

Community Bank - Town Hall,

Closed until further notice

Berkeley Community Library

Tuesdays 10.00am - 4.00pm

Telephone 810520

Line Dancing/Ballroom Dance Class

Hamfields Leisure 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Contact Daphne 01453 826034

Skylarks Community Choir

Town Hall, 7.30 - 9pm Term Time only.

All welcome

Cub Scouts - Scout HQ, Park View

8 to 10½ years old

6.00pm - 7.30pm

Thornbury Macular & Low Vision Support

1st Tuesday of month, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Methodist Church Hall, Castle Court, Thornbury

Berkeley Flicks - Berkeley Library 7.30pm

3rd or 4th Tuesday of each month

Contact: Annie Clifford berkeleyflicks@gmail.com

VALE OF BERKELEY RAILWAY

The signing of the lease for Oldminster Sidings has unlocked a huge number of possibilities. We are now the legal tenants of the site for the next 25 years. As a result, the following projects can now progress:

- Secure the site with fencing. This is particularly important, as any locomotives or carriages that we would like to store at the site must be protected from theft and vandalism.
- Apply for funding and donations for specific projects associated with the site. Until we had the lease, no external donors would consider giving us money for projects.
- Apply for planning permission for building works. When we only had a licence, we were unable to build any structures or even erect secure fencing. We can now look to building workshops to restore and maintain railway vehicles.
- Negotiate improved vehicular access to the site.
- Repair and re-align the track formations.
- A bonus for us is that the lease gives us an extra acre or so of the track bed which includes all the pointwork for the sidings. We can now restore all this to working order.

The first significant project is now under way. We have to erect a secure fence between our leased area of land and Network Rail's land. This is a very small step but is highly complex and significant. Without this barrier in place, we are subject to Network Rail's rules and regulations. Under these, only people who are trained and approved by them are allowed on site and to erect the fence. We have agreed with them that under the supervision of a Network Rail approved person we will erect a temporary barrier close to where the permanent one will be. We will then be allowed to work without supervision to erect the permanent fence. It is frustratingly bureaucratic, but when you are dealing with a large, safety conscious business you have to abide by their rules. Effectively we are working under the same terms and conditions as a project like HS2!!

In addition, the permanent fence has to be built to Network Rail's specification and standards. Once this barrier is in place, we can then access the site whenever we wish. We can then start on making the rest of the site secure. It is a sad state of affairs that heritage railways are increasingly becoming targets for mindless vandalism, and unfortunately at Sharpness we have the same problem with the local youngsters. So far, at Sharpness they have

only caused annoying problems, but that is because we do not store any valuable items there. It will be impossible to store anything of value there until the site is secure. Recently a heritage railway has been vandalised three times in as many weeks. On the third occasion more than 20 carriage windows were smashed. Quite apart from the expense of repairing these, it is demoralising to the volunteers who put in many hours of unpaid work to restore these heritage vehicles so that they can be enjoyed by everyone.

One of our 2 "pacer" units has gone to loan to the Llanelli & Mynydd Mawr Railway (L&MMR). We have formed a new partnership between the two organisations. This started with VoBR Class 143 no. 143612 moving to the L&MMR on a year-long loan on the 12th April 2022, where it will operate in service at the railway. We have had a team working to keep the 2 coach units clean and operational. These are working vehicles, and as such are best preserved by keeping them in operation. This keeps batteries charged and engines



lubricated. The two organisations will also share knowledge, expertise, and spares where possible, as well provide training and assessment provision for each other. During the agreement the unit will be placed under the care of The South Wales Railcar Group, who already have 142006, 143606 and 143607 in their fleet.

For 143612, it marks a return to South Wales after a number of years away. Having had a similar history to 143606 and 143607 up until the early 2000s, it was re-allocated from Cardiff Canton depot to Bristol St. Phillips Marsh during the Wessex Trains days. Although it would make the occasional visit to Cardiff Central in service, it could be found predominantly operating in the Bristol and Exeter area. It was the first Class 143 to be preserved, along with 143603 when purchased by the Vale of Berkeley Railway.

It is planned for 143612, which still carries Great Western Railway green livery, to

make its debut in preservation at the L&MMR at their operating day on Saturday 14th May.

Close to home, the machine shop has a number of urgent orders to fulfill. If anyone has machining skills, or would like to develop some, there are opportunities in our well-equipped machine shop. 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 also have a well-equipped woodworking shop, which includes some machines which came from ex-LMS carriage and wagon works. and will in time be looking to bring in outside work for that department too. We have several interesting projects, so if you have any skills in this area, or would like to acquire some, come and join us. Future projects include the refurbishment of coaches, and we have been offered a "toad" brake van. This is relatively good condition but does need some refurbishment.

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. Please bear in mind that in these challenging times, social distancing is necessary, so if you do visit, please wait at the entrance, and ask for the duty manager who will be pleased to answer any questions from a safe distance.

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.

We can also be contacted by email at valeofberkeleyrailway@gmail.com

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