



Part of the display of painted pebbles at the Jubilee Gardens. Lots more would be welcome to make Beer look even more lovely!

Welcome

Welcome to the 12th edition of Beer Talks! We hope you are all well and keeping safe!

As usual, we want to remind everyone that there are still food supplies available at Lee's Emporium on Barline and also from the school. If you have any special requirements, please do let your coordinator or Lee know on 07890 948262. We will always do our best to help.

We want to take this opportunity to say "Thank You and Goodbye" to Debbie and Dave from the Beer Village Stores. They are moving on to pastures new and we wish them well.

We are looking forward to welcoming the new owners, Nigel and Karen, when we get an opportunity next week.

Finally, we want to say a massive "Thank You!" to everyone in the village who took part in what was the loudest possible last clap for key workers and hearing our beautiful church bells ringing out over the top of several fog horns, countless saucepans and hundreds and hundreds of people clapping was absolutely divine!

Thank you!

Notices

- **Advance notice!**
The questions for the 2020 Beer Treasure Hunt will be printed in the next edition of Beer Talks and the answers will be printed in the edition after that. Please note, it is just for fun! Many thanks to Charlotte Gibbs for all her hard work organising this event!
- **Call for bunting!**
Carry on making bunting to decorate your house ready for 13th June which is the Queen's birthday. Another opportunity for a lovely picnic in the garden!

Beer Men's Shed

The members of Beer Men's Shed have been helping villagers where they can and they have a wide range of skills between them. Mending vacuum cleaners, fixing phone problems, sorting out network problems, fixing watches - there's been a few jobs to do.

Now the first leaves are starting to poke through on the allotment: most of the plants and seeds have been donated by people in the village. Potatoes, carrots, onions, kale, lettuce, peas, runner beans - if it all comes up, we'll be up to our ears in veg!

Members turned up this weekend to clear the site for an allotment shed that we've been given at a knock-down price. What



a great location for the guys to get together for a socially-distanced bit of gardening and a chat!

BAG HANGOUT!

Still going from strength to strength, our hosted schedule currently looks like this:

- *Mondays: 1pm onwards - Children's Hour;*
- *Tuesdays: 1pm onwards - Wendy's Sewers;*
- *Wednesdays: 1-2pm Gayle Chapple hosts;*
- *Thursdays: 2pm onwards - Beer Men's Shed;*
- *Fridays: 2pm onwards - Beer Village Heritage with Kate Ponting.*

Beer Film Society

Hopefully all of you will have been enjoying the brilliant sunshine of late so this week we have decided to add some extra sparkle and dazzle into our weekly list by including a daily musical. This week's selections have also been influenced by a notable birthday as we doff our Stetson to the great Clint Eastwood. As usual, our recommendations are attached.

Happy Viewing!

Beer Film Society



New Fundraising Initiative

This week we particularly want to let you know about the new fund raising initiative that we are launching in aid of Seaton Hospice Nurses at Home and the Children's Hospice South West.

Are you wondering what to do on a rainy day (as if that is going to happen any time soon) or maybe in an evening 'when there is nothing on the telly', then why not tidy out your wardrobes ready for the Big Beer Clothing Clear-Out Sale. We are planning to have a good as new clothing sale in the Hub as soon as it is safe to do so. Please take any men's or women's good as new clothes, shoes and handbags to the Hub on Tuesdays at 11.30am or give items to your street coordinator for delivery.

More to come in the following weeks but please do start putting aside items for the sale. Think of all the space you will make for the lovely new stuff you can then buy...!

Crisp Packet Collections

Ruth Bullock wants to remind everyone that crisp packet collections are restarting and the collection bags are in the phone box. If you would prefer to arrange for a collection, please contact Ruth on ruthtoohoots@gmail.com.

Crafty Update

As usual, the crafty Beer village people have been busy working on all things creative to raise money for good causes.

Knitted and fabric hearts of all shapes and sizes are now available at the Post Office and can be bought for a small donation.

A beautiful new contribution from Shirley Carroll in the form of a greetings card with a heart is now available at the post office for a small donation.

Barnards' Buttoneers are still busy at work now embellishing buttons on hearts – so pretty!

Call for buttons – if you do have any spare buttons that you wish to donate, please can you drop them into Lee's Emporium on Barline.

Allotments Update 31st May 2020

At the time of writing, the mini-drought continues, over three weeks since the last measurable rain on 5th May, hints of the summer of 1976, although I haven't spotted any standpipes around the village yet. Plots are in sore need of some natural watering, although the glorious sunny conditions bring excellent growing conditions to those who can get a drop of H₂O on the ground. Water divining and cloud seeding have been mooted, although Nigel's suggestion of an aqueduct from Bovey Lane was turned down by Clinton Estates as too costly. May's weather stats from the East Beer Meteorological Office show the 21st was warmest at 24.4 C, with the 12th seeing an arctic night minimum of 1.2 C.

The dry conditions have impacted the broad bean harvest from those sown last November. For those who couldn't water, the crop matured much quicker than usual, still some reasonable pickings, but now coming to an end, and I can't remember the last time their season started winding up quite this early, Crofty and Tony have already had felling sessions with their plants. Courgettes and pumpkins are now all growing away well, runner and climbing French beans on their way up the poles, peas will soon be in flower, although not sure anyone other than Crofty and Kim have managed any decent amount of parsnips. Any unwatered potatoes are looking a bit unhappy, I've tried a digging, but needed a couple of plants for a nonetheless delicious plate of buttered new tatties to go with some fresh broad beans and a piece of salmon, a Master Chef Classic meal if ever there was one.



Talking of Haute Cuisine, fine dining arrived at Greg's allotment table last Saturday morning, as Julian gave a masterclass in globe artichoke consumption, bringing along a cooked head and some vinaigrette. He then proceeded to demonstrate the art of pulling off the scales, dipping in the vinaigrette, and extracting the flesh with your teeth. However, the delicate taste wasn't fully appreciated by all tasters, and some heathen even compared the flavour to crab meat, which probably wouldn't go down too well in a top Paris restaurant. Anyway, thanks again to Julian for taking the time to try and bring a bit of refinement to local eating habits, and also for the wonderful honey from his hives, handed out the previous week.

With lockdown restrictions now being eased a little and up to six persons allowed to congregate while observing social distancing, now's the time to get on to Clinton Estates if you fancy coming out and growing some food in great company. However, it's not an excuse for loafing around, drinking tea, and blethering, and unfortunately there are some very bad examples of this at present. They know who they are, and names have been forwarded to the relevant authorities, with mandatory attendance at Monty Don's penal correction centre a possibility.

Keep digging, and most of all, enjoy your gardenin'

Old Compost Heap