



The Ammerdown Centre

Autumn Newsletter 2022



Dear Friends,

As you will know, here at Ammerdown it is beautiful in all seasons, but this warm summer we have been able to enjoy our stunning garden more than ever. Here are some of our memories from the summer months...



Summer Month Memories



In June, we celebrated Lord Hylton's 90th birthday with an afternoon tea. In thanksgiving for all that he has done for the Centre, we have planted two trees in the Ammerdown garden in his honour.

Throughout the summer, we had cream teas in the garden. Our thanks to Lucy from Swallows Café who helped us out!





Folksy Theatre delighted us with Much Ado about Nothing and Alice in Wonderland.

Our creative groups produced some amazing artwork.



More than 100 refugees and host families joined us for a beautiful day in the garden. There was badminton, quoits, table tennis, a free clothes shop, a treasure hunt, origami, a gentle walk, lots of talk, a Chapel service, mountains of pizza and dessert! The next meet up is on Saturday 8th October. Supported by BANES, RAISE, Bath Welcomes Refugees and Ammerdown.



The Ammerdown Fun Day was AMAZING! We were overwhelmed by the attendance. More than 300 people enjoyed the activities – a bouncy castle, face painting, games, ice cream, burgers and hot dogs, treasure hunts, pimms and prosecco, live music, tai chi and more cream teas!



We welcomed many groups to Ammerdown – some new and some returning, including one that has been coming to Ammerdown for over 30 years!



We visited Fairfield House in Bath to witness the Rastafari Sabbath, along with the Bath Interfaith Group.



The NHS Chaplains went up the Jack and Jill hill (to fetch a pail of water)!



Improvements

The labyrinth, which was originally built to mark the 40th anniversary of Ammerdown, was renovated with new stones.



Going greener ... We now have two electric car charge points.

Large print bibles have been gifted to us by Hilary and are now available in the Chapel. Our grateful thanks to her.



We welcome three new members of Staff

Jackie Drago takes on the new role of Weekend Manager. Laura Deacon is our new Social Justice Initiator. (This post is for one year.) And Jerry Quinn joins us as Head Chef. A warm welcome to them all!

Congratulations to Summer, our Sous Chef, who gave birth to Jasmine on the 12th August!

Congratulations to Ingrid who has worked in the Finance Office at Ammerdown for the last 20 years! Thank you Ingrid for all that you have done for us over the years! You have been a calm presence through many changes and we are so grateful to you for being with us for the last two decades.

And congratulations to Tatomir who has worked at Ammerdown for 10 years. Tatomir's welcoming of guests is second to none and we are so grateful that he is part of our team.



Sad News

We share the sad news that Sue Meadows, who became a Trustee of Ammerdown in 2004, died last month. During her time as a Trustee, Sue served as Chair for three years from 2013 to 2016, and was unfailing in her support of the Centre and the staff. We are deeply thankful for all that she did for us, her love and her care. She is greatly missed. There is a Thanksgiving Service for Sue on Saturday 15th October at Kilmersdon Parish Church at 12 noon, followed by refreshments at the Ammerdown Centre.

And now looking forward...

A new Ammerdown Quarterly Programme goes out with this newsletter. We hope that you will find something that interests you whether in person or on zoom. We will welcome more groups to stay and use our facilities and then there is Christmas! Join us for our delicious Christmas lunches with an informal Carol Service; our Carols by Candlelight; and the Quantum Theatre production of The Snow Queen. We hope to welcome you back to Ammerdown soon!

With our warmest wishes,
The Ammerdown Team



Ammerdown Christmas 2022

A warm welcome awaits you this festive season at
The Ammerdown Centre!

Join us for Ammerdown Christmas Lunches
Monday 12th until Saturday 17th December

Our bar opens at 12pm and our optional delightful Christmas
Carol service takes place in the Chapel at 12:15pm.
This is followed by a delicious Christmas feast served at
1pm. It's set to be a magical afternoon for all!

Book for your group or family and friends from the 14th
October. Call us on 01761 433709 or email
admin@ammerdown.org.

Two Course Meal £26.95
Three Course Meal £32.95



Ammerdown

HOSPITALITY • PEACE • RECONCILIATION





The 100 club is a monthly draw where you pay a minimum donation of £12 for the year, to be assigned a number. Each month one number is drawn and the winner receives £50 of the money. The rest is donated to the Ammerdown charity. A cheque is posted to the winner and their name is featured in the Quarterly Newsletter. Please contact the Centre for information on joining the club.

Mrs Akehurst– June 2022

Mrs Brownbill - July 2022

Mr Hill - August 2022

Book Recommendation by Lord Hylton - "Silent Earth"

by Professor D Goulson

This is essential reading for all concerned about the future of our planet and, indeed, our ability to sustain civilization as we know it.

Imagine a world without sufficient electricity, clean water or banking services. Can we avoid collapses such as the Roman and Islamic civilizations suffered?

The title recalls Rachel Carson's famous "Silent Spring", about the use and abuse of the chemical known as DDT. The author has a life-time's experience of the importance of insects, not just as pollinators, but in the ecology of birds, fishes and people. He stresses the importance of bees, not only honey-bees, together with wild bees, wasps, flies, beetles and worms. He was understandably concerned by the sharp decline in insect numbers in developed countries and in tropical regions, over the last 50 years.

Part three deals with the various causes of the population decline, at a time when the number of humans has risen dramatically.

Part four describes the warnings given in 1992, and again in 2017, by thousands of scientists, about the probable consequences of global pollution and climate change. These have also been largely disregarded, so this section looks back on the possible conditions for human life, after civilization has unravelled.

Part five is highly constructive and hopeful. It explains how awareness can be raised and how groups and individuals can help to avoid disaster. We cannot afford to bury our heads in the sand, like ostriches when danger approaches.

*Hylton
September 2022*



QUANTUM THEATRE



Sunday 11 December at 3pm

When Gerda's friend Kay is taken by the Snow Queen no one knows what's happened to him, but the heartbroken Gerda decides she must set out to find him. A long and dangerous journey ensues, as Gerda battles to escape from a sorceress, is captured by robbers, meets a prince and princess, enlists the help of a friendly crow and reindeer and finally reaches the Snow Queen's icy palace.

But is she too late to melt Kay's frozen heart? Only her love is strong enough to try...

Please book via www.quantumtheatre.co.uk

Carols by Candlelight

In the Ammerdown Garden

A delightful evening of festive carols in our beautiful garden. Join us after the service for delicious mulled wine and mince pies!

Wednesday 14 December

7pm - 8pm

Donations for Ukraine Refugees in Somerset.