

# Pucklechurch News



Summer 2012

[www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org)

Funded by the Parish Council



## REVEL

This year Revel runs from 9<sup>th</sup> June to the 23<sup>rd</sup> June with the Beer and Cider Festival being held at the end.

The theme this year is 'The Olympics'.

The Royal family this year are as follows:-

Queen - Dion McDermott

Princesses - Georgia Hawkins & Laura Harty

King - Noah Ball

Prince - Jacob Venning

Pixies - Bryony Powell and George Clark

During Revel there will be a string of events:

- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Miniature garden making , craft table and scavenger hunt for children
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Ramble
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Quiz night
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Revel Skittles
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Bob Todd Memorial Pram Race
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> South Glos. Walking for Health
- Also Friday 15<sup>th</sup>-Senior Citizens entertainment
- Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> - Revel Day
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Service
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Film Night (Pucklechurch School)
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Poetry in the garden
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Bingo
- Friday & Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> Beer and Cider Festival
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Car treasure Hunt

As last year the Revel Parade will assemble in Hill View for the judging at 11.45. The parade will follow last year's route via Castle Rd, Westerleigh Road, Parkfield Road and Homefield Road before returning to Castle Road via Shortwood, Abson and Feltham Roads. The parade will be led by the Wiltshire Youth Marching Band.

On the rec we will also have a variety of game stalls, food stalls and fun fair rides, the Scout Village and classic cars. We are aiming to have more stalls for the children and these include making of paper aeroplanes, pinning the tail on the donkey, colouring competition, the decorating of cup cakes and fishing game. There will also be a gorilla wall and the Grand National. Many of the stalls will be packing up after the Grand Draw but Revel will go on until 7.00pm with music by the 'Skinny Dippers' and a pig roast.

Details of all Revel events may be found in the Revel leaflet which is being distributed free with this edition of Pucklechurch News



## Revel Photography Competition

Once again, Revel are sponsoring the Bob Stone Memorial Photography Competition. There will be 2 categories; Pucklechurch Village Life - buildings, people, scenery and events that take place in the village.

Open - any other subject such as travel, portraits, nature, pets, abstracts or architecture.

Look for more details at Revel and on posters around the village. Entries have to be in by September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The exhibition which this year will also include an Art exhibition will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> October in the Community Centre. Prizes for the Photography and Art Exhibition will be presented at the end of the exhibition. We will also be giving prizes for the best of the rest in the 2 categories and visitors to the exhibition will choose these winners.

## Pucklechurch Scarecrow Trail 2012

The results and answers to this year's Scarecrow Competition are in!

Congratulations to Wendy Blanchard for guessing 49/49 correct names for the scarecrows this year. She was delighted and very surprised to receive her £50 prize! There were 15 other people who also guessed all the characters correctly and we had to draw a name out of a hat in order to choose a winner. Well done to everyone who took part. We hope you enjoyed the event. The winning scarecrow this year was Lord Alan Sugar, created by the Church Youth Group. There are 8 regular members of this group who all had a part in creating this scarecrow. They will be deciding how to spend their £25 prize in the coming week or two.

Thank you to everyone who supported the event. You will be pleased to know that we raised £1957.41 which will go towards the Church building and activities this year which is a superb result, especially considering the rain on Monday!

You can see all the scarecrows here <http://www.scribd.com/doc/92885389>. We hope you enjoy seeing them again!

God bless you all. We hope you have a very good 2012.



**SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES**

**Sunday 3rd June**

10a.m. Family Communion.  
DIAMOND JUBILEE SERVICE Of Hymns, Prayers and Readings .

**Sunday 17th June**

6.30p.m. Revel Service. In Vicarage Garden if dry and in Church if wet A short informal service for everyone; and afterwards refreshments will be served.

The Vicarage is situated at 18 Westerleigh Road; just down below Hero's Hairdressers.

**Sunday 8th July**

10a.m. PATRONAL FESTIVAL  
(Church's birthday)  
Family Communion followed by cake & wine in Vicarage Garden.

**Music Sunday 22nd July**

10a.m. Family Communion.

**SUMMER GARDEN FETE IN VICARAGE GARDEN**

on Saturday 7th July from 2-4pm

Strawberry Cream Teas  
Stalls include Cakes, Books, Bric-a-Brac; Plants, Sideshows, Tombola, Raffle

Come and join us; have a good afternoon out. We wish to invite everyone to join us on any or all of these occasions, a warm welcome awaits you!

The majorettes have been busy since the last time you heard from us in the Pucklechurch News.

2011 ended with a very successful Disco and Presentation Evening with all of the Majorettes receiving a trophy for their effort throughout the year and some girls being awarded special trophies for a variety of achievements.

More recent news-

The girls took part in a competition last month and did extremely well!

The older girls were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Juvenile Military, 4<sup>th</sup> in Juvenile Twirl and 1<sup>st</sup> in Juvenile Pom.

The younger girls had two entries in Pom and Twirl and were placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in Pee Wee Pom, and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in Pee Wee Twirl.

Quite a few of the girls also entered the Basic Strut, girls receiving places and rosettes in the age category 0-6 was Ava Powell in 8<sup>th</sup> place; age category 7-9 were Jorja Powell in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Amelia Carter in 4<sup>th</sup> place, Megan Aze in 5<sup>th</sup> place and Louise Packer in 12<sup>th</sup> place.

Trainer Kelly wanted to say a special thank you to Revel for the lovely silver pom poms used at the competition in April, she thinks that they must be part of the reason for the girls being placed 1<sup>st</sup> in two pom pom routines! (And of course the fact that the girls are brilliant and work so hard in training every week, and perform so well at competitions).

Pucklechurch Majorettes have a busy few months ahead with another competition in May. They are also involved in Revel and will be strutting their stuff on Revel Day! They are definitely a group of youngsters for Pucklechurch to be proud of.

....

*Beth Rawlins*

**PA Pucklechurch Community Association Report**

Due to the generosity of the Parish Council, Revel, Cory Environmental Trust and South Glos. Environmental Trust, the Community Centre is totally wrapped up in insulation, the Kitchenette has a new carpet, the Changing Rooms a complete set of rain guttering and the air into and out of the Main Hall can now be refreshed at will. Some of these have been in the planning for nearly twelve months and have finally been completed. So as the Team sat back and thought what next the weather intervened and a large section of the ancient wall behind the stage end of the Centre collapsed, revealing the standard of craftsmanship of one hundred and fifty years ago! So back to the drawing board for more money.

Talking of money, which we often do, George Hill has been doing the job for the last three years, and has handed in his notice for the end of next year, 2013, as has the Chairman, Secretary and Vice Chairman. The up shot of these actions are that unless people volunteer for these posts, preferable now, to shadow them for a year, the Community Centre will close the day after the next AGM. The invitation is there for anyone interested in the wellbeing of the Centre to come and join us, the Committee desperately need new ideas and people.

*Alan Holder, 0117 937 2818*

**Pucklechurch News**

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Please email articles to editor@pucklechurch.org or drop them off to any one of us at the addresses above. Please include your name and telephone number in case we have questions about your article. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We cannot be responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication.

**Copy Deadlines:**

- 1st August for Autumn issue (September)**
- 10th October for Christmas issue (November)**
- 10th January for Winter issue (February)**
- 10th March for Spring issue (April)**
- 10th May for Summer issue (June)**

For the latest news, visit the online version at  
[www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org)

## Does Pucklechurch Need a New Village Community Centre Summary Results

Thank you to everyone who took part in our survey - there were 133 responses in total comprising 46 submissions on paper and 87 online. A full break down of the results can be found at [www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org).

1. 91.6% of respondents agreed with the following statement:  
“Pucklechurch deserves a facility that can really become the focus of community life, that caters to the needs and interests of everyone in the parish and which is able to offer sporting, leisure and social activities in a flexible way.”
2. 77.5% of respondents agreed that in its current form Pucklechurch Village Community Centre is unable to meet the needs of the wider local community.
3. 88.6% of respondents agreed that a new or improved facility could have the potential to improve the experience of living in and around Pucklechurch.
4. 61.2% of respondents said they are current users or members of a group that regularly uses Pucklechurch Village Community Centre.
5. 81.7% of respondents who said they were not a regular user would like to be if suitable facilities were provided. (Some suggestions were offered).
6. A variety of free text answers were given explaining what stopped non-regular users utilising the Community Centre. In summary these included lack of time or interest, lack of suitable facilities/size of rooms/appropriate groups, as well as the overall look and feel of the building. Some respondents articulated why they felt redevelopment was unnecessary but these were in a minority.
7. 87.7% of respondents agreed that Pucklechurch Parish Council should facilitate the planning and redevelopment of the Community Centre.
8. 88% of respondents live in Pucklechurch village.
9. More women than men answered the questionnaire and most people who replied fell in to the age bracket between 25 and 59 although responses were received across a range from 11 85+ years.

At the time of writing Pucklechurch Parish Council were intending to discuss these results at the next available full council meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012. Any decisions taken as a result of this discussion will be published in due course.

*Councillor Gail Boyle*

## Pucklechurch Good Neighbour Scheme

The Good Neighbours are continuing to help people within our community by putting bins out, doing small gardening tasks and by spending time with people.

We have been successful in our application to South Gloucestershire Council's Small Grants Fund. This means we have funds to pay for a further year's Public Liability insurance and renew our volunteers' CRB checks, which is something that should be done every three years. We have also applied for funding to the Parish Council as we need ongoing Public Liability insurance and would like to be able to produce leaflets to advertise the scheme. This will secure the future of the scheme for Pucklechurch and Shortwood residents.

Amazingly, we have been running for three years and hope to continue for many more. If you would like to become a volunteer please contact us. If you know anyone who would benefit from our help or you would like help, please contact us by calling 07961939574 or email:

**[goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org](mailto:goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org)**

Just to remind readers, we can help those more vulnerable within our community by completing such tasks as changing light bulbs or fuses, re-tuning digiboxes, putting bins out, light gardening, filling in forms and spending time with someone for a chat. We're all volunteers and this won't cost you anything.

*Larisa, Rodney and Ross  
Pucklechurch and Shortwood Good Neighbour  
Scheme Coordinators.*

### **VOTO**

#### **(Villagers on their own)**

This group is for single people over the age of 50. If you would like to join us or would like more information contact

Elaine on 01179373105 or email

**[elainerudge@aol.com](mailto:elainerudge@aol.com)**

This year we have enjoyed meals out at local pubs and cafes. We visited Newark Park on a snowy day to see the snowdrops and also one Sunday travelled on the North Somerset Railway to Dunster and Minehead. We try to plan a variety of events and meetings so that there is something for everyone.



## Pucklechurch Twinning Association

Just after Easter we welcomed 34 French adults and children from Pringy on their annual visit to us. The weather was kind and on Sunday visits were made to St Fagans and Avebury Manor.

On the Monday our visitors decided to explore Bristol and found many interesting places (some that we haven't visited). Monday evening was our usual social evening with some good music and plenty of food.

Our guests left early on Wednesday morning to visit London before travelling home.

Once again it was a very successful visit making new friendships and renewing old ones. We are now looking forward to our return visit in October.

If you are interested in finding out more about Twinning look us up at Revel, and enjoy a coffee at the "Café du Pringy" or try your hand at Boules.

### St Anne's Fete, Syston

St Anne's fete, Syston, will be held on Saturday 30th June 2012 from 1.00 pm until 4.00 pm. It takes place in the church, church room, and surrounding gardens and driveways of the village.

Syston has its own unique character and if you love nothing more than browsing junk shops, flea markets, and car boot sales then you will find something here to please.

There will be tea and homemade cakes available as well so please join us on 30<sup>th</sup> June in Syston.

### ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH FOR YOUR DOMESTIC HEATING OIL?

#### WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET A BETTER DEAL?

If so, there are three of us who are trying to pull together the collective volume requirements in Pucklechurch and surrounding areas to then negotiate a better deal for the communities. There is no downside to this and it is only at the investigation stage at the moment, but if you would like to be included, please register your interest with:

#### DOYNTON, HINTON, ABSON:

Janet

E-mail [janetlawngace@live.co.uk](mailto:janetlawngace@live.co.uk)

Mobile 07807 906716

#### PARKFIELD:

Shana

E-mail [shana2540@gmail.com](mailto:shana2540@gmail.com)

Mobile 07968 080649

#### PUCKLECHURCH AND SHORTWOOD:

Michael

E-mail [Michael.trippick@virgin.net](mailto:Michael.trippick@virgin.net)

Mobile 07894 395012

We will keep you posted with progress

## Pucklechurch Parish Council Chairmans Report

### Can we win CPRE Avonside Village of the Year?

We participate in this competition every year but this time we really believe we have a good chance of winning. The judges will be looking to make awards based on the standard of care, tidiness and absence of litter in villages rather than 'picturesque' displays. Our parish is now kept to a much higher standard of cleanliness, thanks to the hard work of our parish orderly Jo, as well as by Anna Sharpe who takes care of litter for us on the Rec. Since introducing the new Parish Council mobile text messaging number - 07950081307 - we have also been able to report instances of litter and fly tipping that have been notified to us more efficiently, so cleanliness should not be a problem!

We do still need your help though. We need you to help us by looking at our village through the eyes of a competition judge and if you spot a problem to either inform us of it via text so we can put things right or, if possible and it is simple and safe to do so, by putting it right yourself. Also, have you visited the Woodlands or Skate Park along the Westerleigh Rd. recently? As the longer days are with us it would be worth a visit for walking, picnics or just to play. Your feedback on those areas would also be appreciated as we might be able to make them more attractive. With regard to updates from my report in the last issue:

- I can confirm that the Parish boundary is under review as part of a South Gloucestershire Council Community Governance Review - as soon as more information becomes available it will be posted on our community website at [www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org)
- The recycling bin for plastics should now be in place.
- The Parish Council continues its walk-in 'surgery' on the first Saturday of the month please drop by with any issues you have or just to say hello.
- Responses from the Pucklechurch Village Community Centre Survey have been received and collated - a summary can be found in this edition of Pucklechurch News. By the time you read these they will also have been discussed at the Full Parish Council in May and any decisions taken on them reported as soon as possible. I can confirm that the Council does not have £3 million pounds to spend on this; the figure was an estimate of the potential level of funding required.

Other items to note:

- We have reviewed the cost of burials in the Parish as they had not been reviewed for a number of years, they are now in line with surrounding parishes
- Our approach to next year's Annual Parish Cleanup will be reviewed as this year we attracted only one participant - my thanks go to that gentleman.
- An application to build a house on the former Congregational Chapel site has been made - at the time of writing no decision had been made by South Gloucestershire Council planners as to whether or not this should be approved.

*Bob Symons  
Chairman*

# Access to our countryside

A group of people interested in making the wonderful countryside around our village more accessible met in the Community Centre on the 30th April.

We were very fortunate to have a talk by John Grimshaw, founder of Sustrans, on the extension of the Bristol-Bath Railway Path. The extension will run from the bottom of Coxgrove Hill to Yate. The first phase will get as far as Westerleigh Road and will be open for walkers and mountain bikes in the next month. The path will be compacted and cyclists will be able to use it from August. The final hard surface will be put down next year and at it is then hoped that horse riders will be able to use it as well. The team doing the work are looking for volunteers to help so please take a look at call for volunteers in this edition of *Pucklechurch News*.

We also heard from local villager Matt Skidmore who is on the steering group for a project called the Two Tunnels Greenway which will link to the Bristol-Bath Railway Path and provide a route south from Bath via two tunnels and a viaduct to Midford. Matt's experience will be a valuable asset for Pucklechurch.

The meeting went on to discuss the current situation with regards to a path from Pucklechurch to Shortwood. Although this is on the task register at SGC no progress is being made. This path was identified as having considerable support from the community in our Community Plan. Our Boyd Valley councillor, Steve Reade is asking SGC to carry out a feasibility study as soon as possible and also to look into splitting the work into sections so that budget can be found more readily. Pucklechurch Parish Council has requested that SGC go ahead with the land acquisition as soon as possible as this is often something that delays projects. We will keep you posted on developments.

After a review of the current situation with footpaths, cycle tracks and bridleways the meeting went on to discuss how access to the rural footpaths could be improved. A number of people will be meeting soon to identify routes and to draw up plans on how access to these paths will be made easier for the community. Amongst the items discussed were better signs and printed leaflets for various routes.

Unfortunately the horse riding community were only represented by one person, so come on horse riders, get involved!

It is not too late to get involved. If you are interested in helping this project please email [countryside.access@pucklechurch.org](mailto:countryside.access@pucklechurch.org) to be included on our mailing list or look on the community website [www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org) for information on forthcoming meetings.

*Martin Smith*

# Bus Problem?

Send a TEXT to  
**0795 008 1307**

## Text Bus: followed by

- Route (i.e. 689, 620)
- Direction of Travel (i.e. Bristol, Yate, Bath)
- The stop you are waiting at or boarded the bus
- The time the bus is scheduled at that stop (this will allow us to identify the specific bus)
- Then describe the problem.

**0795 008 1307**

Do not use in an emergency - contact the relevant service

This service is provided by Pucklechurch Parish Council

You may still contact the Parish Council by telephone or email

Texts are charged at your normal contract rate - there are no hidden costs

For more information visit

[http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/text\\_service.html](http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/text_service.html)

## Volunteers Needed

### Pucklechurch to Westerleigh extension to the Railway Path

You may have noticed that work has started on the railway path from Coxgrove Hill, through to and under the motorway and then right up to the Westerleigh Road at Kidney Hill. This project to extend to Yate was first drawn up in 1982 so it's good to see it started at last.

South Gloucestershire hope to construct 3kms of new path over the summer, and they anticipate having the budget to do it provided we can support them with voluntary work, (either at weekends or for a week long work camp).

The work will involve hauling materials in a dumper, spreading by hand tools, rolling with a vibrating machine, edging, fencing and some carpentry for wooden seats. As well as people who would like to try their hands at this we need help with feeding the workforce. Volunteers coming from a distance will also need accommodation.

If this appeals to you, and you can make a commitment in late July/August please let Matt Skidmore know (email: [countryside.access@pucklechurch.org](mailto:countryside.access@pucklechurch.org)).

I hope that building the path appeals to you one way or another.

Matt Skidmore

**GENERAL UPDATE OF THE PROJECT:  
June 2012.**

**Dear Villagers, Clubs and Organisations 50:50  
Challenge.**

**I would like to start by thanking you all for  
contributing to the above Challenge. We now  
have a total commitment for 32 places and we  
are seeking the final 18 contributors.**

**It has been absolutely amazing how you have  
seized the challenge and thought of lots of  
ways to raise money. There have been raffles,  
quizzes, children baking and selling their  
produce, coffee mornings and the royal  
wedding party. Clubs and organisations either  
donated money or raised it through an event.  
Other contributions have been from  
individuals or families.**

**The committee is very grateful to you all. We  
are so close now to achieving our target of  
£10,000, and very proud to be part of  
Pucklechurch Village.**

**Kind Regards  
Pucklechurch Heartstart Committee.**

**Other News:**

**The next defibrillator will be in place at the  
Rose & Crown later this month.**

**Revel Day: We are planning to have some kind  
of display of our activities over the last year  
on the field and we would love you to visit us,  
see the equipment and find out more about the  
project.**

**We are still very keen to give Basic Life  
Support Awareness Sessions to organisations  
and village groups. These sessions aim to  
show people how to use a defibrillator, (See  
Pucklechurch Website if you would like more  
information on accessing and using the  
defibrillators).**

**Angela Hallett  
Pucklechurch Heartstart Project.  
[angelajhallett@gmail.com](mailto:angelajhallett@gmail.com)**

## 'Wood' you 'twig' it was a scam?

South Gloucestershire Trading Standards would like to advise residents to be wary of those visiting unexpectedly and offering goods or services.

Trading Standards have been alerted to a new approach on the old 'rogue trader' tactics. A resident of South Gloucestershire reported that a man driving a pick up truck pulling a trailer pulled onto the driveway of her rural home offering to sell logs. He became quite pushy and aggressive with the resident.

Incidents such as these can be linked to distraction burglaries and in this case the rogue trader may have been attempting to check out rural properties with outbuildings.

There are a number of steps residents can take to try and avoid becoming the victim of a rogue trader.

- Be wary of traders who cold call and the deals they offer you they may have alternative motives for being at your door.
- Do not allow any unknown and/or unexpected visitors into your home.
- If you are unhappy or feel intimidated by the visitor shut the door and call the police.

If you believe you have fallen victim to a rogue trader please contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 08454 04 05 06, who will then refer the details to Trading Standards. All, and any, information about these types of incidences can prove invaluable in the fight against rogue traders.

**Fly Tipping?  
Send a TEXT to  
0795 008 1307**

**Text Fly Tipping:  
followed by**

**The location (be as specific as possible)  
Then describe what has been tipped  
0795 008 1307**

Do not use in an emergency - contact the relevant service

This service is provided by Pucklechurch Parish Council

You may still contact the Parish Council by telephone or email

Texts are charged at your normal contract rate - there are no hidden costs

For more information visit

[http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/text\\_service.htm](http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/text_service.htm)