



June 1984

Well, Revel is nearly here again - this time with the theme "The Land of Make Believe" which Lyn has illustrated above in our cover picture.

Congratulations to the Britannias (Pucklechurch Majorettes) on their first public appearance at the School May Fete. Well done girls - very professional indeed! We look forward to seeing them on Revel Day.

Congratulations too, to the Pucklechurch Players on another successful production. Their saucy farce "Pull the Other One" was very well received - we haven't received any letters of complaint from Mary Whitehouse yet! Incidentally, if you happen to have a trunk that you could donate to the Players for them to store their antimacassers and other costumes in, please telephone Beverley Stewart (2963).

A forthcoming event which we would like to draw your notice to, is the Abson Flower Festival (30th June and 1st July). This is being held in aid of Church Funds. Besides the flower festival there will be Ploughman's lunches and cream teas on sale. It all sounds very pleasant. Pay them a visit.

On a serious note, a number of burglaries have taken place in Pucklechurch recently. Cars and houses have been broken into. If you see anything suspicious please do not hesitate to telephone Chipping Sodbury Police (993-318858).

We have had a lot of changes in our Editorial Committee just lately. This month we say goodbye to Jane Conrad (a founder member) and Bridget Tyers. We thank them for their work in the past, and welcome new members Elaine Stone and Marion Thorn.

We would like to up-date the Village Directory, so we would be grateful if club secretaries, etc could let members of the Editorial Committee have details of their organisations - BY THE END OF JULY PLEASE. Basically, we need to know the name of the organisation, where and when it meets, name and telephone number of a contact. The next issue of Pucklechurch News will be brought out in September. For copy date and addresses for delivery of copy see back page.

Oh yes, nearly forgot . . . if you received a copy of a letter from Kingswood District Council concerning Refuse Collections, please disregard it. It was obviously a bureaucratic blunder - we do of course come under Northavon D.C.

Have a happy Revel!

TOWER PLAYGROUPO

What an enjoyable and busy term it's been so far! (despite being a very short one). Since the last issue of P.News we have had a very successful visit to Windmill Hill City Farm to see their latest arrivals. Opinion was divided among the children as to whether piglets, goslings or baby rabbits were their favorite animals!

This week we had the privilege of visiting Marsh Farm where the children were made very welcome by Mr & Mrs Simpson and Richard - not forgetting Percy the Lamb. Despite the weather, the children obviously had the time of their lives, being able to see at close quarters, calves, pigs, and perhaps best of all, tractors. Sitting high up on the seat of a tractor was, for many an unforgettable experience, and a happy morning was made complete when the children drank their milk through special curly wurly straws (courtesy of the Milk Marketing Board), while sitting on bales of hay!

We extend our very grateful thanks to Mr & Mrs Simpson for the enormous amount of time and thought that they so obviously devoted to make the visit a very special occasion, and for disturbing their normal routine so that the children could see so many interesting things. Thank you indeed!

In June we have another outing planned - this time to Grimsbury Farm in Warmley, and, of course, no Summer Term would be complete without a visit to the Zoo. We hope that this will take place at the end of term.

Our congratulations to Di Harris (a past playgroup Mum) who successfully completed her cycle ride from Lands End to John O Groats in aid of charity "Well Done Di - we're proud of you!"

Future events include our annual garden party (a gentle happy occasion that seems to typify English summers at their best). Once again, we hope that this will take place "under the oaktree" on the Rec. - so do come along and join us.

We still have a few vacancies for September, so if you have a child coming up to Playgroup age (a child may start playgroup at 2 years and 10 months) why not come along and see us "at play". We welcome visitors.

Wanted: Someone to act as (paid) emergency relief who has completed Part 1 PPA course. If interested contact Jean Rawlings (3060)

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

The PCA Fun Run held on 15th April was a great success - 70 runners took part. Pucklechurch runner John Rapps was the winner of the 5 mile race.

Family Camp - I am sitting here typing this with a streaming cold, possibly something to do with the fact that I went on the PCA Family Camp over the Bank Holiday weekend! 16 families from Pucklechurch attended the camp at Brea, which was enjoyable despite the weather which was not ideal for camping.

Would any CA members wishing their children to go on the CA Float please contact Beverley Stewart (2963) by 8th June.

CONGRATULATIONS CLIVE SMITH ON
COACHING BRITAIN'S FIRST WOMAN
SEVEN METRES LONG JUMPER - SUE
HERNSHAW!

1ST PUCKLECHURCH BROWNIES

The main item of the Spring Term was an entertainment put on by the Brownies for their parents and the Divisional Commissioner - Mrs B Sevier which took place on April 10th in the Scout Hut.

The entertainment consisted of poems, songs, etc and even some of the Dads took part in a rendering of Father Abraham which was great fun. (Pucklechurch Players please note I know several Dads if you are in need of male performers - they were great!)

The finale was a play called "The Story of the Brownies". Following the entertainment the Commissioner congratulated the girls on their performances and all were later awarded Jester Badges. Coffee & biscuits were served and the various stalls opened. This concluded a lovely evening.

B Wiltshire

If you would like to join the
Pucklechurch Community Association
contact the Membership Secretary:
Joyce Harris, 51 Homefield Rd (3093)

GARDENER'S CLUB

At the AGM held on 27th April the following officers were elected:

Chairman) Mr F Bradley (Tel.3109)
Treasurer)
Secretary Mrs E Willmott
Assistant Secretary Mrs J Hayden
Committee: Mr D Couzens
Mr A Pratt

We held a Car Boot Sale on Monday 7th May, which whilst not being a huge success made a small profit for Club funds.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 29th June. An EVENING OUTING.*

Our Club outing this year is to be to Blenheim Palace on Saturday 14th July. There are still some seats left on the coach, the cost is £5 per person (including entrance). Anyone wishing to go please contact F Bradley on Abson 3109.

We shall once again be running a stall on Revel Day and we look forward to meeting old and new friends. If you are interested in gardening come and have a chat with us then.

* 29th June - Evening Outing
Bath City Greenhouses. Meet V.Hall
Car Park 6.30pm cost 50p.

Car Boot Sale Raffle

Unclaimed prizes

Blue 36 (CT8170) Contact F Bradley
Pink 35 (BT0011) (Abson 3109)

The Under-13 Football Team Manager would like to congratulate the team on their performance and attendance during the past season. Three of the boys played representative football. Steve Barnes played in goal for the county and the Bristol League with Richard Peters and Andy Pratt representing the Bristol League.

adverts

For Sale: Boys' Raleigh Boxer Bicycle
(suit 6-8yrs) £15
Tel. 2974

For Sale: Girls' silver bike, suit
approx. 5-9yrs. £20
Tel. 3602.

For Sale: Upright Freezer. Less than
12 months old. Cost £369
Will accept £280. Tel. 2318.

Wanted: Old caravan or caravan
chassis to make into a
trailer for the cubs. If
you can help please telephone
Gordon Thorn, Abson 3528.

Pretty Black & White Tom Kitten
Ready to leave home. Tel. 2872
or 36 Hillview.

WANTED: Red tights and red polo neck
jumper to fit 7 - 10 yr olds.
Tel. 2719. (for Float)

YOUTH CLUB

The winner of a knock-out snooker competition we held recently was Mark Frost, who narrowly defeated Brent Horne. Mark received the Youth Club Knock Out Snooker Cup and prize money.

More male help would be appreciated - we have a rota, so you would only need to attend once a month on a Monday evening for 2½ hours - 7.30pm until 10.00pm. Also we would be grateful for help in organising sports - offers please to Marilyn Palmer, Abson 3761.

We were very pleased to welcome Bob Wood of Fishponds Cycles on Monday 21st May. He brought along an impressive selection of bikes, and also gave advice on repairs and maintenance.

Last Youth Club of the summer term will be on 25th June, when we will have a Disco.

1st PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

Now the lighter nights are here, we are holding our weekly meetings out of doors at Marsh Farm, and are working on three outdoor badges, Rambler, Map Reader and Pioneer. One requirement of the Pioneer badge is to light a fire and cook on it, something the girls really enjoy - hot dogs and toasted marshmallows being two favorites (no, not together!)

Our thanks to Mr & Mrs Simpson who kindly allow us to use their farmland each week, and to Brian Bewick for his help with the Map Reader badge.

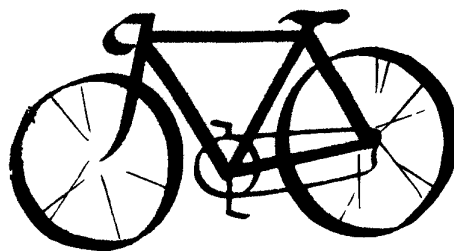
Congratulations to Sharon Hall for persevering and completing the difficult Camper Badge (P.News: "Oh did she go on the PCA Family Camp?") and to Kirstie James for gaining her Emergency helper and Rambler badges and helping her patrol gain the first ever Outdoor Cooking pennant to be awarded in 1st Pucklechurch Company.

I would like to give a special mention to Jo Cowley, Sharon Hall, Kirstie James and Rachel Webb who represented 1st Pucklechurch Guides in an extremely difficult night hike with incidents entitled "Night Owl". Not having entered before we were unaware of the challenges they would face. They turned out to be the youngest contestants and faced such challenges as changing a car wheel (at 2am in the morning!). Although unable to complete all tasks the Guides did not give up but completed the course.

I admire their pluck and courage and feel this brief account shows that not all the youth of today are vandals, This sort of challenge in which 64 teenagers participated from 16 different youth organisations rarely rates a mention in a newspaper but is probably more typical of today's youth than the media would have us believe.

If you feel you would like to help with Guides then do contact me please - we are still looking for another adult helper. Ros Abbott, Abson 2157.

WANTED: 2nd Pucklechurch Brownies urgently require a new leader. Anyone who is interested should contact Mrs C Porter, Abson 3196



LAND'S END TO JOHN O'GROATS

Well I did make it all the way - 874 miles in total, and what's more actually enjoyed it! Things went according to plan and I only got one puncture - just as we arrived at John O'Groats. I would like to thank everyone who has sponsored me so generously, and would also like to thank the Hardware Shop, Pucklechurch for providing me with bike spares for the journey. I have nearly finished collecting in the money and have arranged to present a cheque (I hope in excess of £350) to the Children's Hospital on June 8th. If anyone would still like to contribute please ring me on Abson 3443 and I will come and collect.

Di Harris

The train trip to York was much enjoyed by all those from Pucklechurch who went.

Here are some details of future trips arranged by Soundwell Technical College:

International Garden Festival, Liverpool

Saturday 7th July
Adults £8 Children/OAPs £7

Cost includes coach and entry to Festival. Dep. Soundwell Tec. 8.30am
Return 8.30pm approx.

Alton Towers

Thursday 30th August
Adults £7.50 Children/OAPs £6
Coach and entry fee combined - for over 60 attractions.

Dep. Soundwell Tec. 8.30pm
Ret. Approx. 9.30pm

For further details contact:
STC TRAVEL, Soundwell Technical College, St Stephen's Road, Soundwell, Bristol BS16 4RL

or 'phone Chris Pugh, Abson 3159.

PUCKLECHURCH PLAYGROUP

Well, yet another holiday is here! Since the last P.News we have been as busy as ever. In May we held a Coffee Morning, not this time to raise funds! A morning instead for parents and grandparents to come along and join in their children's activities. Nearly all the children entered a decorated "HARD" Boiled egg in a little competition. These made a really super display and Mrs Lydia Smith, helped by Mrs Senior Kiatly judged, not an easy task with so many attractive entries.

The playgroup children sang a number of songs and there was a display of country dancing by Mrs Wilcock's group of dancers from the School. Many thanks to Mrs Wilcock and the girls who come along each year to entertain us!

On Saturday 19th May a number of our committee members attended the Annual Meeting of the Kingswood & District PPA. A very entertaining day giving all plenty of food for thought. Whilst there we managed to purchase a super set of jumbo building bricks. These were an exceptional bargain made available through the closing of the Districts' Toy Library. They proved to be a great success with all the children, who set about using them with imaginations running wild!

With Revel almost here, everyone is busy doing their bit towards preparations. We look forward to seeing you all at our stalls, and are rather excited about one in particular. An idea put forward by one of our committee that we are sure will prove to be great fun!

Meanwhile Playgroup as usual Monday to Thursday 9.15am - 11.45am. If you'd like to come along to see what we can offer your child, pop in any morning, or ring Von Holder (our supervisor) on Abson 2818.

Some advice from our
Community Constable
P.C. Brian Organ



Hullo again,

Isn't it nice to see the sap rising, heralding the time when young mens thoughts turn to cricket!

Seriously though, the time is fast approaching when the lucky ones among us will be escaping to warmer climes, albeit for a week or ten days in some cases.

No doubt most of you will be making arrangements with friends, neighbours or relatives to look after your property and pets, and those of you who are unable to make such arrangements will, no doubt, contact us.

When you arrive at your resort, complete with bucket and spade, I expect the last thing on your mind will be security but I would say this: if you are unfortunate enough to lose either your keys or wallet, or say other personal papers, please contact either the person looking after your property or us at Chipping Sodbury 318858 so that an extra watch can be kept on your homes. You may have lost those items, but alternatively they may just have been stolen.

You see, virtually all holiday resorts in the south of England are no more than four hours travelling time from Bristol and if someone finds your address and they know you are safely tucked up in bed in your 3 star hotel it may well be worth the trip to break into your home.

That 'phone call to us may also be worth while if you are on the Continent. If you can ring England so can the criminal to his accomplice.

Now that I've worried you to death - have a good holiday!

'Pull the
other
one'

When happily married, shy Albert Perkins meets the young art student Virginia Brown and is persuaded to pose in the nude for her to paint, the scene is set for all the misunderstandings, double - meanings and romps that make up an amusing farce.

The Pucklechurch Players' production of "Pull The Other One" got off to a hesitant start, but as the Players began to relax the audience responded well to the humour of the dialogue, which was mostly fast moving, with a few moments of spontaneity by some members of the cast.

By Act II the pace had developed well and the precise timing of the comings and goings rounded one of the many Brian Bir farces in the part. Nevertheless Chris Biers gave an excellent characterization of Wilf Turner, a 'typical' northern working man. Two other amusing characters, Johnsons, were ably brought to life given by John and John Goodall.

This production by Claire Morris, was planned by the year-long group of players, the Village Hall which holds a permanent stage.

Coming so soon after the production at the end of January, the Players are to be congratulated on so good a record in so short a period.

Clare Morris, Village Hall

PARISH COUNCIL

REVEL '84

At the May meeting of the Council Mrs J Bailey was re-elected to serve as Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr A Hall was re-elected to serve as Vice Chairman.

The old equipment shed on the Recreation Field has now been removed, there may be a delay in erecting the new shed as the Parish Council has received a request from Northavon District Council to use the site for their equipment compound, store shed, as they would soon be commencing remedial work on the houses in Hill View.

The Parish Council is concerned over the continued use of the gap in the fence of the Hall car park, as this is a dangerous practice. The Council repaired the gap, but the wire was taken down and stolen within 24 hours. To continue replacement of the wire will prove a costly item.

Part of the cricket square was dug up recently - the mind boggles at the intelligence of youths who carry out such acts of vandalism, especially when one remembers that the square is prepared voluntarily by members of the Cricket Club.

The Parish Council has written to Northavon District Council objecting to the new Council Offices being built in Thornbury, which is not very central or easily accessible.

The Council has also written to Northavon D.C. objecting to the possible sale of land in Oaktree Avenue for "low cost houses".

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Don't forget June 2nd 1984

Pucklechurch W.I. Promotion Event
in Village Hall 2.30pm - 4.30pm

Demonstrations of various crafts.

Weaving	Leather Work
Cake Icing	Pottery
Cookery	Wood Turning
Flower Arranging	Plant Clinic

Teas, Cakes & Biscuits, Market Stall
Publications stall.

20p Adults 5p Children

Revel is almost here and most of you have hopefully bought a programme - if not you will find them on sale in certain village shops, together with draw tickets, Beer Festival, Old Tyme Music Hall and Dance tickets. Beer Festival tickets can also be purchased in the pubs.

Instead of our normal end of Revel Dance we are having a "Sixties Night" when Eric Loynes and the Elastic Band Roadshow will be playing music from the 1960's. Brush up your knowledge of that era as there will be a quiz as well.

Our Thursday night entertainment begins with the Pram Race and then a treasure hunt (on foot) for all those who wish to enter. We are also very lucky to have the Bristol Morris Dancers with us on this evening and they will be dancing in various places in the village. Look out for posters!

Trevor Fry from Radio West will be along on Revel afternoon to judge the floats. Our main attraction will be the American Eagles acting out the American War of Independence, but we also have a sheep dog trials demonstration, BMX Display, the Phoenix Band and our own Pucklechurch Majorettes - the Britannias.

Senior Citizens are admitted free to the Old Tyme Music Hall on Friday 8th June. For tickets and transport phone 3234 or 2921.

We still need helpers so please if you can help sometime during the week contact Elaine Stone on 3105.

On Friday 18th May a very successful disco was held when a Revel Queen and two attendants were chosen. The judges - Mrs Berry, Mr Graeme Riley (Area Youth Officer), and a member of the Nite Owl Roadshow, had a very difficult job choosing 3 out of 52 entries, but finally chose Sara Britton as the Revel Queen, and Karen Beames and Carolyn Stone as her attendants.

The Children's Art Exhibition will this year be open until 8.00pm and we also have the added attraction of Computer Games - so do come along and have a go on one of the machines.

This year we welcome to the Sunday Service and Concert the Guides, Brownies, Scouts and Cubs who will march to the hall from the Gateway Car Park behind the Marshfield Band.

PUCKLECHURCH COMBINED SPORTS CLUBS

Through the Pucklechurch News I would like to say thank you to the teenagers of the village for supporting us throughout the year at our Disco's which we have held to raise funds for the Dressing Rooms. The Disc Jockeys have all expressed what a pleasure it was to come to Pucklechurch to play to such a well behaved audience. The next Disco will be on Friday 29th June.

Chris Bowering

Pucklechurch Sports Football Club

After the untimely resignation of our Manager Mr Usher at the start of the season (which left the Club managerless for the first six games of the season), Terry Rowles hung up his boots and was appointed manager.

In February with 60 supporters from the village we travelled to Southampton to play Southern League Side "Road Sea Southampton" in the Sutton Transformer Vase. We lost 1-0 in the final five minutes, but all credit must go to the players who had to pay £1 to play, whereas the opposition were on £60 a man.

The Highlight of the season was reaching the final of the Gloucestershire Senior Amateur Cup Final at Eastville. Unfortunately we lost 4-2 in extra time.

At our Annual Dinner and Dance awards were made to Martin Clarke who was First Team Player of the Year. Andrew Frankcom was Second Team Player of the Year. Andrew also played in the Bristol & District Under 18 Representative Team on three occasions last season. Club Man of the Year was Mike Abbott.

We are running a 200 Club - Dickie Savage, Mike Luton and Pete Iles will be pleased to see you if you wish to join.

Finally I should like to say thank you to all our supporters who have followed us all season.

Chris Bowering



200 Club

APRIL:

£40	(063)	Mrs D Kendall
£20	(073)	Mrs A Moxham
£5	(042)	Mr A Beazer
£5	(145)	Mr L Crabb

MAY:

£40	(151)	D Hill
£20	(083)	G Millard
£5	(011)	K Bailey
£5	(094)	D Luton

CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Unfortunately we had to cancel the skittles evening planned for May as it clashed with other events in the village. We hope to be able to hold it later in the year.

As usual we shall be setting up a stall on the field on Revel Day. For this to be successful, we rely on the hardwork of people who kindly make gifts and sew for us, and also on the generosity of those who donate goods of all kinds for us to sell.

If you can help in any way, do please contact Veronica Brewer (Hon. Secretary) on Abson 2164 or any committee member.

PUCKLECHURCH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

A cold and blustery wind did not stop a good crowd from attending the PSA Fete on 12th May. A good variety of stalls and entertainment was organised and as a result of this and the draw over £700 was raised for new equipment at the school.

Displays from the Britannia Majorettes and Pucklechurch Gymnastics Club indicated the enthusiasm and ability, that the children of Pucklechurch obviously have, to reach a high standard of performance.

One of the successes of the afternoon proved to be the Playbus which was enjoyed by children of all ages.

Thank you to everyone for making it the success that it was.

Chris Smith
(Hon. Secretary)

NORTHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dr. C. Conrad

Northavon District Council has agreed on ways to improve and modernise the Council houses in Main Road and Cattybrook Road, Shortwood. The Officers of the Council will visit each resident in the near future and discuss the various choices with them. Work should start in the autumn, but I hope that the water main in Cattybrook Road will be connected to the houses in the very near future.

I have now been on Northavon District Council for just over five years! On the whole I think that the Council is well run and fairly open about its business, but recently they have refused to support the Freedom of Information Campaign. There are some Council which operate in a very secretive manner (Northavon is NOT one of them) but I think that we should all support more access to information at all levels of Government.

Northavon are in a dreadful hurry again! The Council has approved a "Development Brief" for Patchway Common. Nearly 1,000 acres of land and a potential population of 20,000! All this has been approved before there is any evidence that there is a need for such a huge development. The Avon Structure Plan has not yet been approved by the Secretary of State and he MAY not agree to it!

There have been many complaints about grass cuttings being left all over footpaths when the Council cuts the verges and grassed areas. At present they are doing an experiment on how feasible (and how expensive) it would be to collect cuttings. Let us hope that the experiment works!

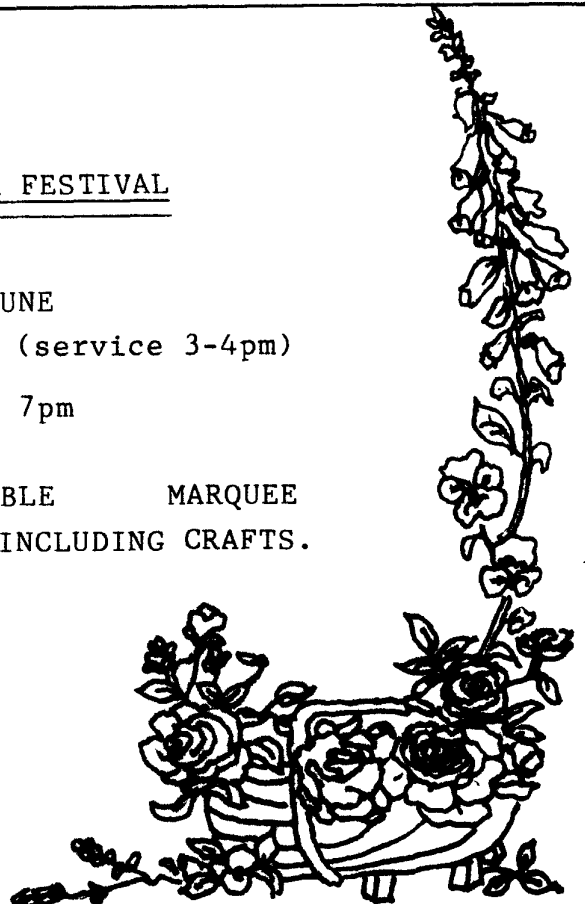
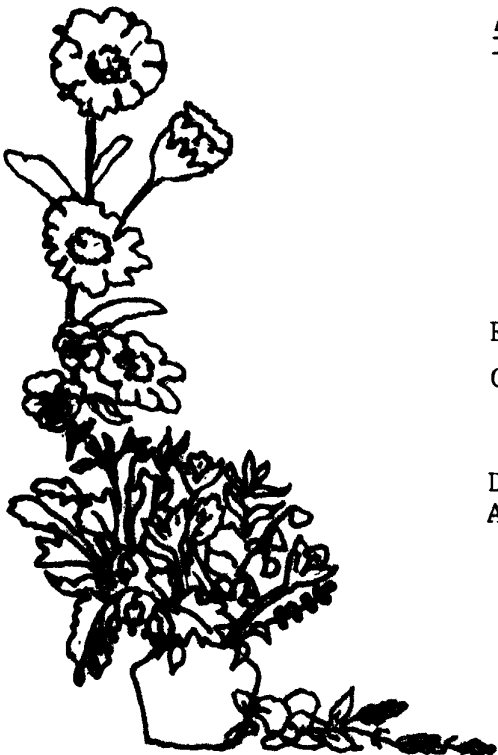
Pucklechurch Folk Dance Club - BARN DANCE - 21st July - Village Hall
Jeff Elwell & 4 Mile Clump - Tel. 2090 for details.

ABSON CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 30TH JUNE
SUNDAY 1ST JULY (service 3-4pm)
from 11am until 7pm

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE MARQUEE
OTHER ATTRACTIONS, INCLUDING CRAFTS.

DONATIONS FOR
ABSON CHURCH



CHURCH

Church Youth Service (May 20th)

Many thanks to those who arranged and participated in the recent Youth Service.

This new venture was well attended and enjoyed by all - the hand-clapping and foot-tapping to the band was a novel form of Evensong for most who came! Many favourable comments have been received and it's hoped that this could be a regular event in the Church calendar in future.

Housegroup

As a result of the recent Billy Graham meetings, a Tuesday Housegroup has been established to help those wishing to find out more about the Bible and the Christian Faith. At the moment these meetings are fortnightly, held at 9 Woodpecker Crescent on Tuesday mornings - if you are interested please contact: Jackie Glover (2346)
Sylvia Masey (2074)
or Hilary King (2069)

Jumble Sale

Early birds catch the best jumble! September 15th in the Village Hall - for Church Funds. Please contact Hilary King (2069) if you have any winter woollies to pass on or summer clothes that no longer fit! All contributions of clothing, books, household items gladly received!

Summer Show - July 14th

We will have our Summer Show in the grounds of Boulton's Stores, starting at 2.00pm. It will be opened by the Britannias, who will also be marching through the centre of the village beforehand. Schedules will be available soon and there are a few changes worth noting:

Cash Prizes this year will be given to children's entries only. There is also to be a Cup given to the entrant amassing the greatest number of points - this is being provided by the Belfry Club and is to be given annually as the Belfry Cup.

Other Cups are being awarded this year to the man and woman gaining the most number of points in the various sections. Mrs Boulton is kindly providing the Ladies' Cup and the P.C.C. the Gentleman's Cup - again these will be awarded annually as the Boulton Cup and the Thomas a Becket Cup.



Belfry Club

Forthcoming activities:

June 9th - Badgemaking
June 23rd - Map Reading
July 7th - Preparing Competition . . .
. . . Entries for Summer Show - "Potato People", Treasure Map. Ingredients will also be provided for a cake (along with the recipe!) - this is to be made at home and brought along on the morning of the show for judging. Further details will be given at the preceding Belfry Club meeting.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Preaching appointments are:

- 3rd June - United at Parish Church 6.30pm
- 10th June - Revel Service
- 17th June - Mr R Taylor
- 24th June - Pastor C Mack
- 1st July - Sunday School Anniversary
2.45pm Mr P Hopes
6.00pm Mr P Webley
- 8th July - Pastor C Mack
- 15th July - Miss H Philpott
- 22nd July - Mr T Pilgrim
- 29th July - Mr J Pullin
- 5th August - United at Parish Church 6.30pm
- 12th August - Mr S Pigeon
- 19th August - Mr R Martin
- 26th August - Mr E Hulin

PUCKLECHURCH SPORTS AFC

BARN DANCE

AT BRIDE HILL FARM

ON SATURDAY 30TH JUNE 1984

MUSIC BY KIT AND BOODLE BAND

8.00pm - 12.00pm

Refreshments

Bar

Admission by ticket £1.50

Over 18s



LETTERS



DOGS

BILLY GRAHAM VISIT

We have just come to the end of Billy Graham's visit to Bristol. Some people may have been indifferent to his coming, but many made a conscious decision for whatever reason to go, or not to go to the Stadium. I have heard some, including some Church people wondering why we need an American to come here as an Evangelist. I feel his nationality is irrelevant. He came as a Christian and long before he even got here, the fact of his coming did more to unite our churches, and help individual churches grow within themselves, than anything else for many years.

The overwhelming feeling of Christian unity within the stadium, of people united by their acceptance of Christ in their lives, was strengthened by the knowledge, of which Billy Graham spoke, that millions of Christians elsewhere in England and throughout the world had been made aware of the gatherings in Bristol and were thinking and praying for us.

Several groups of mixed denominations and non Christians went along from Pucklechurch, and there must have been many of these who were glad to be together with people from other churches. Being a very lapsed Anglican, and finding a set church service very difficult to relate to, I tried earlier on this year to find a fellowship group in the village. There may well be groups, but I did not know where to find one, and ended up in Clifton, but that is a long way from home.

I know there will be nurture groups for people referred from the stadium, but it would be wonderful to have house groups in the village led by mature Christians, where both non-Christians and Christians of any denomination could meet up, talk and share a love of God. So much of the joy of Christianity must be lost when it means only a weekly visit to Church. There must be others who would enjoy the fellowship of a small discussion group.

So much has been gained over the last few months, it would be sad if that which has been gained did not grow.

Jean Rawlings

After receiving three telephone calls complaining about stray dogs on the Estate in one morning, I decided to find out what the Law says.

It is illegal for dogs to roam if they do not have a collar and lead. Chipping Sodbury police advised me that stray dogs without a collar should be seized and taken to the nearest police station. (Shortage of manpower prevents the police from collecting them.)

Stray dogs are obviously a menace - fouling indiscriminately, emptying bins, running in packs (one lady reported five dogs together!). Only yesterday I deposited my two small children on the floor in the back of the car, doing an emergency stop to avoid a large black dog in the road.

I would like to appeal to all dog owners to not allow their dogs to roam wild. Another story reported to me is of children teasing these stray dogs - before long it is inevitable that one of those children will be savaged. No they should not tease the dogs, but the dogs should not be roaming wild. It is illegal. Other dog owners have also complained because they are bothered by stray dogs whilst out exercising their own dogs.

There is probably no more than a dozen dogs that stray - you know if yours does. In an attempt to curb this problem the Pucklechurch News is willing to publish descriptions and names of dogs reported straying. One reported to me today was a black labrador named Jake. Jake - in your box or you'll end up in a police station!

Marilyn Palmer



COPYDATE

TUESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 1984



EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Marilyn Palmer - 16 Merlin Ridge (3761)
 Nancy Cleevely - 66 Birch Drive
 Lyn Ford - Dennisworth Farm
 Hilary King - 21/22 Parkfield Rank
 Beverley Stewart - 30 Maple Walk
 Elaine Stone - 25 Maple Walk
 Marion Thorn - 79 Westerleigh Road