



## PUCKLECHURCH NEWS

December 1984

At this time of the year we usually say thank you to the village shops for selling the Pucklechurch News for us throughout the year. This year, however, we want to do more than just say thank you - we want to start a campaign for people to shop local. Contrary to what you might think, the village shops are struggling to survive. Yes, it shocks you to hear that doesn't it? The cold facts are that unless we all make it our policy to shop locally we are in danger of losing them.

While on the subject of shops, we would like to give our very best wishes to Mr Harley (Postmaster of Pucklechurch for 19½ years) on his retirement. It's going to seem very strange going into the Post Office and not seeing Mr Harley. We're pleased to report, however, that he is not leaving the village. Pucklechurch News would particularly like to thank Mr Harley for helping us so much - he was always very happy to put a pile of newsletters on his counter! Mrs Shirley Hall (already well-known in Pucklechurch) is the new Postmistress.

I'm typing this newsletter as I'm babysitting for Pete & Julie Smith. Guess where they've gone tonight. (Saturday 1st December) - Believe it or not they're attending the first function at the PCA Social Club premises - upstairs at the Village Hall. We've all waited a very long time for this - and now it has been achieved - thanks to a very hard-working committee. The finished result is fantastic - very salubrious! Let's hope the 'new' club is well supported.

We would like to congratulate our fellow Editorial Committee member Lyn Ford (our artist) on her latest creation - a beautiful baby girl called Phillipa! Amazingly, Lyn has still managed to find the time to draw us another colouring Advent Calendar - the last one was very popular indeed.

Copydate for the next issue is 12th January - please, please try to get the copy to us on time. Because of the **increased size** of the September issue we were all short in donations - obviously we cannot carry on losing money. Please give generously.

Oh well, as this is the last issue for 1984 we would like to wish you all health, wealth and happiness in 1985!

# HAPPY CHRISTMAS

## 1st PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

In September we welcomed Mrs Margaret Skidmore as a regular adult helper.

We began by taking advantage of the last remaining light nights and enjoyed some outdoor activities, including a Saturday afternoon at Marsh Farm for our annual Guide and Brownie "It's a Knockout". Our thanks to the Simpsons for the time and effort put into organising obstacle races, etc.

Eight guides and myself spent a pleasant Sunday afternoon walking along the Old Railway line from Bath to Bitton. As a result of this and other rambles, six girls have now passed their Rambler Badge.

We regularly attend the youth swimming sessions at Yate. Together with the Brownies, Cubs and Scouts we enjoyed our Hallowe'en Disco and turned out to parade to Church on Remembrance Sunday.

During our meetings the patrols have been extremely busy and are more or less self-programming. This is one of the aims of Guiding; to help young people chose and plan their activities and work together in a group and I am pleased to report that our girls are becoming very good at this. Activities have varied from wrapping parcels, disco dancing, making sweets and spaghetti bolognese, through making earrings, modelling and creating hair-styles to painting with a brush held in the mouth or between the toes, or learning about the Union Jack; it's composition and how to fly it.

We are sorry our sister unit 2nd Pucklechurch, has had to close due to falling numbers but happy we have been able to accommodate those girls remaining who wished to continue their Guiding.

Ros Abbott (Guider)



### 2nd Pucklechurch Guide Company

Due to a substantial decline in numbers it has become necessary to suspend Guide meetings. If, however, there is a large enough response we would be more than willing to begin meetings again.

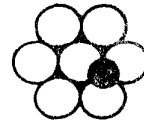
## 1st Pucklechurch Brownies



In September /October we welcomed Victoria Bishop, Louise Butler, Lesley Broom and Julia James to our pack. During September we attended the Knockout Competition and came 2nd to the 2nd Pucklechurch Brownies. It was a super afternoon at the farm and the girls enjoyed all the games, we all brought packed tea and the event was rounded off singing songs around a huge bonfire. Many of the girls have done interest badges this term as well as working towards Footpath, Road and Highway Badges.

May I give our thanks to all who helped us collect waste paper during the last year - we raised £36.80. Our thanks also to Revel who have given us £50 (for both packs) towards handicraft materials and cookery utensils. The big event of the term was a sale in aid of Ethiopia held on 27th November. Approximately £66 was raised.

Cancer  
Research  
Campaign



## **CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN**

What an enormous quantity of jumble we had at our jumble sale earlier in the Autumn. Thank you to everyone who rummaged so fruitfully and produced it all, and also to those who sorted, sold and bought it. The afternoon was a great success and a profit of £146 was made.

Our annual house to house collection produced a total of £188.

Thank you everyone who gave their time and energy to collect and of course to everyone who so kindly donated. I would also like to thank those who used this occasion to make donations "In Memorium". This was very much appreciated.

Total collected so far this year is £1824.

### Forthcoming events:

As usual we shall join forces with Mothers Union to go carol singing. Do join us - the more the better! We shall meet outside the church gates on Friday 21 December at 7.00pm and also on Sunday 23rd December at 8.00pm.

## Pucklechurch Community Association

Sunday 21st October saw the third Pucklechurch Fun Run. Once again there were two routes - a longer run of 5 miles, and a shorter run of 3 miles for the not so serious.

At 11am the field of 60 runners set off and luckily the rain held off enabling all of them to complete the course with dry clothes but very muddy legs and feet.

First in the 5 mile run was John Rapps with a time of 31 minutes 32 seconds, Mr Downer coming second (33.24) and Derek Fowle third (35.15).

The short run was won by Scott Levett with a time of 30.01, Timothy Benney was second (30.03), and Duncan Stewart came third (30.15).

I would just like to say thank you to everyone who took part and hope you all enjoyed yourselves and will take part next year.

May I also take this opportunity of thanking all the retiring Entertainment Committee members for all their hard work over the past years.

Claire Watson

The PCA are holding a Children's Christmas Party on December 15th for all PCA members children.

Infant Party - 1.00 - 2.30pm

Junior Party - 3.00 - 5.00pm

(under 3's to be accompanied by an adult).

On 16th December the PCA are once again having a Christmas Concert starting at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

## **SHOP LOCAL**

**use them - don't lose them!**

A local farmer has asked us to ask you (once again) to keep your dogs on a lead while walking through fields containing livestock.

### New Equipment Shed

The new equipment shed provided by the Parish Council for use by the sports clubs is now finished. It's situated by the Scout HQ.

From our Community Constable -  
PC Brian Organ

Firstly, I must apologise for not forwarding my "thoughts of a community bobby" recently. This was due to holidays and a spell with the C.I.D.

My reason for the time with the C.I.D. was the spate of burglaries in the north of my sub-division.

If the time spent on C.I.D. did nothing else it did reinforce my belief that people see much more than they realise in their community. The problem is that they do not immediately act upon what they see. They either wait until asked before volunteering information, wait before contacting us, or make no effort whatsoever to contact us.

In the past in Pucklechurch itself, the most suspicious of incidents have been witnessed but have come to my notice days or even weeks later, by which time it is impossible to act on the information.

Please, and I cannot put this too strongly, if you do see anything or anyone suspicious don't hesitate to telephone Chipping Sodbury Police Station on 993-318858, or i between 12 midnight and 8am, Staple Hill Police Station on 9-565333 with as full a description as possible of the incident, vehicle or person involved.

We will respond as soon as personnel and duties permit.

At the end of the day the only way we are going to catch the car thieves, burglars and the like is with your help.

## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

The local branch of the WI have been busy during the last few months. Members have been on two outings - one to Pilton Vineyard to see (and sample) how wine is made; and the other a Grand Mystery Tour ending with a meal at the Beaufort Hotel, Tintern. Our speakers these last few months have been varied, a talk on 'Tracing your Family History' in August, Herbs was the topic in September, and October brought Pottery to our Institute. Also a Jumble Sale was held in October and raised over £80, and it is hoped to send a donation to the NSPCC to help in their work. Our AGM was held on 21st November.

# REVEL '85

At the AGM on 18th September the following were elected:

Chairman - Elaine Stone  
Secretary - Marilyn Palmer  
Treasurer - Kathy Toghill

Committee members - Jan Beg, Omar Beg, Dave White, Chris Brain, Phil Look, Alan Morrison, Barbara Wiltshire, Olive Scantlebury, Beverley Stewart, Sue Jones, John Ellis. Trevor Morris has since been coopted.

There were 9 requests for money from Revel 85. As Revel 84 had made a record profit it was voted that £300 be made available for immediate payment. The £300 was distributed among the following: Brownies (1st & 2nd) - £50; Youth Club - £45; Junior Football - £75; Majorettes - £130. It was then voted that from 85 profits 15% should be kept back for paying out immediately, while Majorettes get £85, Junior Football another £75, Pucklechurch School Association £400, the remainder divided in a ratio of 75% to the Village Hall and 25% to the St Thomas a Becket Parochial Church Council.

1985 will be the tenth anniversary of the Pucklechurch Revel Beer Festival. For our adverts we need a logo - if you are interested in designing one, it should be on A4 paper and submitted to Elaine Stone, 25 Maple Walk, by January 5th 1985. There's a £10 prize for the designer of the chosen logo.

## TOWER PLAYGROUP

The term so far has been happy and busy. The children have been involved in activities based on the Mr Men and Autumn. They've also had the opportunity to see a litter of puppies, and made truffles and a splendid Guy Fawkes. Our open week was very successful and we have also had an enjoyable wine and cheese party (for parents!!) and a children's disco.

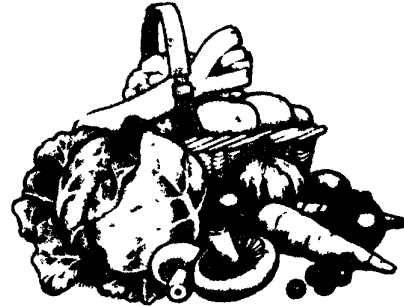
There will be a vacancy for a playgroup assistant in the near future, so if anyone is interested in this position, please contact Abson 4123 for an immediate interview.

Forthcoming events include a Christmas Party and our nativity.

## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Preaching appointments for December:

Dec 9 - Pastor Mack  
16 - Rev. W Bush  
23 Carols  
30 - Pastor Mack



### Pucklechurch Gardening Club

The new season for the Club has meant a change of venue and date, meetings are now held on the 1st Wednesday of every month in the Village Hall Meeting Room at 8pm.

Our first speaker was Mr Lionel Payne on 3rd October, who gave a very interesting talk on Chrysanthemums.

On Saturday 13th October the Club held a very successful Jumble Sale when £106 was raised for Club funds. My thanks to all the helpers concerned. Well done!

Wednesday 7th November saw our second meeting when Mr Menhinick of the Lackham College of Agriculture talked on Vegetables, with the emphasis on some of the more unusual ones which could be grown as a change from the more common ones. The talk was illustrated with slides some of which were from Switzerland showing the different methods of cultivation in use there.

A warm welcome is extended to all villagers to come along to our Club - visitors are very welcome to come to any of our meetings for a small fee, or why not contact me (the Chairman) on Abson 3109 at 39 Birch Drive. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th December when Mr J Coyle of the Long Ashton Research Station will talk on Pruning of Soft Fruit Trees. Come along and see how friendly we are.

F Bradley (Chairman)

6th February - R J Stephens, Lecturer School of Biological Sciences, Bath University 'Weeds and Weed Control'.



## THURSDAY SCOUT TROOP

Congratulations! On Sunday 18th November at Soundwell Swimming Baths our Thursday Scouts won the South Cotswold Scouts Association Swimming Gala against stiff opposition from nine other teams.

This is the first time Pucklechurch have won this coveted trophy so we are celebrating with an engraved medal. This will give the scouts that took part the reward they deserve and a reminder for the future.

I gave Philip Gilson the task of picking the swimmers for each event. He made his decision over a number of Troop swimming nights at Yate and after testing and timing each scout he presented the following team:

Nick Judd, Marc Beck, Kevin Yates, Jason Hunter, Leighton Hall, Nigel Yates, Paul Parker, Steve Pratt, Ian Price, Martin Pring, Robin Alway and Philip himself of course!!

Not forgetting Simon Anstey and Ashton Cockle who took part in the Pick Up Trophy. We thank them both for their support.

Our results were as follows:

P Gilson - 1st Senior Scouts 1 length Breaststroke

N Judd - 2nd Jnr Scouts 1 length Backstroke

P Parker - 3rd Sen. Scts 1 length Freestyle

N Judd - 2nd Jnr Scts 2 lengths freestyle

P Gilson - 2nd Sen. Scts 2 len. Freestyle

N Yates - 1st Diving

1st in the Relay Team: N Judd, L Hall, P Parker, P Gilson.

The presentation of the medals will take place after the carol service on 19th December.

We are already feeling very proud that a patrol from Thursday Scouts came 11th out of 24 in an Avon Camping Competition. Afterwards the District Commissioner asked our Patrol to represent the District at a display camp which the Lord Mayor of Bristol was attending. Well done, Paul Parker, Steve Pratt, Nick Judd, Ian Price, Martin Pring and Robin Alway.

Keep it up you champions!!

Skip

## Pucklechurch Monday Cubs

After a hectic summer season which involved plenty of camping for all the boys, the Autumn term opened with another camp when the boys went to the District "It's a Knockout" at Woodhouse Park which this year included a weekend camp.

September saw our last evening's tracking in daylight time, as the nights give in and so more work has now to be done indoors. The District Swimming Gala was held at Soundwell once again and a good time was had by all the competitors. Well done!! Mark Humphries - 3rd in the diving.

Our thanks go to Mr & Mrs Simpson who helped us to Bonfire Evening at Marsh Farm - everything went with a BANG including Mrs Simpson's guy on top of the fire. Everyone enjoyed the fireworks, along with soup, sausages, jacket potatoes etc.

At Christmas we will be saying cheerio to Bryan Bewick who has moved from the District. Bryan has helped Monday Cubs for a couple of years so it is our loss and someone else's gain as Bryan and Doreen settle down in Cam, Dursley and help another Scout Group.

On Wednesday 19th December we are holding a Group Carol Concert at the Congregational Church at 7.15pm.

### HELP!!

Pucklechurch Scouts and Cubs are desperately in need of adult helpers. Are there any mums and dads who want to do something to help our young people but can't decide what. Helping with cubs and scouts could be the answer - and a lot of fun.

Interested persons please telephone Norma Pratt on Abson 2507.



### CONGRATULATIONS!!

To Stephen Barnes and Richard Peters for being asked to trial for England Schoolboys Football Team.

Stephen already plays for Avon under 14's and Richard for Bromley under 14's.



## LETTER



# NORTHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Dr G Conrad

Christmas is nearly here again, and it will be looked forward to or dreaded for various reasons. For many the birth of Christ will play a very small, if any, part at all amongst the festivities of the day. There are some who do think of the nativity, especially those with children or grandchildren, and like a well-loved fairy tale, the story of the birth of Jesus will be told. Some may go to church on Christmas day because they feel this is part of Christmas.

Sometime during our lives many of us come to the conclusion that we are Christian. After all, we do live in a christian country. Visits to church at Christmas, Easter, Harvest time, perhaps more often, help to keep us thinking that we are christians.

Many people do have an awareness of God, and on these occasions may feel a certain gratitude to God. Yet so rarely do we stop to seriously consider what God has done for us. Can we honestly thank God for the birth of Christ, if we have never really considered who he is and what claims he makes on us today.

"Christian" has become a greatly misused word. Religious observance and church attendance may make one a member of a local church family of whatever denomination, but it will not make one a member of the family of God. It is possible to be a churchgoer all one's life and to be a very 'good' person but still not be a Christian.

Being a christian is a very radical thing. It affects a person's whole life and outlook on the future. It is a living, developing relationship with Christ. It gives a dynamic reason for living and lasting peace of mind in knowing that, through Christ Jesus, one is acceptable to God. The Apostle Paul truly said 'If anyone is in Christ he is a new creature, the old has gone, the new has come.'

We wonder if there are any in the village who would be interested to dig a little more deeply into what being a Christian really means, perhaps to join a Christian Basics Group. If so, please contact us, we would love to hear from you.

Carol Gulliford (2165) 1 Cedar Way  
Jean Rawlings (3060) 18 Woodpecker Crescent

Northavon District Council has declared 4.5 acres of land at Oaktree Avenue (by the big Officers houses) surplus to requirements. Two developers have submitted schemes for the development of the land for "low-cost" housing. You will be glad to hear that the Council rejected both proposals and is now looking at the whole matter again. I still hope that we will be able to have some flats or bungalows for pensioners. Such houses would be "leasehold schemes for the elderly" which I think would alleviate the shortage of bungalow accommodation in the village.

As most of you will know, the old part of Pucklechurch is a Conservation Area. One of the responsibilities of people living in the Conservation Area is to inform Northavon District Council of any proposal to chop down trees in the area at least six weeks before it is done! Something I didn't realise until recently!

Bridge Road/Cattybrook Road, Shortwood. The tenders to modernise these houses have been accepted, so work should start very soon.

Avon Ring Road - As you have seen in the press, Avon County Council has at long last prepared the four alternative routes which this road may follow. The area most affected by these proposals is Shortwood. The road will run very close to the disused railway line and will have a major impact on the village.

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### Pucklechurch Parish Council

Parish Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.45pm in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend as observers. If you would like to bring some matter to the Council's attention and would like to speak at the Council meeting you should inform the Clerk (Mr R Wiltshire, 36 Hill View, Tel.2872) in writing prior to the meeting.

At the November parish council meeting it was agreed to donate £1,000 towards the cost of replacing the bell at the Parish Church.

Concern was also expressed at the mess being made by the gas contractors.

SONGS FROM THE SHOWS (well one of them)

Composed and sung (to the tune of "A Farmer's Boy") by Ron King at the Pucklechurch Players Revue, Village Hall, 28 September.

Now, queueing up at Jim's one day,  
I started gossiping  
I heard that Robert Maxwell  
may soon be moving in  
It's for you to use,  
Buy the Pucklechurch News  
Support it all you can  
Oh! with a 'P-U-C' and a 'K-L-E'  
you're never in the lurch  
If you comes from Pucklechurch!

Our Church of England Primary School  
Was bulging at the seams  
With classes held in Portabins  
Kids swinging from the beams  
The Head had enough  
And Avon did their stuff  
Now the building work's all done.  
Oh! with a P-U-C and a K-L-E  
etc

The Ringers of St Thomas Bells  
Have really took a dive.  
It had the lightest peel of six  
But now we're ringing five.  
The tenor bell  
Been beat to hell  
So join Geoff Wilcock's fund.  
Oh! With a P-U-C and a K-L-E etc.

One of the doctors what lives here  
Has got a mighty tent,  
He lays on lots of lovely beer  
Our elbows soon get bent  
We drinks it down  
Without a frown  
We can never drink enough,  
Oh! With a P-U-C and a K-L-E etc.

Now Terry Walker's got a shop  
Just by the Fleur De Lys  
They say that he's political  
I don't know what that is  
But I'd vote for he  
If he said to me  
That he'll buy me lots of beer.  
Oh! With a P-U-C and a K-L-E etc.

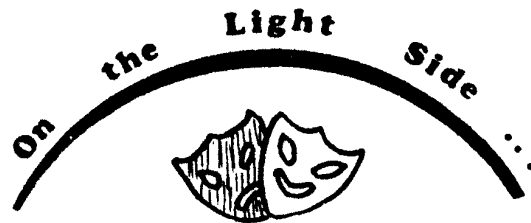
The Village pump in days long past  
It gave us all the gripe  
Those days are gone, they took it up  
To make way for a pipe.  
But we're not in the dumps  
Cos Williams got some pumps  
Kev's jokes will make you smile  
Give masochists a fair crack of the whip,  
Oh! With a P-U-C and a K-L-E etc

Les Whittock, on his walk one day,  
Took off his boots and said  
"These boots are blooming killing me,  
I wish that I were dead!  
Then up strode I,  
Threw them boots up in the sky,  
Took his dog upon a walk.  
Oh! With a P-U-C and a K-L-E etc.

Our Village Hall is quite a sight  
All credit to our heroes  
The money that we need for it  
Has got a lot of zeroes  
And that's why you  
Got to sit and stew  
And give out all your cash  
With a P-U-C and a K-L-E  
You're never in the lurch  
If you comes from Pucklechurch!

P.News says: Well Ron, what can we say! We didn't think people still wrote lyrics of that calibre!

## PUCKLECHURCH PLAYERS



The Pucklechurch Players Revue held on 28th September was a fantastic success. A packed Village Hall certainly got value for money! There was a tremendous variety of material - George & Jane Conrad singing Gilbert & Sullivan at one end of the cultural scale, and a hilarious sketch performed by . . . . (no I must not give it away) which consisted of three well-built men exposing their torsoes, their heads covered with huge hats, and their navals made into mouths (and other unmentionable parts of their anatomy made up into eyes!). To just stand on the stage like that would have been funny, but no, they 'moved' to the whistling song 'I was Kaiser Bill's Batman'. It was a scream!

The next production to be staged by Pucklechurch Players is the pantomime 'Sinbad the Sailor' on 14, 15 and 16 February. Let's hope that it's as well supported as 'Rumpelstiltzkin' was last year. We're sure you will enjoy it.

## PARISH CHURCH

During bell ringing practice in July the stay on the tenor bell broke. This is not an uncommon event in the world of bell ringing. Unfortunately, however, the broken stay lodged in the framework supporting the bell causing the bell to strike the bell frame, which cracked the bell. The bell had to be removed for safety reasons.

The bell itself weighs 12 cwt 26 lbs which is extremely light for a bell ringing the note of E flat. A Consultant from Whitechapel Bell Foundry gave the opinion that it was one of the thinnest is not the thinnest change ringing bell in the world. The bell cast in 1650 has been ringing regularly for 334 years.

It was decided that despite the high cost of replacement (about £5,000) the "Heritage Factor" dictated that the work should be done. When should it be done?

If it is not done now it never will be. The 'Tsar Kolokol' in Moscow, the heaviest bell in the world at 196 tons cracked in 1836 - it is still cracked 148 years later. Need we say more?

A committee is now working to raise the necessary funds. It is hoped that we can do this by promising value for money in the course of the fund raising.

The fund has already got off to a good start with a generous donation from Parish Council, the promise of a substantial donation from Revel 85, and a number of other group and individual efforts. Thank you to all who are helping.

Anyone wishing to help in any way please contact:

Trevor Trueman on Abson 3134 or  
Geoff Wilcock on Abson 2174

### Date for your Diary

7th December at 7.00pm - An illustrated talk on Isambard Kingdom Brunel. By Paul Elkin (Curator of Bristol Industrial Museum) in the Village Hall.

And for the future - a 'Do It Yourself' Messiah in the spring of 1985 - more information later.

Scrabble Tournament - Contact Mrs Berry (Abson 2690) or Mrs Wilcock (2174).

Tower Open Days - Dates to be announced.

Darts Matches - challenges accepted.

## The Bells of St Thomas a Beckett, Pucklechurch

St Thomas has a ring of six bells. The Treble or first bell is the lightest, the heaviest is called the Tenor, each of which have been rung regularly for many years to call people for church worship.

In 1929 the bells were fully refurbished, this involved re-tuning and re-hanging to a new modern system with Steel Gudgeon Pins running in self aligning bearing.

The bells themselves were cast many years prior to this except for the second bell, which was re-cast in the same year by Gillet & Johnston. These founders originated in 1881 at Croydon and cast their last bell in the 1950s. They are in fact one of three Bell Founders to have cast bells found in Pucklechurch Tower.

The Bilbie Founders of Chewstoke, Somerset, were established in 1698 by Edward Bilbie, but it was not until the take over of William Bilbie that the treble of the present ring was cast at a weight of 6 cwt. The third fourth and fifth bells were cast in 1796 under Thomas and James Bilbie, they now weigh 7-3-0, 8-2-0 and 10-2-0 cwt respectively.

Finally, the third of the Bell Founders were William and Richard Purdue. The Purdue Foundry originated in 1434 but it was under William and Richard Purdue of Bristol and Salisbury that the Tenor Bell was cast in 1650 weighing 12-0-26 cwt.

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Belfry Club - Now abandoned due to lack of support recently! Many thanks to all those who have helped and supported it in the past.

Sunday School - Now resumed after half-term break. We're hoping to make use of the newly decorated Belfry Room come December and there are plans to hold a 'Birthday Party for Jesus' (taking place for the whole of the Church service rather than ending at 10.15am as normal.) on December 23rd, to which we hope all our 'regulars' will be able to come. It will be a change, perhaps, to think more carefully as to why the forthcoming celebrations are undertaken.

Children's Carol Service - 16 December at 3.00pm. Many children and families will be taking part in this service. Do come and join us - let's try and fill the church.



## AVON RING ROAD

You will probably have heard by now of Avon County Council's plans to build a new ring road linking the M32 at Hambrook via Mangotsfield and Longwell Green to Brislington, and perhaps also make a new link to the M4 at Westerleigh Road (near Blackhorse Garage/Folly). This would greatly reduce traffic in Mangotsfield, Downend and Central Bristol and improve links with South Bristol.

The road is planned for completion by 1991. If it is not built, on any estimate of traffic growth, congestion would be quite intolerable by then.

I attended a packed meeting on 28 November at Mangotsfield School held to consult the public on the choice of route for the northern section and the desirability of the new M4 link.

There was a great deal of opposition to the yellow route, which was the closest in to Bristol. The Chairman of Mangotsfield Parish Council urged the scheme to go ahead and supported the brown route, which was the furthest out.

Pucklechurch will not be directly affected, but the M4 link would mean traffic from the Industrial Estate would go through Shortwood instead of through the village. The red and brown routes go along the disused railway at Shortwood and their plans include a Shortwood by-pass.

If the red or brown route is chosen residents in, for example, Bridge Road, Shortwood, may be able to claim compensation.

The question of cost was raised, as people were worried that it would be a burden on the rates. It was explained that subject to Department of Transport approval the Government would meet half the cost. However, the Government's rate-capping plans would make the cost to the ratepayer four times as much because of loss of rate-support grant, so it would be impossible to go ahead.

The project has the support of all parties on Avon County Council and will do much to reduce unemployment.

### LET THE COUNTY COUNCIL KNOW YOUR VIEWS

If you have any comments to make on the proposals (before 14 January 1985) send them to the County Engineer & Surveyor, Department of Highways and Engineering, PO Box 87, Avon House North, St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7NB. (There are official questionnaires available)

Richard Palmer

## VILLAGE DIARY



- Dec 4 - Folk Club - Peter Felton  
7 - Talk on Brunel - In aid of Bell Fund. V.Hall 7. pm  
8 - P.church FC v Iron Acton (A)  
Folk Club Christmas Dance  
(Charles Foote & The Bonnetts)  
12 - Disco (Secondary School age)  
14 - Three Churches Challenge  
Dyrham V.Hall 7.30pm  
P.church FC v R.W.P. (H)  
15 - PCA Children's parties  
16 - PCA Christmas Concert 6.30pm  
(no Church evening service)  
17 - Youth Club Christmas Party  
18 - Folk Club - Peter Howarth  
19 - WI Christmas Party  
22 - P.church FC v Bitton (A)  
23 - Candlelight Carol Service 6.30pm  
29 - P.church FC v Barr Utd (A)
- Jan 1 - Folk Club - Alan Holder  
5 - P.church FC v Henbury O.B. (H)  
Closing date Revel competition  
12 - Copydate P.News \*\*\*\*  
P.church FC v Patchway (A)  
15 - Folk Club's 8th Birthday Party  
(Mike & Molly)  
19 - P.church FC v Hillfield O.B. (H)
- Feb 6 - Gardeners Club "Weeds" 8pm V.Hall  
Feb 14) Pucklechurch Players  
15) Pantomime  
16) Sinbad the Sailor

## advert

For Sale: Typewriter with long carriage. £5 tel. 2074



### COPYDATE

12 January 1985



### 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

AN ADVENT  
FOR YOU

CALENDAR  
TO COLOUR

