

# pucklechurch news



Happy Christmas



We are very pleased that a new Revel Committee was elected at the extraordinary general meeting held on 23 October, following the difficulty at the Revel AGM. We wish them all the best!

The uniformed organisations bonfire and firework display at Marsh Farm was a very enjoyable family evening. Our thanks, on behalf of all who attended, to Chris & Pam Simpson. We understand that the bonfire was still keeping the cows warm two days later!

As we write this editorial (at the Community Centre in between playing badminton and drama) costume fitting is taking place for the Pucklechurch Players' pantomime! There now follows a commercial break!

This year's panto is "Robin Hood" - written by Richard Palmer. It will be held on January 30th and 31st and Saturday 1st February 1986. Make sure you buy your tickets early for this popular event.

But first we have Christmas. We hope your children enjoy the advent calendar in this issue (by public request!). Our thanks to Lyn Ford for drawing it.

This will be the last Christmas we celebrate with Rev Josh Hinton who will be retiring in the New Year. We would like to offer him our very best wishes for the future.

During the coming months a campaign may be mounted by the Dept of Health & Social Security for pensioners and other beneficiaries to have their payments credited directly to bank accounts by computer. The Post Office requires your custom to stay in business - we hope that our readers will resist this change and support their local Post Office - use it or lose it.

And this applies to other local shops too of course. Shop local!

## Pucklechurch School Association

A New Year's Disco has been planned for 17th January 1986 8pm - midnight at the School Hall. Tickets £1.50 which includes a cheese or pate ploughmans. Tickets are available from the School Office or Committee members. Please help us to make this an enjoyable evening and buy your tickets now!

Spring Fete to be held on 26th April 1986.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Revel for the £400 received. This has helped greatly towards the purchase of a new computer for the school from which all of our children benefit.

## PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### FUN RUN - 27th October

Fine weather and marvellous support ensured the success of the 5th Pucklechurch Fun Run. A total of 89 runners competed in the 3 mile run, whilst the more strenuous 5 mile course was completed by 28 runners. An orderly start was ensured thanks to the help of Mr Les Bence, Bristol Athletic Club's official starter.

The first three home in the 5 mile run were:

1. John Rapps 30 mins 29 secs
2. Malcolm White 32 mins 41 secs
3. Nicholas Judd 34 mins 37 secs

In the 3 mile run which catered mainly for the younger entrants, the placing was:

1. Lee Gaylard 22 mins 26 secs
2. Thomas Hartree 23 mins 28 secs
3. Richard Brown 24 mins 11 secs

The first girls to complete were:

1. Claire Judd 28 mins 15 secs
2. Kate Hall 31 mins 35 secs
3. Louise Radnedge 32 mins 21 secs

The organisers would like to extend their thanks to all those who gave up their time to marshal the event so ensuring it was accident free.

We hope the local Scout Group, who were sponsored to run, were successful in their grand effort to raise money to replace the heating in their HQ.

Note for your diary, the next Fun Run will be some time in April '86 so come and support it or, even better, take part yourself!

## ADULT EDUCATION IN PUCKLECHURCH

From January 1986 - Calligraphy/Italic Handwriting  
Thursdays 1.15pm - 3.15 Village Hall £9.60

Enquiries to: Soundwell Technical College  
Tel. 675101 ext 229



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## YOUTH CLUB

### 1st Pucklechurch Guides

We've been celebrating 75 years of Guiding this year. Wearing our Jubilee badges we attended a District Thinking Day Service at Wick and a Division party at Chipping Sodbury. In April we took up the 75 miles walk challenge (no, not individually!) but collectively as a Unit. 26 of us walked 3 miles each to Dyrham Park, meeting up with other Guides in our Division who all converged from various directions for a rather windy campfire get-together.



On May 18th we celebrated at Marsh Farm with a Jubilee Campfire to which we invited former members of 1st Pucklechurch Guides; our future Guides, the Brownies came too. Over 100 people came and while the Brownies played games, former Guides relived many a Guiding tale brought to mind by the display of old photographs, uniforms and badges. Traditional cocoa and biscuits served around a blazing campfire ended a most pleasant evening.

In June we attended our County Rally at Ashton Court, which included a display of national and Guide costumes from around the world. The following day from 5 points within the city, Guides marched proudly to converge on the Colston Hall for a Jubilee Service. On 24th June the Queen lit a candle at Buckingham Palace and from this lights were taken throughout the country finally reaching every Guide company. Our candle was used to light a campfire.



We spent a scorching hot weekend (yes, there was ONE!) camping at Ring O'Bells Farm, a super introduction for all our first time campers. It makes such a difference if it's fine and warm. This prepared us for our County Jubilee Camp held at Badminton when the weather wasn't so kind but the Guiding spirit remained indomitable. At the end of a campfire, held in the marquee because of rain, 600 voices spontaneously burst into our Jubilee song; we linked arms and, still singing made our way back to our individual tents.

A pageant "History of Guiding" was totally rehearsed and performed during the camp.



Mary has set us a Challenge to knit 75 jumpers for Ethiopia by 3rd December, when we present them to the Red Cross. We're nearly there but would appreciate any offers of help.

A thank you to Rachel Webb for helping us display a floral tribute at the Bell Fund Flower Festival and a special mention to Heather Case who was chosen to line the route during the Queen's visit to the S.S. Great Britain. Heather was thrilled when the Queen actually stopped and spoke to her. Heather is our first Guide to receive her Green Trefoil Badge.

Other individual interest badges gained include Rambler, Child Care, Hostess, Friend to Animals, Collector, Country Dancer and Sportswoman. All in all a busy but exciting year.

We've had an active time since restarting in September.

The first 'event' was a disco to raise funds for the Youth Club. Unfortunately, a few boys (who do not live in Pucklechurch) caused some damage, as they were refused entry, and this marred the evening for everyone else.

On 21st October we took ten members to Made-for-Ever Youth Club at Kingswood for a game of 5-a-side football on their floodlit pitch. This enjoyable evening resulted in a victory for Pucklechurch. Special mention to Chris Ballinger and Mark Phillips for their skill and courage against much larger opposition!

Our thanks to Sue Jones who came to give a hairdressing demonstration on 4 November - to the girls (we thought) but a lot of the boys looked a lot better when they left!

On 14th November we had a fantastic evening - two jugglers/uni-cyclists came along to demonstrate and teach us their skills. They were amazed that Lee Short and Michael Kendall could ride uni-cycles! By the end of the evening quite a few members (and helpers!) were competent in juggling, spinning plates on sticks, etc.

We always welcome new members (of secondary school age only). We meet on Mondays from 7.30pm - 10pm. Membership is 25p per annum, and weekly subscriptions are 25p (members) and 30p (guests).

### PUCKLECHURCH W.I.



Witches Institute would have been a more suitable name for the W.I. on Saturday 26th October when we held our Halloween Fayre. Everyone joined in the fun and the hall was full of witches, wizards, mummies and spooks. Many thanks to everyone who supported us, especially the children and their parents who made the witch models and dressed up so convincingly. We hope to have a bigger and better Halloween Fayre next year.



The November AGM marks the end of our year in W.I. We have had an interesting and busy time with talks ranging from a cookery demonstration to a visit from the Prison Governor. Our social events have included cheese tasting, a concert from a Barber Shop quartet and outings. We have entertained a party of old people, helped with various village activities and members have knitted over 120 jumpers and blankets for Oxfam.

Why not give the W.I. a try. Come along to one of our meetings. We are always delighted to welcome visitors and new members. Plans for next year include potato cookery, a talk on natural or homeopathic medicine and a film about cycling holidays. Our January birthday meeting will include folk dancing and singing. Hope to see you there.

Meetings - Village Hall every 3rd Wednesday 7.30pm.



ADVENT CALENDAR

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LYN FORD

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Twelve before the night of Christmas

CAROLS

## YOUR LETTERS



P.News says: Thank you to all those who expressed support (both verbal and written) for the anonymous letter we published in the last issue of P.News concerning the behaviour of a small section of the youth of the village, and the apparent lack of parental control.

### Some Observations from a Community Bobby

Oh, how I agree with the observations of the anonymous letter writer who contributed to the recent "Pucklechurch News" concerning the youth of the village.

I seem to spend quite a lot of my time attending to what are, mostly, minor complaints.

The human being is a strange animal. We want the full force of the law and order on our side when someone else is the wrong-doer but we make all the excuses in the world if we are the wrong-doer. We as policemen have to tread the delicate centre line.

We do all we can to support and pursue the quality of life for the villagers of Pucklechurch, and any other village for that matter, but there are limitations on what the Police alone can achieve.

Firstly, we can only take action if the law is broken. If no law is broken we do not have recourse to law. Many of the complaints I receive basically involve lack of good manners and neighbourliness.

Secondly, where the law is broken, quite often there are no witnesses. We may have our suspicions as to the identity of those responsible but the courts require evidence. It therefore follows that I can only act if I receive the help of the village to provide that evidence.

As our writer said, parents must bear a responsibility for the problems their children are causing. So often we hear the comment "I can't be on at him/her all the time". Some parents can't wait for their offspring to reach the age of 17 when they can then wash their hands of them.

I would say this to the parents of our infant school children, toddlers and babes in arms: Now is the time to guide your children on to the right path. By the time they reach their mid-teens the mould is cast. You have it in your power to make Pucklechurch a grand village to live in, but if you neglect your responsibilities then the situation will get progressively worse.

I can assure the villagers that you will have my support at all times, but we must work together - police, public, parents and anyone in a position to influence the direction of Pucklechurch between now and 2000 AD.

Brian Organ, Community Policeman

## TOWER PLAYGROUP

Now we are halfway through the autumn term Tower Playgroup is pleased to report that its new children have all settled happily.

We met again after the long summer break to chat about holidays and look at photographs. "Seasons" was the next topic. The children made a model of the trees of each season and had an expedition looking for conkers. They are learning to recognise and write their own name. The children particularly enjoyed having a-pets morning - when several lucky animals were brought along to our session. Another good morning was spent making a Christmas cake each child contributing some of the necessary ingredients. We will be raffling this cake at our Christmas Fayre to be held Saturday 30th November in the Village Hall. We do hope you will come as there will be cakes and toys to buy as well as lots of fun and games. Father Christmas has also been invited and your child will be able to have his or her photograph taken with him.

To help raise funds for ourselves we have had a clothes party and a book party held after two of our morning sessions. The children enjoy these occasions as they bring along cakes or sandwiches for all to share and have an American lunch together.

Please do come and visit us any session (after 10am) and see us in progress. You will be made very welcome. We are in the Church room on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings and will be open for Monday mornings after Christmas when we admit the extra children on our waiting list.

We try to involve the whole family by hiring the 'baby' pool at Southwold swimming baths for an hour one Sunday each term. There, among many amusing inflatables, the children can gain confidence in the water and have fun with Mum, Dad, brothers and sisters.

We have had a Harvest concert and are preparing for a Christmas one. We hope you will come and visit us if you have a child approaching playgroup age, and also come along and support our forthcoming events.

To Mr Simpson,

Thank you so much for letting us have a lovely evening out of lovely pretty fireworks and a lovely bonfire. It was very nice of you.

from Claire Palmer

2nd Pucklechurch Brownies

To Mr Simpson,

Thank you for having a good family bonfire in your field, it was very good the fireworks were very pretty.

from Juliet James

2nd Pucklechurch Brownies



## DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT - George Conrad

Village Hall Car Park - thanks to the generous help of the Parish Council and grant aid from Northavon District Council the PCA has at long last been able to level the site of the old Village Hall and Changing Rooms to form an extra carpark. I hope that the tarmac'd area will be used by disabled persons for parking and not by the able-bodied! With any luck the whole of the front of the Hall will be landscaped using the Community Programme run by Northavon District Council. Under that scheme the PCA will have to pay for materials, but the labour costs will be covered by the Manpower Services Commission. By next Spring we should have the surroundings of the Hall tidy and visually acceptable.

Fire Prevention - fire is a constant hazard in the home and something that none of us want to think about. The commonest cause of fires is a chip pan which is overheated and burst into flames. All households should have a fire blanket in their homes because damp cloths are not always available, and by the time you find one it may be too late. We tried to get the Council to put such blankets into "Elderly Persons Dwellings" (bungalows) but this proposal which originated from a Fire Officer was rejected. I would urge everyone to buy such a fire blanket (it costs about £10) in order to prevent any tragedies from happening.

Loos for the Disabled - If you are disabled and out for the day, going to the loo can become a major problem. Northavon D.C. has for some years provided separate loos for the disabled when it builds Public Conveniences. These facilities are locked, so that they cannot be used by able-bodied people and cannot get vandalised. So where do you get a key? If you are disabled you can buy a RADAR key from the Council Offices at Chipping Sodbury and Thornbury at a cost of £2. Radar is a national organisation which is concerned with access for the disabled in public places. They run a national Key Scheme with one key which will unlock ALL conveniences for the Disabled all over the country. The Council has only sold 7 such keys over the last 3 years so these facilities are being under used!

Regional Retail Shopping Centre - Northavon D.C. have received planning applications to develop a site at Cribbs Causeway into a massive retail shopping centre. Firms like Marks & Spencer are showing an interest. The impact of such a development on Broadmead and lots of other local shops could be enormous. The council is going to get independent consultants to do a survey of the potential impact, but I would be very grateful to know YOUR views on the matter. If you have an opinion please drop me a line or ring on Abson 2979.

## REVEL

### REVEL LIVES!



At the Extraordinary General Meeting held on Monday 28th October to discuss the future of Revel (as insufficient people were willing to join the Committee at the AGM) a new committee of fifteen people was formed.

The new Chairman is Pete Smith, Vice Chairman is Tony Cowley, Treasurer - Trevor Morris, Secretary - Carolyn Britton. Other members are: Martin Scott, Mary Cowley, Julie Smith, Malcolm White, Philip Lee, John Rapps, Ann Smith, Norman & Hilary Lawton, Trevor Scantlebury and Jo Morton.



## GARDENING CLUB



Our winter programme was given a good start on 2nd October by Mr Bob Jefferies. He gave the members an illustrated talk on Trees, Shrubs and Climbers, putting some new ideas for their use in our gardens.

We had a Jubilee Sale on Saturday 12th October when over £58 was raised for club funds. A big thank you to all members who helped.

Miss Valerie Bunce showed with slides how to construct a rock garden. The wide variety of plants which could be grown surprised even the most experienced of our members.

We have been able to welcome several new members this autumn. A warm welcome is given to old and new members at our meetings held on the first Wednesday of every month in the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Our next meeting is on 4th December when Mr F A Spooner will talk on "Greenhouse and Frame Management".



## ALL AGE BIBLE SCHOOL

Grace Evangelical Church, Westerleigh (Chapel after the railway bridge) have started some adult (14 - 90+) Bible teaching sessions. A half hour session will be held every second and fourth Sunday at 10am running concurrently with an under 14 Sunday School.

We are a free evangelical church, i.e. we believe in the truth and inerrancy of the Bible, our overriding authority being the Word of God. We desire as a part of God's church to come together to worship our Lord, and seek both individually and collectively to come to a greater understanding and obedience to God and his will, through studying the scriptures.

Anyone who would like to come and listen in or question would be very welcome. For further information contact John Hall (C.S. 313459) or Abson 2165 or 3060 for lifts.



## THURSDAY SCOUTS



Back in June there was a camping competition called "CAMPCRAFT" held for all Scouts in our District at Mr Fussell's farm at Hinton. This competition covers all aspects of scouting and Pucklechurch Friday Scouts won it with Pucklechurch Thursday Scouts second. These two teams went forward to a countryside competition in September. A much bigger affair held at Woodhouse Park, Almondsbury. This time Pucklechurch Thursday Scouts came fifth out of twenty two teams and Pucklechurch Friday Scouts came eleventh, and they all worked very hard to achieve this. Well done to Paul Parker, Phil Gillson, Simon Anstey, Nick Judd, Lee Hathway and Richard Hanks.

We arranged to join Friday Scouts for a night hike one evening and were very lucky with the weather. The moon shone on us and wished us luck! No mishaps, well not many, and although we didn't get back until midnight, the boys did have the option of sleeping at the Scout Hut if they so wished. Someone suggested the next morning that I snored, but I think they must have imagined it!

Three of the younger scouts, Daniel Look, Ashton Cockle and Lee Hathway were involved in an overnight camp at Ring-O-Bells Farm at Hinton, and Paul Parker and Phil Gillson supervised at night. This all helps towards a badge they are working for. Also just recently we took part in the "DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS CHALLENGE". This is staged in different areas of our District every year, and this year we were the hosts. Boys from all over our District congregated at the Scout HQ and had to "BE PREPARED" for anything! They were given map references and clues and off they set. There were marshalls all along the way trying to catch the Scouts who were deviating from their routes. The boys were in groups of four or six and the winners were a group of Friday boys. Well done!

On Sunday 17th November we shall be defending our trophy that we won at the Scout Swimming Gala.

I would like to thank Julie Parker, Chris Harley and Jackie Hartree for sparing the time to do a beautiful flower arrangement for the recent Bell Fund Flower Festival.

I must get my woolly socks ready for our weekend "WINTER CAMP" in December. It can't be any worse than our "SUMMER" camp can it?

Congratulations to the Pucklechurch Cubs and Scouts and Akela Levett on their performance in the Gang Show this year. Very well done everyone, we all enjoyed it very much.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped me in anyway. Thank you for making my job a bit easier.

Skip Yates (Abson 3118)

## EXCHANGE & MART

For Sale: 'Tank Command' game by Ideal.  
Suit 6 - 10 year old. Excellent  
condition. £5 Tel. Abson 2974

For Sale: Sewing stool with black PVC top.  
Unused gift. Bargain £5. Tel. 2974

For Sale - Mahogany Snooker Table  
with slate bed, size 6' x 3' - very  
good condition, possibly antique.  
Complete with cues, balls, etc.  
£120 o.n.o. Tel Abson 3528



## VILLAGE DIARY



- NOV 21 - Pucklechurch Playgroup Christmas Fayre  
2pm - 4pm Village Hall  
23 - P.F.C. v Barr Utd (A)  
PCA Social Club "Twenty Fingers"  
26 - Folk Dance Club, Valerie Webster  
27 - Mothers Union "San Francisco & Los Angeles"  
Mrs Berry. 7.30pm Church Room  
30 - PCA Shopping Trip to London - contact  
Mary Cowley (3497) or Jean Wilcock (2174)  
Tower Playgroup Christmas Fayre  
P.F.C. v Bristol Union (H)
- DEC 4 - Gardeners Club "Greenhouse & Frame  
Management" 7.45pm Village Hall  
7 - PCA Social Club "Silver Street"  
P.F.C. v R.W.P. (A)  
10 - Folk Dance Club, Les Whittock  
14 - Folk Dance Club, Christmas Dance  
P.F.C. v Thornbury (H)  
PCA Childrens Christmas Parties  
PCA Social Club 'Christmas Draw'  
15 - PCA Christmas Concert 6.30pm  
21 - P.F.C. Filton (A)  
24 - PCA Social Club "Pandora"  
28 - P.F.C. v Henbury O.B. (H)
- JAN 1 - Folk Dance Club, Alan Holder  
4 - P.F.C. v Henbury Athletic (H)  
7 - Folk Dance Club, Peter Howarth  
11 - P.F.C. v Sun Life (A)  
18 - P.F.C. v Iron Acton (H)  
21 - Folk Dance Club, Derek Hammond  
25 - P.F.C. v University (A)
- FEB 4 - Folk Dance Club, Barry Gant  
5 - Gardeners Club "Intensive Vegetable Gardening"  
8 - P.F.C. v Frampton Athletic (A)  
14 - PCA 60's Valentine's Disco

COPYDATE FOR PUCKLECHURCH NEWS IS 4 JANUARY

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Copy for the next edition of Pucklechurch News can be delivered to any of the following who comprise the Editorial Committee:

Marilyn Palmer - 16 Merlin Ridge (3761) Secretary  
Nancy Cleevely - 66 Birch Drive  
Lyn Ford - Dennisworth Farm  
Beverley Stewart - 30 Maple Walk  
Elaine Stone - 25 Maple Walk  
Marion Thorn - 79 Westerleigh Road