

pucklechurch news

MAY 1986

I felt thoroughly ashamed a few weeks back - I was sat in Page Park at Staple Hill while my children played on the swings, and got talking to someone from Downend who had recently visited Pucklechurch after not visiting it for a few years "isn't it untidy now" she said "litter everywhere". Well, I could have crawled under the park bench - I'm proud of Pucklechurch - I wouldn't want to live anywhere else, but when this stranger spoke so disparagingly of it, I felt ashamed!

Pucklechurch certainly has the potential to be a LOVELY village but it needs working on by EVERYONE. Let's all work together and clean it up. If you agree with this, please try to attend the meeting planned for 11th May at the Village Hall at 11am, or contact Les Whittock (2090).

Isn't it amazing how we take things for granted until we no longer have them - like water for example!!! Today it looks more like milk that's coming from our taps! Could this be something to do with the EEC agricultural policy???

We will be publishing a new Village Directory very shortly. Unfortunately we cannot afford to give it free as we have in the past, so would be grateful if you could give donations in the usual way.

On 25th May "The Race Against Time" is organised by Sports Aid, for African Famine Relief. Well, how about having a sponsored run in Pucklechurch . . . Wouldn't someone just love to organise this??



What do you get if you cross a chicken with a cement mixer?
A brick layer!



SUMMER HOLIDAYS PLAYScheme

It was a little disappointing that only one other person apart from myself turned up for the first Playscheme meeting. However, after the third glass of wine we managed to convince ourselves that people really were interested in helping but had simply forgotten the date! - Which has been confirmed since thank goodness!

Obviously we cannot carry on with plans unless more assistance is promised. The Parish Council has kindly promised us a grant of £330, which we hope to be supported by a grant of £220 from the District Council.

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone interested in helping on the committee. Also, unfortunately one of last year's Leaders is no longer available. If you are interested in applying for the post, which is paid, please write as soon as possible saying why you think you would be a good playscheme leader. All applications/offers of help please to Marilyn Palmer, 16 Merlin Ridge (Tel.3761).



On 18th May at 6pm Rev Josh Hinton will be coming back to dedicate a tree in the churchyard. He will also be dedicating a plaque to Fred Lewis, who was verger for 60 years. This will be followed by Evensong which will be led by Rev Hinton.

REVEL

The programme for Revel 86 has now been settled and a brief summary is given below. A lot of effort has gone into arranging events for Revel Day and these will be publicised shortly. All of the village organisations are being "nagged" to enter floats in the procession and everyone is invited to enter and make it the best ever. Individual entries, decorated cars, floats, bicycles - all are welcome. There is no specific theme this year.

For a few young ones of the village we are offering the opportunity to join the procession with the Revel Queen by being a Pucklechurch Pixie or Fairy. Please let me know the names of any children interested to go into the hat for selection (Age 5 to 7).

On the Thursday evening of Revel Week an event very popular in the past is being held again - an "all comers" tug of war. Again we would like to see as many teams as possible taking part, including the young people of the village with so much energy to spare. Street teams, pub teams, club teams - the possibilities are endless.

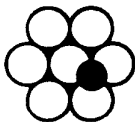
The Revel programme is as follows:

- Friday 16th May - Revel Queen Disco
- Saturday 14th June - Infant/Junior School Childrens Entertainment
- Sunday 15th June - Rambling Treasure Hunt
Revel Songs of Praise
- Monday 16th June - Minors & Mums Entertainment
Beer Festival
- Tuesday 17th June - Beer Festival
Junior Folk Dance
- Wednesday 18th June - Computers & Art
- Thursday 19th June - All Comers Tug of War
- Friday 20th June - Pre School Entertainment
Olde Tyme Music Hall
- Saturday 21st June - Revel Day
Revel Disco
- Sunday 22nd June - Revel Concert & Prize Giving

In addition and by popular demand the Revel Committee are arranging an event for the secondary school children and details will be given as soon as possible.

Pete Smith (Revel Chairman)

Cancer
Research
Campaign



The AGM of the local committee of the Cancer Research Campaign was held in March. Although no major fund raising events took place during the last year our total income was £2,090.41. Our thanks to everyone who helped in any way to raise this amount, especially Gloria Levett and Julie Parker who have devoted so much of their time to the Cancer Research Campaign. If anyone would like to help with future fund raising events planned for the Autumn, or with the House to House Collection in September, please contact: Omar Beg (3695) or Marjorie Payne (3653).

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PCA Fun Run

Proving a very popular and successful event in the past, the 1986 PCA Fun Run takes place on 27th April at 10.30am. Entry is 50p per runner and a certificate will be given to all who complete. There will be a 5 mile and a 3 mile course. So come along and enjoy a run!

Revel Float

Helpers are required to assist in the building and decorating of the PCA Float. Please contact Tony Cowley on Abson 3497.

Coach Outing

On Sunday 13th July a day trip to Bournemouth is planned, providing enough people are interested. The coach would leave at 10am, arriving back at Pucklechurch at 8pm. Price per seat would be £3.20. Names of people interested and numbers please to Shirley Hall at the Post Office by Friday 30th May.

Friday 13th June - combined Revel and PCA venture. Public Parts Theatre Co booked for their latest play "PICTURE THIS" - a story of the youth of a West Country town to music. A free ticket will be given to all PCA youths.



PARISH COUNCIL

The new play equipment has now been ordered for the Recreation Field and Parkfield Play Area and will be erected in the next few weeks.

The Burial Ground Gate has now been moved to bring it in line with the entrance to the old churchyard, the stone wall will be repaired in the near future.

A letter has been sent to the Omnibus Co asking what arrangements are being made for the bus service through Shortwood to Bristol when the proposed Ring Road has been established. The Council has also asked the Bus Co to consider running a Mini Bus from Bristol to Pucklechurch at a late hour as the last bus at the moment leaves Bristol at 5.15pm.

The AGM will be held this year on Tuesday 20th May at 8pm in the Village Hall.

The Council has agreed to give a grant of £330 towards this years Holiday Play Scheme in August.

It has been decided that no further street lights are necessary during the coming year as the present lighting in the Parish is of a very good standard.



PUCKLECHURCH PLAYGROUP

Are holding a May Day Coffee Morning on Thursday 1st May at 10am, at the Village Hall. Crowning of May Queen, refreshments, stalls, raffle. All welcome!

THURSDAY SCOUT TROOP

The last time I wrote to Pucklechurch News I remember saying that we were hoping to retain our swimming trophy. Well, Thursday Troop did it again. We won the District Swimming Trophy for the second year running. Well done boys!

They say you must be a little mad to run a Scout Troop and I proved that by taking the boys away to camp for a weekend just before Christmas! You don't know what you missed! Warm snugly tents, fresh air, cooking in the open air, long bracing walks, wonderful - and it keeps you fit.

At February half-term we thought we should maintain our fitness by a hike. Some very amiable parents drove us to Tormarton and abandoned us to the gale force North Easterlies! We walked from Tormarton to the Scout Hut with a stop on the way for a brew up. Not one moan from anyone - my we breed 'em tough in Pucklechurch. We settled in for the night at the Scout Hut but some decided they still had a lot of energy left, so pillow fights followed. Eventually at 2.30am peace reigned!

A very exciting time was had by all on Saturday March 22nd at Yate Leisure Centre. The District had organised a five-a-side competition for all Scouts in the area. Last year Thursday Scouts won it. This year we had some tough opposition from other troops, especially Friday Scouts. These two troops ended up in the semi-finals causing a large amount of cheering from some of our supporters! All in the best possible taste, of course! It was a nail-biting match and Friday troop "A Team" won 3-2 to go through to the final which they won, thereby keeping the trophy in Pucklechurch. The competition was played in a very good scouting spirit and congratulations to all who took part.

We had to say goodbye to some of our older Scouts because they had reached the age limit of 15½ yrs. They did a very good job when they were with me and now they have gone on to Venture Scouts I know they will prove what good Scouts they are. We do occasionally join up with Wick Ventures for a Scouting evening, so we shall still come in contact with these boys and they know they are always welcome to come back and help out.

We do welcome any help that is forthcoming, and I am always grateful for what is done by the parents of my Scouts. Anyone who would like to help in any way can get in touch with me on Abson 3118 or see me at the Scout Hut any Thursday evening 7.30pm - 9pm.

We are now looking forward to the big Spring Camp being held at Ring-O-Bells Farm at Hinton On May 3rd, 4th and 5th. All Scouts in the District have been invited to come, so it should be a good camp of about 100 boys and leaders with plenty of scouting activities.

Please don't forget to put a big red ring around SEPTEMBER 13TH. We are holding a DONKEY DERBY. It will be our biggest fund raising event to-date, so don't miss it. Allan Yates (Skip, Thursday Scouts)

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

The British Red Cross Society have now formed a group in Wick covering the Wick, Abson, Doynton, Pucklechurch and Hinton areas.

New members are always welcome, so if you are between 10 and 100 and would like to gain knowledge in First Aid and Nursing please contact the group leader, Mr D Thornhill on Abson 4335 or call in and see us training on a Monday evening at 7.30pm in the Wick Chapel School Room, High Street, Wick.

PCA Paper Collection

Don't forget to keep collecting your newspapers! The skip is delivered to the Village Hall car park on the first Friday of each month and taken away on the following Monday. If you are unable to take your papers to the skip, contact Les Whittock (2090) who will arrange collection.

The May paper collection will be 3 & 4 May. The next one will be 7 & 8 June.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

We have several untidy places and roads around the village which a lot of people grumble about and leave it at that.

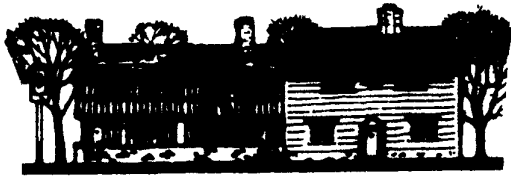
Having done a little last year through the W.I. and Brownies, why don't we try to make a bit more effort this year. It will not take much time if we get plenty of help.

Les Whittock is organising a meeting for 11th May to organise a working party. If you would like to help please contact Les on Abson 2090.



Posters are needed for entry to the competition - adults and junior classes - any size - please let Les have your entries. You can incorporate the slogan "This village is competing in the Best Kept Village Competition".

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT - George Conrad



Concessionary Travel Tokens - up to £10 per pensioner! After mounting pressure on the District Council, we have agreed to raise the value of the Travel Tokens from £6 (unchanged for the last 6 years) to £10. Still a long way behind Kingswood's £18 and Free Passes in London, but a start at least.

RURAL AREAS LOCAL PLAN - This may sound boring and tedious, but it will affect YOU. Over the next 10 years, Northavon District Council has got to find land in the "rural areas" (everywhere except Yate, Chipping Sodbury, Thornbury and the North Fringe) for 800 - 1,100 houses. Pucklechurch has been protected from further development by the Green Belt that surrounds it, but this is being reviewed as well. There is going to be development at Lyde Green anyway so it is VITAL that YOU make YOUR views known to the District Council.

DO YOU THINK THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY MORE DEVELOPMENT IN PUCKLECHURCH?

DO YOU WANT ANY MORE HOUSES BUILT IN PUCKLECHURCH?

IF SO, WHERE? HOW MANY? WHAT SORT?

If you do not express your views NOW it will be assumed that you don't care!

The Parish Council Annual Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 20th May at 8pm - that will be an excellent opportunity to express your opinions. If you cannot make it to that meeting any comments have to be sent to the Chief Planning Officer, Northavon District Council, Council Offices, Chipping Sodbury, Bristol BS17 6ER. Further details can be obtained from that office on Chipping Sodbury 313501 or let me know on Abson 2979 and I will pass them on. Comments have to be sent to the Planning Office by 31st May 1986.

WANTED: A "spare" room in which Pucklechurch Players could keep their costumes on racks. A small remuneration will be paid. Must be damp free. Contact: Beverley Stewart, tel. 2963

Where do you find a tortoise with no legs?
Where you left him!

YOUR RATES - will drop through your letter box very soon! They are divided into three parts:

PARISH RATE - has gone up from 2.7p to 3.1p in the pound rateable value. A small increase to maintain and improve services.

DISTRICT RATE - which has increased from 14.8p to 17p in the pound. That is an increase of 14.9%. It would have been 18.2% had it not been for some last minute suggestions from Alliance Councillors! The reason for this large increase is partly that the District Council has approved increased spending on Travel Tokens, Grass Cutting etc, but mostly it is because of a cut in the amount of money that the Government gives to "shire Districts". Northavon has come particularly badly under the new Government rules, not because we are overspenders, but just because of the way the sums have been calculated.

COUNTY RATE - has increased from 190.6p to 224.7p in the £ rateable value. An increase of 17.9% which would have been 25% under the Labour Party proposals which were slashed by the Alliance and Conservative Councillors on Avon. It is still a large increase and much of it is due to cuts in Government grant to the County.

Isn't it time we found a better and fairer way of paying for local services?



SCHOOL GOVERNORS - PUCKLECHURCH SCHOOL

It is now possible for parents to attend (as observers only) meetings of the school governors. The next meeting will be held on June 24th at 7.30pm.

YOUTH CLUB DISCO

The next Youth Club Disco will be held on Friday 23 May from 8pm until 11pm.

Tickets £1 - available from Youth Club or Marilyn Palmer, 16 Merlin Ridge.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



There was a touch of Irish blarney at W.I. in March. Our speakers showed us some excellent slides of a cycle tour of Southern Ireland accompanied by lilting Irish melodies and a fund of stories. We thoroughly enjoyed the tranquil scenes of this beautiful land, and the anecdotes about its warm-hearted people.

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our Spring Jumble Sale a success.

The speaker at our meeting on 16th April was Mr Day, a Naturopath who spoke about Nature's Healing Way.

On 21st May at 7.30 we will have a chance to discuss the resolutions to be debated and voted upon by delegates at the AGM in London. These include "Penalties for Child Abuse", "Aids" and the "Education of Dyslexic Children". Interested? Please come and join us.

1st PUCKLECHURCH SCOUT TROOP

Due to a national reorganisation within the Scout Movement, it is not possible for a scouter within a Group to hold two warrants as is the case in Pucklechurch at the moment.

The Group therefore urgently needs someone to fill the position of the Group Scout Leader.

It would be advantageous to the person taking up this position to have some basic knowledge of the Scout Movement, they should also be willing to undertake training.

Anyone interested contact: N Pratt (Abson 2507), B Skidmore (3235), or A Smith (2030).

PUCKLECHURCH GYM CLUB

If any past members have leotards or shorts and vests they wish to sell back to the club, please contact Elaine Stone on Abson 3105.

YOUTH CLUB

We were very pleased to receive confirmation of grant aid from Avon County Council to pay for an additional Youth Club 'leader'. If you are interested in applying please contact Marilyn Palmer (3761) or call in to see us at Youth Club. We meet on Monday evenings from 8pm until 10pm.

We would also be very grateful for any offers of help from parents - especially from September, as we may be losing one or two of our regular helpers. Special thanks to Angela Buckingham for her commitment to Youth Club for several years. You deserve a medal Angela!



Pucklechurch Players

present

"TOMB WITH A VIEW"

Friday 30 May & Saturday 31 May at 7.30pm

Tickets £2 (reduction for OAP's & children)

On sale from 1st May - from

Elaine Stone - 25 Maple Walk (3105)

Rose Hill - 47 Partridge Rd (3088)

& some village shops



PUCKLECHURCH PLAYERS

Don't miss the Pucklechurch Players in their latest production "A Tomb with View" - a comedy thriller by Norman Robbins.

In as sinister an old library as one is likely to come across, presided over by the portrait of a grim-faced old man, a dusty lawyer reads a Will (involving some millions of pounds) to an equally sinister family. One member of which has werewolf tendencies, another wanders around in a toga of Julius Caesar, a third is a gentle elderly lady who plants more than seeds in her flower beds. And what about the sympathetic nurse and the author of romantic novels - are they all, or more than, they seem to be? All is revealed as the plot twists and turns to its surprising conclusion.

DON'T MISS IT !!!



While rehearsals for "Tomb with a View" are going on, those not involved with this production are having a lot of fun and have organised Theatre trips, quizzes and speakers.

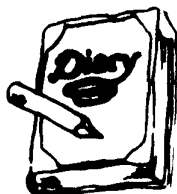
These Thursday evening sessions are now open to non-members at a charge of 50p.

On 24th April we have a Hypnotherapist.

8th May - a quiz (the last one was very much enjoyed!), and on 15th May - a talk on Stage Make-Up.

The PCA have recently made one of the changing rooms available for use as a meeting room for the youth of the village. It is open from 7pm until 10pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. They are charging 15p admission per night, and recently held a disco to raise the deposit and rent. The 'boys' would like to thank the PCA for allowing them to use the room. Cheers!

Diary



- May 1 - Pucklechurch Playgroup May Day
Coffee Morning 10am V.Hall
- 3/4 - Paper Collection, V.Hall Car Park
- 11 - Best Kept Village Competition
- 13 - Folk Dance Club, David Leverton
- 15 - Pucklechurch Players - Stage Make-Up
- 16 - Revel Queen Disco (Junior School Age)
- 20 - Parish Meeting 8pm V.Hall
- 21 - W.I. discussing resolutions for AGM
- 23 - Youth Club Disco 8-11pm V.Hall
- 24 - Folk Dance, V.Hall
- 30] P.Players "Tomb with a View" 7.30pm
- 31]

June 13 - Public Parts Theatre Co "Picture This"

14--22 Revel Week

24 - Pucklechurch School Governors Meeting



FOLK CLUB

The Bristol Branch of the E.F.D.S.S. (English Folk Dance and Song Society) is holding its AGM in our Community Centre on April 26th, to be followed by a barn dance, with an American Supper. Tickets will be £1.50 if you come along to the AGM, otherwise £2.

A folk dance with something special will be held in the Hall on May 24th. Again the Bristol Branch of E.F.D.S.S. are involved. This year they have invited a party of Swedish dancers to Bristol, and they will be giving displays at various places in Bristol and on Saturday 24th they will be dancing in the Abbey, churchyard in Bath, and during the dance in our Hall in the evening. Tickets £2.50.

All profits from these dances will go to the E.F.D.S.S.

Les Whittock



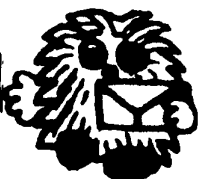
LIFTS WANTED

Additional lifts are needed for the elderly members of the Happy Circle. Happy Circle meets on alternate Tuesdays during the winter months, and weekly from around April. Would car drivers willing to help in this way please contact Lyn Ford, tel. Abson 3381.



COPYDATE

24th June 1986



LETTERS



Well done to the PCA for bringing "The Sweet Girls" to Pucklechurch. I went to see the play not knowing what to expect and was very surprised and wary when I saw the so-called scenery. Four pillars, a wooden box and a carpet! Then the actors - all young enthusiastic amateurs proved to the small appreciative audience that you don't need expensive scenery. They believed the parts they were taking, they lived them. So much so, that a friend of mine was moved to tears. Please let's have them back again, and this time let's hope more people will give them a chance to prove how good they are.

Jackie Yates

P.News says: Hear, hear! The Public Parts Theatre Co are excellent. We are privileged to see drama of that calibre in Pucklechurch.

At our last monthly meeting of the W.I. we were discussing the litter strewn parts of the village, and considering whether we should have another clean-up campaign.

One of our members asked if a letter could be put in the Pucklechurch News asking people not to leave their rubbish bins out from one week to the next please. They are not only a danger when it's dark, but animals come and tip them up, so strewing all the rubbish over the footpath.

Mary Whittock
Hon. Secretary, W.I.

P.News: There certainly is a lot of litter around Pucklechurch - if everybody took more care, it would not be necessary for the W.I. to have to consider clean-up campaigns.



LIFT TO BRISTOL

Lady offers daily lift to Bristol.
Share petrol costs. Tel. 3409.

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 Cleevly - 66 Birch Drive
- Lyn Ford - Dennisworth Farm
- Beverley Stewart - 30 Maple Walk
- Elaine Stone - 25 Maple Walk
- Marion Thorn - 79 Westerleigh Road