

pucklechurch news

EDITORIAL

After our last rather thin issue it was good to receive so many contributions for this issue - even though hardly any arrived by the copydate, and most arrived after our editorial meeting. . . please try to get copy to us on time!

Anyway, once the material arrived it was a joy to type! This was because high technology has finally hit *P. News* and it is now prepared on a word processor which we have access to. This makes the job a lot easier - once you've worked out how to use the word processor!!

We were sorry to say goodbye recently to two families who have always played a full part in community life here in Pucklechurch - Mary & Tony Cowley and Pete & Julie Smith and their families. They assure us, however, that they will be maintaining their contacts with Pucklechurch.

We look forward to receiving your contributions for the next issue of *P. News* by Saturday 23rd April - we can but hope! Would club secretaries please contact Marion Thorn (3529) as soon as possible with their entries for the Village Directory.

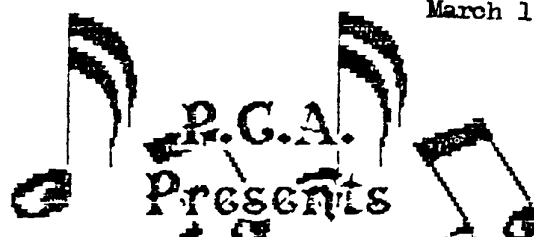


BUS SERVICE

The Regional Director of Badgerline Buses, Mike Walker contacted *P. News* to inform us of the changes to our bus service. From 5th April the bus service will be back to number 389, reverting to the position prior to 26th October - i.e. not involving Yate. The route will be served by minibuses. As yet they have not decided whether to run a large bus or two minibuses during peak times. There will be an early bus which will arrive in Bristol at 8.05, then from 9.11am they will leave Pucklechurch every 90 minutes, the last bus leaving at 6.15pm. From Bristol the first bus will be at 8.30am and the last bus at 5.30pm.

If you have any comments to make on the bus service, Mike Walker is pleased to hear them. *P. News* will be publishing the new timetable in the forthcoming Village Directory - by kind permission of Badgerline.

March 1988



**P.C.A.
Presents
The Marshfield
Silver Band
in Concert
at 7:30pm
on March 19th
Price 1:00
O.A.P 75p**

SUMMER HOLIDAYS PLAYScheme

Plans will be soon be starting on this year's Playscheme, which will be held from 1 August to 12 August. Luckily Beverley Stewart and Barbara Wiltshire have agreed to be the Leaders once more - thank you! If you would like to join this year's committee, or if you have any suggestions for activities, please telephone Marilyn Palmer (3761), Beverley Stewart (2963) or Barbara Wiltshire.

WANTED

A volunteer receptionist for Yate Health Centre on Monday evenings on a rota basis to work with RELATE (Marriage Guidance). 6.50-9.30pm. Lift available if required. Please ring Jean Crispin on Abson 3191.

LADIES KEEP FIT

Pucklechurch Village Hall on Tuesdays 10.30 - 11.30am. Starts on 8th March. For further details telephone Sue on Abson 2974.

GARDENERS

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

We will be starting our third year of waste paper collections this March, so I thought our contributors might like to know how worthwhile the project has been.

In our first year we collected approximately 21 tons - the equivalent of saving 321 trees. In our second year we collected 26 tons - the equivalent of saving 442 trees. (These figures are based on 1 ton = 17 trees.)

There is still plenty of room in the bin each month for more paper which will not only save more trees but also bring more revenue to the Community Centre to help towards some of the projects we have in hand.

ROAD RACE

This was a very successful event again this year which is giving Pucklechurch quite a lot of publicity in other parts of the country, and even in France. This by the way has no connection with the Twinning Association! The runners that came really enjoyed themselves. The race was won by Maurice Cowman, one of the best cross country runners in this country.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

As has previously been reported in P. News, Pucklechurch received £100 as the most improved village in the County of Avon competition in 1987. There was also a painting competition for our local school held in conjunction with this. Two paintings were selected to compete with 52 other schools in the County. Only three prizes were given and one was awarded to one of our lads - Stuart James of Abson Road - who was presented with a cheque for £25 by H.T.V.'s Bruce Hockin. Well done Stuart!

We would like to thank all the children who entered the painting competition, and not forgetting Mr Cochrane and the teachers for their support.

WANTED: By Church Youth Club - 2 trestle tables. Please telephone Marion 3528. Incidentally, the Church Youth Club is held on Monday evenings (2nd and 4th Mondays every month) at 7.30-9.00pm.

LOST: 1 primrose yellow riding silk, somewhere between Westerleigh Road and Dyrham View. Please tel. 2502 Hollie Jones.

FOR SALE: 1 pair of boys Adidas Football Boots size 6. £4.00; Childs Judo Suit 130cms £3.00. Tel. Abson 2974.

Many thanks to members and friends who helped with the very successful Jumble Sale in February.

You may have noticed that we have started to weed the borders around the Village Hall, although response to this activity has been poor. We have pointed out to the P.C.A. committee that there is far too much land around the Village Hall, put down to borders, for the club to maintain.

The borders would not be in the state they are today if a little more thought had been given to the initial preparation, ideally a good weed killer should have been applied and the ground left for a period of time before planting and an appropriate amount of forest bark ground cover applied.

We've recommended that some of the existing borders be put down to grass, this will provide for smaller borders to be properly maintained by club members. If anyone would like to help with this work please contact Tony Pratt on Abson 2507.

The next club meeting is on the 6th April when the subject will be 'Making and Caring for Garden Pools'

Forthcoming Events:

April 9th - Jumble Sale for Produce Show Funds
May 4th - Club A.G.M.

Jane Williams won a medal at Kingswood Arts Festival for '9 years and Under' - Poetry, with 83 marks. Well Done!

Congratulations also to all the others from Pucklechurch who did so well in this festival.

Can I hire or borrow your small touring type caravan to use as an overflow bedroom during the Easter weekend? Easter is early this year, 1st to 4th April. I will take it out of store, check it for you, site it on a tarmac standing in my garden and then return it to the store. Alternatively, does anyone in Pucklechurch do B & B (breakfast doesn't matter) for that time? We are having a weekend family gathering and the overflow will be middle-aged people. Call Peter on 2693 with the price if you can help.

DISTRICT COUNCIL – Marilyn Palmer

EMERSONS GREEN - the "Statement of Principles for Development at Emersons Green" has now been published, and the District Council has been carrying out a consultation exercise as the development has important implications for the District.

RATES - at a special Council meeting held on 7 March the District Rate for 88/89 was fixed at 21.5p in the Pound. This was a 2p increase (9%). The County rate is 245.5p (up by 18p) making a general rate of 268p in the Pound.

HOUSING BENEFITS - From April the Government is introducing changes in the rules for Housing Benefit, which is a Government scheme (run by local councils) to help people on low incomes pay their rent and rates, whatever sort of accommodation you have - whether council or private rented or your own home.

If you are already in receipt of Housing Benefit and the Council has sent you a form to complete it is **VITAL** that you complete and return it, in order to avoid any problems in the change over. If you have found it difficult to complete then do not hesitate to contact the Council or the Citizens Advice Bureau who will be happy to help you.

If you get Income Support (previously known as Supplementary Benefit) you will automatically qualify for maximum Housing Benefit (i.e. all of your eligible rent and 80% of your rates). Even if you are getting no other Social Security benefits you may still be eligible to get Housing Benefit. Claim forms can be obtained from Northavon District Council.

SYSTON BRANCH OF THE PONY CLUB

System, the local branch of the pony club meets at Henfield Hall, Henfield, monthly during the winter months. In the summer we meet at Lyde Green, by kind permission of Wilson Higgins. for mounted rallies, shows and the highlight of the year - summer camp.

As well as the fun aspect the more serious topic of safety is top priority at pony club. A number of members have recently passed their B.H.S Road Safety test - a must in these days of heavy traffic.

If you would like to join Pony Club or would like to know more about what we do, ring one of our local committee members: Chris Carey (2117), Sue Jones (2502) or Ann Fiddes (2921).



This year's Revel looks rather different to previous years. Among other events, there will be a senior citizens Tea Dance; a Revel/Twinning Folk Dance in the marquee; a disco for the youth of the village; a band concert in the marquee, and a bed race. The Beer Festival will be held on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th June this year. We are especially pleased to have booked a very spectacular main attraction for Revel Day this year - the Battling Cumberland Giants - Pucklechurch has never seen anything like them! Make sure you are around on June 18th to see them!

Incidentally, the Revel banner was stolen from the Remand Centre fence last year but - surprise, surprise - it was recently returned to the village! A mystery gentleman who lives near the Downs found it in the bushes there and delivered it to Terry Walker's shop. Our thanks go to this good samaritan whoever he may be!

PUCKLECHURCH V. I.

1988 got off to a lively start, in January we celebrated our birthday month with a tramps supper, twenty or so tramps paraded, and the best dressed tramp was awarded a prize of a bar of soap!

At our February meeting the marketing manager from Georges Bookshops entertained us with a potted history of Georges and the book business.

Thanks to all those who supported our jumble sale in February. £42 approximately was raised.

If you would like to know more about what happens at V.I. please come along to one of our meetings as a visitor, we meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wednesday 16th March at 7.30pm V.Hall.
Mr Gray on *The National Trust*

Wednesday 20th April at 7.30pm V.Hall
Mr J Hudson *Hypnotherapy*

At our May meeting we will discuss V.I resolutions.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council agreed to give a grant not exceeding £75 towards the publication of an updated Village Directory published by P.News, so that it can be delivered free of charge to every home in Pucklechurch. This directory contains a lot of useful information, particularly to newcomers to the village.

A letter has been sent to the Agents of the Estate requesting urgent action to repair the brick wall around the shrubs on the shopping precinct and replace the broken paving stones which are a potential hazard to pedestrians. The Council feel the whole area should be re-designed, and bollards placed between the car park and the paved area to prevent access to lorries.

The new childrens slider for the Shortwood playing field will be ordered soon and should be erected at the end of April.

P.News says: Please let us have contributions for the Village Directory as soon as possible. Please deliver them to Marion Thorn, 2 Westerleigh Road or telephone her on Abson 3528. We are grateful to the Parish Council for agreeing to sponsor this Directory. We have received many favourable comments on the Directory in the past and know that it is a useful document - a must for anyone just moving into the village.

Although we intend to deliver them around the village, we will ask Shirley Hall our Postmistress if she will keep some in the Post Office, so if you haven't received one by the end of April ask for one there. When it comes to delivering leaflets, if there is a large dog in the garden or a broken letterbox (or no letterbox) I give up! Outlying properties are also likely to be missed out I'm afraid!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How wonderful it is to have so much talent in our village. Congratulations to Pucklechurch Players for their wonderful Panto Cinderella.

E Williams

THANKS!

Jeverley Stewart would like to say thank you to all her wonderful friends who made her recovery from her operation much more pleasurable with all the visitors, flowers and cards.

PUCKLECHURCH PLAYERS



We hope you all enjoyed our production of Cinderella. Thanks to all who support us on these occasions. Watch out for news of our next production. A review is planned for May 14th with the theme of *Country Life*.

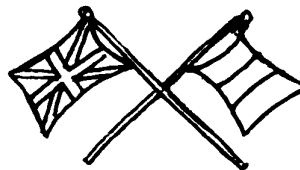
Due to people leaving the village we are sorely in need of new faces, especially males. We meet every Thursday in the meeting room at 8.00pm. We are holding a Budget Lines Fashion Show on Friday May 18th at 7.45pm in the Community Centre. Tickets are £1 adults, 50p children - available from E Stone, 25 Maple Walk, Tel Abson 3105.

PUCKLECHURCH TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The latest event was a most successful Wine Tasting evening held in the Village Hall. A large number of members and friends turned out to sample six different wines all selected and sold by Sainsburys, who gave a most interesting talk on wine-making and each wine's origin.

Wine plays quite a large part in the Twinning Association, and why not as we are forging links with France! After the 'business' at each meeting we end with wine and cheese and informal chatter. If this interests you, please join us by contacting Shirley Hall in the Post Office who is our membership secretary. Our next meeting is on Monday 28 March at 8pm.

Plans are progressing steadily for the arrival of our French counterparts from Pringy during this year's Revel, when the formal Twinning Charter will be signed.



COUNTRY CORNER—Shop Local—Shop Local—

We would like to welcome Connie and Gary Corken to Pucklechurch.

They would like you to know of their change of opening hours —

Monday to Saturday — 8 a.m. — 8 p.m.
Sunday 12 — 2 p.m.

YOUTH CLUB

Youth Club is now held on Thursdays from 7 - 10pm in the *CHURCHROOM*. New members are very welcome.

EASTER at ST THOMAS a BECKET CHURCH

This is a very special time of the year for all Christians. We take time to remember that Jesus Christ died for us on a cross to give us a way out of our failure and loneliness. But that was not the end because he rose from the dead to give life and hope to his followers. In a way it is a Funeral and a Victory Celebration all rolled into one! If you would like to share in any of our Special Easter Services they will be at the following times

Maundy Thursday - 7.30pm Holy Communion
Good Friday - 10.00am Childrens Service
- 12-2.00pm Prayer & Meditation
- 2-3.00pm The Last Hour at the Cross
- 7.30pm United Service
Easter Eve - 7.30pm Preparation for Easter
Easter Day - 8.30am Holy Communion at St James,
Abson
- 10.00am Parish Communion
- 6.30pm Evensong

Easter is a special time a time to think about what our lives are actually about and what they could be about. We will be delighted to welcome YOU at any of our Services

The FAMILY SERVICE in April will be on Sunday 17th and will be followed by a special meeting we are calling a REVIEW THE FUTURE IN OUR HANDS. This is a chance for everyone who is interested to come along and share the time following the Family Service until 2.45pm. Lunch is provided. We will be discussing our life together as a Church Family and thinking about how we can live more effectively as Christians and as members of this community

Ian Wills.



2ND PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

When we started on January 13th we had 13 girls, we now have 16 girls. They are all hard at work doing their pre promise challenge, leading up to their enrolment into Guides. We are having lots of fun celebrating special occasions such as Valentine's Day, when the girls made heart shaped peppermint creams (but they would not say who they were for). Although I sampled some myself, and very nice too. For Comic Relief, which were worn with pride, and raised the grand total of £12.

From all of us here at Guides we wish Lizzie Skidmore a full and quick recovery and hope to see her back at Guides soon.

If anyone would like to come along and see what we do, they will be made very welcome.

Cathey Biggs (Abson 3860)

SOUTH BEAUFORT YOUNG FARMERS

The young farmers have had a varied and interesting programme for the last month. The first meeting was on 2nd February, which was a very interesting talk from Cathy Thompson who is a member of F.W.A.G. - how the farming community and public can look after and better our country side. On 9th February the Wessex board gave us a talk on pollution in rivers and ponds, some helpful ideas were put forward as to how we can prevent this.

February 16th was a talk by Roger Church from Hartwells oils. He told us what B.P. is and how we use it's products every day. (Not just in our cars.) To accompany his talk he showed us two quite humorous but informative films.

February 23rd - The club went to Bristol Ice Rink for the evening.

The programme for March is as follows:

March 1st - a talk on Drugs
March 8th - an Advisory meeting
March 15th - a visit to the Wick and District Beagles
March 29th - a Stock judging talk.

Our meetings are held on Tuesday evenings at Doynton Village Hall, Doynton, starting at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome.



PUCKLECHURCH PLAYGROUP

Pucklechurch Playgroup meets in the Village Hall on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings during termtime (9.15-11.45 a.m.) for children aged 3-5 years.

Since September and the introduction of our new leader our numbers have increased and we now average 12 children per morning. Although we use the village hall the children are not allowed to run around and are encouraged to join in with all activities. These include painting, crafts, cookery and during the last term the children have made boats, cars and trains during our wood-working mornings.

Children aged 2½-3 years are welcome to visit us during any session with mum or dad.

We would welcome any offers of help during playgroup times, especially from someone who can play the piano or other musical instrument.

We still also require an assistant Leader as our present one is only temporary. If anyone is interested please contact Carolyn Britton on Abson 2479 (after 4 p.m. please).

RADIO BRISTOL ADVISORY PANEL

We had the arranged visit by an Inspector. The discussion about road traffic news applies equally to GWR in that they both take a service from the police control room in the centre of Bristol. One of the three on duty officers gives the bulletins as an extra job. Early mornings it is in the way of the urgent police business in process of being radio sent by the police that have recently gone on patrol. It was obvious that they would be happy if someone else did the work (councils run the activity as part of traffic control in northern cities).

At the moment they deliberately do not give the times of accidents to keep people away for the traffic to clear. They agreed to reconsider this as it was recognised that locals would understand how traffic would clear, and could adjust their time accordingly. Everyone agreed that the men in the control room did not, and would not get enough information. Radio Bristol may try a new supply of traffic news by having contacts in view of key road areas.

BBC has become more regional and shortly there will be new local radios in Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset etc. As part of this there will be broadcasting every evening up to midnight with programmes produced at some station in the region or by a number of them working together. New programmes are likely to get trial runs and established ones will start to slowly change to have a wider regional appeal without losing too much of the local identity. ROADBLOCK on at 4 - 8pm on a Sunday is such a new trial programme.

Peter Aze

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 - 27 Castle Road (3761) Secretary
Nancy Cleevely - 66 Birch Drive
Lyn Ford - Dennisworth Farm
Beverley Stewart - 30 Maple Walk
Elaine Stone - 25 Maple Walk
Marion Thorn - 2 Westertelgh Road



COPYDATE

23 April 1988

Please try to get copy to us on time!!



FOLK DANCE CLUB

The Folk Club hosted a very successful DAY OF DANCE on 20th February, for the Bristol branch of the English Folk Dance and Song Society. These are very popular events around the country, with Pucklechurch being able to supply some very satisfactory facilities, which is making it a good venue for future events. One very important feature is having some of the Guides to run a creche, enabling the parents to enjoy the day



1ST PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

Recently we have been working on our Accident Prevention Badge. We had to learn about the Country Code and dangers around the home. When we had learned everything, we had a test. 29 Guides passed and collected their badges.

On February 2nd we raised £10.25 for Comic Relief. We had a very fun evening playing games while raising money. We each paid 15p to get in, then we paid small amounts of money to play games. At 8.30pm we had squash and cake. The cake was kindly made by Lisa Pike. Also people dressed up in fancy dress - all the costumes were very good. The winner was Jemima who dressed up as a clown.

On February 9th we made Thinking Day cards and swap pins which we gave to 4th Yate Guides, others made Valentine cards.

On February 19th our company went to a disco at Wick Village Hall, it was for Guides and Brownies from our district. It was a very enjoyable evening and everyone had a good time. Soon we hope to go ice skating which will be very enjoyable.

In the summer holidays we will be going to camp which is at Worcestershire. We will be travelling by coach and having a couple of days out. We are going for a week. A lot of Guides enjoy going on camp because we all have a good time.

by Clare Dix