

Pucklechurch News

Autumn 2010

www.pucklechurch.org



Funded by the Parish Council

Housing Needs Survey

You will have received a "Housing Needs Survey for the Parish of Pucklechurch" with this issue of *Pucklechurch News*. It is important that you fill in this survey and return it in the pre-paid envelope by 27th September.

South Gloucestershire Council (SGC), in conjunction with Sovereign, are currently working on plans for the development of new housing at Oaktree Avenue. The Parish Council want priority given to local people to accommodate the natural growth within our community and to assist in social cohesion. For SGC to consider giving priority to local people, they need to assess housing needs in the parish. The Housing Needs Survey is designed to collect that information.

Please note: Some of you will have received this survey by post. The postal distribution was incomplete, however, so it is being sent out with *Pucklechurch News* to include all households in the parish. If you have already completed the survey, thank you. Please disregard this one.



The Community Cider Project

The Community Cider Project wants to use your windfalls and unwanted apples to make "Pucklechurch Press", our very own village cider. The cider will be available at the Revel Beer & Cider Festival and other community events. All profits will go to Revel funds in aid of village organisations and groups.

We are very lucky to have the help of Nick Milo, Head Brewer at the Cotswold Spring Brewery, who will supervise the process and assist in the production of the cider. The Revel Beer & Cider Festival committee will also be providing assistance.

It's easy to donate your apples: We can collect from you or you can drop them off at the community centre car park (see details below). **All varieties of apples are welcome and so are windfalls.**

Cider can be made from any apples, but we will need to have the right balance of sweet and bitter juice to produce a reasonable cider. To help us make the best cider we can, please keep different varieties separate. As a minimum, please let us know if your apples are eating or cooking apples, but if you know the variety (Bramley, Cox, Gala, etc.) that would be even more helpful. If we get a lot of sweet apples, we will need to source some cider apples to correct the balance.

More News, More Often

Pucklechurch News Goes to Five Issues Per Year

We're pleased to note that the Community Plan findings identified *Pucklechurch News* as parish residents' top-rated source for local information. As a result, the action plan proposed an extra issue each year, and the Parish Council subsequently approved extra funding to allow us to produce five issues per year rather than the current four.

The increase takes effect immediately, so you'll receive the Christmas issue in November, the winter issue in February, the spring issue in April, the summer issue in June, and the autumn issue in September. We hope this will allow local groups to provide more timely information on their activities and events and keep you, our readers, better informed.

If you are a regular contributor to *Pucklechurch News*, please take note of our new deadlines. The extra edition doesn't have to mean more work for you. You can submit shorter articles or send something in only when you have some news to report.

Jacki Berry, Editor

New Deadlines for *Pucklechurch News*:

Christmas issue (Nov)	10th October
Winter issue (Feb)	10th January
Spring issue (Apr)	10th March
Summer issue (June)	10th May
Autumn issue (Sept)	10th August

Don't Let Your Apples Just Rot!

Donate them to the Community Cider Project

To arrange for apples to be collected, contact Martin Smith at 937 4437 or email apples@pucklechurch.org

Alternatively, drop them off at the community centre car park between 10am and noon on the following Saturdays:

4th September, 18th September, 2nd October



St. Thomas-à-Becket

Sunday, 26th Sept	Harvest Festival and Back-to-Church Sunday. A warm welcome extended to everyone. 10am, Family Communion 3pm, Messy Church
Sunday, 31st Oct	3pm, All Souls Service Remembering all those who have departed this life, recently or long ago. Everyone welcome.
Sunday, 14th Nov	Remembrance Sunday 10am, Holy Communion 10.45am, Service of Remembrance Parade service of uniformed organisations. Wreaths will be laid and two minutes' silence kept.
Sunday, 28th Nov	Advent Sunday 10am, Family Communion 6.30pm, Advent Carol Service

Harvest Supper

Saturday, 25th September, 7.30pm in church. Tickets £6.50 adults, £3 children under 10. Wine and raffle available.

Concert of Irving Berlin Music

Friday, 1st October, 7.30pm in church. Tickets £6. Cheese & wine and raffle available.

Autumn Fayre

Saturday, 13th November, 2pm, at the Community Centre. Stalls for cakes, preserves, books, bric-a-brac, crafts, cards, and much more.

Flower Festival Report

Now that the St Thomas à Becket Flower Festival weekend is over, there is time to sit back and go over the event. There are so many people to thank for their invaluable help. These events take a lot of time and effort, and when it goes well, it's amazing. To all who helped in any way, my very grateful thanks.

Thank you to all the organisations that took part. I know some of you did it with fear, trepidation and sleepless nights, but you pulled out all the stops when the weekend arrived! There were lots of smiling faces in church, exchanging memories of weddings and baptisms.

When the school children visited, they obviously enjoyed looking at the displays because they left their messages for all to see in the school display in the porch. We shall keep these messages in church to encourage us in the future.

Over the three days of the Flower Festival, I felt very blessed to live in this lovely village. Let's keep working together to keep our village thriving.

Jackie Yates

P.S. We made just over £600. Well done to everyone!

**Looking for a
New Year's Eve Venue?**
The hall in the Community Centre
is available on New Year's Eve
for the first time in many years
For further information,
phone Anna Sharpe on 937 4449

Mums & Minors to Close

The Pucklechurch Mums & Minors group that has run in the village hall for at least 25 years will not reopen after the school holidays unless it receives more support. The fees from the small number of children attending cover only about half the cost of the hall, and there are no volunteers to replace the two committee members leaving. I believe this will be a loss to the community: the group offers infants the chance to mix and form relationships with other children while still having the support of their mum or carer. The group also allows mums and carers to form friendships and supports others with young children.

The group's bank account will be frozen, and we are hoping to find storage for our equipment to allow the group to reopen if more interest is shown in the future. If you can offer support, please contact Doug Walker, committee treasurer, on 937 2980, 07929 867 335, or d.walker8@btinternet.com

Doug Walker

Pucklechurch Twinning Association

Over the past few months, Twinning members have been enjoying our normal range of social events. In May you may have seen some of us wandering round the village with our wine glasses enjoying a very successful safari supper. Once again we organised the Revel Ramble in June, but the highlight for us was Revel Day itself, when we won the prize for best adult entry with our "champagne celebration" using just walkers, two cars, and lots of balloons. We hope many of you enjoyed *un café et gateau* in the Café du Pringy.

Our next event is a (not-too-difficult) quiz evening at Pucklechurch Village Sports and Social Club (the Top Club) on Saturday, 18th September, at 7.30pm. The cost is £1.50 per person, and everyone is welcome.

We are now also preparing for our annual visit to Pringy in October, where we shall be renewing old acquaintances and making new friends.

If you would like to find out more about Twinning and joining us in Twinning activities, please contact Ann Smith on 937 2030 or Lesley Broom on 937 2025.

Valerie Broom, Secretary

Pucklechurch News

Funded by the Pucklechurch Parish Council

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Please email articles to editor@pucklechurch.org or drop them off to any one of us at the addresses above. Please include your name and telephone number in case we have questions about your article. We reserve the right to edit all articles.

Copy Deadlines:

10th October for Christmas issue (November)
10th January for Winter issue (February)
10th March for Spring issue (April)
10th May for Summer issue (June)
10th August for Autumn issue (September)

For the latest news, visit the online version at www.pucklechurch.org

PCA Pucklechurch Community Association

To carry on where we left off in the last newsletter, our negotiations with British Gas were not entirely to our liking, but we did get a 7.5% discount on our bill (for persistence) and an extended time to pay. So although we can see the way ahead, the annoying fact is that, having sorted the gas bill, the boilers now seem intent on having an experienced boiler man come to tickle their valves to make them work. Luckily John James is learning the necessary skills.

What else has happened? Under the supreme tutelage of Roger Payne, quite a few of us have become adept at unblocking toilets, installing cisterns, mending doors, while also continuing to put on acres of paint.

We are pleased to see that the youth group has taken root and meet once a week, though we are sorry to hear that the future of Mums & Minors hangs in the balance for lack of a few more members and volunteers.

Many thanks to the Gardeners' Club for their donation of £200, which has been earmarked to tidy up the men's toilets.

We hope that you have had a pleasant summer, and we look forward to seeing you at the Community Centre on the 15th and 16th October, when we shall be celebrating the Community Centre's thirtieth anniversary.

Alan Holder, PCA Chair

PCA

30th Anniversary Celebrations

Come and see what goes on
in YOUR Community Centre

Friday, 15th October

Family Disco – Everyone welcome

Phone 937 4449 or 937 2873

for information and tickets

(family ticket £5.00)

Saturday, 16th October

User Groups Exhibition and Display

See the varied activities and talk to the many people involved in the groups and organizations that use the Community Centre and make Pucklechurch a wonderful an interesting place to live

Saturday Daytime

11.00am Welcome

12.00pm Lunchtime (bacon butties available)

2.00pm The Community Centre and PCA over the years

3.00pm Cutting of the celebration cake (a taste for everyone)

Evening

7.30pm Demonstrations and displays from some of the groups and organisations – here's your chance to see what they do

The PCA Committee are looking forward to seeing you all at some time during the weekend. Let's make this a celebration to remember as well as looking forward to many more years of flourishing activity at the Community Centre.

30 Years at the Centre of Our Community

It is only too easy when faced with a familiar landmark or building to overlook the role it plays and history surrounding it. To stop and take stock occasionally can be both enriching and enlightening.

When I first came to the village over 10 years ago, I assumed that the community centre was a little-used building that served as a venue for the occasional party. Since my mother (Anna Sharpe) became booking secretary more than five years ago, I have been staggered at the number and range of people and groups who regularly use the community centre. These groups range from the sports teams who use the changing rooms to a playgroup, Pucklechurch Players amateur dramatics to karate club. Because the hall is so well used I have almost given up answering the house phone as it is inevitably regarding a hall booking. As I occasionally remind my mother; I am not a secretary!

With the 30th anniversary of the community centre approaching, it has been fascinating to discover the history of the building and its role in the community. I spoke to Pucklechurch Community Association (PCA) members Les Whittock and Roger Payne, who were both closely involved with the building of the hall, about the community centre's past and its function in the village.

The original village hall was a miners' institute built by Pucklechurch miners in 1924 to serve as a venue for various social activities. It continued to serve this role for over 50 years, playing host to many clubs that still use the hall today. By the mid-70s however, it was too old and dilapidated to serve the needs of the village properly. As Roger says, "It had a lot of character but was way past its best." When the wiring in the building was too outdated to pass the necessary safety tests, it was decided that it would be more cost-effective to demolish the old hall and to build a new one.

A steering committee was appointed to decide on the design, building and operation of a new hall. The collective nature of the project shows in how so many people had an impact upon the proposed plans and the amount of voluntary work that went into it from villagers themselves. As Roger says, "There weren't the government grants around then that there are now and so a lot of people put in a lot of work."

The effort that villagers put in can also be seen in both their fundraising and donations for the new hall. One memorable fundraising method was the "buy a brick" scheme which, considering the communal role the hall serves, is particularly appropriate as it spreads ownership throughout the community. Over £90,000 (in today's money) was raised through many different functions: dinners, dances and supper evenings. As Les says, "That was quite a bit of money to raise but we did it."

After all the effort, villagers were very pleased when the community centre was finished. Many groups, such as the badminton club, were waiting in the wings to form until they had an appropriate venue to use. Villagers, particularly the youth of the village, were very keen on the new hall.

Although the community centre was very well used from the start, over the years it has become even more popular. As Roger commented, "Everyone's realised it's a very good facility with lots of space." Many new groups have started up in recent years, such as Karate Club and Tango. Children's parties are quite popular, as well as dog shows and pigeon shows, which come from all over the country and usually book the venue over a year in advance.

After 30 years the community centre is showing its age and could do with a makeover. There is no doubt, however, that the hall appreciated as it is now. As Roger said, "It's been great value for money."

Helen Sharpe

Senior Citizens' Forum

The South Gloucestershire Senior Citizens' Forum currently comprises over 4,400 men and women, all actively interested in having their concerns and opinions heard.

Launched in 1993 in Kingswood, the Forum widened significantly following the abolition of the County of Avon. As a result, free membership then became available to all residents of South Gloucestershire over the age of 50, irrespective of race, religion or politics. Whilst it remains resolutely non-party political, decisions taken by national and local government which affect senior citizens are the Forum's concern. Members' views on issues such as state pensions and benefits, health care, transport, crime prevention and so on are crucial to its work in campaigning on their behalf.

A newsletter is published four times a year containing current information and news, which allows members unable to attend Forum meetings to keep in touch. Meetings are held regularly throughout the area, at venues accessible to wheelchair users and hearing-impaired members. Community transport is organised whenever possible, from home to meeting place. Speakers on subjects of particular interest to members, often suggested by them, are invited. Question time is always lively!

The Management Committee also organises a number of Information Days annually. These run from 10am to 4pm, involve four or five expert speakers on topical subjects, and include free lunch and refreshments. Their popularity is such that over-subscription is frequent.

South Gloucestershire Council recognises the Forum's importance in the community with an annual grant and the provision of an office in the Kingswood Civic Centre. Management Committee members maintain links with relevant Council policy-making by representation on some key committees, and similarly with Health and other Public services. The Forum is affiliated to the National Pensioners' Convention, which has direct links with the Government of the day. A coachful of members pay to attend its Annual Conference at Blackpool in June.

Membership is warmly invited. Application forms are available from either the Membership Secretary (Sheila Monks) on 0117 961 0356, by writing to South Gloucestershire Senior Citizens' Forum, c/o Civic Centre, Kingswood, BS15 9TR, or on request at a number of libraries in the area.

Pucklechurch W.I. & Gardeners' Club
Annual Produce Show
Saturday, 11th September
Scout Hut 2.00p.m.
Visitors Welcome
Admission 50p
Raffle & Refreshments

No Cold Calling Zones Launched in South Glos

Cold callers are being frozen out in Yate thanks to a new initiative between South Gloucestershire Council Trading Standards and Avon and Somerset Police.

"No Cold Calling Zones" have been launched in parts of the town in a bid to help reduce doorstep crime. They have been set up by Trading Standards officers with support from police and local Neighbourhood Watch schemes. Doorstep crime can range from rogue home improvement firms, to bogus officials and charities.

The first No Cold Calling Zones are being introduced in the Walton Heath and Ferndown areas in Yate.

No Cold Calling Zones are identified by street signs and stickers on the front doors of houses. Residents are provided with advice on how to say no to unwanted callers and also encouraged to report callers who ignore the zones to trading standards or the police.

The No Cold Calling Zones scheme does not apply to all callers. Utility services staff, registered charity collectors and canvassing politicians can still call, as can traders involved in door to door selling if they have made a prior appointment.

If a community is interested in a particular area becoming a No Cold Calling Zone, they are advised to contact the council's Trading Standards department. For more information on the No Cold Calling Zones scheme, contact Charlotte Allard or Kevin Evans at South Gloucestershire Council's Trading Standards department on 01454 864419.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

From the opening scene of Pucklechurch Players' latest effort, *Cash on Delivery*, we were greeted with a very impressive set. Despite all of the doors, there appeared no flimsy set construction or scary moments with scenery.

The play itself was very well chosen and clearly selected for Pucklechurch Players' abilities. If the group were larger, it would have been obvious that the most talented members had been chosen for the roles, but given that it is relatively small -- all of the acting members had a part -- each and every one seemed a perfect match for the part they played.

I liked the informal atmosphere, and I observed the audience showing their enjoyment and appreciation throughout. In my opinion, this was one of the funniest and probably the best performance by the Players I have ever seen.

Margaret Skidmore

Dear Editor,

Thank you to all the Revel Committee and friends who helped to make this year's Revel so special. Your hard work is much appreciated.

Anonymous

Dear Editor,

I would like to start a group in the village for people 50+ who are on their own. The idea is that we would meet monthly to begin with and plan a programme which might include meals out, quizzes, an American supper, visits to the theatre, games/cards evenings, or other activities. This group might also plan other social events like walks, visits to National Trust properties, or weekends away. If you are interested, please phone 937 3105 or email elainerudge@aol.com.

Elaine Stone

Do You Look After Someone? If So, Please Read On

Do you look after an older or disabled family member, friend, or neighbour? Are you caring for someone with physical or mental health problems? If so, you may be interested in a new venture which will soon be starting up in Pucklechurch. The Carers' Coffee Club, set up by the local Princess Royal Trust Carers Centre, is for carers (people looking after someone) who live in Pucklechurch and surrounding villages. We'll meet on the second Thursday of each month from 10.30am to 12 at Dennisworth Communal Room, Dennisworth, Pucklechurch BS16 9QT (off Shortwood Road as you enter the village).

Would you like to come along to the first meeting on Thursday, 9th September? You would be very welcome. Would you like more information? If so, please contact Penny Snow on 01454 851201 or Mike Hatch on 0780 747 9926. We'd be pleased to hear from you.

If transport is the only thing stopping you from attending, please let us know. We may be able to help.

Mike Hatch

Community Plan Adopted

The Community Plan Steering Group is pleased to report that the Community Plan has been adopted by the Parish Council.

What is the Community Plan? Every village and rural community was given a chance to influence its own future by developing a plan for the future of their parish. The Community Plan for the Parish of Pucklechurch has been drawn up by a group of local people using information obtained from the community at meetings and through a survey conducted in 2007. This has been used to produce a report and an action plan for each of the four topic areas of the plan: environment, community spirit, traffic and transportation, and sustainability.

What does being adopted by the Parish Council mean? This means that the Community Plan will be used by the Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council to identify priorities for the parish and to assist in planning new or improved services and developments.

How do I find out more? The Community Plan steering group are in the process of developing a summary of the plan that will be printed and delivered to every household in the parish. In the meantime, if you have internet access, you can look at the full plan documents at www.pucklechurch.org/html/plan.html

Martin Smith - Chair
Community Plan Steering Group
community.plan@pucklechurch.org

The Parricidal Pucklechurch Players Proudly Present Little Red Riding Hood

A pantomime by Paul Reakes

Pucklechurch Village Hall
2nd, 3rd & 4th December at 7.30pm
Saturday matinee at 2.30pm on the 4th

Ring 937 3105 for Tickets (£5 and £7)

Parish Council Chairman's Notes

Tree Works

During the summer you may have seen some activity around the burial ground and Eagle Crescent where the Council had to have some diseased trees cut down in the interests of public safety. Where a tree was felled, another will be planted to replace it. This will be a native variety which our tree surgeon will suggest.

Caution: Overhanging Branches!

With the recent sunny weather, many trees and shrubs have grown quickly. If you have trees and shrubs that overhang onto pavements, pathways, roads, or drives, may I ask that you check from time to time and cut back branches that block the way or may cause an injury. These are especially hazardous in the dark or when the weather is wet.

Dog Fouling

In recent weeks, Council has received several complaints about dog fouling on the Rec, in other grassy areas and on pavements near Pucklechurch School. If you see anyone allowing their dog to foul the pavement or other area, the best course of action is to ask them to remove it. If they refuse or are abusive, please contact Diane Bailey (Parish Clerk) for the appropriate SGC telephone number.

Community Plan (Originally Parish Plan)

At our meeting in July, the Community Plan was discussed and formally adopted by the Parish Council. Before the meeting, two special Council sessions were devoted to presenting the main elements of the Community Plan in detail so that members had full background information on which to base the decision to adopt it.

The Community Plan has taken three years to produce and represents the views of over 1200 parish residents. The document will be a powerful tool when Council discuss various issues with SGC.

The team who produced the plan included two Parish Councillors, Alan Holder and Martin Smith, plus Ros Abbott, Gail Boyle, Phil Look, Helen Parker, Frank Rogers, Mike Stanley, Andrea Ryland, Angela Hallett, Rick Dunning, and Jacki Berry, plus many other volunteers. I congratulate all those who worked on the Community Plan.

You will receive a copy of the Community Plan summary later in the year. Once it is published, it will not be put on a shelf and forgotten. It will form the background of the work of the Parish Council in the future, and provides SGC with a blueprint on how the people Pucklechurch Parish want to see their community develop going forward

Omar Beg, Chairman



6th Annual Bob Stone Memorial Photography Competition

Enter by 25th September

Pick up entry details at the Post Office,
Michael Walker Newsagent,
or online from www.pucklechurch.org

Revel Photography Exhibition and Prize-Giving

Sunday, 10th October, 10.30am–1pm
Community Centre

If you have photographs you would like to display but not enter into the competition, please give them to Mike Hanks at school or Elaine Stone, 49 Homefield Rd

Local Food & Drink Festival

Taste, South Gloucestershire Council's food and drink festival, kicks off its sixth year this autumn with over 40 organised events, running from the 1st to the 17th of October.

During the festival, residents are invited to discover more about their local produce. Last year over 9,000 people attended festival events, encouraging many to support local farmers and traders who provide a sustainable alternative for buying fresh and seasonal groceries.

With so many mouth-watering events, visitors to this year's festival will be spoilt for choice – some of the highlights include farm visits, cookery demonstrations, vineyard tours and wine tasting. There is something for everybody!

This year's festival launch will take place on the 2nd of October in Staple Hill with *Trading Local*, a series of 5-minute monologues performed by Bedminster-based Show of Strength Theatre Company up and down High Street/Broad Street, Staple Hill – particularly in shops selling food and drink. The first will start at 10am and the last performance will be at 4.20pm. Launch day will be wrapped up at 7pm in Cossham Hall, Thornbury, with a screening of *Food Inc.*, a film that provides an insight into the food industry and reveals some truths about what we eat and how it is produced.

Another festival highlight is Chipping Sodbury's Festival of Food on the 9th of October, an all-day event which brings together an assortment of activities in celebration of local food and drink. Activities include a chocolate workshop, oriental cooking, waffle making,



beer tasting and an extended farmers market, stocked with all the best produce from the local area. More information about this event can be found at www.visitchippingsodbury.com

Other new events include an autumn apple bake (15 and 17 October at Grimsbury Farm), an orchard discovery walk on Tuesday, 12th October, and the Scrumping Project's apple picking day on Saturday, 9th October – bring your own apples or help pick and process those at the orchard into apple juice and cider – take a bottle of juice away

with you!

CO2-saving recipes will be on offer at the Local Food stall at the ENGAGE Festival on Saturday, 16th October, at Filton College's WISE Campus from 10am to 6pm. Five recipe cards in a pack are part of South Gloucestershire Council's "Live Lighter" campaign and contain tips about easily doable things you can put into place to help reduce your carbon dioxide emissions (and probably save some money too). They are yummy recipes too.

For full details of this year's festival, visit www.southgloslocalfood.org and go to the festival page. Or pick up a programme at your local library or SGC One-Stop Shop, or get one sent to you by ringing 01454 863 883. You can also have one e-mailed to you – send an email with your request to localfood@southglos.gov.uk

**Val Harding, Local Food Officer
South Gloucestershire Council**

Tel: 01454 863 883

val.harding@southglos.gov.uk

Good Neighbour Scheme

The Pucklechurch and Shortwood Good Neighbour Scheme volunteers are helping a number of people in our Parish this summer by putting bins out, keeping some of our more vulnerable neighbours company, and doing other odd jobs, such as re-tuning digital TV receivers.

As the winter finally released its grip and spring turned to summer, we have also helped a number of villagers in their gardens.

The scheme relies on grants to provide funding for operating expenses. Recently, we've been successful with another grant application and have been awarded £500. This is great news because it will pay for our public liability insurance renewal, ensuring we can operate for another two years at least. We will also be able to keep the mobile phone topped up, meaning you can contact us easily.

If you or someone you know needs help with household jobs, please get in touch. You can contact us by telephone on 07961 939 574 or by email at goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org.

**Larisa, Sarah and Ross
Good Neighbour Scheme Co-ordinators**

Get About with Youth Unltd for Cheap Travel



Youth Unltd is a new discounted bus travel pass for young people in South Gloucestershire. The pass enables the holder to get single or return tickets for half the adult fare for local bus services starting or finishing within South Gloucestershire (except to Wales and for Stagecoach services).

You can travel using the Youth Unltd bus pass after 6pm on weekdays, all day during weekends and bank holidays, and all day during South Gloucestershire Council school holidays.

Young people who live in South Gloucestershire, are 14-18 years old, and in full-time education can apply. Forms can be obtained from youth centres, schools, and colleges in South Gloucestershire. For more information, visit www.southglos.gov.uk/youthunltd or call 01454 868004.

**Kate Champion
Principal Transport Promotions Officer
SGC Transportation Services**



Nail-Cutting Service for Over-50s

A nail-cutting service will be soon available in the Pucklechurch Community Centre. Sponsored by Age Concern, the service is targeted at people over 50 who cannot afford to visit a podiatrist or chiropodist or who may have difficulty travelling into Bristol to access services.

Starting in September, the service will be available on alternate Thursdays. To book an appointment, contact Mandy Sharratt on 0782 468 7656 or 0797 510 9200.

REVEL 2010



Once again Pucklechurch Revel was a great success.

The week started with the Beer & Cider Festival in the Star Inn car park, with over 30 real ales and 29 farmhouse ciders. Everyone enjoyed dancing to the music supplied by All You Need Is the Beatles and Half Light, and many watched the football on the big screen (although the result was disappointing). The children's treasure hunt was a hit, with more children entering than in previous years and a good crowd (including dogs) enjoyed the ramble organised by Twinning, which finished at the Star where low-cost pints and a barbecue were available.

"Celebrations" was the theme for the thanksgiving service held at St Thomas à Becket church with the singing of well-known hymns. The Fleur de Lys hosted the Revel quiz on Monday night, and the children enjoyed the folk dance organised by the Folk Club on the Tuesday. Also on Tuesday was the Revel skittles evening, this year hosted at the PCA Social Club. Once again the Pucklechurch Village Sports and Social Club took the shield, but there are talks of more skittles challenges between the two teams during the year. Wednesday night was Revel bingo night, which this year was held at the Pucklechurch Village Sports and Social Club. A packed club enjoyed a number of games with good cash prizes, and the sausages and chips were very popular!

The Bob Todd Memorial Pram Race was held on the recreation field on Thursday, and the fine weather brought the crowds out to watch. The standard of fancy dress seems to get better every year, making judging a difficult task for Jamie Todd and friends. Pucklechurch Primary School held sports days during Revel Week and invited the village along. There was lots of excitement and good sportsmanship, while the Revel committee provided refreshments.

Revel Day dawned fine and dry, and villagers were on the field setting up from 8am. The parade set off at noon, and what a parade it was! It was extremely difficult to judge the entries because the standard was excellent. In the end Pucklechurch Twinning won the best adult entry award and the school won the best children's float. The Girlguiding groups, who all walked together to celebrate the centenary of guiding, were given a special award. Once again the community were out in force to enjoy the stalls and food and watch the events in the arena. The dog agility display was enjoyed by many, and the African Sambistas encouraged people to dance with them in the arena. It was lovely to see our own majorettes performing for the first time at Revel, and once again there was plenty of competition in the children's sports organised by the PCA.

Revel is special because it brings the whole village together. It is everyone working together that makes it such a success. However, we do need some new ideas and we would like the young people in the village to be more involved, so please, if you have any ideas or would like to help but don't wish to serve on the committee, please email me at elainerudge@aol.com or phone me on 937 3105. We would also love to see you at the AGM on 22nd September.

Elaine Stone, Revel Chair

Revel AGM

Wednesday, 22nd September
7.30 for 8.00pm

Community Centre meeting room

Please do come along as a member of a village organisation or individual and enjoy a glass of wine and some cheese
We want to celebrate Revel 2010 and elect the committee for 2011

Pucklechurch Cricket Club

New Club Record



The weather this summer has been relatively kind with very few matches rained off, but as far as the cricket goes it's been a season of highs and lows. The

1st XI had a good run of wins in the mid-week 20:20 cup, beating teams from higher leagues, but have found life in Bristol & District Division 2 hard going.

All three senior teams have been hit hard by injury – three players have suffered broken hands and several others soft tissue damage. Consequently, team selection has been a real challenge for our captains. Even so, there have been some great individual performances, perhaps none more so than one of the best innings ever seen on the Rec. Our chairman, Steve Toghill, carried his bat for a score of 203 not out in a total of 358-4 against Hambrook A in June. Steve scored 30 fours and 6 sixes in an inning that was a joy to watch. This was a personal best for Steve and for the club, as we have no higher individual score on record. Well done, Steve!

Congratulations must also go to our youth teams, with the U15s losing just one league match and the U17s just two all season. For the U15s, however, their stats proved bittersweet. Although they tied with Hambrook on points for top spot, they lost out on being the champions by one run... to Hambrook as they were the team they'd lost to. Let's hope next year they can both go all the way.

At the time of writing, our season has just three weeks left to go. As always it will culminate with the club single wicket competition on the Rec. This is always a great family event when both senior and youth players vie for the title from dawn until dusk. Let's hope the weather will stay as kind for them on that day as it has been so far.

Gail Boyle



Pucklechurch W.I.

On a sunny day in June, members and friends enjoyed a visit to the Abbotsbury Swannery and Botanical Gardens.

Revel Day was once again very busy and successful. Members, with help from husbands, entered a float celebrating VE Day, whilst other members provided cream teas in the Scout hut, where tables purchased with the Revel Donation from 2009 were put to good use.

August saw members and friends going on an outing to Bourton-on-the-Water and Sezincote Manor.

Future events include a Sausage Sizzle, and a visit to Bletchley Park, home of the Enigma Code, both in October.

Norma Pratt, President

Scouting



We have had a fantastic term at Beavers, doing lots of activities outdoors including canoeing. This was the first time that many of us had tried this activity, and we absolutely loved it.

Can't wait to go again! We all got very wet (even one of the dads who was helping us!) but it was all part of the fun. If your child (and we are open to boys and girls) is between the ages of 6 and 8 and would like to join us, please call Sarah on 957 1266



We at Cubs have spent a lot of time this year learning about the outdoors in various activities. We learned how to read a map and put this into practice with an evening hike. We have also had a go at being Robin Hood when we did archery. Other things we have done this term are fire-lighting and cooking. We had a great day out in May when we attended a medieval-based day full of activities and fun. Cubs is a great way to make new friends and have fun. We have a great bunch of children and have enthusiastic leadership team. Check out our website: pucklechurchcubs.escouts.net. If your son or daughter is between 8 and 10½ and is interested in joining cubs, call Steve on 0787 213 7609.



We loved this term at Scouts as we spent most of our time outdoors. We walked part of the Cotswold Way – this is a National Trail and very beautiful. One night we went to Dyrham Park and built some bivouacs (shelters) out of natural materials. This was fun. The scariest time was our orienteering evening where we were dropped at various locations with our patrol and map and had to get back to the hut. This was to prepare us for the Sodbury Challenge, where we went up against other Scout groups from around South Gloucestershire. We've also been sailing and rowing in Bristol Harbour and had two nights camping and a hike. Now we're exhausted and ready for a break! To join Scouts, call Tony on 957 4119.

The Group Executive (Also known as those who ensure the hut remains open and support the section leaders) We are a small band of parents whose aim is to manage and maintain the Scout hut to ensure the young children attending are safe and secure. You don't have to commit yourself to leading a section or planning camps – although adult support is very welcome! We need support to undertake some carpentry, fix a light, or do some painting. Well over 100 uniformed young people of our community use this building each week, and we would like them to do so in an environment that is warm, safe and secure. We would like to raise funds for camping equipment, redeveloping the porch, sorting the windows, etc. Anyone who can help with this, please give us a call.

And finally, the Scout hut is available to hire for private small parties, with all income supporting our cause. To find out more about hiring the hut, call Gail on 937 2838.



100
Girlguiding UK
girls in the lead

Have you seen our new addition to the Dyrham deer herd? April was the mascot for our County Centenary Guide Camp at Dyrham Park.

Over 500 members set up camp for a memorable five days in August. This included Guides, Senior Section and Adult Leaders from Pucklechurch. The camp was divided into four sub-camps. Lyn Ford asked everyone to write their wishes for the future on strips of brightly coloured ribbon, which were then attached to four hoops and, with a very large version of April leading the way, paraded to the opening ceremony with everyone following behind. The streamers fluttered in the wind, everyone wore their camp neckerchief and an 'April' badge – so colourful.

Each sub-camp rotated around four activity zones –



time travel, crafts, international and It's a Knockout. The first three were contained in marquees and organised by Guiders; the fourth was run by a professional outside organisation.

I was jointly responsible for the Craft Zone. Imagine being there, quietly getting everything ready and briefing all your helpers, then looking out to see an army of 100 Guides determinedly bearing down upon you! The buzz of excitement and activity when they were inside was very gratifying and made the months of preparation well worthwhile. Guides were able to try their hand at pyrography, encaustic art, clock making, and many more crafts.

The girls embarked on time travel through a realistic Tardis which took them back 100 years through various activities and then propelled them into the future, where they designed futuristic uniforms and badge ideas.

The International Zone was very popular, as it offered the chance to cook and taste various foods from around the world, coupled with thought-provoking games and quizzes.

It's a Knockout was full of activity: scrambling up nets and through webs, playing lots of water games, and taking pop quizzes with a race to put the correct answers onto a board.

The weather may have dampened the tents, but it certainly didn't dampen anyone's spirits. Everyone agreed it had been great fun, and lots of new friendships were made. This was a centenary camp to remember and, in the future, some of us from Pucklechurch will be able to say, 'I was there!'

Ros Abbott