



Pucklechurch News

Issue 2/81

April/May 1981

Well, what do you think of our impressive red picture (that Linda Ford had to stand in the middle of Shortwood Road to draw!). Roneo Alcatel have kindly lent us a red drum, but . . . we'd like to buy one. We really could do a lot more with an extra colour. The problem is that a red drum would cost £80 - which we haven't got! However, if everyone that buys the Newsletter gives an extra 10p (just this once!) we would have enough. How about it? In anticipation of the generosity that we know exists in Pucklechurch may we thank you in advance. We'll let you know how our 'drum appeal' goes.

Good Luck to the sports clubs who have formed a combined committee to raise funds for the new changing rooms. Do give them your support and attend the first fund raising event - a dance on April 24th.

We won't be having another full Newsletter until after Revel when we hope to have a bumper issue - hopefully with photographs this time (thanks to Revel's financial assistance). Last day for copy will be Monday 6th July. We will, however, be helping Revel by producing a Revel Broadsheet around 18th May which will be 'pure' Revel.

Before then though we've got the County Council Elections on 7th May. May the best man/woman win!

Talking about best man reminds us of the Royal Wedding on July 29th. Are we going to have street parties in Pucklechurch, as for the Silver Jubilee?

And, while on the subjects of streets - what an obstacle race it was shopping in the centre of the village while the road re-surfacing was going on! Still, aren't we fortunate to have had it done in these times of economic cutbacks.

As usual contributions can be delivered to any of the following:

Marilyn Palmer (Secretary) - 16 Merlin Ridge (3761)
Nancy Cleevely - 66 Birch Drive
Jane Conrad - Pucklechurch House, Westerleigh Road
Linda Ford - Dennisworth Farm
Rosemary Lock - Westbrook, Abson
Marie Murray - 56 Hawkridge Drive
Bridget Tyers - 13 Shortwood Road

VILLAGE NOTES

Bingo

Every Wednesday - Doors open 7.30pm - Eyes down 8pm. £50 Snowball.
Raffle - Refreshments. New faces always welcome.

Cancer Research Campaign - Pucklechurch & District Branch

A most successful coffee morning was held on 7th April. Takings exceeded even last year's marvellous effort, and our very grateful thanks are due to all those who contributed, helped or attended. It is most encouraging in this time of economic cuts and shortages to find so many people who are prepared to support us so wholeheartedly. Thank you one and all.

We are planning to have a stall again at this year's Revel and would be most grateful for any items that we could sell, or for material that our ever busy sewing group could use.

Community Association

We hope that everyone enjoyed the well supported Folk Dance & Registration Evening. If anyone would like to join or renew their membership please contact Joan Bowering (Tel.3675). A very enjoyable skittles was held on Friday 10th April at The Squire, Chipping Sodbury. The game of 'killer' was won by Nancy Clevely . . .

Forthcoming events - If you are aged between 16 and 30, there is an "It's a Knockout Competition" being held at Northstoke on 11th July, and we are looking for a group of lively people to represent Pucklechurch. (You don't have to be mad, but it helps!) If you are interested please contact Bob Stone Tel.3105.

Last year we held two family camps which proved to be very successful so this year we are holding two more. Tents are available for anyone who is interested in joining us - please contact Sue Hathway (Tel.3326).

The Committee is holding a free Saturday morning film show for all C.A. children on Saturday 16th May. More information later.

The C.A. Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 11th May at the Village Hall at 8pm. A new Council and officers to run the affairs of the CA for the coming twelve months will be elected. Only paid up members may vote.- It is essential that the views of all members are known, so it is important for you to attend the AGM and vote for the representative of your choice.

Cubs

We welcome our new cubs to our packs and hope they will enjoy their time with us. New Mums and Dads please note - there is a notice board in the porch of the scout hut. Also, the main Scout shop is in Colston Street where they sell all sorts of books etc. to do with cubs and scouts.

The Scout Hut is staying sparkling clean due to the smooth running of the cleaning rota. Many thanks to all who helped in the cleaning job. If anyone does not know how the rota works or has any questions on cubs they can contact the following leaders: Akela Bradley Tel.3109 (Monday Pack) Akela Wakefield (Bristol 571160 after 6pm) Wednesday Pack.

Please will all parents try their hardest to attend the AGM on May 7th at 7.30pm to meet the new committee. Your boys enjoy cubs, please help support us!

Scouts

The Five-a-Side football team came runners-up in the district football competition on Saturday 7th March. Raysfield Scouts were the winners, but I'm sure we gave them a run for their money.

Folk Dance Club

For dates see Village Diary (back page)

We are also having a "Barn Dance" in the Village Hall on Saturday 30th May with music by our own Folk Band, who are calling themselves "PUCKLEDOWN FOLK". Tickets will be limited, and are available from Les Whittock, 14 Lansdown Road, or Tel. Abson 2090.

Gardeners Club

At their March meeting, the members and visitors enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Mr Marsh of Homefield Road gave a very interesting talk on how he became 'hooked' on home-made wine-making, giving many hints and tips he had picked up, also answering questions. At the end of the Meeting everyone was invited to have a 'taste' of the various wines he had brought along, so giving us all a very warm feeling to go out into the cold dark night afterwards.

We hope that everyone has started planning their entries for our joint Gardeners Club - WI Produce Show on September 12th in the Village Hall. Look out for schedules which will be available soon.

For future meetings see 'Village Diary'.

1st Pucklechurch Guides

We held an Italian evening in February and tried to capture the mood by wearing Italian peasant costume, cooking and eating Italian food, viewing slides of the country and singing a few Italian songs.

On Shrove Tuesday we held a pancake obstacle race in Scout HQ, having first cooked (and in some cases eaten quite a few!) pancakes.

We had a very interesting speaker from the Toy Library for Handicapped Children, that operates in Yate. Mrs Willis, the speaker, showed us slides of the children who use the library and the toys they can borrow. For our Service Project, in this year of the Disabled, we are making some simple items to add to their library.

The Patrols are also working in Patrol Purpose Patches which require a lot of co-operation and planning amongst each patrol.

We were pleased to welcome Madeline Ashford as a full member of our Unit when she made her enrolment Promise on St Patrick's Day.

Congratulations to Rebecca Hartree, Rebecca Warren, Maxine Weetch and Catherine Ellis who represented our Unit in a local swimming gala and gained 2nd place overall.

Local History Society

The majority of deposited historical records and documents relating to Pucklechurch are to be found at the Gloucester Record Office, so we are very fortunate to have as our speaker on Thursday 23rd April, the Gloucestershire County Archivist, Mr D J H Smith. He will illustrate his talk on 'Archives' with original documents.

The subject of our May meeting is 'Water Wells' when the speaker will be Mr M V Ponsford, Field Archaeologist, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery.

Now is the time to look ahead to June 18th when the Society will be going on a 2-hour trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal. The cost of the trip will be £1 per head with food extra (range 75p-£3). We embark from Bradford-on-Avon at 7.30pm (transport arrangements and costs later). Bookings for the trip will be taken at the April meeting, or contact the Secretary, Mrs M Berry, The Grey House (Abson 2238).

Ramblers Club

Our monthly rambles continue, and we look forward to an increase in numbers over the warmer summer months. The next ramble will be at 10am on 26th April.

There will be a Revel Sponsored Ramble on 14 June, with a morning walk ending at a local pub. Last year's ramble was much enjoyed so we hope many people will join us and start getting sponsors early to make it easy!

Pucklechurch School Association

Pucklechurch School will be holding its Annual May Fete on Saturday 2nd May. It will open at 2pm and will include in the attractions pony rides, a magician, a karate display, an inflatable for the children to 'bounce' on. The older girls from the juniors will put on a display of country dancing and the Police are bringing along their Crime Prevention Bus. Please come along and spend an enjoyable afternoon, even if you do not have a child at the school.

Women's Institute

The February meeting was well attended, and our President Mrs Monica Powell welcomed a number of visitors. Mrs Berry of Pucklechurch gave a very interesting talk about her travels to many parts of the world, illustrated with her own paintings.

At the March meeting plans were finalised for "Bargains Galore" at the Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare, on April 22nd. All newly new goods to be delivered to Mrs M Whittock who will deliver them. An interesting talk was given by Mr G Chubb on decorating cakes, many for the Royal family.

The WI Group Meeting is being held in Pucklechurch this year, in the Village Hall on Monday 27th April at 7.45pm. The speaker is to be Alun Williams from BBC Radio Wales. Tickets are 60p, this includes refreshments, and are available from Mary Whittock, 14 Lansdown Road, or at the door on the night. You don't have to be a WI Member, we should be very pleased to see you.

Village Hall News

In case you're all rather concerned, we'd like to put your minds at rest. Nancy Cleevely (Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee) is very well aware that there is no door at the top of the fire escape - steps are being taken! (Where? Eds.)

The Sports Clubs in the village have formed a combined committee to raise funds for the building of the new changing rooms. The estimated cost of the new changing rooms is approximately £25,000. The first fund raising event is a 'Grand Spring Dance' to be held at the Village Hall on Friday 24th April from 8.30pm - 1.00am, dancing to 'Blend'. Tickets cost £1.50 and are available from Mike Abbott, 41 Maple Walk (Tel.2157).

Revel 81

Offers of help are needed for the Beer Festival on June 15th and 16th either in the evening or during the day. If you are able to spare a couple of hours on either of these days please contact Elaine Stone (3105).

On Friday 12th June at 7.30pm there will be a Band Concert in the Village Hall. The concert will appeal to all ages and we are featuring this item as a special event for our senior citizens. All residents of the Parish of pensionable age will be admitted free of charge.

The Revel Queen Disco on May 16th at which the Revel Queen will be chosen will be in the Village Hall at 8.00. The judging will be by a panel led by a representative from the House of Clive. This year the duties of the Revel Queen will be restricted to the Saturday afternoon. Tickets are obtainable from John Sexton at Youth Club or 31 Hawthorn.

Anyone willing to operate a stall at Revel please contact Elaine Stone(3105) or Geoff Wilcock (2174).

Wine Festival

Following the success of last year's Wine Festival, the South Gloucs. Liberals plan to hold another this year. It will be held on Saturday 5th September in the gardens of Pucklechurch House. Local Author and Broadcaster Derek Robinson has agreed to open the Wine Festival. His latest book "The Eldorado Network" is recommended reading!

Adult Literacy

You are very fortunate because you can read this (Their words, not ours! Editors.) Many people cannot. If you know of anyone who needs help or if you want to help, please telephone Bristol 675101 extension 24. We are here to help. All communications are treated confidentially.

Wanted

Person or Persons to look after the border in front of New Village Hall, also to do handyman jobs in the Hall. Apply: Nancy Cleevely, 66 Birch Drive (2296).

EXCHANGE & MART

Wanted Man's Track Suit, good condition, size 34" Chest, 33" Waist, 30-31" Leg. Price suitable to condition.
14 Lansdown Road, Pucklechurch, Abson 2090.

Wanted Hospital-type bed screen. Condition immaterial.
2 Merlin Ridge, Pucklechurch, Abson 3497.

LADIES . . . DISCO FIT . . . (for all ages) - the fun way to KEEP FIT
Held on Thursdays at 1.45pm at Pucklechurch Village Hall.
For further details tel. Bristol 568588

DIRTY DOG MENACE

If Tory MP Tony Marlow and Labour MP Clive Soley succeed, dog owners will have to produce a medical certificate before they can get a dog licence.

What worries them is the disease toxicara canis which can be passed on to humans when pavements or parks (eg Recreation Field) are fouled.

It can attach^{to} the lungs, brain and eyes. Estimates are that it is responsible for the sufferings of 30,000 asthma victims and 15,000 epileptics. Some 200 people a year - mostly children are blinded or partly blinded by it.

If half of this damage was caused by nuclear power stations, the streets of London would be jammed with protesters.

PROFILE - MRS MURIEL BEAMISH

Mrs Muriel Beamish lives at the charming Crump House (built 1624) and has lived in Pucklechurch since 1921.

Mrs Beamish, educated in Peterborough, was uncertain what career to follow. World War I had started. She loved country life and was tempted by attractive posters encouraging girls to work on the land - one in particular showed a girl behind a plough in the early morning with the sun just peeping over the hill. Her family finally relented and allowed her to join the Land Army. She was sent to Longford Castle for training at Lord Radnor's farm - two weeks with cows and two weeks with horses. Learning to milk by hand (there were few milking machines then) was painful at first, and she can still remember the awful pins and needles she suffered until her fingers became used to the unusual strain. Work started at 6am. She enjoyed the work in the dairy and was pleased to get a job on a farm at Winterbourne Gunner near Salisbury with no field work.

She now had smart white Land Army overalls - not very practical - after half an hour and just one swish of a cow's tail they were filthy! The day's work there started at 4.20am! Thirty cows had to be milked by hand by two people before 7am in order to catch the milk train. Mrs Beamish had to take four 17 gallon churns the three to four miles to the station on an old milk float pulled by a pony called 'Polly'. On returning to the farm she fed and watered the pony and then had some breakfast herself. She then had to clean the cow sheds and mix feeds for afternoon milking from 2pm until 4pm. Then off to the station again, returning for some tea at 5.30pm. Supper at 8.30pm and then to bed. What a day! It was hard work but she loved it, apart from the loneliness.

Because of the isolation she decided, after nearly a year, to take two weeks leave (which she spent sleeping!) and to look for another farm. She received a telegram telling her to go at once to a farm near Marlborough in Wiltshire. Her heart sank when she saw it. Her boss was a bad tempered, slave driving man. The one consolation was that she made a friend there, another Land Army girl, and they are friends to this day. Together they transferred to another farm at Mere, where they were happy, but once the hay-making was over they had to move on. After working at another farm in Wiltshire and one in Cornwall, Muriel Beamish saw an advertisement wanting two girls to work on a farm in Pucklechurch!

* Muriel and friend 'Piny' were offered the job out of about fifty applicants . . . and Muriel met Bernard Beamish . . . a year later they married and lived at Crump House (then a farm), her mother-in-law living at Dennisworth Farm which they had bought from Lord Radnor (coincidence as she had trained at Lord Radnor's farm). They had one daughter and three grandchildren (the grandson now living in America), and her daughter and son-in-law live at Crump House too.

Muriel followed the Wick and District Basset Hounds hare hunting (now Beagles not Bassets), a sport which she now considers cruel, having become anti blood sports. Her husband fox hunted with the Beaufort, and was a founder member of the Wick & District.

They owned a lot of farmland in Pucklechurch - including the land where the Remand Centre is now. Crump House has an acre of garden, so it's as well that Mrs Beamish and her daughter enjoy gardening! Another hobby stemming (!) from gardening is that of dried flower arranging. During the Silver Jubilee celebrations in Pucklechurch in 1977 Mrs Beamish and Mrs Ford (Dennisworth Farm) together made an enormous crown of red, white and blue flowers which was suspended in the porch of the church.

Footnote: Bar at Star Inn called 'Radnor' - also house in Castle Road 'Radnor House'

There is a very impressive stone fireplace at Crump House which had for some strange reason been plastered over - they were delighted to find it. Each year Jackdaws return to nest in the chimney. It's a charming house, and surprisingly one that I had never seen before, being tucked away behind Homefield Road and off Shortwood Road.

Parish Council Report (Clerk: Mr R Wiltshire, 36 Hill View, Tel.2872)

Six new trees have now been planted, five on the Children's Play Area between Eagle Crescent and Partridge Road, and one on the recreation field, this tree being in the memory of the late Mr E G Nicholls who served on the Parish Council and the Rural District Council for many years. The play equipment on the play area adjacent to the Industrial Estate will shortly be moved to the new play area and the grass on the new play area will be cut once per week by Northavon District Council.

The Council are considering erecting a post and rail fence alongside the Recreation Field similar to the fence alongside the field at Castle Road. Three new seats and chains will soon be fitted on the swings in the Recreation Field, the seats will be of the new rubber safety type.

The Council regret they have received a further complaint of a dog fouling a lawn on the new estate. These unfortunate incidents continue unabated and the Parish Council again appeal to owners of dogs not to allow their dogs to foul the open grass areas or the childrens play areas.

The Council are considering the question of erecting footpath signs in the Parish for the benefit of Parishioners who wish to use footpaths for country walks, if you know of a footpath which has been blocked in any way please report the matter to the Parish Council - give me a ring on Abson 2872.

This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday 28th April at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT - Dr George Conrad

In this the year of the disabled, the District Council are running a lottery at the two Sports Centres in order to raise as much money as possible to buy equipment designed especially for use by the disabled in sport. It is hoped that if there is any shortfall in the revenue this will be made up from the rates so that the disabled in Northavon can enjoy the facilities available.

The indoor bowls extension at Thornbury Sports Centre has been completed ahead of schedule and is now in use - so why don't you have a go.

Concessionary Bus Fare Scheme - Northavon is giving £6 worth of tokens this year. With increased bus fares and the rural nature of the District this is really not very generous, especially considering that Kingswood for instance gives £13 to each pensioner. Following a petition from Coalpit Heath the tokens are going to be reviewed next year to see whether more can be done for pensioners. Remember that the tokens can be used to purchase a Railcard or to pay for rail fares - despite their name.

The District Council supported other District Councils in pressing the Government to raise the Dog Licence from 7s6d to £5. At present it costs more for the Government to collect the Dog Licence than the revenue it receives. Further more, they are pressing for the implementation of a Dog Varden Scheme using the money raised from increased Licences to pay them.

CHURCH NEWS

PARISH CHURCH - St Thomas a Becket

Services for Good Friday 17th April 1981

Pucklechurch - 10am Children's Service - Dramatisation of Holy Week
presented by children of the School

12-3pm Devotions led by The Vicar

7.30pm United Service (address to be given by Revd W Bush)

Abson 3pm Hour's Devotion led by Mr Gordon Jobbins

Easter Saturday 18th April 7.30pm Preparation for Easter at Pucklechurch

Easter Day 19th April 1981

Pucklechurch 7.30am Holy Communion Abson 9am Holy Communion
9.45am Parish Communion 6.30pm Evensong at Pucklechurch
6.30pm Evensong

Pram Service

We have been experimenting with Friday as our day for this Service. This doesn't seem to have been better than Wednesday in the event. We therefore propose reverting to Wednesday, but please note new time 2pm. Next Service 6th May at 2pm.

Lonely Christians?

I've been asked to say why it's so important for Christians to join in corporate worship - why can't you "go it alone"? You'll find the answer if you re-read the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, and the New Testament letters; it's there not only explicitly, but implicitly as well.

And then it's a question of common sense; if you're really interested in something, of course you get together with other like minded people, whether it is simply to share their experience and practice, or in some way to act together with them.

So why do some who think of themselves as Christians never take a regular part in Church worship? Well, it can only be ignorance of what Jesus means His disciples to be doing. Such people are generally trying hard to show love for their neighbours, and this is magnificent, but they are ignoring Our Lord's first great commandment with all its tremendous implications for us - Love God with all your heart and soul and mind and strength.

J.D.O.H

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Preaching appointments are: May 3 - Rev W Bush. Sacrament
10 - Mr & Mrs Somers & Friends
17 - Mr F Alway
24 - Mr T Pilgrim
31
June 7 - Miss Phillpotts
14 - Revel Field Service
21 - Mr A C Cox
28 - Mr J Pullin
July 5 - Sunday School Anniversary - Mr A C Cox

METHODIST CHURCH - Shortwood

April 19 - Family Service 2.45pm)
Evening Worship 6pm) Rev. M Pullen
26 - Mr King 6pm
May 3 - Mr Seward 6pm May 17 - Mr Slaymaker May 31st - Mr White 6pm
10 - Rev M Pullen 24 - Family Service - Rev Pullen

VILLAGE DIARY

- APRIL 23 - Local History Society Talk by Mr D J H Smith
 24 - Gardeners Club AGM 8pm Chapel Schoolroom
 Dance 8.30-1.00am Village Hall - Profits to new Changing Rooms
 26 - Ramble 10am
 27 - WI Group Meeting, Village Hall 7.45pm
 28 - Folk Club
 Parish Council AGM at 7.45pm Village Hall
 30 - Tower Playgroup AGM, Church Room 8pm Talk by Mrs R Trueman
 "Links with School"
- MAY 2 - School May Fete
 7 - County Council Elections - Polling Station Village Hall
 Cubs AGM Scout Hut 7.30pm
 11 - Community Association AGM Village Hall 8pm
 12 - Folk Club
 16 - Film Show for children of CA members
 Revel Queen Disco
 21 - Local History Society Talk on "Water Wells"
 26 - Folk Club
 29 - Gardeners Club - Evening visit to "Sprigfield Spray" Upton Cheyney
- JUNE 12 - Revel Band Concert, Village Hall
 14 - Sponsored Revel Ramble
 15-16 - Beer Festival
 18 - Local History Society - Kennet & Avon Canal Trip
 26 - Gardeners Club - A Walk round Chairman's garden (Mr Alway, Abson)
 Weather Permitting
- JULY 18 - Gardeners Club - Outing to Wisley Horticultural Gardens

T	O	O	R	T	E	E	B	T	O	K	A	L	E	S
P	U	M	P	K	I	N	R	O	C	T	E	E	W	S
S	M	O	O	R	H	S	U	M	H	S	T	E	U	S
I	A	R	R	I	C	E	S	A	I	S	D	G	L	E
T	I	E	E	A	R	N	S	T	L	E	A	C	E	E
U	Z	S	P	U	D	D	E	O	I	R	V	H	M	K
R	E	W	O	L	F	I	L	U	A	C	R	I	Y	O
N	M	E	M	L	I	V	S	P	I	N	A	C	H	H
I	O	I	S	A	G	E	S	H	A	L	L	O	T	C
P	P	I	N	S	R	A	P	C	O	E	S	R	H	I
A	R	I	N	T	O	R	R	A	C	T	N	Y	A	T
C	O	B	R	O	C	C	O	L	I	T	A	A	R	R
E	G	A	B	B	A	C	U	W	I	U	E	T	K	A
C	O	U	R	G	E	T	T	E	S	C	B	O	O	T
C	U	C	U	C	U	M	B	E	R	E	P	P	E	P

Now is the time to think about planting vegetables, so to give you some ideas see how many you can find in this word search puzzle, which was compiled by Richard Palmer.

We found 39 (including some herbs) see if your list can grow!

P U C K L E C H U R C H C O M M U N I T Y A S S O C I A T I O N

If you are interested in joining the Pucklechurch Community Association or renewing your membership please complete the form below and return it to:

Mrs Joan Bowering
17 Woodpecker Crescent
Pucklechurch
Tel. Abson 3675

Full Member	£1	Junior Member	15p
Family (includes children under 18)	£2	* Junior Associate Member	20p
* Associate Member	£2	* Associate Family	£3
Pensioner	50p	Affiliation Fee (Group)	£3

* People who live outside the Parish

P U C K L E C H U R C H C O M M U N I T Y A S S O C I A T I O N

Joining as new member / Renewing membership (delete as applicable)

Name (s)

Address

.

Tel. No.

Children No. of Children Date of Birth

Boys

Girls

The AGM will be held on Monday 11th May. Only paid-up members may vote.