

pucklechurch news

MINORS & MUMS

Buy, sell, exchange equipment and maternity clothes through Minors & Mums - charge 10p.

Monday 18th November - Photographer 2pm
For details contact: June Yeoman (3432)

Monday 25th November - Christmas Fayre

Admission 5p
Usborne Books
Warehouse clothes
'Care Bear' kits
Tupperware
Guessing Games



Also: Christmas cards, gift tags, gift paper

ADULT EDUCATION IN PUCKLECHURCH

We are once again privileged in having adult education classes in Pucklechurch!

Classes start week beginning 23rd September.

Lacemaking

Wednesdays 9.45am - 11.45 Chapel Room £19.20

Look After Yourself

An opportunity for exercise, relaxation and discussion.

Fridays 9.30am - 11.30am Village Hall £9.60
(Ten Weeks)

From January 1986 - Calligraphy/Italic Handwriting

Thursdays 1.15pm - 3.15 Village Hall £9.60

Enquiries to: Soundwell Technical College
Tel. 675101 ext 229

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FAMILY SERVICE - St. Thomas a Becket Church

Starting on October 6th the morning service on the first Sunday in month only will start at 10am. It will be shortened service (45 minutes) of Praise, Prayer and Gospel Proclamation.

We hope that such a service will meet the needs of those who find the Parish Communion too complicated. The Holy Communion Service on the first Sunday will continue to be celebrated at 8am. On other Sundays the Service will be Parish Communion at 9.30am as at present.

Josh Hinton, Vicar

Friday 27th September - 7.30pm Harvest Festival Special Family Service

6.30pm Sunday 29th September Festival Evensong - Preacher Rev Paul Spilsbury (Vicar of St Peters, Lawrence Weston)

PLAYSCHEME

Pauline and Eddy as the Playscheme leaders would like to thank all the people who helped in many ways to make the Playscheme a success.

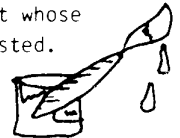
Marilyn Palmer worked hard organising the Playscheme, contacting people and collecting equipment. Pat Gibbs as Treasurer had the responsibility of our money. Lyn Ford came tirelessly each day to take a group of children to paint the underpass and returned a group of paint splattered children just before one o'clock!

Thanks also to the Guides and Scouts who ran the Tuck Shop and helped generally with various activities.

Many many thanks to parents who attended and helped. Some even asked if they could come again and became such regular helpers we couldn't have managed without them.

In conclusion, many thanks for the help and support of the Parish Council without whose financial help we could not have existed.

Pauline Taylor & Eddy Lavington



PUCKLECHURCH PLAYERS

present

AN EVENING OF SKETCHES & SONGS



"IT CAN'T BE DONE"

Friday 27 September

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Pucklechurch Village Hall (Bar)

Tickets £2 - from Mike & Jean's (Newsagents)

Oaktree Avenue

or 16 Merlin Ridge (tel.3761)

PUCKLECHURCH FOLK DANCE CLUB

August 27th saw the Club off to a very enjoyable evening, with a good number coming along after the summers inactivity, though some members do find dances to go to.

We also met again on the following Tuesday 3rd September, from which date we are in the Community Centre (Village Hall) every other Tuesday evening - see diary on the back of this newsletter for dates and Callers.

REVEL

This year we enjoyed another successful Revel and raised £3,800. The Beer Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary and to mark the occasion we had commemorative glasses on sale and bottles of 'Puckle Ale'. We still have some glasses left, so if you would like to purchase one contact Elaine Stone (3105). As well as the usual attractions we had a pig roast which was a roaring success - in fact 400lbs of pork was eaten.

Thanks must go to the Tiger Club Parachute Display Team for their spectacular drop onto the field which opened an afternoon of entertainment. We were very fortunate to have a sunny Saturday and were able to enjoy the music of the Old Dukes Dixieland Jazz Band, the dancing of the Morris Men and the antics of Zippo and the Clowns. The Britannias performed extremely well and the aerobics display left us all feeling very unfit.

The AGM is on Tuesday 24th September at the Village Hall. Do come along. We need new faces and new ideas to keep Revel going. It's great fun!

How the £3,800 will be distributed:

- £186 - Majorettes
- £280 - Scouts
- £250 - Pucklechurch Playgroup
- £400 - Pucklechurch School Association
- £75 - Junior Football
- £500 - St Thomas a Becket Bell Fund
- £1,500 - Pucklechurch Community Association
- £570 - Can be distributed at AGM



As retiring Chairman of Pucklechurch Revel I would like to thank all those individuals, organisations and shopkeepers who help year after year to make Revel a success. I should particularly like to thank all the people I have worked with during the past 6 years for their support, cooperation and friendship.

Elaine Stone

P.News says: Thanks too to Elaine - and her family!



BELL FUND WEEKEND 14/15th SEPT.

Please convey our heartfelt gratitude to the generosity of all who gave so generously in many ways during a most pleasurable and successful weekend.

The flower displays were magnificent - what a lot of talent we have in the village!

All events were extremely well supported and whilst final figures are not yet available we already know that our financial expectations have been surpassed. THANK YOU.

P.S. The new bell arrived on 10th September.

HOME & GARDEN PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 7th September saw the fifth show held in the Village Hall. What a wonderful sight it made, the flowers and vegetables were in abundance - despite the very wet summer we have had.

The ladies did us proud with their cooking and preserves again - the Victoria Sandwich and Cherry Cake classes were well supported- it's a pity the cherries will go to the bottom!

We were pleased four brave souls entered the Mens and Ladies Novelty classes. It was good to see more entries in the Handicraft section too. The number of entries in the Childrens Classes were disappointing again - we wonder why?

Thank you everyone for supporting us again. The sponsors, the exhibitors and all those who came in the afternoon to look and admire.



CANCER RESEARCH CAMPAIGN

Many thanks to everyone who was involved with our Revel stall this year. We made a profit of £62.31 and I am sure the afternoon was enjoyed by everyone.

The total money raised so far this year amounts to £1,650. My sincere thanks to everyone who has in any way helped to raise this amount.

Our Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday 5th October in the Village Hall. Stationery and Christmas gifts will be on sale and there will be a cake stall. Jumble will be gratefully received at 32 or 35 Maple Walk, or 39 Birch Drive or telephone Abson 3653.

On Saturday 12th October we are holding a Folk Dance in the Village Hall. Music will be provided by "Hobgoblins" and tickets will be on sale from committee members.

HOUSEGROUP

We meet once a fortnight during term time on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 11.45'ish at 70 Abson Road. We usually start off with some singing as people arrive, followed by Bible Study. We then have 'elevenses' and a chat.

Anyone is VERY welcome to come along. Just turn up or telephone Jackie Glover (2346) or Jean Rawlings if you need a lift. If you have a small child, don't let that stop you coming - we usually have one or two with us.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24th September.

Bill Skidmore wishes to thank all those friends who were kind enough to enquire after his health and to offer help following his recent road accident. He didn't realise so many people cared, but how he 'nose' better!

LETTER



As a lot of people may have noticed, this village seems to be sadly going down hill rapidly. This, I feel, and many other people in contact with me agree, is due to inconsiderate, uncaring parents who allow their children and youths to ride roughshod over all aspects of village life. These 'so called' parents allow their children to roam around the Village Hall, estate underpass, Fleur-de-Lys public house and Church porch vandalising property, using abusive language, and playing radios so loudly meaning only to annoy. Many of these children who hang around are of an age when there is plenty to do that is worthwhile. Surely their parents should take some interest in their development. The time of night I am talking about is when these children should be supervised by an adult anyway, in fact if not, they should be at home.

The language, which seems to be quite acceptable nowadays even when talking to adults, is appalling and so are their manners and morals. I recall back to the Revel Fun Night, when a girl well under the legal age was making a particular spectacle of herself on the Recreation Field. I wonder if her parents know of her 'recreation'. Not one adult male tried to intervene when youths rode around on motorbikes on the Recreation Field weaving between young children. What is the matter with you men, are you frightened of them? It was left to one woman on the Committee who spoke to the youths, but without much success.

In my humble opinion it is the fault of the parents who fail to instil any discipline in the lives of their children. They only seem to want them out of the house and out of the way, no matter what the consequences. Why they bothered to have children in the first place I'll never know. Surely not just for the family allowance! When these young thugs grow up their parents will be to blame when they start on the path to Borstal and eventually prison.

If you know this applies to your neighbour, please show them a copy of this letter, as they are probably not the type of people who would bother with the Pucklechurch News or care what goes on in the village. Have you the guts to do it? If these jobs are given an inch they will take a mile. Let's stand up to them and not allow them to dictate to us how we live our everyday lives.

I realise that some of my views may be controversial, but I am sure my letter will be printed because I feel positive that I speak for the vast majority of this fine community. Let's stop pussy-footing around. Fortunately, my letter only applies to a minority of parents.

For obvious reasons I remain anonymous as I am a mother with children for whom I 'CARE'.

(Name and Address Withheld)

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Several forthcoming events have been planned:

Wed. 23 October - Best Kept Village Hall Presentation

Sun. 27 October - Fun Run 11am

Fri. 15 November - Disco (secondary school age)

Sat. 30 November - Trip to London - contact:
Mary Cowley - 3497
Jean Wilcock - 2174

Sat. 14 December - CA Childrens Christmas Parties

Sun. 22 December - Christmas Concert

Fri. 14 February - 60's Valentine Disco

Incidentally, if you are interested in forming a fund raising committee please contact Sue Jones (Abson 2502).

YOUTH CLUB

We are very pleased to welcome Mrs Sue Crooks as our newly acquired Youth Club Leader. Sue has got lot's of ideas for a programme of events. This programme will start on September 30th when we will be holding an Open Evening with a Tai Kwondo display. Admission for the Open Evening is free.

All those attending secondary school are eligible for Youth Club membership, which costs 25p per year and 25p per session. Youth Club meets on a Monday evening from 7.30pm until 10pm (during school term time).

We have a rota of adult helpers who help about one evening per month. We are at present desperate for additional help - particularly from adult men. Given enough adult help, Youth Club is a very enjoyable club to be involved with - if you feel you are able to give up one Monday evening a month please contact Marilyn Palmer (3761).

We have recently purchased a very nice table-tennis table - lightweight, on wheels. This expensive item was bought thanks to the generous donations we received from Smith's Charity and also the Pucklechurch Development Company, to whom we give our thanks. It's nice to know that someone cares . . .

Once again this summer a party of 20 from the Youth Club attended the Avon County camp at Orcombe Point, Exmouth. As in previous years, they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our thanks to Sam Lavington and Liz Matthews for acting as Leaders.

Incidentally, the future of the camp at Orcombe Point is at risk as the land is being sought after by developers. Let's hope that Avon County win the battle - why not lobby County Councillors to ensure their support?

Let's hope I'm inundated with offers of help for Youth Club! I always was the eternal optimist! Perhaps the 'Letter' in this issue of P.News will prick your social consciences . . .

PCA SOCIAL CLUB

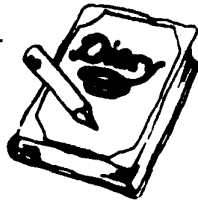
We have settled into our new premises, and provide for CA members and their guests, all the facilities that you would expect.

Three darts teams, two mens and a ladies, playing in external leagues. If you would like to join them get in touch with John Hayden, Bob Allen or Vera Blackmore.

There is also a league of ten teams of eight players playing skittles on four nights of the week. The internal skittles league will be finished before Christmas, so if you want to form a team and play skittles regularly give your name to Denis, our Steward, and he will pass it on to Alan Holder, Chairman of the skittles.

We have a regular programme of entertainments arranged by the entertainments committee, chaired by Jean Walters. The details of which are always displayed at the bottom of the stairs. A special date for your diary is 28th September when there will be a monster Jumble Sale.

One last point, concerning children, and that is we are delighted to see them Saturday dinner time, Saturday afternoon (4pm - 6pm) and Sunday dinner time.



VILLAGE DIARY

- SEPT 24 - Revel AGM 8pm Village Hall
25 - Mothers Union 7.30 "Paxos" - Mrs Hawker
27 - Pucklechurch Players Review 7.30pm
28 - P.F.C. v St Phillips M.A.S. (H)
PCA Social Club Jumble Sale
30 - Youth Club Open Evening "Tai Kwondo"
- OCT 1 - Folk Dance Club, Charles Foot
5 - Cancer Research Jumble Sale
P.F.C. v St Phillips M.A.S. (A)
12 - Cancer Research Folk Dance
P.F.C. v Frampton Ath. (H)
15 - Folk Dance Club, Derek New
18 - Youth Club Disco
23 - Mothers Union "Stained Glass"
26 - P.F.C. v Fry's (H)
27 - PCA Fun Run 11am
29 - Folk Dance Club, Alan Holder
- NOV 2 - P.F.C. v Eden Grove (H)
9 - P.F.C. v Hillfields O.B. (A)
12 - Folk Dance Club, Brian Salway
15 - PCA Disco (secondary school age)
16 - P.F.C. v Hambrook Res. (H)
17 - P.F.C. v University (H)
18 - Minors & Mums - photographer
23 - P.F.C. v Barr Utd (A)
25 - Minors & Mums Christmas Fayre
26 - Folk Dance Club, Valerie Webster
27 - Mothers Union - Mrs Berry "San Francisco"
30 - P.F.C. v Bristol Union (H)
PCA Trip to London

COPYDATE FOR PUCKLECHURCH NEWS IS 2 NOVEMBER.



1st Pucklechurch Scouts, Friday Troop

The summer period has been filled with many varied activities into which the boys have thrown themselves with their usual good humour and enthusiasm.

Talking about throwing themselves in reminds me of the District Raft Race which took place at Frenchay on May 19th. Four crews from the Friday Troop tested their raft making skills some more successfully than others. However, we shall return.

On 9 June a good, and if we say so ourselves, smart turn-out for the Revel Service, warmed the cockles of many a parental heart. I was personally very grateful that day for the thermal vest under my scout shirt. Thank you mother-in-law.

On June 23rd we joined with Alan Yates' Thursday Troop for a Fun Day on the River Avon at Kelston, canoeing being the main activity. Many parents took their first tentative step into a canoe some stating their intention of repeating the experience.

Later on in June, Andy Pratt led a patrol to victory in the district Campcraft Competition, qualifying for the Post & Press Trophy which takes place in September. This competition camp will be attended by the other qualifiers from districts all over Avon County and we congratulate the lads on their achievement. Good luck in the next round.

The Ring of Bells Farm at Hinton was the venue of our troop camp on 26th June. Fifteen boys attended, including Bruno a pen-friend from France. The weather was not too unkind enabling us to complete an enjoyable programme.

Matthew Skidmore, Duncan Stewart and Paul Toghil, three newly-arrived cubs were invested as scouts on 6 September, leaving five new boys waiting to follow them. The average age of the troop is now quite young but the other lads are responding very well in helping the new boys to settle in.

Finally, the boys would like to thank anyone who has given the Troop any help whatsoever in the past few months.

Steve Hill



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

PUCKLECHURCH SPORTS FOOTBALL CLUB

I must apologise for the delay in our annual report - this was due to our success in last season's Sutton Transformer Vase which was not played until the end of May. We won the two-legged final 3-0 against F.C. Totton who are a semi professional side. The performance of the players was a credit to amateur football in Bristol. Great encouragement was given by our supporters who out-numbered and out-cheered the opposition supporters in both the semi and final ties played in the Southampton area.

In the League the first team finished in third position and the reserves gained promotion to the Senior Division of the Bristol and District League. Congratulations to Terry and Eddie.

Simon Gill and Andrew Frankcom continued to play for the under 18 representative side of the Bristol and District League. We considered this to be both an honour for the boys and the Club.

At our annual presentation evening awards were made to Andy Beazer (First Team Player of the Year), Martin Weeks (Reserve Team Player of the Year), and Terry Rowles (Clubman of the Year). A tankard was presented to Martin Clarke who decided to retire after many years with the Club. We would like to wish Martin all the best for the future.

Our President George Boulton presented tankards to Dave Dee and Dave Llewellyn for all the work they have done for the Club over many seasons.

The winners of our recent 200 Club draw are as follows:

| <u>JULY</u> | <u>August</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| £40 M Clarke | £40 G Boulton |
| £20 Ian & Andrew Savidge | £20 J Harris |
| £5 C Brain | £5 A McCarthy |
| £5 A E Cox | £5 S Batten |



The next draw will be held in the Social Club on Saturday 28th September at approx, 5pm.

If you would like to join the 200 Club please contact either Dickie Savidge or Mike Luton. It will only cost you £1 a month.

Chris Bowering

HAPPY CIRCLE

The 25th anniversary celebrated recently with birthday cake given by the President and wine supplied by the Vice-Chairman, and on Wednesday 22nd we had an evening at the Russell Hotel with cabaret and a buffet. The past years have given us great pleasure - the choir won the cup at a Festival, and we won a Road Safety Prize. We have had several outings which are a great pleasure. Some of our members are 80 plus. Visitors are more than welcome - we meet every Tuesday at 2.30pm. Why not come and see how the old ones enjoy themselves - it certainly is a Happy Circle.

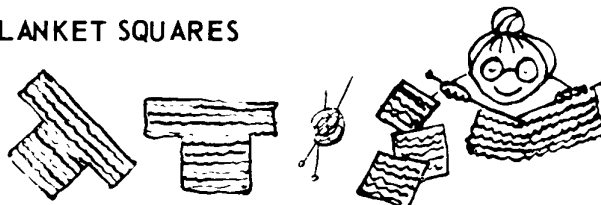
PARISH COUNCIL

Following enquiries by the Council, Northavon District Council had supplied paint for painting a mural on the underpass. This has certainly improved the look of the underpass, but it has already been defaced. The Parish Council had given a grant of £275 towards the holiday Playscheme, and it is understood that the Scheme was very successful.

The Parish Council's application to make use of the disused school building for Youth Club activities is still being considered by Avon County Council's Legal Department.

Play Equipment - Following a review of childrens play equipment, the swings at Parkfield play area and the Slide on the Recreation Field have been taken down for safety reasons. Both items will be replaced in the Spring, together with new baby swing seats and chains.

BLANKET SQUARES



On behalf of "Save the Children" I would like to thank all the people who have been sending me knitted squares. So far, I have received two completed blankets, 303 knitted squares and four knitted vests.

If you would like to help all those famine disaster children of Africa here is the pattern again:

Blanket Square: using D.K. wool and no.8 needles, cast on 36 sts. Knit 56 rows, or knit until square is formed. If you only have thin wool, knit with two strands together.

Crochet Vests: oddments of bright colours in either 4 ply or D.K. Size 4.00 hook.

Front: Make 56 chain. 1 double crochet in 2nd chain from loop and all the way along (55 sts). Continue in double crochet in bands of 4 lines, changing the colours for each band, until work measures 8½". Same for Back.

Cast on 17 chain for sleeves, either side, and crochet until sleeve depth is 4". Join side and sleeve seams, leaving about 8" neck opening.

I also have patterns for knitted vests and jumpers if you would like one. Please send your knitted squares, vests and blankets to Marion Thorn, 79 Westerleigh Road, Pucklechurch (Abson 3528) and I will pass them on to "Save the Children". The next shipment will be at the end of September.

FOR SALE Scout uniform trousers. V. good cond.
Waist 30" £5 o.n.o Abson 3653

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT – George Conrad

Paying for Holiday Play Schemes

Congratulations to all those involved in organising the Pucklechurch Playscheme in the Village Hall. It was obviously a great success and unfortunately they had to turn some children away on some days! Everyone sees these schemes as a useful service and many years ago Northavon decided to start a grant scheme to help pay for them. This year they set aside £4,000 which enabled the District last year to pay 40% of the costs of each playscheme in the District. This year, however, there were many more Playschemes organised and Northavon found that it would have overspent the budget by £1,000 if it had paid 40% again. As a result, the grant from Northavon was cut to 30%. We tried to increase the budget allocation by the necessary £1,000 from reserves, but unfortunately this was turned down. We shall try to increase the amount of money available next year.

The Waiting List for Council Houses & Bungalows

There are 8 people on the waiting list for houses in Pucklechurch and 18 on the waiting list for bungalows. I get many enquiries about how people are allocated Council houses or bungalows, so I shall try to explain.

When a house becomes vacant (which is not very often) it is allocated to whoever is on the waiting list, who has the greatest number of 'points' and who has the greatest housing need. The first priority goes to people who the Council have to house BY LAW. These include homeless people and those who live in tied agricultural houses. Sometimes these applicants get in before people who have been on the waiting list for years.

When a bungalow becomes vacant there is usually a time before the keys are actually returned to the Council, then the bungalow is cleaned and re-decorated if necessary (that takes some time as well!). When the bungalow is ready the Lettings Office at Northavon and I look at the waiting list. Many factors are taken into account - how long the person has been on the list, what sort of conditions do they live in at present, and perhaps most important of all, are there any medical reasons why they should be rehoused. All these factors are equally important and occasionally someone who has not been on the list very long, gets rehoused because of medical reasons or because they live in dreadful conditions (outside toilet etc). The Lettings Office and I try to be as fair as possible, but inevitably there will be people who are disappointed. Until the Council builds more bungalows in Pucklechurch, this will be a perpetual problem.

Storm in a tea-cup

At present the staff who work for Northavon D.C. do not have any canteens at either of the offices,

but there are vending machines in the offices which dispense tea, coffee etc at a nominal charge. This year the Council will have to subsidise these machines to a total cost of £2,870. It has been agreed by the Council, that in the new offices when they are completed, the staff will be provided with FREE vending machines to dispense Filter coffee, real tea or chocolate. It is estimated that this service to the staff will cost £13,000 at present day prices. Now, don't get me wrong - I want the staff at Northavon to have decent working conditions, but free coffee or tea, and as many cups as you like is open to abuse. There are very few, if any, public bodies that allow the staff free tea or coffee - the N.H.S. does not! We cannot spend an extra £1,000 on Playschemes, but we can spend £10,000 on coffee!! This really is going to be a waste of ratepayer's money.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS PLAYSCHEME

After a break of about 10 years a Playscheme was restarted in the village. It was held for a fortnight in August between 10am and 1pm.

It proved very popular with the children who arrived every morning. The bad weather probably helped the attendance figures but it also meant that we were unable to have as many outdoor activities as we had planned.

We used the Meeting Room for painting, badge making, collage, hair colouring and face painting. The Womens Institute took over the room one day and helped the infants to make place mats, decorate small cakes and make sandwiches for a Toys Tea Party.

The main hall was used for keep fit, snooker, table tennis, swingball, giant draughts, a film show, trampettes and various other amusements.

Some of the older children went to the underpass, under supervision, and painted a mural on the walls. It was a splendid effort and it was very sad to see how quickly their work was spoilt by the graffiti writers.

On a happier note we would like to thank all the adults, the Scouts and the Guides who gave their help to make the Playscheme a success.

Any comments (favourable or otherwise) or ideas, or offers of help for next year should be given to Eddi Lavington (3251), Pauline Taylor (3867) or Marilyn Palmer (3761).

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FLEUR DE LYS DARTS TEAM
WINNERS OF THE FOURS, PAIRS RUNNERS UP IN DIVISION B
OF THE CHIPPING SODBURY & YATE DARTS ASSOCIATION.
WE WILL DO BETTER NEXT YEAR!

