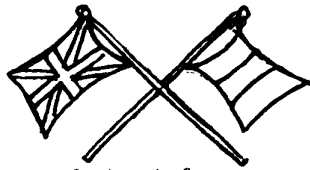


pucklechurch news

SEPTEMBER 1987



TWINNING

Five people from Pringy visited Pucklechurch for the Revel celebrations. They were very impressed and felt it was something "typically English". Thanks to the Revel Committee for all their hard work! A party of over 20 are visiting Pringy this weekend (12/13 September). The official twinning ceremonies will be held during 1988 - in Pringy it will be the weekend of September 9th, 10th and 11th, and here it will be during Revel 88.

The next meeting of the association will be held on Monday 28th September in the Meeting Room and new members are very welcome.

Dates for your diary - Saturday 3rd October Dutch Auction 8.30pm in the Social Club. (Any gifts for this evening would be very welcome.) Saturday 5th December - Christmas Family Fun Evening - Village Hall.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to Matthew Skidmore who, on Bank Holiday Sunday, completed a sponsored cycle ride from Temple Meads to Hampton Court in London, a total of 115 miles. The event was sponsored by Audi Cars and was in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child. Matthew left Temple Meads at 7.30am and arrived exhausted but pleased at 5.30pm in London. 700 riders of all ages took part, including a blind man and his daughter who rode a tandem. About 100 or so failed to complete the ride - some only getting as far as Chippenham! Very many thanks to all who sponsored Matthew - he says he wants to do it again next year, so if there are any other keen cyclists in Pucklechurch how about it?

PUCKLECHURCH C OF E SCHOOL

Parents/Governors Meeting

The first annual Parents/Governors meeting was held on 11th July 1987 in the school hall. The atmosphere was most cordial and those present discussed various aspects of school life. Subjects ranging from curriculum items, outside activities and general organisation of school was discussed fully.

Rev Ian Wills (Chair of Governors) thanked everyone, parents and staff, involved in the school for the excellent work they do.

The next meeting will be held on 17th November 1987 at 7.30pm to which all parents are warmly invited to attend.

REVEL

On a very wet Thursday evening in June the spirit of Revel shone through and a surprisingly large turn out enjoyed the competition of tug-of-war, the efforts of the Guides in providing refreshments and the entertainment provided by extremely damp Morris Men in the Social Club. This one evening reflected the general enjoyment of Revel '87 and rewarded the efforts made by so many people.

In a year of escalating costs and unexpected expenses (the sad demise of the greenhouse bar for instance) the Revel Committee were still anxious to maintain the carnival of Revel with particular emphasis on the events provided free for the village children and old folk.

The Beer Festival, the Olde Tyme Music Hall with professional entertainer so ably supported by the Pucklechurch Players, the Tug-of-War, and Revel Day itself (goats and all) were but a few of the high spots in a very enjoyable week.

The Revel Committee hope that you all enjoyed it - we did!

REVEL PUBLIC MEETING

A new Committee will need to be formed at the Public Meeting on TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. Please come along.



Pucklechurch Players
in
Lord Arthur Savile's Crime
a comedy by *Constance Cox*
to be performed in the *Village Hall*
on *Sept. 25 & 26 at 7.30 p.m.*
Entrance Tickets
from *Claine Stone*
Abson 3105

25 .MAPLE WALK, |



1st PUCKLECHURCH GUIDES

It's a while since we contributed to Pucklechurch News and told everyone what we've been doing, so to bring you up-to-date . . .

Firstly I must mention the residents of Dennisworth including Mr & Mrs Walker, the Wardens. Near Christmas we generally visit to decorate their community room and for this they kindly presented us with a shield, to be competed for by the Patrol, and known as the Dennisworth Shield.

From January to Easter all the girls worked hard for annual badges, plus individual interest badges, including Craft, Country Dancer, Fitness, Hostess, Knitter and Writer.

"Thinking Day" which celebrates Baden-Powell's birthday turned into a Mexican evening organised by Nathalie Ford as part of her World Association badge. The breaking open of a Mexican pirate filled with sweets proved most popular, and we also enrolled Aimee Smith and Victoria Bishop.

With Lyn Ford's help we prepared a Guiding display shown in the Village Hall at the reception held for our visitors from Pringy and some of the Guides showed the French contingent around Pucklechurch. Lots of guides have now requested French penfriends, and Carole, an 18 year old from Pringy is joining our summer camp.

Easter term ended on a high note - or should I say a slippery one - with a trip to Bristol Ice Rink. It was fun! Even the Guides whose legs wouldn't go in the right direction, or even together, seemed to enjoy themselves. And what about the two Mums who 'only came to watch' and ended up teetering round the ice themselves. Well done Mrs Russell and Mrs Mills from Westerleigh who confessed to being terrified but managed to stagger round the rink twice.

During May we spent sometime outside preparing for camp and on a ramble, but two Patrols also managed to write, produce and present short plays of a high standard to qualify for their Patrol Entertainer Pennants. We were treated to an up-dated version of Cinderella "Cinders goes to the Disco" by the Orchids, and a modern twist to Jack and Jill who fell into the well and witnessed some disco dancing, presented by the Snowdrops. Well done girls, it was certainly original.

At the end of May the Leaders promised a "Guider's Surprise" on a fine evening, only to be consistently surprised themselves, by the weather - we had to wait until June 30th, then we sent them out, Patrol by Patrol, issued only with questions and instructions to reach Control 1, where they received the next sheet and so on. They didn't know who they would meet, or their final destination. The highlight was Control 5, effectively disguised as a Troll guarding her bridge. Her green face and hands, long red nose and brown hood "frightened us to death" but was "brilliant fun" and after reporting to Control 6, the trail led to Mary's and food! Scarlet Pimpernel patrol were the winners.

Guides cont . . .

On Sunday 28th June our District, Dyrham, held a Rounders Knockout competition at Marshfield resulting in a draw between Pucklechurch "Sloggers" and Wick Guides. The final on 3rd July resulted in Pucklechurch winning the shield, after a nail-biting match which necessitated extra time. The final score was Pucklechurch 4 rounders and Wick 2. Thanks to Omar Beg for refereeing, and thanks too to all the adults who come to lend a hand now and then, sharing with us their interests and skills.

Ros Abbott, Guider

SLIMMING CLUB

"New Image" slimming club is held every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm in the church room at St Thomas a Becket, if anyone is interested and would like more information, either telephone Bristol 839012 or Bristol 776991 or just turn up on the night.

GARDENING CLUB

Two coach outings have taken place recently, the first being a trip to Barrington Court near Ilminster and the second a visit to the National Centre for Organic Gardening near Coventry, which included a stop at Leamington Spa. Members and friends who attended these outings found them both interesting and enjoyable.

The first meeting of the winter programme will be held at the Village Hall on 7th October at 7.45pm when the speaker will be Mr J R S Gorst, talking about Garden Designs. New members are always welcome.

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Newspaper - so far 24 tons have been collected. Collections are on the first weekend of each month. Recent collections have been down on normal, so please can we have more next month, otherwise we will lose the concession. Volunteers are required to help collect paper - interested? - then contact Les Whittock 2090 or Omar Beg 3695.

Hall Floor - it is planned to lay a new floor during August 1989.

Revel - we have actually won the cup! In case you missed it, the winning float at Revel was the C.A.'s with the Pucklechurch Penguins. Thanks to all who helped before and on the day.

Forthcoming Events:

Sunday 25th October - Fun Run
Sunday 13th December - Christmas Concert
Saturday 19th December - Christmas Parties

We would like to make a C.A. page a regular feature in Pucklechurch News, so if you have any articles or ideas for it, please contact Elaine Stone (3105) or Sue Jones (2502).

PUCKLECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

The new swing and park seat had now been erected at Shortwood playing field and it had been decided to remove the slide after this summer and replace it in the next financial year with a more modern model. New swing seats had been fitted at Eagle Crescent play area and the base of the swings had been relaid. New swing seats had been fitted at Parkfield play area.

The Council once again gave the holiday playscheme a grant of £330.

Information had now been received from the Home Office regarding a Bye-Law to give local Councils the power to prosecute dog owners who allowed their dogs to foul public parks and playing fields. The Council is awaiting further information from Northavon District Council as to how best such a bye-law could be implemented at Parish level.

The Council is also considering the possibility of erecting signs on the approach road to Pucklechurch namely 'Parish of Pucklechurch twinned with Pringy'. Advice on this matter was being sought from the County of Avon.

Advice was also being sought from the Police regarding the setting up of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, and it is hoped that the Police will be able to address a meeting of the Parish Council (open to members of the public) in the near future. The date of this will be advertised, so please look out for posters if you are interested.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

We entered again this year, and we have been informed by the judges that we have made quite good progress, so much so that we have been awarded the prize of £100 for the most improved Village in the county. This prize is donated by Calor Gas.

Not only that, but of the 50 entrants in the children's painting competition, Edward Alway and Stuart James' paintings were chosen to go the County finals, so should they win a prize it will go to the school. The local winners were:

1st - Edward Alway (£3 prize)
2nd - Paul Williams (£2 prize) and the following six runners up all received £1 and a badge "I helped keep Pucklechurch Tidy" and a certificate: Stuart James, Ian Savage, Ben Nurse, Matthew Lee, Martin Roberts, Jo Ann Bryant.

Thanks were given at the Parish Council meeting to Les Whittock for all the work he did in connection with the competition. Thanks too, to all the other residents who contributed to our success.

Planning Applications - now that the Planning Dept is at Thornbury, it has been very difficult for some Parish Councils to borrow copies of plans for their meetings. It has therefore been agreed that in future people submitting planning applications should be asked to provide a fifth set of the plans, which could then be sent to Parish Clerks and kept by them. This would have the advantage that parishioners would be able to inspect plans locally.

AUCTION

20% COMMISSION AUCTION IN AID OF SCOUT FUNDS

TO BE HELD IN
PUCKLECHURCH VILLAGE HALL
ON SAT. 3rd OCT.

VIEWING FROM 11am START 2pm

Any item welcome so do
not throw it out **SELL IT**
For further details phone
Abson 3235,3105,3507 or 4171

SUMMER HOLIDAYS PLAYScheme

The first two weeks of the school holidays passed by very quickly, so I'm told, this was due to the Playscheme which was held in the Village Hall each morning. The queues of children began long before the time for the start of the morning activities.

In the main hall the children were able to play various games including skittles, table tennis, snooker etc while the meeting room was kept for arts and crafts. The children were able to try different crafts each day, i.e. Indian tepees, seed pictures, pottery, model making, butterflies and fantasy dip (always a favourite). A mural was made from different textures, and this was hung in the hall. Games were organised outside - football, rounders, etc. During the first week the children had a visit from "Fooltime" who taught us how to juggle, walk on stilts, etc. Another morning we had a 'Bouncy Castle' which was greatly enjoyed by all. A merry-go-round came for a morning during the second week - this was also thoroughly enjoyed by all (including some adults!). Thursday 6th August dawned to a lovely fine, warm day which was great because that was the day of the family coach trip to Littlecote. This was a wonderful day and everyone enjoyed the jousting and all the other attractions Littlecote had to offer. The following day was the last day of the playscheme and the children were entertained by Mr Razzle-Dazzle and a Treasure Hunt.

That was Playscheme '87 - our thanks to the hardworking, excellent leaders - Beverley Stewart and Barbara Wiltshire, the committee - Marilyn Palmer and Eddi Lavington, and also to the Mums and Dads who gave up their time to help.

THE REVEL TOWER JUMP - Ron King

The unusual activity on St Thomas a Becket's Church tower during Revel week was to raise funds for Revel. About 25 souls braved the winds on Wednesday and the rain on Thursday to abseil from the top.

Maximum security precautions had been taken by experienced climbers who were richly rewarded by the enthusiasm and requests to do it again! One of the best bits of the trip was climbing up to the top of the tower. There are no stairs beyond the ringing chamber which is about half way up, so the rest of the climb is made up steep ladders and scrambling and squeezing through the bell frame. Pausing for a moment to admire the ancient peal of six bells, the lightest peal of six in the world, well, in Pucklechurch! the intrepid jumpers bounced across a ladder which had been provided for their convenience to bridge the bells. Some closed their eyes here! The roof gave a chance to drink in a glorious view. All Pucklechurch has a good view, but this is something special.

The initial swing backwards to dangle over the void was a tense moment but most were whooping with delight as they roped down. Rose Hill had wanted to share Steve's abseiling experience and made the most of it. (We are going to miss them, but watch out Plymouth!) In fact there seemed to be more women than men sliding down. Ruth Mould was certainly the youngest and prudence prevents me saying who was the oldest!

The spectators too expressed their appreciation and nicely enough three hundred pounds had been donated to Revel.

Many thanks to my neighbour Karl Schollar, for lending and helping to erect the scaffolding (what an appropriate word!) and giving his time free gratis and for nothing. Thanks too to the PCC, the Archdeacon and Architect for their permissions, to the Churchwardens for their careful approach to safety, to the safety officers who helped me and in particular to Jonathan Trueman who turned out twice!

Thanks to Ian Wills, our vicar, for going down first and obtaining some useful publicity for Revel by getting his picture on the front page of the Evening Post. Thanks to all those who, like Les Whittock, did a job when asked and certainly not least the participants who had fun and raised a lot of money and made it all possible.

COMMUNITY CONSTABLE RETIRES

PC Brian Organ, a very well known figure in Pucklechurch, is retiring from the Police Force this month, after 30 years, seven of which have been spent on the Sodbury beat. Brian hopes to extend his interest in photography into setting up a freelance business and also intends to travel. We wish him the very best for the future. PC Bill Osborne will be our community constable.

THE BRITANNIAS - PUCKLECHURCH MAJORETTES

The Britannia Majorettes have had a very busy and successful year. They have performed at many charity events this year, and entered several competitions and carnivals. At Clevedon competition in May, they gained 3rd place. They also came 3rd at a competition in June at Kingsfield School. Their float entry on Revel Day gained 2nd place, and at Wick Carnival on 18th July they gained 1st place.



At a competition in Cheltenham on 20th July the Britannia Majorettes from Pucklechurch gained THREE 1st prizes - 1st for Junior Majorette Section; 1st prize for best Drum Major, and 1st prize for the most entertaining troop.

P.News says: Well done girls! We found the display in the Post Office window most impressive too! (The display of your cups, shields etc that is!)



2nd PUCKLECHURCH BROWNIES

During the summer months our outside activities have included the usual rounders, a treasure hunt and hot dogs. Our unusual activities included asking a helpful Mr T to rescue two Brownies, who shall remain anonymous (we will call them R and H) from the seat around the oak tree on the Recreation Field! While practising for the District Brownie Knockout Rounders Competition, H thought she would do some balancing tricks on the seat but unfortunately her foot fell through the wooden bars. After 5 minutes of comforting she managed to extract the leg. Lo, a few minutes later R thought she would do the same thing. 5 minutes of comforting did no good, so Mr T came with a spanner and saw in hand (for the wooden bar of course!) and managed to unscrew the rusty bolt for R to extract her leg.

Incidentally, we came second in the competition at Marshfield and the picnic and afternoon were great fun.

P.S. Thank you Mr T.



PUCKLECHURCH PLAYGROUP

Pucklechurch Playgroup is open Monday to Thursday 9.15am to 11.45am, in the Village Hall.

Children 3 - 5 years are welcome to come and enjoy such things as painting, drawing, craft modelling, cooking and generally having fun.

We have a new Playgroup Leader with lots of ideas, come along ANYTIME and join in.

Younger children from 2½ are also welcome for visits with mum or dad.

APATHY . . .

What is the matter with the parents of the Primary School children of Pucklechurch? Do they not want to see the standard of the children's education improved?

A barn dance was arranged recently by the School Association (an association formed to improve the relations between parents and teachers) as a small fund raising event and it was supported by thirteen families of school age children (number at school approximately 300). Surely in these days of industrial action by teachers (which we have hardly noticed due to their own personal goodwill), the parents can support events at the school. Had it not been for the support of ex-parents and grand-parents the whole event would have been an embarrassing failure. I think, like myself, that most people who attended found it a very enjoyable if exhausting evening and only wished a few more parents were present.

YOUTH CLUB

It was with great regret that the Youth Club committee decided that they were unable to carry on, and that Youth Club would, at least temporarily, have to close down. Offers of help from parents were conspicuous by their absence . . .

However, at a meeting held on 8 September, attended by the Area Youth Officer, it was agreed that we would advertise for a "Detached" Youth Worker. This would be a qualified Youth Worker, who would not be based at the village hall, but would make contact with the young people on the streets or wherever they congregated.

If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact Marilyn Palmer (3761) before 2nd October. Please contact Marilyn too if you would be interested in joining a small committee to support the proposed youth worker.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT - Marilyn Palmer

On 16th September I will be attending a presentation on the proposals for a Science Park at Emerson's Green, as part of the development area comes into the parish of Pucklechurch.

This area has long been ear-marked for development by the Secretary of State, and I personally feel that if the site has to be developed, a high prestige science park which will provide an estimated 10,000 jobs is preferable to 3,000 houses or a football ground! I would be interested to know what other people think.

MINORS AND MUMS

Minors and Mums - urgently require two mature, interested ladies to volunteer their help at their sessions. They require help with refreshments and supervision of our childrens' activity table. Please contact: Abson 2071 or Abson 2479. Minors & Mums now meet on Fridays 10am - 12 noon.



KILLER DOGS AT LARGE

In our last issue we published a letter from someone whose pet rabbit had been attacked by a stray dog. Since then, however, there have been several more fatal attacks - about eight that we know of. These are not linked to the earlier attack however.

The two dogs responsible - they have been witnessed on several occasions - are a thin alsation bitch and a white and tan wire-haired terrier. We are appalled that these two dogs are still roaming the village. Enormous distress has been caused to the young owners of the pet rabbits, and it is a constant source of anxiety to other rabbit owners that their rabbit will be attacked next. It is on their behalf that we now implore the owners of these dogs to keep their animals under control. Dogs who behave in this manner should, in our opinion, be put down.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Richard Palmer on his success in the recent Daily Telegraph and Readers Digest national crossword compiling competition. Despite thousands of entries, Richard won 3rd prize and £250! Along with the 237 runners-up Richard's puzzle will be published in a Daily Telegraph book of crossword puzzles due to be published in the Autumn.

P.News says: There's never a "crossword" in the Palmer household!

WANTED

Tower Playgroup would like a child's small wardrobe or cupboard for storing dressing-up clothes. Tel. 2919.

Pucklechurch C.A.
PLEASE SAVE YOUR
WASTE PAPER

.....

NEWSPAPERS &
MAGAZINES
(Not cardboard or
polythene bags)

Every first Saturday and Sunday of the month,
a waste paper container will be left in the
Village Hall Car Park
for you to deposit your waste paper for
recycling.

.....

PLEASE HELP US
SAVE OUR TREES

LOCAL FARMERS WIN CONSERVATION AWARD!

For the second year in succession farms in Pucklechurch have won the Avon F.W.A.G. (Farming Wildlife Advisory Group) Award for conservation combined with modern methods of farming. The 1986 award went to Keith Whatley of Leigh Farm, and the 1987 award to Chris Simpson of Marsh Farm.

So, when you look out of your windows you can draw satisfaction from the fact that you live in the part of the County which is setting an example on wild life conservation.

Anyone who would like to know more about F.W.A.G. and would like to join the group should contact: Cathy Thompson, PO Box 46, Avon House North, St James Barton, Bristol or tel. 290777 ext.532.

About 80% of the land of this country is owned and occupied by landowners and farmers, while less than 10% is in nature reserves. Therefore the real power to determine the nature of the countryside and its wildlife rests with those who occupy the land rather than with Governments, Public Authorities or conservation bodies. So, think hard about the future before making too dramatic an impression on those hedges, ponds and wet places, bits of scrub and odd trees and spinneys.

FOLK CLUB

This year, by request of some members we have been holding our fortnightly club nights through the summer, and it has been very successful. As most dance clubs in the area stop for a summer recess, we have been able to give them somewhere to keep on dancing - this meant a few hurried phone calls but we were able to get some good callers along.

Diary dates appear on the back page, but if you want any further information contact Les Whittock on Abson 2090.

AND NOW A POEM FROM PUCKLECHURCH'S OWN PAM AYRES . . .

Mum! Do you have to do that?"
A whine comes to my ears
As I'm listening to Radio Bristol
And dancing away the years.

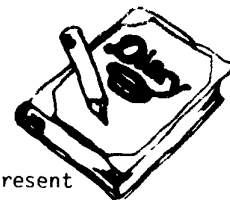
I'm a total source of embarrassment
To both my lovely kids
I've only got to start to sing
And out of the room they skid.

They tell me not to talk too much
When their friends come round to call
I'm frightened to death to open my mouth
So I hardly talk at all.

But I'll do my own thing someday soon
When both of them leave home.
I'll sort out all my Tom Jones tunes
And have a rave-up of my own. Anon

P.News says: If you can guess who wrote this please send your answers on the back of a £5 note to any of the Editorial Committee!

Diary



- 22 Revel Public Meeting
- 8 pm - Village Hall
- SEPT 25] Pucklechurch Players present
26] "Lord Arthur Savile's Crime" V.Hall
29 Folk Dance Club, Malcolm Mace
- OCT 2 Harvest Festival 6.30 St Thomas a Becket
3 Scouts Auction 2pm V.Hall
Twinning Assoc Dutch Auction 8.30pm
in the Social Club
7 Gardeners Club - "Garden Designs"
10 Jumble Sale, Churchroom
13 Folk Dance Club - Les & Mary Whittock
24 PCA Fun Run
27 Folk Dance Club, Derek New with Band
** 30 COPYDATE FOR P.NEWS
- NOV 10 Folk Dance Club - Geoff Elwell
17 Parents/Governors Meeting, School 7.30pm
- DEC 5 Twinning Assoc Christmas Family Fun Night
13 PCA Christmas Concert
19 PCA Christmas Parties



PARISH CHURCH

FLOWER/HARVEST FESTIVAL WEEKEND

FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER - Harvest Service 7 p.m. in Church, followed by 'Ploughman's Supper' in Church Room. Everyone welcome.

SATURDAY 3rd OCTOBER - Flower Festival in Church. Morning Coffee will be served and Cream Teas will be available in the afternoon. Church open all weekend.

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER - Harvest Gift Service 10 a.m.

HAND BELL RINGING

Hand Bell Ringing is now on WEDNESDAYS at 7.30pm (children aged 10 and over) and 8 pm - Adults at 2 Westerleigh Road. We have room for 2 more adults - If you are interested please ring Marion Thom - 3528.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Copy for the next edition of Pucklechurch News can be delivered to any of the following who comprise the Editorial Committee:

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



COPYDATE

30 OCTOBER 1987

