

GIRL GUIDING IN PUCKLECHURCH



We celebrated World Guiding Day with a 'train trip' around the six countries Izzy Johnston will be visiting on her international trip. We sang 'Edelweiss', in Austria, made 'gondolas' in Venice, and cooked mini pancakes and melted chocolate over tealights in Switzerland. The following week we continued into Poland to ice oblong biscuits to represent postcards, 'hiked' into Czechia to make glass bead bracelets, and finally arrived in the Black Forest, Germany, naturally to make and eat gateau!

These activities completed the challenge set by Izzy's group and the purchase of the specially designed badges added to her fund. She has reached her target of £2,000, thanks to the generosity of many people and her adventure will take place during the summer holidays with Guiding members from the South West Region. She will share her experiences with individuals and groups on her return.

The Guides created very interesting 'mood boards' where we learned more about each other's activities outside of Guides, and these are currently displayed in the scout hut. We created Clifford the Big Red Dog for the scarecrow competition.

The Swish challenge encourages upcycling, recycling and donating clothes and ended with a fashion show demonstrating this. We also held a fun 'trash fashion' evening, wearing creatively crafted newspapers and bin bags etc, invited parents to watch, and applauded Aimee, Katie and Lexie who, after much hard work, received the first ever Silver Awards gained in our Unit. Well done girls. May Day weekend we stayed at a Guiding residential centre

in Macaroni Woods, near Fairford. On Saturday we hiked to Eastleach and, in warm sunshine, paddled in the shallow River Leach, unexpectedly managing to fill wellies with water! We also located several geocaches and completed this badge during the weekend by hiding some of our own. During our evening camp fire Edie, Jasmine, Natalee, Sasha, Zia and our leader Sally, made their Guide Promises.

On Sunday morning we cooked pancakes on wood fires. Basket making followed, and then sweet making to earn the Confectionery badge. Sweets were placed in the baskets as gifts, but not many of them made their way home intact! Sunday evening saw our much anticipated 'MGT' (Macaroni's Got Talent) with Liv as a very convincing Simon Cowell, aided by Katie and Lexie. Two dance troupes performed, then a duo asked for answers to riddles. After deliberation by the judges, our duo, Jasmine and Zia, were declared winners and crowned May Queens.

On May Day we processed outside to perform Maypole dancing which definitely needs more practice as we didn't end with a neatly plaited pattern around the pole, more a tangled bunch to one side.

Morris dancing followed, with hankies. We had music too, and both dances were performed with great enthusiasm. And then it was time to clear up and go home. Guides were so well behaved and helpful that it was an enjoyable time for all.

If you've enjoyed reading our adventures and would like to join us, please contact me - Guides (10+yrs) or as an adult - Ros Abbott 07709 639846.

South Gloucestershire News from Councillor Marilyn Palmer

Fleur de Lys - Deteriorating state of a building in a Conservation Area

The Fleur is such an iconic building in the centre of the village Conservation Area, but it is looking very run down. Planning Enforcement have investigated the deteriorating state of the Fleur. I was advised that "there is an extant planning permission (P22/02688/F) in place specifically for the former public house, this relates to: "Partial change of use of public house, to 2no. dwellings, to include parking and associated works". "Attached to the consent, there are conditions which require the heritage of the building to be respected (for example) condition 5 which references the public house signage, the gates and access points to the micropub being retained. This permission is currently being built out. Therefore, the council cannot, at this stage in the ongoing development, take any action." I will be keeping a close eye on the development to ensure that the conditions are adhered to.

South Glos Council Local Plan - the next stages

I thought it would be helpful to explain what is happening following the consultation on the Emerging Local Plan.

The officers are currently studying the responses and also external changes since the consultation was issued before Christmas. They will draw up a report for Cabinet with recommendations for the Draft Local Plan which will then have to be approved by full Council.

At that stage there will be a further six-week public consultation on the Draft Local Plan. There will also be a sustainability appraisal report. The exact timing of these next phases may be affected by the General Election. The response to the consultation will be considered, and if no modification or only minor modifications are accepted then it will be forwarded on to the National Planning Inspectors.

The Planning Inspectors will hold an Examination in Public where people can make their views known to the Inspectors either in person or in writing. The Inspectors will either approve the Plan, suggest minor modifications, or reject it. If rejected, then the Council will have to produce another Draft which will need to go through consultation and Examination in Public again.

Once the Local Plan has been approved by the Planning Inspectors it will become the policy of the Council. All future planning applications will be judged by the Local Plan. There is a timeline on the Council website, but realistically it is unlikely to be adopted before the end of 2025.

PUCKLECHURCH NEWS



SUMMER 2024 FUNDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.pucklechurch.org



REVEL

The Pucklechurch Pixies have been really busy putting together the final touches to the 2024 Revel extravaganza!

Revel week:

June 11th - Revel quiz at the CA club with a 7:30 start - booking advisable.

Call on 07789707278

June 14th - Revel Family Night at the Beer and Cider Festival. This year we are trying something new and opening up Friday night for families to come along and enjoy an evening of live music with 'You, Me and the Dancefloor'. Adults are £12, under 18s £3. All under 18s MUST BE accompanied by an adult.

June 15th - Revel day.

We have the parade at 11:45 from Hill View with the theme this year as 'All creatures great and small'. Please line the route which is Hillview-Castle Road - Westerleigh Road - Abson Road and back to the Recreation Field.

Stalls and fair are open from 11am

Arena events from 12:30pm

We have Chloe's Farm with a fun petting zoo for all to see

Live music both in the beer tent and the trailer

June 15th - Revel Beer and Cider Festival from 7pm with live music from 'Stupid'. This is strictly an over 18s event. Tickets for the Saturday night are £15.

Weekend tickets are £20 and can be purchased from: The Rose and Crown, The Star Inn, The CA Club and the PVSSC.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the Parade and to temporarily stop traffic. If you could be of assistance please get in touch: phone 07789707278 or email- pucklechurch.revel@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you all in June - please bring the weather!



Please help Pucklechurch News to keep going!

Dear Pucklechurch Residents

As you may have heard, Claire and Sarah are stepping aside as the editorial team for Pucklechurch News after well over a decade of news gathering. Pucklechurch News has reflected the lively and vibrant community that it serves but like many community activities, it will benefit from new ideas and a refresh. So if you've ever had a burning desire to be a newshound - please step forward and take this opportunity!

If anyone is interested in helping the Parish Council to continue to produce Pucklechurch News, please do get in touch with the Clerk at clerk@pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone: 07525 842 095. Alternatively, drop a line to editor@pucklechurch.org - we will continue to monitor this inbox for a few months.

With our best wishes

Claire Dolman and Sarah Nunez

Good Neighbour Scheme

The Good Neighbour Scheme has been quiet over the spring months with only a couple of volunteers continuing to provide in person and telephone company to people. A new volunteer has joined us and they are ready to help provide company. If you or someone you know would enjoy having someone to talk to, please get in touch and we will arrange visits, telephone calls or a mixture of both - whichever you'd prefer.

As we move in to summer, if you or someone you know has mobility issues and could benefit by having a few people round to do a 'garden blitz' please contact us. This is where a number of volunteers get together and complete simple gardening tasks (e.g. weeding and trimming) for a couple of hours.

We can also help with simple household tasks such as putting out bins and recycling, changing fuses and light bulbs, change batteries in appliances, filling in forms, etc. If your regular helpers are on their summer holiday or are unable to help you for any reason, we may be able to help in their absence - please contact us so that we can see what we can do to help.

Our phone number is 07961 939574 and our email is goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org. If you leave a message on the phone or email, we'll reply within 24 - 48 hours.

You can also find more details are on our website at http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/good_neighbours.htm

GARDENER'S CLUB

What a cold, wet start to May it has been and although a lot of my shrubs and perennials are flowering much earlier this spring, the vegetable seeds are really struggling due to the greenhouse temperature being so low. At our March meeting, Fiona Warin entertained us again with her humorous talk about managing allotments in Leonard Stanley, Glos, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Our April meeting took place at Fonthill Garden Centre, Bitton, where we were treated to coffee and biscuits whilst watching Matt demonstrate how to pot up spring baskets. We were then let loose to purchase plants. Matt and the staff made us very welcome, and everyone who came enjoyed the evening. We held the Annual General Meeting on May 1st which was well supported by 45 members. After club business, Martin Hall awarded Dave Harris with the Frank Bradley Trophy for scoring most points in the monthly competition. With all meetings at an end now, we look forward to the residential trip to Bridgewater Gardens Manchester, Tatton Park, and Shugborough Estate. The last event of the season is our summer supper when we have been invited again to Duncan and Margaret Fortune's lovely garden. In the meantime, happy gardening!

Club News 2024 contact Sallie Brooks: sallie61@me.com

D Kemps Garden Centre and Elmwood Nursery offer members 10% discount on plants when membership card is presented
Club Contacts: Jean Powell 01454 528066, Val Seaman 0117 9372095 or Ann Smith 0117 9372030

NSPCC

A big thank you to everyone who has supported our events over the years. The committee in Pucklechurch has been running for 36 years and £150k has been raised in that time. Look out for us at Revel and for details of future events. If you would like to join the committee or help in any way please email Elaine on elainejstone15@gmail.com.

Tower Preschool

Monday and Friday 9.00 - 12.00

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9.00 - 15.00

Well qualified staff ensuring the Children's preschool experience is a happy, positive time.

15 hours free education for 2 year olds/up to 30 hours for 3 year olds (if eligible)

Website: www.towerpreschool-pucklechurch.co.uk
Telephone: 07722029077
Email: towerplaygroup@gmail.com

POP IN TO SEE US IN ACTION

Ofsted - 'Good'



News from the Patient Participation Group (PPG)

You may be aware of the dire warnings coming from the Three Shires Medical Practice about the precarious financial state of General Practice, and rural practices in particular. I am hoping by the time you read this, the situation will not have worsened, as at a meeting last month we were reassured that there are no plans to imminently close any of our surgeries, but that this would have to be considered if the government do not wake up and improve the funding. Three Shires is in a difficult position because it is just one practice (attracting one set of NHS funding), but is running four sites. Thus it is funding four buildings, with all the maintenance and energy bills, and four sets of staff. Added to which, the area covered is huge, from Colerne to Pucklechurch - but there are only 9,700 patients. Whereas Kingswood Health Centre, which recently hit the news with their financial difficulties, services 15,000 patients from one site, with a compact practice area. Rural practice, therefore, has its own difficulties and challenges, but there is no financial recognition of such. The partners are very grateful to those of you who wrote to their MP with this problem, and we, the PPG, are working hard to lobby opposition candidates, Parish councillors, Healthwatch, local councillors and anyone else we can think of! You can help by being loyal to the Practice - do not get lured by on-line pharmacies or Royal Mail to ordering your medicines from them. The Practice needs the income from dispensing your prescriptions, otherwise they really will go under. Similarly, go to the Practice for your jabs, not local pharmacies. Janet Spence, Chair PPG, 4patientparticipation@gmail.com

PCA Social Club

The PCA Social Club (above the village hall) has 11 mixed age skittle teams that play weekly. Some of these teams are looking for new players. All games, whether home or away are played in the club so you never have far to travel! If you are interested in playing, please text Derek on 07527085109. The club also has a pool table and darts board. It has a balcony/patio where you can sip your drink whilst looking at some of arguably the best views in Pucklechurch or even watch a cricket match! The club is hosting the Revel quiz on Tuesday 11th June so look out for details and come along and support this event. Derek Watts (Acting Chair)

Pucklechurch Village trips

The programme for the rest of the year.

2nd July Bournemouth
6th August Sidmouth folk festival
3rd Sept Oxford
1st October Portsmouth
3rd December Winchester Christmas market

For further information please email - pucklechurchvillagetrips@gmail.com or contact Elaine on 01179373105 or 07940207559

Pucklechurch Parish Council Chairman's Report

Summer 2024

Anti-social behaviour - report it!

As many of you will no doubt have heard, a spate of vandalism in and around St Aldam's Play Area and Oaktree Avenue left us with rubbish strewn all over the grass, a litter bin destroyed and the wooden platform for the slides smashed to pieces. In addition, several car wing mirrors were also broken in what can only be described as a mindless and selfish spree of destruction. The cost of repairs to the slide and bin amounted to about £2500 alone. In addition to this there have been reports of drunken noisy anti-social behaviour until the early hours of the morning going on for several nights on the Rec and much broken glass by the Oak tree. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is any activity which causes harm, harassment, or distress to an individual or a community. It is imperative that all incidents of anti-social behaviour are reported to the police as this is the only way we can guarantee a police presence to counteract the activity itself. The more it is reported the better - it's easy to do and its confidential. In addition, a community trigger is a tool for tackling anti-social behaviour as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, but in order for a community trigger to be activated it must meet one of the following criteria:
3 incidents of anti-social behaviour or hate in a 6-month period have been reported.
5 reported incidents of anti-social behaviour or hate in a 6-month period involving a linked location reported by more than one person.
Please report ASB - <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/anti-social-behaviour/>
Councillor vacancy
Parish Council is seeking to co-opt a new councillor - could it be you? The vacancy has arisen as the result of Lynne English standing down. Lynne who was first elected to council in 2011 took the difficult decision to stand down as she is no longer a resident within the parish. It falls to

me to thank her for all of her time, efforts and hard work as a councillor on behalf of our community over the last 13 years - we will miss her wise countenance and many contributions at our meetings. Becoming a councillor gives you an opportunity to actively participate in influencing the provision and delivery of services and facilities that affect you and your community. You don't need to be experienced, training is available, and we are a friendly bunch! If you want an informal chat about what is involved or more information, please contact our Clerk. Email: clerk@pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone: 07525 842 095.

Pucklechurch News

You are only able to read Pucklechurch News because of the dedication of a number of local volunteers that deliver copies to each household as well as the resident editors themselves and our thanks go to them all. This edition, however, will be the last edition produced by the current editors who are both standing down. Parish council is grateful to them for all the work they have done to deliver content to each and every one of you for many years. This does mean however that we are still looking for someone to come forward who might be able to take over editorial responsibilities. Please consider contacting our Clerk or the editors to find out what this role involves.

And finally...

Thank you to everyone that attended the Annual Parish Assembly at Pucklechurch School on 17th April. Information on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan was shared, which has now been sent to SGC for comment. It has been developed based on community feedback and community priorities. You can read a draft copy on our website, as well as the draft minutes of the meeting itself, which enabled a wide range of discussion to take place and comments to be shared.

Gail Boyle, Chair PPC

PUCKLECHURCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

After many months of appealing for volunteers, the roles that were becoming vacant in the Pucklechurch Community Association committee have been largely filled. This will mean that the Community Centre will remain open for the foreseeable future. The new post holders, as of the AGM on May 8th are:-

Chairman -	Dan Molloy
Secretary -	Tim Wallace
Treasurer -	Penny Mulchinock
Booking Secretary -	Steve Seward
Maintenance Manager -	tbc

We are excited to continue to provide, maintain and improve the facilities at the Community Centre and ensure it stays a valuable asset to the village and those who use it. If you would like to see what activity or interest groups you can join at the village hall, you can find our website at www.pucklechurchcommunitycentre.co.uk To enquire about bookings, email Steve at - pcahallbooking@gmail.com

Memory Café

The Memory Cafe at Doynton

At our Annual General Meeting in April we heard how our visitor and carer numbers at our free monthly cafe get-together have grown over the last year, as well as our range of entertainment and activities.

We continue to meet on the first Thursday of the month from 2-4pm at Doynton Village Hall. Our visitors with dementia or memory loss are accompanied by a family member or carer.

Each cafe is differently themed with entertainment including singing, dancing, music and recently a children's choir. Crafts, games, puzzles, shared memories, chats with our volunteers, tea and home-made cakes are a feature of every cafe.

We have lots of information and guidance available for those with a new diagnosis of dementia and their families and many of our volunteers have experience of someone with dementia among their own family or friends. If you would like to join us or would like more information you can find and message us on Facebook 'The Memory Cafe at Doynton', email us on mcdoynton@gmail.com or call or text 07817 311001.'