

# PUCKLECHURCH NEWS



SUMMER 2021

FUNDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

[www.pucklechurch.org](http://www.pucklechurch.org)



## Three Shires Patient Participation Group

The Patient Participation Group at Three Shires Medical Practice has continued to meet virtually on Zoom. The Group has been very involved in supporting the COVID Vaccination Centre in Downend. Our Group chair has been vaccinating patients several days each week and many Group members have been helping in the surgery, meeting and greeting, disinfecting and ensuring that we all follow the one way system through the surgery.

### Carers' Clinic at Three Shires

One of the new initiatives recently underway is a monthly Carers, Surgery aimed at people who are looking after a family member, partner or friend who could not manage without their help because of illness, frailty, disability, or mental health or substance misuse problems. Working with our local Carers, Support Centre, a new monthly Carers Clinic has begun. Neil McIntosh, Senior Carers' Support Worker is offering appointments at present by telephone (to conform to COVID regulations) on the second Wednesday afternoon of every month.

Neil offers one to one support, advice on welfare benefits and help with navigating health and social care systems. He can help with carers' assessments, and link carers to other services such as the Carers Emergency Card, counselling, carers' groups and training for carers'. For an appointment please contact the surgery. To see the services and support that the Carers Support Centre offers please see the website [www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk](http://www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk) or contact Carersline on 0117965 2200.

### Ideas for the Future

The PPG at its most recent meeting began to think about ideas that we could take forward when the COVID pandemic reduces in intensity. Two of the ideas that we may take forward, are the resumption of bereavement groups and setting up a memory café or cafés in the Practice area. If you have any ideas for support that the PPG could set up to complement the services the Practice provides please contact us by email on [4patientparticipation@gmail.com](mailto:4patientparticipation@gmail.com)

## Good Neighbour Scheme

We hope you are continuing to be safe and well.

Over the past few months, the Good Neighbour Scheme volunteers have continued to help people in the village by putting out bins and recycling, picking up prescriptions, shopping and providing telephone company. A housebound resident wanted to donate a laptop for school children who didn't have one to use for home schooling during the Covid restrictions, so we took the laptop to Yate Fire Station on their behalf. Avon Fire & Rescue Service has teamed up with DigiLocal, a local charity to help tackle Bristol's digital poverty crisis.

With the restrictions slowly being lifted, we will be able to do more of the jobs we did before Covid. If you think you or someone you know would benefit from our help with such things as putting out bins, simple household DIY jobs or company, please contact us. We also appreciate that you may need help if, for example, your regular helpers have to self-isolate or become unwell. If this is the case, please contact us to see if we have volunteers who can help you.

If you think you can help and would like to join us as a volunteer, please get in touch. You decide how much time you give and what types of tasks you'd like to help with, and everything we do is local.

You can contact us on 07961 939574 or by emailing [goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org](mailto: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](http://www.pucklechurch.org/html/good_neighbours.htm)

The recipes are available on the Pucklechurch website ([www.pucklechurch.org/good\\_neighbours.html](http://www.pucklechurch.org/good_neighbours.html)), so please feel free to use them.

Pucklechurch Players Present:

### 'Lockdown in Little Grimley'

and

### 'What's for Pudding?'

both by David Tristram

Saturday 26 June

at 3.00pm and 8.00pm

Please note, doors will open half an hour before performances

For tickets please text Elaine on 07940 207559

All tickets £7.00

BYO drinks & nibbles

## Pucklechurch Players Return to the Stage

The Pucklechurch Players are pleased to announce that we will be returning to the stage in June after an absence of well over a year. On Saturday 26th June we will be presenting two One Act Plays, 'Lockdown in Little Grimley' and 'What's for Pudding?' over two performances, one in the afternoon and one in the evening. Please note, both plays are of adult content. Obviously, our performances are dependent on the current restrictions being eased on 21st June. We will abide with all measures that will still be in place but have planned to restrict maximum audience capacity to 50 rather than our usual 90. In doing this we will be able to ensure that family/friends groups are on tables well-spaced from others. The tables, chairs and other areas will be carefully cleaned between performances. Raffle tickets will be sold at the tables to reduce the need for queuing. Should we need to cancel the performances, we will offer a full refund. We hope that you will be able to support us in our relaunch, it being one small step for us all to get back to normality.

## Millennium Stone Garden

I am sure you have noticed the garden around the Millennium Stone has been cleared and replanted. Our thanks must go to John Sexton and Chris Brain for all their hard work removing all the old plants and planting new ones.

The garden was originally planted to commemorate our links with the village of Pringy in France. We no longer arrange official trips but we still keep in touch with many of our friends in Pringy and as a village group meet socially.

We are very grateful for the contributions given towards the garden by both Revel and the Parish Council.



It is hard to believe that by the time you read this over half of 2021 will have already gone – what remains to be seen is how far the Covid-19 restrictions will have been lifted. As I write the situation in our local area has been stable with imperceptibly few positives for several weeks in a row so let's hope it stays that way.

### Parish Council New Website

As some of you will recall we commissioned a new website which I am pleased to say has now been published live. The new website address is:

[www.pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk)

It carries all the information the old site did but presents it in a more easily accessible format. This is because we want as many people as possible to be able to use it and also because the old website did not meet revised public sector accessibility regulations. For example, this now means you should be able to:

- zoom in up to 300% without the text spilling off the screen
- navigate most of the website using just a keyboard
- navigate most of the website using speech recognition software
- listen to most of the website using a screen reader
- We've also made the website text as simple as possible to understand.

As well as a new address for the website there are now also new contact email addresses for the councillors and our clerk, Daphne Dunning, who can now be contacted by email addressed to [clerk@pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@pucklechurchparishcouncil.gov.uk) Please take a few minutes to explore the site and enjoy the photo gallery we have provided too!

### Full Council Meetings – update

We have not been able to hold face to face public meetings since March 2020 but a temporary change to regulations meant that we have been able to meet remotely twice a month via Zoom. Sadly, the temporary arrangements have come to an end and the High Court ruled that from May 7, council meetings in England must take place "in person". Parish Council would normally meet in the Community Centre meeting room, but has taken the view that this is not suitable for physical meetings, to which all members of the public are entitled to attend, not least of which because of the continued health risk given the current pandemic - the room is not capable of enabling social distancing and other safety measures like fresh air cannot be provided. Council will not meet again in person until after 21st June. This means that as before, we are acting under our published scheme of delegation whereby our Clerk is empowered to carry on the work of the council. Councillors will still meet informally to progress projects that are already in hand.

## Pucklechurch coach trips

As Happy Circle has now closed, a small group of us are hoping to restart trips from the village under the heading 'Village Trips'. We plan to use a similar format with most of the trips taking place on a Tuesday and we are hoping to put together a full itinerary for 2022.

We also hope to have a few trips this year starting in September but this is dependent on the lifting of certain Covid restrictions.

A big thank you must be given to Lesley Putt for all her hard work in organising the trips in the past.

If you think you might be interested in future trips please contact Elaine with your details on [elainejstone15@gmail.com](mailto:elainejstone15@gmail.com) or 01179373105.



### Community Governance Review

Some of you may have read an article in 'Emersons Green Voice' about Council's request to South Gloucestershire Council for a 'Community Governance Review' – specifically Council has asked SGC to consider making changes to the boundary of Pucklechurch parish in the Lyde Green area. This type of review enables the alteration of parish boundaries to ensure they reflect the communities that actually live there, as well as to ensure the councils responsible for them are able to best deliver the most effective and efficient local services. It is Council's view that since the housing development being planned for Lyde Green would sit immediately adjacent to the area covered by Emersons Green Town Council, it would be more sensible for the whole of this area to be managed by a single entity, especially as many of the local facilities would be in the adjacent council area.

South Gloucestershire Council has now agreed to consider a boundary change, but it is not a foregone conclusion since the process necessarily, and quite rightly, involves public consultation before any changes can be made. The review will not begin until this time next year.

### And finally.....some good news

As I reported in the Spring Newsletter, Council applied to SGC to draw down s106 money that resulted from the Oaktree Avenue development to enable improvement works to the allotments that will deliver a 25% increase in provision. I am pleased to be able to report that our application was successful and so we have now drawn up a timetable for delivery. I look forward to reporting on the project's progress soon. Gail Boyle, Chair PPC

## News from Emersons Green library

As lockdown eases, we are able to offer more services, so now you can .....

Enjoy the simple pleasure of choosing your own items again! We have lots of new titles in stock and are open Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 10am – 5pm and Sat 9.30am – 1pm. Our catalogue of 2.5 million items gives you even more to choose from at [www.librarieswest.org.uk](http://www.librarieswest.org.uk) if you wish to order specific titles. Services may change at short notice and our webpage [www.southglos.gov.uk/library-changes](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/library-changes) is kept updated.

If you prefer, you can still order ahead using our Click and Collect service. Book a collection slot online <https://sglibraries.eventbrite.com> or by calling 01454 865022 and we'll choose items based on your answers - for you, for your children or both.

Use a computer/printing/scanning facilities or Wi-Fi for free (currently limited to 1 hour each day). You can call 01454 865022 if you wish to book a specific time.

If you have a baby aged 0 – 12 months pick up a FREE Bookstart Baby Bag by visiting any South Gloucestershire library.

We anticipate resuming our Rhyme Time sessions for pre-school children by the end of June. Please email [downend.library@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:downend.library@southglos.gov.uk) for more details.

Take part in our FREE book trail and quiz around Emersons Green park. We have a story and quiz for children to follow around the park, with accompanying quiz sheets available from the library.