

PUCKLECHURCH NEWS



WINTER 2015/16

FUNDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL

www.pucklechurch.org

Avon Federation of Women's Institutes

Planting of commemorative trees at the National Trust's Dyrham Park.

150 W.I. members from across the Bristol region braved the threat of "Storm Abigail" today to plant two commemorative trees in the Deer Park of Dyrham House. The first, a Sweet Chestnut, marked the centenary of the founding of the Women's Institute and the second, a Beech, marked the 40th anniversary of W.I. locally – the Avon Federation of Women's Institutes (AFWI) founded in 1975.

Both trees are adjacent to the road winding down through Dyrham's scenic "Deer Park" to the picturesque Georgian mansion, currently being re-roofed, and will be seen by many thousands each year, as visitors are bussed, or walk, down to the house and gardens.

The ceremony included a lusty rendition of "Jerusalem," the W.I. anthem. After the ceremony participants braved the elements to visit the house and gardens, enjoy the "Roof Top Experience" and of course enjoy scones and cream in the restaurant.

AFWI would like to thank the National Trust and especially the volunteers and staff at Dyrham, who made this event so memorable.

Quotes:

1. Jo Morton, of Shortwood Village W.I. and an AFWI Trustee who organised the event said *"The W.I. and National Trust are two organisations close to my heart, so it has been very special today planting two beautiful saplings, which will enhance Dyrham Park for many years to come. My thanks to the National Trust staff at Dyrham who helped to make it such a memorable experience for our W.I members from across the Avon area"*.
2. Donna Butcher, of Abbots Leigh W.I. and Chair of AFWI Board of Trustees, said *"Dyrham Park is a wonderful place and also a little known memorial to those who died in World War Two. In 50 years time these trees will still be celebrating the work & comradeship of the W.I. across the Bristol region, deer permitting! We were fortunate that Storm Abigail held off. We loved the scones and jam!"*
3. National Trust Events Co-ordinator at Dyrham, Beth Thomas said *"The National Trust staff and volunteers are thrilled that AFWI chose to plant their commemorative trees here in our deer park. We will look after them and protect them from our beautiful herd of deer. Once the trees are fully established, the deer will use them for shade to the delight of all our visitors. We are glad that the WI's day went so well and we enjoyed their singing of Jerusalem."*
4. Veronica Packham of Timsbury W.I. and Vice Chair of AFWI Board of Trustees said *"What a wonderful way to celebrate our centenary and anniversary! And how appropriate it is to plant trees which will, we hope, give pleasure for many years to those who visit this historic house."*
5. Daphne Vise, of Portbury W.I. and immediate Past Chair of AFWI said *"What a wonderful opportunity we have been given to celebrate our 40th anniversary in the beautiful surroundings of Dyrham Park, planting our two trees. It has been wonderful to be with so many members and hear our joyous rendition of Jerusalem echo across the valley."*



NSPCC

**Christmas
Carols
Delivered Directly
to Your Door**



This Christmas the Pucklechurch branch of the NSPCC will be raising money the old-fashioned way: carol singing through the village. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, you'll find NSPCC volunteers knocking on your front door and offering you a song in exchange for a donation to the charity. We hope you'll enjoy the experience and give generously.

The NSPCC is the UK's leading charity for the prevention of child abuse. The money raised supports ChildLine, educational programmes and awareness campaigns, provides assistance for abused children, and much more. Our local fundraising group has raised over £7,000 for the NSPCC in the last 7 years.

Good tidings to you, wherever you are. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pucklechurch Parish Council Chairman's Report – Winter

The Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations 2016

The Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, Dame Janet Trotter (who also covers South Gloucestershire), is organising an event to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday next year.

The event is likely to be held in Thornbury and on Friday 22 April 2016.

With regard to those to be invited, I would be very grateful for your assistance and any information you can provide on the following:

- 1 – Are you aware of any parishioners who will be 90 on 21 April 2016?
- 2 – Are you aware of any parishioners who will already be in their 90s next year?
- 3 – Are there any voluntary groups / charities who you think should be invited.

If you can answer any of the above please inform the Clerk Jodie Bailey on
Email: parish.council@pucklechurch.org

Solar Panels at Leigh Farm

At the time of writing there is no further news to report other than the project is still on hold awaiting the outcome of Government grant reviews.

Cycleway/ Multi-user Path

You will no doubt have seen that the path has now been completed up to the furthest point where it is practical to use the verge. The next stage involves the need for the path to traverse onto private land which is also in Siston Parish. Meetings have taken place with Siston, South Gloucestershire Council and a land owner but as yet no clear way forward has been agreed.

Dog and General Waste Bins

The Council has undertaken a review of the servicing of dog and waste bins.

Essentially since dog waste may now be deposited in any bin there is no longer a need to have specific bins for this type of waste. This

means that the Council is looking to reduce the number of bins in places where there are two positioned close together; this is part of a wider review of the street care contract and the services we pay SGC for including grass cutting. Further information will be made available in the spring about any changes that are made but in the meantime I would encourage you to continue "PoopaScooping" especially around the Rec.

Skateboard Park

Gloucester Playing Fields Association has provided the Council with thereport that has resulted in Councillors deciding to remove the skateboard facility. The apparatus was deemed to be unsafe, too far out of the village and would be very costly to replace; there is also a much more modern park now at Emersons Green. The Council had also commissioned a comprehensive study of the woodland (where the apparatus is situated) by Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre, with a view to exploring using the area as an education facility. When taken in conjunction with each other

both reports led Councillors to believe that it made sense to develop the woodland to provide a wider range of opportunities. No formal decisions have been taken as to what these will be since these can only be made in light of proper consultation regarding plans, costs and the woodland's sustainability.

Pucklechurch Community Centre Signs

I am pleased to report that the Council has funded and arranged the installation of two eye-catching new signs for the centre, which are now situated on either side of the main entrance on Abson Rd.

And finally.....

As it is the festive season the Council wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BoB Symons, Chairman
01179374105

Good Neighbour Scheme

The Good Neighbour Scheme has continued taking calls for help and company from members of our community.

We are spending time providing company to several people in Pucklechurch and we have provided help with small gardening tasks and continue to put bins out for collection. We have also worked with the local authority to arrange professional help to resolve a serious household problem for a resident.

We had a stall at the Revel this year and we talked to many people about what we do. We gave out many leaflets and fridge magnets containing our contact details. Several people also showed interest in becoming volunteers.

We're available to help people throughout Pucklechurch and Shortwood who may need our help or benefit from other peoples' company.

If you would like help with something you can't manage yourself, please give us a ring. With Winter approaching, you may know of someone in the parish who would benefit from our help. If we can't help (our insurance doesn't cover transport or working at heights) we may be able to help you find businesses or organisations that can.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, you can give as much or as little time as you like. Please contact Larisa, Rodney or Ross on 07961 939574 or email goodneighbours@pucklechurch.org.



After a recent Ofsted inspection in October 2015, Pucklechurch Playgroup was rated as "Good" and the inspector praised staff; "Teaching is of a consistently high standard. As a result, children make good progress in their learning. Staff tailor children's care and learning to meet their individual needs. All children make consistently good progress from their starting points". The full report can be accessed via the Ofsted web site at, <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/136060>.

Why not come in any time and have a look for yourself, or call Georgina Wynter on 07736713730 or Fiona Hanney on 07545315365



It's barely into November as I sit down to write this and already Pucklechurch Revel is in full planning mode for 2016. We have listened and read your comments that were made to committee members over the past few months and have compiled the top four suggestions made:

More live music

Bring back the parade

Keep the dog show

Bring back Archery

The committee have discussed all these ideas at length and we are hoping to incorporate all of these ideas into Revel 2016.

However, if we bring back the parade we will need your help! The parade is a difficult task to manage and we need mums, dads, grandparents, aunts and uncles to man the route and stop the traffic.

We can only do this if we have volunteers. You would be provided with full PPE and it will only take an hour of your time. And you'll get a great view of all the walkers and floats.

If we have enough volunteers by 1 March 2016, we will bring back the parade. If we don't... the parade will have to go.

PUCKLECHURCH REVEL NEEDS YOU!

Each year Revel and the Beer Festival work tirelessly to raise money for YOU and 2015 was no exception.

This year Pucklechurch Revel donated £3850 to local groups and causes:

Organisation/Group		For	
Pucklechurch Cricket club	£350	New regulation helmets	£350
Pucklechurch Football Club	£350	2 X Away kits for the teams	£350
3rd Rainbows	£75	Ongoing activities	£100
1st Guides	£300	Camping equipment	£200
St Thomas a Becket Church	£200	Christmas flood lighting	£200
WI	None requested	-	£50 - To reimburse the WI for fees incurred on Revel day
Village Playgroup	£300	Forrest Schools equipment	£300
Happy Circle	£200	Speakers	£100
Tower Preschool	£400	Sensory equipment	£300
1st Brownies	£100	New Flag	£100
Scout group	£400	Shelving for the camp store	£200
Twinning Association	£300	To help fund children visiting Pringy	£100
Majorettes	£150	New costumes	£150
PCA	£850	Lighting	£350
Jill Bailey Memorial Fund	£1000	Park area on the Rec	£1000

As you can see Revel donates a large amount of money each year to worthwhile causes and to help keep our community groups going. We could not do this without YOUR HELP and we will need your help and support next year.

The theme for next year's Revel will be;

'PUCKLEBURY; A festival of music, dance, art and food'

Here's an early opportunity to get Revel dates in your diaries, starting with the Christmas Sparkle on 29 November at 4pm at the Millennium Stone.

Event	Location	Date
Beer Festival	Star Inn Car park	25-26 June, 2016
Revel Disco	Village Hall	14 May 2016
Craft Fair/Table top Sale	Village Hall	18 June 2016
Dog Show	Rec	18 June 2016
Revel Service	St Thomas a Becket	19 June 2016
Revel Quiz	Fleur Di Lis	20 June 2016

You can keep up with all Revel news by liking and following us on Facebook and Twitter and you can also read the minutes of our meetings at, www.pucklechurch.org/html/revel.html

We hope we can count on your support for 2016 and if you are interested in volunteering please contact me on: lorianne.scantlebury@googlemail.com or 07789707278.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Lori-Anne

Pucklechurch Community Association Report

First of all, on behalf of Pucklechurch Community Association, I would like to thank the Parish Council for paying for the cost of the new signs at the entrance to the Community Centre building. I hope you will agree that they are more eye catching than the previous signs!

In the last edition of Pucklechurch News, the Social Club's entertainment night on Saturday 17 October was mentioned. We have been told that tickets for the event, which included a 'Take That' tribute band, were sold out and the night was absolutely brilliant. The band had amazing voices and they engaged with the audience, enjoyed the banter and took the crowd by storm. The cocktails were flowing all night and everyone danced away to the band and disco until midnight!

Keep your eyes out for future events at the Social club. The Community Centre offers a range of facilities, which we are continually looking to improve in order to offer a better experience for you all; however, it would help us if you could let us know what you want from the Community Centre.

Are you interested in a particular activity that does not currently take place in the village? Do you have an idea that would encourage participation from the community? Do you have any suggestions that could improve the current facilities for the benefit of the residents of the village? If so, we would like to hear from you.

Please contact me by email – peter.nunez@btinternet.com. Your ideas and input would be greatly appreciated. We are always looking for new committee members to join the Pucklechurch Community Association Executive Committee. Come and take part in discussions and suggestions that will shape the facilities and events that are offered to the community. If you are interested, please contact me at the above email address. We look forward to hearing from you.

Pucklechurch News

Funded by the Pucklechurch Parish Council

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Please email articles to editor@pucklechurch.org or drop them off any one of us at the addresses above. Please include your name and telephone number in case we have questions about your article. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We cannot be responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication.

Copy Deadlines:

10th February for March edition (Spring)

10th May for June edition (Summer)

10th August for September edition (Autumn)

10th November for December edition (Winter)

Pucklechurch Community Association Social Club Report

(Abson Road Village Hall)

Well we promised a great night and on 17 October we delivered with a fantastic evening of 'Take That' classic hits being performed by an exceptional tribute band. A capacity audience sang along to and enjoyed the delights of cocktails such as Mike's Cuban Mojito from the cocktail bar. What a brilliant evening.

Congratulations to Pucklechurch Cricket Club First Team who secured the league title and promotion – the party celebrations in the social club were, to say the least, enjoyable and lively – well done to them. Are you interested in joining or playing? Contact for the ladies team is Georgina Wynter – 07736 713730 and for the three adult teams and the youth team contact either Dean Freestone – 07780 525487 or Club Secretary Vicky Freestone – 01179 373227.

Dave's Sunday night quizzes are always well attended and it is testament to the quality and variety of his questions that means all have a great chance of winning. The evenings have been great fun with the chance to win some cash (or if the questions don't go so well, some crisps!). These are usually held on the last Sunday of each month at 8:30pm. The next quiz is on 29 November and the Christmas Quiz on 20 December.

Community Cinema Film nights are a popular draw. 'The Second Most Exotic Marigold Hotel', 'Woman in Gold', and 'Mr Holmes' were well attended. All films start at 8:00pm and are free to members – where else could you have an evening out with friends and enjoy a pint or a glass of wine whilst watching a good film? Coming up are the classic war film 'Where Eagles Dare' and the blockbuster 'San Andreas'. Check out the notice boards and the Pucklechurch Community web-site for details. Tell Dave Matthews or any of the committee if you have ideas for future presentations.

If all the stress of present wrapping becomes too much for you on Christmas Eve, pop along to the social club for an evening of music and dancing - and don't forget the New Year's Eve party.

The Grand Christmas Draw sheets are now up in the social club. It's 20p per entry with loads of prizes and the funds raised are used to help fund the Pensioner Members' Christmas Party. This takes place on Sunday 17 January 2016.

If you have any ideas to improve what is offered by the club please let one of the committee know about it.

If you want to join you can get a membership application form from the social club bar – great value at just £5 per adult resident.

Contact us at pucklechurchsocialclub@gmail.com

Mobile Library

Details for the Mobile Library Service to Pucklechurch are

Oaktree Avenue 2.15 – 2.30

Village Hall 2.35 – 2.50

Homefield Rd Bungalows 3.0 – 3.20

Homefield Rd 3.25 – 3.40

Dates (alternate Fridays)

18 December 2015

15 7 29 January 2016

Researching the history of Pucklechurch Congregational Chapel from far afield!

Pam Body has contacted Pucklechurch News all the way from Australia and tells us about her interest in the building.

I am interested in this building as I am researching the career of its architect, Henry Stuckey. He subsequently went on to apply his talents in the new colony of South Australia.

The origins of the Pucklechurch Congregational Chapel go back to 1816 when the Bristol Itinerant Society began a Sunday School in the village. This was conducted in various houses, and at times in the Collier's Arms public house. By 1841 the Sunday School and the congregation had grown sufficiently to require a Chapel. Freehold land was bought by the society and an architect was commissioned to design a building to house up to two hundred worshippers.

Henry Stuckey, a young architect from Bristol, designed the building in the 'Early English Style', which was considered a 'unique edifice' in the district. The builder, John Vincent, was also from Bristol. On 7 June 1845 the foundation stone was laid by a supporter of the Itinerant Society, Mr. W.O. Wills from Bristol. The opening of the Chapel in October 1845 brought a large attendance to the two services.

In 1854 a schoolroom, adjoining the chapel, was built for use as a Sunday school and a day school. By 1857 seventy children were enrolled in the day school with one hundred children attending the Sunday school. Good attendance also continued for both the morning and evening services.

The day school continued until it was forced to close in 1893 as numbers declined when other schooling was offered. Demolition of the Chapel appears to have started in about 1975 and its records were deposited in the Gloucestershire Record Office in 2000.

Meanwhile, after arriving in South Australia in 1848, Henry was responsible for the design of some of Adelaide's iconic buildings which included a number of churches. A drawing, sketch or photograph of the Pucklechurch Chapel would show some of his work in England before he sailed to Adelaide in 1848 and provide me with an insight into his early work. My contact is body@lightningpl.net.au or text to +61413069320.

GARDENERS CLUB

The start of our Autumn/Winter programme on Wednesday 7th October kicked off with guest speaker Sally Gregson, from Mill Cottage Plants in Somerset, making a return visit to the club to talk about the "Naked Garden".

As always, Sally gave an inspiring look at the garden with the onset of winter and what plants give best colour during these months. Sally also brought lots of plants for sale from her nursery.

Afterwards, Sally was asked to judge the monthly competition of 'Photo of a single flower' which was won by Lynn Bate, with a photograph of a beautiful fuchsia. Mike Hanks came second, and Mike Wallis coming third with a 'quirky' picture. The competition was well supported with 20 entries, and the evening ended with a raffle and refreshments.

Our next meeting on Wednesday 4th November is a 'Questions & Answers' evening, hosted by George Alway & Tony Pratt. The competition is 'Miniature garden on dinner plate'.

Visitors are always welcome and are asked to contribute 50p per visit for a maximum of 2 meetings, and are then encouraged to join. The current annual subscription is £10 per person for the year.

For more information about our meetings & activities, please contact:

Lynn Bate on 01179 374297, Val Seaman 01179 372095 or Ann Smith 01179 372030

FISHING CLUB NEWS



Our September match was a Todbar Manor, Shaftsbury and a glorious day was had by all. Jeff Agius won with 90lbs of Carp. However, what goes up must come down and our September match on the Gloucester Canal, was won by Martin Sheppard with just 9lb of fish and that was more than the rest of us put together! Lastly the November match was won by Bob Wiltshire with 7lbs of Bream and while his end of the canal was full of fish, the rest of us struggled; the lack of rain and the bright conditions saw to that.

Anyone interested in joining the Fishing Club should contact Mike Snudden on 07742925276.

Rogue Traders in South Glos

South Gloucestershire Trading Standards would like to reiterate the warning given recently to residents to be extra vigilant when dealing with unexpected callers at the front door.

Officers are aware that rogue traders are currently operating in the area and are offering to carry out, amongst other things, roofing work and tree services. It would appear that special offers are being made to those of retirement age to entice them into agreeing to work being undertaken.

Rogue trading incidents such as these are also linked to distraction burglaries, so we would ask that residents please look out for your neighbours, family and friends as well and report any suspicious activity.

There are a number of steps residents can take to try and avoid becoming the victim of a rogue trader. Be wary of traders who cold call and the deals they offer you – it is unusual for genuine tradesmen to need to cold call to drum up work!

- Do not allow any unknown and unexpected visitor into your home. If possible, try to deal with them through a window or use a door chain
- Ensure your front and back doors are closed and locked if your attention is elsewhere.
- If you agree to work you are afforded cancellation rights by law, and these should be given to you in writing. It is a criminal offence not to provide these in certain circumstances.
- If you are unhappy or feel intimidated by the visitor – shut the door and call the police.

If you think you or someone you know has fallen victim to a rogue trader, please contact senior Trading Standards enforcement officer Neil Derrick immediately on 07801 200104 or 01454 864565.

For advice on this or any other consumer issue, contact the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 or visit their website www.adviceguide.org.uk.





Registered Charity No. 1153851

PLEASE HELP STAMP OUT BLINDNESS SEND US YOUR USED CHRISTMAS STAMPS

A big thankyou to all of you who have sent stamps already, your support will enable the stamp appeal to be an ongoing fund raiser to support the Fight against Blindness

If you are reading this for the first time - we are asking if you could spare a few moments each day to tear off the stamps from your letters (if you cut around them we can get a higher price) and save them until you have a fair number (perhaps enough to fill a jiffy bag or similar) & post them onto us at the address below. Whether entire collections or individual stamps, British or foreign, franked or not, we would really appreciate your donations as every little helps. Thank you.

Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) is a disease of the eye that leads to loss of vision and blindness. The Charity RP Fighting Blindness works hard to stimulate and fund cutting edge research to find a treatment or cure and support those affected - some 25,000 people in the UK alone.

Never heard of Retinitis Pigmentosa? Do you belong to a Club or Group who would like us to come & give a talk about the condition RP and the work of the charity? If so we would be pleased to receive an invite, the talk is designed to be interesting informative & humorous.

Ron & Gina Pritchard, 22 Huckford Road, Winterbourne, Bristol BS36 1EA 01454 772927

bristolsglosfightingblindness@gmail.com
www.rpfightingblindness.org.uk

VOTO

(Villagers on their own)

This group is for single people over the age of 50. Once again we have enjoyed a full programme of events

Not everyone goes to everything and the idea is that you choose to go to the events you would enjoy.

During the summer we enjoyed meals out and visits to Highfields Gardens, Abbey Gardens, and the Big Pit. A trip on the Matthew with a fish and chip supper, and a boat trip down the river from Bath were both very successful. In May some of us enjoyed a taster croquet session, and in August we walked around the Docks on a very wet Sunday.

In September, 11 of us visited the beautiful city of Lisbon and had a wonderful time visiting different parts of the city as well as the palaces at Sintra, and the seaside towns of Estoril and Cascais. A group of us are also off to Warners at Littlecote this month for a 'Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons' tribute weekend.

If you would like to join us or would like more information contact Elaine on 01179373105 or email elainerudge@aol.com



ST. THOMAS a BECKET PUCKLECHURCH

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 20th December

6p.m. Handbells

6.30p.m. Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve 24th December

3.30p.m. Handbells

4p.m. Christingle and Nativity

11.30p.m. Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

10a.m. Family Communion

We look forward to welcoming everybody at any or all of these services.

ST. JAMES THE GREAT ABSON

Sunday 20th December

3p.m. Carol Service

Christmas Day

8.30a.m. Holy Communion

Saturday 27th February 2016

2p.m. Jumble Sale at Community Centre.

The collection on Remembrance Sunday was £275.54. This is being divided equally between British Legion & Help for Heroes

Pucklechurch Cricket Club

After a successful 2015 season, which saw our 1st team win promotion and the launch of the Panthers ladies team, we are now planning for next year.

Pre-season indoor training starts in February and we are looking for new recruits for all our adult and junior teams. If you are interested, please contact Dean or Vicky on 0117 9373227 or check our website www.pucklechurchcc.co.uk for more information.



1st Pucklechurch Beavers

The Beavers have been thinking recently about what it means to be part of Scouting, we've discovered that nearly every Country in the World is involved in Scouting, amazingly only six Countries aren't! Many go by different names, in Australia, for example, Beaver groups are called Joey's and in Hong Kong they are known as Grasshoppers but we are all still part of one, big, Scouting family. We've decided to try to swap postcards with Scouts in as many countries as possible and even took our own photographs of Pucklechurch, to make postcards to send around the World. We've done well, so far, and have received cards from New York, Puerto Rico, Ireland, the Falkland's, Australia and Luxemburg but would love some additional help. If you have family or friends abroad who may be able to put us in contact with their local Scouting groups we'd love to hear from you!

We've also been on the ever popular trip to Yate fire station. Unfortunately the visit didn't get off to a very good start, with the crew being called out within minutes of us arriving, but after a little patience from the Beavers the main crew came back pretty quickly. We all enjoyed a tour of the Fire Station, and looking at the tools and gadgets the officers use to do such a brilliant job. Of course, the highlight was getting to use the high power water jets!

We recently commemorated Remembrance and some of the Beavers took part in the parade and church service on Remembrance Sunday. They laid a wreath of poppies in the church, which all of the beavers contributed to making when they were learning about the occasion. We have also been learning about Diwali, an ancient celebration also known as the festival of lights. We made Indian sweets to share with our families and painted Diya lamps all whilst listening to traditional Indian music, It's safe to say that an evening which involved sweet making was a bit of a hit!

If you would like more information about Beavers or could help us with our postcard swap please contact Emma on 07539 692986 or at pucklechurch.beavers@yahoo.co.uk



1st Pucklechurch Cubs

Since September, the Cub Pack in Pucklechurch have followed up on their earlier visit to Yate Fire Station and earned their Fire Safety badge, learning about what to do in an emergency, and how to avoid emergencies occurring. We thought about what the Cub Scout Promise means to us and how we try to keep it when four new Cubs made their Promise.

Everyone took on the challenge of creating a Cobra knot woggle using paracord. Many Cubs were sure they would not be able to manage as the knots looked quite fiddly. By the end of the evening, however, each had a smart new woggle to wear with their neckers as Cubs who had got the hang of it quickly helped the others.

We took part in the Remembrance parade and church service when we remembered members of the Armed Services who have died.

At the request of the Cubs we have had a cooking evening, making mushy pea curry, chapattis and chocolate crispie cakes. We

also are going climbing on an indoor climbing wall and finishing off the term with a onesie/ pyjama party

For more information please contact Rachel Smith – 07736 320003



1st Pucklechurch Scouts

This report was written by three Scouts as part of one of their Challenge badges

Lest we forget.

Wednesday at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month we all sat in silence for two minutes to remember those who fought for us on the battlefield.

On Sunday 8 November Scouts and Guides marched in honour of those who fought for us on the battlefields. We marched to our church alongside the flags that we held to represent our groups. When we got to the church we walked to the front to the church and we placed our flags at the front. We sang some hymns for the people who gave their lives to keep us safe and sound in Britain. Then we had our 2 minutes silence in front of the wreathes. At the end of the service we lowered the flags down and sang God Save the Queen.

Then we came back and had a massive cake sale and raised over £100 pounds for the Poppy Appeal.

By Ben L, Thomas B and Amy Y.

Explorer Scouts

Our new Explorer Scout Troop has got off to a flying start with members from both Pucklechurch and Marshfield taking part in a variety of activities. Some of the troop attended the One Night Stand at Chelwood Campsite. The event was open to Explorer Scouts all over the county and hundreds attended. There were lots of activities to encourage participants to stay awake all night including live bands, a cinema and a campfire.

Four intrepid Explorers took on the Sodbury Challenge which is an overnight orienteering exercise around Chipping Sodbury. All returned safely back to base but not until 02:00 in the morning! Fortunately it was a very mild and dry night, unlike our half term activity which was a trek across the Brecon Beacons. Despite a damp start, the weather did improve during the 8 hour hike providing stunning views across the mountains and an excellent opportunity to practise some of the skills required for the DofE award scheme.

Our troop meet every Thursday during term time from 20:00, either at the Pucklechurch Scout Hut or at Marshfield Chapel and is open to anyone aged between 14 and 18. The Explorers have also put together an exciting list of activities they would like to complete over the coming year so if you are looking to learn new skills or try out some different activities, please contact Sean on 07771 636667 or Julie on 077132 80051.



GUIDING REPORT

A ROYAL VISITOR MEETS GIRLS FROM OUR SENIOR SECTION

GirlGuiding president, Sophie, Countess of Wessex visited Dyrham Park recently. She met two members of Dyrham Senior Section, and Ellie Mae presented her with a small bouquet. An exciting honour indeed!

The girls are currently undertaking the South West Region's Senior Section Centenary Challenge Badge, with eight Octants to complete. So far they have tried night time photography, 100 Sudoku puzzles in an evening, and will be learning about Guiding history from members of the Trefoil Guild, which caters for adults interested in supporting the girls. To celebrate the centenary of the Senior Section in 2016, our County is planning a trip to the Isle of Man next August to take part in a range of exciting activities. Why not join in? Are you aged 14+? Contact Judith on judithlouise@hotmail.com for full details.



1st Pucklechurch Rainbows

Ruth told me the girls are working on their Camp Fire badge this term. They were very enthusiastic when they toasted marshmallows over a small, but real fire! They sang camp fire songs and are looking forward to another session, this time with more traditional Guiding songs. These Rainbows meet on Tuesdays from 3.25pm to 4.25pm in the Scout Hut and Ruth is happy to welcome any five or six year old girls who would like to join her happy little group. Contact her on 0117 9373405, or email Simon, her secretary/treasurer, on simonmartinharris@hotmail.com

3rd Pucklechurch Rainbows

The Unit focused on Europe this term. Joanna said; "We made a Hungarian doll in folk costume, a Viking mask to celebrate Denmark's heritage, and made our own Eiffel towers using cocktail sticks and marshmallows." On one evening, just as the heavens opened, we all embarked on an extremely wet and muddy walk at Warmley Forest Park (I can confirm this. I went too; we were absolutely soaked, but Rainbow spirits were not dampened! Ros). We also gathered leaves on the Rec to create autumn pictures. Joanna and Maria would love to welcome more young ladies aged five and six to their very active Unit which

meets on Wednesdays between 4pm – 5pm in the Scout Hut. Contact Joanna Joanna@wallisfamily.plus.com or Maria mariacard@hotmail.co.uk



Brownies

Phil Devey, Unit Guider, says; "We're working towards our Science Investigator badge. To do this we've explored smells, sounds, structures and fingerprints. We've also celebrated Diwali, and had a Halloween party with lots of activities and games." These seven to ten year olds meet on Tuesdays from 5.00pm to 6.30pm in the Scout Hut and are looking for more girls to join in all the exciting activities that Brownies offers. Contact Phil on philypoosis@hotmail.com



Guides

This Unit continues to thrive and grow steadily. The eleven girls have been extremely busy this term working on a range of badges. The Chocolate one, which explores fair trade, origins of chocolate, and tasting chocolate, is always popular! As animal lovers, the Guides enjoyed working on their Animal Active badge. Currently the girls are watching films from five different genres, which they then have to evaluate, before receiving their Movies badge. A recent craft session produced Christmas presents, now hidden away. George said; "We're all looking forward to our visit to Air Hop in December." She didn't tell me whether the leaders were going to hop/jump. Are you aged 10+? Then why not join in. Contact George on wynter397@gmail.com

I am pleased to report all Units participated with the Scouts in the annual Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service. A brief rehearsal beforehand resulted in all colour parties parading and presenting their flags smartly. I would like to congratulate all who attended for their respectful behaviour. A relaxing time followed in the Scout Hut as refreshments were served and everyone had an opportunity to chat.

Ros Abbott
South Cotswold Deputy Division Commissioner

