

Purton Magazine

January 2010



Winter Friend
photo: *Dr Gwylfa John*

45p

PURTON CONTACTS



Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctors	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgeries	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Tues & Fri 2-5pm & 6-8pm Weds 10am-1pm & 2-5pm)</i>		
Police	Neighbourhood Policing	08454 087000
Post Office	Susan Budd	770346
Purton Age Concern	Tony Price	770696
Minibus	Richard Woodbridge	770862
Purton Helping Hand	Pauline Ward	770251
Purton Parish Council	Shirley Bevington	771066
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Schools and Play Groups:		
Bradon Forest Comprehensive	Secretary	770570
Playclose Playgroup	Dawn Phillips	778141
		or 07759 583566
Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup	Fionna Griffiths	771723
St Mary's Primary	Secretary	770239

LOCAL CHURCHES

CHURCH OF ENGLAND – PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY

Contact: Mrs Gladys Legg, tel 770210

Alan Woodward, tel 771572

Richard McCarthy, tel 770838

www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton

Services: See [Diary Page](#) in this magazine

METHODIST CHURCHES

Minister Rev Stephen Cullis, tel 853197

1, Garraways, Woodshaw, Wootton Bassett, SN4 8LT

Services: PURTON See [Diary Page](#) in this magazine

BRAYDON Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, WOOTTON BASSETT

Parish Priest Father J Reville tel 852366

Church of the Sacred Heart, High Street, Wootton Bassett

Services: Holy Days Vigil 7.00pm Holy day 9.30am

Sundays 10.30am Mass

For times of weekday services please see Church notice board

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE

Priest Father Philip Beisly tel 01285 712586

St Mary's Church, High Street, Cricklade

Holy Days 7.00pm Mass

Sundays 9.30am Mass

From the Editors

In the weeks before Christmas, there is one major event in the international news headlines – **Cop 15**, or to give its full title, the 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Owing to the seasonal holiday, this issue of your magazine will have been printed just before the last day of the conference and we are unable to mention any agreements or outcomes.

However, we are able to bring you a Letter from Copenhagen, kindly written specifically for this magazine by our very own correspondent who was a delegate at the conference. The sheer numbers of people involved from over 190 countries and the amount of daily documentation produced are quite hard to appreciate but our correspondent has created some very interesting and imaginative descriptions as you can see on [page 17](#).

As we start a new decade it can be timely to look back and see what has changed in the first decade of the 21st century. While some news stories may stick in the mind, it could be just as instructive to consider what tangible products and objects could have achieved iconic status over the last 10 years.

Giant flat screen televisions have become ubiquitous, often dominating living rooms as well as public spaces such as pubs and clubs as well as on the wall of a multi-deck car park in Swindon. On a personal level, the iPod and iPhone have brought people closer to the Apple Corporation and the original hardcore of their computer users, typically freelance graphic designers. Memory sticks for computers and rectangular spectacles for everyone are also icons of this period.

Notable new buildings have been opened and the more famous seem to have adopted their own nickname. Examples include the *Gherkin* in London (officially known as 30 St Mary Axe or the Swiss Re building) and the *Winking Eye* (the Gateshead Millennium Bridge). On a domestic scale, this was a period when people wanted to show off fashionable designs, even if sacrificing practicality. Perhaps the best example has been bowl basins that look very trendy but appear incapable of keeping splashes inside.

At the other end of the domestic design versus practicality continuum has been the introduction of the humble recycling bin which, together with the kerbside collections, confirms that we have become so much more aware of the environmental consequences of our actions in this last decade.

9

villagers joined the Wave rally on climate change in London
- see [page 18](#).

£208

raised at a coffee and carols event to support local guiding
- see [page 24](#).

480

WW1 names connected with Purton are being researched
- see [page 33](#).

CONTENTS

After Eight	Light Bulbs Explained
Age Concern	News from the Trustees
Bradon Forest School News	Parish Council News
Bradon Forest Theatre	Poppy Appeal
Cricket Club	Ps&Qs: Planning Alert
Cricklade Country Market	Purton Placard
Cricklade Fire Station	Purton Postbag: Letters
Diary Page	Purton Profferings
Evening W.I.	Purton Remembers
Exhibit of the Month	Purton United Charities
Fire Safety Advice	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides
Floodlighting St Mary's	Registers
Football Club	Revd Jane Haslam
Golden Wedding	Swindon & Cricklade Railway
Guide Dogs	Thought for the Month
Historical Society	Thursford 2010
Jane's Goodbye Bash	Toe Nail Cutting
Letter from Copenhagen	Twelve Days of Christmas
Letter from Jane Haslam	Victorians at Home & Abroad
Letter from the Wave	Wiltshire Blind Association
Library Hours	Your Magazine delivered free!



© 2004 - 2010

Magazine Committee

Avril Ainscough, Barbara Compton, John Creasey, Helen Dixon, Rick Dixon,
Sheila Fowler, Jacqui Lay, Nigel Manfield, Francis Sheppard

Typeset & Printed by: **In Touch Services**

Advertising enquiries and copy for contributions

by 10th of each month, please

to: Purton Magazine, c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill, Purton SN5 4DB
tel & fax: 01793 772954 email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Distribution enquiries only:

[John Creasey](#)

Other enquiries and comments for the committee to:
The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News

Widham Farm Development

We are pleased to report that the planning Inspector has dismissed the appeal for the 136 houses on the Widham site. His overall conclusion reads as follows:



“I find the Council’s disaggregation of housing land supply policy to be sensible in this case and that Purton is not within AoS2C. Consequently, the Council can demonstrate a 5 year supply of housing land and paragraph 71 of PPS3 does not apply. In terms of scale, there is no policy support for the proposal, which is greater than required for local needs. The proposal is contrary to policy H4 of the local plan. There are no material considerations of sufficient weight to outweigh the harm to policy and so the appeal should fail. I have taken into account the conditions of S106 obligations, but they do not alter my conclusions.”

The reference to AoS2C (Area of Search 2c) above refers to the area West of Swindon identified in the government’s Regional Spatial Strategy where the so called “Urban Extension of Swindon” of 3,000 houses could be located. For any of you that went along to the exhibition in the Millennium Hall on Saturday 5 December or to the exhibitions held in Cricklade and Wootton Bassett you may have seen the area identified on the plans displayed.

The Parish Council is very grateful to the two Councillors namely Michael Bell and Ray Thomas, Unitary Cllr Jacqui Lay, Richard Pagett and Tim Collier who attended the inquiry and did a lot of work behind the scenes to prepare for the two-day event. Although interesting, these inquiries are not easy to take part in practically when you can be cross-examined by barristers who are used to this type of environment. So a big thank-you to all concerned.

The Parish Council is currently working on its response to the consultation document for the Core Strategy for Wiltshire. The deadline for comment to Wiltshire Council is 31 December. Further details were provided in the December magazine about this consultation and the exhibition on 5 December in Purton hopefully proved interesting to those that attended. In determining the outcome of the Widham Development the Inspector, as you can see in his overall conclusion, refers to various policies. The core strategy, once finalised, will determine planning in our area until 2026 and will comprise of the policies that planning officers and Inspectors will refer to and be guided by in the future hence it is a very important document. Something that is likely to be removed is the development lines around towns and villages which, to a large extent, has protected us from major development on our boundaries, such as the Widham Development. This alone emphasises the impact the new Core Strategy could have on us in the future.

Permanent Skate Park

We are delighted to report that we have now secured the funding needed for the skate park which will be located at the Village Centre. Funding has been obtained from WYPOF (Wiltshire’s Young Peoples Opportunity Fund) and Biffaward which

is administered by Community First. We hope the skate park will be up and running for Easter 2010. The funding has been achieved with the help of several young people in the village who have been campaigning for a skate park since the summer of 2007. We are very pleased to be able to move this project forward and provide them and other youngsters with an enjoyable and challenging new leisure activity in the village.

Dog Fouling has again been highlighted as a problem in the village and in particular concern has been expressed about the extent of dog fouling in the vicinity of the schools. Please, please pick up your dog's mess. There are a number of poop bins located around the village and it is evident that a lot of responsible dog owners do use them but clearly others do not. Church Path is another area where we get a lot of complaints from people out for a walk, going to the cemetery to tend graves or going to funerals, also from our groundstaff when they are working in the area. If you get dog's mess on your shoes or clothes it is most unpleasant and can be very dangerous for children to the extent that it can cause blindness. Please clean up after your dog. We have asked the dog warden to patrol the area so be warned you could be fined.

Wiltshire Council has approved the following planning applications:

N09/01655/TPO *Red Gables, Restrop Road*, tree surgery to 3 horse chestnut to include 30% crown reduction, crown raising for 1 tree by 4m and reduction in length of side branches by 2m for 1 tree.

N09/01369/FUL & N09/01362/LBC

Ponds Farm, Purton Stoke, rebuilding of redundant loose boxes to office use.

N09/00768/COU *Restrop Farm*, alterations and conversion of former farm building to provide residential annex.

N09/01798/TCA *85B High Street*, fell 2 apple trees and an acacia tree.

N09/01835/FUL *35 New Road*, first floor extension.

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

email address: clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Website www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/purtonparishcouncil

Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board - forthcoming meetings

Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board is one of 18 area boards in the county that have been set up to bring local decision into the heart of the community.

As well as the six councillors that local people have elected to represent them, the board is made up of representatives of key organisations like the police, town and parish councils, Westlea Housing Association and the NHS. The area board has a pot of money to distribute to local community groups in the form of grants of up to £5,000 and potential applicants are encouraged to contact the community area manager for further details. Meetings are held in the larger villages and our two towns, across the community area, by rotation.

Everyone who lives, or works or has an interest in the community area is welcome to come along. The meetings are interactive and everyone is encouraged to have their say.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 27 January 2010 at Purton Village Hall. 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Agenda items include:

- Anti Social Behaviour- what is happening in our community area?
- Flooding
- Update on your community issues
- Community Area Grant awards

The following meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 24 March at Marsh Farm Hotel, Wootton Bassett.**

The remaining meetings for 2010 will be held on:

- 26 May in Cricklade
- 14 July in Lyneham
- 6 October in Purton
- 1 December in Wotton Bassett

(Venues to be confirmed)

For further information about the area board, grants or the community issues process, please contact the community area manager, Karen Scott on 01249 706496

or by email: karen.scott@wiltshire.gov.uk

or look at the area board's website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

Purton United Charities

The distribution of the charity funds will be made on

Saturday 30 January 2009 at Purton Village Hall between 2pm and 3pm.

Qualification to receive the Charity are:-

- 1 Only one payment per household.
- 2 In the case of a married couple this will be paid to the husband providing he is of retirement age.
- 3 Widows and single women providing they are of retirement age and are unable to work. (evidence of inability to work must be supplied)
- 4 Applicants must have been resident in the parish for a minimum of one full year to qualify.

If you are unable to attend on the day due to **illness or disability only**, you may apply in writing by no later than 20 January 2009 to:-

- Christopher New, 52 Byron Avenue, Wootton Bassett SN4 8HA or
- Roger Lawrence, 30 Waite meads Close, Purton
- Or any other Trustee.

CHRISTOPHER NEW
Secretary: Purton United Charities

News From The Trustees

Purton Village Hall: As promised, the new curtains are in place and the heaters, as I write this, are being looked at by the installation engineer, so let's hope we can sort this out. Although I say it myself, the new curtains have certainly put the icing on the cake, so to speak, now that the hall has been decorated. Could I thank all the kind people who donated towards the curtains. We hope you will like them and your generosity has meant that we did not have to borrow as much money from the Proud Bequest as we expected. In fact, only last Saturday, I had a donation for the curtain fund which meant we have even less to borrow, so it's never too late. So many thanks to all of you who have contributed to the curtains – it is greatly appreciated.

War Memorial and Village Centre: One project that has been completed with the Landfill Tax through Community First and Hills is the resurfacing of an area in front of the Red House Club. The next item on the agenda is part of the fencing around the perimeter, which will be in the new year. The final part is the resurfacing of the public tennis court. On this score, we are getting references from people who have had work done by various contractors, so our thanks to Hills and Community First for making this possible.

The Bowls Club members have painted the outside of the pavilion, which looks good. When we get some settled weather they will put the new covering over the veranda, so we thank them for this.

TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

Thursford 2010!

Wootton Bassett & District Rotary Club are organising a trip to the Thursford Spectacular on Saturday 27 November until Monday 29 November, 2010. Staying at the Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds (Christmas Market), enjoying the Spectacular Show at Thurston on Sunday Evening, and Dunsford Air Museum on the way home. Cost £250.

If interested, please contact John and Valerie Hicks **by this Christmas 2009**, as tickets have to be booked by the beginning of January 2010.

Poppy Appeal 2009

Thank you to everyone who supported the 2009 Poppy Appeal in the Lydiard area. A grand total of £1213.62 has been forwarded to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Special thanks to all the collectors who work so hard each year.

Mrs JOYCE BERRY, Poppy Appeal Organiser



Bob Wightman MBE.

St Mary's will be floodlit on 8 January
in memory of Bob Wightman MBE,
in celebration of what would have been his 98th birthday.
Love and Best Wishes from all the Wightman family

Purton & District Age Concern



It's not the way you would wish to start your piece for the January issue of the magazine, by writing a tribute to a person you have known since your school days. The person I am talking of is Ken Goodings, who lived in New Road. In fact, I think he had lived in the same house all his life. He was a nice chap, perhaps not one of those characters, but a well respected gentleman. He is certainly someone who I always admired right from my school days. It is funny how things stick in your mind from those early days – my memory of Ken is of how neat and tidy he was. Then, later on, when we started joined-up writing, Ken's was always held up as an example to us all. Mind, he was always around or at the top of the class, the type of person you envied. He was good at sport, especially football, playing for the school. Here he was crisp and sharp and was what was known in those days as an inside left.

You have heard me speak of the 'tanner boys' – we used to play in the Swindon Borough League. We started off playing on the rec', which was the playing field for St Mary's School but we got stopped from using that through some ridiculous regulations (they even had them in those days!). A well known Purton man, Fred Comley, used to run us and he lived in the old hospital along Hyde Lane and owned two fields running down to Collins Lane not big enough for a football pitch, so we all set too and took the hedge out that ran across the middle of the two fields, got a container van from the railway for a changing room and washed the mud off in the brook after the game, all for the love of football, and Ken was one of those who played there. We were called the 'tanner boys' because we paid sixpence a week to play, travelling to away matches by train and walking from Swindon station to the grounds where the matches were – some distance but we enjoyed it.

Ken never went on to play for the seniors as he had started work at Kempsters. What a great ambassador he was for this shop, where they used to keep things like rice, tapioca, peas, sugar, in fact any dried goods, in drawers and would weigh out how much you wanted. They were a real old-fashioned grocer, selling wine as well – rather a posh shop. It was very rare I went in there, only when we had an aunt come to stay and I had to go and get her a bottle of wine. (We were Co-op people).

Ken would go out to customers on his bike and take their orders early on in the week and then deliver them later in the week. What service – I bet they all looked forward to Ken's visit – the highlight of their week. After Kempsters closed, Ken went to work for Normans in Swindon. They were a furniture store in Cromwell St, by the old Fire Station, the Connaught cafe and Wallis's wet fish shop and, of course, some private houses. I am not sure about the next bit, but I think that, when Normans was going to close, some of the employees started their own company with their redundancy, and this is now Manor Furnishings down on the Cheney Manor industrial estate and Ken was one of those. What a success this firm has been and Ken was one of the directors.

One of Ken's pleasures in later life was a game of skittles, playing for the Moonrakers and the Invaders where, from what I can gather, he still had a good eye – in fact, he was playing a few days before he died. What everyone most admired

Ken for is the way he looked after his mother. You can imagine his kindness and gentleness as that was how he was and Mrs Goodings certainly proved that, living to the grand age of 107. This goes to prove what great nursing she had – well done, Ken. Could we thank the family for money in lieu of flowers being shared between the Helping Hand and Age Concern – it is greatly appreciated.

Quite a few people in our village and surrounding areas have suffered hardship, bereavement, illness, accidents, bad news etc. We are thinking of you all, hoping it might bring a little comfort; our thoughts and prayers are with you all and we hope the sun will begin to shine for you in the coming year again.

We have had an offer to a good home of an Epson printer and scanner model CX3200. If you are interested, give me a ring on 770696. This is a very kind gesture from the lady who owns it and it is free of charge. Thank you for thinking of us.

I am going to say this at the beginning and not the end. What a marvellous team we have in Age Concern – the work they have all got through is unbelievable. Mind, we have help from others as well, which is greatly appreciated. I feel so lucky to be chairman of such an organisation. Many thanks everybody.

One of our street wardens is retiring – Beryl White, who covers part of Station Road and Willowbrook, has decided to call it a day. Beryl has been our street warden for that area ever since we started the scheme some thirty plus years ago – a great achievement, Beryl. We greatly appreciate your devotion and hard work over all these years. You have been an excellent street warden – thank you. Here we are lucky in that our vice chairman, Mick Hull and his wife Shirley, have agreed to take on this patch, so many thanks to them.

I said early on how busy the committee and friends have been. This started off with the less able party in the Silver Threads hall. On the Friday evening – 27 November – the men on our committee decorated the hall and, although I say it, it is a picture. The next day was the party and some party it was! The Jolly Roger was the entertainment – he is brilliant for a party like this (and our committee quite like him as well). Anyway, it was excellent so congratulations to all concerned and we were so pleased to welcome those involved with our befriending group as our guests, as a small thank you for all they do. Anyway, it was excellent, so congratulations to all concerned. However, we did have an embarrassing moment when our president, Miss Elizabeth Ward, started dancing with Father Christmas (what energy he has, I would quite like a bit of that in my stocking for Christmas). Well, as I was saying, he was dancing with our president, who also happens to be president of the Silver Threads whose hall we were using, where there is a great big sign saying ‘no dancing’. Don’t do as I do, do as I tell you – but, of course, it was all part of the entertainment. I said about all of Father Christmas’s energy, well Elizabeth wasn’t far behind.

The following morning was putting the Christmas tree up on the Institute or, should I say, the Library. The tree was kindly sponsored for us by Mr and Mrs Orr-Ewing with a little bit more besides, which is a big help as we usually have to get a few new bulbs. So our thanks to them for this kind gesture – this is something they have done ever since we started having a tree as our thank-you to the village

for the way they support us. John Butcher tested all the lights for us and it was much easier this year connecting up after John had put new points in for us, so thanks to John. When it comes to getting the tree up on the wall of the Institute there is quite a lot of ladder work to do and we are not as young as we were and we weren't looking forward to the job. Out of the blue we had an offer from four young men with plenty of ladder experience saying they would put the tree up for us and take it down as well. They don't know it yet but we will try and book them for the future to make sure this little festive treat continues for years to come and, given the type of people they are, I am sure they will not mind. So our thanks to Ian and Adam Humphries, Nick Webb and Mick Looker (and they took us to have a pint after!) Let's not forget Terry at the Spar, who kindly sent us over coffee which was most welcome as we were all like drowned rats.

The following Friday morning we decorated the village hall, which coincided with the new curtains going up and a lovely job our people did. It seems better every year and with the new curtains, it was a picture. On Saturday, which was 5 December, it was party day at the village hall with most of our people working all day long. I think it comes through how much they all enjoy what they do, laughing and joking but working very hard. One of the nicest gestures of all, I think, is the three young ladies who come in to do the washing up, as they feel our people have been working all day and it would be nice for them to sit down and enjoy the entertainment. What a lovely thought, so our thanks here go to Alison Mainstone, Julie Clifford and Jane Farr.

The entertainment was provided by Roger Mepstead on the organ, who played background music while tea was being served. After that, *Chalice* entertained with some lovely easy listening music and a few carols where everybody could join in. We were very pleased with the way it went and, of course, our guests for the evening along with our president, Miss Elizabeth Ward, were our minibus personnel. What a grand job they do. If anyone would like to join this group you would be most welcome and I am sure you would find it very rewarding with the appreciation of the people who use the buses. We are losing one of our very popular drivers, Gilbert Burge, who has got to give up through health problems. We thank him for his past services and wish him well for the future.

We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas vouchers and spoil yourselves with a little treat. Here I would like to thank Robert Cook for the design and printing of them for us. This is a lovely thought of Robert's, something he has done for us for a good number of years now, but it is still greatly appreciated. I think maybe you could have a job for life Robert. Thank you.

We continue to get generous donations in several ways. We get two gentlemen who, quite regularly, give to us. In fact, the one who usually says to Sheila 'Here, give it to him indoors' actually delivered it to me personally this time – perhaps he has got the Christmas spirit in him! The other gentleman, along with his wife, has done so much over the years for Age Concern. Sadly she is in Ashgrove House now but it is so kind of him to think of us when he has so much else to think of. So many people have been very generous with prizes for our raffle – it could be our best yet – so thank you all very much and also for buying our tickets. We have

nearly sold out.

Could I finish with some good news by offering belated congratulations to Henry and Betty Fimmers on the occasion of their diamond wedding. What an example they are to us all. They are always happy, with smiles on their faces, very hard working when they were younger and very content with life, not wanting the world. In fact, I have never heard them moan about things at all and they have always been great supporters of Age Concern in many ways, as well as of other organisations in the village. Sorry it's late, but to the two of you, thank you for being part of Purton – it is people like you that make Purton such a lovely place to live.

I would like to close by wishing all of you a peaceful 2010.

TONY PRICE

Wiltshire Blind Association

Cricklade Coffee Club

We are meeting regularly on the third Tuesday of the month in the United Reform Church Hall, Calcutt Street, Cricklade from 10.30am to 12.00. We have recently started, and have a super group of people young and not so young, being sighted, partially sighted and very visually impaired. If you would like to join us you are very welcome to enjoy the home made cakes and coffee and the occasional speaker. The next dates are 19 January and 16 February.

Further details can be obtained from Jess Bailey, at the Wiltshire Blind Association on 01380 723682.

Toe Nail Cutting

For nearly three years Age Concern Wiltshire has been running a basic toe nail cutting service for older people. We now operate the service in twelve different locations and are keen to open more clinics in order to meet the demand for this service. One area where we would like to be able to offer the service is in Purton, the Lydiards and Cricklade.

The service would not be possible without the support of very dedicated volunteers and we are seeking to recruit a volunteer for the Purton/Cricklade area who would be able to operate a fortnightly clinic for us. The volunteer would receive training which consists of a demonstration of the techniques of nail cutting by the Podiatry Service and then practical training supervised by our service coordinator.

If anyone is interested in finding out more please contact us here at Age Concern Wiltshire asking for either Jayne Funnell or Sue Byatt on 01380 727767



Elsa Trotter

St Mary's church was floodlit in memory of Elsa Trotter who would have been 81 on 9 December 2009.

From her loving family.

PURTON PLACARD

Groups are invited to submit to the Editor details of forthcoming events in, for and on behalf of our community.

**PURTON AGE CONCERN
JUMBLE SALE**
at the Village Hall
Saturday 13 February 2.00 pm.
Jumble can be left at the Hall
from 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm.
Lots of bargains, nearly new,
bric a brac, raffle
and much more!

**Purton Silver
Threads
Jumble Sale**
Saturday 16 January
2.00pm
Silver Threads Hall
Raffle
Refreshments

Calling All Gardeners
**Purton In Bloom
2010**

*If you are interested
please ring 770696
for more details*

Wootton Bassett Bowls Club
presents...
The Aldbourne Band
in concert
Memorial Hall, Wootton Bassett
on Sat 20 February at 7.30pm
Tickets £8.00 from
Crumps Family Butchers
High Street, Wootton Bassett
or phone
07923 650627 (mobile)

After last time's sell-out event
St Mary's Church
will be holding another
Wine Tasting
on Friday 5 February 2010
with Francis Young
of The Pear Tree Hotel
in the Silver Threads Hall

7pm prompt
4-course meal

Tickets £20

available from 8 January 2010

Tel 772896, 770157, 770970, 771201

St Mary's School PTA
Family Bingo Night
Friday 5 February 7pm
Upper School Hall
Evening of family fun
- all welcome -

PURTON AGE CONCERN
Could you help us out with
our minibuses?
We desperately need more
drivers and shotguns
Ring 770862 for more details

**Purton Helping Hand
Jumble Sale**
Saturday 30 January
2.00pm
Purton Village Hall
Raffle, Refreshments
and Bargains

Purton Evening WI
Soup and Sweet
Monday 22 February
12 noon - 1.30pm
Silver Threads Hall
£4.00

Raffle and Cake Stall
Tea and Coffee provided
but you may bring your own
drinks

The Bradon Forest Theatre Company

*PanGottic Theatre presents : **Full Twist***

Friday 29 January 2010 at 7.30pm

Tickets: £5 students, £6 adults

A witty tale of lust and love, quirky romance and cynical twists, using physical humour with poetic moments and slick choreographed object manipulation to create a light hearted world of 4 flustered hearts and more than a few surprises...

“Full Twist” is a playful physical performance combining circus skills and physical theatre. The piece has no text, is based on physical and visual elements and brings together an innovative and original fusion of masks, juggling, comedy and physical theatre with a hint of contemporary clowning.

Purton Guide Dogs

As I sit here writing the piece for this month’s Magazine, in the background I can hear the weather forecaster saying there is going to be a big drop in temperature, with fog and frost, and even hints of the white stuff!!



Following on from last month’s report, no events in the village for November. I took a load of aluminium foil and cans to Thamesdown Recycling (used to be Freeth’s) for which I received £52. They told me there was a problem with finding companies who would buy the foil at the moment, and asked me if I would only take small quantities to them for the time being. No problem with aluminium cans. I did a stall at the ‘Christchurch Christmas Market’ and sold £170 worth of guide dog’s Trading Goods. We shall be holding a Jumble Sale in the Village Hall on 9 January – hope to see you there. Thank you for all your support. Without it, and the staunch committee, there would be no Purton Guide Dogs.

The committee and I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group

Thought for the Month

“Truth does not change just because it is, or is not, believed by a majority of the people.”

Giordano Bruno (1548 - 1600)



Len Fryer

St Mary’s Church was floodlit on 19 December

In memory of Len Fryer

who died suddenly and unexpectedly
on 19 December 2008.

There was no time to say goodbye,
There was no chance to hold your hand.

How you left so suddenly
I’ll never, never understand
Still devastated. Trish

The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me
I'm glad we've bought turkey and a proper Christmas tree

On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard
As we tucked into our turkey, a most delicious bird

On the third day of Christmas, we'd friends in from next door
The turkey tasted just as good as on the day before

On the fourth day of Christmas, Gran came round, she's rather old
We finished up the Christmas pud and ate the turkey cold

On the fifth day of Christmas outside the snowflakes flurried
But we were nice and warm inside – we ate the turkey curried

On the sixth day of Christmas the Christmas spirit died
The children fought and bickered and we ate the turkey fried

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave a wince
When we sat down the dinner and was given turkey mince

On the eighth day of Christmas the dog ran off for shelter
I served up turkey pancakes and a glass of Aka Seltzer

On the ninth day of Christmas poor Dad began to cry
He said he couldn't stand the strain of eating turkey pie

On the tenth day of Christmas the air was rather blue
And everybody grumbled at eating turkey stew

On the eleventh day of Christmas the Christmas tree was moulting
Mince pies as hard as rock and turkey quite revolting

On the twelfth day of Christmas at last Dad smacked his lips
The guests had gone, the turkey too – we dined on fish and chips!

On the Lighter Side

As Christmas drew near, auxiliary postmen might be taken on. Old John rather fancied his chances at being what he called an 'exhilarated postman'. When he applied, however, the postmaster had his misgivings. "Let's see John," he asked, "can you read?" "No," replied John, "but I know where everyone lives."

Thanks to Barnburgh Magazine

According to the *Sunday Times*, it seems as though it takes 19 hours and 28 minutes of arguing with family to burn off the 3,122 calories in a Christmas Dinner!

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 9 January from 9 to 11am.

If you are interested in becoming a market producer (baking or growing) please call Nikki on 01793 751845 or Anne on 01793 750125 for more details. These are also the numbers should you wish to place an order for collection at the next market.

PURTON POSTBAG

The Editors reserve the right not to publish letters received where space and content dictate. No correspondence can be accepted for publication without the proper name and address of the correspondent being supplied. However those details may be withheld from being published if so requested.



■ WHIST DRIVE

The Committee wishes to thank those who supported the whist drive in aid of the Air Ambulance Service. With the proceeds and generous donations received we were able to send £283 to this most worthy cause.

Gladys

■ SUPPORT THANKS

Janet, Ian and family would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers and kind words, following the death of Janet's Dad, Ken, a frequent visitor to Purton.

Janet McCarthy

■ GOLDEN WEDDING

Hector and Caroline would like to thank all those who kindly sent them cards and good wishes on the occasion of their Golden Wedding in December. It added so much to their enjoyment of the celebration of their 50 years together to be so warmly encouraged by their Purton friends!

Hector & Caroline McLean

Swindon & Cricklade Railway

Due to intensive track laying and maintenance, the trains will be running during the following times only between January and Easter:

January – no trains running

February – diesel trains only on Sundays from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

March – diesel trains only on Saturdays and Sundays from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

There will be a special operating day with steam hauled trains on Mother's Day. Details to be announced.

There is a cafeteria, museum, shop and free parking.

Blunsdon Station is two miles from Purton village on Tadpole Lane. From Packhorse Lane carry straight on over the railway bridge. The car park entrance is then immediately on the right. Enquiries 01793 750335 or 771615.

Contributions like the letters on [page 17](#) and [18](#) really help to make our magazine even more interesting to read. It follows that Purton Magazine would be really pleased to publish more letters and articles from readers, perhaps with a photograph or two, about places or events they have recently been to, whether in an official capacity or simply as a visitor on holiday. Details about how to contact the magazine are on [page 4](#).

Letter From Copenhagen

You may be thoroughly fed up with hearing about Copenhagen, climate change and conflicting information. Well, our own correspondent was there and sends this report

In my student days, I used to frequent a place called the “Growling Budgie”; a weird set-up with a disparate collection of oddballs and intellectuals (no idea where I fitted into that range – and don’t ring me up and offer your opinion, thank you!). Anyway, the Copenhagen “do” is very much like that. There are somewhere between 20,000 and 36,000 folks here, from 190+ countries. It is a bit like the set of a bar in some off-world location where all earthlings and aliens get together to drink/eat, chat and deal. There are ice statues of Amazonian Indians, polar bears, walking trees (how those got through Security I have no idea) lots of people in national dress, and plenty of “suits” and, of course, the “Purton Delegation”.

The documentation for each day was at least 12 inches in height, there were 5 to 7 sessions running simultaneously, and you could listen in French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese, Arabic and, fortunately, in English too.

It is impossible to read everything, hear everything or talk about everything. So you focus. And there are so many very focussed and earnest people here. You could almost trip over the intensity.

So what is being said, what is the conclusion? No idea.

To meet the Magazine deadline I am writing this on 10 December (so still another eight days to go) with a background of yelping from the contingent from Tuvalu (a small south Pacific island that is likely to disappear with sea level rise), a human clock (going tick tock – can you imagine how annoying that is while I am trying to concentrate?) and a person who sounds American and who insists on inserting the word “like” in every sentence. You know how it is, you start listening for the word. Anyway where am I?

Oh yes, what do we know? Well, it is far more complex than one could ever imagine. If you thought the science was confusing (and don’t worry about the leaked emails; just remember that one Harold Shipman doesn’t mean all doctors were serial killers) then the politics are horrendous.

The US (or at least the President) said it would set an emission reduction target but unless the legislation is passed by the US lawmakers that number would be meaningless. So, did he say a figure just to “force” the legislation through? The Chinese have invented something called a “carbon intensity” reduction rather than a reduction figure itself. This is a canny way to keep on growing apace whilst appearing to be controlling emissions.

It is unlikely that anything real will come out of this particular meeting (just a political agreement that something will be done) and the clever money is now preparing for Bonn (mid-2010) where the legal agreement (and the reduction figures) will be sorted out. Then the Mexico City meeting this time next year will be when it is all signed and sealed. But who knows – the Terminator, Arnold Schwarzenegger (try spelling that from memory!) is coming, so anything is possible... or not.

RICHARD PAGETT

We made it to the WAVE!

Despite forecasts of heavy rain, the sun shone on Saturday 5 December as 9 people from Purton travelled to London for the WAVE rally on climate change. We joined more than 50,000 people as we marched from Grosvenor Square, up Piccadilly, past Trafalgar Square and onto the Houses of Parliament, which we eventually encircled in a mass of blue, the chosen colour theme of the day. Not having been on a rally before, I thought that our fellow 'environmentalists' would be a fairly quiet and reserved bunch but not a bit of it – we were certainly noticed. But it was all good natured and people on the streets were generally very supportive, one lady stopping us to have her photograph taken with us.

Gary Mantle, Director of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust writes "The aim of the day was to give a strong mandate to the UK Government prior to the Climate Change talks in Copenhagen and to show people at home and around the world that we care about people in poorer countries who are already suffering the effects of climate change. At the end of the rally, we heard the news that Gordon Brown had met with some of the people walking past 10 Downing Street and had invited about a dozen in, to talk about Climate Change and what he hopes to achieve in Copenhagen. This was unscheduled and took everyone by surprise. What followed must have been stage-managed to some extent, as there was a TV crew allowed in, but it resulted in the PM making a public statement about his commitment to seek the best deal possible."

On our return I heard that friends from Chagford in Devon had cycled to the WAVE – very commendable!

They had previously attended a fundraising event at Castle Drogo for the "Melting Ice Polar Bear", created by artist Mark Coreth, to be placed in Copenhagen, where it will slowly melt as negotiators work towards a global climate change deal – a striking symbol of what is at stake. A replica is to be placed in Trafalgar Square (but it will probably have melted by now!) and people are invited to touch it with their hands which will speed up the melting.

At the time of writing it is now Day 3 into the talks and the signs are encouraging, but full agreement is not expected at this stage. Let's hope that will happen in the next few months. Then the real work will begin, making sure promises are kept and putting words into action. For a video of two, un-named Purton climate change marchers bashing each other over the head with their placards, please go to the Wiltshire Wildlife section of You Tube

You can keep up to date at www.actoncopenhagen.decc.gov.uk/en/

KATE ROBINSON
kater@wiltshirewildlife.org



Planning Alert!

We hope many will have visited the Wiltshire Council's Exhibition on the Wiltshire Core Strategy earlier this month. The Core Strategy will replace the North Wilts Local Plan and the framework boundary and so is a critically important planning document for Purton and the surrounding area.



If you have any concerns about this Core Strategy, it is essential that you write in to Wiltshire Council by letter*, email* or their web site* by 5pm on 31 December 2009. Why is this essential? Because if the limits by which planning for large developments (like Widham Farm) are not clearly spelled out NOW, then when large, intensive developments are proposed in the future then they will be hard to argue against should that be necessary.

The success of Widham Farm shows that not only are local voices heard but that it IS essential to have good planning policy on which to anchor our arguments. The time for the new planning policy is right now. All the old stuff is being swept away and the Core Strategy will be a key document in the new policy framework. Say nothing now and there is no second chance, no Plan B.

A full list of advisory points about the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the special response form is available from the Ps and Qs web site (www.purtoninfo.org.uk) or from advice@purtoninfo.org.uk or by telephone (771867).

Please be very clear: the "Preferred Option" of 3000 houses in our parish IS NOT a done deal even though the Wiltshire Council unhelpfully calls it a "preferred" option.

* Write: Spatial Planning, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire BA14 8JN

Email: spatialplanningpolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk

Web: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/wiltshire2026.htm

Compiled by Richard Pagett for Ps & Qs

Ps and Qs stands for Purton's Qualities

Valuing Community Life - campaigning for sustainable communities

New committee members are always welcome

Contact: Jane Smith (772422) Jacqui Lay (770704)

or via our web site: www.purtoninfo.org.uk

Purton Profferings – *Recycle your unwanted items to a new owner here*

To advertise in this section please contact In Touch Services (address on page 4). Free advertisements for Free goods. 2 lines maximum.

OFFERED: Free to good home, medium size wooden trailer with cover. Call Steve Hazell on 07802 226792 for further details.

OFFERED: Push along Qualcast hand lawn mower, good condition. Call Rupert on 01793 771583

OFFERED: 2 Rover hubcaps – style suits 216LSi – L-reg (1994). Call Rick on 01793 770648

Purton Diary – January 2010

1	F		New Year's Day
3	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United Family Communion at St Mary's Church
		12.30pm	to 3.30pm: Farewell Lunch for Revd Jane Haslam, Village Hall
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
7	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
8	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon for all areas of the village
9	Sa	2.00pm	Jumble Sale at Village Hall (Guide Dogs)
10	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Junior Church at Infant School Hall
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
11	M	7.30pm	Friends of Playclose Play Group at The Red House
		7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - Press and public welcome
12	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Club
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
13	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill with Dave and Bernice Seviour – our New Zealand adventure
14	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at the Cedars
16	Sa	2.00pm	Silver Threads Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall
17	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United Service at St Mary's Church.
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
18	M	7.45pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: AGM & party
19	Tu	10.30am	to 12 noon: Wiltshire Blind Assoc coffee club - see p12
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
20	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall: <i>Inca Trail</i>
21	Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society at St Mary's Upper School Hall: <i>Jack London</i> - Dennis Cartwright
24	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
26	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: AGM & American Supper

27	W		Holocaust Memorial Day
		6.30pm	Holy Communion at the Cedars
		7.00pm	W/Bassett & Cricklade Area Board meeting, Village Hall
30	Sa	2.00pm	Helping Hand Jumble Sale at Village Hall
31	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Junior Church at Infant School Hall
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church

February

5	F	7.00pm	Wine Tasting with Francis Young at Silver Threads Hall
---	---	--------	--

Every week

Tu	9.15am	<i>to 11.30am:</i>	Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
	7.30pm		Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	<i>to 12noon:</i>	Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall
	6.30pm		Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
W	7.30pm		RAOB Excelsior Lodge at The Red House
Th	9.15am	<i>to 11.30am:</i>	Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Th	2.30pm		Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

If your Club or Organization's Events are not included in the Diary Pages,
let us know:

Purton Magazine
c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill
or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk
Please note: priority is given to events
which are open to everyone.

From the Registers



St Mary's Church

Baptisms

29 November Callum MacLeod, Adam Bott and Elenya Kadis
20 December Luke and Jack Oakes, Chloe Francis

Weddings

31 December Matthew Bevington and Susannah Arnold

Funerals

20 November Ethel Marshall
10 December Eric Bird
11 December Ken Goodings

From Cricklade Fire Station



During November crews from Cricklade attended 9 emergency calls:

- 1/11/09 at 0011 kitchen fire, private residence, Castle Eaton
- 2/11/09 at 1556 report of pan on fire on cooker, false alarm, Wootton Bassett
- 6/11/09 at 2240 automatic fire alarm, industrial storage premises, Chelworth Industrial estate
- 12/11/09 at 1706 fuse box fire, Pikefield, Charlton
- 30/11/09 at 0830 reported car fire, false alarm, A 419, Cricklade
plus 4 co-responder calls, Cricklade

Due to a house move away from Cricklade we recently lost one of our personnel and expect to lose another in the coming months due to retirement. Inevitably this could have an effect on our ability to maintain fire cover for Cricklade and surrounding area at certain times of the day, particularly during typical office hours.

Therefore we are looking to recruit new personnel to provide retained cover in Cricklade. The only pre-requisite is that you are over 18, fit and well and able to get to the station within 4 minutes of a pager (alerter) activation. It should be stressed that this is a part-time occupation with most retained personnel having other quite different full-time jobs. You need to either **live and/or work in Cricklade**, ideally both. You would be expected to be able to respond during your spare time but if you work in Cricklade as well and can be spared by your employer possibly also from your place of work. No prior experience is required as all training is provided and you will be paid for your trouble. This could be a welcome additional income in these difficult times.

Retained Firefighters bring many skills from their full-time occupations and at present we have 2 car mechanics, 2 quarry workers, 1 fitness instructor, 2 full-time MOD firefighters, 1 full-time father and house husband and 1 business director. In the past we have had a housewife, post office worker, shop assistant and warehouse storeman amongst others so you may be the right person, even if you don't think you are. This is quite possibly one of the most satisfying jobs you could ever do and provide an essential service to the community you live in. If you are interested in becoming a retained Firefighter please contact **0800 389 7849**.

Fire Safety Advice - Kitchens

- Most fires start in the kitchen, never leave cooking unattended.
- Always use thermostatically controlled deep fat fryers and not old style chip pans.
- Turn pans handles inwards out of reach of young children.
- Ensure all electrical appliances and plugs conform to the British Standard and carries the kitemark.
- Flexes from equipment such as toasters and kettles should be kept away from the cooker and tea towels should never be dried over the cooker.
- Ensure the oven and other appliances are switched off after use.

Purton Evening Women's Institute



Probably the most notable thing to happen nationwide with the WI just now is the change of logo. The little tree has gone, to be replaced by four words: the WI INSPIRING WOMEN. At first there were objections, but we are becoming more used to it, and some members have changed their opinions and now approve the new logo. We did not spend much time on the subject at our meeting of 18 November because we had so many other things to discuss, reports to be made, and a speaker of particular interest to women's health.

Business matters were dealt with by President Barbara Compton and Secretaries Trish Baker and Jane Smith. Some time was spent on the question of visitors who "cherry-pick" the meetings that they wish to attend, but do not become members. This problem must occur with many groups who issue their programmes in advance, and a solution will undoubtedly soon be found.

In view of the new diaries, I should remind you of a date booked for the New Year 2010: 22 February, when we shall be holding one of our popular Soup and Sweet events, 12 noon - 1.30pm at the Silver Threads Hall.

As mentioned in last month's magazine, there has been a change in the Yorkshire Tea boxes – the coupons have not been withdrawn but are now on the underside of the boxes, and easily overlooked. Members will be delighted to know that their coupon collection has so far raised funds to supply sufficient raw material, and a loom, to enable the women of the Mothers' Group in Peru to raise the economy of their Group and the local community. Please ensure that any completed token cards you have are returned to Jane straight away for the final collection.

At the meeting Veronica Garside gave a full report of the Autumn Council Meeting.

Tonight our speaker had us enthralled: Mrs Rosie Hay spoke on a particularly female issue ("Urinary Incontinence" to be exact), with interesting diagrams which I won't describe in case you are reading this whilst eating a meal! We all earnestly practised pelvic floor exercises, and I am sure I was not the only one giggling silently at the sight of the concentrated faces of some 50 women practising this very personal exercise in time to Rosie's instructions. Seriously, it was a sensible, useful talk and we gained practical information and exercises which could only improve our health.

The subject of our next meeting, on Wednesday 20 January, is "Inca Trail". There will also be Social Time and an opportunity to pay your subscription for the coming year. Please bring with you the voting form for AGM Resolutions on page 9 of Issue 24 of WI Life - we would like to complete and return them together after discussion this evening.

At the following meeting on 17 February the competition will be "Photograph of Snow". I mention it now, as any time in the next two months might be the occasion when you take the winning photograph! Yet again, we could be producing pictures to make the Village Hall look particularly beautiful on "our" night.

CONSTANCE REED

Purton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides



Lots of preparations for Christmas this month: Rainbows, 2nd Purton Brownies and the Guides all made Advent calendars. Christmas cards and gifts were made by both Brownie units for members of Lunch Club and residents of Hooks Hill, whilst across all the units other Christmas crafts included 'beadie critters', door hangers and chocolate logs. 1st Purton Brownies visited Hooks Hill with their cards and gifts; together Brownies and residents enjoyed an evening playing 'Beetle Drive' on a Christmas theme (Christmas trees rather than beetles) and singing carols.

The Friends of Guiding annual 'Coffee & Carols' evening also took place. Thanks to those who came along to support the event: £208.57 was raised to support guiding in Purton and Lydiard Millicent. The evening included a 'fashion parade' by Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in uniforms from the past up to the present day. A canvas featuring the centenary logo which had been finger-painted by girls and leaders from all the Purton units was also shown – do look out for this on display in the village.

Centenary activities also played a part in the unit meetings. The Rainbows had used the proceeds of their Woodland Trust sponsored matchbox fill to purchase a tree which they planted near the tennis courts at the end of Church Path to commemorate the centenary. They were joined by families, former Rainbows who had helped to raise the money and Mrs Rosemary Hicks from the local Trefoil Guild.

1st Purton Brownies held a 'What a Performance' evening as part of their Adventure 100 challenges: they made rainmakers, made music using bell plates, put together their own pots and pans orchestras and filled glass bottles with varying amounts of water to construct a scale and then play a tune.

Continuing with the performance theme, the two Brownie units went on a trip to the Swindon Gang Show and enjoyed an afternoon of singing, dancing and acting – the favourite acts being the male Scout leaders dressed up as fairies and the sing-a-long 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer'.

At the time of writing, Guides have rounded off their term with an ice-skating session at the Link, whilst the other units are looking forward to their end of term Christmas celebrations.

For more information about Guiding in Purton contact Jane Templar or Gill Woodward.

On Saturday 17 October around 23,000 girls came to Wembley Arena to listen to all the biggest groups and soloists in the charts today!

Why? To celebrate Girlguiding's 100th birthday (centenary year), particularly as it is Girlguiding's 100th birthday (centenary year).

Big names like Pixie Lott, Alexandra Burke, JLS, Scouting for Girls, The Saturdays and many more!

Presented by Sam and Mark (CBBC presenters), the show was an enormous success and made a lot of girls happy.

It was a brilliant concert and the tickets were like gold dust. Initially we did not



get any, but right at the last minute some were available and quickly allocated! From Purton Guides, Lucy and I were lucky enough to go, armed with glow lights, sparkly jewellery and energy! It was fantastic!

EVE WEBSTER

After Eight

A short catch up of our meetings.

Our October meeting was a talk by Brian Coe on “The start of Art Deco”. As usual Brian provided an excellent visual power point presentation to accompany his talk. It was fascinating to be reminded of the architecture and fashions of the 1920s.

Art Deco really began to create interest at the 1925 Paris Exhibition where exhibits were very much influenced by designs copied from the tombs of the Pharaohs and from the Mayan civilisation. Both provided a refreshing change. Topical examples were the Strand Hotel in London and the Chrysler Building in America. Members were quite keen to look for other examples of Art Deco in their own daily lives.

Our thanks go to Brian for this extremely interesting and informative evening.

In November we were looking forward to Christmas and had a card making evening. Everyone contributed some great ideas to this session and was enjoyed by all. All the cards were individual and colourful. Even those of us who thought we would never be able to do it ended up with a few individual cards for our friends and family. There was much jollity and we finished the evening with a celebratory drink.

By the time you read this we will have held our festive Singalong at Barbara's.

JAN WALKER & AVRIL AINSCOUGH

Look out for our meetings in the new year, we have a varied and interesting new programme.

All meetings will be listed in the Purton Diary in the Magazine and we look forward to meeting any new members.

For further information contact Avril or Janet.



Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE

Instead of remembering to buy your magazine every month you can have it delivered free to your door... and you will save money!

For a £5 annual subscription (40p less than buying monthly) we will deliver FREE within our area. Due to increased postal charges, postal deliveries will cost £13 per year from January 2010. You can join our scheme at any time during the year with the price adjusted pro rata.

For further information contact! [John Creasey](#).

Purton Historical Society



All the reports I've been getting back are that the Christmas social was a great success and enjoyed by everyone. So our thanks go to the members of the Committee for the organisation and the members who helped on the night to make it such a good evening.

Our first meeting of the New Year is on Thursday 21 January when Dennis Cartwright will be telling us of "The Life and Times of author Jack London". Just a quick check on the Internet and I've learnt that he'd been a tramp, was probably illegitimate and joined the Klondike Gold Rush. There's a lot more but I'll leave that for Dennis to tell us in January. We meet at 7.30pm in St Mary's Upper School Hall. Visitors are always welcome for a £2.00 fee.

Wootton Bassett Historical Society will meet on Thursday, 14 January at 7.30pm in the Civic Centre. John Clark will be talking on "The Engineering of the Pyramids". He will be using illustrations and a scale model to reveal the magic of how they were constructed.

The Cricklade Historical Society will meet on Wednesday 20 January at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, when there will be a talk on "Cricklade's Charities". These include "the Hundred Acres Charity", "the Hungerford's Charity", "Dunch's charity" and others past and present.

I've just checked with the Swindon Society about their meeting on Wednesday 13 January. It's called "a Double Act". Evidently two of their members are comparing streets in the centre of Swindon, then and now; Regents Circus and Princes St will be covered. They meet in the Broadgreen Centre at 7.30pm; if you take your membership card with you there is a reduction of the visitor's fee.

The Spring Course starts on Wednesday 10 February. We are continuing the Victorian theme with a look at the Victorians Abroad. We shall be looking at the Empire and life in the Raj, the Navy's battle against Slavery will be covered and the Navy's role in maintaining the Empire. At home we shall be looking at the Pre-Raphaelite painters and the Young England Movement.

Have you bought your copy of the new edition of the Bulletin? Articles in this edition include Eric Ball's research into a Purton murder, John Cook's story of changes in farming through the Twentieth Century, the link up with members of Héric's Les Amis d'Histoire d'Héric and a look back by Paul on his 26 courses for the Society. For a copy contact David Sweet or Paul Booy. Price is £3.00, or £2.50 for Society members.

EVE BOOY, Secretary



Dale Herbert

St Mary's church will be floodlit on 7 January
in memory of Dale Herbert.

Always loved and sadly missed by Dad, Mum and family.

The Victorians at Home and Abroad

A series of six talks organized by the Purton Historical Society.

Venue: St Mary's School Upper Hall.

Principal Speaker: Paul Booy B.ed Hist. Hons.

Fee: £18 or £20 on the night.

Commencement: Wednesday 10 February

In this second series of talks we shall be looking at aspects of social, military, and cultural Victorian History. As usual talks will be illustrated with paintings, cartoons and other visual materials from Victorian times.

Week 1 10 February

The Empire and the Navy

Dealing with Slavery

Week 2 24 February

India after the Mutiny

A clash of Cultures

Week 3 3 March

The Crimean War

Florence Nightingale and other Heroines

Week 4 10 March

Victorian Poetry

The art of Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema

Week 5 24 March

Young England and the Pre-Raphaelites

Forms of Revolt

Week 6 31 March

Signs of Decline

Victorian Visions



What is happening here?

For further information contact Inez Gale



The Rev. Jane and all the Haslam Family

St Mary's church will be floodlit on Sunday 3 January

which is the last day that Jane Haslam

takes services in Purton,

before she and her whole family move to North Petherton.

Do join us at services at St Mary's on 3 January

to say farewell and to wish the family well

with their move and their new life in Somerset.

From Jane Haslam, Vicar of Purton

This is my last opportunity to have an article in the village magazine and I simply want to thank Purton for its hospitality and kindness over the years. My family and I have loved living here and being part of the community. We take so many good memories with us. I hope you will join us at some point on 3 January for my last Sunday services and a meal at lunchtime!

Vicars come and go but the church remains and so the life and worship at St Mary's will continue. If you need to get in touch with St Mary's please ring 770210 as before and Mrs Gladys Legg will be able to help or will know someone who can! You can also contact the Churchwardens, whose numbers are in the front of the Magazine.

Many of you will be interested in the process of appointing a new Vicar so I thought it would be useful to explain the current process. From the time I announced my resignation, representatives of the Diocese of Bristol started collecting information about St Mary's Church and talking to key people. Once I leave a small group from the church and the diocese will spend 6 months assessing the work of the church, its strengths, its needs, etc after which time they will make recommendations to the Deanery Leadership team, who will make a decision about the future. (The Deanery is the Church in and around Swindon. It includes parishes and ministers who work with industry, hospitals, the police.) This is a new process but one in which more time is spent on assessing current and future needs, not only of the local church but the wider area. I believe it should be very productive.

In this final piece I would also like to write something about the Church. Often we aren't very good at informing people of all that we do and often there is so much that we take for granted. At the end of these statistics is some information about how you can help show your appreciation of the Church and ensure that it can continue to serve the nation and the local community for years to come. Here are a few facts:

Church attendance and visits: 1.7 million people take part in a Church of England service each month, a level that has been maintained since the turn of the millennium. Around one million participate each Sunday.

3 million participate in a Church of England service on Christmas Day or Christmas Eve. Thirty-nine per cent of the population attend a Christmas service of some sort, rising to 43 per cent among households with children

People support their local churches in many different ways at different points in their lives. Each year 3 in 10 attend regular Sunday worship and almost half attend a wedding in their local church, while still more attend a funeral there

In 2007, 43 per cent of adults attended a church or place of worship for a memorial service for someone who has died and 20 per cent were seeking a quiet space. Both these proportions are increases on 37 per cent and 19 per cent respectively in 2003.

85 per cent of the population visit a church or place of worship in the course of a year, for reasons ranging from participating in worship to attending social events or simply wanting a quiet space.

Every year, around 12 million people visit Church of England cathedrals,

including 300,000 pupils on school visits. Three of England's top five historic 'visitor attractions' are York Minster, Canterbury Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

Education: Seven in ten (70%) of the population agree that Church of England schools have a positive role in educating the nation's children.

One in four primary schools and one in 16 secondary schools in England are Church of England schools. Approaching one million pupils are educated in more than 4,700 Church of England schools.

Ministers: At the end of 2007, there were 20,355 ministers licensed by Church of England dioceses, including clergy, readers and Church Army officers: one minister for every 2,500 people in England. The total does not include almost 1,600 chaplains to prisons, hospitals, the armed forces and in education, nor around 7,000 retired ministers with permission to officiate.

The Church recommended 595 future clergy for ordination training in 2007, maintaining the upward trend since the mid-'90s.

Community involvement: A quarter of regular churchgoers (among both Anglicans and other Christians separately) are involved in voluntary community service outside the church. Churchgoers overall contribute 23.2 million hours voluntary service each month in their local communities outside the church.

The Church of England provides activities outside church worship in the local community for over half a million (515,000) children and young people (aged under 16 years) and 38,000 young people (aged 16 to 25 years). More than 136,000 volunteers run children / young people activity groups sponsored by the Church of England outside church worship.

Church of England congregations give more than £45 million each year to other charities – that's even more than the BBC's annual Children in Need appeal.

Church buildings: Nearly half the population (46%) think that central taxation, local taxation, the National Lottery or English Heritage should be 'primarily' responsible for providing money to maintain churches and chapels. These churches and cathedrals are largely supported by the efforts and financial support of local communities. Often, they are the focus of community life and service.

There are 14,500 places of worship in England listed for their special architectural or historic interest, 85 per cent of which belong to and are maintained by the Church of England.

The Church of England has more than 16,000 churches, serving every inch of the country and open to every local inhabitant.

People value their local church and 72% consider it an important part of their local community: 58% believe it makes their neighbourhood a better place to live and 63% would be concerned if the local church was not there. Those who would be concerned include 38% of people with no religion and 38% of adherents of other faiths.

Necessary repairs to all listed places of worship in England have been valued at £925m over the next five years, or £185m a year. £110 million is currently spent on repairs to Church of England churches per annum, 70% of it raised by the

congregations and local community.

The local parish Church: As you will have gathered from the above maintaining the beautiful building and the work of the Church falls on relatively few people. The people of St Mary's contribute over £40,000 each year to the work of the national Church of England, as well having to find thousands of pounds to keep the building in good repair, to heat it, and to pay for all the expenses that arise from having people who work for the church – ministers (lay and ordained), youth worker – all of whom spend an enormous amount of time in the community and, without whom, I believe, this community would be the poorer.

So how can you play your part?: First and foremost, come to worship. The life of Jesus shows that God welcomes everyone, as does the local church. You will find a warm, but not overwhelming, welcome. There are a variety of traditional and contemporary services at different times, on different days. There is space to worship and reflect, as well as to engage with others. There will be times for comfort and times when you will be challenged. We need both in our lives if we are to grow spiritually.

Through our Friends of St Mary's Scheme. All money received through this scheme is used solely to maintain our beautiful building that remains open every day and is there for the whole community. Contact: Mrs Christine Gill email: bwce_gill06@tiscali.co.uk

By supporting the work of our Youth Worker. Beth Trendell (who is employed by St Mary's, Purton Methodist Church and Wootton Bassett Methodist Church) does a fantastic job in both our local schools and in the youth groups she runs in the evenings. We'd love to keep her and value all donations. Contact: Mr David Nettleton email: david.nettleton@npl.co.uk

By supporting the general work of the church (worship, social and community activities). Again, please contact David Nettleton (as above) or John Creasey email: john@creasey.org.

JANE HASLAM

Jane's goodbye bash

As regular readers of the Magazine will know, our vicar, Jane Haslam, will be leaving Purton for pastures new after Christmas. Jane, Mike & family first arrived in Purton back in 2004. To celebrate the last five years, and to send the Haslams off in style, we are holding a bring and share lunch (*please bring your own food and drink*) on **Sunday 3 January**, from 12.30 until 3.30pm at the Village Hall.

All welcome!

If you are able to help with food, drink, or on the day, please contact the Churchwardens (details below) or anyone on the PCC.

We are also arranging a leaving present for Jane. If you would like to contribute, please pass your gift to either Alan Woodward, Richard McCarthy or Gladys Legg. Cheques can be made payable to 'St Mary's PCC'.

Revd Jane Haslam

As Purton prepares to say its fond farewells to Jane Haslam and her family, we began to think about all that Jane has done for us, and all that she has come to mean to us during her time in the village.

Jane and her family first arrived here almost six years ago. No-one could remember the last time a vicar of Purton had young children, and when Jane announced she was expecting her fourth, she really was breaking new ground!

Jane and her family quickly established themselves as active participants in village life, and she became well known beyond the pews of St Mary's. As a familiar face in the play ground, she has encouraged many young families along to think about faith, as the thriving attendances at the Pram Service and Family Service testify!

Jane is much more than just an encouraging vicar and a down to earth young Mum, she has also become a real and very loving friend to so many of us in the parish. She is always ready to lend an ear, and her quiet compassion has helped so many people through difficult times.

Lots of people have told us how much they have appreciated Jane's support as they've grieved for their loved ones before, during and long after funeral services at St Mary's.

Jane has always had a clear vision for St Mary's, and we have made real progress over recent years in building a solid foundation for the future of the Church. However, perhaps Jane's most profound legacy will be the way she has encouraged other people to develop their skill and calling. Thanks to Jane's encouragement, both Gladys Legg and Judith Wells are active in our community as pastoral assistants, and Judith is training for ordained ministry. What wonderful gifts to leave us with!

So thank you, Jane, for having had the humour and the patience to put up with us, the tenacity to push us when we've needed it, and the willingness to work so hard for Purton. We will miss you!

*ALAN WOODWARD
RICHARD McCARTHY*

Floodlighting St Mary's Church

For the past seven years I have been arranging the floodlighting for the Church, all sorts of people phone to ask if they can have the Church lit for an anniversary, a celebration or a memorial of one sort or another. Throughout this time the cost has remained the same, £10 per night. But recently, as many of you know, the lights have had to be replaced, as they were considered to be dangerous. So the Church has paid out huge sums of money for new fittings, and bulbs which are more environmentally suitable.

So now comes the crunch... I have been asked by the St Mary's Parish Church Committee to announce that, from now on, the cost will be £15 per night to floodlight the Church, and £40 for three consecutive nights.

Please contact me if this causes any particular concern.

LIBBIE

Purton Cricket Club



Over the past few seasons several members have set up a very successful coaching system with the result that some young players have moved on to bigger clubs.

In order to fulfil our league fixtures and other matches in 2010 new players are urgently needed. As the oldest club in Wiltshire it would be a tragedy if we were unable to celebrate our 200th anniversary in 2020 as a thriving village club.

Offering as we do a wonderful setting and excellent playing conditions we need to attract more members to play and also to help in the administration of the club so that we maintain our status as a Focus and Clubmark organisation. Any offers of help would be gratefully received.

At the recent AGM the members unanimously supported a nomination to make Mr Francis Sheppard a Life Member in recognition of his long service both as a player and a committee member. Reference was also made to his fine contributions to the interests of both Purton and Wiltshire cricket on other committees.

From the Archives (North Wilts Herald 10 July 1898)

Wedding – The marriage of Mr H J Woolford of Purton to Miss A Messenger of Down Ampney was celebrated on June 27th at the Parish Church, Down Ampney by the Rev. Leonard (vicar).

Marriage must have been good for 'HJ'. He was top of the club batting list with an average of 22.2!

JOE GARDNER

Purton Football Club



Sincere thanks to all those who supported the Club's Race Night at the Red House on Saturday 5 December. Special thanks must go to the Red House bar staff and Committee and to Terry Crumbie who once again did an excellent job as Race Announcer and to all those who helped collecting monies on the tote.

The Hellenic side are currently on a 13 match unbeaten league run and lying 2nd in the table behind Slimbridge, with Stephen Avenall having netted 11 goals and Warren Fuller with 10 leading the scoring charts. The Wilts league side lie mid-table currently with Dave Rendle topping the scoring chart with 5 goals.

In the Youth and Minors sections the Under 13s still remain the lowest placed team but despite their poor league form have progressed in the Wilts County Cup with a 4-0 win over Calne Youth.

There are some high goal-getters at these levels, namely Cremin, Amaan and Crabbe at under 9s, Barrett at under 10s, Cutter at under 14s and Cleverly at under 15s.

The bad weather has effected many games so the club are grateful for the hard work put in on the Red House Ground by Stef Kuczynski, Steve Hazell and Sean Clark helping to ensure the two senior sides, the under 17/18s and the under 15s have a decent playing surface to perform on.

ALAN EASTWOOD, President

Purton Remembers

Sunday 8 November saw the annual service at the Village War Memorial. Below are 2 photos that may be of interest to readers.

Personally I was glad to hear reference to the conflict in Afghanistan mentioned during the service. May we never forget the sacrifice of the major wars that this country has been involved with, or in the future forget the sacrifice a new generation is making.

Village Sons

During the research I found one of the Headstones in France incorrectly naming Elijah Cook (Recorded P Cook on the War Memorial & Percy in St Mary`s) as G COOK. Having contacted the CWGC about this incorrect detail (which was also listed incorrectly on the CWGC database) I sourced birth and death certificates to confirm his correct name and family details. These details have now been updated and in the near future his headstone will also be changed to reflect the correct detail.

The next stage of research is underway. I am researching over 480 names connected with Purton Parish and WW1. In the fullness of time it will be titled *Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen who served 1914 - 1918*. It will also hopefully tell the story of those who served the country in civilian status to reflect the full story of how the Parish was affected. Any details that people feel may be of use please contact me directly or through Brian Freegard at the Museum, who has been a great help to me. (Many thanks, Brian). During the past 2 years I have only received direct contact from 3 Purton residents concerning my research. This I hope reflects how the village has changed over the years rather than residents not wanting to discuss family details with an "outsider". Please, no matter how small, all details potentially unlock many doors, believe me.

BOB LLOYD

[\(bob.mech00@tiscali.co.uk\)](mailto:bob.mech00@tiscali.co.uk)

left: 1920 Dedication Ceremony



right: 2009 Remembrance Service



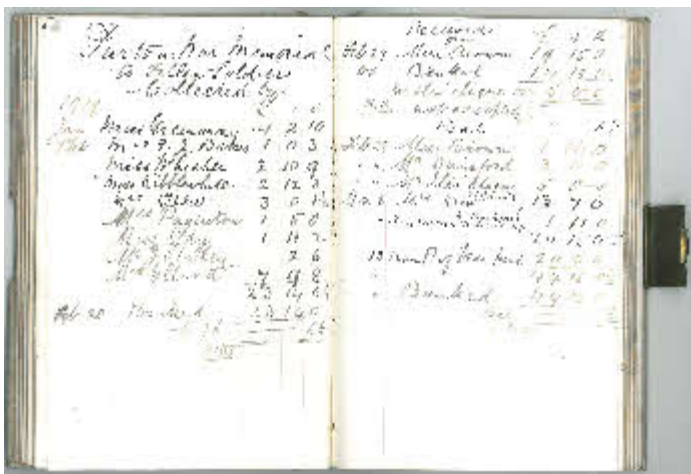
Exhibit of the Month: An Account Book

This article is written alongside Bob Lloyd's article on page 55 relating further developments in his researches into the men of Purton who served in the First World War and paid the ultimate sacrifice. I also have in mind Holocaust Memorial Day which is on 27 January which remembers those mostly civilians who were exterminated in the second war. The Great War, the "war to end all wars", and the Second World War were separated by a mere 21 years – just enough time to prepare yet another generation for slaughter.

I've called this exhibit *An Account Book*, but it isn't just any old account book. Cenotaphs, war memorials or "wayside crosses" to commemorate the fallen of the Great War didn't just happen. They weren't installed by the government but were paid for by local voluntary public subscription. This account book records how the Wayside Cross, now commonly referred to as the Cenotaph, in Purton was funded. By the way, the word *cenotaph* comes from two Greek words meaning empty (*kenos*) tomb (*taphos*).

If you are organising a fund, you need at least a Treasurer and the account book for the Purton War Memorial Fund clearly shows their names on the front cover. But it also shows that it was a book started for a different, though related, purpose as it starts off being called the Purton Prisoners Food Fund of which the first Treasurer was A. Durnsford (May to October 1915). The purpose of the charity was to send food parcels to Prisoners of War held by the enemy. In November 1916, the role was taken up by F.W. Drew who continued through to 1919, when on 1 January 1919 the charity was renamed the Purton War Memorial Fund. His handwriting carries on in the book until 17 April 1919 after which another hand writes entries up to March 1920. All these entries are in fountain pen and there is still a sheet of pink blotting paper folded inside the book.

The names recorded inside are those you would expect – all the typical names of Purton people that have survived across the years: landowners, tradesmen,



workmen, they are all there. By the end of October 1918, £417 16s 4½d had been collected and used to pay for food parcels.

The hostilities of the Great War ended on 11 November 1918 and by January 1919 thoughts were on the consequences. The book carries over towards the Purton War Memorial Fund and hands a balance of

£20 across to the new fund. By March 1920, £235 10s 0d had been collected and that is presumably what the Cenotaph cost to order and erect.

Also in the Museum's collection is a copy of the Order of Service for the "Unveiling and Dedication of Wayside Cross, Erected in Memory of the Men of this Parish who in the Great War gave their lives for us. Sunday 26th December 1920". The service shown in Bob Lloyd's first photograph started with the hymn "O Valiant Hearts" followed by prayers. The Chairman of the Parish Council, J. Haskins, Esq., then called upon Colonel Canning C.M.G., to unveil the Cross after which the hymn "For all the Saints" was sung.

The cross was then dedicated and the roll of the names inscribed upon the cross were read by the Chairman of the Parish Council and an address was delivered by the Revd. R. Cowie, C.F. The hymn "Son of God" was followed by more prayers, the blessing and *The Last Post*.

Wreaths were then laid by representatives of the Service Men, the Parish Council, the Mothers of Purton and the School Children after which *The Reveille* was sounded. After a short silence, everyone cried "God Save the King".



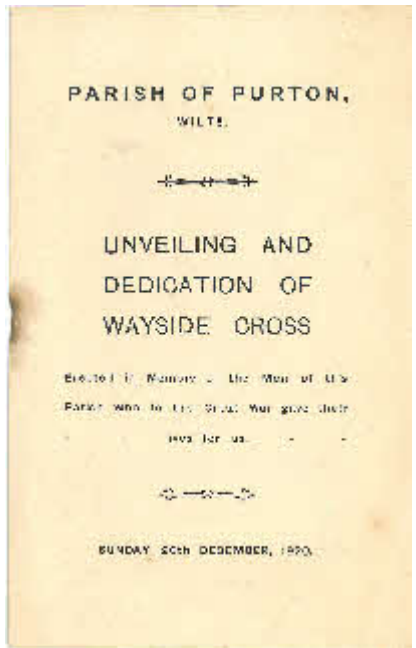
I'm also adding a third exhibit to remind us what it was all about. In the collection we have hundreds of photos of soldiers, sailors and airmen from Purton who served in the conflict, all taken in studio settings before they set off for war. Most of those that we look after have a name attached but there are many that are just labelled "a soldier", "a sailor" or "an airman". This is just one of those unknown Purton warriors. If you recognise the face from your family album, do please let me know.

There will be clearer pictures at www.purtonmuseum.com.

RICK DIXON,
Outreach Officer

Purton Museum is located above the Library, 1 Station Road and is open during Library hours:

Tues & Fri 2pm - 5pm and 6pm - 8pm
Weds 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm



Old and New Style Light Bulbs

The traditional incandescent light bulbs are on the way out and new European regulations expected next year will mean that people will be encouraged to use the longer-lasting, energy-efficient light bulbs instead. But, are the new style, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) really more energy efficient; how much brighter are they and do they last longer?

The traditional incandescent 100 watt light bulb carries the electrical connection from base to filament in a glass mount. The electric current passes through the filament which heats up and emits light while the inert gas inside the bulb protects the filament and improves luminescence. By contrast, the CFL 'energy saving light bulb' has an electrical current that is emitted from electronic 'ballast'. The current flows into the gas filled tube causing it to emit invisible ultraviolet (UV) light. UV light causes the phosphor coating inside the tube to emit visible light, requiring 20 - 23 watts to generate the same light as a traditional 100W bulb.

The European Commission, the Energy Saving Trust and the manufacturers say that CFLs use up to 80% less electricity than traditional bulbs. That figure is calculated by comparing the best compact fluorescent lamp's wattage with the wattage of an equivalent incandescent bulb. However, that is a 5:1 ratio between the two types when really it should be "up to" 80%.

An energy use expert from the Building Research Establishment thinks that simple conclusions cannot be drawn about energy savings potential. It seems that an 80% savings figure on the packaging for a CFL doesn't actually mean that the product will save 80% lighting energy, 80% carbon emissions and 80% of the costs because traditional light bulbs expend about 95% of their energy producing heat.

The European Commission believes that the amount of light given by a CFL as claimed on the packaging, might be a little misleading because they are often tested and measured in laboratory conditions. The Commission's advice is to divide the wattage of a traditional light bulb by 4 to get the equivalent brightness. So, to get the brightness of a traditional 60 watt bulb, choose a 15 watt CFL bulb. However, the Lighting Research Center in the United States of America uses the 'divide by 3' rule, thereby recommending a 20 watt CFL bulb to match the brightness of a 60 watt traditional bulb because levels of brightness vary significantly at home. Apparently a CFL bulb is designed to provide maximum light output at 25°C but when it is either hotter or colder than that, the brightness can be reduced.

Finally, the lifespan of the new CFL bulbs is sometimes called into question. Here, it seems that the old maxim of "you get what you pay for" is relevant because while a branded bulb from a well-known manufacturer may indeed last for the promised 10 years, one from a supermarket budget line may not. When a batch of bulbs is tested, they are turned on for three hours, then off for 20 minutes over and over again until half the batch fails. That is the point at which the average life is established – often 10,000 hours – and translated as 10 years. However, as half the bulbs fail before 10,000 hours, a shopper might be unlucky enough to select a bulb that failed after, say, just 2,000 hours. Also, continuously turning a CFL off and on every 15 minutes, for example, will more than halve the expected lifespan.

Bradon Forest School News



Meat Marketing Board Competition and Junior Master Chef



Congratulations to Jenna Duckers who won the Meat Marketing Board cooking competition. Jenna cooked up an original idea of a Bolognese Stuffed Crust Pizza with a seasonal salad. Other winning entries were Olivia Stanton with a Mexican and Chilli Bean Swirl, Lewis Palmer with a Three Colour Twist Bolognese and Joshua Fail with his Chilli Stack. The next round will be to cook with well known celebrity chef James Martin in a local hotel. Fingers crossed!

Futurechef 2010 School Heat Results: Can They Cook It?

All over the country young aspiring cooks have been taking part in the school heats of Springboard's FutureChef 2010, the four-stage nationwide culinary programme aimed at helping young people aged 12 - 16 to learn to cook.

At Bradon Forest School, Year 10 Food students cooked up a variety of mouth-watering dishes with 14 year old Bethan Williams beating off strong opposition to win through to the next round with her dish of Chicken, Chorizo and Lemon Risotto.



Gillian Woodward, in charge of Food Technology from Bradon Forest School, said "Bethan produced a fantastic risotto, with a creamy texture and fresh tangy flavours. The judges ate the whole portion!"

Bethan was helped by her mentor Francis Young of The Pear Tree, Purton, to refine her two course menu in readiness for the regional heat.

Interform Cross Country was not quite as muddy as last year, and the bog not quite as boggy, but the effort put in by the students was just as impressive. The Girls PE teachers gave out 400 green slips for effort and performance during the 3 weeks! Students ran in year groups so had the challenge of finishing in the best position they could in order to score the most points for their tutor group.

Boys PE produced an impressive effort with all pupils from key stage 3 participating and all of year 10 competing over the 4 weeks of cross country. The Interform competition produced superb results from the lads with several course records, not only beaten but impressively beaten, well done to all.



North Wiltshire Cross Country

On a sunny day in November 32 athletes from Bradon Forest competed against ten other North Wiltshire schools at Grittleton House School. The cross country course was impressive with the school building making the students feel like they were at Hogwarts on the Harry Potter Set!



A great day was had by all and our

teams finished in the following positions: Minor Boys 5th, Minor Girls 1st, Junior Boys 1st, Junior Girls 6th, Inter Boys 1st, Inter Girls 6th.

Bradon Forest U13 Girls Runners Up in STFC Community Competition

As current holders of the cup, the girls were keen to bring it back to school with them. This looked a real possibility with wins in the group stages over Abbeyfields 2 - 0 (Amy Bergin, Edie Cooke) and Dorcan B 1 - 0 (Edie Cooke). The girls also had all of the possession in games against Greendown and Churchfields but both games finished 0 - 0.



Bradon Forest finished top of their group and played Dorcan A in the semifinals. In a hard fought match Amy Bergin scored in the last minute taking us through to the finals.

In the finals, Isambard scored early and, despite the girls' efforts, 1 - 0 was the final score. Well done to all the girls, a great evening was had by all.

Rebekah Taylor, Megan Spencer, Amy Bergin, Kirsten Harris, Edie Cooke, Emma Clayton, Charlotte Habgood, Verity Ellison (GK)

When you read this article, 2010 will be in its very first days. I hope all readers and their families have enjoyed a peaceful Christmas and would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year on behalf of the Bradon Forest School community.

L SPIERS, Headteacher



Golden Wedding of Anne & David Sweet

Congratulations on your special anniversary

9 January 2010

Love from Pam, Inez and Frances