

Purton *Magazine*



*Purton stile, Purton style
photo: Marlene Slee*

July 2010

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.communitagate.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

At the time of writing, the country's World Cup euphoria has been put on hold somewhat after a goalkeeping error in the match against the USA - or as one Sunday paper put it "one disastrous spill the Yanks won't complain about". Yet the white flags are still fluttering hopefully from cars and castles, gardens and garages, not to mention the many shirts and stickers and much else besides.

By the time you are reading this, the England football team could have been home for a week or slightly less if the early knock-out stages were to become a kick too far. What will surely still be in evidence are the vuvuzelas - those ever-present one note plastic African horns that deliver an incessant background drone that has been likened to a massive swarm of angry bees to every match.

The volume of noise has been measured at 127 decibels whereas extended exposure to more than 85 decibels is deemed harmful. There have been numerous complaints from TV and radio audiences that they can't hear the commentary because of the noise. It seems that a vuvuzela is tuned (to use the term loosely!) at the B flat below middle C making it similar to the frequency of speech tones. That, in turn, makes it very difficult for broadcasters to tune it out as it would also dampen the commentators' voices but apparently not in a good way.

For readers wanting to get away from the football, there will be 30 open gardens as part of Purton in Bloom over the weekend of the final. More details are on page 16. This issue of your magazine also contains information about lots of other activities in our village during July with many summarised in the diary section that you will find, as usual, as the centre-spread on pages 30 and 31.

There are also reports on recent happenings in our village including yet another amazing year in Purton for Christian Aid. So many people contributed again this year; whether buying a quiz or attending an event or making a donation, always remembering those volunteers who went round door to door to collect the envelopes. There is also a report on this year's carnival and Sylvia Freemantle's election as the Pride of Purton. We hope that she soon will also be hopping over our stiles in her own style to match Val D'Arcy-Masters on our front cover this month!

30

gardens will
open for
Purton in Bloom
on 10 & 11 July
- see page 16.

38

years' service
by Alan Eastwood
to Purton football
honoured
- see page 22.

£5,300+

raised in Purton for
Christian Aid making it
another record breaking
year
- see page 35.

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Purton
Magazine

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Magazine Committee

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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



Ridgeway Farm Development - An exhibition will be held in Purton Village Hall on Monday 5 July between 4pm and 8pm to show the proposed plans for this site. Ridgeway Farm lies behind the Foresters Arms at Common Platt just beyond The Fox. 800 houses are proposed for this site. The Parish Council urges local residents to go to the exhibition to see what the developer is proposing and to give your views on the proposal. A formal planning application has not been submitted to Wiltshire Council as yet but the exhibition plans will give an indication of what is likely to be included in the lay-out of the site.

Skate Park - we are pleased to announce that the skate park at the Village Centre will be officially opened on Sunday 4 July at 2pm. All are welcome to attend and to help celebrate this exciting occasion.

Lorry Watch Pilot Scheme - Wiltshire Council is considering a pilot scheme for this area including Purton with a view to introducing it in the rest of the County if the pilot proves successful. The idea behind the scheme is that local volunteers will act as observers to note the details of vehicles that may be abusing the Weight Restriction through the village and pass these on to a local co-ordinator who would in turn pass the information onto the Trading Standards Officer at Wiltshire Council. The Trading Standards would then establish the type of vehicle in question and write to the owner to establish whether the driver/operator/owner was in contravention of the Order when observed and then decide what action may be necessary. The scheme would not be introducing any new restrictions but enforcing those that are already in place. The pilot scheme will run for approximately 10 months.

The volunteers would need to be able to record the registration of the vehicle, the date and time of the sighting and where it was sighted as a minimum and ideally be willing to provide a witness statement detailing this information if the situation was to require it. Some training would be given along with documents on which to record the information. If you would be interested in volunteering for this please contact the Parish Council Office.

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

The Parish Council's letter box is on the wall adjacent to the side door (entrance door to the Parish Council offices) to the rear of the Library/Institute Building. Post for the Purton Village Hall/Institute Charity, Purton Village Centre/ War Memorial and Play Close Charities can also be deposited in this box.

These Planning Applications have been approved by Wiltshire Council:

N/10/00308/S73A *The Glen, 7 Wood Lane, Braydon*, change of use from building used for equestrian use to a showroom to display wood pellet stoves and also an office for an equestrian

wholesaling business. Development to include the replacement of open fronted garage with single door access, the insertion of windows and hard surfacing to be used as associated parking area

N/10/01271/TCA *Holly Lodge, Church Street*, tree surgery to yew tree and fell ash tree

N/09/02020/REM *Moredon Bridge, Purton Road*, detailed design of 200 dwellings and associated works

N/10/01126/FUL *13 Blacklands, Pavenhill*, creation of vehicular access and lowering of kerb

N10/00625/FUL *Croft House, Pond Lane, Purton Stoke*, single storey side extension/conservatory

The following Planning Application has been refused by Wiltshire Council:

N10/00640/CLP *Hayes Oak Farm, Hayes Knoll, Purton Stoke*, conversion and alteration to attached stables to provide additional living accommodation

Withdrawn Planning Application:

N10/01306/FUL *16 Vasterne Close*, two-storey extension and removal of garage

Expedition to Romania

After more than a year of fundraising and training exercises on the beautiful Pewsey Downs, our three intrepid explorers, Rosie, Anna and Eilish are ready for their imminent departure to Romania. They will spend 6 days trekking and camping in the Carpathian Mountains and then spend some time at a children's hospice - a trip of a lifetime which will undoubtedly give them valuable experiences. The trip is organised by Bradon Forest School together with a specialist team from World Challenge.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all who have helped the girls in their fundraising - teachers for their enthusiasm in wet sponge throwing (at them!) and car washing, friends and neighbours for giving them rewarding odd jobs, Purton House for donations to their "Cool Smoothies" enterprise, generous donations of time and effort in organising events and the generosity of those who attended. The most recent event, the Backyard Bash, was very enjoyable despite the weather and we're particularly grateful to Tony and Sheila Price for providing the setting and the lovely cream teas and to Tony Richardson for help on the musical front. (We're all keen to do it again next year, so any budding musicians out there, watch this space!). As is said so often in this Magazine, we were humbled by the number of people who helped - donating items for the event, turning out to set up the 'gazebo village' and serving cream teas throughout the afternoon. It is said that in order to give to others you need to have felt cherished yourself - this village certainly gives that to our children. Thank you.

KATE ROBINSON

From January to June

After months of back pain, frustration and worry, I can now tell you I had my new hip at the end of May. What a relief! So it was 6 months of knitting and crafting for The Children's Christmas Shoeboxes. What a joy this project is to me and it has helped me through a very difficult time. The care and support that I have received from so many people of Purton has been so special. Thank you all so very much. A very special thank you to Moira, who has put up with me 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. How did she do that? No doubt she will tell you, if you ask her! To Colin, who had the same problem, but please don't ask him how he managed!

To end my little story - I have become Pride of Purton 2010. What more could anyone ask for? I will continue to support this lovely village and the Bakewell Tarts will soon be coming off the assembly line once again.

SYLVIA FREEMANTLE

We Record ...

Baptisms

9 May Mia Butterfly Wraight
30 May Connor Aaron Greenhalgh

Weddings

8 May Mark Kevin Waldron and Sabrina Louise Darling
29 May Steven Michael Woodman and Katie Taylor
29 May Nathan David Wallace and Jade Rebecca Vines
5 June Hugh Graham Beere and Wendy Fortescue-Hubbard

Diamond Wedding

29 July David and Christine Nicholson

In Memoriam

2 July In loving memory of Eric Booth, who died 2 July 2008, aged 78.
Loved always. From his loving wife Kath and all the family.



Church Floodlighting

With thanks to those who have sponsored floodlighting of St Mary's Church.

3 & 4 July In memory of Ted Brimble on the 40th anniversary of his death, also his 93rd birthday.
Always in my thoughts - forever in my heart
His ever-loving daughter Daphne



Floodlighting contact: Libbie.

Purton & District Age Concern



Could I start by saying a belated thank-you to the family of the late Mrs Delia Jeffs, who lived in Glevum Close, for money coming to the Age Concern minibus fund. I will tell you later why it is belated. Mrs Jeffs was, I think, a very private person who didn't like people knowing her business and, on the other hand, did not want to know other people's. She was born in Northampton where she met her husband Jack who, I am told, put his age on to join the army and later married Delia, so it was now Mr & Mrs Jeffs. Jack fought in three wars so Delia was the major player in bringing the children up although, when it was possible, the family went with Jack. As you would do when travelling the world, you bring back various mementos from where you have been and I believe Mrs Jeffs had quite a collection of china. When Mr Jeffs' army days were over, they bought a bungalow in Glevum Close and that would have been over fifty years ago. Mrs Jeffs was able to stay there up until three years ago.

As I said, Mrs Jeffs was a private person but that did not stop her from being a very kind and loving person and this was something all the ladies at North View Hospital really appreciated, because that was where she worked for twenty years, thoroughly enjoying it. What an asset she must have been to North View to have such a caring person who loved her work as she did. With someone like Mrs Jeffs working there, everyone would benefit. Sadly she had to retire as she had the first of two strokes when she was sixty and then another two years later so, with other problems, she hasn't enjoyed the best of health for the last twenty years. With care and attention she was able to stay in her home up until three years ago when she was advised to move to a nursing home at Princess Lodge. Here, as at home, she was lovingly cared for.

When Mrs Jeffs was at home, she was a frequent user of our minibuses and the minibus personnel all said what a pleasure it was to pick her up. She was always appreciative of what was done for her, with never a moan or a groan but always a smile. Another little thing, or I think it would be more appropriate to say a big thing she did, was to put her small change in a jar - and most of the time it was more than small! - and she gave it to the minibus fund, so you can tell what a lovely and generous person she was. In a way this generosity was reciprocated as people were very generous to our minibus fund with donations in lieu of flowers in her memory, so thank you one and all.

I said 'belated' earlier, well Mrs Jeffs cremation was on 2 February and we have just received the donations in early June, four months on. This particular undertaker had a burglary but even so this is such a length of time and people wonder why their cheques have not been cashed. I feel that funeral directors should only need to keep donations for a couple of weeks before passing them on. I would like to thank Anita and Pat, Mrs Jeffs' daughters, for all the trouble they took to make sure we received the donations, and to offer them and their families our deepest sympathy in the loss of a lovely mum.

Our evening mystery tour was very enjoyable, taking in Wootton Bassett, Broad Town, Hackpen Hill, Marlborough, Burbage and Pewsey through to the Bridge Inn

at Horton, where we stopped for an hour. It is a pub by the canal and we were blessed with a lovely warm evening. We returned home via Devizes, past Wadsworth's Brewery (little did I know then that I was being taken on a tour of the brewery next day as a surprise birthday present - it was excellent and the Bridge Inn is a Wadsworths' pub). Sorry - we shall never get home at this rate. The road was blocked at the top of the Caen Hill flight of locks, so we had to take the road to Calne, then turn off and go along the bottom of the locks and it was quite spectacular, looking up the whole flight. We then went on to Melksham, Calne, Lyneham and Wootton Bassett. Sadly we were a bit low on numbers, with only 28 going, so we might have to have a rethink next year.

Our next trip is to Stratford-on-Avon on Wednesday 7 July, cost £9 - there might still be room so give me a ring if you decide you would like to go. The coach will leave at 10am and we will leave Stratford at 4pm. There is no food provided on this trip. We follow on from this with the outing to Weston on Wednesday 4 August. This is open to all ages and the cost is £10 for children (who must be accompanied by an adult) and for pensioners and £12 for others. Names to your street wardens by 26 July.

With all the problems we had this year with the diaries, we are not going to issue any more, basically because they couldn't give us a delivery date. It is no good having a diary halfway through January, so we apologise for this.

If anyone would like some hand rails to help them round the house, a gentleman has offered us a set at no cost, but you would have to install them or get someone else to. If you want to know more, give me a ring on 770696.

I have saved the best for last - firstly, our usual coffee morning, which is on Saturday 3 July, 10am to 12 noon, hosted by John, Phil and Joyce Bryant at Greystones, Bentham Lane, Purton Stoke is, this year, going to be raising funds for the Prospect Hospice instead of Purton Age Concern, in memory of Phil and Joyce's daughter Janet who passed away last year, so please come along to help us raise funds for that excellent charity. There will be all the usual stalls, tombola, bric a brac, raffle, plants, cakes and more. The minibus will be available if you ring 01793 770862 so please help us to make this the best one yet in memory of Janet.

Then I want to say that I think the Purton Carnival *Pride of Purton* award has got it spot on again this year with Sylvia Freemantle being chosen. Sylvia does so much good in the village and beyond and she has carried on through health problems without complaining. Let's start with all the work she does for the shoe box appeal at the Methodist Church. She would be the first to admit that without all the help she gets from friends she would not be able to do it. It is a lovely feeling when doing something, to know your friends will support you all the way and, being the type of person Sylvia is, she has lots of friends. What about the coffee mornings that Sylvia hosts along with Moira for various charities in the village; and then there are things she does quietly and unless you are on the receiving end you would not know about it. (I also think that part of the award must be for her Bakewell tarts!) I am sure the whole village is behind your selection, Sylvia, so very many congratulations and carry on with the good work.

TONY PRICE

Exhibit of the Month: Jubilee Crown

May marked the 100th anniversary of the accession of King George V and Queen Mary to the throne on 6 May 1910, with the coronation a year later on 1 July 1911. The Silver Jubilee year was 75 years ago in 1935. While looking through the Museum collection, I found a commemorative crown coin (5/- or 25p) which has some interesting things about it.

The obverse (head) shows the King looking to the left. It has long been a tradition with English, then British coins and stamps that succeeding monarchs faced opposite directions. Of course when George V died he was succeeded by Edward VIII who abdicated before he was crowned. Edward VIII coins though minted never got into general circulation but he faced right, his younger brother who became George VI faced left again so our present Queen faces right. Also on the obverse are the royal achievement: GEORGIVS V. DG BRITT: OMN: REX. FD. IND: IMP: short for the Latin: Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex, Fidei Defensor, Imperator Indiae: or translated into English: George V by the Grace of God, King of all the British Territories, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

The reverse (tail) shows St George slaying the dragon together with the denomination "Crown" and the year 1935.

It was the edge that I found more intriguing as it said Decus et Tutamen: "an ornament and a safeguard". This started in use on coins of precious metal during the 17th century. It had become common to clip gold or silver from the edges of coins, passing the coin on as if complete but keeping part of the value to be melted down. With the inscribed edge this couldn't be done. Of course these days we only have coins that look like gold or silver rather than being of true value.

The original of the phrase comes from Book V of Virgil's Aeneid: "*viro decus et tutamen in armis*", describing a piece of armour, a breast-plate interwoven with gold, which was awarded as a prize to Mnestheus.

Of course the self-same phrase occurs on the English version of the modern-day £1 coin, while the £2 coins bear the inscription "Standing on the Shoulders of Giants", attributed to Sir Isaac Newton explanation as to how he achieved so much as he did ... the Giants being his predecessors in his field.

There will as always be clearer pictures on the website:

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

Purton in Bloom: Open Gardens

Some 30 gardens are open over the weekend of Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 July in and around the village ... including a composting demonstration, and a beach hut on the allotments! Admission to all the gardens is by programme, price £5 per person (under-16s free) which cover both days and can be purchased from Best One (Lower Square); In Touch Services (Upper Square); Toomers Garden Centre (Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent); or from the first garden you visit. Gardens will be identified by green finger posts and will be open from 10am to 5pm.

Some of the gardens will be providing light refreshments (teas, coffees, squash etc) and even cream teas, at a nominal charge and there will be food available from The Royal George in Pavenhill, and the Angel in the High Street.

Funds raised will go to the Village Hall cooker appeal fund, the Jubilee Gardens Project and the Purton Playgroup.

We look forward to good weather and to your visits.

Purton Luncheon Club

Purton Luncheon Club operates on Tuesdays and Thursdays, offering a cooked lunch to the over- sixties of Purton and Purton Stoke at the Silver Threads Hall. We have four teams of cooks, with four or five in each team, who prepare, serve and wash up a two-course meal for twenty to thirty members. Thanks to the success of the luncheon club on average over 3,000 meals are now prepared and served annually. We urgently need one volunteer for a team that operates on one Thursday every month from 10am to 1pm. People work hard while preparing lunch, but it is obvious to any observer that they also greatly enjoy the easy, friendly relationships that develop within the team and with the club's members.

If you feel able to offer 3 hours on one Thursday a month to enable this splendid institution to continue, please contact Elizabeth Ward or Pat Suddaby.

Carnival 2010

What a year - highs and lows - but we made it in the end, despite a very small Committee, and our most grateful thanks to all of you who turned up trumps and helped in many ways.

A good start to the week with the Coffee Morning, as always a great success. Talent Evening successful thanks to people from Swindon entering ... where is the Purton talent?

Very disappointing in the Teddy Bear's Picnic (8), Darts (4 teams), but a superb Quiz from Len and Barbara, Bingo and Lunch a sell-out and the Skittles was a good evening. The Pig Roast was great, thanks to The Angel.

Our Carnival Princess, Lucy Stock, was selected, and Pride of Purton Mrs Sylvia Freemantle. Thank you all ... letters will be on the way. We could not have done it without all your support.

The Open Meeting is on Wednesday 28 June at the Silver Threads Hall at 7.30pm
PAULINE WARD, Secretary

PURTON PLACARD

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

The Bradon Forest Theatre

Presents

Noel Coward's

SWEET CHARITY

Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 July
7.30pm

12.00pm Matinee Saturday 10 July

followed at 2.00pm by
2nd Annual Bradon Forest
Community

Staff v Village
Twenty-20 Cricket Match
BBQ and Cream Tea

Theatre Tickets:
£4 Students, £5 Adults

01793 773981



PURTON SKATE PARK

GRAND OPENING

SUNDAY JULY 4TH

FROM 2PM

AT THE

RED HOUSE VILLAGE CENTRE

Competition

Tuition

Displays

EVERYBODY WELCOME

St Mary's Church will be holding a

Summer Barbecue

on Saturday 17 July
at The Buthaye, 4 Church End
6.30pm

Licensed Bar, Quiz, Raffle

Tickets:

Adult £6, Children (11 and under) £3

Contact: Sandra, Alison,
or Val

Bradon Forest School Annual Cricket Match

(staff versus village side)

plus mini **Rounders Tournament**

(rounders Ladies only)

Saturday 10 July at 2pm
on the school field.

PTA will be on hand
to provide refreshments, BBQ, Bar
Stalls and Facepainting

Entertainment by the School Band

To volunteer to play either cricket or
rounders

please contact Emma Hayden
or Bradon Forest School Office (770570)
for more details.

Posters will be up soon around the village

Silver Threads
**Books & Bangers
Evening**

at Red Lodge, Braydon

Friday 30 July

6.00pm

Admission 50p

Books, Food,
Lots of other Attractions

Minibus: tel 770251

**Purton Twinning
Association**
Forthcoming Events



16/17/18 July Visitors from Héric to
Purton
17 July Bastille Day Celebration
with Héric Visitors and
local Wiltshire Twinning
Associations
December Quiz Night

Silver Threads
Jumble Sale
at Silver Threads Hall
Saturday 7 August
2.00pm
Raffle & Refreshments

**Summer Concert
St Mary's Church
Purton**

Friday 16th July

at 7.30pm

featuring

St. Mary's Church Choir

with the

Peartree Pealers

(our local Purton handbell ringers)

and guest musicians

The Concert is free

with a retiring collection in aid of
Church funds and The Prospect
Hospice.



Come and join us for a delightful
concert and a glass of wine.

**PURTON OPEN
GARDENS**

Sat 10 & Sun 11 July
10am - 5pm

Admission Programmes
£5 per person (under-16s free)
from

Best One

In Touch Services
Toomer's Garden Centre
and all participating gardens

Activity Week

2 - 6 August

7-11 Year Olds

All children from
the village welcome
Put the dates in your diary!

If you think you can
volunteer your help
contact
Mary Nettleton

Come and join us at a
COFFEE MORNING

In aid of the Prospect Foundation
at the homes of the Bryants
in Bentham Lane

on Saturday 3 July from 10.00am. to 12.00
noon

Lots of bargains, bric a brac, cakes, plants,
books, raffle and refreshments

Green Tips - Joining up the dots

Government cuts, the economic downturn, climate change and the running out of some key items on which we rely (such as oil) - what joins these crises together? It is the jobs market. Jobs have never been easy to find and to be unable to find work is not just unfortunate; it is a tragedy.

But do the words “lining”, “silver” and “cloud” come to mind? Perhaps, out of the Government cuts, the economic downturn, climate change and the resource crunch, there are opportunities? What can be done? Taking the oil supply issue; energy prices look likely to keep increasing; this makes the transportation of our food and the cost of going to work more expensive. Are we missing a trick here?

We have local land and we have local labour, why not local produce? Big question: could Purton feed itself? Could Purton become mostly self-sufficient in producing vegetables, cereals, meat and dairy produce? Okay, not everyone wants to work the land so are there opportunities for more cottage industry? The obvious ones are services in gardening, cooking local specialities, plumbing, solving computer problems, repairing shoes, electrical repairs, furniture repair, upholstery, tailoring, ironing and so on.

There is a mood in central government to give local voices a firm platform in planning. There is also an increasing whisper that self reliance (the buzz word is resilience these days) is a key piece of the future jigsaw. As mentioned a few times in these pages, there has been reference to something called Transform Purton Parish. A small group, including Ps and Qs members, have got together to discuss what the future holds and what we need to do; not just about climate change but also about potential resources: food, energy, water and so on. This is all about resilience; about withstanding the various lifestyle shocks; some that are here now (jobs crunch and weather extremes) some that are easily foreseeable (diminishing oil, increasing costs of food and travel) and some that are on their way (changed weather patterns and different landscapes).

At the risk of getting this wrong (since the Magazine goes to press before we really know) the Bonn talks last month seem to have been pretty lacklustre which does not bode well for the climate change talks in Mexico at the end of the year. There has never been a better time for re-thinking some of our basic assumptions about how things get done. We'll be convening a meeting this month about taking this further and joining up the dots ...

Compiled by Richard Pagett for Ps & Qs

Ps and Qs stands for Purton's Qualities

Valuing Community Life - campaigning for sustainable communities

New members are always welcome

Contact: Jane Smith or Jacqui Lay

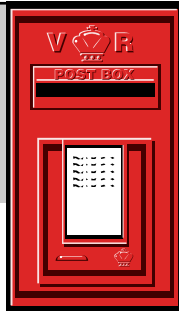
or via our web site: www.purtoninfo.org.uk

Ps and Qs would also like to know if there are any special topics that readers would like to see in the Magazine



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.



■ FAMILY OF FRIENDS

Jim and Frances would like to thank our family of friends for their kind donations to the Prospect Hospice and their good wishes to celebrate our Golden Wedding. £225 has been received by Prospect.

Jim & Frances Verity

■ BROWN OWL

Congratulations to Jo Sully (Brown Owl at 1st Purton Brownies) on being presented with Girlguiding's Good Service Brooch. This award is given for excellent service to Guiding. A well deserved recognition of all the work that she does.

*Gill Woodward
Braydon District Commissioner
(Job share)*

■ CONGRATULATIONS

At their recent A.G.M, the Wiltshire Football Association presented Purton Football Club's current President, Chairman and Press Officer, Alan Eastwood, with a commemorative plaque and Association tie honouring his services to football within the County. They also made Alan an Honorary Member of the Wilts F.A.

Alan, whose association with Purton Football Club stretches back to 1972 is to be congratulated on receiving this richly deserved honour.

Well done, Alan!

Graham Price

Maisy Goes to the Library: Friday 28 May, 2.30pm, 11 children & 8 adults

Purton children had an a-Maisy-ing time with Maisy the Mouse at the library. Children were able to meet the 6ft mouse and help her find her lost panda! Parents and children alike enjoyed stories, singing and mouse-themed stories with Maisy and Community Librarian Jessica Phillips. Parents said the activity was "brilliant" and one little girl wanted to take Maisy home!



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

OFFERED: 19 metre yellow garden hose with reel but no other connections. Telephone 771018.

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

After Eight

On Tuesday 18 May we met at Helen's. We had a really interesting evening as Helen's illustrated talk took us through the journeys she and Rick made in the Gambia.



The Gambian capital is Banjul previously known as Bathurst which is on St Mary's Island where the Gambia River enters the Atlantic Ocean.

In 1816 the British founded Banjul as a trading post and a base for suppressing the slave trade. It was then named after Henry Bathurst the Secretary of the British Colonial Office, but was changed back to Banjul in 1973.

Gambia is 500 km long 25-50 km wide. 90% of the population is Muslim the remaining 10% mostly Christians of different denominations

The official language is English although many tribal languages are spoken.

They felt it was a very peaceful, safe and friendly place; Helen recounted trips they had taken on crowded ferries accompanied by all manner of livestock and on one occasion they were delayed for 26 hours waiting for a ferry. With none of the usual ferry terminal facilities it made for an interesting wait. They visited schools, some of which were sponsored and well equipped but other schools were not so good; but uniforms were worn with pride.

The markets they visited were bright vibrant places stocked with vegetables, livestock, sand crafted pictures, wood carvings and many other interesting stalls.

Gambia does not have many large wild animals but there are crocodiles along the river banks.

The mangrove swamps were a haven for many beautiful birds.

The villages are primitive, some are block built but a lot are traditional thatched huts, they grow their own vegetables and fishing is one of their main food supplies. The flowers in the area are beautiful.

All in all it must be a very interesting place to visit.



Unloading a ferry up-country

EILEEN COE

Next meeting: Guided walk around Cricklade. Meet Cricklade Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Royal British Legion Purton Branch

Open Horticultural Show: Saturday 28 August

Have you picked up a schedule yet?? They are available from John Toomer, Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent, and T & J Smith, Harford House, Lower Square, Purton, and all committee members.

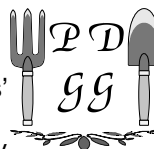
There is a class to suit everyone including the children so why not take a look and have a go!???

Any questions? Contact David Herbert (Hon.Chairman) or Heather Harris (Hon.Sec.)



Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

Our speaker for May was David Taylor from Gosbrook Pelargoniums in Shrivvenham. Pelargoniums were initially classified as 'geraniums' because of the similarities of the seedheads to our hardy garden geraniums (cranesbill). It then became apparent that they were totally different and they were renamed pelargoniums.



Species, Angels, Ivy-leaf, Regals, Stellar, Zonal, Scented-leaf and Unique are examples of the different types of pelargoniums grown. They are all tender plants, needing winter protection to keep them alive from year to year.

David showed us examples of these beautiful plants and how to propagate them. Regals and Angels need cutting back in June or early July to produce suitable shoots for cuttings by September. Select a non-flowering shoot, 2 to 3 inches long and cut just below a leaf joint. Leave for a few minutes to dry and then place into 50:50 mix of compost and sharp sand. Water from the bottom and about three weeks later the cuttings should have rooted. These are then potted on into a 40:40:20 mix of compost, John Innes no. 2 and grit.

Pelargoniums need feeding from May to September with a full strength feed but David strongly advised to water only from the bottom each time. Don't overwater, particularly during winter and only then when the compost is almost dry.

The selection of plants that David brought with him were eagerly snapped up by our members, perhaps we will be able to swap cuttings next year!

Tony Price proposed a vote of thanks.

Our club outing to Wisley was enjoyed by all. The weather was perfect and although, as one member commented to me, we were too early for the display of summer bedding plants and we had missed the daffodils, the rhododendrons and azaleas were stunning. This goes to show that there is always something to enjoy at these beautiful gardens.

Monthly club competition of 5 tulips was won by Edna Bunce.

Next month's meeting, held as usual at the Silver Threads Hall, will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27 July. Our speaker will be Karen Johnstone talking about Barnsdale Gardens. Monthly Competition - 5 roses.

MOIRA WHITE, Secretary

Purton Guide Dogs

At the Swindon and District Branch June meeting, I was asked if I would organise a coach to the Guide Dogs Gala Day, at Stoneleigh Park in Warwick on 10 July. There may be some seats still available and if anyone is interested they can contact me for details. I have just about got the Gazebo and stock accessible ready for the Carnival Fete stall, and hope to see you there. Then early the following morning I take it all down to The Bowood Dog Show and Country Fair. Will tell you all about it in next month's Magazine.



Once again thank you for your continued support.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group

Purton Diary - July 2010

1	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
3	Sa	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Prospect Foundation coffee morning at Greystones, Bentham Lane
<hr/>			
4	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Parade and LEP Anniversary Service at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	United Parade Service at Purton Methodist Church
		2.00pm	Official Opening of Skate Park at Village Centre
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
5	M	4.00pm	<i>to 8pm:</i> Ridgeway Farm housing exhibition at Village Hall
6	Tu	7.30pm	After 8 guided walk around Cricklade. Meet at Cricklade Town Hall car park
		7.30pm	Noel Coward's <i>Sweet Charity</i> at Bradon Forest Theatre (until Friday 9 th)
7	W	10.00am	Age Concern day trip to Stratford-on-Avon
		10.30am	Song of Praise at The Cedars
8	Th	6.00pm	New-build Open Meeting at St Mary's Upper School Hall
9	F	9.30am	Age Concern minibus to Swindon for all areas of the village
10	Sa	10.00am	<i>to 5pm:</i> Purton Open Gardens
		10.00am	<i>to 5pm:</i> Model Railways exhibition at Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church
		12 noon	Noel Coward's <i>Sweet Charity</i> at Bradon Forest Theatre (matinee)
		2.00pm	Twenty-20 Cricket and Mini-Rounders at Bradon Forest Playing Field
<hr/>			
11	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.00am	<i>to 5pm:</i> Purton Open Gardens
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Sung Evensong at St Mary's Church
12	M	7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
13	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: <i>Dorcan Choir</i>
		10.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
14	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		2.30 pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship members cream tea at 16 Church Path
16	F		Twinning Visitors fro Héric in Purton until Sunday 18 th
		7.30pm	Concert at St Mary's Church featuring Peartree Pealers
17	Sa	6.30pm	St Mary's Church BBQ at The Buthaye, 4 Church End
<hr/>			
18	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	Sung Evensong at St Mary's Church
20	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
21	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI at Village Hall: <i>Complementary Therapies onwards: Dodecantus Ceilidh</i> at Broad Hinton Village Hall
23	F	6.30pm	
24	Sa	10.00am	Historical Society tour of East Tytherington: meet at St Giles' Church, Kellaways

25	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	Sung Evensong at St Mary's Church
26	M	7.30pm	Helping Hand meeting at Silver Threads Hall
27	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: Lynda Warren
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Karen Johnstone, <i>Barnsdale Gardens</i>
28	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
29	Th	7.30pm	Carnival Open Meeting at Silver Threads Hall
30	F	6.00pm	Books & Bangers evening at Red Lodge, Braydon

August

4 W 9.30am Age Concern day trip to Weston super Mare for all ages

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

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For further information call John Creasey, 771520 or contact In Touch Services.

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

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 Cricklade Fire Station

During May crews from Cricklade attended 21 emergency calls as follows:



2/5/10 at 1630 reported car fire, A419 southbound, false alarm
3/5/10 at 1128 standby duties at Swindon Fire Station
5/5/10 at 1623 smell of burning, False alarm, Pittsfield, Cricklade
7/5/10 at 2220 road traffic collision, person trapped, Spine Road, Ashton Keynes
9/5/10 at 0034 caravan fire, Down Ampney airfield
9/5/10 at 1758 caravan fire, Down Ampney airfield
11/5/10 at 0633 van fire, Stoke Common, Purton Stoke
11/5/10 at 1603 thatch fire, High Street, South Marston. (8 Pumps)
11/5/10 at 2045 specialist Lighting required at above incident
12/5/10 at 0600 collect lighting from South Marston
13/5/10 at 1501 domestic smoke alarm operating, false alarm, Ashton Keynes
13/5/10 at 1633 farm workshop fire, Ashton road, Minety
13/5/10 at 1958 automatic fire alarm, residential school, Calcutt Street, Cricklade
23/5/10 at 0033 smoke in general area, False alarm, High Street, Purton
29/5/10 at 0829 standby duties at Swindon Fire Station
plus 6 co-responder calls, Cricklade

We are always looking for new recruits for the retained fire service in Cricklade. It's a part-time job doing a worth while service for your community and you get paid for it. If you are over 18, fit, well and live and/or work in Cricklade then you are eligible to join. No prior experience is necessary as all training is provided. If you interested then please ring 0800 389 7849.

Fire Safety Advice: Electrical Safety

- Learn the wiring colours and make sure you follow them when fitting a plug.
- Always use the correct fuse for the equipment you are using and follow the manufacturers instructions.
- Flexes from equipment such as kettles and toasters should be kept well away from the cooker and tea towels should never be dried over the cooker.
- Never leave a saucepan unattended with the heat turned on and be especially careful when using chip pans with oil or fat.
- Make sure that ovens are not left on after use.
- Use a 3-pin plug which conforms to the British Standard and carries the kite mark.
- Overloading the socket using several adaptors into the one socket can cause it to overheat and catch fire. Use a good quality adaptor and ensure it has the correct fuse.
- When buying new equipment look out for the BEAB Mark of Safety. This means that it has been tested and approved by the British Electromechanical Approvals Board.

Sweet Charity

Students in years 7 to 11 are rehearsing hard for Sweet Charity (*pictured right*), the musical event of the year! With accompaniment from live musicians and stylish choreography by Hannah Guy, Sweet Charity will make you forget you're sat in the audience and bring you right on to the dance floor of the Club Fan-Dango.



We are pleased to announce that the live band will include some Bradon Forest staff members ... so it really is a whole school musical! If you want to know who, you'll have to come and watch ...

Performances will run from Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 July starting at 7.30pm. There will also be a matinee performance on Saturday 10 at 12pm. After this performance you can kick back on the school field and enjoy a delicious BBQ, whilst watching an exciting Twenty20 cricket match between school staff and Purton village and Ladies' Mini-Rounders. What a way to spend a Summer Saturday!

You don't need to be a 'Big Spender' as tickets are only £4 for students and £5 for adults! They are on sale now and can be purchased by calling the box office on 01793 773981 or emailing Mrs Purcell at purcellj@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk.

Don't forget to check out the Sweet Charity website at www.bradonforestmusical.co.uk!

JENNIFER PURCELL

Dodecantus' Ceilidh

Dodecantus is staging a ceilidh on 23 July starting at 6.30pm in Broad Hinton village hall to raise funds for their forthcoming tour of Andaluc a and Gibraltar.

Music will be provided by *Uisge ContraBand*, a group of young musicians from South Wales and hot food will be provided by Dodecantus with vegetables supplied by Riverford Organics. There will also be a wide range of free samples of many different types of teas (courtesy of Teapigs) and a licensed bar for those preferring something stronger. Tickets are £15, include the hot supper that will be served from 7.00pm, are available from [Francis Sheppard](#) or Tim Lewis and are likely to go quickly, judging by the response to Dodecantus' Christmas Event.

In addition to some energetic dancing, there will be a silent auction of promises from choir members and the draw for the summer raffle. The first raffle prize is a traditional hand-made 'Heartland Heritage' quilt measuring 60" x 75". Other prizes include two bottles of 1992 Quinta do Vesuvio vintage port, two bottles of 1998 Chateau Raymond Lafon, Sauternes, a ladies Sandoz watch and a London brewery visit for 6 people. Tickets are £1 and are available from the same contacts as above.

Village Fair in the Gardens at the Sun Inn, Lydiard Millicent

11am to 4pm, Saturday 4 September 2010

Our thanks to Howard and Hilary at the Sun, for hosting this event

Local organisations, charities and traders are invited to have a stall for just £5 per charity either to promote themselves or to raise funds, £10 for traders (which helps cover the costs of the event). Complete a form, available from Lynda Warren, send it back with a cheque, then turn up on the day. You can set up from 10am but car parking space is limited as we want to leave plenty of room for those attending, therefore only one car per group please. Also, please note we are unable to supply tables, although chairs will be available on the day. We also suggest that you try to arrange a small gazebo as the event will go on regardless of weather, some space will be available in the marquee - please ask. First come first served - 12 places only! Local organisations and charities will be given the first chance to attend. The past events have resulted in a good day, with lots of people, and a really nice atmosphere. The bar at the Sun will be open, and there will be a barbecue.



Competition - Please bring your entry on the day if you wish to take part

- Under 16s: Poem/short story/artwork (including photography/sewcraft) on "My Summer Holiday"
- 16 and Over: Poem/short story/artwork (including photography/sewcraft) on "My Dream Holiday"

Prize for first place, certificates for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Other news: *Maggie's Cottage, Lydiard Millicent*

Those of you attended or helped with fundraising events may remember that we donated £600 to Maggie's Cottage at All Saint's Church. You may be wondering what has happened to the money as the project has not gone ahead due to the many additional costs that made the project impractical. We were contacted by the organisers of the appeal and offered the return of our money; however as the church has an ongoing materials fund we thought it was a good idea to let them transfer the money to this fund for future use. We hope everyone is happy with our decision.

Christmas Craft Fair, Saturday 30 October

There are just two tables left for this popular craft fair, goods on sale must be hand crafted. Call Lynda to find out more.

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Christian Aid Week: Summary



We are constantly overwhelmed by the generosity of time, money, support and enthusiasm from everyone in Purton during Christian Aid Week. Once again Purton came up trumps and we have had a record breaking year. Over £2,663 was made from the variety of events and activities that took place in the village throughout the week. And over £2,636 was collected in the house-to-house envelopes. So the total was over £5,300, with some extra bits still to come in. Isn't that incredible!

We want to thank, in particular, all the shops and businesses that supported us so generously this year. These include Terry's Shop, Andrew the Butcher and Rick at In Touch Services, who all sold Quiz forms and tickets for our various events. Would you believe it, over 280 quiz forms were bought ... and we are grateful to the winner who sent back the prize of £20 to add it to the funds!

A great success this year was the Curry Night at The Maharajah and we would like to thank Khalique for his welcome, generosity and delicious food.

Two amazing coffee mornings were arranged for us and over £750 was raised ... incredible. How do they do it!

We are also grateful to the Cubs for inviting the Brownies to a Beetle Drive ... great fun, very noisy, very competitive and lots of money was raised too ... so thank you all.

For the first time this year we organised a 'Clothes Swap' evening and we are grateful to Bradon Forest staff for allowing us to use the school hall. Everyone worked so hard to make it a pretty 'pink' event and clothes were brought and swapped. It was a huge success and we were delighted when Twiggy ... yes Twiggy ... wrote to support us and sent a few items for the event.

Another 'first' was 'Breakfast in the Pews' in St Mary's, when about 50 people sat down for breakfast together on Christian Aid Sunday. Porridge and bacon croissants were on the menu, as well as proper coffee, so the church smelt wonderful for the Christian Aid Service that followed!

Our final fundraiser was a cake and plant stall at the Top Shops and it was amazing to have some lovely sunshine as well to finish off the week

Thank you again to everyone who was involved in any way, including those who put donations into the envelopes, and especially to those who went trudging around the village collecting them up! We know that our £5,300 will be very carefully spent by Christian Aid, on behalf of Purton Village.

Thank you all.

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives and works in *Hillside, Station Road, Willowbrook, Bamford Close, Shaftesbury Close, Widham, Clardon Lane and New Road*. People in these streets will receive cards through their doors which will invite them to contact us if there is anything they would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship. You can give as much or little information as you wish. We don't even have to know a name.

Purton Historical Society



I know that I'm roaming off the patch, but when I found this picture in this month's Wiltshire Monthly Intelligencer, I had to include it. To see a picture of a joyous parade through Wootton Bassett High Street made such a contrast to the parades that many of our members attend on a too regular basis. I think there must be artistic licence in the width of the street unless the east side wasn't developed at that time.

By the time you read this we will have enjoyed our summer outing and be looking forward to exploring East Tytherington on Saturday 24 July - see below.

Over the summer don't forget to visit our museum, which is open during library hours. Our curator Brian has arranged that for most of these hours the museum will be manned by a volunteer, so there will be someone there to hopefully answer any questions. If this appeals to you, Brian is always looking for extra help.

EVE BOOY, Secretary



Tour of a Local Village

On Saturday 24 July, we will be visiting East Tytherton and its environs. The tour is done by car we will meet outside the tiny St Giles' Church at the end of Maud Heath's Causeway at Kellaways. If you need transport, contact Helen to arrange car shares. The trip will finish as before with lunch at a local hostelry for those who want to join us.

HELEN DIXON (770648)

mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk

Directions: St Giles', Kellaways is on the minor road running northwest from East Tytherton towards Langley Burrell, and just before you reach the River Avon.

OS Map Reference: ST 94657 75852

Latitude 51.481N : Longitude 2.077W

Sweet and Sour

By Petro Szewczuk

Three months had gone by since the 600th anniversary of our village *Golin*. Today you could turn your head with life's new problems and you, my fellow countryman Dimitre, driving through the square, already you notice the thousands of friends and comrades. I now realize that this was not a dream, and that we really have come home, to my people. For the first time in 50 years I am back home.

I see you, my Dimitre, that you don't even look your 70 years; you look much younger and you still have that sparkle in your eyes. And now you have raised your hanky to your eyes. I understand you can't hide a man's tears for joy after all the heartache and suffering over the years gone by, and now, in the *Building of Culture* the choir sings *Our Ukraine has not yet Died* and then the raising of our Ukrainian blue and yellow flag.

Only you, my dear Dimitre, who came from England, not on your own, but with your very nice wife Krystine, who took photographs of the event, and your son Petro, who videoed the most interesting parts. It is you I thank for keeping the memories of our celebrations on video tape.

We, my dear friend, agreed then that we will see each other again, and that you will talk to a newspaper reporter and tell him your life story in the west. But today, we are celebrating with *Golin*. I remember you telling me about your life in England, how you meet in clubs, singing Ukrainian songs, and how you keep the tradition of the Ukraine alive. The Tapestry towels of the portraits of the writers Taras Szewczenko and Ivan Frank. The Tapestry towel which is of our Ukraine, is being taught to your children and grandchildren and we are very proud of this.

"We always believed in and still believe in the Ukraine", you said in humour, my Dimitre, watching the beautiful girl on the stage with blue eyes, a crown on her head and holding bread and salt in her hands, and everybody was warmed by the words you said. But you further added "we must fight for full independence of our Ukraine".

And then that day happened, the whole world knew the Ukrainian people had voted for independence. This happened on the 1st of December 1991. I can't tell you, my friend, how excited I was. People were more happy than they were in a long time. And when you put the radio on and hear our Ukrainian melodies you have so much more pride. It's happened!

Today, Dimitre, I walked past the 9 storey building in Kalusza where your cousin has that two bedroom apartment in which, after a cup of coffee, I got to know you and your family. I looked up at the fourth floor balcony windows and see the shadow of the church on them, and believe me, I hear your voice and see your family standing there, your sincere son Petro (my namesake) with the shallow beard looking out of the window at the church.

I know that you are a retired coalminer with 32 years of experience; I too started my working life as a coalminer. This means we have something in common. We'll leave the coalmines for later, because I would like to know how you left your family and friends.

I'm sure this question I asked hurt you, for a second you thought about this, then

you started to tell me in a 1930s *Golinskie* accent.

“This happened in 1941 during the harvest, the Germans rounded up the people to the railway station at Kalusza, to await starvation and death in Germany. With me was my school friend Mitro Moszkov, my sister Justine with her husband Michael ... sorry, I’m crying”. He paused and wiped away the tears. “We rode in an animal wagon with straw on the floor, but at home was left my mother and Justine’s two children, Dimitre and Bogdan.”

You paused for a second, nobody rushed you. Nephew Dimitre also turned away and looked out of the window. Krystina, not knowing Ukrainian, understood what was going on. A few times I looked into her eyes and I could see she knew what her husband went through.

“In Lvova, they put us in different trains. The train was not first class. We didn’t travel long, somewhere near Dresden they relocated us, and I ended up working on a vineyard. Who worked well had a reasonable time. The war had finished, the Americans had arrived in Germany. I had managed to escape to Austria where I was caught by British soldiers and asked where I was born.

“In Kalusza, I replied

“What is your occupation?” “Toolmaker,” I said.

“I managed to get into the Polish army and went to Italy. When I was de-mobbed I was asked if I wanted to live in Canada, Argentina or England. I chose England because it was closer to home. That’s how I have stayed ever since.”

You looked back into the past when you first set foot on our land and you looked depressed. When you needed help to remember, your wife Krystine helped you. You also explain how you got used to life in England, how you learned English through books, the clothes you were given on arrival, and then how you met a young woman called Kristine. From that Krystine lowered her eyes ... I then understood that English ladies too know how to be loving. You then told me you went to a dance with some friends and met Krystine for the first time. Krystine knew what we were talking about and then looked towards her husband and showed her the ring. “Oh yes,” he said lovingly. He took off his wedding ring, pointed to the inside of the ring. Inside was inscribed ... D.M.21.11.1948, which meant Dimitre Matrafail and the date we met. We later got married in 1950.

Oh my Countryman, my Countryman, for a long time your words have made a big impression on my heart, a stranger in a strange country with no friends and without any news of your mother and sister, yet you lived on and after all these years you’ve come back to your country.

You spoke of the coalmine, were you not frightened working 900m down the mine?

“I had a job as a mechanic, and in our pit we had underground trains of which I was in charge, plus 10 engineers under my command.”

You then showed me photographs of your children, Stefko, Maria and Petro. For me it was nice to hear Ukrainian names for your children. You, like all parents, are very proud of your children, especially Stefko, who worked for Rolls Royce in Derby, Maria who is a professor living in New Zealand with her family and Petro, who works for a big medical company. You said if it wasn’t for Petro you would

have stayed longer than another week, but because at Petro's work, they're making a new instrument to do with heart operations and he must return to supervise this.

Later you talked about what I have been most waiting for, about the changes in *Golin*, that you were homesick, that how you looked for your mother.

In 1958 you wrote to the Red Cross in Warsaw. They replied "She is alive and the children are fine". Then you sent a telegram to your sister in Brazil, that mother and her sons were OK. On news of this, Justine's hair turned white like milk suddenly. Your wife Krystine wrote a letter to London and wrote that you both wanted to visit your mother. The answer from London was that they told you that if you both went back it would end in heartache because they would not let Dimitre back out. But you waited 30 years.

You helped your mother by sending parcels, whatever the cost. Your school friend Dimitro Moszkov had to drive with your mother all the way to Kalusza Post Office to swear to the fact she was Dimitre's mother, his mother. Its funny now, but that's how it was.

Do you remember how your mother asked for white material for her bedspread, and you sent 40 metres of it? Your mother sold the rest and had a new thatched roof put on out of the money left over. Your sister Justine too tried to send parcels to her mother and children, she would have sent her own heart if possible, but the parcels were always sent back unopened. Then she found a way round this, she sent the parcels to you in England and you sent them on.

Dimitre, Dimitre, at long last, after 50 years you've arrived on your "home Soil". What feelings have you of this in your heart? He thought for a long time and wanted to say something, but had a lump in his throat and began to cry.

"It hurts, it's nice, it's sweet, it's sour" he said in a hushed voice. "My country. I never had a chance to see my mother, she died in the 60s. She once wrote to me 'Dimitre, I don't want anything from you, but that you live long and be healthy and when you return, you'll come to the grave with some flowers'." It hurts me to see a man cry with words like that from his mother. "Anyway, we must calm down, after all we are only people" he said.

And when your son left the room you told about your old garden you visited in Grenevo and that Petro had taped it on video. With better humour you told me about the old apple tree you saw, the one you used to climb as a child. "I got 3 hours of all this on tape and my friends in England will be very curious when they see it.

You also asked your wife to show me a box with earth in it taken from your mother's house. You also said you still can't believe that you really are here, the presents you received, pillows, bedcovers and many other things, that you must take home with you although you have everything there, as these presents are from your homeland.

Well my friend Dimitre sail a friendly goodbye. Petro if I remember recorded this on video. Yet I met you once more that day when your group of immigrants had been invited to the Party in the Park. Girls in their National costumes gave you a painting from a local artist. You lifted the painting above your head and shouted loudly "I wish the Country of Ukraine much wealth and happiness".

A National song was playing in the background and you said you will remember that song on your journey back home to England and that it will stay with you for the rest of your life.

to DAVID NICHOLSON, formerly Dymitri Matrafajlo

*David and Christine Nicholson celebrate
their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 29 July*

St Mary's CE Primary School

St Mary's CE Primary School has enjoyed a busy end to term 5. In the last week of May we received a visit from OfSTED who, as many of you will know, are the body responsible for carrying out school inspections. It takes a few weeks for their report to be finalised and I look forward to sharing the outcome of the inspection soon.

We are also now able to give the community of Purton some more definite details regarding our school build. The contractors Cowlin's have been selected after an arduous selection process and I feel confident that they are going to build us a great new school. We are looking forward to them starting work on site towards the end of June. We are planning to have an open meeting on Thursday 8 July at 6.00pm in the Upper School Hall, so please use this opportunity to come along and meet with Cowlin's representatives, listen to how they are planning to deliver the build, and raise any questions or concerns that there may be. Please do come along to the meeting.

It needs to be said that we are delighted this highly valuable contribution to the community of Purton has been granted despite the forecast spending cuts in the public sector. After nearly four years of planning and preparation, this is super news. We also look forward to your continuing support as the project for the school enters this crucial stage.

As always, it is a pleasure to share with you some of the successful curriculum activities that have taken place at the school recently. Last term saw our year 3 and 4 children go down to Portsmouth to visit the Mary Rose Museum. This supported the work they have been doing in their Tudor topic. We also enjoyed a very dry and successful Sports Day in May, as well as a History week which helped us to remember the D-Day Landings and life during the Second World War. There have been a number of very successful class assemblies which many parents have been able to come and watch too.

This term, our year 5 children will be going to visit a London museum, our year 6 children will be going to Bude for their annual residential activity week, while more class assemblies and various inter-school sports competitions are also planned. We are also preparing to welcome our new Reception children to our school, as well as supporting our year 6 children as they prepare for life in Secondary School in September.

Also we hope to have welcomed many of you to our Summer Fayre on Friday 18 June on the Upper School Field between 3.30 and 6.30pm. It will have been good to see you there!

IAN TUCKER, Headteacher

Purton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides



New members have been welcomed into both Rainbows and Brownies. Samantha, Katy-Erin and Holly have all made their Rainbow promise whilst the others are finding out about Rainbows and Brownies and preparing to make theirs.

The units have made the most of sunny weather with outdoor activities. Rainbows did a scavenger hunt, whilst 2nd Purton Brownies have done some tracking. The tracking consisted of working in groups to follow trails of tracking signs other groups had laid and also looking at animal tracks - how similar and dissimilar they were. Guides went on a penny hike, with their route at the mercy of a flip of a coin - heads for left and tails for right. Rainbows stuck to an outdoor theme with their craft activities by painting butterflies and caterpillars and also planting flower seeds.

Sunny weather also means ice cream and tea parties! The Guides made their own ice cream using ice, salt, milk and a lot of shaking! Sore arms were rewarded with yummy ice cream. The Guides' tea party was in honour of the Queen's Official Birthday celebrations: tea, scones and of course a rousing chorus of the National Anthem.

1st Purton Brownies have been working on the Fire Safety badge. They have done escape plans for their homes and had a visit from an education officer with the Wiltshire Fire Service.

The two Brownie units joined forces in the May half term week to go on Pack Holiday together. This year's theme was Alice in Wonderland and 24 Brownies attended, with another 10 coming to visit for an afternoon and evening. Activities included fencing, orienteering and morris dancing alongside crafts, games and helping out with the cooking. All participants - girls and leaders alike - went home exhausted!

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

Rainbows' Pink and Sparkly Party Report

The Pink and Sparkly party was in the village hall. There were lots of Rainbows and their pretty bears there. Some Brownies were also there helping out. I had a fantastic time playing lots of games and making a tiara.

Grace Child, Purton Rainbows

Gorgeous and Golden Party Reports

24 April 2010 was a special day for Purton Brownies. I was so excited! I was even more excited when I saw the activities, there was: decorating biscuits, making paper crowns and beading.

Pippa Whelan, 2nd Purton Brownies

When I was there we had to take a teddy dressed up in gold. We made a necklace of gold and white beads. We had our nails painted whatever colour we wanted and we also had a piece of cake because it was 100 years of Brownies and Girlguiding.

We had best dressed teddy and we sang happy birthday to Girlguiding but sadly we had to go home.

Brydee Bell, 2nd Purton Brownies

Pack Holiday Report

Over the half term I went to the Maud Heath Centre on Brownie Pack Holiday with 1st and 2nd Purton Brownies. The theme was Alice in Wonderland. The things I most enjoyed were fencing, watching the Alice in Wonderland DVD, doing cooking, craft, the campfire, Alice Bingo and making the edible teacups and the hats for the Mad Hatter's tea party. It was really fun and whenever the Mad Hatter hit the cymbals we all had to move down the table to another seat. All those things were really fun to do.

Evie Holland, 1st Purton Brownies

5km Parkrun at Lydiard Park

Free, weekly, 5km timed runs are held at Lydiard Park every Saturday at 9.00am. Meet at the front of Lydiard House where the event starts. This weekly event is entirely free, organised by volunteers. All you have to do is register on the website www.parkrun.com and turn up.

We run for a challenge, for enjoyment and for fun. The event is open to all abilities from walkers to runners and any age group.

email : swindonparkrun@yahoo.co.uk

SHARON SMITH

Swindon & Cricklade Railway

Model Railway Exhibition - Saturday 10 July,

Held at Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church, Cheney Manor Road, 10am to 5pm

Featuring eight quality layouts representing different locations, from Swindon 'A' Shop to London East End in the 1960s.

Trade stands and basic refreshments, though more comprehensive refreshments nearby. Tickets: Adult £3.50, Senior £3.00, Child £2.00. **All proceeds to the Swindon & Cricklade Railway.** All visitors to the exhibition will receive a money-off coupon to ride the trains at the Swindon and Cricklade Railway. Telephone 01793 524947.

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Purton Evening WI

purtonevevi.org.uk



Last month it was the glorious colour of saris and this month it was the beauty of the natural world that lit up the Village Hall for the WI meeting. On 19 May, David Martin gave an amazing demonstration of flower arranging. David has won a silver-gilt medal at the Chelsea Flower Show. He has a wonderful sense of colour, with blends of green and yellow and red that were a pleasure to see, and his reputation was sufficient to bring visitors from other WIs that evening. As he worked he told the story of his own career, entertaining enough in itself, but at the same time he produced - "just like that" - four superb flower displays. The fortunate raffle prize winners went away with an armful of blooms and supporting greenery, such as they are unlikely ever to receive again!

The next meeting on 16 June (after we go to print) will undoubtedly be quite different! Because the booked speaker has had to cancel, some of our members are sportingly going to step into the breach and entertain us under the title "Midsummer Madness" and from what little one can elucidate, it is all going to be great fun!

On the business side: there will be boards on the Information Table concerning such activities as a proposed Highgrove visit for 2011, Denman Open Days, and so on. Please do allow yourself enough time to read the variety of interesting material there. And early though it may seem, we need to put in our orders **now** for our 2011 WI Diaries (£3.45) and Calendars (£2.50).

The 21 July meeting - how rapidly summer slips through our fingers! - will be a demonstration of complementary therapies by Geraldine O'Driscoll. Different yet again. We do enjoy such a wonderful variety of interests, don't we?!

CONSTANCE REED

Purton Bowls Club

Our bowls season is now well under way. In fact April and May have just seemed to have gone by so quickly but all the friendly matches have been very entertaining. Of the ten matches played in May, we won 5, drew 1 and lost 4. Captain John Bartlett thanks all members who regularly turn up to play.



In the Men's Section we have done well in the Wilts League with 3 wins from 4 games but not so well with the S&D ... only 1 win out of 4 games. We now have 4 teams in the Monday afternoon Triples League. With new members joining the Club over the past two years, the Captains decided to form another team to be able to give them match games. We now have A and C teams in the First League, B team in the Second and D team in the Third League.

The Ladies' Section has also started quite well in their 2 Rink and Triple Rinks with good wins. Pat Stephenson, Jean Bird and Brenda Cars got through to the quarter finals in the County Triples only to be beaten by Box. Allison Fail and Brenda Cars were selected to represent Wiltshire Ladies against Cornwall. The County lost but Allison had a winning rink. Allison Cars and Chris Mitchell have also

been picked for the County John's Trophy Middleton Cup.

Vic Austin's coaching is well under way with another 4 new members. Don't forget, readers, you are all most welcome to come along and join in. Just bring a pair of light shoes or daps.

Graham Price and his band of green-keepers are still working hard on the green to keep it in top condition and one pleasing factor is on the mechanical side: our machinery is now being maintained by Martin Lloyd, one of our members. Many of you will know Martin from Lloyd's Garage in Station Road. This will keep the cost down, not only to the Club, but also to the Village Centre. I enjoyed doing this for 20-odd years and I hope Martin will have the same pleasure that I had.

That's all for now. Happy bowling.

RON SLADE

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com

As a result of the presentation given by Wiltshire's Cricket Development Officer, Pete Sykes, several volunteers have come forward to help with promoting the club and its activities.



The results of matches have been disappointing so far. Although there have been several keenly contested fixtures very few matches have been won although the U11 team has performed with success.

This month the club is hosting a County match between the U13 XIs of Wiltshire and Cornwall when we are hopeful that some Purton boys will be included in the Wiltshire team.

John Bowman who played in the 1950s recently contacted the club through his sister Ann Cook and a photograph and the 175th anniversary book are on their way to Canada.

Fixtures for July at Purton

3	1 st XI v Malmesbury	1.45pm
4	Wiltshire U13 v Cornwall	1.00pm
10	2 nd XI v Nationwide House	1.45pm
11	U15 v Swindon	2.00pm
17	1 st XI v Lechlade	1.45pm
24	1 st XI v Winsley	1.45pm
25	U11 v Shrivenham	10.30am
31	2 nd XI v Devizes	1.45pm

From the archives - matches from May 1965

Playing for Purton against the Lackham School of Agriculture John Sorsby performed the hat trick with Frank Brown scoring 65.

Basil Marchant captured 7 wickets for 32 against Cheltenham Civil Service and Alex Grant scored 32 not out.

Purton beat Headington in the Callick Williams Cup in a second round match. Starring for Purton were Bobby Eason taking 5 for 29 and David Evans scoring a rapid 34.

JOE GARDNER

During May and early June the junior teams played 6 matches in the Wiltshire League winning 3 and losing 3.

The 18U team recorded a win against Minety by 5-1 with Nathan Giles making his first appearance for the club.

The 16U team had a very competitive match at Wanborough where the 6 rubbers were shared and then the home team came out on top in the deciding match tie-break by 10 points to 6 to win the match. There were wins for Stephen Fenn, Sean Hall and Scott Whitty (his first victory for Purton). The 5-1 victory against Minety saw victories for Stephen Fenn, Sean Hall and Jake Looker in their singles. As the opposition only arrived with 3 players, two matches were conceded to us, disappointing for Greg Williams who was then unable to take part in the match.

The 14U team were delighted to secure their first ever win as a team together when they defeated Wootton Bassett by 5 rubbers to 1. The victorious team was Jack Adams, Elliot Gunton, Matthew Hall and Conor Webley.

This leaves each team with just one more match to play and the 18U team still in with a shot at winning their league. All the boys are showing a lot of progress in their match play and the sportsmanship of everyone taking part is a joy to witness.

NICOLA GARDNER

Elaine Miller Memorial Tournament 2010

On Sunday 25 April, the annual Elaine Miller Memorial Tournament was held at Purton Tennis Club.

It is a mixed doubles tournament based on a round-robin format. This year, 18 pairs entered not only from local clubs within Wiltshire but Elaine's elder son, Craig, brought two pairs from the Cumberland Club in Hampstead. The Miller family was also represented by Justin (Elaine's younger son). He partnered Ann Rose - Elaine's twin sister.

Apart from one rain shower, the weather was very good. Food was supplied by Purton's club members and the tournament was organised on the day by Malcolm Gayfer, the Club Chairman.

Two pairs wholly from Purton Tennis Club made it through to the semi-final stages, Simon and Ange Perry, and Bob Pimble and C-J Ellis. Simon and Ange went on to win the Tournament, beating Malcolm Gayfer (Purton TC) and Angie Baldock (Pewsey TC) in the Final.

Elaine's husband Ray Miller presented the finalists with trophies which capped a lovely day's tennis.

A total of £500 was raised through entry fees and donations which will be presented to the Prospect Hospice.

BOB PIMBLE

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 30 July from 9 to 11am.

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

Bradon Forest School News

www.bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk



ArtsMark Gold Success

“We are pleased to inform you that your Artsmark application has been successful and Arts Council England is delighted to award you Artsmark Gold in recognition of your commitment to the arts. Obtaining Artsmark Gold for the third time is an outstanding achievement and we congratulate you on your continuing success.”



The quote above is from the letter from Alan Davey (Chief Executive of the Arts Council) informing us of our successful re-accreditation for Arts Mark Gold. We are one of the few schools nationally that was

awarded ArtsMark Gold at our first submission and have now obtained the Gold award for the third time. (Only 147 other schools out of 25,000 schools nationally have matched this achievement.) The photograph shows the plaque given to schools who have achieved this - it will be displayed with pride in the school reception area. Well done to all staff involved with the terrific range and depth of our Arts work across the school that this award recognises. Many thanks to Dave Calder and Julie Hunter for all their work leading on our submission.

Year 8 Mathematics Trip to Bletchley Park

Mrs Griggs reports: “In April the Mathematics Department took 80 Year 8 students on a visit to Bletchley Park, the home of the code breakers, famous for cracking the German Enigma machine codes during World War II. The students were taken on a walking tour where they were shown various displays including the very earliest computers and machines. They were also shown the various ‘huts’ and were told about the large groups of people that had worked in them during the war. Each ‘hut’ had responsibility for a specific task and the group felt they were ‘doing their bit’ towards trying to break the German codes and ciphers. The students were given a ‘lesson’ in codes and ciphers where they were told about the many different ways that codes and ciphers could be written. They were given coded worksheets to try their hand at breaking the codes for themselves – some were trickier than others but everyone seemed to relish the challenge! The day was enjoyed by everyone and it was a great opportunity to see just how advanced today’s computers are, compared to the very earliest ones that were being used during the war.”



Science News: DNA Codebreakers at Explore @ Bristol

On 1 April, a group of Year 8 Science students visited Explore @ Bristol. They worked in the well equipped on-site laboratory doing a practical workshop called 'DNA Code-Breaker'. The students learnt how to hygienically collect a sample of their own body cells and used chemical techniques to extract and examine their own DNA. They learnt about how the genetic code works and how it makes us all unique individuals.

Year 7 North Wiltshire Science Fair

Grace Bartlett 7Q reports: "On Wednesday 24 March, twelve Year 7 students represented Bradon Forest with Miss Hall at Malmesbury School for the North Wiltshire Science Fair. We were in small groups and we had created exhibits on a science topic of our choice. In the morning, adults and Year 6 and Year 7 students came and looked around the stalls. Some of the stalls had interactive activities and others had lots of information. All students voted for the most informative and the best presented stalls. In the afternoon we took part in a science quiz and an owl man came to show us a Tawny Owl and teach us about owl conservation. When the votes were counted, Liam Elliot, Stephen Foulds and Oliver Poulter won a Gold Award and the other four teams won Silver Awards. We all had a great time and learnt a lot."



Year 8 London Science Museum Trip

All Year 8 science groups have now visited the London Science Museum in South Kensington. Half of the year group went last October and the other half this May.

The students saw a number of exhibits that helped them understand the origins of our modern highly technological world. We saw aeroplanes ranging from the Wright Flier to the Jumbo Jet, vehicles including the world's first passenger locomotive, Stevenson's Rocket and the Model T Ford. The students looked at displays of medicine through the ages, ranging from the earliest times to the development of open heart surgery. They also took part in a workshop and series of games designed to help them understand the link between future energy policy and carbon emissions. A wow exhibit is the Apollo capsule that has taken three men into orbit around the moon and safely home, still bearing the scorch marks from re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere.

The visits were highly enjoyable and marked by the students' enthusiasm to know more about how our modern scientific and technological society has come about.



L SPIERS, Headteacher