

Purton Magazine



Poppy Flowers

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November 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.communigate.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

When this edition of your Magazine is distributed, readers will be noticing more and more people are wearing a red poppy in support of The Royal British Legion's annual appeal that culminates on Remembrance Sunday. With repatriations still being respectfully recognised along Wootton Bassett High Street, many in our community will be supporting service men and women and their dependants.

But how has a red poppy become such a well recognised and poignant symbol as illustrated on our front cover? On [page 8](#) we include an article that describes how a poem, written in 1915 by John McCrae so moved an American war secretary that she used a personal gift to buy and then sell some red poppies to her work colleagues to raise money for servicemen in need.

Her inspirational generosity has generated many different uses and displays of red poppies. Perhaps the most moving is during the minute's silence at the end of the annual Remembrance Day event in the Royal Albert Hall when hundreds of thousands (if not millions) of red petals flutter down silently on those standing motionless, mindful of so many who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Purton & The Great War is a new book that has taken Bob Lloyd just over 3 years to complete and it will be available locally from 1 November. Within the 216 pages there is a Purton Roll of Honour as well as two A to Z lists of Military and Civilian names. More details can be found on [page 24](#).

Our own "A to Z of Purton" feature in this magazine seems to be capturing readers' imagination as this month we are pleased to include 9 contributions on [pages 35 to 37](#). All readers are encouraged to submit their contributions for future editions, especially as some of the letters still to be tackled could be quite difficult – but many readers of this magazine do like a challenge!

A challenge of a different magnitude faced at least one of the Chilean miners when arriving back at the surface after 69 days trapped underground. Behind all the round-the-clock media coverage of the amazing real life drama leading to the safe, successful rescue of the men was the problem one miner had to address ... that of being greeted by both his wife **and** his mistress.

25

red poppies were first used in 1918 to raise money for servicemen
– see [page 8](#)

74³/₄

-year-old local man completed the Great North Run for Age Concern
– see [page 10](#)

£7715.50

raised by our local branch of the Royal British Legion in the last year
– see [page 9](#)

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Historical Society	Your Magazine delivered free!

Purton
Magazine

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Parish Council News



Wiltshire Council's Dog Warden will be running a drop-in centre in the new meeting room adjacent to the Public Toilets in the Village Hall Car Park on Wednesday 24 November 2010 from 9am until 12.30pm. If you would like to raise any problems relating to dogs within the Parish or would like some advice on your dog please do pop in.

Remembrance Sunday

Road Closure – This year's Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 14 November 2010 at Purton Cenotaph, the service will start at 2.30pm. As a result of this the High Street will be closed from 2.15pm to 3.15pm.

Widham Farm – Although a planning application for this site was refused earlier in the year, Mr Cornell the owner of the site is still pursuing the idea of developing it for housing and will be at the Parish Council's Planning Meeting on Monday 15 November 2010, in Purton Village Hall at 7.30pm to give an update on his proposals.

Cross Lanes – Junction Improvements. Given the concerns about the danger of this junction, the Parish Council and Unitary Councillor Jacqui Lay have been trying to get some alterations done to try to improve the junction. This is not proving to be easy, as we have been told there is no money in Wiltshire Council's Highway budget to make any major alterations and to achieve even a minor alteration we need to pursue this through the Area Board, which has a small pot of money that could be put towards minor traffic/highway projects. We are therefore going down the route of trying to persuade the Area Board that this is a worthwhile project to spend some or all of the £12,000 the Board has available to it. However, there is a list of projects from other towns and parishes within the area covered by the Area Board vying for this comparatively small pot of money so only time will tell if we are successful.

The following Planning Application has been approved by Wiltshire Council:
N10/02501/FUL *Quarry Dene*, 4 bedroomed extension

Lych Gate Roof – We are delighted to say that finally the Lych Gate roof has been re-tiled following the theft of several of its tiles some months ago. The Parish Council was responsible for the project as it manages the maintenance of the churchyard which was passed to the Parish following it being termed a closed churchyard some years ago. This basically means that no more burials can take place there other than a few in existing family graves and that the Parish maintains the churchyard at public expense. We would like to thank Mr Simpkins for his work on the roof.

2011 Census coming to a letterbox near you

On 27 March 2011 all residential households in the United Kingdom will be taking part in a census. Since 1801 a day has been chosen every ten years for this purpose (except in 1941 during the war). The census provides an excellent source of information about the population. This enables central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to identify need for housing,

education, health and transport services for years to come.

Did you know that supermarkets use census statistics to work out the kind of foods they need to sell to keep local communities stocked up with their favourites? Water companies use the census data to plan the pipes for clean and wastewater – to make sure there's enough for everyone. Fire brigades and the police use census data to help communities, putting fire alarms and crime prevention measures in specific areas. The benefits are far reaching.

The census statistics also feed into the allocation of funding for local authorities and play a major part in identifying need for local services in communities, so it is crucial the population estimate is as accurate as possible. When the questionnaire envelope comes through the door you'll easily recognise it by the purple 2011 Census logo. Take care of it. If, like many people, you want to complete the questionnaire online, your individual internet code is on the front of the questionnaire.

The 2011 Census doesn't want anyone to fall behind – so there is a wide range of help options available (such as language guidance booklets, large print format, Text Relay and census field staff on hand, as well as online help and telephone call centres).

If you can spare some time and would like to help gather the information that is needed then contact www.censusjobs.co.uk

More information about the 2011 Census can be found at: www.census.gov.uk

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

Website www.communicate.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.

Cenotaph Working Party

On behalf of the workers who are Roger Lawrence, Ernie Paish, Ron Saunders, Bob Stevens, Bruce D'Arcy Master and yours truly, can I thank Neil Saunders, Steve Hazell and David Johnston for cutting the hedges at the Cenotaph. Another person who was also there was John Lilley who, I am told, was the eyes to make sure the cut was straight, and you cannot work like that without refreshments, so thanks here go to Brenda Lilley for supplying the bacon butties. They are intending to take the hedge down lower in the spring but, as they said, doing it now would have left it a bit untidy for Remembrance Sunday, so very many thanks to them all – they did an excellent job and we look forward to seeing them there in the spring.

While mentioning Remembrance Sunday, details are on [page 9](#) of the Magazine but one thing I would like to mention is that the service will be relayed into the Silver Threads Hall whether wet or fine, so that those who cannot stand for too long, or bear the weather elements, can go into the hall and be part of the service, because the service will definitely be outside irrespective of the weather.

TONY PRICE

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

Once again our members supported our annual mini-show with lots of entries of a high standard.



Unlike other garden shows, it is our members who decide the winning entry, with everyone having a vote in each class. As always the table displaying the domestic classes proved to be the most popular, where members are delighted to sample the cakes and scones before deciding on their favourite. It was decided that a new cup, kindly donated by Constance Reed, would be presented for the 'Best in show', chosen by the committee.

Show winners are as follows:

- Flowers: 1st Mary Read, 2nd Dionne Child, 3rd Jill Herbert
- Vegetables: 1st Mary Read, 2nd Moira White, 3rd David Herbert
- Fruit: 1st Nigel Bunce, joint 2nd Dionne Child, Val Faulkne, Mary Read
- Domestic: 1st Jill Herbert, joint 2nd Mary Read, Geraldine Waldron, Judy Preddy

The cup for 'Best in show' was awarded to Moira White for red peppers.

The David Herbert Challenge Cup was awarded to Mary Read for having the most points overall.

Congratulations to Mary and all the other winners.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 23 November at the Silver Threads Hall, at 7.30pm. We will be holding our American Supper, and Val Evans and 'Chalice' will be entertaining us. Please don't forget to bring a plate of food!

There is no meeting in December. Our A.G.M. will be held as usual in January.

MOIRA WHITE, Secretary

After 8

Ten of us gathered on Tuesday 21 September for a Treasure Trail of twenty-three cryptic clues – with the secret common theme to be discovered. Clues, such as 'follow the black line to rich envy', had to be solved—a daunting task if tackled individually, but entertaining and enjoyable when unravelled as a group.



With thanks to Avril for leading the evening, and to her husband for secretly preparing the clues and answers.

Another question? – 'yesterday's stars appeared here.' Answers to both on p14.

BARBARA GOSDEN

Next meetings: 2 November, "All Saints" at Janet's.

23 November, John Clark will be giving a talk on Metal Detecting at Jacqui's.

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives and works in Church Path, Church St, Hyde Lane, The Hyde, Parkside, Church End and Manor Hill. 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.

How the Poppy Appeal Began

From mid-October through to Remembrance Day on 11 November, many people wear a red poppy. The sale of poppies generates funds for the work of The Royal British Legion's charity in supporting those men and women serving today as well as ex-Service people and their dependants.



The idea of using the poppy as the emblem of the appeal was inspired by John McCrae's 1915 poem *In Flanders Fields*. Although several different legends have developed about the inspiration for the poem, the most popular is that McCrae wrote it the day after presiding over the funeral and burial of his friend, Lieutenant Alex Helmer who had been killed during the Second Battle of Ypres.

The poppy, which was the central feature of the poem, grew in great numbers in the spoiled earth of the battlefields and cemeteries in Flanders. Apparently McCrae had later discarded the poem but it was saved by a fellow officer who sent it to *Punch* magazine and it was published later that year.

The verses quickly became one of the most popular poems for the war and have been used in countless fund-raising campaigns.

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.*

*If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

In 1918, an American war secretary with the YMCA, Moina Michael, read the poem and was deeply moved. Having been given \$10 by colleagues in recognition of her work in brightening up the office, she used the money to buy 25 red poppies. Back at the office she sold them to her friends to raise some money for servicemen in need.

However, it was only in 1921 that the poppy became the symbol of the appeal in Britain and has since appeared annually. The following year a British infantry

officer Major George Howson suggested that members of the Disabled Society could make the poppies and even today around 70% of the Poppy factory employees have a disability or chronic illness.

Today, with our troops on active service in several trouble spots around the world – most noticeably in Afghanistan – there are many reasons to wear a poppy with pride.

The Royal British Legion - Purton Branch

The Purton Branch members would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Purton and the surrounding area for their generosity over the years towards the Poppy Appeal, and the support of everyone is very much appreciated.



The financial year to the end of September 2010 was the most successful ever, in spite of the recession, resulting in a total for the Branch of £7715.50.

We would also like to thank, in particular, Joyce Berry, her daughter and son-in-law Shirley and Mike Lawrence, and all the many other wonderful people who give their time to help to collect for the Poppy Appeal.

Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 14 November at 2.30pm at the Cenotaph.

Regardless of the weather it will be held outside, so come dressed accordingly but, in the event of inclement weather, for those who don't wish to stand outside, the Silver Threads Hall will be available and a speaker will relay the service indoors.

As has now become the custom the road will be closed for approximately one hour, and diversions put in place.

Dodecantus

Local chamber choir Dodecantus are to present two performances of the Fauré *Requiem* in November to mark the 'season of remembrance' - especially poignant this year because of it being the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. The first concert is to be on All Souls' Day, 2 November, at Wroughton Parish Church, a day traditionally set aside by the Church to remember all those who have passed on.

The second concert will be on Remembrance Sunday, 14 November, at St Augustine's Church, Rodbourne, where there will also be a retiring collection for the Poppy Appeal. Both concerts start at 8pm and the choir hope these occasions will give their many fans and friends the opportunity to spend time in reflection and remembrance to the accompaniment of this serene piece of music. They will also perform a rarely heard item from Parry's *Songs of Farewell* and Walton's *Set me as a Seal*.

Tickets are £6, available from Francis Sheppard (01793 771018), alternatively please ring 01367 252665 or 01672 539607 for more information.

The Great North Run 2010

Why? That's the usual question. Why do you want to run a half marathon at your age? It is 74¾ by the way. After a great deal of thought the only answer I can think of is – because I can, I'm a Geordie, it's the Great North Run and I had dinner with Brendan Foster. He started the whole thing in 1980. I did quite a few half and full marathons 30 years ago in Swindon, Bath, Reading, Cheltenham, London and of course the most important one, Purton, with its infamous hill finish. My wife and I were half way on a round the world journey and had just driven a 4x4 on the outback track from Alice Springs to Uluru when we went for a romantic "Dinner under the Stars." After watching the sunset over Ayers Rock and receiving our glass of champagne we were shown to our table. As we approached I said to my wife "I know him", even though we had never met. We joined Brendan, who I had admired as a runner for many years, and his wife.

When I got back to Purton Stoke I was talking to Steve Smith, another Geordie who had previously completed the London Marathon with the Wessex Choir. Before we knew it we had applied for the GNR and had been accepted! After months of training around the footpaths, bridleways and roads of Purton, Purton Stoke and Cricklade we did it. At the time I must admit I felt guilty being surrounded by so many people who were raising money for Charity. And so it was this year I applied again and was accepted. During training it kept nagging me that I ought to get sponsors. To be honest there would be benefits for me too on the day. At the end of the race the previous time I had seen rows and rows of Charity tents for the runners to relax in afterwards. I even saw some runners getting a leg massage and thought to myself that I would really appreciate that. I contacted Age UK and was told I would be welcome in their tent so asked Tony Price if I could run for Purton Age Concern. He said he was really pleased that I had thought of them.

On our journey to the North East, I did one last 3-mile training run around the perimeter path at Fountains Abbey, in Yorkshire. I became aware when I got to Newcastle that it had been taken over with GNR fever – radio, TV and the Press were full of news. That's not too surprising as it is a major event with 54,000 runners taking part. On Saturday there had been a mini (3 to 8 years) and a junior (9 to 16 years) run with 5000 children running shorter distances along the Quayside, and also a junior wheelchair race through the Tyne Tunnel. There was a "Help and Advice Centre" and a free pasta party for all the entrants so I had a good helping of pasta to fuel my run.

I was staying on the north side of the Tyne and on the morning of the run I got on the Metro at the coast and watched as more and more runners joined at each station until the train was full. By the time we arrived at Newcastle there were runners everywhere and it was clear that they were from all parts of the UK. Getting off the Metro and heading towards the starting pens I had a mug of strong coffee as advised. As I was standing under shelter a fellow runner arrived and said "Can I shelter here? I now have to look foolish" and with that he proceeded to change into a Santa Claus costume. "It's the same every year" he said. Next I had to find my numbered coach, to leave my clothes to wear after the run, and then go to my colour-coded pen about a quarter of a mile from the starting line. It was almost full, with still 50 minutes before the race was due to begin. I was dressed in a throwaway top and jeans. The idea is

to keep warm until the run starts and then discard them. Oxfam collects the clothes and uses them in their work here and abroad. So there I was feeling nervous, chatting to those around me – Superman, Wonder Woman, a rabbit, a fairy, Elvis (the chip shop was closed?) and a few other children’s characters like Zak and Tang I didn’t recognize – waiting. I overheard someone say they were going to do the Cricklade run next. Upbeat music provided a background and then a “Mr Motivator” appeared on the big screens. “Bend those legs, stretch those muscles, arms to the right, arms to the left keep moving, loosen up ... Ant and Dec will soon be here to start the run.” Time went slowly. The Red Arrows did a fly past. I threw away my surplus clothes, fastened my microchip to my trainers (it monitors my progress around the course) and then “BANG!” ... it began, and then ... nothing ... 5 minutes ... 10 minutes ... 20 minutes later we surged forward and on the way, Ant, or was it Dec, had his hand outstretched ready for a high-five and after another 5 minutes we went over the starting line and into the major road works that have been created in the centre of Newcastle. The most iconic and emotional moment came when I went over the Tyne Bridge lined at least 5 deep with spectators shouting their encouragement. After that it was a question of keeping going for the full 13.1 miles. There were big mile markers, drinks, jelly babies, water sprays, jazz and pop bands, barbecues and whole families lining the route and cheering all the way. The runners were so densely packed that I was within arms length of someone all the time. Coming into South Shields there was a steep downhill section and then it was 800, 400, 200 metres and that oh so welcome finish line. How did I feel? Tired and elated. I received my goodie-bag with my tee shirt, medal and a foil blanket. The rain started and I was suddenly surrounded by silver people as I headed for the alphabetic meeting point to see my wife Sue and my son, Sime (my support team). We had decided that there would be lots of people with the initial C so we had agreed to meet at X. Guess what? The X, and Z were the most popular places to meet. So much for original thinking! I quickly headed to the Age UK tent and that massage. On the way the Red Arrows did another fly past. Thank you guys, I appreciate it. Hot coffee, a chocolate bar, a banana and twenty minutes later I was lying face down with gentle, but firm, hands manipulating my calves and thighs. It was bliss.

The next part of the journey was tricky. The buses, Metro and ferry had very long queues, with estimates of 4 hours to get over the river. We headed for the nearest bar, but it was pandemonium so we investigated the bus queue for Newcastle. That is when Sue noticed a bus with only a few people waiting, so we got on there and it wasn’t until we went further on we realized that we had jumped the queue in the middle – doh! The journey to Newcastle and later on the Metro was buzzing with conversation all the way. Sime, who lives in London, said he had never experienced such happy animated chatting on public transport in his life. Everyone was in such high spirits. It was so infectious that for the rest of the day whenever I saw someone with a GNR tee shirt or a medal I gave them a high-five.

My result? Well I came in at 27,022 out of 54,000 overall and 6th out of sixteen 74-year-olds. Although I had only made my mind up about getting sponsorship two weeks before the run, in that time 80 people gave me their support. I’d like to thank everyone and because of their generosity I can reveal that I was able to give Purton Age Concern a total of £450 to help with their great efforts locally.

JIM CASLAW

Purton & District Age Concern



I said in last month's magazine about nice surprises when we heard that Jim Caslaw said he was going to run in the Great North Run and sponsorship would be for Purton & District Age Concern. You can imagine our surprise and delight when he pushed a letter through our door with a cheque for £450, the result of the sponsorship he had collected. Well, I should not have been surprised really, knowing Jim like I do. The literature he enclosed with the cheque was very interesting, saying why he wanted to run this race. I suppose the real reason is that Jim is a Geordie and he had dinner with Brendan Foster – it was he who started the whole thing in 1980, but maybe Jim thought it was something he always wanted to do and time is not on your side when you will be 75 on your next birthday. Could I thank Jim most sincerely and also all his friends for their generosity, especially those from Purton Stoke. You are all so kind and let's not forget his back-up team of Sue and Sime, so very many thanks to you all. Well done Jim.

It is getting near that time of year when we will be giving out the Christmas vouchers and the people who are entitled to them are:- a couple when the man is over 65 and the lady is over 60, single ladies of 60 or over, single men of 65 or over. We don't know who meets those criteria unless you let us know. All people who have received them in the past will automatically get them again.

As I have said, it is getting to that time of the year again and we need the numbers in for the less able party, which is in the Silver Threads Hall on Saturday 27 November from 3 to 5pm, cost £2, with tea and entertainment. Names to your street wardens by Saturday 20 November. The minibus will be available for this party. Following on from this we have the party for the able elderly in the Village Hall on Saturday 4 December from 5pm to 8.30pm, cost £5 with a Christmas tea and entertainment – names to your street wardens by Friday 26 November. It would be appreciated if you can provide your own transport, if not the minibuses will be available – more about our other Christmas activities next month. One which will have started will be our Christmas Draw – all our street wardens and committee members will have books to sell and, as is our usual request, any prizes would be greatly appreciated. Advance notice, while we are talking about fund raising, we will be holding a Burns Night on Friday 22 January in the Village Hall.

The befrienders held another very successful tea party at Battlelake Farm and thanks here to the hosts Vicky and Doug Fowler and their friends, and let's not forget the Age Concern personnel which includes the minibus people. Talking about the minibus personnel, we are so lucky to have such a dedicated bunch of people. We had a minibus meeting to consider a request from the Cedars to see if we could cover their day care on a Tuesday – we are already doing Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. I was impressed, when they were asked about this, that there was no hesitation – they said straight away that they would do it. But, thinking about it, I shouldn't be surprised, as all our personnel are of the same frame of mind. Our newest drivers/shotguns, Rex and Eileen Goodings, Francis Sheppard and Ron Gladwyn are all settling in well.

Could I, on behalf of us all at Age Concern, thank you most sincerely for the money in lieu of flowers in memory of Audrey Broad. By the size of the donations, you all thought so much of her. I wrote a little bit about Audrey saying how she met Brian at the Gay Nineties dances they had at the Angel about 55 years ago and, as I said Tom Ford was landlord. When it was closing time, Tom would call out “time ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it’s a lovely night outside, just made for love”, whether it was raining, snowing or whatever. One thing, it certainly proved his point with Audrey and Brian, as they were married for over fifty years.

Our final mystery trip of the year went very well. It was a lovely sunny day with excellent vision, which is important. The trip took in Calne, Melksham, Westbury, Erlestoke, Market Lavington, Upavon, Amesbury and Bulford village, where we stopped for lunch and some lunch it was! Shepherds’ pie with carrots, peas and cauliflower, served with lovely gravy followed by apple crumble and custard, with tea or coffee to finish, so our thanks to the ladies of Bulford Village WI for an excellent lunch served quickly and pleasantly, with second helpings for those with bigger appetites. The return trip took in Andover, Ludgershall, Burbage, Hungerford, Marlborough, Beckhampton, Avebury, Broad Town and Wootton Bassett. A good day was had by all. No trouble with the coach and a good driver – we will be asking for that coach again. If anyone has any ideas for next year, let me know and this is about anything, not only coach trips – we aim to please.

We have had a very kind donation from the ex-pupils of Hook School. From what I can gather, they used to have a regular reunion but now they have stopped. Probably they are getting a little low on numbers now – it is sad when something like this stops, They decided to give out their funds to local charities and we thank them for thinking of us.

I have just called in on Sylvia Freemantle and Moira Hayward’s special day to raise money for the transport for the shoeboxes, with morning coffee, lunches and afternoon teas – you could stay all day if you wanted to! If you were like me, I had two bites at the cherry by going up for coffee, then back for lunch a little bit later on. I must say, both trips were very enjoyable, the hospitality was excellent as was the food and company, so congratulations to all concerned (with a special mention for Sylvia’s long suffering husband Colin, who works hard for these occasions) – it is such a deserving cause.

I thought you might like to know that *Encore*, the group we have had in Purton several times, are in concert at Bath Road Methodist Church on Thursday 11 November at 7.30pm. The cost is £5 and it is in aid of Prospect. They are an excellent musical group with their programme having a wide and varied selection of music.

TONY PRICE

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 26 November from 9 to 11am. We shall be having a special Saturday Market at The Club on 6 November 10am - noon. Please call Nikki on 01793 751845 or Anne on 01793 750125 for more details, to place an order or to become a market producer (baking or growing).

Purton Historical Society



Ten of our members attended the Wiltshire Local History Forum and we were surprised to hear about the high number of Belgian refugees that had come to Wiltshire in the First World War. It appears that although many came to our towns and villages, but they don't seem to have left any trace, whether in the way of written records or in folk history. So we were wondering if any Belgian refugees came to Purton. Do any of our readers have any evidence or stories of this period of history?

Our meeting this month is on Thursday 25 November in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall at 7.30pm. John Clark will be telling us about the Building of the Pyramids. At this meeting we will be selling tickets for the Christmas Social.

This year the Social will be a bit different. We have managed to keep the price the same at £10 and we will be having the Social in the Silver Threads Hall on Friday 3 December. For this, you will get a lucky ticket draw, a raffle, a free glass of wine or fruit juice and a buffet supper. Our entertainment this year will be by the *Western Players* who will be presenting us with a Murder Mystery.

The Cricklade Historical Society will meet on Wednesday 17 November in the Town Hall at 7.30pm. Steven Williams will be trying to get to the Truth behind the WW1 Court-martials.

The Wootton Bassett Historical Society will meet on Thursday 11 November at the Civic Centre at 7.30pm. Bob Clarke will be talking about the German Fleet attack on the civilian population of Scarborough.

The Swindon Society will be meeting on Wednesday 17 November at the Broadgreen Centre at 7.30pm. Rod Bluh will be talking about a subject that seems to be permanently on the front page of the Advertiser, "The Regeneration of Swindon".

EVE BOOY, Secretary

Purton Guide Dogs

Once again the Concert given for us by *The Cricklade Band*, on 7 October was brilliant. They now have a Synthesizer, and we were treated to sound effects where appropriate. Plus the repartee from Val in her interactions with Paul Hewer their Musical Director was great. Another plus is the number of young people that they now have playing in the band. We took £29 on the Trading Goods and Tombola stall, and made £138.50 from the Concert, and a member of the audience said that he wanted to make a donation to Purton Guide Dogs, and gave me a cheque for £100 so I was able to pay £238.50 into the Purton Puppy account.



I will be doing a Trading Goods stall on 20 November at the Christchurch Christmas Market. Thank you all for your support.

BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group

After 8 Answers from [page 7](#)

PURTON PLACARD

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

Purton Twinning Association Christmas Quiz Night

Friday 17 December

Where: Silver Threads Hall, Purton

Time: 7.30pm for 8.00pm start

Cost: £5.00 per person,
which includes a ploughman's supper.

Teams: No more than 6 in a team
Prizes for winners and booby prize.

Licensed Bar will be available.

To book please contact
Mrs. S. Brown, 7 Witfield Close,

PURTON,

Wiltshire, SN5 4HB

01793 778362 (ex-dir)

Purton Historical Society Christmas Social

Friday 3 December
at 7.30 pm

Silver Threads Hall

The Western Players will give us
a Murder Mystery Evening

£10 to include:-

a glass of wine or fruit juice
a raffle

a Lucky Ticket draw

Buffet supper

Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE

For a £5 annual subscription (40p less than buying monthly) we will deliver FREE within our area.

Postal deliveries cost £13 per year. You can join our scheme at any time during the year with the price adjusted pro rata.

For further information contact

[John Creasey.](#)

Thamesdown Ladies Choir A Christmas Concert

in

St Mary's Church, Purton

With Guests the Peartree Peelers handbells

Friday 10 December
7.30pm

Tickets £5 or pay on the door

Tel 770375, 772587

St Sampson's Church Christmas Tree Festival 2010

Friday 3 December 7pm – 9pm

Saturday 4 December 10 am – 4 pm

Sunday 5 December 2.30 pm -5 pm

This year the theme will be Pantomimes,
Christmas shows and Christmas films.
Join us for refreshments on Friday evening
and all day on Saturday

PURTON PLACARD

- plus -

Hallowe'en Party

Saturday 30 October
Fundraising for Breakthrough
and Walk The Walk

at the Hilton Hotel, Lydiard
Fields, Great Western Way,
Swindon, SN5 8UZ.

Live band Locomotion
buffet dinner, auction, raffle
and prize for the best fancy
dress costume.

Tickets £25 per person
Julie 873209, Mandy 827672
or Val 879661

Purton & Lydiard Scouts Firework and Bonfire Spectacular

Saturday 6 November
Lydiard Park

Gates open 5.30pm

Bonfire lit 6.00pm

Fireworks scheduled 7.00pm

£6 Adult £3 Child (3-14 years)

Tickets only available at the gate.
Vehicles via Hook Street only.

You can also visit our weblink
for more info:

www.plscouts.org.uk/group/fireworks/

Whist Drive

In aid of Wiltshire Air
Ambulance

Monday 8 November at 7.30pm
At the Silver Threads Hall

Christmas Shopping Day Saturday November 20, 11am-4pm Sun Inn, Lydiard Millicent

By kind permission of Howard and Kim from
The Sun Inn
Free admission

Father Christmas, from 12pm-2pm

Raffle in aid of Charity

Stalls include: Hand Crafted Christmas Cards;
Jewellery,

Pop Art, Preserves, Cakes, Chocolates and
much, much more

Call Lynda on 01793 771453 for more details
Purton and Lydiard Charity Fund,
Registered Charity 1116986

St Mary's Church will be holding a CHRISTMAS MARKET

on Saturday 20 November
in the Village Hall
11am - 2pm

Lunches served
Hot meat baps

Many attractions, including:
Home-made produce
Activities for the children
Face painting

St Mary's School Choir will be
singing

Mince pies, teas and coffees

PURTON ARTISTS 29TH EXHIBITION

TO BE HELD AT
THE VILLAGE HALL
LOWER SQUARE, PURTON
NOVEMBER

FRI 5th 6pm-8.30pm
SAT 6th 10am-4pm
SUN 7th 10am-4pm



'ENCORE' IN CONCERT

at Bath Road Methodist
Church
On Thursday 11 November
Tickets £5
All proceeds for Prospect

Purton Age Concern CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL

at the Pavenhill shops
9.30am to 12.00noon
ON SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER
Come and taste Andrew's famous
sausages and find a bargain as well
Bric a brac, books, toys, home
made cakes and much more!

Christmas Craft Show

Saturday 30 October 2010, 10am to 4.30pm,
Village Hall, Station Road, Purton
Free Entry

There will be many different types of crafts on
show including:

Hand crafted cards and supplies,
pyrography, silver and beaded jewellery,
Christmas decorations, handbags, clothes,
cross stitch, knitted and crocheted items,
photography, painted glass and more!
CARD MAKING CLASSES - £2, including
materials

Refreshments including light lunches and
teas

Morning and Afternoon Raffle
Call Lynda on 01793 771453 for more
details

Purton and Lydiard Charity Fund,
Registered Charity 1116986

St Mary's C of E School PTA Family Bingo Night

Friday 12 November 2010,
6.30 for 7.00pm
St Mary's Lower School Hall
Everyone welcome

St Mary's Church



Pies and Punch with Carols

Saturday 18 December

at
The Live & Let Live, Upper Pavenhill
6pm

Tickets: Donation at the door - minimum £2.50

Tel 770157, 772896, 770970, 771201, 770375



PURTON PLACARD

- plus -

Purton Helping Hand Forthcoming Events

Table Top Sale

Sat 13 November 1.30pm
Village Hall
Tables £6.00
Tel 770251

Ladies Night Out

Thurs 25 November
8.00pm – 10.30pm
Village Hall
£5 inc Food and a Glass of Wine

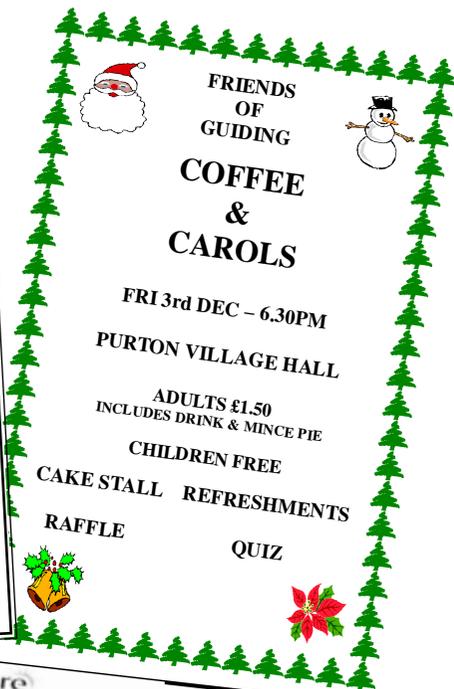
Christmas Whist Drive

Wed 1 Dec 7.30pm
Silver Threads Hall

Christmas Bingo

Wed 5 December 7.30pm
Silver Threads Hall

Minibus for evening events: Tel 770251



**FRIENDS
OF
GUIDING**

**COFFEE
&
CAROLS**

FRI 3rd DEC – 6.30PM

PURTON VILLAGE HALL

ADULTS £1.50
INCLUDES DRINK & MINCE PIE

CHILDREN FREE

CAKE STALL REFRESHMENTS

RAFFLE **QUIZ**

Sue Ryder Care

GLITZ & GLAMOUR WEEKEND



Saturday 27 November 10.00am – 7.00pm
Sunday 28 November 10.00am – 4.00pm

We will have an extensive selection of
Ladies and Gents Party Wear, Accessories,
Christmas Cards and gifts.

The raffle draw will take place on Saturday 27 at 6.30pm.

Please come and join us and buy your party wear,
Christmas cards and presents.

The venue this year will be at
Sue Ryder Care,
98 High Street, Cricklade

Purton Evening WI



There was a jolly group at the Silver Threads Hall on 13 September, but rather disappointing that it was not full house at this Whist Drive, which was held in aid of Purton Carnival Funds. Maybe the date made it unattractive for the superstitious! Nevertheless, everyone seemed to have a good time so perhaps it isn't numbers that count but the jovial attitude of those who do turn up for our events. Certainly the prizes for the evening made a fine showing, raffle included!

It wasn't surprising that there was a good attendance for the meeting of 15 September (including welcome visitors) as the speaker was well-known locally – the popular Neil Griffiths. He spoke on "Story Telling" with great humour, and often movingly on behalf of children whose parents don't find time to tell them stories or to read to them. His enthusiasm is immense, which perhaps accounts for his many children's story books that were on display, a publisher's delight!

The next meeting will be on 17 November. Pamela Clement will be speaking on "Christmas of Yesterday" and the competition will be "Christmas decoration". Another opportunity to make the Hall a bright place to be!

CONSTANCE REED

Macmillan Cancer Support

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

We were pleased to welcome supporters from Purton to the coffee morning on Friday 24 September in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall. The morning was a great success, raising £479.41.

All monies raised at the coffee mornings help Macmillan provide support services to cancer patients and their families.

VILMA MUNRO



Calling all food and wine lovers!

In the last two editions of the magazine there has been an article suggesting that we could form a supper club. It has met with limited response but we realise that people have been on holidays etc. So if you enjoy good food and wine and would like to share your passion with like minded people please contact [Helen Dixon](#) so that we can set up a meeting.

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: Morphy Richards "Mr Cappuccino" Coffee Maker, only used twice, instructions, but unboxed. Also Kenwood Smoothy Maker. Paula Davey 770353

OFFERED: Sofa Bed. Double. Futon style. As new. Brown check. Cathy Mosley 778395.

Green Tips – Traffic and Roads



Concerns about the speed and volume of traffic travelling through Purton has been an issue for many years. However volumes of traffic through many rural villages have increased as more and more vehicles look for a quick route or to escape congestion. Rural roads are not designed to take large volumes of fast moving traffic, as many are narrow, have no speed limits (other than the 60 mph limit), have no pavements or lighting and have unexpected gateways with farm vehicles accessing onto the highway.

The increase of traffic and sometimes the speed at which vehicles travel, whether local or just passing through Purton, are intimidating to other road users and residents living close to the highway. The current Highways Act 1980 (section 130) protects the rights of the public to the use and enjoyment of the highway. The highway includes the roads and pavements therefore all people, not just car users, should be able to enjoy and use the highway.

Purton's road system is a series of narrow country roads with narrow sections and pinch points on every road into the village. The road classifications are B and C roads with a large number of unclassified rural public and private roads. Through and within the central part of the village there is a 7.5 tonne weight limit and a speed limit of 30mph. There are currently no speed limits around the outskirts of the village or through Purton Stoke other than the maximum 60 mph (however this does not mean that 60mph is a suitable speed to be travelling at on many of these rural roads). A speed review by Wiltshire Council has been carried out on the county's roads, which will result in the implementation soon of a 50 mph speed limit on The Pry and Cricklade Road – B4553.

What can we do? - There are several initiatives in progress:

- Lorry Watch Scheme – reporting lorries which go through the village which are over the 7.5 tonne weight limit – send date, time, registration number and if possible the name on the lorry to Parish Clerk – the information is then being passed on and processed.
- Transport Working Group set up by Wiltshire Council Area Board – Councillors and Town and Parish Councils attend meetings to highlight roads schemes which could be prioritised for improvement.
- Community Speed Watch – volunteers are needed who are prepared to spend some time watching traffic around the parish and reporting speeding vehicles

Hot Spots in Purton?

- Narrow sections of highway in High Street
- Narrow pavements/no pavements in many parts of the Parish
- Widham Bridge – speeding vehicles over narrow bridge
- Cross Lane/Pack Horse Lane/The Pry/Hayes Knoll Road - confusing road junction
- Manor Hill – narrow sections
- Pinch points/sections of narrow road around the Parish
- Witts Lane – spring in the highway causing damaged road surface

- Queen Street – poor quality road surface

Compiled by Jacqui Lay 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.

Church Floodlighting

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

- 6 October The Church was floodlit on 6 October, for **Violet Fowler**.
Remembering a dear Mum and Grandmother on the
6th anniversary of her death.
From her children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
- 16 October St Mary's Church was floodlit in memory of **Diana Davies** and
her Mum and Dad, **Joce** and **Bill Burchell** at the request of
Brian and Rebecca.
- 6 November St Mary's will be floodlit in loving memory of **Mary Simpkins** on
her 95th birthday.
Miss and love you always.
Pete, Barbara, Audrey, Dave and families
- 9 November The Church will be floodlit in loving memory of our dearest
friend **Eric Bird**, on the occasion of his birthday, when he would
have been 75 years old.
Always remembered by Jean, David, Sandra and Glenn.
- 14 November St Mary's Church will be floodlit for **Remembrance Day**, to
honour all those who died fighting for our freedom.
They are not forgotten.
- 16 November **Trevor Bird**
St Mary's Church will be floodlit in memory of Trev who left us
on 16 November 2003.
Miss you. Love always
Jean, Amanda and Paul. X X X
- 28 November St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Mary Wightman**, in
celebration of her 96th birthday.
Dearly loved and sadly missed
by Roderick, Mark and Ben;
daughters-in-law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

Purton Diary - November 2010

2	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club : <i>Musical Companions</i>
		8.00pm	After 8: "All Saints" at Janet's
		8.00pm	Dodecantus concert <i>Fauré's Requiem</i> , Wroughton Parish Ch.
3	W	7.30pm	4 th week of Romans course at Silver Threads Hall (then on 10 and 17 November)
4	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
5	F	6.00pm	to 8.30pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall
		10.00am	to 4.00pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall
6	Sa	5.30pm	Purton & Lydiard Scouts <i>Firework and Bonfire Spectacular</i> at Lydiard Park. (Bonfire lit 6pm.)
<hr/>			
7	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.00am	to 4.00pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
8	M	7.30pm	Whist Drive at Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
9	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
10	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church : Sebert Lane - <i>the COPA Project</i>
11	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
		7.30pm	Concert by <i>Encore</i> at Bath Road Methodist Church
12	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon for all areas of the village
		6.30pm	Family Bingo Night at St Mary's Lower School Hall
		7.00pm	Promises Auction at Bradon Forest School
13	Sa	1.30pm	Table Top Sale at Village Hall by Helping Hand
<hr/>			
14	Su		Remembrance Sunday
		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
		2.30pm	Remembrance Service at Cenotaph: High Street closed from 2.15pm to 3.15pm
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
		8.00pm	Dodecantus concert <i>Fauré's Requiem</i> , St Augustine's, Rodbourne
15	M	7.45pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: Jane Clements - <i>Narrow Boat Art</i>
16	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: <i>Jewellery by Louise</i>
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
17	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House

		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI at Village Hall: Pamela Clement - <i>Christmas of Yesterday</i>
20	Sa	7.30pm	Purton Twinning Society Christmas Quiz, Silver Threads Hall
		11.00am	to 2.00pm: Christmas Market at Village Hall
		11.00am	to 4.00pm: Christmas Shopping Day at Sun Inn, L/Millicent
21	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	Holy Communion at the Methodist Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
23	Tu	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: American Supper and Entertainment
		8.00pm	After 8: John Clark - <i>Metal Detecting</i> , at Jacqui's
25	Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society at Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall: John Clark - <i>The Building of the Pyramids</i>
		8.00pm	Ladies' Night Out by Helping Hand at Village Hall
27	Sa	3.00pm	to 5pm: Age Concern party for the less able elderly at Silver Threads Hall
28	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
30	Tu	10.00am	to 4.30pm: Christmas Craft Show at Village Hall
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: <i>Films with Mr Davies</i>

December

4	Sa	5.00pm	to 8.30pm: Age Concern Christmas party for the elderly at the Village Hall
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Every week

Tu	9.15am	to 11.30am: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
	7.30pm	Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	to 12noon: 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	to 11.30am: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Th	2.30pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

Moon Phases

● 6 November ● 14 November ○ 21 November ● 29 November

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.

Purton & The Great War 1914 - 1918

Available from November 2010. Follow on research to *Purton, Village Sons & The Great War*.

Research for this book has taken just over 3 years to complete; this is the result, 216 pages A4 of information regarding the Parish and the Great War (both civilian and military listings). This book (and accompanying CD if requested) will hopefully provide material for further individual research. The material can be used as required and I can also mail or email any further amendments that may become available. My material only covers the Great War period 1914-1918, but this will be to date the most comprehensive research carried out regarding Purton and the Great War period.

ALL money raised will go direct to COMBAT STRESS, registered Charity 206002.

BOOK: Wirebound 216 pages, card backed.

£20 per copy, £18 on production of my last booklet.

- Introduction.
- Purton War Memorial.
- St Mary's Church Purton.
- Purton Roll of Honour.
- A to Z Military list (495 names).
- A to Z Civilians list.

OPTIONAL EXTRA CD: £2.50 for Powerpoint presentation, £2.50 for other material

If requested I can provide other material as listed below for the costs highlighted above.

- Images of original Service documents * (Pension / Service records, Medal Index Cards etc)
- Photographs of some of those listed.
- Powerpoint presentation including:
 - Images of Purton War Memorial.
 - Images of headstones and Memorials for those listed on Purton War Memorial.
 - Images showing the pages of "The Golden Chapter" housed inside St Mary's Church.
 - Images of headstones and Memorials for those not listed on Purton War Memorial.

Whilst I have tried my best to uncover details for all those listed, some have minimal details whilst others have considerably more. The optional CD is available for a further donation to COMBAT STRESS. Please contact me with the family names you are interested in and I will be able to confirm if material is available.

I can deliver **FREE** to Purton and the surrounding area. For postal delivery please add £2 per copy in UK. Please enquire for overseas delivery.

Please contact me to order a copy and I will contact you to arrange delivery. Copies are available through In Touch Services in the village as well as directly from myself (details below).

BOB LLOYD

bob.mech00@tiscali.co.uk

tel: 01249 890423

I would like to thank those who have helped with my research, especially Brian at Purton Museum who assisted me greatly in searching through the material held, a fantastic small museum, well worthy of a visit and community support.

Purton, Village Sons and the Great War raised over £640 for the 2008 Poppy Appeal, and I hope to match that figure again. In a similar manner ALL money raised will go directly to the Charity of choice – I am taking no money for myself. COMBAT STRESS is the UK's leading military charity specialising in the care of Veterans' mental health, the support given is invaluable and will be required more and more due to HM Forces commitments to the recent operations in Iraq and on-going commitment in Afghanistan.

[Editor's note: there is no Exhibit of the Month in this issue in order to give prominence to this worthy cause in Remembrance month. This article will be posted on the Museum website www.purtonmuseum.com as the November Exhibit.]

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.



■ THANK YOU

Brian, Elizabeth, David and George would like to thank the many people who attended Audrey's funeral and for the many cards and donations which amounted to £794.00 to be shared between Purton Helping Hand and Purton Age Concern.

Thanks also to Rev. Steve, Judith and of course organist Frank for providing such a lovely service.

Brian Broad

■ HOSPITAL THANKS

I wish to thank members of Purton Bowls Club, Purton WI and the Purton Skittles team and friends for their cards, gifts and best wishes during my stay in hospital.

I am progressing well and hope to be back in action in the very near future.

Judith Fish

We Record ...

Baptisms

12 September	James Steven Justine Wallace
19 September	Eve Grace Mitchell
26 September	Sophie May Greenaway

Funerals

15 September	Audrey Broad
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To add your family announcements to this section contact Purton Magazine. Addresses on [page 4](#).



St Mary's Primary School

The children at St Mary's are well and truly settled into their new accommodation at the Upper School and the children on both sites are enjoying getting to know their new teachers and teaching assistants. We are pleased to report that the move to the alternative classrooms has gone very smoothly for everyone. The many after school clubs we run are continuing as normal and we would like to thank Bradon Forest for allowing us to use their field for our football club and matches.

On 21 September a group of children were accompanied by Mr Tucker and other members of staff, both past and present, for the turf cutting ceremony. Mr Tucker made a short speech in which he told the children about the long process that he has been involved in and thanked everyone else who has been instrumental in securing a new primary school for Purton. He also explained to the accompanying children what



an exciting time we have ahead. This was also an opportunity for Cowlin to present the school with enough high visibility jackets and hard hats for classes of children to visit the site on prearranged visits.

Although the excitement of the build is on our doorstep, the school is very much focusing on continuing to build on the success of our recent OfSTED and Diocese inspections. The children in Year 3 and 4 have enjoyed a visit from 'Jungle Jonathon's Roadshow' as part of their Jungle Jive topic. They were delighted to be able to hold all sorts of creepy crawlies and learn about their habitats. Many more visitors and visits have been planned for other children across the school year. We believe that children learn through experiences and plan these into our topics every term. You might see the Reception children (age 4 and 5) out and about in the village on their weekly 'Wellie Walks'. This is a chance for them to learn about their local environment and teachers also use the environment to teach numeracy skills, for example counting the number of red cars, noticing different shapes in the environment, the list, as you can imagine, is endless! If you would like to see the topics that the children are learning about and find out more about St Mary's our school website www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk is full of interesting information.

The Autumn Term is a busy time for school. The children have taken part in the celebration of Harvest at St Mary's Church and supported the Purton Lunch Club and Swindon Food Bank with their donations of fresh and tinned food. We would like to thank St Mary's Church for their continuing support in arranging for us to use the Church regularly.

Our Christmas Fayre takes place after school on Wednesday 8 December in the Lower School Hall, raffle tickets for the very popular Christmas Hampers will be on sale shortly, please look out for them or contact the school office on 770239 to support the PTA in their fundraising. The children are also looking forward to the annual selling of Christmas Squares, which is their opportunity to win a chocolate prize!

All the children are currently preparing for our Christmas Productions, the Lower School will be performing in the Hall and the Upper School at St Mary's Church. The Productions, as always, promise to be an excellent show of the talent we have amongst our children (and staff!). We are also looking forward to our Christmas Lunch which takes place during the last week of term, always enjoyed by all.

We always welcome visits to the school from people in our local community. If you feel you would like to offer your help, perhaps reading with the children or you can offer another skill, we would love to hear from you. If you have a child who starts school in September 2011 and would like to visit the school to look around please feel free to contact the school office on 770239 or you can email us at admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk.

We look forward to keeping you updated with all the news from St Mary's over the coming months.

NAOMI CLARKE, Deputy Headteacher

Open the Curtains for Bradon Forest

Year 11 Business Studies students at Bradon Forest School have organised a Promises Auction to raise money for new curtains in the main hall and dining area of the school. The group of youngsters have been working hard to gather promises from local businesses and individuals and, together with the PTA, have managed to secure some excellent pledges for the public to bid on.

The auction is on Friday 12 November at 7pm, in Bradon Forest School Hall, Purton. Everyone is welcome!

Tickets for the evening are just £5 and include a drink, dinner and live musical entertainment from a former member of the internationally renowned King's Singers! There will also be other musical items, a bar and a raffle.

The evening, which will be adults only, could be an opportunity for you to purchase some unique Christmas presents, or to splash out on a treat for yourself. Promises include mini-breaks, a balloon ride, theatre tickets, golf passes, spa treatments, rugby tickets and special hospitality tickets for Liverpool Football Club!

A full list of promises will be released a week before the event, but in the mean time, if you are able to donate a promise, please get in touch with Mrs R Hawley (Business Studies Teacher) at hawleyr@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk. The promise can be as little as baking a delicious birthday cake, or a mini-break at your holiday cottage in Cornwall!

Tickets can be purchased by contacting Emma Hayden at the school on 01793 770570 or by emailing Mrs Hawley.

EMMA HAYDEN

From Cricklade Fire Station

During September crews from Cricklade attended 14 emergency calls as follows:-



2/9/10 at 2057 Waste bin fire, High Street, Purton
3/9/10 at 1634 Car fire, A419, Cirencester
4/9/10 at 0713 Automatic fire alarm, residential home, High Street, Purton
6/9/10 at 1219 Road traffic collision, person trapped, Cross Lanes, Purton
6/9/10 at 2114 Car fire, Down Ampney airfield
6/9/10 at 2315 Leaking gas cylinder, Back Street, Ashton Keynes
17/9/10 at 1019 Flat fire, Saxon Close, Cricklade
18/9/10 at 1957 Tractor fire, Driffild
19/9/10 at 1217 Child locked in car, Waterhay, Cricklade
25/9/10 at 2226 Standby duties, Swindon Fire Station, Drove Road
25/9/10 at 2329 Major charity building fire (8 pumps), Chapel Street, Swindon
26/9/10 at 1927 Reported fire, false alarm, Reids Piece, Purton
plus 2 co-responder calls, Cricklade

We will be holding our Christmas bingo in Cricklade Town Hall on Tuesday 7 December. Doors open at 6.30pm and eyes down at 8pm. Proceeds will go to the Firefighters charity.

If you would like any further fire safety advice or are interested in becoming a retained Firefighter then please contact the number below.

0800 389 7849

Shoebox Fundraising Day

A huge thank-you to everyone who came, supported, donated and helped at this event. The village people and many from outside Purton helped raise £715.80.

The money will be sent to Samaritan's Purse towards the transportation of the shoeboxes.

SYLVIA FREEMANTLE



Carnival 2011

3 - 11 June Theme: Musicals

What a tonic it is to have a workable sized Committee raring to go, so please make a big entry in your 2011 diary and plan to support us and enjoy yourself. We can of course always welcome volunteers to help during the week so, if you can spare any time at all, contact Pauline.

We *do* want entries in the Procession – this year, with only 4 floats entered, was very disappointing – where were you all? Please support us in 2011 and make the Procession **super**.

Everything is beginning to slot into place with plenty going on. More details to come.

PAULINE WARD, Secretary

Fire Safety Advice: Fireworks – Safe not Sorry



With Bonfire Night approaching, we here at Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service would like to offer the following information and advice to help you and your family have a safe and happy Bonfire Night.

Did you know that Fireworks cause hundreds of avoidable injuries every year. The highest number of injuries – 590 – occurred at family or private parties, followed by incidents in the street or other public places and large public displays.

Before you start thinking that it's not going to happen to you, consider this. Last year around half of all injuries happened to children under 16 years of age. That's a lot of kids who may have ugly burn scars ... for life!

Please follow the following safety code to ensure you have a happy and safe Bonfire Night celebration:

1. Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114.
2. Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
3. Keep fireworks in a closed box.
4. Follow the instructions on each firework.
5. Light them at arm's length, using a taper.
6. Stand well back.
7. Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.
8. Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
9. Always supervise children around fireworks.
10. Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
11. Never give sparklers to a child under five.
12. Keep pets indoors.
13. Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11pm.

Firework parties with family and friends have become increasingly popular in recent years. Parties, of course, usually involve the consumption of alcohol. In fact, research shows that at 90% of firework parties in back gardens, alcohol is present. Ensure that a responsible adult is in charge of the fireworks at all times.

In recent years, Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service experienced an increase in calls that related to thatched properties. Fireworks were landing directly on the thatch. A thatched roof is always at risk from fire. Once a fire has taken hold in thatch it will spread rapidly. Please before lighting fireworks, assess your surroundings and be considerate to the surrounding buildings. Last year we were lucky, the thatched properties were occupied and the occupants were aware of the situation immediately and we were called. This year we may not be so lucky!

And remember ...

Fireworks. Be safe not sorry. Always follow the code

If you require any further information or advice please contact:

MELANIE JEZZARD, Community Safety Advisor, Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service
Tel: 01380 731188 E-mail melanie.jezzard@wiltsfire.gov.uk

Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Lots of new starts in the units this term – Rainbows welcomed 6 new girls, 2nd Purton Brownies had 5 new ones, whilst Guides had 7 new starters. 1st Purton Brownies were more modest with one Brownie transferring into the unit from Australia. To help with the transition Guides have played lots of ‘getting to know you’ type games and chosen patrols, with Amy, Eve and Megan as Patrol Leaders.

Both Rainbows and 1st Purton Brownies collected leaves to do leaf rubbings. Rainbows used theirs to decorate boxes to take to Harvest Festival at St Mary’s, whilst the Brownies decorated bags which were then filled with fruit and delivered to the residents of Hooks Hill during an evening of entertainment on a fruit and vegetable theme.

2nd Purton Brownies have started work on the Science Investigator badge and have already completed lots of activities. Each six made bubble mixture from various washing up liquids and bubble bath. They also made their own bubble wands - extremely messy! Other activities included planting cress seeds in an “egg head” and recording changes daily; an acid indicator test using red cabbage and chromatography butterflies with sweets and blotting paper; balloon rockets (with the largest, noisiest balloons you could buy!) and testing jam jars with water to see which made the lowest/highest note.

Guides were pleased to welcome Kathryn Jones along to one of their meetings, to share her experiences of the international camp she attended in Sweden over the summer. They have also started on the Chocolate Badge – always a favourite!

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

Swindon & Cricklade Railway

Santa Specials 11am to 4pm

Sat/Sun 27/28 November

Sat/Sun 4/5 December

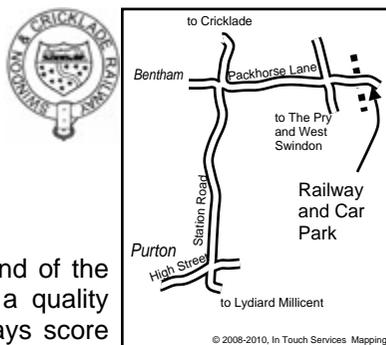
Sat/Sun 11/12 December

Sat/Sun/Mon/Tue 18/19/20/21 December

also 6pm to 8pm on 11 December only.

Once again Santa will be in his grotto at the end of the steam train ride with a friendly welcome and a quality present for each child. Our Santa events always score highly against other railways, and this year we have doubled the length of our running line. There is a cafeteria, shop, museum and free parking. Ticket prices to be announced on radio or via our website www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org nearer the time.

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 on 01793 750335 or 771615.



Purton Bowls Club

We have now come to the end of the Bowls season and it's time to close the club up and start winter maintenance.

The last game was our annual Mike Bartlett Trophy, organized by Carole, Max, Chris Cheesely and families plus many helpers. Once again Carole put a splendid cooked meal on with wine for us. The event was won by John and Sue Williams, and Derek Gibson, to whom our President Max Holland presented the plaque. Runners-up were Sue and Mike Crouch and John Bartlett. This has always been a charity event and just over £400 was raised for Cancer Research.



The bowls tour to the Isle of Wight for four days was well organized by the two Erics and Phil. 62 members went, the weather was good, the hotel was excellent and everyone enjoyed the trip. Next year the Club will visit Weymouth and, in 2012, Torquay. Members are already booking their seats.

Our Competition Secretary Jim Cars did an excellent job this year (not an easy task). The results are as follows:

on Finals Day:

Men's singles	Josh Fail
Ladies' singles	Alison Fail (<i>Judith Fish should have played but was in hospital</i>)
Mens' pairs	Max Holland and John Bartlett
Ladies' pairs	Jean Bird and Mary Robinson
Men's Two Wood	Dave Hall
Ladies' Two Wood	Alison Fail
Mixed Two Wood	Ken Gardiner
Mixed Pairs	Jean Bird and Michael Crouch
Mixed Triples	Muriel Brown, Doug Williams and John Williams
James Cup	Brenda Cars
Novice's Cup	Maggie Biddiscombe
Smithy Trophy	Bill Robinson
Andy Rudden Trophy	John Blackwell and Eric Matthews.

In the Swindon & District:

Mens' pairs winners	Dave Hall and Colin Baker
Ladies' pairs runners-up	Carole Holland and Alison Fail – just beaten by one shot
Two Wood singles winner	Alison Fail

Before closing, a big thank-you to all the officers in 2010 for all their hard work during the past year.

RON SLADE

Just a Thought ...

- He who laughs last, thinks slowest!
- Everyone is entitled to be stupid, but some abuse the privilege.
- You can't be late until you show up.
- The early bird gets the worm ... but the second mouse gets the cheese!

Purton Tennis Club

The leaves are fast coming down off the trees and there's a chill in the air but tennis is still on target. The Winter league is under way and some of you may not know there is a significant difference between the summer and winter games which changes the dynamic of the competition. In the summer league each pair plays both its equal and the other i.e. the first couple plays second couple and then plays the first couple and vice versa. And there is some strategy as to who plays first and second pair which can focus on the strengths and weaknesses of the opposing team. In Winter league tennis the teams are mixed but the first pair play the opposing first pair (and second the seconds) and then the men play the men while the ladies, the ladies. This means that you get to play a mixed game and then either a men's or a ladies' game. Confused? I hope not. You could always stroll up to the tennis courts on a Sunday morning when most of the games are played and see how it works in practice!

With the league games using our courts fairly regularly on Sunday mornings we are having a trial run of moving social tennis to Sunday afternoons to see if we can build up regular playing at that time while the Friday evening sessions move indoors.

Our Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday 3 November. This year we are staying in Purton and will be enjoying a Curry Supper at the Maharajah which should liven us all up after what we expect to be a straightforward meeting. The Committee have no proposals to place in front of the membership and at the time of writing no matter has been raised by the membership. Fingers crossed!

A reminder that our website purtontennis.net carries details of our various activities and that we welcome new members at any time of year.

CAROLINE McLEAN

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



The Junior section of the club celebrated a successful season with a presentation evening at the Purton Club. The evening, compered by Phil Duffell, featured a quiz with sections on general knowledge and well known international cricketers as well as a splendid buffet provided by the Purton Club and the presentation of awards.

The award winners were:

U11	Batting	Elijah Samuel
	Bowling	Elijah Samuel
	Players' Player	Elijah Samuel
	Coaches' Award	Josh Price
U13	Batting	Bipin Gattapaur
	Bowling	Josh Riddett
	Players' Player	Bipin Gattapaur
	Coaches' Award	George Russ
U15	Batting	Kieron Momi
	Bowling	Jack Embling
	Players' Player	Jack Embling
	Coaches Award	Matt Hall

JOE GARDNER

Purton & District Darts League 2010 / 2011



Pos	PAIRS	Games Won	Lost	Points	
1	The Club at Cricklade	4	4	0	28
2	Red House C	4	4	0	23
3	Purton Club X	4	2	2	22
4	Royal George	4	2	2	19
5	Angel B	3	2	1	18
6	Haydon Wick	4	2	2	17
7	Bell Inn	4	0	4	11
8	Angel	3	1	2	10
9	Red House B	3	1	2	9
10	Purton Club A	2	1	1	9
11	Red House A	4	0	4	8
12	Purton Club C	1	1	0	6
13	Purton Club B	1	1	0	6
14	Riffs Bar	1	0	1	3

180's

Nick Vincent	Angel B
Stuart Longhurst	Purton Club B
M Channon	Red House A
Colin Giles	Red House B
Tony Brown	Red House C
Wayne Franklin	Royal George
A Moulden	The Club at Cricklade

On The Lighter Side

Famous Put-downs

"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork." - *Mae West*

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends." - *Oscar Wilde*

Nancy Astor to *Churchill* - "If you were my husband I'd give you poison."

Churchill - "If you were my wife, I'd drink it."

"I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial." - *Irvin S.Cobb*.

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go." - *Oscar Wilde*

"I feel so miserable without you; it's almost like having you here." - *Stephen Bishop*

"He is not only dull himself; he is the cause of dullness in others." - *Samuel Johnson*

"He had delusions of adequacy." - *Walter Kerr*

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." -
Clarence Darrow

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - *Mark Twain*

"He is a self-made man and worships his creator." - *John Bright*

A to Z OF PURTON

C is for ... Cricket

When cricket was first played in Purton it was a very different game to the one played today. The batsman and wicket keepers did not wear gloves or pads and one of the most important fielding positions was long stop. Many reports of matches comment on the exploits of the well known long-stoppers of the day. It was considered less than manly to wear protection and although Purton's E.H.Budd did make a concession to his good health by wearing an extra pair of thick socks whilst batting. When a batsman was caught out the bowler's name was not recorded on the score card, an Over consisted of four deliveries and all the important matches attracted the attention of bookmakers. In one Purton match in the middle of the nineteenth century one batsman was praised for pleasing his backers when he recorded a good performance.

Perhaps the biggest difference of all and one which shocks modern players who expect good, safe pitches was that the opposition captain chose where on the ground the game should be played. It is hardly surprising that many early matches recorded very low scores as pitch preparation was minimal – lines were scratched to mark creases.

C is for ... Carriage Driving

There are over 100 members of the British Driving Society in Wiltshire, plus many others who belong to the HDTA which looks after those interested in Driving Trials (this is the driven version of Badminton and that which Prince Philip is most associated with). We drive for pleasure as well as competition like the one held annually in the Fox. For the rest of the year pleasure drives take us to the Ridgway and often on an evening drive to a nice local pub with a big car park. The horses and ponies come in all sizes and are often family ponies that have become outgrown by younger members of the family.



The horses and ponies come in all sizes and are often family ponies that have become outgrown by younger members of the family.

C is for ... Constables

At the top end of Hoggs Lane there is a house called Constables. Among the legal documents found when the house last changed hands in 1977 was a property conveyance from 1871 that included these words "... upon trust to permit the said premises and all buildings therein erected or to be erected to be appropriated and used as and for a school for the education of children and adults or children only of

A to Z of Purton: *The purpose of this section is to publish contributions about the culture and content of our community such as any unusual facts about local historical events, places or organisations in a few descriptive sentences, perhaps with a photograph. Please send your contributions “D is for ...” to Purton Magazine, before 10 November, via the addresses shown on [page 4](#).*

the labouring manufacturing and other poorer classes in the Parish of Purton ...”

A publication celebrating the centenary of the Upper Square Methodist Church (1856 - 1956) records that, in 1876, the sum of £82 was paid to Mr Gardner for the purchase of a school room but that it seems pretty certain that it was not a room built onto the chapel. The centenary handbook says “the most likely place seems to be the cottage opposite the chapel and there is a tradition that this was used for sometime as a school room although we have not been able to find any written record of this” although the conveyance document had existed since 1871.

Since then, records suggest that Constables has changed hands 16 times in the last 106 years and the current owners have been pleased and intrigued to learn of several people still living in Purton who used to live in ‘the cottage opposite the chapel’.

C is for ... Christian Aid

Christian Aid is an organisation that works with what are termed ‘Partners on the Ground’ rather than handing over funds to government bodies. These Partners are organisations in countries around the world who work in conjunction with *Christian Aid* and their specialists (such as engineers, builders, etc.) for projects such as piping fresh water to outlying areas, sanitation, providing equipment for people to build their skills and sometimes to enable them to train others. For example, by helping people to grow crops and feed their families as well as to sell to others, funds are generated locally to send their children to school.



All of this is made possible by groups such as ours here in Purton, who each year get together to see in what ways we can raise funds. We have our regular events such as the cake stall which later became ‘and plants’, wash for dosh and the ‘Christian Aid Quiz’ which people either love or hate it but still do it! We’ve had an auction of promises, lunches, quiz nites, ‘pub games’ nights with darts, cards, bagatelle etc. and the two coffee mornings – wow, how those coffee mornings have evolved; this year they raised nearly £900. We have a regular ‘Curry Nite’ thanks to Khalique at *The Maharajah* and a new event this year when Anna Hodges planned and organised her ‘Clothes Swap’ where we even had a donation from the famous Twiggy. The list of fun fundraising events seems endless.

Then of course there is the ‘House to House’ collection. This is an area in which we are really short of helpers, with the few having to try and cover all the areas. If anyone feels able to help next year, either by delivering the envelopes, and/or collecting them back in, even if only a few in their street, please contact Brian Davies on 770961.

C is for ... Church

The Church is to be found serving coffee at the Silver Threads Hall, selling cream teas on Bradon Forest field during Carnival, at Hospital Sunday at the Cedars, singing songs of praise at Ashgrove and White Lodge, dancing in the Village Hall, raising money in every street for Christian Aid, once a fortnight at the Youth Club and every Sunday at Church End and Play Close.

C is for ... Childminders

Purton Childminding group is a not for profit organization run by and for Purton's Childminders. Childminders offer a safe and secure home environment where your child can learn and develop, offering a range of activities and social interaction within the local community. If you need a Childminder, please look out for our posters around the village or contact Sherry Macnab Tel. 771866.

C is for ... Crimean War

29 May 1856 was appointed by the Government for a "Peace Demonstration" to mark the end of hostilities. The wealthy inhabitants of Purton led by their kind vicar, the Reverend Canon Prower, provided a splendid meal for the less well off in three large marquees erected on the cricket field kindly loaned for the occasion by the owner John Brown. The shops were closed in the village and the people had a day's holiday, their employers paying them as if they had been at work.

A full account of this celebration can be found in The Swindon Advertiser for Monday, 2 June 1856.

C is for ... Church Choir

The church choir at St Mary's has been going for many years and has recently had several new members. The children have been working on our ribbons which are markers for us to work towards and keep our minds busy. We are currently going for the dark blue level. We sing for services on Sunday morning and evenings, also sometimes for weddings which we really enjoy.

It is a musical challenge for us all and we work on an anthem now and again. We joined as we are a very musical family and with Mum going as well we gave it a shot and found that we really enjoyed it. If anyone fancies giving it a go, feel free to come to the church at 7.30 on a Tuesday and we will happily accommodate you!

C is for ... Cub Pack

Cub scouts are girls and boys who join this Scouting Section at about 8 years of age. They meet as a Cub Scout Pack, the leader is known as Akela after the wolf who found and cared for Mowgli in the jungle (from the Rudyard Kipling story *Jungle Book*).

Young people come along wanting fun, adventure and friendship. The Cub Scout Programme has developed to meet the general needs, likes and abilities of all young people within this age group. Cub Scouts will have the opportunity to gain awards and badges as part of the Balanced Programme and to experience fun activities and games indoors and outdoors. They go camping, hiking, climbing and canoeing, sampling activities that they may otherwise not have chance to do.

We meet at the Millenium Hall, Purton at 6.30 - 7.45. Check out the Group website for details of how to join us or volunteer as an adult (www.plscouts.org.uk) or contact Jan Fisher, Assistant Group Scout Leader: 771216.

Swindon Scouts Christmas Post – 2010

As usual, 1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group will be participating in Swindon Scout Christmas Post! We will be selling stamps from early November at our usual locations: In Touch Services, Best One and, new to Purton this year, Shear Success!



All profits go to run Scouting in the Swindon, Purton, Highworth and Wootton Bassett areas.

Christmas cards must be properly addressed including postcode and only posted in the Special Scout Post Boxes. Stamps are 18p each, a real saving! Please **DO NOT USE** Scout post stamps on cards posted through Royal Mail post boxes. They are not valid and the receiver of the card will have to pay a £1 surcharge!

**Posting is between : 7 December and
4.00pm on Tuesday 14 December 2010**

The cards will be delivered between 18 and 22 December 2010.

The delivery area for the Swindon Scout Christmas Post is Swindon Borough and some of the surrounding towns and villages is as follows:

Swindon Borough: this includes all areas of Swindon, Badbury, Bishopstone, Blunsdon, Burderop, Chiseldon, Draycott Foliat, Elcombe, Hannington, Highworth, Hinton Parva, Hodson, Inglesham, Langton Park, Liddington, Overtown, Red Barn, South Leaze, South Marston, Stanton Fitzwarren, Stratton St Margaret, Thorney Park, Wanborough, West Leaze, Wroughton.

Other Towns and Villages: we deliver to Wootton Bassett, Purton, Lydiard Millicent, Bushton, Clyffe Pypard, Tockenham, Broad Town, Cricklade, Latton, Ashton Keynes, Shrivenham, Watchfield, Bourton, Idstone, Ashbury & Kingston Winslow.

We **DO NOT** deliver to any other location.

Thank you everyone for supporting us; especially the local businesses for housing our boxes and selling stamps! A wonderful contribution.

Cricklade Band

Autumn Table Top Sale

The fundraising arm of The Cricklade Band - that's our 'Crew' - will be holding the usual Autumn Table Top Sale on Saturday 20 November. Only this time it's not so usual!

It's going to be at The Club at Cricklade from 11.00am to 1.00pm.

If you're a Table Top seller, please give Val or Rob a call on 01793 750516 to book your table at just £5.00. Setting up is from 9.30am.

If you're a Table Top browser, who knows what you might find? Although the band itself will have our now famous cake array, tea, coffee and a raffle.

And whether you're a seller or a browser why not start the day off well with a hearty Club Breakfast, from 9.30 and at £4.50 you might just have room for some cake at the Table Top Sale afterwards – see you then!



OPEN EVENING - 23 SEPTEMBER 2010:



The evening was very well attended with a full hall for the first session and an overflowing hall for the second session. It was an incredibly busy evening which ran very smoothly thanks to all the staff and students involved. Every area of the school presented activities, displays, performances and experiments, providing an informative and interesting evening for prospective parents and pupils. The staff and

a large number of students were on hand to help, guide and answer questions. Visitors were able to experience the various facets that make Bradon Forest such a happy and successful school and initial feedback has been extremely positive.

This year over 300 students helped (approximately 28% of school roll) as guides, subject area helpers, display organisers and as car park marshals. Visiting parents were universally complimentary about the students that they met.

Open Mornings: Our run of Open Mornings was very well attended by Year 6 parents and pupils. The tours lasted 45/50 minutes and gave parents and Year 6 visitors the opportunity to visit all classrooms and to ask Bradon Forest students any questions. The mornings finished with a question and answer session with myself and senior staff. Parents and prospective students were able to see the school in session, which we believe is a vital component in helping families to make a judgement regarding the choice of a secondary school.

WORLD CHALLENGE – ROMANIA TRIP – JULY 2010

The Bradon Forest World Challenge trip to Romania was very successful. Well done to all the Year 10 (now Year 11) students involved. Mr Stiles and Mr Lemin report:

“Twelve months ago an enthusiastic group of Year 10 students started fundraising for what one student described as ‘the best experience of her life’. Demonstrating exceptional resourcefulness the group raised thousands of pounds between them organising a wide variety of initiatives including creating and selling recipe books, arranging sponsored events, cake sales, bag packing and much more to send themselves to Romania.

The two-week trip was divided into four stages, acclimatisation, hiking, a community project and finally some much needed rest and relaxation. The



team were in charge of all aspects of the trip from the moment we left school bleary eyed at one in the morning. Specifically they were each responsible on different days for leading the group, managing the budget, buying supplies, cooking all food, organising any in-country transport, and liaising with local Romanian contacts to ensure that the expedition ran smoothly.

Whilst negotiating a strange town, looking for supplies and practising their basic Romanian felt challenging enough on day one, the next six days of hiking soon put that into perspective. The team showed incredible team spirit helping each other along the way and putting up with Mr Lemin's singing. They hiked for up to 18 km a day carrying their packs, surrounded by amazing wildlife including a bear on day one! They hiked in varied and stunning countryside, passing through remote villages that were barely accessible by road, pitching their tents and cooking dinner in the evening.

Finally the group arrived in Brasov for their Community Project, based at a children's hospice, where they built a fence around the garden and designed and painted beautiful murals to decorate the ground floor corridor. They were so dedicated to their task that they chose to give up one of their rest and relaxation days when it became apparent that they would not be able to finish their projects in the time allowed. The hospice staff were overwhelmed by the students' talent and hard work. An incredible experience with an incredible group."

SWINDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB – BRADON NEWS!

This year only two members of the Swindon Town Youth Academy were given professional contracts as members of the first team squad at Swindon Town. These were Will Evans (*right*) and Billy Bodin (*far right*) who joined the Swindon Town youth programme as eight year olds nearly a decade ago. Both were successful members of the Bradon Forest football and basketball squads and we are delighted with their well deserved success.



Bradon Forest is further represented in the new Swindon Town set up as Kate Cady (*left*), another ex-Bradon Forest student, has been appointed as Head of Sports Therapy for the club. Kate is the sister of Jennifer Purcell who is our Arts Manager and Publicity Officer.

We are delighted for Will, Billy and Kate and arrangements are underway for a group of current Bradon Forest students to visit the club, for Kate and the boys to come in for assemblies and PE lessons, plus there will be an opportunity for current Bradon Forest students to attend some future Swindon Town matches at a reduced price with an opportunity to have a look behind the scenes. Further details in future issues.

L SPIERS, Headteacher
