

# Purton Magazine



*Purton Walking Group's second outing.  
See [page 29](#)*

April 2011

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 &amp; Fri 2-5pm &amp; 6-8pm Weds 10am-1pm &amp; 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
<b>Schools and Play Groups:</b>		
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](http://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

Our sister publication – in as much as it is also produced and printed by In Touch Services – has found fame in the pages of The Sunday Times. The Lydiards Magazine features an obituary most months but, according to BBC Wiltshire Online, its editor Constance Reed (who is also a regular contributor to Purton Magazine) is finding it hard to keep it going. She is quoted as saying that it would be useful if people would prepare their own obituaries before they die.

Constance's conundrum only highlights the contents of our very own Age Concern contribution every month from Tony Price. Hardly a month passes without a detailed and thoughtful description of someone in our community who had recently passed away, providing some very interesting backgrounds of older lives to younger readers.

This month, older readers might be interested to read on [page 6](#), about how the Wiltshire Council is currently developing a new strategy to deal with the aging population, especially as the number of people over the age of 65 in the County is said to grow by some 56% in the next 15 years.

However, dominating the news at the moment are the horrific details of the Japanese earthquake and resultant tsunami. It is known that several Purton people have visited Japan whether on business or pleasure and will doubtless have noticed the calm orderliness of lives lived there. The gentle kindness of many Japanese people will have been so rudely shattered by recent events and that usual calmness only seems to magnify the misery that has erupted on them.

The pictures on the news programmes of the destructive power of the tsunami are both awesome and frightening at the same time. The ease and speed with which cars, lorries and even ships are tossed aside almost make them look like mini-matchbox toys in some sort of gigantic bath-time game. What were urban roads resemble rivers of wood and other debris now that the water has subsided.

The human tragedy is terrifying to contemplate; trying to find missing family members and recover anything personal when complete houses have just been washed away must simply be heartbreaking. The numbers of people affected might almost too large to have any real meaning in communities of our size and scale – but our thoughts are still with them.

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The logo for Purton Magazine, featuring the word 'Purton' in a large, stylized serif font with 'Magazine' written in a smaller, simpler font underneath it.

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Magazine Committee

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

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### **Advertising enquiries and copy for contributions**

*by 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, please*

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

### **Distribution enquiries only:**

[John Creasey](#)

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

**Also on line at [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk)**

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## Parish Council News



**Resignation** – We are sorry to say that Godfrey Fowler will be standing down as a Councillor on the 31 March 2011 due to other commitments. Godfrey has been a Councillor for nine years, six of which were as Chairman of the Parish Council; he is currently the Vice Chairman of Council. He will be greatly missed and has made a worthwhile lasting contribution to the management and development of the Parish Council. The Parish Council wishes him well for the future.

If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor then please contact the Parish Council Office for an information pack. With the introduction of the new Localism Bill which is said to be aimed at devolving services to a local level now is a good time to get involved.

**Community/Parish Plan** – The Parish Council is at the early stages of looking to develop a community plan for our parish. A lot of work was undertaken in 2000 with the Village Appraisal which you may recall that a questionnaire was circulated to all properties and a range of questions asked. From that, focus groups were formed with residents and Councillors working together to find ways of working through some of the issues raised. Following on from that a Village Design Statement was started in 2003; it was never completed, although a lot of work was done on it, mainly because at that time the District Council was not supportive of the initiative. With the new Localism Bill on the horizon and the talk of Neighbourhood plans the Parish Council has decided that it is time to look at bringing all the information it has gathered together since 2000 and look at the way forwarding to update this information and developing a Community Plan. In order for the Community Plan to be a true reflection of the wishes of the community local residents will need to engage in the process. If you would like to be involved in this project which we hope will look in depth at our community, what we want for the future and realistically how this can be achieved we would like to hear from you, any ideas you have to help with this project would be most appreciated.

**Wiltshire Good Neighbours** – Claire Cammgood has been appointed as Purton and Braydon's local Coordinator by Community First/Wiltshire Council. Her role is to assist older vulnerable residents to access services and advice. She can visit you at home and put you in touch with services who can help on a wide range of issues including: Transport for shopping and health related visits, where to get financial advice about benefits, consumer problems, local social clubs and meetings, befriending services and home security, safety, repairs and adaptations. Claire can be contacted on 07557110414 or email [gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk)

**Purton Library** – If you would like to volunteer to help run Purton Library then please put your name forward. An application form is available from either the Library or the Parish Council Office. Training will be given and CRB checks carried out by Wiltshire Council. The changes will come into effect in September 2011 so as many people as possible need to come forward to keep Purton Library a viable option.

Wiltshire Libraries offer a Home Library Service for residents unable to access

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their local library and who have no friend or relative who can do this on their behalf. The service is provided through a team of volunteers who are able to bring books, many in large print and audio CDs to people of any age unable to leave their home and visit the library themselves. The service is for those who are disabled, blind or partially sighted, suffering from a long illness or the elderly and frail. Initially a member of the library staff visits potential customers in their homes and talks to them about their reading requirements after which they will visit with a library volunteer who will call every few weeks to exchange books. If you would like the home service contact Purton library on 01793 770870 or phone Wootton Bassett Library on 01793 853249.

**Older People Development Strategy** – Wiltshire Council is currently developing a new strategy to deal with the aging population of the County. The number of people over the age of 65 is said to be due to grow by around 56% between now and 2026 and cases of dementia will increase by around 59% by 2025. During this period Wiltshire County is projected to spend £3.3 billion on care for older people in facilities that will become increasingly unfit for purpose. Hence the new strategy is being developed to modernise the way older people's accommodation is provided. In the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area which includes Purton the recently produced leaflet by Wiltshire Council states that over the next ten years, the Council will be helping to provide in this area 64 bed care home for people with dementia, 63 bed nursing home, 45 unit extra care scheme and 40 unit extra care scheme in Cricklade. It is possible that the main accommodation will be provided in Wootton Bassett and Cricklade so the future of accommodation such as The Cedars in Purton is currently under threat of closure. Also Housing Association properties are under review. The Parish Council is talking to Wiltshire Council about the developing strategy with a view to keeping facilities available in Purton. If you want further information on the strategy then please contact Karen Jones on 01225 713956 or email [Karen.jones@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Karen.jones@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**The following planning applications have been approved by Wiltshire Council:**

- N11/00196/FUL    *The Bell Inn, Purton Stoke*, single storey side extension  
N10/04584/FUL    *26 Restrop View*, replacement of existing flat roofs with pitched  
N10/03064/FUL    *Forest View (Plot 1), Land to the rear of 21 Upper Pavenhill*,  
extension to conservatory & new roof light

**How to contact the Parish Council:**

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

email address: [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk)

Website [www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/purtonparishcouncil](http://www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/purtonparishcouncil)

**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.

## Purton Luncheon Club

Purton Luncheon Club will be holding its Annual General meeting at the Silver Threads Hall on Tuesday 26 April at 10.30am



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## News from the Trustees

### **The Village Hall**

We are concerned about the funding through hirings for the Village Hall complex. The cost of hire has been looked at and it was felt that, if we charged by the hour, it might help the hirers as well as the Trustees. Here are the new prices as a rough guideline:-

- A Community rate     £11 per hour, £12.50 when only one hour booked.
- B Public rate            £15 per hour
- C Function rate         £17 per hour.
- D Commercial rate     £25 per hour.

Then we have a list of special rates which you can get on enquiring – the number is 01793 778351.

Staying with the Village Hall, the committee has looked at ways of running events to fund raise, a beer festival or a farmer's market were two suggestions put forward but, after giving it a great deal of thought, it was felt that we didn't have the expertise to run either of these, but if anybody else feels they would like to give it a go, they would be most welcome.

We have had some good news on the kitchen front, that we should be in line for a grant through Community First and the Landfill Tax. When you apply for this money you have to have a sponsor to put up about 10% of the money you are applying for. Well, it was mentioned to Tony Webber that we were trying to revamp the kitchen at the Village Hall and had applied for a landfill grant but needed someone to come up with sponsorship and he said that they were looking to do something in memory of his father Peter, so he had a think about it and came back with a letter to Community First to say he would be the third party so as to speak, so we are sincerely grateful to Tony and his family for this kind gesture. We also thank Shirley, our clerk, for being in the right place at the right time and let's not forget the other ladies in the office for preparing the application, so hopefully we can move forward with this project. We just await the outcome of our application to the Area 2 board.

### **Purton War Memorial and Village Centre**

We have finally fixed the water leak – it was very difficult to find as it was under the bank by the original entrance down onto the football pitch. I suppose being there, it soaked away rather than coming to the top. We secretly thought the Clubs were using excessive water somewhere along the way but all is well now.

As with the Village Hall, prices have been reviewed at the Centre as follows:-

- Millennium Hall community rate £10.50 per hour, £12 when only one hour is booked, public rate £13 per hour, function rate £14 per hour, commercial rate £20 per hour.
- Bowls Pavilion            £9 per hour.
- Tennis Pavilion         £7 per hour.
- Discount terms            this applies to all bookings of ten hirings or more paid in advance – 5% discount.

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We will keep on with hirings – as you know, the public tennis court at the Centre has been resurfaced and is available for hire at £4.50 per hour. As before, you can hire them at the Best One shop at the Lower Square. Could I thank the new owners for continuing where Jenny and Terry left off and we hope they will be very happy and successful in Purton. It is nice that we are not seeing another shop closing.

Of course, we are indebted to Jenny, Terry and all their staff for kindly taking the bookings for the public tennis court over all the years they have been at Harford House. Could I also thank them most sincerely on behalf of the village for being there for us. It could not have been easy at times but Jenny, Terry and their staff were always friendly, kind and most helpful and we hope they enjoy their semi retirement without the worry of the shop. THANK YOU.

*TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees*

## Wiltshire Good Neighbours in Purton & Braydon

Wiltshire Good Neighbours is a new, free service for rural communities within the county run by Community First in partnership with Age UK Wiltshire and is funded by Wiltshire Council. Through Good Neighbour Co-ordinators our aim is to assist older residents of rural communities access the services and information they need in order to live a safe, comfortable, fulfilling and independent life.

Purton and Braydon are already exceptionally well serviced by many wonderful volunteers working in the community to enhance the lives of older residents. The Good Neighbour service has been designed to run alongside and complement these fantastic services by bringing together information on all the local and regional services which can benefit the lives of these residents. My role as Co-ordinator for this parish is to visit such people in their own homes and after discussing what support they might want, assist them to explore what extra help they could be accessing – be it the fitting of a smoke detector or a stair lift; a home-based eye or hearing test; or debt and benefits advice, for example. I can put you in touch with valuable sources of help or give you the information to do so yourself and I will follow up with you to see that you are satisfied with the service you have received.

I'm just a phone call away – or catch me at the Luncheon Club. I look forward to meeting you soon.

*CLAIRE CAMMGOOD, Neighbour Co-ordinator Purton & Braydon*

*Tel: 07557110414*

*email: [gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk)*

## Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in Dogridge, Orchard Gardens, Waterfield, Ringsbury, and Restrop View. 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.

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## Purton & District Age Concern



I would like to pay tribute to a lady who had died recently and that is Mrs Joan Richardson of Lydiard. She was born at 12 Lydiard Green on 8 December 1917 to proud parents Selina and Ernest Brewer. She had two sisters – May and Ursula – and two brothers Dennis and Colin. Joan's father was a policeman during the First World War and after that he worked for Grampy Brewer at Greenhill Farm. She only had the one grampy but she did have two grannies – granny Brewer and granny Compton who was a widow – Joan used to stay with her a lot. Being the eldest, Joan would help out a lot with her brothers and sisters but they were a happy family. Joan went to Lydiard school until she was twelve and then moved on to Purton school, where she stayed until she was fourteen. I expect in those days they would walk to school – quite a way from Lydiard Green.

Joan left school at the age of fourteen and went straight into service with Miss Storey Maskelyne who lived in the High Street at Purton. It is where Sheila's mum and dad lived and all the bell pushes in the front rooms fascinated me. I assume Miss Maskelyne would push the buttons for service – I tried it but it didn't work for me! Did girls in those days go into service as a sort of apprenticeship because Joan always praised Miss Maskelyne for teaching her all the things about being in service, like laying the table, waiting at the table and how to address people etc. She stayed there for three years, then her grandfather met someone at Chippenham market who suggested she applied for a post that was going at Great Missenden. She applied, got the job and worked for a Mrs Spinney. She had a good home there although she must have found it a bit daunting going away from home at the age of seventeen. It was there that she met Frank, her husband. This came about as Frank's dad was head gardener at Mrs Spinney's and asked Joan if she would like to go to tea with his family. They made her very welcome and after a while, when Joan was nineteen, Frank and Joan started courting. Joan stayed at Mrs Spinney's for three years and then moved back to Lydiard to work at The Grove where she lived in. Frank used to come and see her as often as he could, riding his bike all the way from Great Missenden, then he would stay for a couple of days and ride back. Talk about love finding a way – it certainly did then.

Frank joined the army but still got to see Joan as often as he could and they married on 17 May 1941. Joan went from 12 Lydiard Green to Lydiard Church followed by a reception at The Grove, home of the Bliss family. They went to Great Missenden for two nights' honeymoon as Frank was sent for and had to go abroad and Joan went back to Lydiard. Frank was reported missing while on active service. It must have been a terrible time for Joan, then out of the blue, after six months, came a War Office notice saying that he had been taken prisoner in Salerno, Italy. He was then taken to Dresden and she received a few notes from him – what a relief that must have been. It was always full house at The Grove, with servicemen and evacuees – Mr and Mrs Bliss were very kind people, always prepared to help out and, of course, Joan looked after everyone while they were there. Apart from looking after a houseful at The Grove, she helped out with finding suitable accommodation for the

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evacuees, helped out at the canteen for soldiers stationed at Lydiard and worked with the Red Cross. During that time she met two members of the Royal Family – it makes you tired to think about all the work she did.

She received a letter one day to say that Frank was coming home and Mrs Bliss immediately gave Joan five pounds and sent her on her way to see him. They did value Joan's service, in fact when the Blissés moved from Lydiard to Lymington, Joan and Frank used to go and house sit for them when they went away. After The Grove, Joan went to Lydiard House and stayed there for twenty years working for Mr and Mrs Smith. Frank left the army in 1945 and Joan's parents moved out of 12 Lydiard Green and Frank and Joan moved in. Their holidays then were always to Great Missenden to see Frank's mum. There must have been great joy when Norman was born in April 1946 and Stephen in March 1953. Later on in life, she had so much joy from her six grandchildren and four great grandchildren. When Norman was old enough he bought a car and they would all go out on picnics along with my cousin Richard and his family, pulling into an open gateway, spreading out a blanket and having a feast. I know it would be a feast because my aunty was a brilliant cook the same as Joan – my mouth is already watering. Then for holidays they would get into the car and off to Weston they would go and spend a week in a caravan. Thinking of the cooking side, which I know she did a lot of for various functions, and her sister May was a great cook too – did this stem from their mother? Still, when they were at Lydiard Green they didn't have far to go for their meat, only across the road to butcher Howard's shop. Probably what they bought they had seen running in the field the week before as I think he killed his own animals. He even had his own bowls green at the back – the type you used to see at fetes when they were bowling for a pig. Perhaps he used to get plenty of practice, go to the fetes and win the pig for his shop. Sorry I'm rambling again.

Frank died in 1984 – he was a great community man, serving on the Parish Council along with the likes of Ted Wicks. If anything wanted doing Frank and Ted would get on and do it, not talk about it. Joan carried on with Frank's allotment – she was such a hard worker – she was a bell ringer, ringing in several towers in the area, but I would think her proudest moment was ringing at Lydiard to celebrate the victory after the last war. She loved her Church at Lydiard and she was in the choir, a member of the Mothers' Union and the PCC and was a great organiser. If Joan was involved in any event, particularly with the catering, you didn't have to worry. She was a great Red Cross person – did this stem from all the ambulances that were in the camp at the end of Bagbury Lane – some of the old huts are still there. The Red Cross ladies were billeted there and they used to set off to Down Ampney most nights in their ambulances to take the wounded to various parts of the country. You can imagine those ladies driving through the night with a little slit for a light and no sign posts.

One occasion some people looked forward to was a long time ago when Canon Willis was vicar of Purton and those of us who remember from those days know it was a very high Church, strictly C of E. Some Purton Methodists used to ask if they could join in the Midnight Mass at Lydiard. Well the answer was always yes and part of the occasion was that they would go back to Joan

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and Frank's for refreshments including Joan's homemade mince pies – what an ambassador she was.

Fourteen years ago Joan moved into The Cedars but that didn't stop her interest in Lydiard. She would always ask Joe Ricketts 'What's new?' when he called on her or was driving the minibus she was travelling in, especially on the befriending trips to Battlelake Farm for tea at Vicky and Doug Fowler's which she enjoyed so much. I feel it is an honour and a pleasure to have known such an interesting and talented lady and our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this sad time. We thank them most sincerely for donations being shared between the British Heart Foundation and Purton and District Age Concern. As I am putting the finishing touches to my piece, I have just come back from Joan's funeral at Lydiard and would like to say what a lovely service it was, a fitting tribute for Joan and a credit to those taking part, especially the vicar.

The people in Glevum Close have had a very sad time lately – I am speaking of the death of Mary Adams – a lovely kind lady who has had a very hard life although, when you met her you wouldn't realise that as there was no bitterness in Mary, but what an interesting person she was to talk to. When I said about it being a sad time it is, of course, much worse for the close family and friends, especially Dick, her husband, Dick's daughter and Adrian, who they called their adopted son and I know, from what I have heard, he could not have treated them better had they been his natural parents.

Mary was born at Lea and her maiden name was Westmacott. She had three brothers and two sisters – one sister died when she was quite young. Sadly Mary got dropped when she was quite small, hence the reason for an iron on her leg for a period of time when she was young which left her with a limp. The family moved onto a farm at the end of Bicknoll Lane – this is the lane opposite the Sally Pussey's pub. Mary went to Wootton Bassett School – just imagine walking all that way, especially with an iron on your leg. Knowing Mary though, I expect she was glad to be able to go to school. As I have said, Mary had a hard life workwise and more was to come as her sister had moved away with her husband's job – I believe he was a policeman – and then her mother died. This left Mary as chief cook and bottle washer on a farm during war time, with all the outside work, then preparing food and cooking it for her dad, three brothers, two Italian prisoners of war and two land girls – some task!

Later on, her dad retired from farming and they moved to the last house along Upper Pavenhill – Hillcrest – just by the gate before the farm. It had quite a bit of land on it and they kept chickens. Mary was also delivering papers for Peter Webber – his wife Joyce was Mary's cousin – and she was getting frustrated as the chicken houses needed repairing and the wire mesh runs were falling down. In desperation she said to Lil Baker, "Do you know anyone who would do some repairs for me?" So Lil suggested that she asked Dick Adams, who lived by the old water tower on the corner by Ringsbury Close (although there was no Ringsbury Close then). Well, Mary plucked up courage to ask Dick and he readily agreed, hence this is how they fell in love. Was Mary holding the nails while Dick hit them – I don't know, but what I do know is that they were a very devoted couple.

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After getting married they moved to a smallholding at Cotmarsh over by Broadtown and later on they came back Purton way, taking a smallholding opposite the Bolingbroke Arms. This is when Adrian came on the scene, helping out evenings and weekends. I should think they needed some help, with Dick working full time in the GWR. It must have been lovely for Mary and Dick to have a nice reliable young man around the place and I am sure they appreciated their unadopted son. Mary must have enjoyed the company when Dick was at work.

When they retired they moved to Glevum Close, Purton, where they were very happy. I bet they found it difficult to settle down as they were both workers. One of Mary's joys was her car and she also went over to Australia to see her sister. She loved her garden and if there weren't flowers outside she would always have a pot plant in her conservatory in flower. She loved visitors and was always a very good conversationalist so people loved to visit her and Dick. Another of Mary's qualities was that she loved to help others, although she was a little independent herself. She loved doing the crossword and, if anyone was working there, she would make them a drink and out would come the crossword which they would do during the tea break.

Mary, as I said, was very kind, helping out at Wootton Bassett lunch club (or was it Meals on Wheels then?) but I think her greatest achievement was helping the WRVS at the old Princess Margaret hospital in the kiosk, serving tea, coffee etc. She did this for seventeen and a half years and was the proud owner of a certificate and rightly so. We say goodbye to Mary and thank her for the person she was and sincerely hope that Dick's health will improve – our thoughts and prayers are with him and the family and friends – and we thank you all for your generous donations shared between the Prospect Hospice and our Minibus Fund.

Now a bit of cheerful news – could I on behalf of us all offer Maureen and Arthur Griffin belated congratulations on the occasion of their golden wedding. Maureen and Arthur have been connected with Age Concern for many years and what an asset they have been. Maureen first started off as a street warden, then became involved on our committee, bringing Arthur with her. Age Concern has never looked back since that day and, of course, Maureen became our treasurer with Arthur as an unofficial vice-treasurer. What a great team they are – I often speak about the backbone of our organisation, well it is people like Maureen and Arthur I am talking about. It is hard to find words to justify their importance to Purton Age Concern over the years. All I am going to say is that it is their input that has made us the organisation we are today, so you can draw your own conclusions from that.

Mind, it has not been all work and no play. What about all the Carnival floats we did in Age Concern – Maureen and Arthur were always to the fore with ideas and the work side of it, they were perfectionists right down to the last detail and it was not only Purton we went in but Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury and Pewsey – but my word we did have some fun! We are so lucky with the committee we have in Age Concern – people will bring suggestions to meetings and if we decide to go ahead, that person will look into the whys and wherefores and Maureen and Arthur are such people. This is what sums them up on the occasion of their celebration – they unselfishly said they did not want presents but donations would be appreciated to

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the Wiltshire Air Ambulance or the Prospect Hospice – what a kind thought. Our committee felt they would like to do something a little personal for their years of work, kindness and generosity to Age Concern so I had the honour and pleasure of presenting them with a bouquet of flowers at their celebration party (and what a lovely party it was) as a small token of our appreciation for everything and, what we value most of all, their friendship. Could I just quote a little saying which is true of Maureen and Arthur – ‘a friend in need is a friend indeed’ – they are very kind to those that need it.

We have had a very successful fundraising event with our jumble sale – this is the best one we have had, I don’t know about ‘ever’ but for many a long time. A lot of that is down to the kind gentleman who gave us a lot of new underwear to sell. We will have some more on our Easter market stall at the Pavenhill shops, so many thanks to all concerned for that.

I may as well go on to tell you about the market stall we are having on Easter Saturday, 23 April. It will be like the Christmas one, with sausage tasting of Andrew’s finest Wiltshire sausages, a cake stall, bric a brac and an Easter raffle. I suppose the only things we will not sell is clothing (unless it is new) or useless items. As usual, anything for the stall would be greatly appreciated and we hope you will come along, enjoy a sausage and find a bargain.

Still on the fundraising front, we are holding a 3 B’s evening again at the Silver Threads Hall on Friday 8 April at 7.30pm, cost £6 for your meal, bingo books to be bought on the night. If last year was anything to go by, it was a very enjoyable evening. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be on sale, but if you would like anything stronger, please bring your own.

You might not be too late for our first mystery tour on Wednesday 6 April, 10am start with lunch included. Give me a ring on 770696 if you are interested. You will be in plenty of time for the next one which is on Wednesday 4 May, 2pm start, with tea included. Names to your street wardens by 25 April. These trips are good value for money, £10, or £12.50 for outsiders. Please note, we subsidise these trips, hence we haven’t yet put the cost up, so why not give it a try.

On another note, we have the offer of a straight stair lift, right hand, 13ft long and the make is Stannah, which I am told is one of the best makes there is. I bet you all notice I haven’t gone metric yet!

We have had notification that there is a handy van available from Age UK for any small jobs and this is the number to ring 0845 026 1055, You pay for the material and the labour is free. This is for small jobs like fixing loose carpets, changing a light bulb, putting up curtain rails, shelves and pictures, moving small items of furniture, tiling small areas, re-hanging doors or any sort of similar type of job. The qualification is that you have under £20,000 in the bank and you are over 60 years of age.

Another scheme we have notification about is the Wiltshire Good Neighbours scheme. The wording states ‘We are here to assist older, vulnerable residents of rural communities to access services across Wiltshire’. The telephone number for this is 07557 110414.

*TONY PRICE*

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## Exhibit of the Month: A Milk Churn

This month's exhibit is a milk churn. It is a galvanised steel, conical vessel which would have held 17 gallons of milk, a design that was introduced in the 1870s and continued in use up until the 1930s when it was replaced with a cylindrical type with a mushroom shaped lid that held 10 gallons. Although the churn has two handles on the side, a full churn was very heavy – 10 gallons weighs 100lb or 45 kilograms ... plus the weight of the churn itself! So the usual practice was to tilt the churn and roll it rather than carrying it.

Churns would be filled on the farm and transported by cart to a collection point where the cart from the dairy



would collect them together with those from other farms. At the start of The Hyde is a concrete platform (left) which was the collection point for Quarry Farm.

At the dairy, the milk from many farms would be mixed together and then separated into milk, cream etc, treated and bottled. The churns would be cleaned out and returned to the farms on the next collection run. Our churn

gives the dairy name in blue lettering around the top as "Hodson Dairy, Swindon".

As cows are milked twice a day, and on-site storage on the farms was rudimentary, there would be two collections a day, so quite an involved process.

Today, with chilled storage tanks at the farms, collections are once per day and by road tanker. The tanker drives up to the farm, connects a sterilised hose to the farm's storage tank and pumps the milk into its tank, which already contains milk from other farms visited earlier on the collection run.

There will as always be clearer pictures on the website at [www.purtonmuseum.com](http://www.purtonmuseum.com).

*RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer*

The Museum is located above the library and open during library hours:  
Tues & Fri: 2-5pm & 6-8pm Wed: 10am-1pm & 2-5pm

## Purton Silver Threads

We will be starting a new year at the end of April and there is plenty planned, so why not come along and join – 60 plus and you are eligible. If you would like to find out more why not have a chat (tel 770251) and Pauline will tell you all. Hope you will come along.

*PAULINE WARD*

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## Green Tips – Public Footpaths not Public Fields



Purton is criss-crossed with public footpaths, bridleways and byways. The Parish Council has maps available to purchase which show the definitive rights of way around the area. The Parish also has a very active group who maintain the stiles and paths so that the routes of the paths are easily identified and accessible where possible. Walking and using the routes has helped to keep the paths clear and keeps the paths for use over the generations.

For many moving into the village, part of that move is to be able to enjoy the open countryside and to walk the paths. Many of the paths are ancient routes, originally for local people to move from one farm to another, to access the village and routes to Church. The Enclosure Awards in 1738 and 1799 meant that much of the Common Land was awarded to private landowners however it also reinforced many of the pathways and byways giving rights for the people to pass over land. The transcript of the original Purton Awards can be found at The Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre at Chippenham

[http://history.wiltshire.gov.uk/archives/archive\\_search.php?subject\\_in=ENCLOSURE/Awards](http://history.wiltshire.gov.uk/archives/archive_search.php?subject_in=ENCLOSURE/Awards)

However, the public only have a right to pass along the route of the path and not to stray around the fields. It is only if the landowner gives permission can you stray from the path. The path may be public but the fields and land around are not. Bicycles cannot be used on public footpaths, only on bridleways and byways.

The village seems to have a large population of dog owners who use the fields as general exercise routes and unfortunately a few have the habit of not picking up the dog excrement. The paths are for the benefit for all and it is not pleasant to see dog fouling anywhere. All dog excrement should always be picked up no matter where it is deposited, especially in areas where the public have access – this include the fields and woodland. The Dog Warden is regularly in the village and can issue on-the-spot fixed penalty notices and refer offenders for prosecution. The maximum fine is £1,000. Also by wandering through and all around fields, and allowing dogs to romp and defecate through crops, to include the hay crop (grass fields) may cause damage and loss of income to the landowners.

In 2000 a new Act came in – The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 - CRoW. This Act gives 'Rights to Roam' but only applies to certain land and does not include private fields, farmland and privately owned woodland. The Act gives the public the conditional right to walk in certain areas of the English and Welsh countryside: principally downland, moorland, heathland and coastal land. Further information may be found at <http://www.ramblers.org.uk/freedom> and <http://www.ramblers.org.uk/Resources/Ramblers%20Association/AccessFactSheet-FS8.pdf>

Another useful code to understand is the Countryside Code which is important for anyone who uses rural footpaths. The Code applies to all parts of the countryside. Most of it is just good commonsense, designed to help us all to respect, protect and enjoy our countryside. There are five principal points:

- 
- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs;
  - Leave gates and property as you find them;
  - Protect plants and animals and take your litter home;
  - Keep dogs under close control; and,
  - Consider other people.

The Code, which applies in England and Wales, makes it clear what the responsibilities are for both the public and the people who manage the land. Further information is at:

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/countrysidecode/default.aspx>.

It is always important to be aware of livestock in fields, especially cattle and more so when they have offspring. The advice is:

- Avoid walking in fields where cattle are, especially if you have a dog with you; and,
- If you are entering a field where there are cattle, be aware of them, keep to the footpaths where possible and note your position and exit from the field should you need to leave quickly.

<http://www.go4awalk.com/the-bunkhouse/how-to/how-to.php?howto=720166> gives useful advice.

Remember too when walking or running on rural roads, or any road with no pavement, to keep where possible to the right hand side, facing oncoming traffic. All too often walkers are seen walking with their backs to traffic. This should only happen in extreme situations or when it is unsafe to be on the right hand side of the road (such as on “inside” bends).

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](http://www.purtoninfo.org.uk)

## World Challenge Fund Raising

Thank you to everybody that purchased my Film Quiz sheet, and hope you enjoyed doing it. I had a variety of answers, some of which I hadn’t heard of. The winner was Paula Allen who got the most correct 47 out of 49, well done Paula.

*GEORGE GRIFFIN*

A big thank-you to everybody who came along to our Pop Quiz on 4 March. It was a fun night and was very profitable towards our funds for Morocco. The night wouldn’t have been such a success without John and Jill Beattie and Stuart Allinson who were the quiz masters who added a fun aspect to the evening, along with our families who did the bar, catering and work behind the scenes. We have had a lot of positive feed back from the evening and are thinking of holding another one some time in the autumn, so watch this space!

*GEORGE GRIFFIN, NATHAN HILES and GEORGE DUBMAN*

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## First G4P presentation is a success!

Well we think so! We do not have the exact figure but about 100 people turned out, from Purton, Cricklade and surrounding areas, to hear what your PPG (Patient Participation Group) is all about. We nearly ran out of chairs!

A huge thank-you to all those who came, we really appreciate that you took the time. The evening consisted of a short presentation, followed by a question and answer session. If the success of the evening is measured in questions, then it truly was a success.

We will select just one topic to include here, we will inform you all about the other points raised in the next few weeks. Keep an eye on the G4P notice board in the Surgery.

**Missed appointments** ... 39 were missed in January alone. One question was, is it possible to send a text to remind people, similar to that used by some dentists?

This is a little tricky because the Surgery could fall foul of confidentiality, an important consideration in anything they do. For those of you with mobile phones willing to have a text reminder, we would need your written permission. Keeping the number up to date would also be an issue, the same applies to emails. Contacting everyone by telephone would occupy someone in the surgery for a considerable time, taking them away from other duties.

G4P is a partnership, between patients and the Surgery and is intended to ...

- allow feedback on the patient perspective;
- help the practice to make the most effective use of its resources;
- improve communication;
- help to promote good health;
- influence decisions about which services are provided; and
- offer practical support to the practice.

The Surgery is keen to improve the service offered, but patients also have to take a measure of responsibility, which includes attending appointments. For example some phones have a diary section with an alarm, perhaps this could be set when you make the appointment?

Having said all that, with the best will in the world it is easy to overlook an appointment in any area of life, so G4P will discuss with the Surgery some options, and we will let you know when we have something in place.

Having made a start we do not want to lose momentum. We hope to introduce a newsletter as soon as we can, but our main method of communication at present is the magazines and our notice board in the Surgery. Electronic communication may take a little longer.

If you would like to receive a copy of our newsletters etc by email, then please let a member of the Committee know this, or alternatively leave it at the Surgery in an envelope marked ... *'For the attention of Kim'*.

The Acorn has been planted, let's hope a strong Oak is the result.

COLIN FREEMANTLE on behalf of G4P

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# WHAT'S ON?

## The Royal British Legion Purton Branch ...

presents its **Annual Concert** at Bradon Forest School on **Saturday 2 April at 7.30pm**, with the **Cricklade Band** and **Ten in a Bar**. Tickets, price £5 each, are available from Legion committee members or on the door. The evening includes a raffle and light refreshments.



## Swindon Choral Society

### Supporting charity through enjoyment of singing

Swindon Choral Society will be performing a charity concert in aid of BUILD (Building Understanding through International Links for Development) on **9 April 2011**, starting at **7.30pm** in **Marlborough College Chapel**.



The choir, conducted by local composer Robin Nelson, will be performing Beethoven's Missa Solemnis, supported by Reading Symphony Orchestra, and soloists Elizabeth Roberts, Janet Shell, Paul Bradley & Christopher Foster.

Tickets will be available from March 1st in Brian Taylor Music (Wootton Bassett), Swindon Information Centre and The White Horse Bookshop in Marlborough.

We are a friendly society of around 120 singers and welcome enquiries from prospective new members. Further information can be found on the society's website [www.swindonchoral.org.uk](http://www.swindonchoral.org.uk). The society has also recently released a CD called "Lift Up Your Heads" which is available at concerts and from the website.

Further information about BUILD is available on [www.build-online.org.uk](http://www.build-online.org.uk)

## Cricklade Coffee Club for the visually impaired

### Forthcoming 2011 dates for your diary:

19 April 17 May 21 June 19 July

All are from 10.30 to about 12.00 at the United Church Hall, Calcut Street, Cricklade. For further details please contact Jess at the Wiltshire Blind Association on 01380 723682.



## New Forest & Hampshire County Show: 26 - 28 July 2011

It is getting towards that time of year again – time to think about buying your tickets for the Show while the 20% discount is available. If you are a business and wish to book a stand at the Show or hospitality to celebrate that anniversary or to reward your best clients, please call the office on 01590 622400. This year we are pleased to have secured the return of Jamie Squibb and his amazing motorbike stunt performance. The Solent Dog Display team, and one of the most popular areas, the Show Farm are back and there is also a new poultry section. Come and enjoy this wonderful Agricultural Show, full of events and all day entertainment for all the

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family. For enquiries, bookings or tickets, ring 01590 622409 or visit [www.newforestshow.co.uk](http://www.newforestshow.co.uk)

## St George's Day Concert

A St George's Day concert will be held at the Village Hall on **Saturday 23 April**.

This event has been a great success for the last few years with good music, singing and flag waving. Chedworth Silver Band always provide some foot-tapping music. A good buffet and a glass of wine makes the evening go with a swing.

*DOREEN FREEGARD (770178) and SUE MATTHEWS (771091)*

## Children in Need Masked Ball

At the time of writing there are still a few tables and places left for our Masked Ball in aid of Children In Need. Tables are for ten people, you can book a complete table or just individual tickets. We've managed to get hold of a few really good "money can't buy" lots for our prestige auction as well as a good selection of prizes for our raffle.



For those of you who aren't aware, the ball is on **Saturday 28 May** in a marquee at The Village Centre. Tickets are £50 per head to include a silver service three course meal, a comedian and dancing to RPM. Dress is formal i.e. posh frocks and tuxes – masks are preferred but if you can't be bothered, don't let that put you off.

For further information and tickets, please call Sue or Tony on 772581.

*TONY RICHARDSON*

## Celebration of Crosses in Brinkworth

To celebrate the rector Derek Ormston's ministry in our parishes on his retirement this year, we are planning an Exhibition of Crosses at St Michael's Church in Brinkworth. Local groups and individuals are working hard to create their artworks to enhance our church.

The church will be open to the public through Holy Week from **Wednesday 20 April through to Sunday 24 April** from 10am to 5pm.

There will be organ playing each day about mid-afternoon, and hopefully some mornings as well. Also we shall be holding the following events:

Wednesday 20 April	10am - 12noon	Local Market in the Churchyard.
Wednesday 20 April	7.30pm	Highworth Choral Society presents 'Music for Easter'
Thursday 21 April	7.30pm	A selection of Easter hymns and poems led by the Brinwell Choir. Audience can also join in
Sunday 24 April	10.30am	Easter Day Eucharist

Refreshments will be available at all times, to include hot soup at lunchtimes, Hot Cross buns and very locally made home-made cakes and biscuits (minimal carbon footprint!)

*GILL and ROGER SHERHOD (01666 510666)*

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## Purton Historical Society



All our members enjoyed Bob Browning's reminiscences of his life as a collector. I'm sure that plenty of us are collectors of one thing or another but none of us consider ours as eccentric as his.

I see in the booklet from Oxford's Ashmolean Museum that they have a major exhibition coming from 7 April until 29 August. It is called Heracles to Alexander the Great; over 500 objects will be coming from Vergina in Northern Greece and will tell the story of the Kings & Queens of Macedon. This is the first time these pieces will go on display anywhere in the world. Tickets cost £8 (conc.£6)

Our meeting this month is on Thursday 28 April at 7.30pm in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall. Dr Alex Craven will be talking on "The Civil War and the Aftermath in Wiltshire".

Wootton Bassett Historical Society will meet on Thursday 14 April in the Civic Centre at 7.30pm. Martin Way will be talking about Saxon life – people, homes and dress. It will be illustrated with slides and a range of relevant artefacts.

Cricklade Historical Society will be holding a book sale on Saturday 16 April between 10am and 12 o'clock in the Club on the High Street. Their meeting will be on Wednesday 20 April in the Town Hall at 7.30pm. Rita Burlstowe will be talking on the life of William Fox Talbot and the history of Lacock Abbey.

The Swindon Society will meet on Wednesday 13 April in the Broadgreen Centre at 7.30pm. Chris Sladen will be talking about "The Battle of Badbury Hill"

*EVE BOOY, Secretary*

## Maskelyne Commemoration Project

The Purton Historical Society is delighted to announce the receipt of a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to enable it to proceed with its Nevil Maskelyne Commemoration project. Purton Museum is one of the first small museums in the county run entirely by volunteers to receive such an award.

Marking the Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this is a community project led by the Museum Curator, Brian Freegard, and we are inviting all interested parties to become involved in publicity and marketing, photography and recording, or as stewards and reception helpers. Training will be given!

Already various organisations in the village have expressed support for the venture and we thank St Mary's School, Purton Evening WI, PADS and the other groups and many individuals who have offered their services. There will be events for all ages during the year and tickets are on sale for Dr Richard Dunn's talk on 21 May. We expect these to be in demand and to sell out quickly so order yours now from David Sweet (770491) or John Belt (770331) to avoid disappointment.

*See Purton Placard on page 37 for more event details.*



## Purton Historical Society Outing

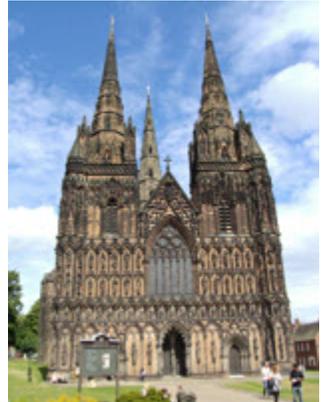
Our summer outing this year takes place on Saturday 18 June. We shall be visiting the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas and then on to the City of Lichfield the home of Samuel Johnson, David Garrick, Erasmus Darwin and Anna Seward. This city has a quiet and unspoilt charm and the cathedral has a splendid setting and a fascinating history going back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century. Its three spires are unique amongst medieval cathedrals and are often referred to as 'the Ladies of the Vale'.

You will have time to eat in the elegant 17<sup>th</sup> century surroundings of Chapters, the Cathedral Restaurant and Coffee Shop or you can explore the many hosteleries and cafes on offer. There may even be time for a spot of retail therapy!

We shall leave Purton by coach at 8.30am and return to Purton at about 7pm. The cost will be £20 which includes travel on the land train at the Arboretum and a guided tour of the Cathedral. Booking forms will be available at Society meetings, In Touch Services (115 Pavenhill) or they can be downloaded from [www.purtonmuseum.com](http://www.purtonmuseum.com). For further information contact [Helen Dixon](#).

STOP PRESS . . . Our tour of a local town or village and its environs will take place on Saturday 23 July. More information next month!

*Right: Lichfield Cathedral  
Photo: Rick Dixon*



## Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on *Thursday 28 April* from 9.00am to 11.00am. Please note the change of day this month. 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).

### Church Floodlighting

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

- |          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| 3 April  | St Mary's Church will be floodlit to celebrate <b>Mothering Sunday</b> , in recognition of all Mothers.        |  |
| 9 April  | St Mary's church will be floodlit to celebrate <b>Leslie Holland's</b> birthday.<br>From all the family        |  |
| 24 April | St Mary's Church will be floodlit on <b>Easter Day</b> , the most important day in the calendar of the Church. |  |

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

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## Purton Diary - April 2011

2	Sa	1.30pm	Jumble Sale by Helping hand at Silver Threads Hall
		9.00am	<i>to 11am: WI Cakes &amp; Preserves Stall, Top Shops, Pavenhill</i>
		7.30pm	RBL Annual Concert at Bradon Forest School with <i>Ten in a Bar</i>
		7.30pm	<i>to 11.30pm: 80's Disco at Village Hall</i>
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3	Su		<b>Mothering Sunday</b>
			Christian Aid Quiz sheets on sale
		8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parade Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Holy Communion at the Methodist Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
5	Tu	7.45pm	Lent Film Discovery Group, Vastern Hill Cottage
		8.00pm	<i>After 8: Poetry Corner at Mary H's</i>
6	W	10.00am	Age Concern Mystery tour with lunch provided
		11.45am	<i>to 1pm: Lent Lunch at Purton Methodist Church</i>
		3.00pm	<i>to 4.30pm: Mothers Union Cream Teas at Silver Threads Hall</i>
<hr/>			
8	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
		7.30pm	Age Concern '3Bs' Evening at Silver Threads Hall
10	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
11	M	7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
12	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
		7.45pm	Lent Film Discovery Group, 8 College Rd
13	W	11.45am	<i>to 1pm: Lent Lunch at Purton Methodist Church</i>
		2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill - 'Easter time' with Rev. Steve Cullis
14	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
15	F	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon: Coffee Morning at 18 Church Path</i>
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17	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
19	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
20	W	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon: Coffee Morning at The Cedars</i>

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	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
	7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall:
21	Th 10.00am	<i>to 2pm</i> : Easter Fun Activity Day at St Mary's Church
	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist at St Mary's Church
22	F	<b>Good Friday</b>
	9.30am	Walk of Witness at St Mary's Church
	2.00pm	'Final Hour at the Cross' service at St Mary's Church
23	Sa	<b>St George's Day</b>
	9.30am	<i>to 12 noon</i> : Age Concern Easter market stall, Pavenhill shops
	7.30pm	<i>to 8pm</i> : 'Lighting the New Fire' service at St Mary's Church
	7.30pm	St George's Day Concert at Village Hall

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24	Su	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
	10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
	10.30am	Easter Parish Communion at St Mary's Church plus 'Coffee & Cake'
	6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
25	M	<b>Easter Monday Bank Holiday</b>
26	Tu	10.30am Luncheon Club AGM at Silver Threads Hall
	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Frank Hardy - <i>Establishing a cutting garden</i>
27	W	6.30pm Holy Communion at The Cedars
28	Th	7.30pm Historical Society at Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall: Dr Alex Craven - <i>The Civil War and Aftermath in Wiltshire</i>
29	F	<b>Royal Wedding and Bank Holiday</b>

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**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	11.15am	<i>to 1pm</i> : New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre
Th	2.30pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

**Moon Phases**

● 3 April                      ● 11 April                      ○ 18 April                      ● 25 April

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](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

Please note: priority is given to events which are open to everyone.

# PURTON PLACARD

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

Each Wednesday  
from 9 March to 13 April inclusive

## **Lent Lunches**

at Purton Methodist Church  
from 11.45am to 1.00pm

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy  
soup, a ploughman;s lunch,  
and (if your conscience allows!!)  
delicious home made cake.

## **St George's Day Concert**

Saturday 23 April at 7.30pm  
at The Village Hall, Purton

Chedworth Silver Band

Refreshment with a glass of wine  
Raffle

Tickets - £7.00

Proceeds to Help for Heroes  
and a donation to Purton Branch  
of the Royal British Legion.

Purton Evening Women's  
Institute

invites you to  
come and support and enjoy

## **The W.I. Cakes & Preserves Stall**

Saturday 2 April : 9 – 11 am

At the Top Shops area  
Pavenhill, Purton

## **Christian Aid Quiz!**

Yes ... we are coming round to  
Quiz Time again!

Copies of the Quiz will be on sale  
in the usual shops for £1  
from Mothering Sunday  
(3 April)

Purton Age Concern

## **3 Bs EVENING**

Friday 8 April

at the Silver Threads Hall  
7.30pm

Come and join us for  
bingo, bangers and beans  
Tickets £6 – ring Mick Hull  
on 772453

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION  
PURTON BRANCH

presents its

## **ANNUAL CONCERT**

at the

BRADON FOREST SCHOOL  
**SATURDAY 2 April 2011 at 7.30pm**

(please note time –  
not as in last month's Magazine)

with

THE CRICKLADE BAND  
and

"TEN IN A BAR"

Price - £5.00

Tickets available from Legion committee  
members or at the door.

RAFFLE and LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

Purton Age Concern  
**EASTER MARKET STALL**

on Saturday 23 April  
at the Pavenhill shops  
9.30am to 12 noon  
Lots of bargains and another  
chance to taste Andrew's  
famous sausages

Wootton Bassett & District Cats  
Protection League  
**Craft Fair**  
at Ellendune Community Centre,  
Wroughton  
Saturday 9 April from 11am to 3pm  
Many stalls selling items including  
Jewellery, Soaps, Candles, Cards and  
Cakes,  
most of which is handmade.

**Wyn's Coach Outings  
Trip to  
Weston-Super-Mare  
6 May**

Leaving Cricklade at 9.30am  
Pick up at Purton shortly after.  
£12

Contact Wyn Peare  
759403

1 Heberden House, Cricklade  
Any Profits to Air Ambulance

St Mary's Mothers Union  
Will Be Serving  
**Cream Teas**  
on Wednesday 6 April  
3.00pm to 4.30pm  
at The Silver Threads Hall  
£2.00  
Raffle etc  
Please Come and Join Us!

**Come & join us!  
Celebrate Easter!**

**Sunday 24 April**

St Mary's Church  
10.30am  
coffee & cake  
All welcome

**Breakfast in Church!**

Back by popular demand!  
Breakfast will be served, in St Mary's  
Church,

**on Sunday 15 May from 9-10am**

Cost £5, if you can afford it, but all  
donations welcome.

Breakfast will include porridge,  
cereals, bacon butties and fresh coffee!  
This will be followed by the Village  
Christian Aid Service at 10.30

Do please come and join us.

It is a great fun way to catch up  
with people and to start off Christian Aid  
Week

**Coffee Morning**

Friday 15 April  
10am - 12noon  
18 Church Path  
Refreshments, cakes  
books, bric-a-brac, raffle  
Proceeds to Jubilee Gardens  
Project

# PURTON PLACARD

- plus -

Years 3-6  
Thursday 21 April  
10am-2.00pm  
St Mary's Church

## Easter Fun Activity Day

Easter crafts, dance/drama, science activities, cooking, Easter hats plus lots more! Bring a packed lunch & wear old clothes.

All children from the village welcome. The registration forms will be handed out by St Mary's School or some will be available on the day. Please bring the filled in Registration form with you.

A minimum donation of £2.50 per child would be welcomed to cover our costs. We need lots of adult help, so if you can help on the day or for more information call Kathryn Bartlett tel:778059

Silver Threads  
**Jumble Sale**  
14 May 2.00pm  
Silver Threads Hall  
Raffle/Refreshments

**Pram Service**  
Purton Methodist Church,  
Play Close



A short Service with songs,  
a story, friends and  
refreshments

Thursdays at 2.30pm,  
finishing in time for school.  
For all pre-school children and  
Mums and carers.

**£5**  
*Over 18's*

**80's Disco**

*Saturday 2nd April*

*50p Track Request!*

7.30pm to  
11.30pm  
*(midnight finish)*  
Purton Village Hall

*Call 772150  
or 772436  
for tickets!*

**Fancy Dress Optional**

RAISING MONEY FOR REBECCA STEVENS FOR THE  
WORLD CHALLENGE TRIP TO MOROCCO. RAFFLE AND LICENSED BAR.

### Coffee Morning

Wednesday 20 April  
at The Cedars  
10am - 12 noon

Cake Stall Raffle  
Craft Stall Tombola  
Come along for a coffee  
and  
Hot Cross Bun  
All welcome

### Collectors Market Antiques and Collectibles

Saturday 7 May  
10.30am - 4.00pm  
Village Hall  
Tables: £10  
Tel 770251

### Purton Historical Society

is commemorating its  
**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

together with the bicentenary  
of the death of  
Rev Dr Nevil Maskelyne, the  
5<sup>th</sup> Astronomer Royal



There will be various events in  
the village  
during 2011 to mark the occasion  
including:

#### A Special Museum Exhibition

from mid May to 22 September  
with scientific instruments  
loaned from Oxford and other museums

**Portable Planetarium 20 May**  
Village Hall

#### A talk on Maskelyne and his work by Dr Richard Dunn,

Curator of the History of Navigation  
at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich  
**on Saturday 21 May**

Bradon Forest School at 6.45pm  
Tickets £4

Information available from  
David Sweet 01793 770491

**Family Activity Day 20 August**  
at the Village Hall



**Maharajah**

Landlord and Built Restaurant  
6 High Street, Purton, Swindon, Wilts. G179J 770251

Awarded 7 stars for  
"Service on the door"  
By NPDIC  
★★★★★

Come and join  
us for good company and good  
food at the Maharajah's  
Curry night!

Tickets £15  
per head, two  
sittings 6:30pm  
and 8:00pm

**Tuesday  
May 17th**

Book to avoid disappointment



With thanks to Khalique  
all Proceeds to ...

Contact Wendy 771749 or Kate 772930  
for tickets

### Helping Hand Table Top Sale

2 April 1.30pm  
Village Hall  
Tables £6.00 Each  
To book tel 770251

# PURTON PLACARD

- plus -

## Silver Threads Coffee Morning & Plant Sale

28 May  
10.00am – 12noon  
Raffle

## A 'Mama Mia' Singalongafilm night!

How do you fancy a slightly whacky and noisy night out in Purton? Why not come and watch the film 'Mama Mia', and join in all the singing at the same time.

Dress to suit the mood ...  
whatever takes your fancy

Silver Threads Hall  
Friday night 20 May 7.30pm

Bring all your friends ...  
make it a wow evening!  
£5 for the film ticket plus money for the bar!  
And all the profit will go to Christian Aid!

## Swindon & Cricklade Railway

### Easter Egg Specials

Friday and Saturday 22/23 April: diesel hauled trains; Sunday and Monday 24/25 April: steam hauled trains. Our first major weekend of the year brings quality chocolate eggs for the children, supplied by the Easter Bunny from his man sized burrow. Unlimited train rides between 11.00am and 4.00pm. We now have two and a half miles of running line, the main station is at Blunston and you can visit the engine shed and restoration centre at Hayes Knoll. There is a cafeteria, shop, museum and picnic area. Tickets for diesel trains: Adults £6.00, Children £6.00 including egg, Seniors £5.00 & Family £22.00. Tickets for steam trains: Adults £7.00, Children £6.50, Seniors £6.00 & Family of 2+2 £25.00.



### Shunters & Wheeltappers.

This is a chance to see wagons and other vehicles being shunted into the right positions on the railway. Not many railways do this for the public and it should be a fascinating experience, between 11.00am and 4.00pm, from Saturday 30 April to Monday 2 May. Consult the website for prices.

Blunston 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 or [www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org](http://www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org).

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## Purton Evening WI - [purtonevewi.org.uk](http://purtonevewi.org.uk)



At the meeting of 16 February we were sorry to hear that our President had been smitten with a devastating bug that had laid her low, and we wished Barbara a prompt recovery. The business matters being then in the capable hands of Gladys Legg and Joan Garlick and the incomparable Jane Smith, all went well. We gloated over page 7 of the WI Wiltshire News which has a fine photograph of the WFWI Carol Concert at Lacock and includes a number of our own members.

The ACWW Pennies bag was passed around and raised £10.84 – amazing!

For the benefit of new members: on entering the meeting you are asked to give your name, and that coincides with estimating the number of members wishing to have tea or coffee during the evening. We don't mind if you don't want a drink, but we do need your name for "Health and Safety" Regulations. Awful if the Hall burnt down or blew up and we didn't know whether all our members had got out in time! So please do be sure that you are "ticked off".

The speaker (Julia Wilkinson, a travel writer) was excellent, and we learnt a great deal about life on a Hong Kong island (Cheung Chou) over the last two decades, from her photographs and down-to-earth descriptions. She actually broke her neck whilst swimming in the rocky waters – a tale that in itself could have filled the evening! (These are real geography lessons! – why was school never like this?) We appreciated, too, the packets of local sweetmeats that she brought along for every one of us.

Enough of our pleasures – to work it is our call! The current national competitions are: for an article of poetry or prose entitled "WI Inspiring Women" – no more than one side of A4 paper and the closing date is 29 April. It would be good to bring the McWilliam Cup to this area again!

Members might also like to tackle the Craft Cup Competition which involves any item made from one metre of fabric – the closing date is 1 August, so time to think about it – do cogitate!

You will undoubtedly be agog to know the result of the Annual General Meeting on 16 March, with a new committee elected and a programme produced, unfortunately all too late in the month to be reported in this issue of the magazine. However, word of mouth will ensure that in a friendly village such as Purton the results will be known on the following day – and I mean that in the nicest possible way!

At the latest, you can discuss the results at the WI Cakes and Preserves Stall at the Top Shops area on Saturday 2 April, from 9am until 1pm – do bring and/or buy. See you there!

CONSTANCE REED

## Purton Walking Group

This newly-formed group went on its second walk (5 miles) on 12 March as photographed on our front cover. Good fun, good company and good exercise. If you feel you would like to join, then email Susan Pagett at [susan\\_pagett@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:susan_pagett@hotmail.co.uk)

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## MUSIC NEWS

**Swindon Young Musician of the Year:** It's the time of year when some

of the top musicians in Swindon gather for an evening of musical entertainment. Alan Fletcher, the event organiser, commented '*I was particularly pleased with the event this year, partly because the standards were high but also because I felt that the contestants gained so much from the experience*'.



The variety of performances was vast – ukulele to voice to jazz saxophone to classical piano! Everyone agreed that the adjudicator had an unenviable task in judging the competition! The enjoyment of performing was evident in each competitor including Anna Witka and Elliot Gunton who represented Bradon Forest School in the junior section. Anna was highly commended in this class. The senior section saw two Bradon Forest students, Lucy Bosley and Rei Shimizu, who both performed brilliantly and were placed second and highly commended respectively.

## EDUCATION SUNDAY - ST MARY'S CHURCH, PURTON

Sunday 6 February 2011 saw St Mary's Church, Purton, celebrate 'Education'. We were invited to take part in the Family Service and share with the church in remembering and celebrating education. Members of the Bradon Forest Choir started the service with a great performance of 'Don't Stop Believing', singing loudly as Maegan Bryon conducted. Mr Winward, led the service, sharing the Year 7 assembly of 'Goosey Goosey Gander'. The congregation really enjoyed seeing photographs and sharing in the life of the school as they celebrated education locally, nationally and internationally. As the service drew to a close, the choir sang 'Stand by Me' with solos from Vicky Egerton and Bryony Lewis. Well done and thank you to all involved: Kathryn McCarthy, Lauren Stannard, Victoria Egerton, Maegan Bryon, Lauren Burt-Stratton, Grace Bartlett, Bryony Lewis, Leah Hoard and Rhianna Bryon – what a great morning!

## READY STEADY COOK - CURRY NIGHT

After the great success of the student and parent jewellery workshop, Mrs Carson and Miss Kinsey organised a 'Ready Steady Cook' style curry cooking competition for students and parents from Year 7 – Year 11. Four pairs took part in the competition to make a curry dish in one hour using ingredients provided by the school aided by funds from the PTA. Mr Francis Young, owner of the Pear Tree, was a guest judge and after a difficult decision chose the winning pair, Charlie Montague and her stepfather Garry Wain. The competition was great fun and all involved agreed it was a very enjoyable evening.



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## SPORTS NEWS

### Silver Medals for Bradon Forest School at Wiltshire Schools County

**Badminton Finals:** In February, schools from across Wiltshire came together at Tidworth Leisure Centre for the County Badminton Finals. Bradon Forest boys' teams had already won the Swindon Badminton Competition for Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, so were representing Swindon in the county finals.



The standard of play was extremely high throughout with many county standard players taking part (including Joshua Duffy in Year 11 and Joshua Musty in 8Z). Congratulations to both of our teams, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, for playing some outstanding badminton and winning silver medals. The boys were a credit to Bradon Forest School for both their high level of play and the way they conducted themselves.

### Wiltshire Schools Cross Country Championships:



Georgia Clifford (7Q) represented Bradon Forest School and North Wiltshire in the Wiltshire Schools Cross Country Championships. The event took place at Grittleton and Georgia finished a very respectable 16<sup>th</sup>, missing out on county selection by one place. Georgia said: "It was a very hard race

and I went off too fast, but it was good to run for North Wiltshire."

Congratulations to Thomas Campbell (11R) who ran in the intermediate boys' race, finishing in 8<sup>th</sup> place. He has now been selected to represent Wiltshire at the South West Schools Championships.

**Primary Schools' Gymnastics Festival:** The gymnastics festival held at Bradon Forest School was a huge success, enjoyed by primary pupils, teachers and parents alike.

Congratulations to Sherston C of E Primary School who were winners of both the Beginners and Advanced competitions. Well done to pupils who took part from St Sampson's Infant School, St Sampson's C of E Junior School, Broad Town C of E Primary School and Minety C of E Primary School.



The object of the festival was to celebrate gymnastics and give encouragement to the primary school pupils and the Bradon Forest gymnasts certainly did this. They took the lead in warm up

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exercises, coaching at a station as well as demonstrating their own gymnastic ability, thus becoming role models for the primary pupils, and indeed the adults present too!

**Swindon Advertiser Sports Awards:** We were absolutely delighted that Isabella Larkin was crowned Young Sports Woman of the Year for 2010. Well done and congratulations to Isabella for this recognition of her hard work, ability and continuing success with her skating.

*L SPIERS, Headteacher*

## Gardeners' Guild

A well attended meeting enjoyed a fascinating talk by Richard Fishbourne of Bugs & Beasties concerning the essential role played by worms in the all-round health of a garden.



Britain has 26 types of worm and we need vigorous populations of each type as they all perform different functions necessary to soil vitality. There are six varieties of worm which live only in compost, all of whose digestive processes are required to turn a sorry mess of garden rubbish into the rich dark material we use on our most valued plants. When we fork barrow loads of compost onto our gardens we are inevitably spreading the compost worms as well. Yet within hours these will find their way back to the diminished heap: they cannot live in soil or under grass: the deep moist litter of a compost heap is their natural home. Similarly, earthworms all have their different niches, some preferring the upper levels of the earth, while others live deep down. They can survive even in soil poisoned with arsenic, by switching off the genes that would be harmed through digesting the arsenic. Worms are hermaphrodite, and sexually active in the spring, preferring damp weather as they breathe through their skins. They are able to re-grow their tail segments but not their heads. Earthworms are very rich in protein, but birds will rarely choose to eat them in early spring, perhaps because they either taste or smell sour at that time. They have brains, or at least cerebral ganglions sufficiently active to enable them to discern the shape of a twig and thus the best method of pulling it underground. Moles, whose principal food is the earthworm, will often bite off and eat the head of a worm, which has the effect of putting the body into cold storage, as it were, to be consumed later without deteriorating. This characteristic is very useful for the mole, whose body is unable to store fat. The writer wonders whether the dieting industry should research this fact!

Our next meeting will be held as usual at the Silver Threads Hall on Tuesday 26 April at 7.30pm. Frank Hardy, a popular speaker in the past, will be talking about 'Establishing a cutting garden'. Monthly competition - A pot plant.

*MOIRA WHITE (Secretary), DIANA THOMBS (Chair)*

## Activity Week 2011

Activity Week will be from 15 to 19 August this year. So, if your children are the right age (7 - 11) and might want to come, or you might enjoy helping out for one or more days, please put the dates in your diary. Any questions call Mary on 772298.

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## World Book Day

On Thursday 3 March, the children and teachers of St Mary's dressed up as their favourite book characters and spent the day reading and writing stories. The children in Class 10 wrote some alternative versions of traditional tales. We hope you enjoy reading them, as much as they enjoyed writing them!

### **The True Tale of Little Red Riding Hood**

Once upon a time, there lived a big bad wolf and a little girl called Red Riding Hood. Now, one day, Little Red Riding Hood decided to take some medicine to her granny, because she was ill in bed. She also decided to take a pistol, after her first encounter with the Big Bad Wolf! So, she set off down the road and through the spooky dark forest.

She was five minutes into her walk when the Big Bad Wolf saw her. He suspected that she was going to Granny's house. So he ran on ahead and locked poor old granny in a dark cupboard. Then he dressed up in Granny's clothes and got into her bed. Little Red Riding Hood was now in Granny's garden and walking up the steep path to her house. She opened the door and peered in. She got her pistol ready just in case. In fact she fired!

"Ha, got you now, wolf you're easy to recognise!" she said.

Then she opened the cupboard door and let poor old granny out safely; she gave her the medicine and they all were safe from the wolf. So, I'm pleased to say they lived happily ever after!

*By Alexandra Abrahams aged 9*

### **The True story of Hansel and Gretel**

Well, when people tell you this story it's all wrong! I'm the good one not them. I'm just annoyed that the witch gets blamed for being bad, no wonder my friend Mr Wolf moans all the time.

Anyway, let me tell you the true story. I was just on my sofa having some Lemsip because my throat was sore, when I heard scratching coming from my wall. I just ignored it, then I snoozed for a bit. The next thing I knew my house was gone! I soon saw two little children staring at me and well I know you think this will be weird but I felt sorry for them. So, I talked to them. But, it probably sounded like I was shouting because I had a sore throat but *I was talking*. They looked cold so I took them in and tried to warm them in my oven but what happened? I got framed for trying to kill them. So, the next time you hear this story tell them it's wrong!

*By Sophie Kell aged 9*

### **The Three Fat Wolves and the Big Thin Pig**

Once upon, the once upon a time time, there was a time, not that time, I mean another time, when there were three fat wolves and a big thin pig. One day the three wolves decided to build a house out of balloons. Along came a hedgehog with a frog on its back with a wheelbarrow full of balloons. The wolves said to the hedgehog, "May we have some balloons?"

"Why, certainly" said the frog.

So the wolves built the house of balloons. The next day the Big Thin Pig came

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along and 'accidentally' fell over the wolves house, BANG!!!! It popped. The wolves decided to build another house of solid iron. This time when the big thin pig came he went back to get some explosives and a can of petrol. He lit the petrol and the house exploded in a fireball 400 metres high. The wolves decided to build two houses; a safe one for the pig to ruin and one to live in. When the pig came he saw the sign that said 'Free Cake!' and realised how hungry he was. He went in and ate some cake and the house exploded. That was the end of the Big Thin Pig!

*By Ross Wardle Aged 10*

## Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Celebrations all round this month: Promise celebrations for all the new Rainbows and Brownies listed in last month's article, daffodils to celebrate St David's Day (real posies in Rainbows, crafted daffodils in 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies), Shrove Tuesday was marked with pancakes at Rainbows and Guides and World Thinking Day was also celebrated.

World Thinking Day is a celebration of world guiding; Rainbows made stained-glass-effect candle shapes as their Thinking Day craft and shiny pennies were collected in the units to be given to the Thinking Day fund. The international theme continued into other unit meetings too. 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies took a Scottish theme (stretching the definition of 'international') for their promise evening as they iced biscuits with a "Nessie" theme. They also looked at the meaning of our World badge, made one out of card and played "World Badge beetle". The Guides have continued the Party Planner badge with each Patrol organising a party with the World Centres as a theme. The Poppy Patrol was inspired by Our Cabaña in Mexico and the final party, organised by the Daisy Patrol, was for Our Chalet in Switzerland.

2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies took up golf one evening: each six was given card, green paper, sandpaper, blue shiny paper and a milk bottle top and the girls were challenged to make a golf hole. They then played Tiddlywinks Golf, moving from one hole to another. Great fun!

Girls from 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies have been busy with badge work. Four were very efficient hostesses at the promise evening and the unit was pleased to welcome Pauline Hall from Trefoil Guild for badge testing on a subsequent evening. She was called upon to be an expert for the Cook badge (Natasha), the Number Fun badge (Amelia) and the Wildlife Explorer badge (Alice).

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

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

OFFERED: Canon UC2000 Camcorder (8mm Video tape) c1996. Tel 01793 772954 (day time plus answer machine).

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

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## Purton Tennis Club

The Club is delighted that it now has an experienced coach who will be putting his experience and expertise into training youngsters and adults to learn, to improve and to enjoy the game of tennis increasingly as they acquire new skills and technique to better their game.

Rob Negus has been coaching for 16 years and has worked with juniors ranked in the top 10 UK. He has coached adults who haven't picked up a racquet since their schooldays to top level club and county players. His aim is to improve players of any age to reach their potential.

For children from 3 - 16 years he has already begun a term-time programme and plans intensive holiday camps – for a detailed programme contact Rob. Children will also have the opportunity to play in competitions within the club and to represent the tennis club in Wiltshire leagues at relevant levels.

He will be coaching club players in basic skills and match strategy and will coach adults at all levels from beginners through to national standard. Rob can be contacted on his mobile: 07545 760512 or by e-mail at [robnegustennisacademy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robnegustennisacademy@hotmail.co.uk).

Nicola Gardner's regular coaching session for juniors will start on Saturday 16 April and will run from 10am - 12 noon throughout the season. For further information contact Nicola on 01793 770681.

A Ladies Social Tennis afternoon will follow on the same day – Saturday 16 April – no pressure! – but with cake and scones! And the men will have a Social Tennis afternoon the next day Sunday 17 April from 1 - 4pm.

Summer social tennis sessions will be on Friday evenings from 6pm and on Sundays from 10am.

On Sunday 1 May we will be holding our very successful Elaine Miller Open Tournament in aid of Prospect Hospice. The tennis has been of a very high standard in past years so even if you don't play why not come along and watch!

CAROLINE McLEAN

## Purton Bowls Club

The start of a new season is nearly upon us, the green is looking well despite the hard winter and our green keeper Graham Price and his merry band of assistants are working hard to ensure that it's ready for the opening day on Saturday 16 April.



A new committee has been elected, Sue Williams as Chairman, Paul Boyles Treasurer and Alison Fail Secretary. Pat Stephenson, Deena Gingell, John Bartlett, Phil Reddan, Eric Mathews and Andy White form the general committee.

We are always looking for new members and Purton BC has a resident coach, Victor Austin, he will be arranging coaching sessions through the season. If you are interested in having a go or require any further information about the Club then please telephone Alison Fail on tel no. 770015.

We have a packed season ahead so let's hope the weather is kind to us and we are able to enjoy plenty of good bowling!

ALISON FAIL

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## Purton Cricket Club [purton.play-cricket.com](http://purton.play-cricket.com)



With the season fast approaching, existing and potential new members in the age range 9 - 90 are invited to the club signing-on evening at the Red House on Friday 1 April from 7pm, where welcome packs for members should be available.

The season starts on 16 April with a friendly match against Wootton Bassett and is followed by a match on 30 April against Westinghouse. The Wiltshire League programme starts on 7 May.

### **From the Archives**

4<sup>th</sup> September 1912 – Presentation to Mr T C Hastings

‘On Saturday afternoon on the Purton Cricket Field during an interval in the match an interesting presentation consisting of a handsome silver salver suitably engraved subscribed for by patrons and members was made to Mr T C Hastings who is leaving the village after a residence of 25 years during which time he has been prominently connected with the Cricket Club and has done so much to further its interests.’

*JOE GARDNER*

## Lime Kiln Leisure Centre

Wiltshire Council and DC Leisure are pleased to announce that following the fire on 18 December, work is on target so the parts of the building not directly damaged by the fire can be re-opened on 28 March.

On 18 December, 11 fire appliances and 50 firefighters attended a fire at Lime Kiln Leisure Centre. The fire damage centred on the health suite, male and female swimming changing rooms, and the main corridor. It caused significant structural and roof damage in these areas, as well as the swimming pool plant room and there was further heavy smoke pollution in the swimming pool hall itself.

Both Wiltshire Council and DC Leisure recognise the inconvenience the closure was having on the many frequent users of Lime Kiln and concerted efforts have been made to re-instate the key areas of the centre not directly damaged by the fire. These include the reception, sports hall, fitness room, squash courts and meeting room, as well as the creation of a new separate changing area for school pupils. Pending any unforeseen problems, work is on target to be completed in time to open these areas of the building on 28 March.

DC Leisure, which manages the facility on behalf of Wiltshire Council, will be writing to all regular users to inform them of this date and to confirm booking details. Invites will also be sent to representatives of the major clubs which use these facilities to visit the centre prior to the opening to allow them to acquaint themselves with the facility. An opening weekend is also being planned and will be publicised shortly.

The re-instatement of the swimming pool and the associated facilities will be linked to wider discussions which will assess opportunities to create a campus in Wootton Bassett as the present situation allows scope to link any remedial works a long term vision for the town. Discussions regarding the campus should begin at

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the next meeting of the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board on 23 March.

Jerry Kunkler, portfolio holder for leisure, said: "I am very pleased the re-instatement works are on target for completion by 28 March. I appreciate the impact the closure of Lime Kiln has had on the local community, and we have concentrated our efforts on getting the parts of the buildings least affected by the fire open at the earliest opportunity. I know local residents are very concerned the swimming pool is not opening at the same time. The damage in this area is extensive and we will be considering with the local community the best and most cost efficient way of integrating this work with the anticipated campus provision in the area."

# On The Lighter Side

## Out of the Mouths ...

*Some genuine children's writings.*

- Then Joan of Ark met her end. She was burned as a steak.
- In wartime, children who lived in big cities had to be evaporated because it was safer in the country.
- Helicopters are cleverer than planes. Not only can they fly through the air, they can Hoover.
- Sometimes in the war they take prisners and keep them as ostriges until the war is over. Some prisners end up in constirpation camps.
- If it is less than 90 degrees it is a cute angel.
- I would like to be an accountant but you have to know a lot about moths.
- In geography we learned that countries with sea round them are islands and ones without sea are incontinents.
- The total is when you add up all the numbers and a remainder is an animal that pulls santa on his slay.

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### **H is for ... Helping Hand**

Purton Helping Hand Club is a local independent organisation formed 48 years ago (1963). The committee comprises a group of villagers ranging in age from 30-90 years who endeavour to care for the sick and those in need of help, of all ages, within the community of Purton and Purton Stoke. This includes taking small gifts to adults and toys, books etc to children who are unwell – both at home or in hospital. When help is given each case is treated in strict confidence and it is entirely up to the recipient to decide whether to reveal the source of the help.

Over the years many contributions have been made within the village, and to name but a few: Dialysis Machine, Heart Monitoring Machine and Wheelchair for the Doctors Surgery. Donation for new Age Concern Mini Bus. Specialist equipment for disabled persons in the village. Donation for Children's Activity Week etc.

In order to provide the funds required for our work, numerous events are organised through the year, which includes the Carnival. This event brings the community together and the proceeds enable us to give a voucher at Christmas to the elderly, sick, lonely, widowed, disabled and needy in the area. These vouchers have to be spent in the village thus helping the traders. We feel we are one of the organisations in the village who make this community unlike any other, and we would stress that all money raised is given back to the community of Purton and Purton Stoke in some form of help.

We are always looking for new, younger and dedicated Committee Members. If you would like to devote some of your time in showing a little care in one way or another towards others in the community please telephone (01793) 770251.

### **H is for ... History**

In 1884 Rev John Veysey wrote a series of articles about the early history of Purton which were printed in the Parochial Magazine. Some of his information was used by Mrs Ethel Richardson in her book entitled The Story of Purton, published in 1919, where she also recorded the more recent history of the village.

In February 1961 two enthusiasts keen to promote the study of local history, Howard Thomas and Alfred Harris, formed Purton Historical Society which now publishes articles in its annual Bulletin. The first Chairman was Glyn Lloyd who still lives in Hyde Lane. Members are encouraged to take an interest in both ancient and modern history, by researching the past and recording changes that occur in the village to help future generations appreciate and understand their heritage.

Purton's Past was published in 1991. It is a popular reference book written by Alec Robbins, Purton Museum's first Curator.

**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. We're coming up to some letters that might not be too common, so please send your contributions "I, J or K is for ..." to Purton Magazine, before 10 May, via the addresses shown on page 4.*

### **H is for ... Hoggs Lane**

If you drive down Hoggs Lane you probably only notice the pot holes, puddles and mud. However if you walk down the lane you see catkins, celandines and cow parsley; spot robins, wrens and blackbirds; and hear the sheep, donkeys and birdsong. Wonderful!

### **H is for ... The Hyde**

A hyde or hide is an old English measurement of land, usually the amount held to be adequate for one free family and its dependants, and varying from 60 to 120 acres. [ME hide, hyde: from OE higid, hid.] This helps to explain the various sections of The Hyde – in essence the road surrounds the area of the hyde. The Domesday Book records that "in the time of King Edward [the Confessor] Purton paid geld [land tax] for 35 hides."

Land names were introduced many centuries before surnames so it is likely that the Hyde family (Edward Hyde, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Clarendon, 1609-1674) who lived at College Farm would have got their name from an area of land they owned, rather than The Hyde being named after them.

The quarries at Quarry Farm were anciently known as Pukpitt [goblin pit] and so an earlier name of The Hyde was Puckpit Lane.

### **H is for ... High Street**

The High Street connects two ends of the village but only seems to date from about 1673 if the plaque on the wall above No 7 represents the date of the building. Much of the street was laid out at that time. Since the street is strategically important connecting Wootton Bassett with Cricklade along a ridge, I have often thought that there must have been earlier buildings on the site. Perhaps they were built in timber and thatch. Perhaps there was a Great Fire of Purton that destroyed them and which led to the buildings we see today?

If anyone has any information that might shed light on this, perhaps they could contact us via the address or email on page 4 of this Magazine.

## **Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE**

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

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

# Cricklade & Purton Neighbourhood Policing Team



The aim of Neighbourhood Policing is to have a dedicated policing team in your local community. We are here to work with you to tackle local concerns raised by you. We will work with residents and local agencies to improve your quality of life.

Community Beat Manager – Pc Kuklinski

Community Support Officers – PCSO Allan and PCSO O'Holloran

We can be contacted on: Telephone: 0845 408 7000

Email: [crickladeandpurtonnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:crickladeandpurtonnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

(This e-mail should NOT be used to report a Crime but is for non-urgent enquiries)

Web Site: [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk) - This site can be used to find out what events your local officers will be attending and also when we hold our Cricklade Police Station Surgeries where you can come and meet us to discuss any issues you may have.

**Neighbourhood Policing Team** - There has been a change of staff within the Purton and Cricklade NPT with Pc Chris Skey leaving for pastures new and Pc Lee Kuklinski replacing him. Chris will still be working nearby and we still hope to use the mine of local knowledge that he has built up in the last few years. Pc Kuklinski has worked as a response officer in the area for the past 4 years and having worked closely with Chris on many occasions and seeing how well the Neighbourhood team works he's very much looking forward to taking on the new role.

**Your views are valued and needed by your NPT** - If you would like to make us aware of any issues in your local area please complete the following form which can be returned to us at Cricklade Police Station or Purton Parish Council Office. If you are not able to do this then please use one of our contact methods above. We will also be happy to speak to you over the phone or if required attend your home address. If we get a number of complaints for the same area we may look at setting this area as a 'Priority area' working with other agencies such as the local Council to tackle them. For Cricklade and Purton's current priorities please see our web site [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: (Please circle)      13 - 21      22 - 35      35 - 55      55 +

What would you like us to help with in your area? Please state when and where this problem is happening: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Carnival: 3 - 11 June Theme: Musicals

How are you getting on planning what you are going to do to be part of Carnival? There is so much going on for everyone. Entry forms are ready for you to fill out, so contact Pauline (Tel 770251) and get yours.

**Pride of Purton:** Have you decided who you are nominating? There are so many wonderful caring people in the village – all ages – so do put in your nomination as soon as possible.

**Programme:** Will be available everywhere at beginning of May, telling everything going on – the lucky coupon/competitions. If you have a little spare time and want to have fun and enjoy yourself give Pauline a ring. Get planning – see you in June.

*PAULINE WARD, Carnival Secretary (770251)*

# Purton Magazine