

Purton *Magazine*



Summer Seagulls
by Jill Winson, Purton Artists

August 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 & Fri 2-5pm & 6-8pm Weds 10am-1pm & 2-5pm)</i>		
Police	Neighbourhood Policing	08454 087000
Post Office	Susan Budd	770346
Purton Age Concern	Tony Price	770696
Minibus	Richard Woodbridge	770862
Purton Helping Hand	Pauline Ward	770251
Purton Parish Council	Shirley Bevington	771066
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Schools and Play Groups:		
Bradon Forest Comprehensive	Secretary	770570
Playclose Playgroup	Dawn Phillips	778141
		or 07759 583566
Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup	Fionna Griffiths	771723
St Mary's Primary	Secretary	770239

LOCAL CHURCHES

CHURCH OF ENGLAND – PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY

Contact: Mrs Gladys Legg, tel 770210
Alan Woodward, tel 771572
Richard McCarthy, tel 770838
www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton

Services: See Diary Page in this magazine

METHODIST CHURCHES

Minister Rev David Perkins (from 1 September)
Contact: Bob Tinson 01793 771282
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

As mentioned in the May issue, members of the Purton Artists' Society have kindly offered to provide a year's worth of front cover illustrations for Purton Magazine – the first of which is *Summer Seagulls* by Jill Winson. Purton Artists have previously provided original artworks for the magazine covers in 2004 (when Andy Le Poidevin supplied 12 original watercolours) and in 2005, when a few other members supplied the magazine with paintings, photographs and line drawings.

This time around, we understand that 12 members will each be supplying one illustration. Now that we have been able to progress to colour covers we will be able to brighten up your doormats for the next 12 months. Sincere thanks in advance to each of you; you know who you are and we're looking forward to an exciting new piece of artwork each month!

Regular readers will know that we are always most anxious to include as many contributions from as many different readers as possible, believing that our main purpose is to engage, inform and occasionally to entertain our readers. Yet to achieve that, we would like to receive more contributions from even more readers to keep your magazine back to 68 pages as it is this month (printed version).

However, please don't leave it to someone else. For example, we learn that Tony Price is sometimes asked why he didn't write a tribute about a particular person in his Age Concern contribution and we fully endorse his answer on [page 7](#). Indeed, it might be opportune to remind readers that the copy date is the 10th of each month, giving us a couple of days to contact contributors for any clarifications that may be needed, before composing and printing the next issue. Our contact details are on [page 4](#).

As another incentive to encourage more people to contribute, this month we have started a haiku corner on [page 30](#). Creating a message or mental picture in just 17 syllables is quite a challenge. The subjects are entirely up to you and we won't publish your name if you don't want, although you will still have the satisfaction of seeing your words in print.

Perhaps a haiku could be submitted at the same time as you send us your item of news or information – although fitting 'Llangollen International Eisteddfod winners' into 17 syllables (see [page 12](#)) might just be beyond the successful singers.

30

little engines
to be found on a
children's treasure hunt
– see [page 40](#)

640+

appointments
offered each week
between 8 doctors
– see [page 24](#)

£6310

has been raised
from just 9 local
coffee mornings
– see [page 8](#)

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Purton
Magazine

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Magazine Committee

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Rick Dixon, Sheila Fowler, Nigel Manfield, Francis Sheppard

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by 10th of each month, please

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Distribution enquiries only:

[John Creasey](#)

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

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News

PLANNING MATTERS

Ridgeway Farm (N10/04575/OUT) – the Planning Officer is still considering this planning application. The Parish Council has commented on recently submitted amended plans for the site and continues to express its strong opposition to the development. It is understood that the application will be taken to Wiltshire Council's Spatial Planning Committee in September for a final decision.



Wiltshire Core Strategy – this document is out for consultation until 8 August. It is a very important document in terms of planning as it looks at housing and employment for the County to cover the next 15 years. A copy of the document is in Purton Library and it can also be viewed on the Wiltshire Council web site www.wiltshire.gov.uk. Further information can be obtained by either telephoning 01225 713489 or emailing spatialplanningpolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk

Swindon Core Strategy – the Parish Council has commented on this strategy and a copy of its response is available on request from the Council Office.

Wiltshire Council has approved the following Planning Application:

N11/01593/S73A *30 Witts Lane*, erection of radio antenna support poles (Retrospective)

Wiltshire Council has refused the following Planning Applications:

N11/01465/FUL & N11/01464/LBC *Restrop Farmhouse*, erection of single storey extension

N11/01377/FUL *35 New Road*, proposed garage with playroom over

N11/01533/FUL *Shepherds House, Cricklade Road*, erection of dwelling

PLAY AREAS – The Parish Council has the following projects in hand for the play areas: replace the rubber surfacing at Play Close, replace the swing units at the Village Centre and replace some of the fencing at the Venture Play Area. All of these projects are costly and funding has to be in place before the work can start. It is anticipated that the rubber surfacing and fencing will be carried out this year as the majority of the funding is already in place although some will have to come from Council's general reserve. We had not anticipated having to replace the entire swing units at the Village Centre this year. When the budget was set, only swing seats were thought to be needed to be replaced, however the Wicksteed Annual Safety inspection recently condemned the frames as well, therefore the cost has escalated as it will affect the safety surfacing and involve groundwork to remove the frames and replace the new ones. The swings we replaced at the Venture play area last year cost in the region of £10,000 therefore we anticipate the Village Centre swings will cost at least that much. It may be possible for the new swings to be installed this year but this is still very dependent on whether the money can be found. If not, it will have to be budgeted for next year. We appreciate that all of the play areas are well used and a great source of enjoyment to youngsters and the

equipment being out of action is not ideal. We will endeavour to do our best to get the swings in place as soon as possible.

Litter in and around the play areas however continues to be a problem in particular by the skate park. Picking up this litter costs money which all residents contribute to. It is a great shame that, having been given these areas to play in, those that drop their litter seem to have little regard for their environment, the people who have to pick it up and the cost involved. Please can all parents/guardians remind their children that dropping litter is not big and clever but it is a very unsociable thing to do.

RURAL HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY – the Parish Council is currently talking to Wiltshire Council about carrying out a Rural Housing Needs Survey which will hopefully establish what the title suggests ... housing needs. This will help to provide information that can be used to feed into our Parish Plan. When the time comes, the Parish Council hopes you will give a little time to fill in the survey to provide it and Wiltshire Council with some useful information that will enable us to help fulfil the needs identified.

PROBATION SERVICE – the Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance of Purton Churchyard as well as the Cemetery. We are very grateful to the Probation Service who cut the grass in the Churchyard. This is a big undertaking and they do a very good job in keeping the Churchyard looking tidy. The group also keep some of our footpaths cut back such as those behind Jewels Ash and Witts Lane for which we thank them.

ANNUAL WALK – the Parish Council will hold its Annual Walk on Sunday 4 September leaving the Village Hall Car Park around 2pm. The walk will be approximately 3.5 miles. Sturdy shoes recommended, open to all ages.

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

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

The Parish Council's letter box is on the wall adjacent to the side door (entrance door to the Parish Council offices) to the rear of the Library/Institute



Carnival 2011

The final figure will be announced on 27 July at the Open Meeting. Planning for 2012 will start in September and the date for the first committee meeting will be announced later.

Thank you to everyone involved with the Carnival week and all their hard work and support. What a wonderful final day. Again, thank you all, together with the Committee members who worked tirelessly all the week.

PAULINE WARD, Carnival Secretary

Purton & District Age Concern



We again have bad news and good news this month. Starting with the bad news, we have lost a lady who has been a great supporter of Age Concern over a good number of years. The person I am talking of is Mrs Greenaway who, in later years, was a resident of Hooks Hill. I say later years – this is perhaps the wrong statement as she has lived there for the last twenty-six years or it would have been on 17 July. Mrs Greenaway was born in Savernake Hospital as her parents' home was in Burbage where she was brought up. I wonder if she felt it was time to let go as she was taken poorly a few weeks ago and taken to Savernake to be treated – as this is where she was born some ninety-seven years ago it was almost like going home to die.

Like a lot of young ladies at that time, she went into service, in her case at Purton Stoke and this is where she met her husband to be, Alf Greenaway. The romance blossomed and they got married and lived in Pavenhill, later moving to The Peak. I believe they moved into the house where Billy May lived – he was a fine craftsman. I wonder if the air raid shelter was still there – it was the best I ever knew as it was built in the middle of Billy's shed. You had to lift a trap door to go down to it, all nicely finished. You would not know it was there unless you looked hard – sorry, I'm going back to my schoolboy days. Mrs Greenaway was a very hard-working lady, both at the Cedars and at St Mary's School. After husband Alf died, she made a sensible decision and moved into Hooks Hill. That was the type of person she was, very matter-of-fact and straight to the point, perhaps upsetting one or two through her frankness. She will be greatly missed by all at Hooks Hill – a very generous and kind lady, always contributing and taking part in the social activities held at Hooks Hill although, in later years, she was not able to participate but that never stopped her contributing.

The same applies to Age Concern – we shall miss her kindness. Whenever we had a raffle, she would always buy raffle tickets and give us one or two good prizes. I always think of her as a very practical person. This is because, if we had a function on, she would always give Rita Webb, our street warden at Hooks Hill, a big box of tea bags to make the helpers a cup of tea and then she would say, 'It's nice to have a biscuit with a cup of tea,' and give us a big packet of biscuits. This was always appreciated, as was her thoughtfulness. I know how much Mrs Greenaway loved her family – Geoff, her son and her daughter-in-law Ann, grandson Ian and his wife Hannah and then, of course, her great granddaughter Sophie. She was very proud of you all and to you all, could I offer our deepest sympathy – our thoughts are with you.

I am a little concerned as people say to me, 'You didn't write a tribute about so and so'. Well, there is nothing to stop anyone writing a tribute to someone who has died rather than rely on someone else to do it. The editor will soon sort it out if he receives more than one. I would never like people to think I am some sort of official obituary writer. I hope I am not being too unkind in saying this – I write about people I know well and want to write about, like Mrs Greenaway, who has been so kind to Purton Age Concern and people I have known all my life in this village. So please,

if you feel you would like to write about someone, do it – don't rely on somebody else. If in doubt, consult the editors' office. [Ed. 01793 772954.]

We have been given an electric buggy – would anyone like one – it is free to a good home, although a small donation would be appreciated. Contact me on 770696 if you are interested.

Our day trip to Windsor was enjoyed by all according to reports. We were a little disappointed by the numbers but very pleased to see several new faces. Thank you for joining us. The next trip is to Weston on Wednesday 3 August starting at 9.30am, cost £12 for our elderly and children under 14 – all others £14. By the time you are reading this, the numbers for the trip will have been handed in but give me a ring on 770696 and see if there is any room.

After that our mystery tours start on Wednesday 7 September. This is a 2pm start with tea provided and your names should be in to your street warden by 22 August. The cost for the trip is £10 and £12.50 to pensioners outside our area.

Before that we have a jumble sale in the Village Hall on Saturday 3 September at 2pm. Jumble can be left at the hall between 12 noon and 1pm. Please stick to these times otherwise it makes the sorting a little difficult.

What an amazing morning we had at Bentham on 2 July. Of course, I am talking about the coffee morning held at Bentham at the home of the late John Bryant, courtesy of Anne, John's daughter along with Phil and Joyce Bryant. As you know, John died during the last twelve months but the family still wanted us to have what has become an annual coffee morning just the same in memory of John. We suggested that we ran it for one of John's favourite charities but they wanted it to be for us – perhaps we were one of John's favourite charities! From our point of view it is a fantastic morning with all the help we get with everything – the way you all support us and your generosity takes some believing that in two hours we made a thousand pounds. Actually it was £828 but we had two very generous donations from two kind people. I bet John was looking down on us with a smile on his face, thinking 'I never knew people thought so much of me'. Well they did John and they think the same of Gary, Anne and family and Phil and Joyce and their family. It was so nice to see Donald Cakebread there after having major surgery. Donald and his wife have been great supporters ever since these coffee mornings were started. We have had nine coffee mornings now, raising £6,310. I suppose this is one of my favourite events as I get preferential treatment insomuch that a very kind lady always makes me a special blackcurrant tart. This year it nearly went wrong as it almost got sold on the cake stall but I got it in the end and it was delicious, so thank you Margaret.

Could I warn everybody not to give cold-callers any work on your property. If you need anyone to do any type of work, please, if your relatives or neighbours don't know of anyone, get someone who advertises in this magazine or else give me a ring and I will recommend someone. This way it will be someone you can trust. So please, please don't leave yourself open to be conned – we are here to help.

We would like everyone to join in our celebration of twenty-five years of the delivery of our first minibus. What a day that was! It coincided with the re-opening of the Cedars. Our two minibuses will be in the Village Hall car park from 10am to

4pm on Saturday 10 September with refreshments and displays of our previous minibuses etc. and also there will be advice on the service they offer. We will be looking for more drivers and 'shotguns' as we do not want the service we offer to drop. If you are interested in getting involved, there will be drivers and helpers on hand to answer any questions – you can have a chat over a cup of tea so please come and see us.

I had finished my piece for the magazine but I feel I must add this last paragraph. I have just spent a very enjoyable time at the Songs of Praise service held at Purton Methodist Church to say farewell to Revd Steve Cullis. If you can make sense of this it was also a sad time because Steve was leaving to take up a new post in Norfolk. At least they will not have to wait eighteen months for a replacement like us Church of England people, because the new minister has already been appointed and I look forward to meeting him. It was a lovely afternoon with a nice cream tea, a good sing and plenty of amusing stories – they really did Steve proud. Steve is a man that I have had a lot of respect for. On first impressions you might think he is a bit of a scatterbrain but he is not like that at all, he is genuine and sincere and what impresses me most is his ability to cater for all ages, which certainly takes a lot of thought and patience. I would like to say, 'Well done Steve, I am sure you have made the Churches you have worked in much better places to be. Best wishes to you and Julie in your new area and this is from the other side of the fence'.

TONY PRICE

Church Floodlighting

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



- 26 June St Mary's Church was floodlit to celebrate the Golden Wedding of **Vivien and Roger Lawrence**.
Love and congratulations on your Golden Wedding Anniversary.,
From Janet and Joy
- 2 July St Mary's Church was floodlit to celebrate the Ordination of **Revd. Judith Wells**, in Bristol Cathedral. Judith is now Assistant Curate in the Benefice and Parish of Purton.
- 30 July The church was floodlit in memory of **Albert Parkinson** on the occasion of his birthday.
Dearly loved and sadly missed Husband, Dad and Grandad
- 5 August St Mary's church will be floodlit in memory of Mother, **Mabel Goodings**, on her birthday.
Lovingly remembered by Pete, Les, Rex and their families

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

Purton Patchworkers

We were unable to show the full photo of the Purton Patchworkers quilt last month which raised £400 for Wiltshire Air Ambulance in a raffle. Thanks to Brenda Hanks we are now able to show the entire quilt. In the photo are (left to right) Marjorie Shailes, Brenda Hanks, Pauline Hall, Pam Stevens, Paramedic Richard Miller, Sheila Kirk and Sheila Price.



Clothes Swap ... and the next fundraiser on 1 October

A Clothes Swap was held in Purton in July. Over £170 was raised for the African Drought Fund and the money will be passed on via Christian Aid. Thank you to all who supported the event, which was set up at very short notice.



There is such a desperate need for money to support those affected by the worst drought in 60 years in the Horn of Africa. Please contact Libbie 771018 if you would like to know more or would like to donate to the fund.

Also please reserve 1 October for the next Christian Aid fundraising activity in the village. It will be 'Granny's Treasures' and will be in the Methodist Church from 11-4pm on Saturday 1 October. On sale will be items that have been loved and cherished and now need a new home. Do come and support us and our fundraising for Christian Aid; and hopefully find some bargains for yourself.

The Future of The Cedars & Hooks Hill

I have had a few people contact me with regard to the future of The Cedars and the long term future of Hooks Hill. To avoid rumours getting out of hand I have the following information which might help clarify the position.

“Wiltshire Council is working with Housing Associations and Registered Social Landlords to review the current sheltered housing stock around the county. This review which is due to be completed in August 2011 is assessing the current condition of each sheltered housing scheme and whether it provides the right accommodation for the area taking into account changes in population. It is anticipated that the review will identify a number of priority schemes which may be currently hard to fill or in poor condition and will consider what options may be available to redevelop those schemes.

“Hooks Hill is the property of Westlea Housing Association and any decisions on the future of the scheme will be made by Westlea and they will consult with any residents affected regarding plans for changes to the scheme once those decisions have been made.

“The review of sheltered housing is linked to the Older People Accommodation Strategy which was approved by Cabinet Members in January 2011. The strategy sets out the requirements for provision of extra care housing, nursing homes and specialist dementia homes across the county looking at the projected increase in the older population and the rise in dementia levels. The strategy aims to ensure that the right level of care and suitable facilities are available for those who need it as many existing care homes do not fulfil the current standard as there is a need now for providing en-suites and sufficient space for residents.

“The Cedars, in Purton, has been identified in the strategy as potentially closing when new fit-for-purpose facilities are completed in Wootton Bassett and Cricklade, however, this will be continually reviewed against any demographic changes in the area. Should the population in the area increase significantly this may affect the plans for this area over the next few years.

“The full strategy can be viewed at www.wiltshire.gov.uk.”

I feel it is important for Purton that if we want to have continued facilities, that Wiltshire Council is given clear indication of the future need we will have from the residents of the village. If you want to discuss how we go about this or give me information then please contact me as below.

JACQUI LAY, *Wiltshire Councillor for Purton & Braydon*
jacqui.lay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Witts Lane, Jewels Ash, Waite Meads Close, and Pear Tree Close*. 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.

Choir Wins at Llangollen

Wessex Male Choir, of which 5 choristers live in Purton and Purton Stoke (see picture), won the Male Choir class in the prestigious Llangollen International Eisteddfod on 9 July with their entries: *Psalm 150* (Goff Richards), Pavel Chesnokov's Russian hymn *Spaseniye Sodelal (Salvation is created)* and *Demon in my View* (Jeffrey Horvath). In doing so they beat three past winning choirs and won by an impressive seven points over the second placed Côr Meibon Rhosllanerchrugog from Wales. This was a crowning achievement in the choir's 10th anniversary year. Musical Director Robert Elliott said, 'It really is a dream come true to have won at this prestigious competition in Llangollen. We have been perfecting our pieces for most of the past year and the guys performed them in an immaculate fashion on Saturday.'

The previous day, Wessex's newly formed Chamber Choir came third in their competition.

The International Eisteddfod is held every year in Llangollen in North Wales and attracts performers from across the world. Some 4000 performers sing and dance in a range of competitions and performances.

The Purton-based members of the choir in the picture are (left to right) Steve Allinson (baritone), Ken Bull (bass), Andy Entwistle (top tenor), Rick Dixon (baritone) and Steve Smith (bass). Also inset is the Bronze International Trophy, awarded to winners of all the major competitions.



The choir, with an age range of 18 to 80 years, rehearses on Tuesdays from 7.30 to 9.30pm at Abbeymeads. To find out more about the choir email membership@wessexmalechoir.co.uk, contact Rob Elliott on 07939 249021 or speak to Rick at In Touch Services.

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

OFFERED: Patio Gas Heater in working condition. Gas bottle and regulator not included. Will need to be collected. 01793 771563.

OFFERED: Smiths Corona electric typewriter in excellent working order. Tel. 770664.

WANTED: Silver Threads Charity would like to replace their piano – is there one stood idle in reasonable condition? Please contact Pauline Ward, 770251

WANTED: Upright piano, can collect. Tel 01793 770105.

To advertise in this section please contact Purton Magazine (address on [page 4](#)). Free advertisements for Free goods. 2 lines maximum.

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



Growing Food for Nutrition was the subject of our July meeting and an interesting one it proved to be. Matt Adams, the director since 2000 of the Good Gardeners' Association, first gave us the history of the association, beginning with the pioneer of the no-dig method of growing food, Dr WE Shewell-Cooper. Closely involved with the dig for victory campaign of the last war, Dr Shewell-Cooper later joined the Soil Association with Lady Eve Balfour, another pioneer of organic growing, but left it after twenty years to form the Good Gardeners Association because the Soil Association wished to focus solely on farming methods.

The principal theory he promoted was no-dig gardening, a method of working with nature rather than against it. In the 1960s this system was validated by improved yields and taste alone; only very recently have the latest laboratory techniques of micro-photography and soil analysis shown how and why these practices prove so beneficial.

Scientific research today reveals that a handful of soil contains more life forms than the seven billion human population of the entire planet. These various life forms of bacteria, protozoa, fungi, nematodes etc, have adapted over 400 million years of evolution to living at specific levels within the soil in symbiotic relationship with the roots of all growing plants. It is only since the development of man as agriculturist, about 10,000 years ago, that these micro organisms have experienced man's interference through digging, which suddenly reverses the levels at which they live, thus affecting the beneficial work they do in delivering minerals to the plant roots in forms the plant can use. Modern farming practices using ever heavier machinery compound the damage through compacting the soil, while insecticides, fungicides and artificial fertilisers have adverse effects on soil health even while promoting crop yields.

It is only during the last ten years that we have had clear and definite proof of the malign results of such practices. The discovery of government statistics relating to the mineral yields of various food crops in 1940 led to similar tests being done in 2000 and 2010. These showed an average and continuing decline of over 30% of every mineral and trace element considered essential to human health. A similar loss of vitamin content has also been registered.

Having depressed us with these statistics, Matt proceeded to cheer us up by demonstrating how easy it would be to raise the nutritional value of our crops through the no-dig method. Briefly, this consists of covering the ground with as deep as possible a layer of compost during the autumn and leaving it to be gradually absorbed into the soil. In spring, plant into individual holes in the soil and maintain a good level of compost around the plants. When growing salads, crop the outer leaves continuously rather than remove a whole plant. He showed us photos of a variety of crops grown in this way and all looked extremely vigorous and healthy. In taste tests no-dig crops always did well and their yield was also good.

The vote of thanks was given by Constance Reed.

MOIRA WHITE (Secretary), DIANA THOMBS (Chair)

Purton Historical Society



Whilst we are all in a Maskelyne frame of mind you might like to plan next year's holiday. For a mere £3,699 you too can travel to Hawaii and observe the Transit of Venus, just like Maskelyne. This is the last time (6 June 2012) it will be seen for over 100 years. Since the invention of the telescope in 1608, Venus has crossed in front of the sun only seven times.

A new website has been launched www.bbc.co.uk/yourpaintings. This contains the Public Catalogue Foundation's work on identifying all oil paintings in public ownership in the country. Five of our pictures in the museum collection were photographed for the book and I guess are now on the website. Evidently in the book the picture of Colonel Canning gets a full page.

We all had a lovely outing to the National Arboretum and Lichfield, though we nearly lost one of our members, who was very taken with some young men in colourful uniforms. Once again, Helen, a great outing.

The only local Society with an activity in August is the Cricklade Historical Society which have, on Sunday 14 August, a walk around Cricklade visiting the Churches and an exhibition in their museum. For details contact John Lawrence on 750050.

Our meeting on Thursday 22 September at 7.30pm in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall is when we will learn about *The Changing Face of Rodbourne*.

EVE BOOY, Secretary

Purton Historical Society Coach Outing

On Saturday 18 June, some forty-plus members set out for our annual outing this time to Lichfield. We arrived first at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, the UK's centre of remembrance set in 150 acres of beautiful wooded parkland and gardens, in time for the land train, booked for us at 11.00am. This is a good introduction to the Arboretum as there is a narrated guided tour around the avenues. Then many of us explored on foot (until rain stopped play!)

There are over 200 significant and moving memorials representing military civil services local and overseas organisations and charities. One that caught my eye was the plaque by the tree dedicated to the "Goldfish Club" for aircrews that landed in the sea during conflicts.

At 12.30pm we continued into Lichfield where we had lunch. Some of the group visited the Heritage Centre where among the attractions were the Staffordshire Millennium Embroideries – which I unfortunately missed as I was exploring Samuel Johnson's House and Museum where a copy of his famous English Dictionary was displayed. He was a legend in his lifetime, a literary giant and leading light in 18th century London society. His friends included David Garrick, Sir Joshua Reynolds and James Boswell.

In the Market Square we stopped to watch part of the Lichfield Folk Festival. We saw the National Youth Folklore Troupe of England and it was a pleasure to see so many young persons continuing the folk dancing tradition.

We then all met up for a guided tour of the medieval Cathedral of St Chad with

its unique three towers. As with all cathedrals there are many interesting parts to see. There is an unusual *Pedilavium* for ceremonial foot-washing as established by Jesus and the custom is continued here to this day. Another unusual feature is the nave altar, which is on three levels but can be lowered by hydraulics to become one level when needed for orchestral concerts, etc. The medieval Herkenrode glass in the Lady Chapel has been replaced by clear glass while it has been sent for restoration.

We then returned to our coach after an extremely enjoyable day arriving home at 7.00pm to rest our weary feet.

Many, many thanks to Helen who planned and organized our day.

INEZ GALE

The Mighty Hercules' Farewell to Wiltshire

On Friday, 1 July, the last of RAF Lyneham's Hercules fleet of aircraft said a final farewell to the County of Wiltshire before their official handover to the Station Commander of RAF Brize Norton. The last of the aircraft transferring to RAF Brize Norton flew at low level, in stream formation to say a final goodbye to the people of Wiltshire. Departing RAF Lyneham at



approximately 1030 hours, they followed a route that started out by flying over Avebury, Calne, Devizes, Warminster, Melksham, Trowbridge, Colerne, Lyneham, Wootton Bassett, Malmesbury, Tetbury and the Blunsdon area of Swindon, before the final leg of the journey to RAF Brize Norton.

1 July marked the end of a remarkable era not only for the RAF but for the people of the County of Wiltshire that have supported RAF Lyneham so well over the years. RAF Lyneham's Station Commander, Group Captain John Gladston said:

'This is our last opportunity to say thank-you and pay tribute to the people of Wiltshire for all the support they have given to the Station over the past 70 years. It is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to the Hercules Force, a sentiment which I know echoes throughout the Wiltshire community. The Hercules Force will now take a piece of our unique and proud history to RAF Brize Norton where I know they will be most welcome and I am in no doubt that it will flourish and continue to build on our proud heritage for many years to come.'

photo: © RAF

Purton Children in Need Masked Ball

As the saying goes – You had to be there. The Purton Children in Need Masked Ball was, by all reports, a resounding success. This was our third ball to date and people are already talking about the next one. We'll just get our breath back after this one first though.

Start time was 6.30 and we had people turning up in their finery from 6.20 onwards. Everyone was obviously eager to get started. But



after some rather major problems, we were ready on time. A complimentary cocktail got people in the mood for the more professional cocktails dispensed by Matt and Lou's bar whilst John Driver's mellow jazz piano played gently in the background.

Eventually it was time to go into the main marquee and it certainly didn't disappoint. It was one of the stars of the evening. Fully lined with panoramic windows looking out to Cirencester, the tables all set for the meal, it certainly helped create the atmosphere we wanted. Four large and beautiful masks stood in the corners and as the light faded outside the coloured up-lighting on the masks and the sides of the marquee brought the whole scene to life.

Then, with extreme efficiency, came the meal. The other star of the evening. We have heard nothing but good comments about the meal, and justifiably so. For a start, it was hot. I'm no caterer but it can't be an easy thing serving 130-odd hot meals from a catering kitchen on a field. But they managed it. Not only was it hot, it was exceptionally good and all served and cleared away in a very professional manner.

Many thanks to Jeff and his team from Regency Marquees. They supplied us with a beautiful marquee, erected and dismantled without fuss and nothing was too much trouble for them. Also thanks to John and his catering team from Hospitality Services for a marvellous meal, extremely well presented. The best thing is, that both these companies are Purton based. It's good on occasions like this to be able to use, and recommend, local companies and we would certainly recommend them to anyone.

Following the meal, we were treated to songs from the classics and musicals from Graham Davidson-Smith accompanied by John Driver. Then a change of pace with comedian Martin Smith who got everybody in the mood for the rest of the evening.

As usual there was a raffle and an auction. For both of these, every item/promise had been donated, and we had some really good items. Thanks to everyone who donated, especially the interesting items we sold at auction. Thanks also to those who bought those items.

By the time the band *RPM* started up, everyone was ready to dance. I don't think I saw the dance floor empty at all. They also did a great job for us, providing just the right kind of music for the evening.

All too soon it was over then we had to start thinking about the clearing up the

next day. Not my favourite job. I asked for volunteers to turn up and help next morning and I wasn't disappointed. We had a really good turn out and everything was cleared away by about midday. Thanks to you all for the help.

How do you start to thank people for the help they gave at this ball? We are only a small committee and without the help we willingly get from others, we would not be able to put on many of the events which we do stage. So big thanks to all who helped in any way, those who lent us things like extension leads etc, those who donated prizes, to Chris Compton, our very capable doorman, to Build Center (not a spelling mistake!) of Wootton Bassett, Magnum Wines and special thanks to Speedy Hire of Cheney Manor who helped us out with some lighting at the last minute. Of course a huge thanks to all who came along, spent some money and made it a very exceptional evening. If I've forgotten anyone, I'm sorry but we couldn't have done it without you.

At then time of writing, we are still waiting for some money to come in from the auction, but we reckon to have made around £1500 for Children in Need. Plus a good night was had by all.

We have had a lot of people who didn't come and have decided they want to come to next year's ball. Sorry to disappoint you but there isn't going to be another one next year. Hopefully there will be one in the future but we don't have any definite ideas. The thing is to come to these events when you can.

I still have in my possession an extension lead which was lent to us. It's a 15m JCB 4-way lead. If it's yours or you know who it belongs to, give me a ring on 772581.

One more thing, we had some material which we used to use for decorating the Village Hall when we had dances there. This was long lengths of red and cream. We lent it to somebody to use at their party and we can't remember who it was. If you borrowed it or have any idea where it might be, can we have it back please. It is quite useful to us.

TONY RICHARDSON

News From The Trustees

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre: We are very concerned that, having had the public tennis court at the Centre resurfaced, the use it is getting is very minimal. You can book the court at the Best One shop in the Lower Square at a cost of £4.50 an hour, so why not give it a go. I am sure you would enjoy it.

The skateboard park is still being very well used and we are pleased about this but we are very concerned about the skaters going out on to Church Street and then going down the road so, if any of your children skate, please make sure they don't do this. We have put a notice up warning of the danger.

The Village Hall complex: The Institute is being repainted outside along with the Village Hall so it should look a lot better and, of course, this is helping to preserve the building. By the time you read this, the kitchen refurbishment should be well under way so the Hall will be all smart with the exception of the gents' toilet. Still, that will be our next project I hope.

We are concerned that the Village Hall car park is being used as a public car

park. This is alright if there is nothing on in the Hall but the people parking there don't know when it is booked. So please do not cause the Hall users any inconvenience – after all the hirers pay for the Hall which includes the car park.

TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.org.uk



The speaker for the evening of 14 June was meant to be Peter Vaughan, on “Healthy Eating”, but at the last moment he had to cancel as Mrs Vaughan was in the process of giving birth! We agreed he had an excellent excuse, wished the family well, and welcomed his mother who fortunately (and naturally!) had the knowledge and experience to take over the talk and demonstration. Members of the Committee turned to and passed round the tasty examples that were prepared before our eyes and in only a few minutes. For those unfortunates who missed it – Peter has a Bistro and Cookery School in Devizes ...

This meeting was the last call for ordering next year's calendars and diaries. It'll be Christmas before we know it – and the Committee has already got that organised!

The competition, for the oldest cookbook, was extremely well supported and we all enjoyed browsing through many old but much-loved volumes.

This has been an excellent period for our WI, with photographs in the local press of the energetic Sylvie, so successful in skittles matches, and of our Bollywood dancing efforts, as well as of Maureen and her trophy. Keep up your winning ways!

We are delighted to report that as a result of catering for teas for the highly successful Maskelyne event (organised by Purton Historical Society) a welcome £48 was raised towards our funds. Thanks to all who helped in producing the lovely refreshments, and especially to those who sacrificed a Saturday afternoon to serve tea.

The meeting of 17 August is entitled “Summer Fun”, and the competition is “A Decorated Sunhat”. This meeting is intended to be exactly what it says, a joyful occasion appropriate to the season, and we hope you will come along in the jolliest of spirits. In saying that, we will be aware of at least one member who has recently been bereaved, and we offer our commiserations and the warmth of friendship to her.

Following that, and showing the variety of our gatherings, the meeting of 21 September has as its subject “Breast Awareness”. This will be an Open Meeting, with an informed speaker. Members from nearby WIs are invited, and we hope that local resident non-members will also be interested to come as visitors, particularly the younger, vulnerable ladies. You will appreciate that we take this subject extremely seriously. However, we intend to relieve the atmosphere of the evening by all wearing something pink, and entering the competition which is “a decorated bra” – no, you don't need to strip for the occasion!

CONSTANCE REED (771 571)

Lost & Found

A pair of gold rim glasses was left in Andrew's the Butchers, around Easter time. He is eager for them to be claimed.

If you've lost yours it would be worth double checking with Andrew at Pavenhill shops.

PURTON POSTBAG

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



■ LOST "PROPERTY"

I was interested to read Tony Price's comments on changing words in the church services. The original Book of Common Prayer, which I grew up with, uses the word "property". Then in the late 1960s along came series 1, 2, 3 etc. and then the word was changed to "nature". It took me a bit of time to get used to but as Tony says it actually seems to make more sense. However, the 8 o'clockers who prefer a traditional service have gone back to the B.C.P. and consequently have got "property" back. Now Tony if in 40 years you got used to "nature", I'm encouraged that eventually you may be able to bear the loss of the pews.

Val Walker

■ MASKELYNE WEEKEND

We would just like to say how much we enjoyed the 'Maskelyne Weekend'. All the hard work put in by the Purton Historical Society certainly paid off, everything came together superbly. Many thanks to them for such an interesting village event.

Bob and Pam Stevens

■ COFFEE MORNING

Anne, Joyce, Phil and family would like to thank everyone for all the help and support we received at our Coffee Morning on 2 July at Greystones. We are delighted that such a large amount of £1000 was raised for Putron Age Concern in memory of John Bryant.

■ ANNIVERSARY THANKS

We would like to extend our grateful thanks to all our family and friends for all the flowers, cards, gifts and good wishes sent to us on the occasion of our Golden Wedding. We had a very exciting weekend. Special thanks for donations received for the Prospect Hospice.

Thank you all.

Roger & Vivien Lawrence

■ KIND THOUGHTS

I would like to thank all my friends and neighbours for their kind thoughts, and many, many cards received at the sad loss of my husband Jim. I very much appreciate all the help I've been given over these last few months.

Frances Verity

■ DICK GRIMES

I would like to express my thanks for all the messages of sympathy and offers of help I received following the death of my husband Richard. I would also like to thank The Cedars for the care and kindness that Richard received over the last four years.

Stella Grimes

Purton & Lydiard Charity Fund: Future Events

We are a small local charity and really appreciate your support.

Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 31 August 2011 7pm, Purton Club, Station Road, Purton

You are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting. This is a brief meeting but gives members of the community the chance to find out about how much money their support has helped to raise, where it has gone and our plans for the future. All are welcome.



Village Fair, Saturday 3 September 2011

11am-4pm, Sun Inn, Lydiard Millicent

With the kind permission of Landlord, Howard Taylor, and Manager, Caroline, and organised by Purton and Lydiard Charity Fund, this 5th Village Fair offers charities the opportunity to promote themselves and fund raise.

Charities already involved include Lydiard Millicent Pre School, NSPCC, RNLI, Kitty Kare, Evesham Animal Sanctuary, Firsland Animal Centre, Lydiard Millicent Village Hall Fund and Lydiard Millicent Pre School.

There are also spaces for traders and there will be face painting, a BBQ, as well of course as food and drink from the bar.

Special guests for the day are Angela Richens and her dancing dog Teddy who appeared on the semi final of *Britain's Got Talent*, together with other entertainment and games for the children.

Date for your diary: Craft Show, Saturday 5 November 2011

10am-4.30pm, Village Hall, Station Road, Purton

Crafts already confirmed are pyrography, cross stitch, embroidery, knitting, produce, silver jewellery, wood turning, scarves, jewellery, watches and cards.

For further details contact Lynda: email lynda.warren@hotmail.co.uk

Wiltshire Recycling

As you may have seen in the *Coming Soon* leaflet that dropped through your door in July, Wiltshire Council is introducing a new plastic bottle and cardboard recycling collection service across the county from the autumn.

In Purton, the new plastic bottle and cardboard recycling collection service will start in mid-October 2011, with new blue-lidded bins being delivered to households throughout September. Residents will receive an instructional leaflet and collection calendar information through the post shortly before the bins are delivered, explaining how to use the service and when to put the blue-lidded bin out for collection.

Slightly different arrangements have been made for residents who live in flats, and an assessment will be carried out on each individual block of flats to determine exact bin requirements. This is explained in more detail in the information being delivered through the post before the bins arrive.

From March 2012, a non-chargeable garden waste collection service will also be introduced. Those residents who do not currently have their garden waste

collected must opt in to receive this service, if they so wish, by 30th September 2011. Residents can do this by filling in the form online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/gardenbin, by phoning the council on 0300 456 0102 or by filling out the form distributed at various roadshows around the county. Those residents who already have a garden waste collection do not need to apply for this service, and your collections will remain unchanged.

Further information about the service changes will be given out at the following roadshows:

6 August	Pewsey Music Festival, behind the Coopers Arms, Coopers Field, Pewsey, 12pm onwards
15 August	Malmesbury Town Centre, 10am - 2pm
16 August	Sainsburys, Wootton Bassett, 10am - 2pm
17 August	Calne Town Centre, 10am - 2pm
18 August	Corsham Town Centre, 10am - 2pm
19 August	Chippenham Town Centre, 10am - 2pm
20 August	Morrison's, Chippenham, 10am - 2pm
27-28 August	Chippenham River Festival, Monkton Park, Chippenham, 10 - 5pm (on 27 th) 11 - 5pm (on 28 th)

Meanwhile, for further information please visit the council's website www.wiltshire.gov.uk/waste or phone us on 0300 456 0102.

LAURA SNOULTON,
*Senior Waste Service Development Officer,
Wiltshire Council*

Royal British Legion Purton Branch

Annual Horticultural Show 2011

Saturday 27 August at the Red House Club Purton

The committee will welcome your entries at the Red House Club Purton on the evening of Thursday 25 August from 7.45pm. On the day (27 August) the staging will be from 9-11am and we are open to the public from 2pm. There will be an auction of produce at 7.30pm.

The schedules are still available from: John Toomer (Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent), Best One Shop (Lower Square, Purton), and all committee members.

Further Details: David Herbert (Chairman) or Heather Harris (Hon. Sec.)



From Cricklade Fire Station

During June crews from Cricklade attended 18 emergency calls:

- 01/6/11 at 19.10 chimney fire, Chelworth, Cricklade
 - 5 serious road traffic collisions on A419 and at Marston Meysey and Minety, on 8, 9, 12, 13 and 18 June, with person trapped.
 - 14/6/11 at 11.19 fire in car manufacturing plant, Swindon. Make Pumps 9
 - 26/6/11 at 00.10 car fire with damage to adjacent property, Minety
- plus 6 co-responder calls and 4 automatic fire alarm calls, Cricklade*



Purton Diary - August 2011

from July to Sept: Maskelyne Exhibition at Museum - see posters for dates/times

August

3	W	9.30am	Age Concern Village outing to Weston
4	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
6	Sa	2.00pm	Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall (by Silver Threads)
<hr/>			
7	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
9	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: <i>All about Buttons</i>
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
11	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
12	F	11.00am	to 4pm: Flower Festival at St Sampson's, Cricklade
		9.30am	Age Concern minibus to Swindon
13	Sa		Purton F.C. start of new season
		10.00am	to 5pm: Flower Festival at St Sampson's, Cricklade
		11.00am	to 4pm: Steam & Vintage Weekend at Swindon & Cricklade Rly
		7.30pm	Purton FC Race Night at the Red House
<hr/>			
14	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		11.00am	to 4pm: Steam & Vintage Weekend at Swindon & Cricklade Rly
		11.00am	to 4pm: Flower Festival at St Sampson's, Cricklade
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
16	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
17	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall: <i>Summer Fun. Competition: a Decorated Sunhat</i>
20	Sa	10.00am	to 12.30pm and 1.30 to 4pm: Maskelyne Bicentenary Family Activities Day at the Village Hall
<hr/>			
21	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong BCP at St Mary's Church
23	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Christina Stapley - <i>Herbs to Aid the Gardener</i>
24	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
25	Th	8.00pm	Darts League AGM at The Angel

27 Sa 2.00pm RBL Horticultural Show open to public at the Red House
(exhibitors see details on [page 33](#))

28 Su 8.00am Holy Communion BCP at St Mary's Church
10.30am Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
10.30am Parish Communion CW at St Mary's Church
11.00am *to 4pm*: Children's Treasure Hunt at Swindon & Cricklade Rly
6.00pm Evensong BCP at St Mary's Church
6.00pm United Circuit Service at WB Methodist Church to welcome
new minister David Perkins

29 M **Bank Holiday**
11.00am *to 4pm*: Children's Treasure Hunt at Swindon & Cricklade Rly
31 W 7.00pm P&L Charity Fund AGM at Purton Club

September

3 Sa 11.00am *to 4pm*: P&L Charity Fund Village Fair at Sun Inn, L/Millicent
2.00pm Age Concern jumble sale at the Village Hall
4 Su 2.00pm Annual Parish Walk from Village Hall
7 W 2.00pm Age Concern mystery tour with tea provided
10 Sa 10.00am *to 4pm*: Celebration of 25 years of the Age Concern minibus
service at the Village Hall

Every week

Tu 9.15am *to 11.30am*: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
7.30pm Bridge Club at the Red House
W 10.00am *to 12noon*: Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall
6.30pm Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
W 7.30pm RAOB Excelsior Lodge at The Red House
Th 9.15am *to 11.30am*: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Th 11.15am *to 1pm*: New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre
Th 2.30pm Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

Moon Phases

● 6 August ○ 13 August ◐ 21 August ● 29 August

If your Club or Organization's Events are not included in the Diary Pages, contact:
Purton Magazine c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill
or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

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

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 26 August from 9.00am to 11.00am.

The Country Market Society has been around since 1919 and the Cricklade branch will celebrate its 20th birthday this year. 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).

Group for Patients - G4P

Purton and Green Gable Surgery

Seasonal Flu Clinics

These will be starting at the end of September and the surgery would initially like to invite the following people to call the surgery to make an appointment ...

- Anyone over 65 years of age
- Anyone aged 5-64 years who have one or more of the following
 - Diabetes
 - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
 - Chronic Heart Disease
 - Chronic Renal failure
 - Have undergone a splenectomy
 - Severe Asthma resulting in recent hospitalisation or taking inhaled steroids on an ongoing basis (i.e. not seasonal)
- In receipt of a Carer's Allowance
- Pregnant Ladies

The surgery intends to virtually complete its vaccination programme by the end of October. Please ring 770207 (752633 for Green Gable branch surgery) to make an appointment from 14 September onwards. Please note that patients who are given an appointment who do not fulfil NHS criteria will be turned away as the surgery is unable to give this vaccine privately. A special Saturday clinic will be available in early October exclusively for patients in the at risk groups who work during the week.

A New website for the surgery is currently being built and will be launched shortly.

Health Promotion events: We want to know what events you would like us to arrange, so will be asking for your ideas and suggestions. Look out for the questionnaire which will be in your local magazine, in the surgeries and coming out by email

Fundraising

Why do we need to fundraise? ...

When we hold events we need to pay for the hire of the venue. In addition we have been asked about providing (a) baby-changing facilities and (b) a new stand for the leaflets in the surgery. We will be holding a tea/coffee afternoon in October to begin funding for these.

Email contact

Please remember that if you would like information by email then let us have your email address – either by handing it in to the surgery marked *'for the attention of Kim'* or by sending it to us by emailing groupforpatients@gmail.com

Appointments System

Linda Hoffen, Practice Manager, writes ...

"When we changed our appointment system some five or six years ago we made

approximately 30% of our appointments bookable on the day and the rest pre-bookable up to ten days in advance. We decided at that time to add the following week's appointments every Thursday. Our reasons for changing the system were threefold: at that time the government set targets which stated that patients had to be able to see a doctor (please note this did not necessarily mean the doctor of choice) within two working days. This also meant that urgent cases could be seen quickly. Secondly, when appointments could be made up to two months ahead our rate of non-attendances was unacceptably high, and thirdly, patients told us that if they suddenly became ill they had no chance of seeing their favourite doctor because they were already full for at least a month!

"After an initial adjustment period, this system worked well for a couple of years and patient feedback was very positive. However, over time, there was an increased expectation that an appointment could be made on the day for a specific doctor. These appointments became increasingly requested for non-urgent matters, making it difficult for patients who medically really needed to be seen quickly to get an appointment. Our patients also told us, via the various questionnaires, that they disliked having to phone in at eight thirty to get an appointment as this was not always convenient and that it was difficult to get through.

"So have we changed our system again? The answer is not really. We have now made over eighty five percent of our appointments available for pre-booking. In order to do this, we have had to ensure that a system is in place whereby any patient who has an urgent medical need can be seen. What now happens is that if we have no appointments left and our patient feels an appointment on the day is necessary, a telephone assessment will be carried out by a doctor and any necessary action taken (including an appointment if deemed appropriate). The only real change is that we have put the emphasis for on-day appointments on medical need, not doctor choice, but at the same time we have released up to 100 more appointments for pre-booking (subject to holidays etc). I would also like to add that whilst triaging (assessing) all same day requests, usually by nurses, is now the norm in the majority of practices, we only use it when all our appointments have been taken, and it is then done by doctors.

"Does this mean patients will always be able to see their favourite doctor? Unfortunately, we could never promise that, although surveys reveal that our patients achieve this 83% of the time against a Wiltshire average of 77% and a national average of 73% We have eight doctors, between them offering over 640 appointments each week for our practice population of nearly ten thousand, which is a high appointment to patient ratio. A full-time doctor sees approximately 125 patients per week; a part-time doctor will obviously see fewer than that, but they do take holidays, and also have to attend regular training days to keep their knowledge up to date. All the doctors are more than happy for their patients to see one of their colleagues when they are fully-booked as patient notes are kept fully up to date on our computer system. What we do promise is that we try to give all our patients an equal chance of seeing their doctor of choice, and where this is not possible we will always endeavour to meet their medical need."

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary G4P

PURTON PLACARD

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

PURTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

50th Anniversary

Commemorating the bicentenary
of the death of Nevil Maskelyne
5th Astronomer Royal



July - September

Exhibition at Purton Museum

20 August

Family Activities Day at the
Village Hall

10am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4pm

Purton Age Concern
JUMBLE SALE

at the Village Hall

on Saturday 3 September
starting at 2 pm

Lots of bargains, nearly new,
bric a brac, books, toys etc.

Raffle and refreshments

Jumble can be left at the Hall
between 12 noon and 1 pm.

Purton Age Concern
Invites you to a

Special Celebration
25 Years Of Our Minibus
Service

Come and join us at the Village Hall
on Saturday 10 September any time
between 10am and 4pm for
refreshments and reminiscences!
See you there!!

Jenner Hall & Bath Road Infants School

Old School Ties Re-Union

Saturday 3 September
from 10.30am to 3.30pm
at the Jenner Hall

Come and meet all your fellow pupils.

A commemorative photograph is planned.

Morning coffee, light lunch and tea with cakes.
so we know catering numbers, please let us know
you are attending ...

email reunion@crickladejennerhall.org.uk or
telephone Wyn Pearce (759403), Jill Sherwood
(751495) or Vicky (759338).

Please bring along any photographs you have of
your school days and bring a raffle prize with you.

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.

Purton Football Club
Race Night
at the Red House Club
Saturday 13 August
Own a Horse in Your Name
Great Prizes Raffle
Fantastic Food Available
Music

Anyone interested in buying bags of
Knitting Wool
for a fiver?

They have been given to Libbie to help raise money for 'Help for Heroes' and Christian Aid.
Please contact Libbie 771018 if you would like to see the wool.
Each bag full is a bargain

Purton & District Darts League

AGM

Thursday 25 August 2011
at The Angel, Purton
Starting at 8pm prompt
All welcome

Please can at least 1 member from each team be present to register your team
Registration fee of £10.00 per team payable on the night
Any propositions to be in writing by 3 days before meeting to Alison Evans (Secretary) 3 Hoggs Lane, Purton

Willows Counselling Service
One Year Extended Certificate Course In Integrative Counselling

"The Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes Framework for Counselling" Level 3

Commencing SEPTEMBER 2011
For syllabus, application form and further information please contact:
Avril Fray, 01793 426650
E-mail:

training@willowscounselling.org.uk

St Marys PTA

Pop Quiz

Friday 30 September
Lower School Hall

Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start
Tickets £2 per person – teams max 6
Licensed bar (thus adult-only event)
Tickets available from Lorraine (772357)

St Sampson's Church Cricklade
Flower Festival 2011

Friday 12 August 11am - 4pm
Saturday 13 August 10am - 5pm
Sunday 14 August 11am - 4pm
Tea, coffee, squash and cakes.

St Mary's Church, Purton
Barn Dance

Saturday 1 October
7pm at the Village Hall, Purton
All welcome

Bring and Share Supper
Licensed Bar

Tickets Adults £6,
children (under 11) £3
Tel: Sandra 770157, Alison 772896,
Sheila 770970, Val 771201,
Glady's 77037

Silver Threads

Open Day

23 September
10am - 4pm

Watch out for posters

Green Tips – Purton's NatureWatch

This month I must thank John Lilley for the majority of the information in this article. He is a keen observer and, as a dog walker, sees a lot of wildlife when he uses Purton's wonderful network of rights of way and narrow roads. There have been two breeding pairs of foxes each with three cubs in the Vasterne area. Usually, one would expect to see two cubs but the fact that there are more rabbits about than usual may account for the extra cub per family. John tells me that one of the set of cubs were much younger than the other.

I have seen kestrels about this June and was delighted to hear that they were nesting in the Hoggs Lane/ Vasterne Hill area in March and April. Their "kee kee" call alerted John to their presence. The young birds had fledged before May as the adults' calls were no longer being heard by then. The cuckoo has been heard earlier than usual this year and I last heard one in June, which is a first for me.

The numbers of small birds are down on last season, particularly the chaffinches. There are a lot more magpies around so maybe they have contributed to this decline. But I have enjoyed the rarer visitors to my garden such as the siskin, and the greater-spotted and green woodpecker.

Long-tailed tits (*right*) and blue tits have been seen taking lambs' wool for nests around Ringsbury and they were still hatching out at the beginning of June. Certainly there are many blue tits and great tits visiting the gardens around Vasterne Hill and Hoggs Lane. These colourful acrobats are so swift when darting on to feeders and when speeding away to enjoy the sunflower seeds under the protection of the leaves.

I am pleased to report that bullfinches are plentiful this year in Vasterne Hill and their beautiful plumage is gorgeous. Collared doves have been producing well and are evident in groups of threes and fours as I speak in July. The wood pigeons are staying near those places where residents regularly replenish feeders and bird tables, which is not really surprising. Around the larger ponds in the area, reed warblers have been spotted.

The badger population has been increasing in Ringsbury Camp and the fields near Hoggs Lane. Also these pastures have revealed a good population of pheasants. In fact their calls were loud around the end of May. Please do not hesitate to describe your wildlife observations to me and I will include them in the next Purton *NatureWatch*.

Compiled by Jane Smith with the assistance of John Lilley 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



*Photo © DJS Photography, www.djsphotography.co.uk
With kind permission*

Chiseldon Travel Club/Dixon Group Tours - 2011 Trip

The club has just returned from a 10-day trip to Switzerland, a place we visited before in 2005 but this time we based ourselves at the alpine resort of Villars, a lovely little village set high in the mountains where we all had lovely rooms with balcony looking down the valley at the mountains.

Our day trips out took us to Lake Geneva with a sightseeing tour and a lake cruise, the Golden Pass train through the Alps, Montreaux and a tour of the famous Chillon Castle and possibly “the jewel in the crown” of the holiday – a train ride into the snow covered mountains to see the Matterhorn. We spent pleasant hours in the picturesque little towns of Gruyere and Gstaad and of course visited the chocolate factory where they were most generous with their free samples! The club is celebrating 30 years of travel this year and with 44 on board this was our largest ever group.

Its time to think about 2012 now – our European trip will be to Lake Maggiore in Northern Italy in late August/early September 2012. This will be by coach using the Shuttle to France with a night taken in Metz and Bern on the way down and Lucerne and Reims on the way home. Our base for 7 nights will be the 4* Hotel Bristol and we will take day excursions from here. We intend to make what we expect to be the final tour to New Zealand (so good that we have done it 13 times already!) in January 2013 to give time to plan and save for this one month tour. This is the ultimate holiday to a spectacularly scenic destination and a trip you will never forget. If you are interested in either of these tours please contact Sharon and Ian Dixon, tel 01793 741210, or email sharian@clara.co.uk.

We Record ...

Baptisms

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 19 June | Charlie Robin Were Beer, and
Oliver George Beer <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 26 June | Harry Michael Sydney Oram <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 3 July | Phebe Rose Giles <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 10 July | Poppy Grace Fudge <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |



Weddings

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 11 June | Alexander James Rainbow & Claire Lorraine Davey
<i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 9 July | Ian Golding & Andrea Howard <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 9 July | Vasco Lobo & Hayley New <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |

Funerals

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 14 June | Richard (Dick) Grimes (85) <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |
| 5 July | Lillian Greenaway <i>at St Mary's Church</i> |

To add your family announcements to this section contact Purton Magazine. Addresses on [page 4](#). We are happy to include births, marriages, deaths, special birthdays and anniversaries, exam successes ...

Haiku Corner

Purton Magazine is always looking out for new ways to engage with readers to help develop the magazine and to try and make it even more interesting to read.

Although we currently have a healthy group of regular contributors who already make the magazine what it is today, we would like to encourage more readers of all ages to send in an even wider range of contributions for publication. This month we are launching a Haiku Corner.

Readers may know that haikus in English are a development of a form of traditional Japanese poetry. We are also very aware that there are many Japanese language speakers in our area and we would be delighted to receive any comments and corrections about this latest initiative.

Although rules can vary, there appear to be some basic rules for English language haikus that have developed by common consent – namely that each haiku should consist of just three lines with a total of 17 syllables. The first line has 5 syllables, the second line 7 and the last line 5 again; a 5 - 7 - 5 arrangement, requiring an economy of expression.

More advanced haikus can be further restricted by including a word to indicate the season in which it is set, such as snow for winter or cricket for summer.

However for the purposes of Purton Magazine, we would like to publish readers' haikus in the coming months. Your haikus can be published with or without a title and with or without your name underneath; please let us know when submitting your haikus – our contact details are on [page 4](#). Here are a few to start you thinking and we hope that more and more readers will be encouraged to try writing their own haikus for the magazine.

Hacking telephones.
Bribery and corruption
wraps tomorrow's chips.

Beautiful dresses,
the county set at weddings
elegance at play.

I'm sitting alone.
I'd contemplate my navel
if I could see it!

Tintern Abbey

Building defiant
while swallows swirl in and out
through flute shaped windows.

Tebbit's cricket test:
Indian cricketers here
plus their supporters!

It is hoped that you will have lots of fun rising to the challenge of creating a message or a mental picture in just 17 syllables and then enjoying the satisfaction of seeing your words printed in a future issue of your magazine.

And another one in the hope we can elicit other contributions as well ... !

Purton Magazine
Births, marriages, deaths and bowls.
Is there nothing more?

Olympic Torch

At the Area Board meeting on 6 July, we heard from Laurie Bell about the plans to bring the Olympic flame through Wiltshire. We have been asked to nominate people to carry this flame through our community and here is the link to the website for nominations: www.london2012.com/games/olympic-torch-relay/index.php

Also, we were invited to volunteer ourselves to get involved, dress the route, develop projects on the route and ensure people are on the route to do our own "Wiltshire wave".

If you are interested, do get in touch via Alison.sullivan@wiltshire.gov.uk and I will ensure your details are passed to Laurie – thank you to those who have already volunteered.

Details about the route will be publicised once known, but we are really hoping that Royal Wootton Bassett will feature, perhaps, so will other parts of our community?

ALISON SULLIVAN
07917 721371 or 01249 821621

"Coping with Change"

When Rev Steve Cullis left Purton Methodist Church on Sunday 10 July this poem below was read to him, as he set off for his new job and new life in Norfolk

As we get older we get more wary of change. We often feel insecure and unsettled when our routines and the people who are part of our life, change.

This prayer about change is from *God's Open Word* and is by Ward Jones, from Bristol Methodist Circuit.

Seasons speak of change; weather of unpredictability.
We experience their rich variety with each new day.
Yet in our lives we struggle with change.
Sometimes we long for a change of circumstance.
Sometimes we fear the uncertainty of change or we simply want to stay as we are.
Sometimes we keep busy, so that we won't even have to consider it.
So, Lord, what about today?
What changes big and small do we anticipate?
And, if we find ourselves unexpectedly confronted by the
Prospect of change, how will we react?
Help us to check out everything with you.
How would you tackle this challenge we now face?
Help us not to forget, Lord, that you came to change the world,
To turn it upside down:
People, places, attitudes,
Expectations, hopes and fears.
So, Lord WHAT ABOUT TODAY?
Amen

And here we go ... !

I've just 'done' my first Baptism!

What an honour! How marvellous to be able to baptise someone from the village I know personally and see most weeks at Pram Service.

This is one of the practical things I now have the authority to do since being ordained priest a week ago in Bristol Cathedral.



Truthfully I had no idea what a magnificent occasion that would be. I thought there would be a few prayers, hymns and the Bishop would lay his hands on us but it resembled one of those ceremonies that Britain does very well in the way of glitter and grandeur. Sitting in the front row (like you do!) I did think well this isn't like Purton and the real stuff that goes on there, you know, the highs and lows that we experience in daily life.

However we were strangely reassured by the down to earth hilarious talks from the Bishop. (What; a Bishop who was down to earth? Yes, really!) I was extremely fortunate and am very grateful to Jane Haslam to help me get through the University and College course to get here. Without her and Mike's help and with that of others in the Diocese I wouldn't have got through.

So here we are and it's business as usual in the Village but with a dog collar and a big L-plate on. Buckets of visiting, plenty of baptisms and services to help with. My title? Deacon and assistant curate of St Mary's Church, Purton. Nowhere else, just this village. I'm delighted, thrilled and definitely honoured.

We have a special relationship with the Methodist Church that I am keen to foster and am looking forward to the arrival of the new Minister in September and to working with him on joint Services.

BUT I do have a big L-plate on. I don't know all the answers, and probably never will, needing help to fulfil this wonderful job God has asked me to do. We still depend on visiting priests to help us on Sundays with Services at church and also in the week.

The churchwardens, Gladys Legg and a host of others are still keeping the church afloat in the absence of a Vicar. We are praying and advertising for the right one to come along to lead us.

Oh, and it won't be me! I'm a pensioner and too old for that role! So get praying please.

JUDITH WELLS,
Assistant Curate, St Mary's Church

*Picture: Jude (right) with Jane Haslam, outside the Cathedral.
(photo: Francis Sheppard)*

St Mary's Flower Festival

These pictures were taken of floral arrangements at the Flower Festival in St Mary's Church for Nevil Maskelyne's Bicentenary. They are all ideas, designs and arranged courtesy of Anne Bartlett.



Swindon Older People's Forum (SOPF)

Prompted by the initial interest and enthusiasm, a number of senior citizens are exploring wider interest in setting up a local, independent Swindon Older People's Forum (SOPF) to promote the welfare and interests of older people across the Borough. The principal aim's of Older People's Forums are to help this age group have a louder voice on matters which impact on their everyday lives, and to facilitate discussion and debate on their issues and concerns.

Over the summer and early autumn, a Working Group of around 10 people will develop the ideas for establishing an SOPF, based on views and ideas that emerged from a preliminary meeting held in mid-June. The Working Group will also draw on the experiences of Older People's forums elsewhere and advice and guidance from organisations such as Age UK. They will ensure that, if formally established, a SOPF adds value to, and does not duplicate or antagonise, the work and interests of existing older age sector clubs and groups.

In late October/early November a proposed Borough-wide open meeting will look at the Working Group's recommendations and formally launch the Swindon Older People's Forum. If you think this is a good idea and/or have an interest in being involved, or simply want more information, contact Dave Brown (dave.abrown@btinternet.com) or telephone 01793 612037.

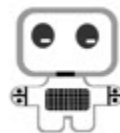


E-Safety News

On a recent Flexi-Day the ICT department worked with Year 9 students on the topic of E-Safety. The students were set the task of creating an 'E-Safety character' which could be used on any school publications to do with E-Safety as well as being displayed in ICT classrooms during the next academic year. Students submitted their E-Safety characters and the ICT department had the difficult job of narrowing down all the entries to find just one winner and two runners up.

Well done to Jackson Price whose E-Safety character was the winner and to Lucy Purnell and Lucy Phelps who were the runners up.

Look out for Jackson's 'E-Safety character' making appearances around school during the academic year of 2011/12.



Year 8 Science Trip to University of West of England (UWE)

A group of 30 Year 8 Gifted and Talented (AGAT) students attended a Science day at UWE in June. The day ran smoothly and the students were a credit to the school getting involved in all practical sessions and asking many thoughtful questions. The students were given taster sessions

on Forensic Science, Microbiology and Experimental Psychology; one hour per session. In the **Forensics laboratories** they learnt techniques for lifting and storing finger marks from porous (paper) and non-porous (glass) surfaces, as well as what features to look for when analysing fingerprints. They also learnt how substances are identified from very small traces of material. In the **Microbiology laboratories** students looked at images



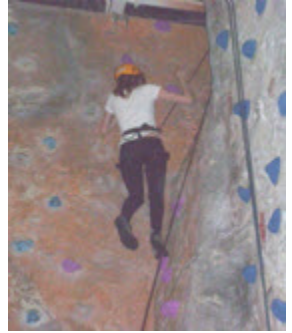
through Scanning Electron Microscopes (SEM) and Transmission Electron Microscopes (TEM) which magnify images up to 60,000 times. Students observed and identified pond-life under light microscopes and they carried out a small investigation into the effectiveness of antiseptics and cleaning agents at killing luminescent bacteria. One of the students commented, 'I learnt that you can identify where someone died looking at the microbes in their lungs and the difference between finger marks and finger prints'. In the **Experimental Psychology laboratories**, they looked at techniques for measuring eyesight and the measurement of perception by looking at a range of optical illusions. The experiments were enjoyed by students and their teachers. This trip provided a wonderful opportunity for students to see a real scientific research environment with advanced equipment as well as an opportunity to see some of the applications of science learnt at school but taken to a higher level.

Swindon Schools' Climbing Competition: Bradon Forest Team - Junior and Senior Champions!

In April, Bradon Forest entered the first Swindon Schools' Climbing Competition at the Link Centre. A number of schools, represented by teams of four climbers in both the Junior and Senior sections, took part. All teams had to climb ten different walls, with each student having to climb at least two. An increasing degree of difficulty was set for each climb, which challenged both the beginner and the more able.

After a very hectic and exciting morning, Bradon Forest were declared champions in both the Junior and Senior sections. In the afternoon an individual competition took

place with one student representing his or her school in a speed challenge. The first to the top wins in a knock out basis. Alisha Garside was the emphatic winner of the Junior section and Curzio Portenza for the Seniors. They then decided to have a final challenge to have an overall winner. Alisha just beat Curzio to the top of the wall with one of the fastest climbs of the day. Congratulations to Alisha Garside, Molly Griffin, Nathaniel Hoy and Takumi Ishida (Junior Team). Curzio Portenza, Loren Stone, Caroline Bigley and Robert Mills (Senior Team). A big thank-you to Mrs Garside and Mrs Hoy for their support and encouragement on the day.



Primary Schools Wake and Shake

Recently 100 smiling parents of over 60 primary pupils performed at the fourth Bradon Forest Family Wake and Shake Festival. The festival took place in the Bradon Forest Theatre, giving the primary pupils the opportunity to perform in a professional venue. The theme this year was 'Summer' so music included hits like *Cooler than me* and *Surfin' USA*. As well as performing, the pupils from St Mary's, St Sampson's Infants and St Sampson's Junior

Schools could watch the other routines and gain ideas for next year. Bradon Forest Pom Dancers opened and closed the festival, providing the younger children with moves to try out and perfect for when they are at Bradon Forest School and can be Pom Dancers! A special well done goes to Eleasha Kell and Molly Griffin who were the compères for the night and did a fantastic job.

L SPIERS, Headteacher

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

Exhibit of the Month: A Summons

We're naming and shaming this month ... but only 70 years after the event. It was October 1940 and the Second World War had just entered its 2nd year. Because of the risk of bombing raids the Government had brought in Blackout Regulations in 1939. We have in the Museum a Summons issued to Mr Frank Kempster of 2 High Street, Purton – this was the location of Kempster's Store next door to the Workingmen's Institute.

The Summons was typed onto a purple form of foolscap paper, slightly longer than standard A4 paper today. The top of the sheet indicated the Jurisdiction: In the county of Wilts. Petty Sessional Division of Cricklade. The form is multiple choice – the “delete where appropriate” type – and after ignoring those bits crossed out reads as follows:

“Information has been laid and made this day by William Thomas Brooks of Swindon in the County of Wilts, Deputy Chief Constable, for that you the said Frank Kempster on the twenty-fifth day of October, 1940, at the Parish of Purton in the said County of Wilts, did unlawfully permit a light to be displayed inside a certain dwellinghouse there situate and known as 2, High Street, during the hours of darkness, to wit, at 8.15 p.m. Such light not being so obscured as to prevent any illumination therefrom being visible from the outside of the said dwellinghouse – Contrary to Paragraph 1(a) of the Lighting (Restrictions) Order 1940.

“You are therefore hereby summoned to appear at the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, sitting at The Town Hall, Cricklade in the said County of Wilts, on Wednesday the eighteenth December 1940, at the hour of Eleven o'clock in the forenoon to answer the said Information.”

The Summons is signed by A Strange, a Justice of the Peace for Wilts.

We also have receipt for the Cricklade Petty Sessional Division, issued by the Magistrates' Clerk's Office at Wootton Bassett for the fine of Ten Shillings. Although in appearance this was 50p in today's money, it had the spending equivalent of £20 today. Not a major fine, more like a strong slap on the wrist – don't do it again!

Besides the rather quaint language in the Summons, there is also a point of interest in the time that the light was showing. Sunset on 25 October would be about 5.45pm but of course during the war years, Daylight Saving Time (Summer Time) was replaced with Double Daylight Saving so sunset would have been around 6.45pm that day. There is much talk at the moment of changing to Central European Time with the summer being one hour ahead. This would effectively put us back to the equivalent of Double Daylight Saving with longer lighter evenings.

I also noticed while driving today through West Swindon that there are signs up saying that street lights on some main roads have been switched off to save energy. So back to some sort of a black-out!

Visit us on our web site at www.purtonmuseum.com where there will be pictures of the paperwork.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer

Junior Golf

With the school holidays upon us, it is time for children to get out and about, and sample delights of sun and fresh air, away from their computer games. Parents! – why not steer them to the nearest golf club? ... a whole new sporting adventure awaits?

Many Wiltshire Golf Clubs are now GolfMark accredited – meaning they are Junior friendly and have rigorous child protection policies in place. Most offer a mixture of free, subsidised and group coaching conducted by experienced PGA Professionals – and a Junior Organiser arranges regular events through the holidays.

Many boys and girls now receive basic golf coaching at school. The Summer Holiday period is the perfect time to put that work into practice – and in an environment in which they will make quality lifetime friends while getting much needed fresh air and exercise.

For the more competitive, most clubs also arrange their Junior Open during this holiday – when many boys and girls from around the county converge on a single club for a golfing bonanza. The following selection may be useful:

- Thur 28 Jul Marlborough
- Wed 3 Aug Broome Manor
- Mon 8 Aug West Wilts
- Wed 17 Aug Chippenham
- Thur 18 Aug Manor House
- Fri 19 Aug Kingsdown
- Sat 20 Aug The Wiltshire
- Thur 25 Aug Bowood
- Thur 27 Oct North Wilts.

The price for most of these is £5 – 10, including food. The EGU Golf Central website will guide you to much more information on these, as well as Entry Forms. Also, if you are away on holiday in England, the EGU Golf Central website will help you discover what is going on near your holiday destination.

With luck, you may find you have a budding Rory McIlroy on your hands. You will also be helping to keep Wiltshire at the top of the English golf tree. You might also like to try the game yourself – golf is a great family game offering real quality time together, and one of the few that you can enjoy as a player when age or injury rule out other sports. Further help on any of these matters is available from Wiltshire Golf Partnership's Development Officer, Joe Goulding, on 07789 813268 and 01249 248983 and at wiltscdo@live.co.uk

Purton Bowls Club

With the season half way over, the men's section continue league games in the Swindon and District competitions, and are in the next round of the Wiltshire Tourist Trophy. Alison Fail and Christine Mitchell are playing for Wiltshire in the Walker Cup at Weston-Super-Mare on Sunday 17 July and Alison has qualified for the National Champion of Champions against Dorset.

The National Championships are played late in July at Leamington for the ladies and the men's finals are held at Worthing.

We wish all members good luck in their competitions.

BARBARA WOOLFORD



As I write this we still have some weeks to go before we can really assess how well our teams have done this year. Certainly the Ladies A and the Ladies C teams are doing well and we hope for medals and promotion for them. But things are not so clear in the Men's and Mixed teams. There is plenty to play for with effort and determination and I look forward to giving you even more positive news in due course.

Rob Negus, our coach, has reported excellent progress with the primary schools in our area. Plenty of enthusiasm there and we hope it will carry on through the winter months. But let's not think about that now. Instead we are turning our minds to next year which will be Centenary Year for the Club. One initiative we are planning will be to hold a Wooden Racket Tournament in the summer. So if you have a wooden racket possibly well-protected in its special frame you should think of joining us then. It should be fun and it will be fascinating to see how we all get on with such antique weapons.

If you have one of these rackets and don't want to play, would you consider lending it to us? We'd be most grateful. More details later.

We're also on the look out for any memorabilia relating to the Club in its early days. Photographs, news reports or just personal memories will be very welcome. Nicola Gardner is master-minding the enterprise so please contact her if you think you have some relevant information 01793 770681.

CAROLINE McLEAN (01793 770525)

Purton F.C.

Pre-season training started on 28 June in readiness for the forthcoming season that will see the first team again competing in the Hellenic league Division 1 West under the guidance of Manager Chris Pethick assisted by Steve Hall and Purton Reserves (who were Purton Redhouse) last season changing back to their Reserve title under a new management team of Gary Donnelly and Albert Dearing and will again be competing in the Wiltshire Premier League.



Last season the Hellenic side finished 6th in the league and were runners up in the Supplementary Cup whilst the Reserves ended up in mid-table. This season both sides will be hoping to improve on those placings.

The club is hopeful of attracting some new players but at the same time is expecting a few departures. The first league games of the 2011/2012 season commence on 13 August but prior to that both teams will have played a few friendly games.

The Youth and Minors won't be starting their fixtures until September and are hopeful of running an under 16 and under 15 team that will play their games at the Red House on Sundays and under 14s and under 12s and possibly some other age-groups but this has yet to be decided.

The club is still looking for match sponsors and programme advertisers for the new season. Contact Alan Eastwood on 729844 or email: alan.eastwood83@ntlworld.com for more information if you would like to support the Club in any shape or form.

The club will also be holding a Race Night on the evening of Saturday 13 August at the Red House, so make a note in your Diary and hope to see you there.

The club would appreciate your support at all their games at Senior, Youth and Minor levels. Your support is invaluable and is appreciated by all the Purton players participating in their respective teams.

ALAN EASTWOOD, President

Purton Cricket Club



Both senior teams are in the top half of their divisions and the junior elevens are recording good results, in spite of losing many of the coaching sessions on Friday evenings due to inclement weather. Current junior players performing well in county teams include Alex Duffel (U10), Patrick Whittaker, Sean Parker and Elijah Samuel (U12), Elijah Samuel (U13) and Tom Whittaker (U15).

The Club hosted its first girls' county cricket fixture when Wiltshire U13s played Somerset U13s on 3 July. On 31 July Wilts U15 girls will play against Dorset, again on Purton's attractive ground.

Matches at Purton in August:

Sat 6	2 nd XI v Cherhill	1.45pm
Sun 7	U13 v Shrivenham	1.30pm
Sat 13	1 st 11 v Burbage	1.15pm
Sun 14	U11 v Devizes	10.30am
Sun 14	U15 v Wootton Bassett	1.30pm
Sat 20	2 nd XI v Westinghouse	1.15pm
Sat 27	1 st XI v Avebury	1.15pm

From the Archives

On 2 September 1975, the Western Daily Press reported the following under the heading "New bid for bar."

"Cricketers in Purton, near Swindon, have changed tactics in their bid for a bar to go with their new pavilion.

"An alcohol ban was imposed by local benefactor, the late Mr James Sadler, when he gave the cricket club its grounds in 1911.

"Now the 155-year-old club, the oldest in Wiltshire, is trying to buy a piece of land adjoining the cricket pitch to build a separate bar."

Note: I think the word "ground" would have been a more accurate word than "pitch".

JOE GARDNER

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Swindon & Cricklade Railway

STEAM AND VINTAGE WEEKEND

Sat/Sun 13/14 August 11 am to 4 pm

Steam, petrol and diesel vehicles including cars, commercials, bikes, traction engines and agricultural equipment. Plus collections of smaller bygones, vintage models, traders' stands and fairground rides for the children.

The prices, to include steam train rides on our extended line, are £9 for adults, £6 for children and £5 for children. Refreshments are on the field and in the railway cafeterias. Museum, shop and picnic area.

CHILDREN'S TREASURE HUNT

Sun/Mon 28/29 August 11am to 4 pm

An easy fun day for the kids – spot 30 little engines placed around the railway and win a prize. More details from web site nearer the time.

We are also open on the following Wednesdays during the school holidays: on 3/10/17 & 24 August and 26 October for diesel train rides

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

Enquiries on 01793 750335 or 771615 or www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org.

World's Biggest Coffee Morning: 30 September 2011

Macmillan Cancer Support in Wiltshire is gearing up for this year's World's Biggest Coffee Morning, which this year celebrates its 21st birthday.

Every year, thousands of people from across the country get together in their communities to raise money and awareness for Macmillan while having a great time with family and friends. Since its launch in 1990, the World's Biggest Coffee Morning has raised over £60million for Macmillan.

Last year, 570 people registered to hold their own coffee mornings in Wiltshire and our generous supporters raised £82,000 in this county alone, making a huge difference to the lives of people affected by cancer. Each day, ten people in Wiltshire are diagnosed with cancer, and Macmillan works to turn more days into good days.

2011 also marks another special occasion for Macmillan – our centenary. One hundred years ago, Douglas Macmillan founded the charity and since then, Macmillan has been providing medical, financial and emotional support to people living with cancer and their loved ones.

Although caffeine-based events are the most popular, yours doesn't have to be about coffee – why not organise a craft fair and sell handmade goods to your community? Or celebrate our centenary in style with a champagne-filled garden party?

To find out more and for ideas for your own event, please visit www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee to register. Alternatively, you can contact Macmillan's local office on 01793 432252.

JOHN McCREADY

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



We've all been making the most of the good weather by getting outside as much as possible.

Guides have staged a family rounders match, played wide games at Lydiard Park and tried their hands at orienteering at Coate Water. One Saturday morning they also took part in a Canadian canoeing taster session at Coate Water, joined by the eldest Brownies who are due to move on to Guides at the end of term.

Rainbows have been on nature treasure hunts, held a sports meeting and planted marigold seeds, planting a container to put on the patio at the Millennium Hall. They have also walked to the Library where the librarian read a story to them with quiet actions so they didn't disturb other library users. The Rainbows were fascinated by the new machine which they were able to use to take out a book; everyone wanted a go!

2nd Purton Brownies had a sports evening one week when each six was given items of sports equipment such as hoops or beanbags and they had to make up a game or race to include these items. They carried on the theme of games the following week with water games outside; it was a good job it was a sticky, hot evening! As one of their meetings fell on 4 July, they had an American themed Teddy Bears' Picnic at Lydiard Park when some very well dressed teddies put in an appearance.

1st Purton Brownies spent one meeting making nut feeders to hang in their gardens and making sculptures out of natural materials. They carried on the creative theme another week by making shelters for Polly Pocket dolls (which for those who don't know are very tiny dolls about 2cm tall). They worked in their Six groups and were awarded points, both for the final result and also for teamwork.

During the course of the month, we've fitted in promise ceremonies: Layla and Rianna in Rainbows and Alex, Freya, Georgia and Maria in the two Brownie units.

A big event for us a couple of weeks ago was a trip to Exeter for *Pizazz*, a South West Region event, attended by over 5,000 members of all ages. We took a party of 24 girls (Brownies and Guides) and 6 adults by train. The train journey itself was a great novelty - including running across the footbridge at Westbury station with the 4 minutes we had to spare for our connection! There was a huge range of activities for us to sample at the event - from pizza making, ferret racing, and shows indoors, to bungee trampolines, zorbing, go carts and a funfair outside (with a whole lot more besides). We all had a fantastic day and many parents reported that their daughters had talked non-stop, giving a blow by blow account of the event for the next 24 hours!



As we hope you can tell from our monthly reports for the Magazine, we are very active units, offering a full programme of activities and as such we always welcome more adults to come and help with the units. The Guide unit especially could use some extra adult help from September and we would love to find someone with a particular interest in outdoor activities. We're not looking for people to be in charge of any of our units - we are very lucky in that respect - but extra regular adult assistance would be great. If you would be interested in finding out more, please contact Jane Templar or Gill Woodward for an informal chat.



N is for ... Northview

The Workhouse in Purton was run by the Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Union and was set up under the aegis of the Poor Law. The frontage of the building in the High Street is a Listed structure and was retained when the rest of the building was demolished to make way for the flats and apartments which are currently on the site.

Alec Robbins, Purton Museum's first curator, researched and published a book, "The Workhouses of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Union" which is still in print and available from the Historical Society. The workhouses were comparatively self-sufficient, but that's not to say that they were good places to be. Life was hard for the inmates.

Inside the building, was a cross-shaped section of rooms and corridors, the very centre being the chapel and dining hall. Between the arms of the cross were four outside courtyards: the Boys' Yard (at the northeast), Girls' Yard (NW), Women's Yard (SW) and at the SE the Men's Yard divided into Able and Old Men (*see plan opposite*).

Some of the work done in the workhouse to raise money for food and upkeep included oakum picking. Oakum is loose fibres obtained by unpicking old ropes mainly from old ships' rigging. The fibres were then sold to the navy or other ship-builders and used, mixed with tar, for caulking (sealing the lining) of wooden ships. Picking oakum was done without tools of any sort and was very hard on the fingers. It was very tedious work and was performed by Poor House inmates ... and prisoners.

N is for ... New

In case you've missed it, we've started another new section in the magazine this month. On [page 30](#) we have launched a new 'haiku corner' which we hope will be of interest and challenge readers of all ages to create their own haikus and send them in to us for publication. Your contributions make your magazine such an eclectic mix of interest and local information.

N is for ... New Road

New Road was created when the village was cut in half by the railway and the 'new' part of the name came from the new connection to the Cricklade Road on the far side of the 'new' railway bridge and station. It's quite easy to imagine how the word 'new' can come into common usage for several things and then become more 'official' some years later but that will have been long before the marketing people got hold of the word. These days it may even have become the strongest and most effective three letter word in our language – surely it's used more often than any other three letter word and seems never to be retained for more than six months!

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 "O is for ..." to Purton Magazine, before 10 August, via the addresses shown on [page 4](#).*

N is for ... Nyjer

We happily spend money on bags of nyjer seeds (also known as thistle seeds) for our garden birds. The RSPB advise that seeds have a high energy rating due to their high oil content and are the preferred feed of the Finch family.

In exchange we have seven goldfinches who visit our nyjer seed feeder regularly and they are a stunning sight. It took the birds less than a week to find the seeds, once we started using them. So if you too want brilliantly coloured goldfinches in your garden, buy nyjer seeds. The birds are an absolute joy.

N is for ... Neighbours

Most months this magazine includes a few messages from people in the village thanking friends and neighbours for a wide variety of kindnesses recently received, usually in their hour of need after a major event. These contributions are further evidence that the strength of our community comes directly from the people who live here and support each other. Yet as the vast majority of kindnesses are not reported in the magazine, perhaps this little paragraph could be taken as a general thank you to everyone who so frequently help to make this such a caring and supportive community.

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT UNION WORKHOUSE 1880
at Purton

