

# Purton Magazine



**PURTON ARTISTS  
30TH EXHIBITION**  
TO BE HELD AT  
**THE VILLAGE HALL  
LOWER SQUARE, PURTON**  
**NOVEMBER**  
FRI 11th 6pm-8.30pm  
SAT 12th 10am-4pm  
SUN 13th 10am-4pm



November 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>(Mon 2 - 5pm; Tues 2 - 7pm, Wed 10am - 5pm; Fri 2 - 7pm)</i>		
Police / Fire / Ambulance	Emergency number	999
Police	Non-emergency Number	101
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**

*Priest-in-charge:* Revd Dr John R H Railton, tel 814162

*email:* [john.railton@btinternet.com](mailto:john.railton@btinternet.com)

*Asst. Curate:* Revd Judith Wells, Assistant Curate, tel 770627

*Mrs Gladys Legg, tel 770210*

*Alan Woodward, tel 771572*

*Richard McCarthy, tel 770838*

[www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton](http://www.communicate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton)

*Services:* See Diary Page in this magazine

### **METHODIST CHURCHES**

*Minister* Rev David Perkins, tel 853197

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

*Services:* PURTON See Diary Page in this magazine

*BRAYDON Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship*

### **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

#### **CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, WOOTTON BASSETT**

*Parish Priest* Father J Reville tel 852366

*Church of the Sacred Heart, High Street, Wootton Bassett*

*Services:* Holy Days Vigil 7.00pm Holy day 9.30am

*Sundays 10.30am Mass*

*For times of weekday services please see Church notice board*

#### **ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE**

*Priest* Father Philip Beisly tel 01285 712586

*St Mary's Church, High Street, Cricklade*

*Holy Days 7.00pm Mass*

*Sundays 9.30am Mass*

## From The Editors

Regular readers will know that the magazine has recently started a series of 12 different front cover illustrations that are being supplied by different members of Purton Artists. It is therefore very appropriate that this month's cover announces Purton Artists' 30<sup>th</sup> Exhibition to be held in the Village Hall in the middle of November. It is always a great show of original work by an impressive – and seemingly increasing – number of talented local people.

In order to provide the best canvas for their creations – and encouraged by several comments received recently – Purton Magazine has decided to continue with colour covers, even with the additional cost. However, we have sadly come to the point where the price of your magazine will have to increase from the January 2012 issue. After 7 long years without a cover price rise for our readers, each copy will cost 50p and the annual subscription will rise to £6.00.

The committee have reluctantly agreed to increase the price in the face of the costs of paper and printing which have risen by just over 300% in these last 7 years. We do recognise that the annual subscription will no longer offer a small financial benefit but will still enable your copies to be delivered free through your door each month.

It has also been necessary to increase the advertising rates but our informal enquiries continue to confirm that the quality and content of your magazine has steadily improved over these last 7 years. Indeed from the physical evidence we receive, Purton Magazine appears to be one of the best local magazines produced anywhere in the country.

However, to avoid any complacency and to maintain our focus on continuous improvement, readers are again requested to let us see copies of other local magazines from anywhere in the United Kingdom. Please deliver them to In Touch Services (the address details are on [page 4](#)) so that we can continue to do our very best for every reader and advertiser.

As we go to press, Wootton Bassett is preparing for the Royal visit to bestow the Royal name on the town. The Princess Royal will grant Letters Patent at an official re-naming ceremony. Already the new Royal Wootton Bassett signs have been unveiled and we would like to take this opportunity to pass on the congratulations from many people in Purton.

9<sup>th</sup>

December is the last chance to visit St Mary's Lower School building  
– see [page 32](#).

£333

was raised for Help the Heroes by Purton Bowls Club  
– see [page 35](#).

>5140

changes were rung at St Mary's church for a peal called Yorkshire Surprise Major  
– see [page 35](#).

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

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[John Creasey](#)

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

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

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## Parish Council News

**Ellen Blacker is the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator for Purton and Braydon, tel: 07557 110414**

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



Wiltshire Good Neighbours (WGN) is a service that is funded by Wiltshire Council and provided by Community First in partnership with Age UK Wiltshire and Age UK Salisbury. The service is a response to a recognised need that many people living in rural communities are unable to connect with the key services that help maintain well-being and support their quality of life. The service is primarily aimed at older people living in rural communities who may be vulnerable or at risk of becoming vulnerable. The service seeks to establish a trusted and effective bridge between vulnerable individuals and the statutory services and local voluntary organisations that are able to offer help and support. Ellen will be able to point you in the right direction if you are trying to locate services in the area so give her a call as there may be services available to you that you are not aware of and may find beneficial and helpful.

**Parish Plan** – the first public meeting was held on 28 September in the Village Hall, when around 45 people came along. The purpose of the meeting was to give an overview of what a Parish Plan is and how it fits with some of the Government's new initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Plans. The outcome of the meeting was that a community steering group has been formed to start the process of developing the plan. No doubt there will be other meetings evolving from this as we need as much community involvement as possible to make it a viable plan for our parish. So please keep this in mind and take an active interest as it will help to shape the future of our community.

**Remembrance Sunday** – Purton High Street will be closed from 2.15 pm to 3.15 pm on Sunday 13 November 2011 for the Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph. *[Ed. for further details see [page 29.](#)]*

### **Wiltshire Council has approved the following planning applications:**

- N11/02532/FUL *Polkerris, New Road, Extension*
- N11/01688/FUL *Land formerly part of Ravensroost Farm, Minety, construction of stable building (11 loose boxes tackroom and store) and menage, temporary stationing of mobile home, change of use of land from the keeping of stabling of horses for private purposes to the keeping, stabling and breeding of horses for commercial purposes and the demolition of an existing open-sided barn.*
- N11/02466/FUL *49A Berrifields, The Hyde, extension and alterations*
- N11/02377/FUL *7 Caspian Close, Mouldon View, rear conservatory.*
- N11/02517/FUL *49 The Hyde, first floor and second storey front & side extension*
- N11/02526/FUL *3 New Road, alteration of fence & gate height to two metres. Conditions: gates to open inwards.*

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N11/02332/FUL *Former Methodist Church, Pond Lane, Purton Stoke, Change of use and conversion from D1 non-residential institution to C3 dwelling house.*

**Refused Planning Applications:**

N11/02667/FUL *Land Adjacent The Manse, High Street, new dwelling (Resubmission of 10/02108/FUL).*

Planning Appeal:

N11/01465/FUL & N11/01464/LBC

*Restrop Farmhouse, erection of single storey extension (exchange of written statements and site visit by an Inspector)*

**How to contact the Parish Council:**

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

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

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

## News from The Trustees

The heading says Trustees but really what I am talking about is a joint project between the Parish Council and the Trustees. This might sound a bit double-Dutch as the Parish Council are the Trustees. I am talking about the revamp of the Playclose play area. All the old rubber tiles have been taken up, as gaps were appearing and they had become unsafe so the whole area was looking a bit dangerous and drab. We are pleased with the use the area gets, especially on nice days when St Mary's School closes. What we have done is to have the complete area refurbished with 'wet pour', plus new edges, so we sincerely hope the children will carry on enjoying the area.

The other play area is at the Purton War Memorial and Village Centre where we have had new swings. The new ones are metal framed – still if they last as long as the old wooden ones they will do well. I believe Hills donated them some years ago along with all the other wood based equipment. We are a little bit disappointed that we haven't had it done before as there have been three swings missing for some time.

Why I said this is a joint project is that the Charity owns the land at the War Memorial and Village Centre, also at the Playclose, but the Council pays for new equipment and any maintenance, so you can see where I am coming from. Being Chair of Play Areas and also the Charity, it was felt that I should write and tell you some good news for a change and I am sure I speak on behalf of all the children when I say many thanks to the Parish Council and the Trustees for making it all happen.

*Cllr TONY PRICE*

## Just a Thought

Money can't buy you friends, but you can get a better class of enemy.

*Spike Milligan*

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## Reginald Bulpin

I recently attended the funeral of Reginald Bulpin in Auckland, New Zealand. Reg lived in Purton from 1964 until 1989 in Waite Meads Close and I can remember him well as I grew up in the village.

Reg was born in East Acton and was one of ten children, his father was a builder. However when things got tough during the depression years of the 1920s and 30s he spent some time in foster care. He left school at the age of 14 and went on to work in the building trade.

Reg served in the war in the Rifle Brigade and later the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He saw service in Europe and took part in the Anzio landing in Italy, where he was later wounded. He spent two years in Germany after the war, returning to England in 1947. After the war he first worked at Nestlé, where he met Pam, his future wife. They were married in 1949. He later worked at Ford, before moving to Purton in 1964.

Reg spent many years working at Pressed Steel, always cycling to work, as he never had a car licence even though he learnt to drive in the army, but in his early years he was a keen motorcyclist. He also went on to work at the West Swindon Centre, as a maintenance man and I can remember him cycling to work there as well. Pam worked in North View Hospital for many years.

Reg and Pam moved to New Zealand in 1989, and lived next door to their son Bob and his wife Michelle. Pam passed away in 1994.

At the funeral both Bob and Reg's grandson Glen spoke about Reg's life, and the Officiant was the Reverend Diana Court who had been Reg's next door neighbour for many years.

Reg's other grandchildren Clive and Holly and his great grandson James Robert also attended the service which was held in Birkenhead on Auckland's North shore, where the Bulpin family have lived for the last 22 years.

A member of the NZ RSA (returned serviceman association) attended the funeral and spoke on behalf of the RSA.

*MIKE SAUNDERS  
an old-Purtonian in New Zealand*

## Granny's Treasures

Christian Aid in Purton organised another fundraising event in October, which was a great success. We collected together much-loved items, of sentimental and monetary value, that needed a new home. These included items such as tiny flower designs by Aynsley pottery, bags of old handmade lace and a collection of coloured glass. These items were all kindly donated and then sold for the funds. Over £985 was raised during the event, which was a wonderful outcome.

We would especially like to thank all those who gave items for sale, who helped on the day and during the preparation for the day. Also thanks to the members of the Methodist Church who allowed and encouraged the event to take place at Playclose.

*LIBBIE SHEPPARD*

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## A New Vicar?

Well – yes, sort of! It's now almost two years since Revd Jane Haslam left the village and, despite all the efforts by the Diocesan authorities, they've not succeeded in finding the right person to take on the half-time post as Vicar of Purton. But the parish needs a Priest, and the Diocese needs some more time to decide how best to meet the needs of the parish and to make a permanent appointment. So the Bishop of Bristol has appointed me as part-time Priest-in-Charge at St Mary's Purton, but just for one year, and I started the job on 1<sup>st</sup> September. I retired from full-time parish ministry nearly three years ago having been the Vicar or Rector of a number of parishes, so I bring a lot of experience with me. Before I became a parish Priest, I had a career in banking, so my varied business experience is useful too. Because I've been helping out in the parish quite a lot over the last two years, I already know many of the regular church-goers so it made sense for me to take on this role.



I live in Wroughton and I am only part-time Vicar of Purton, but I am spending quite a lot of time in the village and I shall do my best to get involved in the life of the community. But I'm very conscious that the church already has a very efficient and committed leadership team including the Curate, Revd Judith Wells, the churchwardens, Alan Woodward and Richard McCarthy, and many others. So it isn't my role to take over everything they've all been doing so well since Jane Haslam left – rather, I'm joining a team which is working very well, bringing my contribution as a Priest and my experience of parish ministry, and I'll be working alongside the church leaders whom you already know so well.

Please also remember that the Church of England is different from all other Christian churches in that we have a responsibility for the spiritual wellbeing and pastoral care of ALL the residents of the parish, not just those who are church members or attend services, so you're all part of my 'flock' and all entitled to receive the ministry of the Church. I shall look forward to meeting many of you around the village, at the schools, and in the pubs! And there will always be a warm welcome for you at the church.

*The Revd Dr JOHN RAILTON*

## Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Church Path, Church Street, Hyde Lane, The Hyde, Parkside, Church End and Manor Hill*. If there is anything that you would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship, please contact Rev John Railton, Rev Judith Wells or Rev David Perkins. Their contact details can be found on the inside cover of this magazine. You can give as much or little information as you wish. We don't even have to know a name.

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## Flowers for Harvest Festival

A quote from a visitor ... 'the church looks a picture ...'

Yes, thanks to the efforts of the St Mary's Church Flower Arrangers, supported and guided by Anne Bartlett, the Church looked really beautiful for Harvest Festival. We are so lucky to have enthusiastic volunteers who do the flowers each week in St Mary's. And, for Harvest, they pulled out all the stops!

Anne Bartlett, a recent Gold Winner of the National Flower Arrangers Guild (so she is one of the top 22 arrangers in the country!) demonstrated how to do three different styles of arrangements. She then guided and encouraged ten of the regular flower ladies to do their own arrangements, using the new skills that Anne had explained.

It was a lovely day, with a picnic lunch outside to add to the fun, and many of the ladies could not believe how much they had learnt.

We would like to take this opportunity to ...

a) thank Anne Bartlett so very much for giving her time for free, her skill and expertise, as well as her generosity, by providing all the flowers for three of the harvest displays;

b) say thank you to the regular flower ladies, who give so much time and energy each week, by paying for the flowers and making the Church look its best;

c) welcome any new people ... men, women or children ... who would like to come onto the flower rota. The commitment is to do the flowers for at least one Sunday a year;

d) invite anyone to pay for the flowers on a particular Sunday, as a memorial, a tribute or for an anniversary. We'll use the money to make the church look as beautiful as we can, even though we are only enthusiastic but unskilled volunteers

Please contact Libbie Sheppard for further information: 771018.

## Christmas Craft Show

**Saturday 5 November, 10 am to 4.30 pm at Purton Village Hall**

Free entry, plus a free tea/coffee/squash and biscuits

Many crafts will be demonstrated and available for sale. Help us solve your Christmas shopping dilemmas!

Crafts include: Hand Crafted Cards, Pyrography, Silver and Beaded Jewellery, Wooden Toys and Bowls etc, Handbags, Clothes, Cross Stitch, Knitted and Crocheted Items, Pottery, Scarves and Watches, Plus Cakes, Pastries and Preserves.

We will also be offering card making classes where you can learn how to make an unusual Christmas waterfall card (decorative card squares are mounted on a sliding strip. When the tab is pulled they open like the leaves of a book.)

Refreshments including sweets, light lunches and teas

Morning and afternoon raffle

For further details please contact: Purton and Lydiard Charity Fund, Lynda Warren, email [Lynda.warren@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lynda.warren@hotmail.co.uk)

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## Purton & District Age Concern



My word, life is very cruel at times. We go about moaning about a pain here and ache there but it puts things into perspective when you hear of the sad loss of husband and wife within months of one another. Firstly I am talking about the loss of **Roy Looker**. Roy didn't want any fuss, so there's not going to be much about him. He was a true Purtonian and devoted to Janet, his wife, and he always struck me as a fair minded person. I remember we had problems at the Venture Play Area; we met the neighbours along with Roy and Janet who were very understanding and the matter was resolved with a bit of give and take. I said it is very sad – it is for those left behind, but Janet and Roy are together now. Roy was so brave – you cannot imagine what he was going through, nursing Janet knowing her time was limited as well as his own. The family and friends tried to make up for his sad loss in any way they could, especially Yvonne and Peter, who put Janet and Roy in front of everything over the last two years. It is a credit to you all. We thank you for respecting Roy's wishes with money coming to Age Concern in lieu of flowers.

Another person who has sadly died is **Dick Adams**, a long time resident of Glevum Close and, like Roy he died within six months of his wife Mary. They were another very devoted couple who lived for one another. I think, at the end, Dick had had enough and I would not be surprised if he heard Mary's voice calling him. Dick was born in a cottage at Pavenhill, up by where the old water tower once was. I believe he was one of five – four boys and one girl. He went to Purton School – quite a step from his home. The children still do it today but it is a lot more dangerous now. I would assume Dick went into the GWR on leaving school or did he work on a farm? – which would have stood him in good stead for the future. Whichever it was, he was not there long, joining the Royal Navy and becoming an artificer during the 1939-45 war. On returning home he went back to the Railway Works, working in the steam hammer shop. It was hard work, very skilled and very hot, because all the metal they handled was red hot and it would have to be stamped into shape.

Dick was always ready to give anyone a hand. His kindness was rewarded as Mary, his wife to be, moved to Upper Pavenhill along with her father – he had retired from farming at the end of Bicknoll Lane and Mary was looking after him as he had lost his wife. At the house at Upper Pavenhill, Mary kept some chickens and their house needed some maintenance, so she asked Lil Baker who she could get to do some repairs. Lil recommended Dick – the rest is history. I have often wondered why the end of Upper Pavenhill was so special to the two of them. Of course it was where they did their courting. They were a lovely couple and so happy when they got married. They moved to South View – a smallholding along the lane opposite the *Bolingbroke Arms* at Hook and, of course, Dick was still working in the railways. When they retired, they left the smallholding and moved to Glevum Close here in Purton.

As I have said, Dick was very kind. He started off Adrian, a friend who used to help them at the smallholding, in farming by giving him his first calf and, of course, Mary was in on this. I wouldn't say Dick was stubborn, because he would listen to

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other peoples' points of view. Perhaps a better word would be 'determined'. I wonder how many people like me have stopped to ask Dick if he would like a lift down the road. The answer was always no, even though he was struggling. Dick's circuit was up Vastern Hill and Hoggs Lane to the top shops then back down the High Street, Station Road, Witts Lane and then home – what Dick would call his 'walk and talk run'. Mind, in saying that, he was a very interesting person to talk to, especially anything to do with wild life. His knowledge and experience of wildlife and nature was always worth listening to.

Dick was buried on his 89<sup>th</sup> birthday, not much of a celebration for those left behind but a lovely one for him to be meeting up with Mary. Could I thank Adrian and Margaret, Dick's daughter, for respecting Dick's wishes and asking for money in lieu of flowers going to the Age Concern Minibus fund. Also let's not forget the kindness shown to Dick by all his neighbours and friends.

Could we offer belated congratulations to **Debbie Penny** of Ashgrove House on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. I had the honour and pleasure of seeing her on her special day. She was smiling all day I would think and enjoying a continuous party that went on for most of the day. It was so nice to have a chat to Debbie and enjoy part of her special day. She was born in Marlow – this will take you back a bit as she worked in the town's International Stores. She married in Marlow Church and later had two sons – now she has six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. My word, Ashgrove House did her proud. You could not have had better treatment if you had been royalty. The Mayor of Wootton Bassett was there along with their Town Crier then, later on, they had some members of the Wessex Male Choir there. What a day – I bet she was exhausted but I bet she wouldn't say! I would think a lot of what contributes to her long life is the way she is looked after at Ashgrove House Nursing Home. The residents are all so well cared for and looked after. We, in Age Concern, give people who attain 100 a flower arrangement but we leave it a couple of weeks as we feel they get so much on the day. I shall have the pleasure of seeing Debbie again and giving her our congratulations and, of course, getting a kiss – not on the cheek I might add, but on the lips. Well done, Debbie.

Our last mystery tour was very enjoyable even if a little adventurous. Everything was going well – the trip took in Highworth, Faringdon, Wantage, Hungerford, Burbage, Pewsey and Upavon and we were about four miles from our destination for lunch at Bulford Village Hall, when we came across a sign that said 'road closed ahead – follow the diversion' which we did for about six miles, until the diversion signs were no more. So I said to the driver, we had better ask, which we did and this happened to be a lady who was in the Army. She jumped out of her car, came into the coach and set the driver's sat nav. While this was going on, a farmer was in his Landrover held up by the coach. He could see we were struggling so he came over, swirled his cap on his head, beaming all over his face and said 'What's the problem?' I told him where we wanted to get to, he scratched his head and said 'You're a few mile out of your way. Your best bet is to go back a bit, up the road on your right for about half a mile and you'll come to a tank crossing. Take the one on the left and you will then go for about a mile and pick up the road you need'. He had this big grin all the time and I didn't know whether to believe him or not. I said

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'Are you sure it would be OK?' 'Yes' he said, 'I am the tenant farmer of the land'. One consolation – the track was tarmac and we never met any tanks and we were only half an hour late. On arrival at Bulford Village Hall, the ladies were a little concerned but were very glad to see us. We had a lovely meal of shepherd's pie with veg, all piping hot, followed by fruit crumble, then tea or coffee – very nice. The return trip was through Tidworth, Burbage, Marlborough, Broadtown and nobody was worse for their experience. That was the last trip for this year. I think we will have to increase the price a little for the trips next year. The cost of that one with lunch was only £10 for local people.

We are planning our dates for next year. Is there anything different you would like? – if there is, let us know. We have planned a half day trip to a garden centre, a whole day visit to a town of interest and, of course, our annual jaunt to Weston. Just a little bit of interest here – we have been running the Weston outing for twenty-five years now.

It is coming round to that time of year again when we will be giving out our Christmas vouchers. Please let us know if you are entitled to one and you think we don't know. The qualifications are that you must live in the Parish of Purton, married couple (man over 65, lady over 60) – single people (widows, widowers, ladies over 60, men over 65). Any further information required, give me a ring on 770696.

The less able party will be at the Silver Threads Hall on Saturday 26 November at 3 pm until 5 pm, cost £2. This is for people who cannot manage on their own. Then on Saturday 3 December, we have the party at the Village Hall for the able elderly, from 5 pm to 8.30 pm, cost £5 with Christmas tea and entertainment. While we are on the Christmas scene, we shall be holding our usual Christmas Draw and, as always, any prizes would be appreciated. We will be putting the Christmas tree up on the wall outside the library – our thank-you to the village for the way we are supported. Isn't it frightening the way the year has gone.

We are looking for a street warden for The Peak – they are a vital link between the elderly and our general committee. I am sure you would find it very rewarding so, if you are interested, give me a ring on 770696.

The minibus personnel have taken on more work, mainly the Luncheon Club transport on a Thursday, which is very important for people to have a hot meal. We need more drivers and shotguns to be able to spread the load a bit as we don't want to flog a willing horse too much. There must be some of you who have a few spare hours who could help out – if you can, give me a ring on 770696. Here again I am sure you would enjoy being part of the minibus crew – they are a great bunch of people. A lady wrote to us on our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, describing the various functions the minibuses take her to and she said that, if it wasn't for them, she would be practically house bound. So please have a think about it.

TONY PRICE

## Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 25 November from 9 am to 11 am. 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).

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## Keeping Warm this Winter

Having just enjoyed some of the warmest September and October days in history, we seem to be back to more seasonal weather. With winter fast approaching I thought it would be a good time to remind everyone that there are still grants available for both cavity wall and loft insulation. The grant availability is dependent on householder's age and financial circumstances as well as property to be insulated. BUT don't let that put you off as I am assured that the insulation is a great help to reducing heating costs.



With the cost of fuel escalating, it is well worth checking that your electricity and gas (if you are lucky enough to have gas supply!) tariffs are the most economical for you. I recently did a check on my own home and managed to save £20 per month simply by switching provider. The process was not as scary as I had feared. Having signed up to the new supplier the whole change was really simple and I only had to provide the meter reading on changeover day.

If, like me, you rely on oil for your heating you may be interested in the new Bulk Oil Buying Consortium which has been set up by Community First – details below.

If I can help on these or any other issues, please give me a call on: 07557 110414  
*ELLEN BLACKER*

**STOP PRESS:** The Wiltshire Good Neighbour Service has been recognised as the Winner of Winners at the Voluntary and Community Sector Awards. Wiltshire Good Neighbours was nominated for the Partnership Working category – the award winner able to demonstrate exceptional partnership working. We were delighted to accept the award but over the moon to be awarded the Making a Difference – Winner of Winners Award for the one award winner (of eight) that had made the most difference at community level to support Wiltshire's resilient communities outcomes.

## Community First

CF Oil, Community First's new venture that saves you money! is a new social enterprise that will reduce the cost of your domestic heating oil each time you place an order. All you need to do to take advantage of the scheme is to pay an annual membership fee, which will cover as many oil orders as you need during the course of the year. Membership costs £20 per year and you normally save more than your memberships costs in your first order!



The more people who get together to buy oil the greater negotiating power of the group. It helps shift power away from the supplier and back to the customer.

The scheme normally works through a volunteer local co-ordinator but CF Oil will act as the co-ordinator until one is appointed. Local Co-ordinators have FREE membership of the scheme.

If you would like to save money on the cost of your heating oil, please join our CF Oil and see how easy it is.

If you would like further information on being a member or a Local Co-ordinator please contact our CF Oil administrator Jess Emery on 01380 732809 [oil@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:oil@communityfirst.org.uk) or visit our website [www.communityfirst.org.uk](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk)

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## Swindon Scouts Christmas Post

As usual, 1<sup>st</sup> Purton and Lydiard Scout Group will be participating in Swindon Scout Christmas Post!



We will be selling stamps from 1 November at our usual locations: In Touch Services, Best One and Shear Success in Purton and at Toomers Garden Centre, in Lydiard Millicent.

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

Christmas cards must be properly addressed including postcode and only posted in the Special Scout Post Boxes. Stamps are 20p each, a real saving! Please **DO NOT USE** Scout post stamps on cards posted through Royal Mail post boxes. They are not valid and the receiver of the card will have to pay a £1 surcharge!

**Posting is between: 1 December and  
4.00pm on Tuesday 13 December 2011**

The cards will be delivered between 16 and 18 December 2011

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

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

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

We DO NOT deliver to any other location.

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

## Nowzad Dogs

On Saturday 8 October, 1<sup>st</sup> Purton and Lydiard Scout Group and Purton Veterinary Group joined together to support a UK and International Sponsored Walk for Nowzad Dogs! The aim was to walk the distance from the UK to Now Zad in Afghanistan – a whopping 3,631 miles! I can confirm that collectively together, we walked a total of 300 miles – a long way when the Beavers walked 2 miles each, Cubs and Scouts 5 miles, plus parents and clients from the Vets! (This did not include the four-legged friends who joined their owners!!)



It was great to see the whole Group working together for one aim, and for their International Partnership Award! We hope to have raised over £500 for the

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charity Nowzad dogs. We would like to thank Purton Veterinary Group and staff for working with us, as well as local businesses 'Hair by Val', *The Angel* public house, Wootton Bassett Books and anyone else we have forgotten for their support to the Group! For pictures of the day, which luckily stayed very dry – please see our website

[www.plscouts.org.uk/Group/pictures](http://www.plscouts.org.uk/Group/pictures)

JAN FISHER



## Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



With evenings drawing in, many activities have been linked to autumn. 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies are attempting to complete the Four Seasons challenge, which will take them all year. There is a badge for each season and activities so far for autumn include: producing travel guide posters about a chosen country; producing a play about one of the seasons, given a bag of 10 props, each one having to be used; making a "Bug in a box" from a pebble, googly eyes etc – some were extremely creative! The Rainbows have looked at the autumn colours in the Red House grounds, made leaf rubbings and decorated biscuits. 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies made their harvest visit to the residents of Hooks Hill, the entertainment being to make creatures from vegetables. Like 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies, some of them were also extremely creative!

With all units – Rainbows, Brownies and Guides – welcoming new members there has also been focus on the Promise. The Guides had an evening of activities about the Promise and what it meant to them before Alice, Finty and Rosie made their Guide Promise watched by family and friends. The new Rainbows and Brownies are still finding out what it means to be a Rainbow or a Brownie before making their Promise shortly. The Rainbow unit was also very pleased to welcome a new member slightly older than the norm in the shape of Megan, who has joined them as a Guide helper.

The Guide unit had an exciting trip to Wembley at the beginning of October when they went to the Big Gig, along with around 10,000 others. This is a pop concert exclusively for members of Girlguiding UK. Acts included Olly Murs, The Wanted, Ed Sheeran and Pixie Lott. Look out for a report on Big Gig next month.

For more information about guiding in Purton – whether you're interested in helping out as a leader or have a daughter wishing to join - please contact Jo Begg on 874066.

## G4P - the Surgery's Group for Patients

### Forthcoming Event

Come and join us at Purton Surgery for 'Tea and Tinsel' on Friday 9 December, 3 - 5 pm when we will be serving tea and cakes. Suggested donation of £1, children under 10 free. Proceeds to be split between providing baby-changing facilities at the surgery and the Special Care Baby Unit at Great Western Hospital.

Group for Patients



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## Purton Historical Society



The other week the *After 8s* were researching village history and we had all made use of Alice Pollock's and Mrs Richardson's books. So later that evening I went on the Internet to our usual book seller and found that I could get a copy of Alice Pollock's *Portrait of my Victorian Youth* very reasonably. When I entered *The Story of Purton* by E.M. Richardson, I was amazed. Needless to say the 1919 edition is currently unavailable, but two different editions have been published in paperback. They state that there may be imperfections due to the scanning process. The best part and I quote, "We believe this work is culturally important, and despite the imperfections, have elected to bring it back into print ... and hope you enjoy this valuable book."

I thought now that our special exhibition was over, I might not be writing about Nevil Maskelyne for a while, but when I opened the Sunday Times (2 Oct 2011) I found a half-page article about the plan to replace Greenwich Mean Time which included a mention and a picture of our Astronomer Royal. It was work by Maskelyne at Greenwich that helped to establish Greenwich as the world's timekeeper.

Our meeting this month is on Thursday 24 November at 7.30 pm in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall. John Clark will be giving us the first part of the story of "The Massacre of Oradour-sur-Glane."

The Cricklade Historical Society will meet on Wednesday 16 November in the Town Hall at 7.30 pm when Tim Porter will talk on the *Life & Times of William of Malmesbury*.

The Royal Wootton Bassett Historical Society will meet on Thursday 10 November in the Town Hall at 7.30 pm. Malcolm Holland will explore the bonds formed between the American forces and the British during the war.

The Swindon Society will meet on Wednesday 9 November at 7.30 pm in the Broadgreen Centre. David Bedford will be posing the question "Swindon, can you remember this?"

EVE BOOY, Secretary

## Nevil Maskelyne Commemoration Year

My thanks to all of those people who have contributed to and made a success of the Historical Society's Nevil Maskelyne commemoration year.

To the Society members and friends who volunteered as Stewards and helpers at the Museum exhibition and all of the other events. In particular, to Jean Belt who has the happy knack of getting you to agree to help before you know that you have been asked. To all those other members of the Purton History Society who have contributed to the organisation of the whole bi-centenary Year.

And to all those people who have contributed from outside our village: Dr Richard Dunn, from the National Maritime Museum, whose lecture at Bradon Forest School will be remembered by many of the 200-plus who attended, and for his help and advice, together with Melanie Oelenschlager, on researching the life of Nevil Maskelyne; Lucy Blaxland and Dr Jim Bennett of the University of Oxford Museum

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of the History of Science for their help with the loan exhibits; Tim Burge and Helen Williams of the Wiltshire Museums Service for their advice and encouragement. Without their support we could not have secured the Heritage Lottery funding that has made this year's events possible.

Wiltshire Council Building Services and Alarms & Electrical of Devizes for their efforts in upgrading the Institute alarm systems so as to keep our insurers happy; Mrs Susan Dann of the Herschel Museum in Bath for her afternoon talk on Nevil Maskelyne's friends and fellow Astronomers, William and Caroline Herschel; the Purton Evening WI for their help with teas at Susan Dann's talk.

This has been a tremendous effort by the village and one which has involved almost every local organisation at some stage. Only two things are still outstanding. We intend to install a commemorative plaque near to the Maskelyne family tomb in the Churchyard. This has been funded by the Northern Area Board of Wiltshire Council. The other is the production of a book on the Maskelynes, particularly Nevil's connections with Purton and Purton Stoke.

*BRIAN FREEGARD  
Hon Curator, Purton Museum*

## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

Our September 'Mini-show' attracted a high standard of entries despite a poor summer. Members voted for their favourite entry in each of the twenty-three classes exhibited, and from the class winners, committee members chose the 'Best in show'.



As always, the cake table was the most popular, with members 'having' to taste the cakes and scones to decide who should be the winner!

Show winners are as follows:

**Flowers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Maureen Griffin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Read, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jill Herbert

**Vegetables:** 1<sup>st</sup> Howard Ockwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Herbert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Maureen Griffin

**Fruit:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Read, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nigel Bunce, 3<sup>rd</sup> Eric New

**Domestic:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maureen Griffin, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Read

The 'Best in Show' cup was awarded to Mary Read for her beautiful flower arrangement. Overall Show winner was Maureen Griffin. Congratulations to Maureen and Mary.

Our next meeting will be on 22 November, at the Silver Threads Hall, at 7.30pm. We will be holding our 'American supper' and Paul Evans will be entertaining us. Please don't forget to bring a plate of food!

*MOIRA WHITE, Secretary*

### DISCLAIMER

Contributions to Purton Magazine are always welcome for consideration on the understanding that the contributor's name and address are supplied (but may be withheld from publication on request) and that all related copyright issues have been cleared for publication in this Magazine - especially with those recognisable in any photographs. It follows that opinions expressed in the Magazine are solely those of the respective contributors.

Advertisements are accepted in good faith and their inclusion does not imply the Magazine's endorsement of the product or service.

Purton Magazine is a totally independent publication and is, in no way whatsoever, connected to any other publication, whether local or otherwise.

## After 8

Our September meeting was *History while you Walk* (around Purton).

Eight ladies and a dog (Stanley) met at College Farm where we were greeted by Hector and Caroline McLean who kindly showed us around their beautiful Jacobean Farm House (built in 1625) pointing out some interesting features on the way. Most outstanding was the oak carved fireplace with a wonderful crest on it. There is also a carved crest over the fireplace upstairs. The rooms are oak panelled and downstairs now has a beautiful, fairly modern french window overlooking the garden (no doubt planning permission would not be given today). Interestingly enough the house had only six rooms – two on the ground floor two upstairs and 2 attic rooms for the servants (the loo was outside and the cooking area adjacent).

From there we went to have a look at The Granary at College Farm (1784). It has diaper bricks (a pattern achieved by using bricks of two different colours) with a stone tiled roof set on 12 square brick piers with cap stones (rather like staddle stones which kept the corn dry and the rats and mice away). We pointed out where the pond used to be and the fact that the road at that point had been altered (the original was the lay-by now) the pond had been filled in, the wall knocked down and rebuilt. Even Queen Anne's gate had to be re-sited. It is now blocked up from inside but the gate can still be seen on the road side.

Then on to Kempster's Grocery and Provision Store established in 1864 which provided a high class service to the well off of Purton. Parts were devoted to a Telegraph Office, agents for Sun Assurance, even a bank. They had accounts with suppliers of wines and spirits, cakes and biscuits from Huntley and Palmer's and helped local farmers by supplying Cole's pig powders. Fine cheeses were available from local dairies. (See accompanying advert.)

On to Playclose, originally 3 acres now only  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre (1641). Given by Henry Glead of *The Angel*. Fairs were held here on 1 May and 3 September. May for cattle, September for fun. The September fair lasted for 3 days one year. The Angel sold 6,000 gallons of strong beer and ale that had been brewed on the premises. It is believed that the stocks were here. There was also a bonfire on bonfire night. In 1882 the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built.



POST OFFICE,  
PURTON, Wilts.,  
January 1st, 1889

**E. KEMPSTER**

DEGS to return his sincere thanks to the Nobility, Clergy, Gentry, and Inhabitants generally for the very liberal support accorded him for the past Quarter of a Century, and invites a continuance of the same, assuring them that all orders entrusted to his care shall have his best and most careful attention, and articles supplied of the best quality and at the lowest possible remunerative prices.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—  
→ **E. KEMPSTER,** ←  
Grocery and Provision Stores,  
PURTON, Wilts.

AGENT FOR  
HUNTLEY & PALMERS' CAKES & BISCUITS.  
W. & A. GILBEY'S WINES & SPIRITS.  
BLUMENTHAL'S EXTRACT OF RENNET & RENNETINE  
Cole's Pig Powders and Furniture Polish.

N.B.—As E. K. has under his immediate supervision the curing of all Bacon and Hams in the Establishment, he can confidently recommend them to the public, and at such prices as will give every satisfaction. His Cheese—Stilton, Double and Single Gloucester, North Wiltshire Loaf and Cheddar—purchased direct from Dairies.

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We concluded with *The Angel* where we stayed on for a welcome drink. The present building dates from 1704 and was also owned by Henry Glead. It was considered to be more than the local pub. The local magistrates met here and the Purton Friendly Society was formed here in 1787. It was also used as a lock-up cell (maybe that's why the stocks were on the Playclose). It has changed hands many times. Arkell's purchased it in 1884 at a cost of £1,200. By 1910 it was being advertised as "good accommodation for hunting gentlemen".

We all enjoyed our *History while you Walk* and have decided to do another area of Purton later in our programme.

AVRIL AINSCOUGH

The next meeting is "La Belle France" led by Janet at her house on Tues 8 November. New members are always welcome. Please contact Avril or Janet.

## The Royal British Legion - Purton Branch

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



The financial year to the end of September 2011 was very successful, in spite of the recession, resulting in a total for the Branch of £7,072.27p

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

In addition we would also like to thank all the customers of ASDA who gave so generously.

### Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service will be held on **Sunday 13 November at 2.30 pm** at the Cenotaph.

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

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

The Branch would again like to extend a warm welcome to any serving or ex-service members of the civil or military uniform branches who would like to join us in the parade, regardless of whether or not they are British Legion members.

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

OFFERED: Second-hand box files, lever arch files, ring files ... all sorts, all colours. Contact Libbie on 771018.

OFFERED: A variety of coffee mugs, surplus to requirement and need a new home. Contact Libbie on 771018.

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

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## Star Gazing

In September there was an opportunity to come 'Star Gazing' in Purton. It was another fundraising evening for Christian Aid. Over £175 was raised.

Although it was a fun evening, it was disappointing that there was too much cloud cover just when we wanted to gaze upwards and learn about the constellations and satellites. So the assembled group took part in several quiz games instead, one of which is included here.

See how you get on. No prizes ... sorry! Answers in next month's magazine.

### Quiz for Star Gazers

1. Is a nebula ...  
a) young star, b) a dying star, c) an old star d) an exploding star
2. When a star becomes a supernova its brightness  
a) increases, b) decreases c) doesn't change d) vanishes
3. What type of galaxy is the Milky Way?  
a) an elliptical galaxy b) spiral galaxy c) irregular galaxy d) barred spiral
4. What do scientists think is in the middle of the Milky Way?  
a) an asteroid belt b) a star c) a black hole d) a sun
5. What do you need for an eclipse to occur?  
a) the sun b) the moon and sun c) Earth, moon and sun d) Earth
6. How long does a lunar eclipse last? Up to ...  
a) 2 hours b) 4 hours c) 8 hours d) 10 hours
7. How many moons does Mercury have?  
a) 0 b) 1 c) 3 d) 6
7. How many rings does Uranus have?  
a) 8 b) 20 c) 11 d) 5
9. What instrument did Galileo improve?  
a) telescope b) magnifying glass c) microscope d) glasses
10. The expansion of the Universe was discovered by observing that all galaxies are moving away from us. Who made this discovery?  
a) Albert Einstein b) Johannes Kepler c) Edwin Hubble d) Galileo
11. How long does our Sun's light take to reach us?  
a) 8.3 minutes b) 12 minutes c) 12 years d) 83 hours
12. How many planets are there in our solar system?  
a) 9 b) 11 c) 14 d) 8
13. What was the recent scientific announcement that was made public?  
a) that sub atomic particles can travel faster than the speed of light.  
b) that Einstein's Theory of Relativity is being doubted.  
c) that the CERN has upset a generation of Physics.  
d) that the speed of light is 186,000 miles a second.

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14. Which is the hottest planet?

a) Venus b) Pluto c) Mercury d) Mars

15. When was the Hubble Space Telescope launched?

a) 1980 b) 1990 c) 1995 d) 2002

## From Cricklade Fire Station

During September crews from Cricklade attended 15 emergency calls as follows:-

17/9/11 at 08:49 car fire, false alarm with good intent  
19/9/11 at 06:38 200 tons of straw, Down Ampney airfield  
22/9/11 at 11:55 lift lock-in, sheltered housing, Cricklade  
23/9/11 at 22:15 caravan fire, Marston Meysey  
24/9/11 at 08:59 light aircraft crash, South Cerney  
29/9/11 at 02:58 kitchen fire, Cliffords, Cricklade  
*Plus 8 co-responder calls and one automatic fire alarm*



We will be holding our Christmas bingo in Cricklade Town Hall on Tuesday 6 December. Doors open at 6.30 pm and eyes down at 8 pm. Proceeds will go to the Firefighters charity.

If you would like any further fire safety advice or are interested in becoming a retained Firefighter then please contact **01380 731144**

### Fire Safety Advice - Fireworks

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Follow the printed instructions and keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Use the taper to light them at arms length.
- Make sure everyone stands well back from the fireworks and bonfires.
- If a firework doesn't go off immediately don't go back to it, it could still explode.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five. Make sure gloves are worn when holding sparklers. Have a bucket of water handy to put spent sparklers in. The water can also be used for treating burns.
- Try to avoid wearing nylon fabrics, which may melt against the skin. Do not wear open necked shirts or shorts and tuck any trailing scarves into jackets or coats.
- If you are lighting a bonfire, site it well away from fences, hedges, garden structures and buildings. Take the weather conditions into consideration before lighting. Keep your garden hose or other water supply nearby.

### Macmillan Cancer Support

Thank you very much to all who came to the World's Biggest Coffee Morning on 30 September at Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall and gave so generously and to those who were unable to attend but kindly made cakes and gave donations. We could not have raised £800.72 without the help of everyone.

VILMA MUNRO

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## Purton Diary - November 2011

- |       |    |         |   |
|-------|----|---------|---|
| 1     | Tu | 1.45pm  | to 4pm: Swindon Older Peoples Forum: Open Meeting at Gorse Hill Community Centre, Chapel Street. Over-55s welcome                         |
|       |    | 2.00pm  | Silver Threads Club: Films by Mr Seviour  |
| 2     | W  | 7.30pm  | 4 <sup>th</sup> week of Historical Society autumn course <i>Tales from the Mediterranean</i> , Silver Threads Hall. Then on 16 and 23 Nov |
|       |    | 7.30pm  | Tennis Club AGM at Red House  |
| 3     | Th | 10.30am | Holy Communion at St Mary's Church  |
| 4     | F  | 7.30pm  | Wine Tasting evening at Silver Threads Hall (Twining Assoc)   |
| 5     | Sa | 10.00am | to 4.30pm: Christmas Craft Show at Village Hall   |
|       |    | 2.00pm  | Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall (Guide Dogs)   |
|       |    | 5.30pm  | Scouts Firework Display at Lydiard Park (bonfire lit 6pm). Please see Fire Safety Advice on p31.  |
| <hr/> |    |         |   |
| 6     | Su | 8.00am  | Holy Communion 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  |
| 8     | Tu | 11.00am | Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House   |
|       |    | 7.30pm  | Purton Yacht Club at The Angel  |
|       |    | 8.00pm  | After 8: <i>La Belle France</i> led by Janet at her house   |
| 9     | W  | 2.30pm  | Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill with Rev. David Perkins  |
|       |    | 7.30pm  | Whist Drive at Silver Threads Hall (Air Ambulance)  |
| 10    | Th | 10.30am | Songs of Praise at The Cedars   |
| 11    | F  | 9.30am  | Age Concern Minibus to Swindon  |
|       |    | 6.00pm  | to 8.30pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall  |
| 12    | Sa | 10.00pm | to 4pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall   |
| <hr/> |    |         |   |
| 13    | Su |         | <b>Remembrance Sunday</b>   |
|       |    | 8.00am  | Holy Communion at St Mary's Church  |
|       |    | 10.00pm | to 4pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall   |
|       |    | 10.30am | Morning Worship at the Methodist Church   |
|       |    | 10.30am | Parish Communion at St Mary's Church  |
|       |    | 2.30pm  | Royal British Legion Remembrance Service at The Cenotaph  |
|       |    | 6.00pm  | Evensong at St Mary's Church  |
| 14    | M  | 7.30pm  | Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome  |
| 15    | Tu | 2.00pm  | Silver Threads Club   |
|       |    | 7.45pm  | Royal British Legion at The Red House   |
| 16    | W  | 2.00pm  | Holy Communion at Ashgrove House  |
|       |    | 7.30pm  | Purton Evening WI at Village Hall: Christmas Decoration and   |
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			Share a Poem
19	Sa	11.30am	<i>to 2.30pm</i> : Christmas Market, Village Hall
20	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	Informal Service at the Methodist Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
22	Tu	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: American Supper with Entertainment by Paul Evans with his Poems
23	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
24	Th	7.30pm	Historical Society at Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall: John Clark - <i>The Massacre of Oradour-sur-Glane (Part 1)</i>
		8.00pm	Christmas Ladies' Night Out at Village Hall (by Helping Hand)
26	Sa	3.00pm	<i>to 5pm</i> : Age Concern Party for the less able elderly at Silver Threads Hall
27	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
28	M		
29	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: Films by Mr Davies
30	W	7.30pm	Christmas Bingo at Silver Threads Hall (by Helping Hand)

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### **December**

3 Sa 5.00pm *to 8.30 pm*: Age Concern Christmas party at Village Hall

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### **Every week**

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

### **Moon Phases**

 2 November     
  10 November     
  18 November     
  25 November

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

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

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# PURTON PLACARD

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



**PURTON ARTISTS  
SOthe EXHIBITION**  
TO BE HELD AT  
THE VILLAGE HALL  
LOWER SQUARE, PURTON  
NOVEMBER  
FRI 11th 6pm-8.30pm  
SAT 12th 10am-4pm  
SUN 13th 10am-4pm



Purton Helping Hand  
**Christmas Ladies Night Out**  
Thursday 24 November  
8pm at Village Hall  
£5 including buffet  
and glass of wine  
Raffle, Tombola and  
lots of lovely things to see and buy  
Minibus available – tel 770251

**Whist Drive**  
on Wednesday 9 November  
7.30pm  
at Silver Threads Hall  
Proceeds to  
Wiltshire Air Ambulance

Purton Helping Hand  
**Christmas Whist Drive**  
Wednesday 7 December  
7.30pm at Silver Threads Hall  
Minibus available – tel 770251

Purton Helping Hand  
**Christmas Bingo**  
Wednesday 30 November  
7.30pm at Silver Threads Hall  
Minibus available – tel 770251

**Christmas Coffee  
Morning**  
at 18 Church Path  
on Friday 9 December  
10 am to noon  
All proceeds to Silver Threads



Swindon & North Wiltshire Scouts  
**FIREWORK & BONFIRE  
SPECTACULAR 2011**  
**5<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Lydiard Park**  
Entry: £7 Adult £3 Child  
Gates open at 5.30pm (cars via Hook Street)  
Bonfire lit at 6.00pm  
Entertainment during the evening  
Live Music from **MOJO**



Please leave your own  
fireworks and sparklers  
at home!

visit [www.plscouts.org.uk](http://www.plscouts.org.uk)  
ring (01793) 534500





Purton Twinning Association  
**Annual Christmas Quiz**

Friday 16 December  
at Silver Threads Hall  
£5 per person - teams of up to 6  
Price to include ploughman's supper  
Licensed Bar

Please book through  
Sara Brown 778362  
Barbara Page 770160  
Phil Gosden 770182

St Mary's Church  
**CHRISTMAS MARKET**

on Saturday 19 November  
in the Village Hall  
11.30 am - 2.30 pm

Come and have your lunch!! ...  
Lunches served – Hot meat baps  
Many attractions and stalls,  
including:

Home-made produce  
Activities for children

St Mary's School Choir  
will be singing

Mince pies, teas and coffees

**Jubilee Gardens Open Day**

Saturday 3 December  
from 10am to 2pm  
Church Bush Hall, Purton Stoke  
Sale of hyacinths,  
Christmas Wreaths,  
bird boxes, pickles and much more.  
Refreshments  
Raffle and tombola  
Free admission

Sue Ryder Care Cricklade

**GLAMOUR EVENT**

Saturday 19 November  
9.30 am to 5 pm  
at the Sue Ryder shop  
98 High Street, Cricklade  
Raffle etc  
All welcome!

**New date for ...**

Purton Guide Dogs  
**JUMBLE SALE**

\* NOW on\*

\* Saturday 5 November \*  
at 2 pm  
in the Silver Threads Hall  
Everyone welcome

Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December  
Village Hall, Purton  
2-4pm

Meet Father Christmas in his grotto,  
have your picture taken and  
receive a gift. Also Grand  
Prize Raffle, Tombola,  
Cake Stall, refreshments  
and lots more

**Free Entrance**

Registered Charity 1031501



**Baby & Toddler Group  
Christmas Party**

For Families and friends  
Saturday 10 December  
5pm to 9pm at the Village Hall  
For more information contact  
Sarah Grigg: 07908 208141

# 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.



## ■ CARING HANDS (WILTSHIRE)

I would like to say a very big thank you to Purton, my family, A.P, friends, clients and clients' families for all the support and encouragement I have received since 2008 when I started providing Respite Care in my home to my community and surrounding areas.

On 5 September I received my registration from the Care Quality Commission, to carry on a much needed, pre-bookable holiday respite service to you all.

*Vicki Fowler*

## ■ MAGAZINE COVERS

A very brief message to say that I have very much enjoyed and admired the recent covers to The Purton Magazine supplied by the Purton Artists.

*David Bisset*

## ■ SPONSORED KNIT FOR SILVER THREADS

I would like to say a big thank-you to everyone who sponsored me and gave me wool.

Your generosity gave me inspiration, so thanks again.

*Jo Woolford*

## ■ DONATION THANKS

On behalf of myself and my family we would like to thank relatives and friends

for the marvellous donation of cheques and money which was made for the charities of my husband's choice, namely Helping Hand and Age Concern, which took place at his funeral at St Mary's Church, Purton, on 8 August.

Deeply appreciated

*Peggy Young and family*

## ■ LILIAN FROST

Lilian's family would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy and for attending the funeral. Also thanks to Judith for the lovely service.

*The Frost family*

## ■ GOLDEN WEDDING

John and Norma Charlesworth would like to thank everyone who helped celebrate our Golden Wedding at Purton Club and gave so generously for our chosen charities, Purton Guide Dogs and Purton Helping Hand.

## We Record ...

### Baptisms

9 October Jack Samuel John

9 October Albie Jude Gaulton

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 ...



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



At the meeting of 21 September, President Trish Baker and her committee dealt with the business matters, which included hearty congratulations to Jill Herbert and her team for a brilliant win in the Wilts WI Whist competition. We look forward to gloating over the trophy when it is presented.

Members might like to note that the gazebo used earlier in the year for a stall is now available for hire, at £5 per day. (But a few days' notice would be appreciated!)

A date for your diary: on Saturday 21 January 2012 we shall be holding a Jumble Sale, so now is the time to start putting suitable items on the side, in preparation. (Let no one mention unwanted Christmas gifts, but the end of January sounds a useful date, yes?)

The talk by Dr Taylor on Breast Awareness was clear and comprehensive – so much has now been achieved in tackling the dreaded fear of cancer. It just needs that little bit of courage to go for a mammogram, etc. – all painless, all quickly dealt with, results speedily given to you. We are so lucky to have this service available and it is such a relief when you get a negative result, as almost always happens. And easy to put right at this stage, if only ladies would take that first step. Many members had been through such procedure in the past, but there has since been an incredible improvement in treatment and success rate, and there is nothing to fear if you just have that important – nay, vital – first check-up, repeated every three years. Please don't hesitate ... as they say, nothing to fear but fear itself.

The committee had gone to a great deal of effort to ensure that this serious subject should not weigh down the evening so we had a variety of home-made cakes (not entirely pink, but an acknowledgement of the cause!), pink scarves and a pink fizzy drink for everyone. And, of course, the brassiere competition ...

A large proportion of members – and visitors! – had gone to much trouble to produce a decorated bra and they wore them with pride in a parade that delighted the rest of us. The winner was Lesley Ham, who had sewn innumerable small floral decorations on her bra – and wore pink hair to match! As with last month's decorated hats, the winner's bra was particularly beautiful but all the rest (many of them witty, too) were winners as well. Such a variety, such novel themes, they really did Purton WI proud.

At our meeting on 16 November will be a demonstration of making Christmas decorations for the table, and also a door wreath. Social time should be most enjoyable as we are asked to share a Christmas poem – what a lovely idea!

*CONSTANCE REED (tel: 771571)*

## Purton Guide Dogs

Our Jumble Sale in the Silver Threads Hall has been put back a week. We will now be having a table at the Helping Hand Table Top Sale on Saturday 29 October, and our Jumble Sale, will now be in the Silver Threads Hall on Saturday 5 November.

Many thanks for all your support.



*BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group*



## INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD REACCREDITATION 2011-14

In September we heard from the British Council that we had been successful in gaining the prestigious British Council Full International School Award for the second time. This is a badge of honour, which recognises outstanding work in International Education, through links with partner schools overseas.



*"I am delighted to inform you that your school has been successful in gaining the International School Award and is accredited for three years from 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2014. Please convey our very best wishes and many congratulations to all staff and students both in the UK and overseas who have taken part in the scheme.*

*I hope that the scope of your excellent international activities will continue to develop and benefit the school community; your support, commitment, creativity and innovative international work is greatly appreciated." Rebecca Picton, British Council International School Award.*

Our International Programme continues in 2011/12 with further collaboration projects being carried out with India and Tobago. Students and staff will be welcoming two Headteachers: one from India and another from Tobago to Bradon Forest later this academic year. We have our second India trip in 2012, with a new group of students going back to visit our India Link schools next Easter. Our second World Challenge trip will take place next summer with a group of students working in Morocco as part of the World Challenge Programme.

**UPDATE: INDIA LINK NEASDEN VISIT:** The Key Stage 4 India Link students have been getting to know students from our partner school, St Laurence, who will be travelling to India with next Easter 2012. Students from St Laurence visited us here at Bradon Forest in order to prepare for our joint trip to Neasden Temple; student profiles were shared, and delicious Indian food was kindly donated by Mr Ali, owner of *The Maharajah* restaurant.



The India link students visited the Hindu temple, at Neasden London, where they were lucky enough to witness the daily Aarti ceremony, and had the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Hindu beliefs and Indian traditions and culture. It was great to see our students working with St Laurence and Bowerhill Year 6 students. The Bradon Forest group are busy fundraising, and have been supported by our new India link group in

Key Stage 3, who are now involved in the Connecting Classrooms project. We are very excited to hear that six Principals from our link schools in India will be visiting us next term; the group will now be working on projects which can be taken back to India, and how best to welcome our visitors to Bradon Forest so that they can have a better understanding of our education system, and British culture and traditions.

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**UPDATE: WORLD CHALLENGE MOROCCO:** The team are doing amazingly well at organising fundraising events and a number of the students have already managed to raise their target sum of £1,400. Successful events have included Race Nights, Raffles, Quizzes, numerous Cake Sales at school, Car Boot Sales and Bag Packing. Some Year 10 students are also organising a Curry night to be held at the Bombay Lounge with a number of staff planning on attending to have a midweek curry night. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at the *Bombay Lounge* for the ongoing support they are giving World Challenge students with their fundraising.



Mr Lemin and Mr Heathcote were very happy to be supported by both current 2012 World Challenge students and past trekkers from our 2010 trip at the recent Open Evening. Rob Mills' ability for putting up tents and tying ropes was put to great use and, along with George Griffin, Gemma Perry, past year 11s Hannah Petit and Andrew Wait, we also managed to do some fundraising on the night raising another valuable £30 from a raffle.

### **OPEN EVENING AND OPEN MORNINGS 2011**

Our annual Open Evening was an incredibly busy and ran very smoothly thanks to all the staff and students involved. Every area of the school presented activities, displays, performances and experiments, providing an informative and interesting evening for prospective parents and pupils. Members of staff and a large number of students were on hand to help, guide and answer questions. Visitors were able to experience the various facets that make Bradon Forest such a happy and successful school and initial feedback has been extremely positive.

This year over 350 students helped (30+% of school roll) which was fantastic and indicative of our student body. The students acted as guides, subject area helpers, display organisers and as car park marshalls. Visiting parents were universally complimentary about the numerous students from across the year groups who they met. Oliver Webb (Head Boy) and Laura Halford (Head Girl) gave individual speeches as part of the two main presentations to parents in the hall. They both gave personal addresses about their experiences as students. The audience response was excellent and Ollie and Laura were superb ambassadors for our school.

Our recent run of Open Mornings were very well attended by Year 6 parents and pupils and consisted of a short introduction, followed by tours in small groups with Year 11 Senior Prefects/Year 10 Peer Mentors. The tours gave parents and Year 6 visitors the opportunity to ask Bradon Forest students any questions about the school. The student guides also oversaw the parking and were on hand to welcome the visitors each day. They were all superb and excellent ambassadors for our school. The mornings finished with a question and answer session with myself and senior staff in the Library Learning Centre.

*L SPIERS, Headteacher*

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## Green Tips - Some Myths about Wind Turbines

Many people make many claims about wind turbines – what they do and what they do not do. We have collated our favourites and given the answers below.



**Myth: Tens of thousands of wind turbines will be cluttering the British countryside:** Government legislation required that by 2010, 10% of electricity supply should come from renewable sources. It failed with 6.5%. However, wind power is currently the most cost-effective renewable energy technology and is in a position to help deliver future targets. Around 3,500 additional modern wind turbines are all that would have been needed to deliver 8% of the UK's electricity by 2010, roughly 2,000 onshore and 1,500 offshore.

**Myth: Wind farms won't help climate change:** Wind power is a clean, renewable source of energy which produces no greenhouse gas emissions or waste products. The UK currently emits 560 million tonnes of carbon dioxide, the key greenhouse gas culprit, every year and the Government target is to cut this by 80% by 2050. Power stations are the largest contributor to carbon emissions, producing 170 million tonnes of carbon dioxide each year. We need to switch to forms of energy that do not produce carbon dioxide. Just one modern wind turbine will save over 2,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

**Myth: Building a wind farm takes more energy than it ever makes:** An average wind farm will pay back the energy used in its manufacture within 3-5 months of operation. This compares favourably with coal or nuclear power stations, which take about six months. A modern wind turbine is designed to operate for more than 20 years and at the end of its working life, the area can be restored at low financial and environmental costs. Wind energy is a form of development which is essentially reversible – in contrast to fossil fuel or nuclear power stations. Finally, the carbon footprint of wind is tiny when compared with that of coal or gas.

**Myth: Wind farms are inefficient and only work 30% of the time:** A modern wind turbine produces electricity 70-85% of the time, but it generates different outputs depending on the wind speed. During the course of a year, it will typically generate about 30% of the theoretical maximum output. This is known as its load factor. The load factor of conventional power stations is on average 50% and for solar is 15-20%.

**Myth: Wind energy needs back-up to work:** All forms of power generation require back up and no energy technology can be relied upon 100%. The UK's transmission system already operates with enough back-up to manage the instantaneous loss of a large power station. Variations in the output from wind farms are barely noticeable over and above the normal fluctuation in supply and demand, seen when the nation's workforce goes home, or if lightning brings down a high-voltage transmission line. Therefore, at present there is no need for additional back-up because of wind energy.

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**Myth: Installing wind farms will never shut down power stations:** The simple fact is that power plants in the UK are being shut down, either through European legislation on emissions or sheer old age. We need to act now to find replacement power sources: wind is an abundant resource, indigenous to the UK and therefore has a vital role to play in the new energy portfolio.

**Myth: Wind power is expensive:** The cost of generating electricity from wind has fallen dramatically over the past few years. Between 1990 and 2002, world wind energy capacity doubled every three years and with every doubling prices fell by 15%. Wind energy is competitive with new coal and new nuclear capacity, even before any environmental costs of fossil fuel and nuclear generation are taken into account. The average cost of generating electricity from onshore wind is now around 3-4p per kilowatt hour, competitive with new coal (2.5-4.5p) and cheaper than new nuclear (4-7p). As gas prices increase and wind power costs fall – both of which are very likely – wind becomes even more competitive, so much so that it is now challenging gas as the lowest cost power source.

**Myth: UK should invest in other renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency instead of wind power:** Wind energy's role in combating climate change is not a matter of either/or. The UK will need a mix of new and existing renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency measures, and as quickly as possible. Significant amounts of investment have been allocated for wave and tidal energy development, and these technologies, along with solar and biomass energy will have an important role in the UK's future energy mix. However, wind energy is the most cost effective renewable energy technology available to generate clean electricity and help combat climate change right now. Furthermore, developing a strong wind industry will facilitate other renewable technologies which have not reached commercialisation yet, accumulating valuable experience in dealing with issues such as grid connection, supply chain and finance.

**Myth: Wind farms should all be put out at sea:** We will need a mix of both onshore and offshore wind energy to meet the UK's challenging targets on climate change. At present, onshore wind is more economical than development offshore. However, more offshore wind farms are now under construction and with large-scale projects now operational, prices will fall as the industry gains more experience.

**Myth: Wind farms are ugly and unpopular:** Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and whether you think a wind turbine is attractive or not will always be your personal opinion. However, studies regularly show that most people find turbines an interesting feature of the landscape. On average 80% of the public support wind energy, less than 10% are against it, with the remainder undecided.

**Myth: Wind farms negatively affect tourism:** There is no evidence to suggest this. The UK's first commercial wind farm at Delabole received 350,000 visitors in its first ten years of operation, while 10,000 visitors a year take the turbine tour at the EcoTech Centre in Swaffham, Norfolk. A MORI poll in Scotland showed that

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80% of tourists would be interested in visiting a wind farm. Wind farm developers are often asked to provide visitor centres, viewing platforms and rights of way to their sites.

**Myth: Wind farms harm property prices:** There is currently no evidence in the UK showing that wind farms impact house prices.

**Myth: Wind farms kill birds:** The RSPB stated in its 2004 information leaflet *Wind Farms and Birds*, that “*in the UK, we have not so far witnessed any major adverse effects on birds associated with wind farms*”. Interestingly, a recent report published in the scientific journal *Nature* confirmed that the greatest threat to bird populations in the UK is climate change.

**Myth: Wind farms are dangerous to humans:** Wind energy is a benign technology with no associated emissions, harmful pollutants or waste products. In more than 25 years and with more than 68,000 machines installed around the world, no member of the public has ever been harmed by the normal operation of wind turbines. In response to accusations that wind turbines emit infrasound and cause associated health problems, Dr Geoff Leventhall, Consultant in Noise Vibration and Acoustics and author of the DEFRA *Report on Low Frequency Noise and its Effects*, says: “*I can state quite categorically that there is no significant infrasound from current designs of wind turbines*”.

**Myth: Wind farms are noisy:** The evolution of wind farm technology over the past decade has rendered mechanical noise from turbines almost undetectable with the main sound being the aerodynamic swoosh of the blades passing the tower. There are strict guidelines on wind turbines and noise emissions to ensure the protection of residential amenity.

Compiled by Richard Pagett for Ps & Qs  
*Ps and Qs stands for Purton's Qualities*  
*Valuing Community Life - campaigning for sustainable communities*  
*New members are always welcome*  
Contact: Jane Smith (772422) Jacqui Lay (770704)  
or via our web site: [www.purtoninfo.org.uk](http://www.purtoninfo.org.uk)

## A Walk down Memory Lane

Do you have fond memories of the Lower School at St Mary's? Would you like to relive those memories in the setting they occurred? If you have attended St Mary's School, had children who have attended, taught there or worked in any other capacity at the school perhaps you would like to attend a final open evening at the Victorian building. The school will be opened on Friday 9 December 5 pm until 7 pm to allow people a final walk around the Victorian school (relive those memories) before the closure of the building on 15 December. We look forward to seeing you there.



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## Caring Hands (Wiltshire)

I have worked in Care since 1984/5, starting out in Moormead Nursing Home in Wroughton. However, I felt I preferred to be able to support people in their own homes. Social Services in Royal Wootton Bassett had a position in Homecare for which I applied, and got the job which I enjoyed. I left for family reasons when my children went to school. Then I worked in various agency care schemes, joined the Social Services, and left when I moved to Battle Lake Farm in Braydon.

I then worked at The Cedars, a local Residential Care Home in Purton. After three years there I felt frustrated because I wanted to give quality time to people which is not easy in such a setting, so in 2007 I left The Cedars for a break and to consider the future.

In 2008 I felt a calling and need to return to care work so I decided to be a self-employed Carer and I registered with WDPS as a Direct Payment Personal Assistant Carer.

Readers will remember well the late Basil Marchant. At the time he was looking for a personal assistant carer to support him and his family, so I applied and was accepted. Basil used to receive respite care far away, and one day asked if I was able to provide respite. I was informed that I could.

The seed was planted, and how it grew!

I contacted the Care Quality Commission to ask information on this Service, and I was informed that the 28-day Rule meant 4 weeks per year. I happily booked Basil into my respite room – but sadly he passed away before staying at the Farm.

Then I advertised respite care to the local villagers, made many bookings and so they came to stay at the Farm. I made it their holiday and not only provided care but took my clients shopping, to pub lunches, and encouraged cake-making and similar pleasant distractions to make it a welcome stay.

In 2010 the Respite Rule ended and the Care Quality Commission informed me I would have to register with them if I wished to carry on this service.



I was determined to carry on and applied for planning permission to convert a building next to my home that was purpose-built for holiday respite care. I would then be able to work from home and to make people feel it was their holiday while staying at the Farm.

Planning took forever, with so many stumbling blocks that there were times when I felt like throwing in the towel, but colleagues, friends and clients supported me from 2008 when it all began. How could I let them all down? And eventually planning permission was passed.

I love my village and gave monthly tea parties

*Vicki Fowler in rabbit costume for a themed event at a Care Home*

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to local people and to the residents in the Care Home in the Farmhouse. It was wonderful! Transport came, bringing people, and the name on one of those minibuses was "Basil Marchant", so dear Basil did get to the Farm if only as a wonderful memory! Two years on, the tea parties are still happening, which will still continue.

I applied to the Care Quality Commission, to register as an Independent Care Provider, offering pre-bookable Respite Care.

After a long wait, nail-biting moments, more training and determination, I made it – on 5 September 2011, I was given my Registration. However, I still support homecare and I happily visit people in their own homes..

It is not all hard work! For example, whilst supporting a client I enjoyed visiting Stoke Mandeville Hospital, and I had the pleasure of meeting Sir Jimmy Saville in "Jimmy's Café" at that fine hospital.

And so in my Respite Suite within my home on the farm, I provide an Individual Care Package to those who need it in my community and surrounding areas.

In a Book of Hope I found a message which I always keep in mind:

*People deal too much with the negative and what is wrong – why not try to see the positive things – just to touch those things and make them bloom. (Thich Nhat Hanh)*

VICKI FOWLER



### **Carnival 2012: 15-23 June Theme: Olympics**

We're off!! As it is a big year for Celebrations, we have put forward the Carnival Week by two weeks, but for 2012 only.

**Good News:** We have a sponsor for the insurance premium for Carnival Floats and the Committee will pay the £20 per float on the day. So there you go ... no excuse, start planning and get your vehicle organised soon. Make it a Super Procession, just like the old days.

**Carnival Queen:** 14 and over – just for Carnival Week and the Crowning will take place on Pig Roast Evening – wait for it! Prize £50.

**Pride of Purton:** Who do you think does a lot for the village and is a very caring person. Presentation on Pig Roast Evening.

Just a reminder of some of the events planned. So get cracking ... and there's more to come: Coffee Morning, Talent Contest, Mile of Coins, Pig Roast, our own "Olympics" – Round the Houses and Cycle Races – Pool, Darts, Crib, Skittles, Bingo, Under-5's Party, Quiz, Carnival Lunch.

We can organise it all but we need your support and participation so we can all have Carnival Time Fun. We always need Marshalls and helpers during the week so, if you can help, please contact me for information.

PAULINE WARD, Secretary

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*Purton Tennis Club* At this time of year I am haunted by a poem which sums up how many people feel about November. It's entirely negative and includes the lines:-

"no mail – no post –

No news from any coast"

which is very much how I feel trying to think of what to say this month! There isn't very much news as the winter League has barely got going and with the days now truly dark in the early evening our playing is somewhat limited. As the poem puts it:-

"no dawn – no dusk – no proper time of day"

So what is there to report from the tennis club?!

Well, to be very positive. we now have Lawn Tennis Association accreditation called 'Clubmark' which gives us access to LTA funding and their help to promote the club. This is vital if we are to progress and develop as we wish to. We have a very hard-working committee who try to organise and support our assorted projects throughout the year. We shall be holding our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 2 November at the Red House at 7.30 pm when we shall be exploring with our members how to move the club forward and make plans for 2012 a year in which the Club will celebrate its Centenary. On 12 November the Swindon & District League will hold their Presentation Evening which will be held this year at Devizes when our Ladies A team will lift the trophy for their first division win. Congratulations to them!

So when I think about it it's definitely not all gloom and doom and we have Christmas to look forward to!

CAROLINE McLEAN

## Purton Bowls Club

The bowling season ended with the Bartlett Triples (12 rinks). 48 players took part with a lovely lunch served halfway through, the winners being M. Holland, A. Fail and J. Fail. A total of £331 was raised for *Help for Heroes*. On Saturday 8 October at the Club at Cricklade, the trophies were presented to the winners. The President thanked the members for making the season a happy and successful one.



BARBARA WOOLFORD

## A Special Peal

On Sunday 9 October there was a special peal rung in St Mary's bell tower. It was called Yorkshire Surprise Major, with over 5,140 changes. The whole peal took 3 hours and 16 minutes. (A peal has to be more than 5,000 changes.)

The peal was rung with birthday compliments to Alan Woodward, who rang No. 4 bell: and was also the first peal in the method, rung, on No. 3 bell, by his son Michael Woodward. Also ringing, from Purton was Katy Whitaker.

The other five ringers came from visiting church bell ringing teams. Congratulations to all of them.

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



At the recent Junior Presentation Evening held at the Purton Club on 17 September the following batting, bowling and coaching awards were made to young cricketers:

- U9 Joe Johnston, Callum Flay, Harrison Burridge
- U11 Alex Duffell, Alex Heaps, Callum Van Rooyen
- U13 Elijah Samuel, Sean Parker, Josh Price
- U15 Tom Whittaker, Bipin Gattapur, Brijesh Gattapur

Amongst many encouraging aspects of the evening was the fact that 100 people attended which shows that Purton cricket is currently receiving very good support.

As a result of the recent publication of the booklet 'A Gift For All Time' – the story of James Sadler's generosity and support given to Purton Cricket Club – 'The Journal of the Cricket Society' gave Francis Sheppard's account a warm review commenting on James Sadler's generosity and participation in local cricket.

Please remember that the club is presenting a small exhibition to commemorate James Sadler's gift of the cricket field to the village in 1911. It will be on display during library opening hours during November and December. Where possible a cricket club member will be in attendance. It will also be possible to purchase copies of the booklet 'A Gift For All Time'.

JOE GARDNER

## Purton F.C.



With the season now well underway Chris Pethick's Hellenic side lie 4<sup>th</sup> in the Hellenic Div 1 West league but have sadly been eliminated from the Wilts Senior Cup and the Bluefin Hellenic Challenge Cups after defeats of 1-0 and 4-0 by Carterton FC and Warminster Town respectively.

Albert Dearing's reserve side in the Wilts Premier league are currently in the top half of their league with the highlight so far a massive 11-0 win over Vale of Pewsey. Sadly for them they have also been eliminated from their Cup – the Corsham Senior Cup.

Our Youth sides are now into their season. There are two teams playing at Under 12s level, and other teams at under 14s, 15s and 16s. Currently the under 14s team are the most highly placed in the North Wilts Youth leagues.

Excellent work by Colin Richards on the Red House pitch has seen the ground in excellent condition, a credit to all his hard work which is most appreciated by everyone at the club.

On 28 August after a lot of effort put in, I am pleased to say the Club have been awarded Adult Charter standard club accreditation something all clubs are and have to achieve in the future.

Sincere thanks to all those who have sponsored the Club this season and the club also appreciate those who support our teams at both Senior and Youth levels in the games at the Red House and Bradon Forest School.

ALAN EASTWOOD, *President/Chairman*

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## St Mary's C of E Primary School

What will you be doing in 50 years time? Hopefully in the St Mary's School of the future in 50 years time they will be opening the time capsule that was successfully incorporated beneath the internal staircase of the new school (*right and below*) on Friday 7 October. It is full of memories from the children and staff, so remember to keep October 2061 free!



We also held our Harvest Festival services at St Mary's Church. The children really enjoyed taking their gifts, sharing some of their work and singing for the congregation. Thank you to all of you who were able to attend the services, and as ever we are grateful to all at St Mary's church and the incumbent minister, Rev John Railton, for allowing us to use their wonderfully decorated church. The packets and tins of food that so many of you kindly donated have now been collected by the Swindon Foodbank, and they were delighted with your generosity. They will soon send us a certificate which will tell us how many meals have been made from the donations and we will let you know. Fresh produce was delivered to Purton Lunch Club.

It would appear as though autumn has arrived at last after the very pleasant warm weather we have recently enjoyed. Things are carrying on well with the new school and all still remains on track for us to move across as expected. Naturally we are becoming increasingly excited and just recently we have appointed our furniture suppliers so that we will be able to begin equipping the classrooms ready for 6 January.

St Mary's has started well in terms of sporting achievements too. We won the first football match of the season last week and our netball, football and rugby teams are taking part in school competitions over the next week or so. Hopefully the children involved will have great experiences at all these events.

We will soon be taking part in our annual cluster school choir festival at the Oasis Leisure Centre in Swindon on Thursday 24 November. This year the theme is 'STEAM' and it looks to celebrate the heritage of Swindon's Railway history.

Mr Peter Horsell, our caretaker, has decided to retire from his job as school caretaker after over 20 years service to St Mary's. On behalf of all of the staff and pupils of St Mary's, we would like to thank Pete for all his hard work and commitment to the school. We all wish Pete a long and enjoyable retirement.



We will be holding a 'Trip down Memory Lane' evening (see [page 32](#)) for all the community to come and take a look at the Lower School before we finally leave it. All are very welcome.

IAN TUCKER, Headteacher



### **Q is for ... Queen Anne's Gate**

This gate at College Farm house is named after Anne Hyde (1637-71 and daughter of Edward Hyde) who married the Duke of York, later King James II. She died 14 years before her husband became king, but her 2 daughters, Mary and Anne, both became Queens of England. See also [page 18](#) in this issue.

### **R is for ... Rainbows**

Rainbows are the youngest members of Girlguiding UK, aged 5 to 7, and the Purton Rainbow unit celebrates its coming of age this autumn as it turns 18. Rainbows follow a programme called the Rainbow Jigsaw, which involves a wide range of activities and games from the four programme areas: Look, Learn, Laugh and Love. Being a Rainbow is all about learning, developing self-confidence, building friendships and, of course, having lots of fun! To add a name to our waiting to join list or for more information regarding volunteering as an adult with the unit, please contact Jo Begg.

### **R is for ... Red House**

Purton Parish Council bought The Red House in 1946 as a war memorial and village centre. Today, the site is home to various sports clubs, a play area and skate park, the Millennium Hall and the Red House Club, and is a vibrant part of village life.

### **R is for ... Railways**

2 railway lines were built through Purton in the nineteenth century.

The Great Western railway line ran from the junction with the main line at Swindon through Purton Station (opened 1841) then on to Kemble and Gloucester.

The Midland & South West Junction Railway ran from Old Town through Blunsdon to Cricklade and Cirencester.

The GWR Line is still there but not the station which was closed in 1964 as part of the Beeching cut-backs to the nationalised railway system. The line, previously double-track was singled at the same time

The old M&SWJR Line is partly preserved by the Swindon & Cricklade Railway at the Blunsdon Station site. Watch out for "S is for ..." in the next issue.

### **R is for ... Ringsbury Camp**

Ringsbury Camp, situated in the fields south west of Battlewell, is an Iron Age hill fort dating from about 50BC. It is a small double-banked fort enclosing about 8 acres. The banks are made of limestone rubble. There is a footpath right round the camp, which can be accessed from Battlewell, Restrop or Greenhill.

### **R is for ... Romans**

Purton is rich with signs of Roman occupation, but the most important find, at North View (the old workhouse), was of a Roman Cemetery. One of the sarcophagi found there can be seen outside the south door of St Mary's Church.

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

## Exhibit of the Month: R is for ... Reception

Norma and John Charlesworth have just celebrated their Golden Wedding (see Postbag on [page 26](#) and Floodlighting on [page 40](#)) having been married at St Mary's Church on 7 October 1961. They have kindly allowed me to scan the receipt for their Wedding Reception at *The Angel* on that day 50 years ago. It has some interesting stories to tell.

I suppose the thing that strikes me first is the 2d (old pence) stamp overwritten with "Received with thanks, F.J. Tilling". Yes, there was stamp duty to be paid on a range of goods and services in those days, not just on property purchases, and although a very small amount (0.03% in this case) it demonstrates that the term Stamp Duty means (or meant) that the transaction was validated by the purchase of a stamp. The Inland Revenue received the money direct from Post Office receipts.

The feeding of 73 adults and 3 children for £29: 4s 10d (about £29.24) seems quite cheap, but 50 years of inflation gives it a value in today's money of a more realistic £525.18 [source: *Bank of England Inflation Calculator - 1960 to 2010* [www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/inflation/calculator/index1.htm](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/inflation/calculator/index1.htm)]. Try it!

The receipt form – in those days called a 'billhead' – has a strap line at the top – "Catering for all Occasions." There is certainly continuity in *The Angel*, even after the tenure of many sets of landlords over the years: the phone number given is Purton 248 – it still is, or rather 770248. This was of course before the days when you could dial direct between Exchanges, before STD. to call *The Angel* from even as close as Swindon, you would have had to place the call via the operator!

And of course there is the continuity of the 50 years' of marriage to celebrate.

There will be clearer pictures as always ... and the stamp will be in colour ... on the Museum's web site at [www.purtonmuseum.com](http://www.purtonmuseum.com). Purton Museum is open during Library hours – see the inside front cover of the Magazine for these hours.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer



## Church Floodlighting

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



- 1 October                    St Mary's was floodlit for **Douglas Spackman** (who died 1 October 1995) and for **Queenie Kelly** (who died 19 September 1999) Dennis and Della Kelly.
- 6 October                    The Church was floodlit in memory of **Violet Fowler**. Remembering a dear Mum and Grandmother on the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her death. From her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
- 8 October                    St Mary's was floodlit to celebrate the **Golden Wedding of Norma and John Charlesworth**, who were married in St Mary's on 7 October. Congratulations to them both.
- 16 October                   St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Diana Davies** and her parents Joyce and Jill Burchell at the request of Brian and Rebecca.
- 10 November                St Mary's will be floodlit for **Pete Holland**, on the anniversary of his wedding and his birthday. From all the Holland family.
- 16 November                St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Trev Bird** who left us 16 November 2003.  
Miss you: Love you always:  
Jean, Amanda, and Paul. x x.
- 18 November                Purton Church will be floodlit for **Gary Perring** on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.  
Dearly loved and sadly missed Grandson. Love you always:  
Nan and Gramp, Julie and family, Ian and family, and Paul and family.
- 28 November                St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Mary Wightman** in celebration of her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark and Ben; daughters-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

*Floodlighting contact: Libbie, tel 771018*