

Purton *Magazine*



A Little Bit of Hope
by Tracey Rapson, Purton Artists

February 2012

50p

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

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

Mrs Gladys Legg, tel 770375

Alan Woodward, tel 771572

Richard McCarthy, tel 770838

www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton

Services: See Diary Page in this magazine

METHODIST CHURCHES

Minister Rev David Perkins, 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

Although in the depths – well, semi-depths – of winter with those glorious sunny days that follow hard, white frosts, your magazine is full of plans for later in the year when we might hope for the former without the latter.

With indoor courts and winter leagues, tennis seems to be a year round sport these days and, on 20 February, our very own Purton Tennis Club celebrates its centenary. On [page 33](#) you will see that several events are being planned, including a Wooden Racquet (remember them?) tournament for which attempts will be made to “winkle out” former members. With increasing numbers of healthy elders and all the modern facilities, surely it can’t be too long before Purton Tennis Club has their first 100-year-old player.

Not to be outdone, Purton Cricket club has already started their indoor coaching sessions and practice nets in preparation for their 192nd season. Although the 9th oldest cricket club in the country and the oldest in Wiltshire, improvements to the on-field facilities are being planned, starting with the Cricket Force weekend on 6 - 8 April. Even more summer sports come to mind because this year’s carnival will have the Olympics as its theme. Carnival week will run from 15 - 23 June and more details can be found on [page 33](#).

The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee is early in June and already plans are materialising for a village party on Sunday 3 June. It will be a free event at the village centre and everyone is invited to bring their own picnic, as well as tables, chairs, blankets and lanterns. While lots of entertainments are already being lined up, the call goes out on [page 36](#) for more entertainers to join the party. Before then, on 10 March, there will be a rock night in the Village Hall to raise the money needed to stage the village party.

Also in March a grand opening of the new St Mary’s CE Primary School is being planned and we look forward to publishing more details next month. In the meantime, there is a very interesting article all about the move from the old school with a montage of photographs on [page 26](#).

As usual, lots of things are going on in our vibrant village and we are grateful to everyone who has taken the time and effort to send in the details for sharing with all our readers.

13

goals makes Marcus Hall
Purton Football Club 1st
team’s leading scorer
– see [page 32](#).

100th

birthday of
Purton Tennis Club
on 20 February
– see [page 33](#).

250

maximum number
of lots at the
Age Concern auction
– see [page 11](#).

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Purton
Magazine

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Distribution enquiries only:

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

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News



Annual Parish Meeting – This year's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 26 March starting at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall. This is a meeting that all Parishioners are welcome to attend and participate in. It is not a Parish Council Meeting but the Parish Council will be presenting its annual report at the meeting. The Police will be present to give an update on local policing and an update will be given on the progress of the Parish Plan. Please make a note of this date in your diary and come along to what is generally a very interesting evening.

Temporary Closure of C70 Hayes Knoll (Part) – the C70 Hayes Knoll from its junction with B4553 Packhorse (Cross Lanes) – The Parish Council has been in discussion with Wiltshire Council for some time about the dangerous Cross Lanes junction, and as a result the Hayes Knoll carriageway is going to be widened hence the road closure commencing on the 6 February 2012 for two weeks. New signage will also be introduced and rumble strips.

Tadpole Lane River and Rail Bridge works – Work is scheduled to start on the 14 May 2012 to replace and widen the river bridge, and the embankment of the rail bridge is being stabilised and the traffic lights will be replaced and nominally moved down the slope. The work on the rail bridge is still subject to planning permission as the bridge is a listed structure. It is anticipated that the work will take 36 weeks to complete and the road will be closed during this time. There will however still be access to Swindon & Cricklade Railway either from the East or West throughout the works.

Road Traffic Regulations – The following road traffic regulations are being consulted on by Wiltshire Council until 13 February 2012; if you would like to comment on the proposals then quote reference HKB/TRO/PURT via email or in writing to: TRO Team, Sustainable Transport Group, Highways & Transport, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wilts. BA14 8JN, email Hannah.Bolwell@wiltshire.gov.uk :

- Introduction of a 30mph speed limit - Stoke Common Lane, from its junction with the B4553 to the centre of the River Key and Pond Lane, from its junction with Stoke Common Lane to a point 97 metres north east of its south western boundary with the property known as Brooklands to a point 78 metres south west of that boundary.
- Introduction of a 50mph speed limit - B4553, Purton to Cricklade, from a point 170 metres north of its junction with the C70 Washpool Road, Common Platt, Purton to a point 30 metres south of its junction with Godbys Farm, Cricklade. C47 Tadpole Lane, from its junction with B4553 to the County boundary. The Fox, from its junction with B4553 to a point 148 metres south west of that junction.

Dog Warden – Sebastian Williams the dog warden will be available to talk to you on 1 February in the small meeting room adjacent to the public toilets in the village hall car park, he will be there from 9 am to 11 am. Please call and see him if you

have any issues relating to dogs.

Dog Control Orders – Wiltshire Council is proposing to make new Dog Control Orders which it plans to bring into force on 1 May 2012. The Order is out for consultation and is based on the following proposals:

- Clean up after a dog has fouled – A comprehensive order will be made covering most land in towns and villages to which the public have a right of access.
- Dogs Exclusion – Dogs will be excluded from all enclosed children's play areas and from areas covered by an existing order.
- Dogs on Lead – This will not be used generally, except to confirm an area already covered by an existing order.
- Dogs on Leads, at the instruction of an authorised officer – A comprehensive order will be made covering the same land as would be covered under point 1 above. It is not envisaged that this power will be used except where it appears that a dog is not under proper control.

Sport Relief 2012: Would anybody like to organise a fun run to take place on Sunday 25 March 2012? Fabienne, is the Local Events Coordinator for Comic Relief and is working in the South West looking for organisations that might be interested in getting involved. You can walk, jog or run 1, 3 or 6 miles and they hope to have an event accessible for every nook and cranny of the UK. If you would like to organise an event then you can register online at www.sportrelief.com or contact Fabienne by email f.camm@comicrelief.com or telephone 02078202552.

The following Planning Applications have been approved by Wiltshire Council:

- N11/03698/AGN *Land at Restrop Farm*, Erection of agricultural storage building.
N11/03113/FUL *1 Parkside, The Hyde*, Addition of dormer extension.
N11/03563/FUL *Karenza, Hayes Knoll, Purton Stoke*, Extension to agricultural building, retention of polytunnel and improvements to existing access LD&PC Ltd.
N11/03589/FUL *Windy Ridge, 69 Pavenhill*, Extensions and alterations.
N11/03681/FUL *35 New Road*, Garage.
N11/03699/CLE *No Parish Bungalow, Braydon*, Certificate of Lawfulness - For Occupancy For Persons Not Employed in Agriculture.

The following Planning Appeal has been allowed:

N11/01465LBC *Restrop Farmhouse*

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

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

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

News from the Trustees

Village Hall

Firstly could I apologise for any inconvenience caused by the boiler going wrong – the one in the kitchen that provides hot water to the sinks. It is one of the items that wasn't renewed when the kitchen was refurbished. The budget was tight and, from reports received, that particular water heater was OK. Still, you live and learn. The problem now is that it is difficult to get parts or a replacement for that type of boiler and a different type would mean a lot of extra work. We could have done without this as we were beginning to think about our next project – the gents' toilets. So once again, we are really sorry about this – that will teach me to say how pleased we are with the kitchen. Still, one consolation, Sheila said how much easier it was making the punch on Christmas Eve with the new saucepans and cooker.

We have purchased new crockery etc. for the kitchen and have sold some of the old off but we still have dinner plates, dishes and tea plates. If anyone is interested, give the office a ring on 01793 771066. They will arrange for you to have a look at them – a small donation towards the Village Hall would be appreciated.

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

It is such a shame that people cannot enjoy themselves without causing problems. I am referring to whoever lifted the paving slabs at the Tennis Club. It is such a pointless thing to do and, of course, it causes extra work for the Charity. It is the same by the skateboard park – there are plenty of rubbish bins but where do people leave their rubbish? ... on the floor. We live in hope that people will appreciate what has been provided for them and treat it with respect.

My word, the mild weather is keeping the bowls green keepers busy – the green had to be cut a week before Christmas! I must say the football pitch looks a picture. We are so lucky to have such dedicated people who look after these areas as if it was their own garden. It is a credit to them and I would like to say a big thank you to them all.

TONY PRICE, *Chair of Trustees*

We Record ...

Baptisms

18 December 2011 Joshua Alan Gaugain

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 ...



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

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

OFFERED: Samsung Freeview video recorder - DVD/VCR. Tel 01793 770642

WANTED: Upright Piano for Silver Threads Hall. Tel Pauline 01793 770251

Waste collections are changing

Fortnightly household waste collections starting soon

Following the introduction of plastic bottle and cardboard collections in north, west and east Wiltshire, household waste will be collected fortnightly in the north and south from March 2012. This will bring collections in line with those in the east and west of the county where fortnightly collections are already in place. It is hoped that this, along with the extension of the recycling and composting services, will enable the council to reach 50% recycling.

Residents will be sent a leaflet explaining the changes, and a collection calendar setting out on which day each of their bins will be emptied, several weeks before the introduction of fortnightly collections. The calendar is also available on line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/collections.

New garden waste collection service

A non-chargeable garden waste collection service will be introduced in March 2012 for residents in north Wiltshire who have requested it. This is an optional service and residents have to sign up to receive a green-lidded bin, if they don't already have one. Green-lidded bins will be delivered during February and March to those who signed up to receive this service last year.

Missed the deadline?

If you didn't sign up to receive this free service last year, you can still sign up to receive a bin in the second round of deliveries this summer. You can sign up now online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk or by contacting the council on 0300 456 0102

If you already have a garden waste bin, you do not need to sign up again.

Christmas tree recycling

Residents who currently have a garden waste bin can put their real Christmas tree out by the side of their bin for collection on their normal scheduled garden waste collection day during January. Alternatively trees can be taken to a household recycling centre for recycling.

Bad weather

During inclement weather, waste and recycling collection services may be affected. If this happens on the day residents' collections are due, they should keep their bins out at the usual collection points and they will be collected as soon as possible. Residents are also advised, where possible, to check the council's website for more information at www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

STOP PRESS!!

Purton Open Gardens 2012

It doesn't seem possible that it is 18 months since our last Open Gardens. It was a good weekend with many gardens open, lots of visitors and with the added bonus of many charities and village organisations benefitting financially from our efforts.

If you would like to open your garden, however big or small, contemporary or cottage garden, with or without weeds! – please contact our chairperson Nick Yerbury on 01793 770552. More news next month.

Purton & District Age Concern



It is once again with sadness that I start my piece this month as we have lost a lady who it was always a pleasure to have a chat and laugh with – I am talking about **Joyce Selwood**, who lived in Pavenhill. I didn't know much about her although, as I have said, I always enjoyed meeting her. She was, I think, born at the Leigh, as her father worked for Freeth's at Manor Farm and they were in a tied cottage. She went to Leigh school until she was fourteen. I would think it was a bit tight for room in their cottage, but people did manage in those days without a lot of fuss – were they more contented? Joyce and her twin brother were the youngest of the family – there were four other brothers besides and, when their father died, they moved to Hillside, still at the Leigh. I am told that Joyce's twin brother Michael had a lovely voice and would sing at weddings. One of his favourites was *Ave Maria* but I don't think they did any duets. After Joyce's dad died, Joyce looked after her mother and two of her brothers, but she also went to work, first at Powell's Engineering at Ashton Keynes, then later on – the best move of all – to the Dental Factory at Purton, where she met Pete, her husband to be. Before Pete worked there, many people will remember him as a postman in the village along with Albert Sutton.

Something I found interesting about Joyce was that she served on the Parish Council at the Leigh. She was a devoted daughter, looking after her mother for a good number of years and only leaving her to go to work and to attend Council meetings. Her brothers used to take her to work at the Dental factory by car. After her mother died she still looked after her brothers and, after they died, a kind lady, Sylvia Kinnett, offered her a lift to work and that is how she was able to continue working. By now romance was blossoming with Pete and they got married at Leigh Church. What it really boiled down to was that Joyce wouldn't get married until all her family commitments had finished.

Joyce and Pete had such a happy married life – they liked to keep themselves to themselves so that they could enjoy all their time together. I think you would say that their marriage was made in heaven. They used to come on our coach trips and it always stood out how contented they were with one another – that was all they wanted. Sadly Pete died too early – they didn't have very long together after their marriage but my word they did enjoy what they had.

Joyce was a very prim and proper person in all that she did. Inside, her cottage was very spic and span but also very comfortable. Her garden was the same, everything in place and not a weed to be seen. I know when she opened her garden for Purton in Bloom, the remarks people made were very praiseworthy – 'a lovely cottage garden' – you only had to look from the road to see how neat it all was, the paintwork all up together and nice neat lines in the garden. After Pete died, Joyce gradually went on the decline, in the end not going out more than she had to. However her neighbours were excellent – one would go and see her every Sunday afternoon after Pete had died and her husband would take Joyce down to the Post Office every week. Another neighbour would take her shopping in Swindon and anywhere else she would like to go and two of them would take her out on trips on

Sundays, mainly to her favourite place, Weston. They would have some fish and chips and then come back home. She would have meals with the neighbours and she would go round to one for Christmas lunch. Also her family were very kind to her and it is no more than she deserved, spending most of her life looking after others. I have said it before and no doubt I will say it again – Purton is a marvellous place to live and it is people like Joyce's neighbours who make it so. Could I thank the family and friends of Joyce for money in lieu of flowers coming to Age Concern.

Could I catch up on something I forgot about for last month's magazine and offer belated 90th birthday greetings to a true Purtonian **Betty Frost**. Why did I want to offer these greetings to Betty, well she is a lovely contented person, not looking for the world and enjoying the simple things in life. Simple is not the right word – nature would be better as she enjoys the birds, which she feeds and she loves her garden, enjoying pottering about in it. Until last year she would go on yearly visits to America along with her family. It was only the fact that the insurance was more costly than the air fare that stopped her going. Like a lot more ladies of her time, she worked at the Dental Factory, as we called it in those days, although the proper name is Associated Dental Products.

Betty has always lived in the New Road area and what's more, when I first started work, I worked with Betty's father, Bob Frost, in 2 Shop, the saw mills in the GWR. What a lovely man he was – if my memory serves me right he had dark wavy hair, but what I remember most about him was that he was very kind and helpful which I appreciated, being a new starter. When I moved to the loco side in the factory, I lost touch and, sadly, he died quite young. It is easy for me to see where Betty gets her qualities from because her dad was the same contented person, never moaning or groaning but always with a smile on his face and Betty is the same. What a marvellous world it would be with more people with Betty's nature looking on the bright side. Could I just say how kind her family are to her which I am sure gives them so much pleasure and I do know they all went out together for a meal for her birthday and I am sure they enjoyed it. Well done, Bet.

What a lovely start to our first meeting of 2012 – firstly we had a full committee, all eighteen of us, as we welcomed a new member to join us – Mick Looker – who introduced himself and told us a bit about his life. Mick gave us all cards and we introduced ourselves to him by writing down interesting points on them from past years in Age Concern and our aims for the future. It was fun, humorous and constructive. I am sure Mick will be a great asset to us and, with a few more like him, it will ensure that Purton Age Concern continues into the future.

I would like to thank everyone for their kindness in giving us such lovely raffle prizes – we had thirty six really nice prizes donated – and also in buying and selling our tickets – it was a really successful raffle. Thank you. Could I apologise for the lights going out on the Christmas tree – this is something it is difficult to rectify once the tree is in place. It is decorated when it is on the ground – however plans are in place to get different lights for next Christmas. This happened only a few days before the tree was due to come down. Talk about getting the tree down – Ian and Adam Humphries, Nick Webb and our new committee member, Mick Looker, had it down and cleared up in just over half an hour, together with our other committee

members, so our thanks to all concerned. See you next Christmas.

The carols under the Christmas tree went very well. We were disappointed that Graham New was unable to come – hope you are better Graham – but proceedings were in the capable hands of his wife Mary and her musicians to start our Christmas off. It is so informal, just like a scene from a Christmas card, except we have more singers – about 150 in all and, of course, we thank Father Christmas for dropping in when he had such a busy night ahead. With the thanks, let's not forget Sheila, my wife, for the hot punch, as good as always. On the down side, we are very concerned by the number of people who stand on the pavement. It is alright for just one row, so that people can pass on the pavement but we are frightened that someone walking down may have to step off into the road and risk being knocked down by a car. What a dreadful thing that would be. Another thing I was surprised at was some of the children there running up and down on the walls – this spoils the enjoyment of those singing the carols so let's try and rectify this by next year. This is a lovely occasion and we want it to go on – so many people say that it starts their Christmas off.

We are starting the year off in style on the fund raising side as our Burns Night is a sell out and this is a fortnight before the event. After this, we have our jumble sale on Saturday 18 February at the Village Hall at 2 pm. Items for this sale can be left at the Hall between 12 noon and 1 pm only. Come along – I know we will have some bargains and there is always a nice cup of tea. Following on from that, we have our annual auction – this is on Saturday 3 March at the Village Hall. The auction starts at 1 pm, viewing from 12 noon. Items for this sale can be brought to the hall from 9 am to 11.30 am. You get 75% of the selling price, providing the item makes over £2. We limit the sale to 250 lots so it is advisable to get your lots in early as every year we have had to turn people away. Give me a ring if you would like more details on 770696. This is a properly run auction with a professional auctioneer, which is why it is always so successful. Mr Roderick Wightman, our auctioneer, has been doing our auction for a good number of years, firstly helping his father, Bob Wightman, then taking over. Mr Wightman put us on the right road then made sure we continued by introducing Roderick, something we greatly appreciated, especially as we have been running these auctions for well over thirty years.

Would anyone be interested in an electrical bath hoist? We have been offered one. Could I finish by saying about this incredible weather we are having. Two days ago a gentleman gave Sheila a lovely white rose – the name was *Peace* and that is what we all will be looking for in 2012.

I had finished my piece when, on going to Church, I heard of the loss of **Edgar Waldron**. I am not quite sure whether he was born in Purton, Braydon or Minety but I think he was born at Gryphon Lodge, Braydon I think. A few ifs and buts there so I cannot say he was a true Purtonian but one thing I do know is that his family lived in pretty primitive conditions. However, Edgar was one of nine, the oldest being that lovely gentleman Harold Waldron – someone that Purton has so much to say thank you to. Edgar's father along with Harold was called up for the 1939-45 war, so Edgar became the man of the house. He would go out and catch rabbits, pheasants, well virtually any game you could eat and wood for the fires – perhaps that's where

the song comes from 'Keep the home fires burning' and Edgar certainly did that. As I have said, the conditions were not very good so the family were moved to Reid's Piece because the children kept going down with various fevers. In those days, farm labourers moved around quite a bit because most of their contracts were for a year, starting on Lady Day, which is in March, so I assume with Edgar's dad being a farm labourer this would have happened to him, living in various places.

Edgar had a hard life, firstly being born with no roof to his mouth which meant an operation, one that wasn't very successful, then during the course of his life, he had a heart attack and developed angina. About three years ago he had a tumour between the brain and the skull and, to be honest, he was frightened to go back home so he went to Ridgeway House at Royal Wootton Bassett, where he was lovingly cared for but again Edgar was the type of person it would have been a pleasure to look after because he was so appreciative. Edgar didn't stop in farm labouring too long – he became a navy. I don't know whether that was a good thing or not as he got mixed up with the wrong people who packed up Friday lunch time and went drinking. One of the places he worked on was the Pressed Steel factory which is now BMW. Edgar lost two wives during his life but he never really got over losing Bet, who was his second wife. Not a week went by without him visiting Bet's grave in the cemetery and spending time there with her.

His time spent labouring on building sites stood him in good stead, he learnt a lot and eventually started up on his own. In the end he could turn his hand to most jobs and whenever he did a job for you, you certainly had your pound of flesh because he was a workaholic and carried on until he was seventy-six, clambering over roofs, working off ladders with no scaffolding – no health and safety with Edgar! One day he was working in Pavenhill and his ladder touched the electricity cables. He was thrown off but got up and carried on. He wasn't very safety conscious as I have said, like the day he ran out of petrol and siphoned off some petrol out of Pete Kinnett's car at Wells Farm, spilling some on the ground. Edgar, not thinking, dropped his dog end and that was the end of Pete's Vauxhall 10 car. It was burnt to a cinder. It was funny, often in those days I used to run out of petrol quite often going to Pressed Steel – perhaps we didn't have enough money to fill up properly. Another time Edgar ran out on his way to work at Cirencester so he left his car, got a lift and when he got back at night, someone had broken into it and do you know the only thing stolen was Edgar's false teeth. His mouth was a bit sore that morning so he had left them in his vehicle. It peeved Edgar a bit but it made him buy some more which probably fitted better. I hope so anyway.

Edgar was a chap that I always liked – when I think of him I think of work because, as I've said before, he was a workaholic and also I think of his kindness. Sheila and I used to collect the Christian Aid envelopes in Reid's Piece and it was always such a pleasure to get to Edgar's house – he always had his envelope ready and you knew there was a generous gift in there, then we would have a chat. Going to his door was always very uplifting and we shall remember Edgar with affection.

TONY PRICE

When contacting advertisers,
please mention that you found their details in Purton Magazine.

Parking on Double Yellow Lines

I have recently had an email from a resident who is very concerned about vehicles parking on double yellow lines around the village and also vehicles not stopping at the Stop Sign at Church Street. They have concerns for the safety of the young people in the village who have to cross behind parked vehicles in difficult situations.

Parking on double yellow lines seems to be a problem around the village and both the Parish Council and myself regularly have complaints from residents who feel that it is unacceptable. Wiltshire Council are responsible for issuing tickets for infringements for parking and when the Parking Warden is in the village they have been asked to issue tickets for illegal parking. Unfortunately the Warden is not often in the village but of course if we all complied with the Highway Code then it wouldn't be necessary.

Not stopping at the Church Street junction with the Triangle at Best One (the old Spar shop) is possibly, for local residents, part of a habit which will hopefully stop over time. We have perhaps been lucky to date with no serious injuries at this junction but with the increase in traffic through the village the likelihood will increase if cars do not stop. For everyone of us who stops and causes others behind us to stop will help to reinforce the message that this is a junction to stop at.

I am sure that we are all very conscientious drivers and share the concerns of other residents. The issues of transport, traffic and highways will be part of one of the topic groups that the Parish Plan Steering Group are looking at. The Steering Group is made up of residents of the village and will be looking at several topics which will create the Parish Plan so if you are interested in becoming involved and putting forward your views then I am happy to forward on your details.

JACQUI LAY, Wiltshire Councillor for Purton & Braydon

[Purton Magazine also received a copy of this message. Ed.]

Dixon Group Tours/Chiseldon Travel Club 2012/13

The travel club has celebrated 30 years of successful travel all over the world and we thank all the hundreds of you who have trusted us with your holidays over the years.

We are making a return to Lake Maggiore in Northern Italy 29 August - 9 September 2012 by coach, breaking our outward journey in Metz and Bern and our homeward journey in Lucerne and Reims. We will spend 7 nights at a 4* hotel in the beautiful lakeside resort of Stresa with excursions out from that central base – £1375 per person for a twin share, includes all breakfasts, evening meals and excursions. There are still a few places left on this tour.

We are planning our last long haul trip in January/February 2013 back to New Zealand which has been the long term favourite with all our travellers. We have written this special tour to give new destinations to returners and take in the old favourites again that no one wants to miss. This tour is a month long and will go around the world – out via Hong Kong and home via Los Angeles on Air New Zealand. All our tours are with ABTA and ATOL bonded companies. For this extensive itinerary covering the tour of both islands and the Italian Lakes one, please email us on ***sharian@clara.co.uk*** or call us on 01793 741210.

SHARON & IAN DIXON

After 8 Christmas Meeting:



On 13 December, twelve of us gathered together at the home of Mary Smith where we were invited upon arrival to place a decoration on her Christmas tree which set the evening off on a nice Christmassy start. Barbara and Marion provided piano accompaniment for the Christmas Carols which we sang with great enthusiasm although some of us struggled with the higher notes! We had an interval for the food which members had provided plus a drink from a very interesting selection, again everyone brought a bottle, not all alcoholic!

The Secret Santa tradition followed, which is now firmly established as part of the celebrations: each member wraps up an unwanted Christmas present which is placed in a sack at our hostess's front door. Then the tricky part – delving into the sack and extracting a present which was not your original one. We had some surprises – a make-up kit with black nail polish, a set of crystals for fortune telling, a set of bottle openers in a package which resisted attempts to open it until Sandra finally found the knack.

We finished off the evening by singing *We Wish you a Merry Christmas* with great gusto and everyone agreed that it had been a super evening. Thanks are due to our hostess and to our pianists. I am not alone in thinking that an evening spent with friends is not an expensive or extravagant way to celebrate Christmas but is probably one of the most enjoyable.

JAN WALKER

Why not come and join us – for more details contact Avril or Janet.

After 8 Quiz 2011

Our January meeting was a quiz on the year 2011. Fourteen of us took part. The winner was Sandra Horsnell. See how well you can do: (Answers on [page 17](#))

THE ARAB SPRING: January 14 saw the beginning of political unrest. The first was in where President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali was obliged to flee to Saudi Arabia.

February 2 The protests begin causing President Saleh ofto eventually step down in November. This month also sees the departure of President Mubarak of

It is not until October that the President of Libya is flushed out of hiding from a sewer and is very publicly executed. After all the photographs and publicity can we remember his forename?

NATURAL DISASTERS: January 10 - In Australia, three quarters of the state of is declared a disaster zone from massive flooding.

In February a 6.3 magnitude earthquake hits in New Zealand killing 181 people.

In March the Tohoku earthquake hit Japan, the most powerful since records began, Magnitude, sufficient to slightly tilt the earth on its axis. This event was followed by the devastating Tsunami which killedpeople.

WEDDINGS: Kate Middleton married Prince William in April and Zara Phillips married Mike Tindall in July. Prince Albert of Monaco was also married to Charlene Wittstock but the wedding almost did not take place, why?

On 10 November at Marylebone Town Hall, Nancy Shevell married and on 7 July, singer Jaime Hince marries in the Cotswolds.

HOME EVENTS: The first referendum was held foryears in March and we voted against

In April Prince Charles reached the age of becoming the longest heir-in-waiting.

The Queen became years old also in April and in May carried out an historic visit to the first since 1911. Accompanied by the Duke there was an exhausting tour of Australia and New Zealand.

The Duke of Edinburgh was awarded the title of by the Queen on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Following many scandals the Newspaper Group became under close scrutiny. Father and son Rupert and James Murdoch managed to wriggle free but their Chief Executive, was obliged to resign. The result of the enquiry caused the closure of one of their newspapers, after 168 years of publication.

Events surrounding the rise and fall of the Euro have held us spellbound for many months. Many last minute rescue plans have been formed which have involved much whispering between the various European leaders. December saw the resignation of two European Presidents due to the Eurozone crisis, they are of Italy, and of Greece.

The next meeting is our late Christmas meal at Oriental Aroma in Royal Wootton Bassett on Tuesday 21 February. Numbers to Avril by Friday 17 February.

Silver Threads Driver Appeal

We need another volunteer car drive who would be willing to take about six people from Hooks Hill to The Silver Threads Hall one Thursday in four. The actual journey is probably under 200 yards but the path is too steep for several of the elderly residents to manage alone. This would take a maximum of 30 minutes from 11.30 am to 12 noon. You would not have to return them to Hooks Hill after lunch.

Please contact Diana Thombs.

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.

Church Floodlighting

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



- January The church was floodlit for the 19th anniversary of **Ian James Freegard**.
Remembering Ian.
From Mum and Dad, Sandra, Helen, family and friends.
- 28 January St Mary's was floodlit
in remembrance of **Susan Morley**,
whose birthday it would have been on the 28th.
Lovingly remembered by her family and friends.
- 7 February St Mary's Church will be floodlit
in loving memory of **Dennis Grimwood** on the 5th anniversary.
Loved and remembered every day by Kate and all his family.
- 15 February St Mary's will be floodlit in loving memory of **Ron Gunter**,
a dear Husband and Uncle,
on the 11th anniversary of his death.
Loved and remembered by Betty and family.
- 20 February St Mary's will be floodlit
in memory of **Gerty Holland**, on her birthday.
From all the Holland family

Floodlighting contact: Libbie, tel 771018

Floodlighting St Mary's Church

If you would like St Mary's Church to be floodlit, for a special occasion, an anniversary, a birthday or in memory of someone important to you, please contact Libbie Sheppard on 771018 for details.

It can also be arranged for an announcement to be written in this magazine, if requested. The cost is £16 per evening. All money received goes to the Church to cover the cost of the electricity and not to Purton Magazine.

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Blacklands, Red Gables, Highridge Close, The Masons*. 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.

Wiltshire Good Neighbours

Wiltshire Libraries

I am sure that you will recall the horror we all felt last year when the Library service was under threat of closure following Wiltshire Council cutbacks. Thanks to a lot of wonderful people volunteering, the library service across Wiltshire continues, with the opening times largely unchanged. Purton, of course, was one such venue where the service was rescued by volunteers – I am told that it had one of the highest number of volunteers!

Of course, for those who are unable to access the Library, there is a Home Library service which operates throughout the County. The service is for those who are housebound. Having registered, individuals are paired with a volunteer who visits on a regular basis bringing books, audiobooks, CDs and DVDs. If you are interested in this, please call me or the local library to discuss.

A Winter's Journey: Stay Warm, Stay Healthy with Wiltshire Good Neighbours

A Winter's Journey is a new service from the Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme that is designed to help you to keep your home comfortably warm during in the colder winter months. Your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator will work with you over the coming weeks to support you to stay warm and healthy during this difficult time of year.

The Journey starts with a quick look at how you might pay and save money on your energy bills including giving you plenty of energy saving tips for around the house.

Regular visits from your co-ordinator will ensure you have the security and support you need to stay healthy and warm. This on-going support can range from something as simple as picking up shopping during a particularly icy period to something as complex as arranging transport a medical appointment after a heavy snowfall. Your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator is here to help you through it all.

For further information or to sign up for 'A Winter's Journey' please contact your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator or call the Wiltshire Good Neighbours Team on 01380 732828

ELLEN BLACKER

Good Neighbour Co-ordinator

Call: 07557 110414

Email: gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk

THE ARAB SPRING: Tunisia; Yemen; Egypt; Muammar (Gaddafi).
NATURAL DISASTERS: Queensland; Christchurch; 9.0; 15,000 (400 missing)
WEDDINGS: Three illegitimate children; Paul McCartney; Kate Moss.
HOME EVENTS: 36; Electoral reform; 63; Ireland; Lord High Admiral; News International; Rebekah Brooks; News of the World; Berlusconi; Papandreou.

After 8 Quiz Answers from [Page 14](#)

Exhibit of the Month: A Cheese Room Door

This month's exhibit is an old door, painted white and with the words "Cheese Room" painted on it.

William III and Mary II came to the throne in England in 1689, but Europe was already in conflict with The Nine Years' War (1688-97) fought against King Louis XIV of France by a Grand Alliance led by William III, the Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I and King Charles II of Spain. A major financial crisis developed in England from growing inflation caused by the war and its extension into the American colonies and India.

Mary died in 1694 and, during the reign of William III as sole monarch, a Window Tax was introduced in 1696 as a means of raising state revenue. A charge was made on every window in a house and was not an insignificant amount. Even a small cottage that might have had say 8 windows would have been charged 16s 9d – apparently 84p, but considering the inflation that has gone on since 1696, this would be more like £500 today in real terms. Skylights, cellar windows and internal windows in passages were counted and every extra window, increased the tax due.

As a result, one can often see buildings of the period, such as in Georgian Bath that have either been built with false windows or which have had existing windows filled in with brick or stone work to reduce the window count.

The tax was increased in 1784 and also doubled the charge for new windows taller than 12 feet or wider than 4ft 9 inches. The tax was not abolished until 1851.

An exemption to the tax was for some rooms in shops, factories and farms including dairies. Since many people made cheese at home, they could declare a room exempt by painting the words "Dairy" or "Cheese Room" on or above the door in "Roman" letters no less than 2 inches high. The door in the picture comes from *College Farmhouse*, coincidentally the home of Anne Hyde, the mother of both Mary II and Queen Anne.

In some instances, it is alleged, not all Cheese Rooms were used for cheese, and the unsightly nature of the words on the door were a small price to pay for a tax avoidance scam. I don't think this was the case with our door as a note that came with the door entitled *Memories of College Farm from the early years of this [20th] century* referring to a dairy reads, "Above the ground floor of the Backhouse was one long room – The Cheese Room. A flight of stairs led up to it from the Dairy. It had sizable windows and, as the farm stood high, there were views across the Cotswolds from this second storey. In my day it was not used for cheese but for storing apples in racks lined with straw."

There will be a better quality picture on the web site: www.purtonmuseum.com.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer



Purton Museum is located above the Library, 1 Station Road
and is open during Library hours:

Mon 2 - 5pm; Tues 2 - 7pm; Wed 10am - 5pm; Fri 2 - 7pm

PURTON PLACARD

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

PURTON AGE CONCERN **ANNUAL AUCTION**

Saturday 3 March
at the Village Hall
Auctioneer – Mr. Roderick Wightman
Viewing from 12 noon to 1 pm.
Sale starts at 1 pm.
Further information in Purton
Age Concern article in this Magazine

Purton & District Age Concern **JUMBLE SALE**

at the Village Hall
on Saturday 18 February
at 2 pm
Raffle, bric a brac, nearly new,
toys, books and lots of bargains
Jumble can be left at the Hall
from noon to 1 pm.

POP/GENERAL QUIZ

Friday 9 March 2012
Purton Village Hall
Time: 7.30 pm
Licensed Bar
Maximum 6 Per Team
£5 per head to include hot supper
Raffle
Tickets Available from
Helen Griffin Tel 771645
All Proceeds Towards
World Challenge Morocco Trek

Group for Patients



Group for Patients - Purton and
Green Gable Surgery

Prostate Cancer Evening

to be held in Purton Surgery
Thursday 9 February 2012
7.30 - 9 pm

Two speakers have been arranged
for this evening, one is a Macmillan
Nurse and one from the Prostate
Cancer Charity.

As we need to know numbers we do
ask you to book to attend this event
– tickets will be available in Purton
Surgery and from Committee
members.

There is no charge.



PADS present: **Way Out Western II pantomime**

Thurs - Sat 9 - 11 February
7.30pm + 2.30pm on Sat
Village Hall

Tickets £6/£3 available from
In Touch Services, Best One
Lindsey Hall (771890)
or Sue Richardson (772581)

Purton Diary - February 2012

2	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
5	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
7	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Club
		2.30pm	Songs of Praise at White Lodge
8	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill with Major Sylvia Watts from the Salvation Army
9	Th	7.30pm	<i>to 9pm</i> : Prostate Cancer evening in Purton Surgery
		7.30pm	PADS Pantomime at Village Hall
10	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
		7.30pm	PADS Pantomime at Village Hall
11	Sa	2.30pm	PADS Pantomime at Village Hall
		7.30pm	PADS Pantomime at Village Hall
12	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
13	M	7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
14	Tu		Valentine's Day
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
15	W	7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall
16	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
17	F		
18	Sa	2.00pm	Age Concern Jumble sale at the Village Hall
19	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
21	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads Talk – Words and Sayings
		7.00pm	After 8: Late Christmas meal at Oriental Aroma 50 High St, Wootton Bassett
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
22	W	7.30pm	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

		2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Historical Society course Early Tudor England (week 1) at St Mary's Primary School
23	Th	7.30pm	Historical Society at St Mary's Primary School: Chris Knight - <i>Mabel the Victorian Governess</i>
24	F	7.00pm	"All Things Prom" evening at Bradon Forest School (see p49)
25	Sa	7.30pm	Tennis Club centenary party at Millennium Hall
26	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	Tu	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall:
29	W		Leap Year's Day
		6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
		7.30pm	Historical Society course Early Tudor England (week 2) at St Mary's Primary School

March

3	Sa	1.00pm	Age Concern Auction at the Village Hall (viewing from 12noon)
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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

○ 7 February ◐ 14 February ● 21 February ◑ 1 March

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

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For further information call [John Creasey](mailto:John.Creasey).

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.



■ THOUGHTS

How incredibly brave of the gentleman – for a gentleman he surely is – to write his “Thoughts” in the January magazine. His description of living after the death of his female partner must surely reflect the fears of many other men still able to enjoy a long lasting loving relationship.

While it is to be hoped that the contributor has found a little solace from writing such an emotional piece, it is also a timely reminder to those of us currently in a more fortunate position.

Thank you.

Name & Address supplied

■ THANK YOU

Please may I thank Sarah and all my lovely friends, too many to mention, but you know who you are, for all their visits, meals, cards and goodies during the last couple of years of being practically housebound. Not forgetting my dear elderly little dog, Suzie, and Arthur my lovely cat who both cuddle up to me 24 hours a day.

A happy, healthy new year to you all!

Love from Ruth Mills

■ Wow!

A very big thank you to all involved with my 90th birthday. It is wonderful to have one Surprise Party, but two is very overwhelming. WOW!

Over 100 cards, presents and a lovely memory book of my time in Purton from the Silver Threads. It was a very emotional time and I shall always cherish the memory with such friends around me. Thank you very much.

Pauline Ward

■ BIRTHDAY THANK-YOU

I would just like to say a Big Thank-you to everyone who organised and attended my 80th birthday party at Purton Bowls Club.

It truly was a great surprise - totally unexpected! It really was lovely to see so many friends and share such happy memories from my Bowling years.

Pat Stephenson

Cenotaph Floodlighting

The Cenotaph lights were on for those members of the Royal Army Dental Corps who lost their lives in conflicts and the Second World War.

Rodney Smith, Haydonview Road, Swindon and Roger Lawrence, Purton were invited to the unveiling of the Memorial to those members of the Royal Army Dental Corps by the Duchess of Gloucester (Colonel in Chief Royal Army Dental and Medical Corps) at the National Memorial Arboretum, Lichfield.

Purton Historical Society

I have been contacted by the daughter of Lavinia Joan Osborne who was evacuated to Purton in 1939 for one year. She was 7 when she came to stay with her aunt Gwen Osborne. If anyone can remember Lavinia or knows of her relatives, could you contact me on 770755 as her daughter hopes to bring her mother to Purton in the near future.



Over the holidays we went with our grandson to the World Museum at Liverpool. It is a wonderful museum, great for children and free. There is a section on astronomy and space complete with a planetarium. I even saw some navigation instruments similar to the ones we had on loan to our museum earlier in the year. It is well worth a visit if you are in the area even if no longer a child.

At our meeting on Thursday 23 February, Chris Knight will be telling us about "Mabel – the Victorian Governess". We meet in St Mary's School Hall at 7.30 pm. Visitors are always welcome to join us.

The Cricklade Historical Society will have their Annual General Meeting at the Town Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 15 February.

The Thursday 9 February meeting of the Royal Wootton Bassett Historical Society is a treat for railway fans. Gordon Shaw will be talking about "The Quiet Engineer Thomas Richard Guppy". He was a friend of I.K. Brunel and his work for the Company was overshadowed by Brunel's. They meet at 7.30 pm in the Civic Centre.

The Swindon Society will meet in the Broadgreen Centre at 7.30 pm when Neil Lover will be taking "A Wiltshire journey".

Remember that the Spring Course starts on 22 February; see below for details.

EVE BOOY, Secretary

Historical Society Spring Course: Early Tudor England 1485 - 1558

A series of six weekly talks organized by the Purton Historical Society

Venue: St Mary's School Purton.
Speaker: Mr. P. Booy B.ed Hist. Hons.
Course Fees: £20 on the night, £18 in advance
Further Info: Inez Gale or
Paul Booy

Week 1: 22 February at 7.30 pm
The War of the Roses; Henry VII; Henry's England

Week 2 29 February at 7.30 pm
The Tudors and Europe; Henry VII and the Cabots

Week 3 7 March 7.30 at pm
Henry VIII; War and Peace

Week 4 14 March 7.30 at pm
Dissolution of the Monasteries; The Pilgrimage of Grace

Week 5 21 March at 7.30 pm: Henry's Wives; Peasants and Others

Week 6 28 March at 7.30 pm: Mary Tudor; England Burning



Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



We've enjoyed our Christmas and New Year break and at the time of writing have only just started back. The Brownie units began the term with cheerleading sessions from an external instructor thanks to Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers collected last year. She soon had the girls dancing and chanting and wore them out nicely to go home.

The Guides have 'joined the flock'. This is a large public art programme that anyone can join. They are joining the project and contributing to a large scale art installation made up of thousands of woolly pom-pom sheep! Schools, groups, organisations and individuals are all invited to take part by making sheep and flocks for the installation, which will be displayed in 2012. More info is available at www.jointheflock.co.uk

For more information about guiding in Purton please contact Jo Begg.

Purton Guide Dogs

Our January Jumble can be hailed as something of a success story – the weather was good to us, and we had quite a few people come.



Just over a week before, Barbara Herron rang to say that she had an idea of how to raise some more money for us, she said they used to live on Church Path by Tony Price. She organizes events for Chiseldon Silver Threads, and a speaker from Swindon Branch had been to give them a talk about Guide Dogs for the Blind, which is a Charity she likes to support. She is having a few problems with her sight, but not to the extent of needing a guide dog. She had been given lots of items, including smellies, biscuits and sweets, her idea being to come and run a little stall at the Jumble Sale where she would try and sell these items, and then give us all the money she took, at the end of the sale she gave us £45.20p (amazing!) plus a bag of non-food items to sell later on.

That along with the efforts of the committee, and the good people who came along to help us, meant that after paying for the use of the Hall, we made £122.95.

Thanks to all of the people who came to buy and support us.

BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group

Flowers in St Mary's Church

We all know that we are particularly lucky to have such a beautiful church building, which is appreciated by hundreds of people, locals and visitors, every week.

We owe our thanks to teams of volunteers who clean and sweep, polish and maintain the building, so that it can be appreciated by all when they visit. The flowers are another way of making sure that the Church looks at its best.

Every week people generously give their time and money to arrange new flowers in the Church. Sometimes they want to do the flowers in celebration for a loved one, or as a memorial; or they want to remember an anniversary, a birthday or some other special occasion.

If you would like to join the flower arrangers team or would like to donate towards the flowers for one particular Sunday, please do contact Libbie Sheppard: 771018.

News from Purton & Green Gable Surgery - G4P

Group for Patients



Contacting us ...

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

In addition, if you don't have Internet access and would like the Newsletters sent to you we can post them if you leave SAEs in an envelope at the surgery marked *‘for the attention of Kim’*. We anticipate 3 or 4 newsletters a years, so it would help if you left four each year.

Prostate Cancer Evening – Thursday 9 February 7.30 - 9pm

We had almost 30 replies to our Questionnaire and as a result of our feedback we are planning to hold an evening on the subject of **Prostate Cancer** on Thursday 9 February from 7.30 to 9 pm. We have booked two speakers, one a Macmillan Specialist Nurse and the other a speaker linked to The Prostate Cancer Charity. If you are interested in having more information on this subject then do come along.

As we need to know numbers this will be a ticketed event – there is no charge for the tickets.

Tea and Tinsel afternoon – Friday 9 December

Thank you to all who supported our Tea and Tinsel afternoon – between us we raised £101.80. Half this money has been given to the Special Care Baby Unit at Great Western Hospital and the other half will be put towards providing Baby Changing Units at both Purton and Green Gable surgeries.

Surgery Website:

If you have visited the new Surgery website (www.purtonsurgery.co.uk) you may have noticed that there is an opportunity for you to be a ‘virtual patient’ member of G4P – ie a subsidiary member who can be involved without attending meetings. If you would like to be involved in this way then do sign up – on the website look under *‘Patient Participation Group – G4P’* then *‘Virtual PRG’*.

Making Appointments: A reminder that if you have set up an ‘Emis’ account with the surgery (this is where you can order your repeat prescription online) then you can also use this to book a doctor’s appointment online.

SHEILA FOWLER ,Secretary G4P

Purton Luncheon Club

Miss Elizabeth Ward, on behalf of members the Purton Luncheon Club, would like to thank Gill Woodward and 2nd Purton Brownies very much for the thought and care they put in to make the cards and the flowers – such a welcome gift at Christmas. The cheerful reindeer with their soft red noses and the decorated pots filled with miniature daffodils were a delight to receive. The daffodils will have bloomed by now and given so much pleasure to the recipients during our rather gloomy end-of-January days. Once again, to you all, our warmest thanks.



St Mary's CE Primary School

Happy New Year to all of you from St Mary's CE Primary School - The New School for Purton has now arrived at last!

I am delighted to be able to write to you with our latest school update. Many of you will be aware that the handover of the school building on 14 December took place as planned. The staff then worked hard to get the school ready for the arrival of the children. There is no doubt at all that this building is stunning both inside and out and the children, who returned to school on Friday 6 January, enjoyed a quite incredible start to 2012 at St Mary's. It was always our plan that we would feel the school had opened successfully if the children left at the end of their first day with a smile on their faces. I am pretty certain they all managed it!

Leading up to the start of this new era were a number of very special moments for St Mary's. The usual end of Christmas performances for all ages brought in the crowds and the Nativity performed by our youngest children paid a very fitting tribute to the old Victorian School. Our older children also took part in a very moving Carol Service at St Mary's Church at which the congregation were treated to songs old and new as well as crystal clear readers telling us the familiar Christmas story in a fresh way. To all of you who came to these events, thank you for coming and we would like to give a special mention to St Mary's Church who have been very generous in allowing us to use their building and people so frequently over the last eighteen months.

Friday 9 December saw a nostalgic 'thank you' given to the old Victorian school by generations of past pupils and staff who have had the privilege to attend St Mary's. As I locked up the building on that Friday evening, I realised that I had just witnessed a most incredible moment for Purton's community. There must have been hundreds of people who all came along to share memories, photographs and experiences as well as meet up with old friends, colleagues and acquaintances. To all of you who were able to come along and make the evening a special event, thank you and we can only hope that the new building creates a similar legacy in its many years to come.

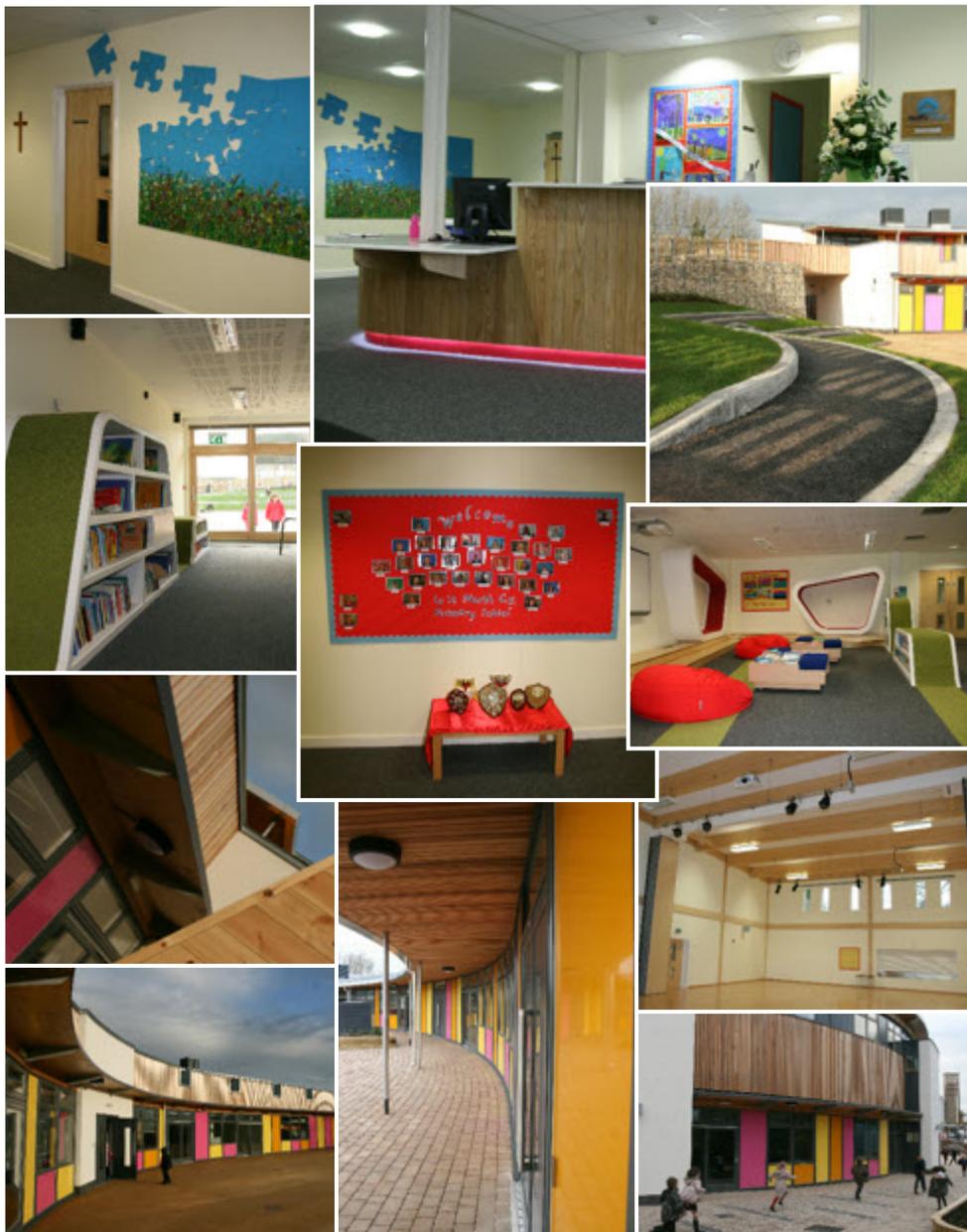
As for the new building, we are delighted to learn that it has already been nominated for a number of national architectural awards including one from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Whether or not it will be successful I do not know but nevertheless, it is an iconic building to be very proud of in this village and in the world of education generally. Most importantly though, it works for the children so far and we still have huge amounts to look forward to such as the new playground equipment, a habitat area and the sports field. All of these enhancements are underway now as the temporary site is being removed. The whole project will be complete at the end of March 2012 although the field will not be ready for full use until Summer 2013. We intend to have a grand opening to the village community later in March this year when we have the grounds as we want them, so do look out for that when it is advertised in due course.

On behalf of all the children, staff and governors I would like to thank all of you in the community for your patience and support as we come to the end of a very

rewarding journey for the present and future generations of the children and families we serve. The village has never offered us anything less than unwavering support and for that we are very grateful. Thank you.

IAN TUCKER, Headteacher

Photos courtesy of Gerald Owenson, Governor





Christmas Concert: Our Christmas Music Concert in the Bradon Forest Theatre on 7 December 2011 sold out very quickly so it was necessary to organise a second evening on 8 December 2011. With over 70 performers



across the two nights, the 2011 Bradon Forest Christmas Music Concerts were a great success. There was a wide range of performers, from the experienced GCSE Ensemble Group and their own moving arrangement of *Do They Know it's Christmas*, to first time flute soloist, Charley Hill with *The Holly and the Ivy*. What is especially lovely to watch is the support that the students provide each other. The choir seem to be going from strength to strength

and their rendition of *Infant Holy* was beautifully performed. The KS4 Jazz Ensemble's performance of *Santa Baby* was delightful and the Orchestra was excellent. Mr Duncan's Ukulele Group entertained the audience with two numbers: *The Cave* by Mumford and Sons, and *Christmas Time* by *The Darkness*. The Staff Hand Chime Group also performed at both the concerts and the Carol Service the following week.

The concerts were followed by our **Annual Carol Service at St Mary's Church** on Wednesday 14 December 2011. The church was full and the evening was a lovely service of traditional lessons and carols interspersed with a variety of musical items.

Judith Wells, Assistant Curate at St Mary's, hosted the evening and finished the service with an excellent musical story which also reflected on the true meaning of Christmas. Judith sang the whole story which was amusing as well as thought provoking. Thank you to Miss Groom, Miss Hedges and all staff and students for the excellent concerts and Carol Service.



Music News: Christina Correia (10Z) (left) and Lewis Griffin (8Z) (next page) represented Bradon Forest extremely well when they took part in a music assembly at St Mary's Primary School. Christina played a keyboard piece and Lewis a piano piece. Their performance was part of an initiative to raise awareness and encourage more primary school pupils to take advantage of the instrumental lessons being offered at both St Mary's and Bradon Forest Schools. Both



students performed their pieces very professionally and have clearly inspired the younger pupils!

Swindon Schools Year 7 Indoor Football Champions:

The Year 7 indoor football team progressed to the finals with emphatic wins over Hreod Parkway (two teams) and Isambard Schools. The team played exceptionally well to progress to the finals which were held at St Johns. The finals were a good contest for the Bradon Forest team but we were unbeaten on the night! Their adversaries were Hreod, Ridgeway and St Josephs – with no goals scored against us! The team will now go on to represent Swindon in the South West Finals in 2012.

U14 Girls Basketball – Runners Up in Swindon Schools Tournament: The girls competed in their first basketball competition as a team and went all the way to the final! On the way they beat Greendown and drew against Dorcan. The final was against Isambard and the standard of play was exceptionally high and the game exceptionally close. This was reflected in the final score 8 - 7.

Boys Basketball: The Year 10 boys basketball team defeated Wootton Bassett School 62 - 6 in the quarter finals of the Swindon Schools competition and now progress to the semi-finals.

Bradon Cheerleaders and Pom Dance Squads: The *Bradon Bullets* and the *Bradon Allstars* took part in the Swindon Schools' Cheerleading Competition held at Isambard School in December. 18 girls from Year 8 to Year 10 made up the *Bradon Bullets* who entered the KS4 Cheerleading Competition. Their routine consisted of a cheer, tumbling, dance, stunts, lifts, jumps and a pyramid. The girls were nervous about their chances of winning as they had barely performed the routine as a whole squad before and had also added new harder lifts, stunts and tumbling elements! They had no need to worry though because they received 82 marks out of 100 for their efforts and finished in 1st place! The *Bradon Allstars* entered the KS3 Pom Dance competition and their squad consisted of 12 girls from Years 8 and 9. The girls performed a fantastic routine involving jumps, dance, a cheer and kicks gaining 56 marks out of 80 and the title of KS3 Pom Dance Champions. The squads are now working hard on a routine for their try-outs in 2012 when the National squads will be finalised and preparation for the National Cheerleading Championships will begin. Last year Bradon were fourth in the National Championships held in Manchester.

Year 7 Maths Parent Power Evening: Last term the Mathematics Faculty opened its doors to parents of Year 7 students to show them the sort of work that the students of Year 7 would experience in Mathematics this year. Over 60 parents attended who were spilt into groups and shown some key techniques and some of the resources that we use. They were also given pocket sized reference posters and a booklet showing what Mathematics looks like at each level.

L SPIERS, Headteacher

Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.org.uk



On 21 December many ladies' eyes were gazing hopefully at the skies in the hope that it wouldn't snow – or freeze or storm – or even rain hard. And despite the bad weather on other days, it was all right on the night!

The Women's Institute can be serious, very serious indeed – ask Tony Blair! But when its members want to party, they can party for England. For the December meeting in the Silver Threads Hall, Purton, there was a meal prepared by *Delicious Delights* (organised by Katherine Young and readily recommended) with a choice of four items (beef, chicken, salmon and vegetarian) for the main course and three for pudding, plus coffee or tea – oh, did I not mention the welcoming sherry, too? There were 50 members present, all intent on enjoying themselves, and with a generous raffle to boot. The attractive centrepieces made for each table were also raffled at the end of the meeting, in aid of funds. And, to prove it was not an entirely selfish evening, we signed a great card (literally) for Prospect and donated £100 to their funds. The entertainment was by *Wessex Male Choir* who gave a first class performance of the barbershop type of harmony. All this, within a short distance of home – no wonder we have a large membership, though with ample room for more.

On Wednesday 3 January a group of us went to see the pantomime at *The Wyvern*, great fun. This too was seamlessly organised from Purton Village Hall and back again, organised by former President Barbara Compton, to whom many thanks.

From this report you would think WI is quite a romp but in fact it also functions as a meeting place for serious thought and national improvement. We shall soon be voting on the National Resolution that we particularly support out of the seven given in the WI monthly magazine, *Life*. And that will be a sober, thoughtful time, but giving us a feeling of having a say on current affairs.

And now a reminder that the annual subscription of £31.50 is due. Actually, of course, this is an excellent time for new members to join!

Next month's event on 15 February is entitled "Adam's Art" with audience participation, sharing your own art/craft. (Oh, dear, does expertise solely in drawing a cork count?)

Meanwhile, if it is available to you, please don't forget to use the web site - purtonevewi.org.uk

CONSTANCE REED

Swindon & Cricklade Railway

There will be limited operating days during February and March and a Wine and Dine in the Moonraker dining car on Mother's Day, 18 March.

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

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



Advertisement

Card Making Classes - Saturday 28 April, 2012

Silver Threads Hall, High Street, Purton, SN5 4AB

Following many successful card making classes with private groups local resident Lynda Warren is opening up her popular classes to the public. Learn how to make basic, or more advanced, cards. It might be the start to a whole new hobby, or the chance to introduce new techniques into something you already do. Places are limited so booking is essential.

Class One, Basic Card Making Techniques, 10am-12noon, £10 per person

The first part of the class considers tools and equipment and gives recommendations for a basic kit and card stock. This is followed by the opportunity to make three cards to take home using different techniques and materials: a bookmark card, decoupage and use of mulberry papers. Instruction and worksheets will be available to keep.

Suggested minimum age: 5 years. No previous experience necessary.

Class Two, Kinetic Cards (cards with movement), 1pm-3pm, £12 per person

A more advanced class where you will be able to make double easel, waterfall and penny slider cards. Again instruction and worksheets will be available to keep.

Suggested minimum age: 10 years. Some experience preferred but not essential.

All tools and equipment are provided, together with coffee/tea and cakes.

If you would like to attend both classes a ploughman's lunch is available at £3 per person.

All children must be accompanied by a paying adult. 10% discount for groups of 4 or more (excluding lunch).

Card making materials will be available for sale.

Please ask for a booking form by contacting Lynda Warren, telephone 01793 771453 or email Lynda.warren@hotmail.co.uk.

Prom Night Preparations

Bradon Forest PTA are hosting an "All Things Prom Night" on Friday 24 February 7 pm in the main hall.

Open to Year 10 and Year 11 students and their parents – £2 a ticket available on the door

Come and browse local businesses who specialise in Proms - from dresses, suit hire, limos, hair, makeup, tanning etc so you are ready for the actual school Prom on 29 June 2012. Discounts available for some bookings taken on the night

For further details contact Emma Hayden.

Silver Threads

We are now back for 2012 and would still welcome new members.

We desperately require a Piano – has anyone got one in good condition surplus to requirements? If so, please contact Pauline Ward/Secretary.

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



With season 192 in the club's history approaching, the committee is looking at ways to improve the on field facilities; namely the scoreboard and by providing a second sightscreen. Indoor coaching sessions are underway and netting sessions for juniors and seniors have been arranged. Work days will coincide with the Cricket Force weekend of 6, 7 and 8 April when routine cleaning and maintenance tasks will be carried out.

From the Archives

The following is taken from a report in the Wilts & Gos. Standard (1850) when a club ball was held using two large tents each 60 feet in length which were connected by a wooden house providing, as the author of the article says, 'a beautiful promenade'.

'The wines included...' sparkling Champagne, Burgundy, the rosy Hermitage and Amontillado with Chateau Maigeau, Lifite and La Tour Moselle, Chablis and the fascinating wines of the Rhine. Among the company present were ... Capt J.E. Prower and lady, with party, Lord Andover, John Neeld Esq. M.P., Hon Greville Howard, Captain Willis Johnson R.N. and party, Ambrose, Goddard Esq and family, E.H.Budd, G. Budd, J.W.Browne, Brookes, Crowdy, Collyns, Foote, Gay, Joy Hawkins, Percy Keene, Ogilvie! '

Those were the days!

JOE GARDNER

Purton F.C.

With 5 league wins in their last 6 league games Purton's Hellenic side currently lie in 2nd place in the UHlsport Hellenic league Div 1 West. Despite their good placing however leaders Tytherington Rocks are well ahead on points and a couple of teams behind have games in hand. Wins over Wootton Bassett, Cirencester Development, Easington Sports, Old Woodstock Town and Clanfield with just a defeat by Winterbourne United puts the team in a good position. Skipper Marcus Hall leads the goal-scoring chart with 13 goals while Scott Campbell has chipped in with 7.



In the Wilts Premier league, Purton's Reserves are lying 6th but have not played over the holiday period and their first fixture in January fell victim to the weather at Corsham.

The Youths too have had no games over the holiday period. Our five teams, both Under 12s, U14s, U15s, and U16s are all competing well in strong leagues with the Under 14s faring the best currently.

ALAN EASTWOOD, *President/Chairman*

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 24 February 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).

New Year is a time for resolutions. Tennis players never have any difficulty with this: move your feet, bend down for the low ball, put the volley away – *first time* – well I won't go on but it can be a very long list! So we shall all be energised and focussed for the new season. The winter league is half way completed with varying success but – win or lose – there have been some very enjoyable matches and the weather on the whole has been benign.

But we look forward. In February we will celebrate the 100 years of the existence of the tennis club in Purton – see Nicola's article below. We have already flagged up some of the events that we plan and we shall add more. We hope to be able to winkle out former members to come and join us for the Wooden Racquet tournament, for Centenary Quiz night and for Race Night. We also hope they will cheer on the youngsters over the Jubilee weekend when we celebrate the contribution that Harry Bunce made to the Club over so many years. You have been warned!!

So to all our members past and present and to all In Purton we wish you a particularly Happy and Successful New Year and if you want to knock up on a tennis court you know where to find us!

CAROLINE McLEAN
01793 770525

Centenary Celebrations

Purton Tennis Club will be 100 years old on 20 February. To celebrate this momentous occasion the club is having a party on Saturday 25 February in the Millennium Hall starting at 7.30pm where there will be the opportunity to look through old photographs and memorabilia as well as share those memories of faultless displays on those long past summer afternoons!

The club would like to invite all present and past members to this event. If you would like to come please let me know by 18 February, either by phone on 770681 or email nicolagardner444@btinternet.com

We look forward to seeing you then.

NICOLA GARDNER



Carnival 2012: 15-23 June Theme: Olympics

Planning is speeding along and we hope you are all progressing with your plans in entering the various events, ie Talent, Floats, Pride of Purton, Carnival Queen, to name but a few. Let us make this year a very special one.

Forms will be going out for adverts in the Programme, Floats and Stalls on Fete Field during this month. A very successful year to everyone, and if you have any enquiries, please telephone me on 01793 770251.

PAULINE WARD

Green Tips: Highway Code - Remember it? Part 2

... continued from January. Just a reminder, the latest version of the Code was published in 2007 and is available at:

www.direct.gov.uk/en/TravelAndTransport/Highwaycode



Drivers and Motorcyclists

Drivers of any motorised vehicle using the highway are required to have a valid driving licence for the vehicle they are driving. It is their responsibility to have a full knowledge of the Highway Code. There are a number of issues which relate to the village which are of concern to residents and pedestrians:

- Parking on double yellow lines. The lines have been put down for a reason and to continue to park on them causes concern for others, blocks sightlines, blocks accesses and could create an accident, those at the junction of Hoggs Lane and Pavenhill are continually abused and make it very dangerous exiting Hoggs Lane; and,
- Parking close to junctions and drive entrances and blocking in people.

The Highway Code (section 243) states that you **DO NOT** stop or park:

- Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space;
- Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles; or,
- In front of an entrance to a property except when forced to do so by stationary traffic.

Advice received from a recent briefing at the Village Hall from the police was that 'Any vehicle which is a LGV – Large Goods Vehicle (over 7.5 tonnes) must not park on pavements whereas cars can do so as long as any obstruction is only momentary to pedestrians', though it ceases to become "momentary" of course if several cars do this sequentially which is not unknown.

Vehicles with a maximum laden weight of over 7.5 tonnes (including any trailer) **MUST NOT** be parked on a verge, pavement or any land situated between carriageways, without police permission. The only exception is when parking is essential for loading and unloading, in which case the vehicle **MUST NOT** be left unattended.

Some other "must/must not's":

- You **MUST NOT** park on a road at night facing against the direction of the traffic flow unless in a recognised parking space;
- All vehicles **MUST** display parking lights when parked on a road, or a lay-by on a road, with a speed limit greater than 30 mph;
- Other vehicles and trailers, and all vehicles with projecting loads, **MUST NOT** be left on a road at night without lights;
- You **MUST NOT** leave a parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave a vehicle engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road; and,

-
- You **MUST NOT** drive on or over a pavement, footpath or bridleway except to gain lawful access to property, or in the case of an emergency.

Hopefully some of the above is useful and prompts readers to update their knowledge of the Highway Code so that we can all be more aware of the needs of others in our community.

The **key thing to remember** is that most traffic and parking issues have been around for a very long time and are simply a reflection of an increasing reliance on car use and the Swindon developments that trigger mass car transits through the village to other parts of Swindon or Junction 16 of the M4.

* * *

The proposed Ridgeway Farm development for 700 houses is going to appeal and any objections should be lodged by **16 February**; more information on the Ps and Qs web site or via advice@purtoninfo.org.uk

Ps and Qs is organising a “Local” Day on Saturday 17 March 2012 at the Silver Threads and invites any Purton businesses to express an interest in having a stall there to display their products and services. Please contact Jacqui Lay on 770704 or jacquilay@yahoo.co.uk

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



U is for ... Umbrella

Tracey Rapson's colourful painting on this month's front cover features a bright red umbrella as the main focal point. Apparently, in Britain, umbrellas are sometimes called “gamps” after the character Mrs Gamp in the Charles Dickens novel, *Martin Chuzzlewit*. Mrs. Gamp was well known for carrying an umbrella – always wise in our climate.

We would like to cover **V** and **W** next month as well as any further thoughts you might have on **U**. Perhaps if your organisation or address features these letters, you might like to send us a paragraph about it. Those that spring to mind include: Upper Pavenhill, Vasterne Close, Village Centre Charity, Village Hall, Watkins Corner, Wilts & Berks Canal, Women's Institute.

Please send your contributions for “U, V or W is for ...” to Purton Magazine, before 10 February, via the addresses shown on [page 4](#).

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

I'm sure that most of you are aware that Her Majesty the Queen celebrates sixty years on the throne this year. So we want Purton to celebrate it in style. We are having a village party, at the village centre on Sunday 3 June. I have mentioned this in previous issue of the Magazine but I mention it again to keep it fresh in your minds. This is to be a free event, bring your own picnic and drinks, also your chairs tables, lanterns, blankets etc.

It will be very much like the Golden Jubilee celebrations. There will be a variety of things going on that afternoon face painting, hair braiding, story telling, penalty kicking, a tennis tournament, archery, sword fighting, a chance to play bowls and quite a few other things besides and all free. As well as this there will be entertainment. So far we have various bands, some acting (the Shakespearean variety as well as something more modern) a saxophonist, dancing, singing but we still need more entertainers. So if you fancy having a go, it doesn't matter what you do or how good you think you are, we want to hear from you.

The Golden Jubilee celebrations were absolutely incredible and we're hoping to make the Diamond Jubilee celebrations even better so please make sure that you keep that date free. There probably won't be another chance for another ten years.

In order to raise some money to buy some of the things we need for this event, we are putting on a rock night in the Village Hall on Saturday 10 March. We have three bands playing, *The Mangarrs*, *Nova* and *The Graham Mack Band*. Tickets will be £6. There will be a licensed bar and food will be available. Please come and support us help to raise some money for the Jubilee celebrations.

If you're interested in entertaining or you want any information about either event please ring Tony/Sue on 772581.

TONY RICHARDSON

Calling All Parents with Pre-School Children

Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup, run locally on the St Mary's Primary School site (at the top of College Road), are proud to provide the following:-

Age Group	What	When	How
3 - 5 yr olds*	Playgroup	Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm (inc Lunch Club)	Run by friendly, qualified staff who encourage plenty of learning through fun and stimulating play.
2½ - 3 yr olds	Busy Fingers	Wed 1.15 - 3pm	Parents and toddlers can together explore arts, crafts, games etc.

For more info please call us on 01793 771723

* Your child is entitled to 15 hours of government-funded childcare per week.

Just a Thought ...

It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.

Harry S. Truman
