

Purton *Magazine*



Norfolk Crab Boats
Auguste Menard, Purton Artists

May 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

For the purposes of the Localism Act, we wondered last month, how best to describe Purton. Whether we are a village or a parish or a community or even a neighbourhood, ours seems to be particularly active and caring as regular readers will already have noticed. This edition of your magazine contains numerous contributions that, yet again, demonstrate the active and caring nature of Purton.

It is very interesting to note that the vast majority of those articles have an element, both of giving and receiving, often by a few for the many. Usually there is plenty of room for more of the many to join the few and help to make things even more active and caring. Read on and join in – there are plenty of opportunities even for a spare hour and/or an extra pair of hands to make a significant contribution to the life of our community.

For example, the Christian Aid Week Activities start on Sunday 13 May with breakfast in St Mary's church. The winner of the annual, annoying but very addictive Christian Aid quiz will be announced at the breakfast. It follows that, when you read this, there could still be a couple of weeks for you to enter, if you have yet to spend £1 on the yowl-inducing yellow sheet. Details of the several very varied events for all to enjoy appear on [page 26](#) and offers of help with any or all of the activities would be really gratefully received.

Preparations are well advanced for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee party that is being organised for all Purton Parishioners, their extended families and friends. On [page 9](#), readers will be able to appreciate what arrangements have already been made for this special celebration. Although initiated by a few, the list of those supporting and contributing continues to grow, whether as part of the banner parade or as part of the entertainment or by providing another of the many activities that will be available. The whole event will be free and without any admission charge or collection bucket – even teas and coffees will be free with a slice of cake while stocks last, meaning that donations of even more cakes would also be welcomed.

This edition also contains many other opportunities for readers to contribute their time and creativity towards helping to make Purton even more active and caring – read on and join in!

19

gardens, so far,
taking part in the
Open Gardens
– see [page 21](#).

250

entries, so far, on the
Purton list of local
organisations
– see [page 20](#).

£1044

raised from
this year's
Lent Lunches
– see [page 20](#).

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Magazine Committee

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The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News



The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 26 March in the Village Hall. It was an interesting meeting with a presentation about the Parish Plan that is currently being developed. If you would like to be involved with the process then please contact either the Parish Council Office or Mr Geoff Tappern who is chairing the project. People do need to come forward from all aspects of the community to be involved in developing the plan as it will help to shape the future of our parish.

Ellen Blacker the Good Neighbour Co-ordinator for this area was also present and gave an overview of the work she does in the community. She can visit you at home if you wish and put you in touch with services that can help on a wide range of issues. She can be contacted by phoning 07557 110414 or via email gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk. See her article on [page 17](#).

The Police were also present to give an overview of Policing in the area. The Parish Council also presented its annual report at the meeting. If anybody would like a copy of the report then please contact the Parish Council Office.

New member of staff – the Parish Council has appointed a new Grounds Maintenance Person following the retirement of Ken Parrett last month. We are pleased to welcome Paul Baker to the Parish Council team. You will no doubt see him working around the village with David.

Widham Farm Appeal – the planning appeal for the 50 houses at Widham Farm has been adjourned due to changes in planning policy brought about by the government's much vaunted new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that was released at the beginning of April. The issue for the appeal is how the NPPF impacts the calculation of the five-year housing Land Supply figures for Wiltshire. With the very tight timescale involved, the Appellant (the property developer) did not had time to review the new figures from Wiltshire Council prior to the planning appeal and so the Planning Inspector decided to adjourn the appeal to give the necessary time required. The appeal is to be rescheduled for mid-May.

Anti Dog Fouling Campaign – the Parish Council is about to launch its poster campaign to try to encourage dog owners to pick up after their dogs. If this campaign does not work then we are coming around to the idea that in order to keep our street clean we will have to pay for somebody to clean up after those dog owners who do not think it is their responsibility to do it. Perhaps they may think twice when they realise they are paying for their own inconsiderate behaviour.

Sebastian Williams the Dog Warden will be in the meeting room adjacent to the public toilets in the Village Hall car park on Wednesday 2 May from 9 to 11 am and again on 6 June.

Skate Park – we are aware that unfortunately some accidents have occurred at the skate park. This is perhaps inevitable given the nature of the sporting activities that it generates, however we would like to remind those who use the park that protective clothing should be worn. A sign providing details of the address of the site including a post code has been displayed in all of the play areas that the Parish

Council manages so that correct details can be given to emergency services should it be necessary to call them.

Diamond Jubilee Event in Salisbury on 1 May 2012: the Area Boards across the County have been asked to participate in this event which will be held in the grounds of Salisbury Cathedral. The medieval-themed event will be a day of free celebration for all the communities in Wiltshire. It will be open to the public from 10 am to 5.30 pm and The Queen and Prince Philip will be attending the event at some point during the day. Members of Purton Historical Society will be there to represent Purton and to display information about Purton and its history including Purton's connection with Dr Nevil Maskelyne. If you would like a day out then this looks as though it will be a good event to attend, no doubt our Purton representatives will be pleased to say hello.

Wiltshire Council has approved the following planning applications:

N12/00194/TEL *Pry Holding*, erection of 4 communication equipment cabins

N12/00299/FUL *11 Station Road*, front two-storey extension

Wiltshire Council has refused the following planning applications:

N12/00102/S106 *Annexe, 28 Common Farm Cottage, Witts Lane, Purton*, modification to legal agreement – Planning Permission
N03/00491/FUL

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.

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

OFFERED: Vegetable garden for free use, within domestic garden. Tel 771210

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

Carnival: 15-23 June 2012

Theme: OLYMPICS

It won't be long now – Entry Forms are waiting for you to fill in. There are loads of events going on through the week and we now have an Evening Auction at St Mary's School Hall, organized by Bradon Forest. Keep your eyes peeled for posters and details. Though just in case you don't remember all enquiries and entry forms are available from me at 38 Station Road, Purton SN5 4EN or telephone 01793 770251.

PAULINE WARD, Carnival Secretary

Purton & District Age Concern



Could I start by offering Age Concern's condolences to the families of two people who have been great supporters of ours in past and present years. Firstly, **Jack Phillips**, who used to be the host at the *Foresters' Arms* at Common Platt in the days of the Horse Show we used to have. Jack, along with his wife Betty, used to do fund raising for us and, of course, a lot of the inspiration for this came from our street warden for the area, Derek Evans. I remember the great nights we had over there, counting out the contents of the bottle that they had on their bar for our funds – walking there and back so we could have a drink! One year they put on a Christmas party for the elderly in their area and, because they didn't have enough people, they asked some from Purton as well, plus the committee, to show us what they were doing. I must add that it was some party. Well, as you know, in Age Concern we always try and treat everyone the same so, from the first party at the *Foresters' Arms*, it gave us the idea to have a party for everyone that wanted to come. So we started having them at *Churchill House*, where Sam and Iris Cox were the hosts and Terry and Geraldine, who now own *Waitemeads House*, provided a lot of the entertainment, and we have been running them ever since, moving to the Village Hall when Sam and Iris retired.

The other person I would like to mention is **Pam Strange**, a lovely lady who is the sister-in-law of Val Prior, our street warden for part of Pavenhill, although you would think they were sisters. Pam hadn't enjoyed the best of health on and off for a few years now but you would never know it as she was always cheerful, with a smile on her face to match her attitude. Pam was a great supporter of the Prospect Hospice, organising and running functions for them, supporting them whenever she could. Mind, in saying that, she was a great supporter of many charities and Age Concern was no exception. Our fund raising events will not be the same any more without Pam's cheerful comments and happy attitude. We offer John and the family our deepest sympathy. We are thinking of you all, especially Val.

We had our first mystery tour of the new season of trips. It was very enjoyable, ideal weather – a bit fresh but with good visibility. We were quite pleased as we had some fresh faces and the numbers were up although, unfortunately, some had to cry off at the last minute because of illness. The route took us to Highworth, Lechlade, Burford, Witney, Woodstock, Islip and Murcott, where we were the guests of the Otmoor WI for lunch and I can honestly say it was a marvellous lunch with a lovely warm greeting on arrival. The choice was beef or chicken casserole with veg and plenty of it, followed by a choice of meringue, chocolate gateaux or cheesecake, followed by tea and coffee and cheese and biscuits if anyone had any room left. The sweets were made by the ladies and it was all delicious with seconds if you wanted them. When you get a lunch like that it makes us in Age Concern feel it is well worth the money we subsidise the trips by. The return journey took in Horton-cum-Studley, Barton, Eynsham, Burford, Bibury, Cirencester, Ashton Keynes and home. We had an excellent driver from Ellisons and a good day was had by all. The next trip is on 2 May with a 2 pm start and tea provided. There might still be some room if you are undecided but be quick and

give me a ring on 770696. After that we have a half-day trip to Millets Farm on Wednesday 30 May. We will be starting at 9.30 am and leaving for home about 2.30 pm. There is no food provided for this trip but there is a good restaurant where you can get drinks, snacks and a lunch if you would like one. The cost for this trip is £7 a head – names to your street wardens by 20 May please.

Could I apologise and say I forgot to thank everyone at the *Best One* shop in the Lower Square for their kind gift of £57, the proceeds from their Christmas raffle – so many thanks for that. If you haven't already sponsored Louise, our secretary, on her 40-mile Ridgeway walk, I have forms here or you can contact Louise on 772558. She is dividing the sponsorship between us and the cost of sending the shoeboxes abroad when they are filled at Purton Methodist Church in the autumn. Thank you.

Our Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday 6 June, starting at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall. This is open to anybody – perhaps you might like to see how we operate or you might fancy joining us – in either case it would be nice to see you.

Could I congratulate our members who went on the Health and Hygiene Course, both gentlemen and ladies, as they all passed with flying colours, so well done to you all and thanks to Moira White for organising it all for us. It will certainly stand us in good stead for future events.

If you get trouble with your smoke alarm or want one fitted professionally free of charge, the same with the *Bobby Van*, get in touch with your street warden and give them your name, address and postal code, plus phone number. You will then get a call from the Fire Service or the Police, depending on which service you want, asking when they can call.

Don't forget that we are always looking out for more minibus personnel, either for driving or assisting the drivers as 'shotguns' – that's our name for them. The more volunteers we have the easier it is for all the personnel involved.

Our Easter Market Stall at the Pavenhill shops was a great success. Everyone was so kind to us. A special thanks to all the shop keepers for their tolerance in putting up with us and for their help, especially Andrew and his staff for supplying the sausages for the tasting and Robert Collis for providing the barbecue to cook them on. Everyone was so kind, bringing cakes for us to sell through the morning, all the bric a brac, toys, books, raffle prizes etc., then buying our raffle tickets and also giving us generous donations. People would say 'I don't want anything but put this in the kitty'. We made £397.11 for our funds – what an excellent and enjoyable morning's work it was so thank you one and all for making it such a success. See you at our Christmas Market Stall in the same place.

TONY PRICE

Step Up Wiltshire

We can provide help for people in the Purton area to find information and resources for voluntary and community groups through our new website www.stepupwiltshire.org.uk.

Until July 2012 we also have funding for three advisors specialising in funding, volunteering and training who can meet groups individually for FREE. We'd like people to take advantage of this help before our lottery funding ends next year.

CAROL HARRISON, tel: 01793 420557

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The Diamond Jubilee Party is for all Purton Parishioners, their extended families and friends. It will take place on the afternoon of **Sunday 3 June at the Village Centre (The Red House)**. Proceedings will start with a banner parade which will assemble in Highridge at 1.45 pm. The parade will pass down the High Street, turning right at the bottom triangle and on to the football field. The banners represent all the various organisations which exist in Purton. If you are part of an organisation which wishes to enter the parade, and you haven't already done so, please ring Tony Price on 770696. It is hoped to close the High Street while the parade is taking place so vehicular access may be restricted at that time.



Once the banners have arrived on the field and set out for display, there will be a short church service, prayers and a rousing hymn. This will be followed by the entertainment. This is supplied by Purton people or those with connection to Purton. The entertainment is varied and will continue all afternoon and evening finishing quite late with a firework display. The entertainment at present consists of comedy sketches, a choir, dancers, poetry recitals, a saxophonist, a ukulele band, a folk band, and rock bands.

As well as the entertainment, there are stalls which will showcase the societies/groups in Purton. There will also be various activities to take part in. At present, these are penalty kicking, tennis, archery (for anyone over 5), sword fighting, bowls on the bowling green, French boules, arm wrestling (a chance to take on the British Arm Wrestling Champion), skittles, a story-telling corner, cupcake decorating, hair braiding, face painting, a play area for the younger children, circus skills, displays on the skateboard park and tethered hot air balloon rides. There will also be an art project for everyone to get involved in. When completed, the artwork will go on permanent display in the Village Hall. There will also be free teas and coffees and a slice of cake (while stocks last) in the afternoon. We do need cakes however, so if you would be happy to donate a cake, please get it to the Millennium Hall on the morning of the event. Please use only disposable plates/wrapping.

All these activities will be free, there is no admission charge to the event itself nor will there be any collection buckets passed round. There will be a pig roast for which there will be a charge, the Brownies/Guides will be selling small bags of sweets for children to buy and The Red House Club will be open to non-members if you fancy a pint. Other than that, you can bring your picnic, drinks, tables, chairs, blankets, lanterns and have an entirely free day. We do ask however, no gazebos – they block the view if they are in the middle of the field and if put round the edge, they push all the audience to the edges. Also no barbecues – they damage the football pitch, and no sky lanterns – they're not environmentally friendly.

We will be taking up some of the car park so we are asking that you bring all your tables and chairs etc. down in your cars in the morning, set up your space, take back your cars then walk down in the afternoon with your picnic. You can leave all your stuff overnight and walk home at the end without worrying about drinking and driving.

If you have any queries please phone me or Sue on 772581.

TONY RICHARDSON

After 8: Celebrating the 200th Birthday of Charles Dickens

At our March meeting we heard much to fascinate us about the life of Charles Dickens. Not only did he write 12 major novels, but produced and edited weekly periodicals, wrote many shorter articles, letters and plays, and toured in the United States and Europe with a series of highly dramatised public readings. He published a series of sketches under the pseudonym 'Boz', and married Catherine, the daughter of George Hogarth, editor of 'Sketches by Boz'; they had ten children. We concluded that he was a much driven character.



He inherited his amazing powers of observation and memory from his mother, and was able to base his writings on recollections from his early years in Portsmouth and Chatham, the time his father and the rest of his family spent in debtors prison, his miserable experiences of working in Warren's blacking factory and of course much information gleaned from the streets and Law Courts of London.

We read short extracts selected to display his prodigious skills at depicting contemporary Victorian life. With the aid of helpful hints, we completed two quizzes based on his famous novels, and admired the meticulous work of some of his illustrators, including Cruikshank, Cattermole, Seymore and most memorably Phiz.

It was a most enjoyable evening, and our thanks go to Mary Smith for her hospitality and inspired research, and to Barbara Gosden for her input on illustrations.

CATHY MOSLEY

Next Meeting: Tuesday 22 May will be "Aspects of Religion" led by Christine Gill at her house.

On The Lighter Side

Oups!

It seems that after completing some maintenance outside Wolvercote primary school in Oxford, workers recently rather spoilt the effect by writing the word 'SCHOUL' on the road.

Zen Teachings

- Man who wants pretty nurse, must be patient.
- Man who drives like hell is bound to get there!
- Do not argue with idiots. They will drag you down to their level and then beat you with experience.

Dressing Down

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad putting on his dinner jacket, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit.'

'And why not, darling?'

'You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

Purton & The Great War 1914-18

Centenary commemoration publication, help with artwork please.

Many will be familiar with my 2 publications that I produced over the last 4 years. This has resulted in over £1,400 being raised for The Royal British Legion and *Combat Stress*. My final publication will be an updated and expanded edition launched in time for the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. This will be the final and most comprehensive publication and include items not previously included such as photos and trench map images.

What I am missing is a suitable image for the front cover, and further images to be included throughout. I am open to any art form whether it be pencil drawing, colour, photographic image etc. The images must however be directly related to Purton and The Great War in some way, and the artist must be prepared for me to use the image without cost as I see fit. As in my previous publications, the artist would be clearly credited. The cover image would be A4 size (portrait) and the images for inside would be A5 (landscape). *[Ed. We are aware that original images can be resized after scanning.]*

The publication will be ready for release on 4/5 August 2014. Whilst that is 2 years away this is an important aspect of the project that I need to get right. At the moment I intend the publication to be released as a PDF file so that the reader can get the publication with a search facility and enable the reader to clearly see the trench map images. This will also keep the costs down, but some may wish to have a traditional book which will be more expensive than my last publication that was priced at £20.

I look forward to hearing from anyone who is interested in helping

BOB LLOYD, bob.mech00@tiscali.co.uk

Church Floodlighting

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

18 May St Mary's Church will be floodlit in memory of **Dave Binstead**.
Always in our thoughts: Forever in our hearts.
Greatly missed by Dorn and family

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)



Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Kibblewhite Close, Proud Close, Reids Piece, The Peak, Willis Way, Long Acre, High Street, College Road and Hooks 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.

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.



■ THE LATE JOHN COOK, QUARRY FARM
I would like to thank everyone who kindly and generously donated the sum of £3135.00 to The Prospect Hospice in John's memory.

It is an amazing amount and greatly appreciated by The Hospice.

Sue Cook

■ JEFF WAITE

Could I thank everybody on behalf of my family and Jeff Waite's family for all the messages, cards and letters we received on the sad loss of Jeff. He would have been overwhelmed to know how much people appreciated what he did for them, especially his patience and understanding when carrying out his minibus duties. A special thank-you to all the staff on Kingfisher Ward at the Great Western Hospital for the kindness shown to Jeff.

The cremation service, led by the Rev. Judith Wells, was a very fitting tribute to him and was a great comfort to us all and greatly appreciated, as were the donations to the Macmillan Nurses and the Purton Age Concern Minibus Fund in lieu of flowers and also all the people who came along to the funeral.

All these kind tributes have been a great comfort to us all – Jeff was a great partner.

Iris Chamberlain

■ GETTING THERE

I would like to thank Audrey and all members of Purton Helping Hand for the lovely card and fruit, etc. It has

been a long haul since I fell and broke my kneecap in January, but I am getting there.

Thank you all.

'Jimmy' Leatherbarrow

■ GOLDEN WEDDING

Bim and Marlene would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes for their Golden Wedding Anniversary. A great weekend was had with family and friends. £700 of donations were raised for the Marie Curie Nurses.

■ EASTER BELLS

I am writing this piece on Easter Sunday morning after attending the 8 am service at St Mary's. I always feel a little bit disappointed that I haven't heard the Church bells ringing out for that service. Going back over the years, the bells were rung early in the morning before the 8 am service or, going back further than that, they would be rung before the 7 am service on Easter Day, as then there was always a 7 am Communion service on the first Sunday of the month and High Days. It was to me the cheerful message ringing out saying 'He is risen' and you would stay on for both services if you were serving as I was then. Easter Day is such a happy occasion.

Tony Price

■ NOTICES REMOVED

After living in Wootton Bassett for 46 years, I moved to Purton in 1988 and after knowing so many people in Purton previously, I soon became 'at home'! Purton is one of the villages where 'Community Spirit' is so very commendable.

On that basis, it leaves me a little dismayed! Over the last three years, (as a long time Member of Wootton Bassett Light Operatic Society), I have placed a 'Show Poster' on the Notice Board by the Village Hall, only for it to be removed within days of placing it there.

This has happened for the last three years and it seems to me that someone who pays sincere attention to the Notice Board has a desire to remove it.

Although this letter will not be read until after our Show of *Half a Sixpence* in April, I will place another poster up and wait to see what happens to that.

That is where someone's idea of 'Community Spirit' is sadly lacking. It costs about £7,000 to put the show on,

so we need all the publicity we can get. It is not always the 'Vandals', I fear, as my pins were placed back in position!!

Being involved with Local Road Safety and Advanced Driving Groups, I also placed an IAM, (Institute of Advanced Motorists), poster up. That was placed there to see, (as a Local Charity), if we could help local people become better drivers. It has to be said that some local people could do with that help as I see little ones being dropped off at school and then the driver drives off with little regard for other road users.

Do they think that their children are the only ones who need to be safe?

Now that poster has also been removed and I begin to wonder whether someone thinks that Purton is a 'Community on its own'!

I know different, but I am not selfish in my attitude!

The need and opportunity to contribute to such a great Magazine gives me hope!

Thank you all of you that contribute in one way or another.

Chris Glead (MAIRSO)

'Once & For All' Concert and Brazilian Festivities

Saturday 12 May: Queens Drive Methodist Church, Swindon

Swindon's Christian Aid group in collaboration with Flame FM (a Swindon-based community radio station "with a Christian flavour", broadcasting throughout this May) present a festive Brazilian night on Saturday 12 May. There will be a supper, a Brazilian dance group, a talk by Anna Potts, recently returned from a visit to Brazil for Christian Aid, and songs from Martin John Nicholls, the well-known Christian singer-songwriter.

Tickets will be priced at £10 to include supper (a limited number only) starting 6.30 pm and £7 for the concert at 7.30 pm.

The evening will be broadcast live on Flame FM so if you cannot come you might listen at home (broadcasts should reach Purton). Buy your tickets in good time from George and Dorothy Kennedy 01793 772589 or Barbara Aftelak 01793 536815 or by emailing admin@flamefm.co.uk.

GEORGE & DOROTHY KENNEDY



Visit of Indian 'Link Schools' Principals: Earlier this term we were fortunate to be asked to host a number of visiting Principals from India:



Rajendra Prasad Dobhal (Assistant Commissioner, NVS RO Chandigarh), Mrs Sushma Goswami (Principal, JNV Kangra), Mr Gurjinder Singh Gareeb (Principal, JNV Patiala), Mr Ashwani Kumar Jain (Principal JNV Nahenergarh), Mr Jasmer Singh (Librarian JNV Karnal Lucknow/Patna Cluster). Several of the visitors had met Miss Shelley and Miss Beet on

previous visits. They spent a day at Bradon Forest and St Sampson's meeting staff and students and getting to know a little more about our schools and English education. In the evening the party had dinner at *The Maharajah* restaurant in Purton. Khalique Ali and team provided a fantastic dinner. Khalique is a stalwart supporter of Bradon Forest and yet again *The Maharajah* did the school proud. Miss Shelley also accompanied the Principals on a day in London, which by all accounts was a fantastic whistle stop tour of the capital.

Bon Voyage: Miss Shelley, Miss Beet, 11 Bradon Forest students and the St Laurence party left for India on 28 March returning on 6 April 2012. The itinerary is fantastic and they are visiting several schools in different areas of India which are many miles apart. We look forward to hearing about their trip in a future issues of Purton Magazine.

Student News: Congratulations to Emma Bessent (Y10) who has won the 12-18 Years category of the *Readers Digest* 100-word story completion. This means that she has won £500 of high-street vouchers of her choice, and £500 for Bradon Forest School too! *Readers Digest* received over a thousand entries in the 12-18 Years category. Well done Emma.

Sammy Sangha (Y10) and Joe Pettit (Y10) have been involved in a group called *Evil Twin Education*, who were awarded funding from *First Light Movies* to support local young people with stammers to create an animated short film called *The Stammurai*. As part of the animation team, Sammy and Joe were also nominated for an award by the British Film Institution and went to the Awards Ceremony in London. The group were successful and won the award. Congratulations to Sammy and Joe for this terrific achievement!

Ex Student News: Harley Viveash came into school recently to share his fantastic news that he has been offered a place to read English at Oxford University next year. Harley gained 11 A*s at GCSE at Bradon Forest and was a terrific all round student, but will be remembered by many for his fantastic contribution to Drama.

The Wales U21 football team won their European Championship Qualifier over Andorra recently with Billy Bodin scoring twice to help the Wales Under 21s to a 4-0

win. Billy opened the scoring in the 22nd minute and grabbed his and Wales' second goal just 11 minutes later. The goals were Billy's first for the Welsh Under 21s. He is currently on loan from Swindon Town playing for Crewe Alexandra for remainder of the season.

It was good to see an article in the Swindon Advertiser recently featuring Jenny Medland (who went to Oxford University to read English) helping out at a recent Swindon Higher Education Student Fair. Jenny achieved 7A*s, 2As and 2Bs at GCSE in 2006.

2012 Badminton Wiltshire Champions! As winners of the Swindon Schools competition for Key Stage 4 Girls, the team were full of confidence at the Wiltshire finals in Tidworth. The girls won all five of their games to become 2012 Wiltshire Champions! Last year the Key Stage 3 Boys won the Swindon Schools competition and finished as silver medallists in the Wiltshire finals. Having won the Swindon competition, they were keen to triumph at this year's Wiltshire Championships.. Their hard work and determination paid off and they played brilliantly dropping only two games out of fifteen becoming the 2012 Wiltshire Champions !

World Book Day: Our Library Learning Centre has recently celebrated World Book Day with their annual Book Fair. A wide variety of books, both fiction and non-fiction were available for a week long sale during school lunchtimes. Students were given a £1 book token to either redeem against a full price book or choose one of the six options of £1 short stories. St Mary's Primary School were also invited to the Book Fair and two groups of Year 6 pupils had the chance to browse the options and enjoy some quiet reading time of their new purchases! Bradon Forest Librarians Mrs Sykes and Mrs Styles said, "The Book Fair was a huge success. We had a fantastic time, and a big thank you to everyone who came"



Food Technology News: Inspiring School of the Month We are delighted to have been selected as Inspiring School of the Month by 'Love British Food'. The following link leads to the full article on the Love British Food website: www.lovebritishfood.co.uk/teacher-zone/inspiring-schools-of-the-month/inspiring-schools-of-the-month-march-2012

Year 7 Indoor Football Regional Finals Champions!

The Year 7 Indoor Football team won the Swindon Schools competition. They then represented Swindon Schools at the next level at the English Schools FA Regional Final. The regional competition was extremely tight but Bradon Forest meant business from the start winning their opening four games. Unfortunately they lost their last game. However at this point it didn't matter as the lads had qualified for the semi-finals. Unfortunately they were pipped at the post and lost, finishing 3rd overall. Well done lads!



Year 9 Swindon Schools Indoor League Football Champions 2012!

The Year 9 team through skill, determination and grit had a clean sweep of results to comfortably qualify for the Swindon Schools Indoor League Football final. They played some fantastic football to win their semi-final game which placed them comfortably in the final against Warneford School. The lads came out ready for the final and from the starting whistle out-gunned the opposition, easing in 3 goals very comfortably to seal victory and win the title.



Art News: 44 Year 10 Art & Design students took part in five workshops over the two days of our annual "Artists Days". We welcomed to the school Ron Holmes, a local sculptor/artist who ran a clay heads sculpture class; Geraint Evans, painter/artist came over from Cardiff and ran a painting with textures workshop; Richard Thorne, a local stained glass artist ran a workshop for students who completed a glass panel of their own design and Andrée Slade, a local printer/artist who ran a printing with mixed media workshop. Mr Martch-Harry also ran a workshop with students carving two 6ft polystyrene blocks, producing an ice-cream and an Easter Island head. A great time was had by students and staff. Thank you to everybody who helped and supported the two days, we are already looking forward to next year!



LEN SPIERS, Headteacher

Olympic Torch Route

On Wednesday 23 May, history will be made as the Olympic Torch comes through Royal Wootton Bassett on its way to the London Olympics. We need people to turn up and animate the route. It is not just for the people of Royal Wootton Bassett, it is for anybody who wishes to be there and be part of history.

It may well get quite busy, so we are asking any GROUPS who would like to come along and do something lively and special to let us know in advance, so that we can make sure there is a space for them.

The route and timings are as follows:-

12:32 Royal Wootton Bassett - Noremarsch Road/Bincknoll Lane

12:36 Royal Wootton Bassett - Noremarsch Road

12:38 Royal Wootton Bassett - Station Road

12:40 Royal Wootton Bassett - Station Road

12:43 Royal Wootton Bassett - High Street (A3102)

12:47 Royal Wootton Bassett - High Street (A3102) - ending in Marlowe Way.

As you will see, it will not be with us for long and we need to make sure that people are in place in time.

If you want to be there, please let me know.

Allison.bucknell@wiltshire.gov.uk or 07976 891377.

Wiltshire Good Neighbours

Purton Annual Parish Meeting report



As I recently gave a report on the progress of the Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme to the Annual Parish Meeting, I thought it may be a good chance to précis the report for those who missed it!

The Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme has now been rolled out across the county; there are 25 areas covered. The service covers many rural villages, but not all, and does not cover the towns. I cover 3 of these areas here in the north of the county reaching roughly from the M4 to the Gloucester county border and from Swindon to the east and the A429 in the west. This means that I work full time as a Good Neighbour Co-ordinator and so am familiar with the services on offer to our older and vulnerable folk.

Here in the Purton area I have been in post for 9 months and have attended most of the local clubs and interest groups to introduce myself and the service offered. I regularly visit the Coffee and Chat, Library and the Luncheon Club, as a means of meeting villagers. Word of the service is spreading and I have been pleased to be able to assist almost 40 clients in this area.

As Good Neighbour Co-ordinator I have given help and information on a variety of subjects. Finance continues to be a major concern and I was pleased to be able to do checks on electricity costs for a number of people in the area. These checks have resulted in savings of around £60 per year simply by switching supplier. Similarly I have offered information on water and sewerage costs. One client saved an estimated £150 per year by switching to metered water. I have also referred a number of clients for Attendance Allowance checks (which are not means tested) with successful applicants receiving either £49 or £73 per week to help with care costs. In another area I have been able to assist a group to find funding to continue to provide a monthly social event; a chance for people to meet and talk. Social isolation can be a real problem in rural areas so keeping interest groups and clubs open is essential. I am always pleased to give information on the local activities to potential new members.

Transport is also a problem in this area with limited public transport available. Purton Age Concern provides an invaluable service offering transport for individuals to the many activities in the area. The dedication of the volunteers involved in both the driving and background organisation is amazing and renowned throughout much of the county! There are still problems for individuals needing to attend hospitals for appointments ... a project for the future?

Just a reminder that the service is confidential and free. If you, or anyone you know, could benefit from the service, please call me on 07557 110414 or email gncarea06@communityfirst.org.uk

ELLEN BLACKER

Just a Thought

If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it.

Andrew A. Rooney

Purton Diary - May 2012

1	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads AGM at Silver Threads Hall
2	W	2.00pm	Age Concern Mystery tour with tea provided
3	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
5	Sa	10.30am	<i>4pm</i> Collectors' Market at Village Hall
<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
7	M		Early May Bank Holiday
8	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
9	W		Methodist Women's Fellowship Members' outing
10	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
11	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
12	Sa	2.00pm	Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall
<hr/>			
13	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		9.00am	Christian Aid Breakfast at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United Christian Aid Service at St Mary's Church
		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: <i>Musical Companions</i> at Silver Threads Hall
		6.30pm	<i>and 8pm</i> : Christian Aid Curry Night at The Maharajah (2 sittings)
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
16	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall: Chris Kinder - <i>My Harp</i>
17	Th	10.00am	<i>to 11.30am</i> : Coffee Morning at 12 Church Path (Mothers' Union)
		7.30pm	Historical Society at St Mary's School Hall: Martin Way: <i>God for Harry, England and St George</i>
18	F	7.30pm	Singalongafilm Night at Silver Threads Hall (Christian Aid)
19	Sa	8.30am	<i>onwards</i> : Christian Aid Cake and Plant Stall by Pavenhill Shops
<hr/>			
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	Confirmation Service at the Methodist Church
		6.30pm	Confirmation Service at St Mary's Church
22	Tu	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Victoria Logue - <i>Practical Propagation: Seed, Cuttings & Beyond</i>

		8.00pm	After 8: Aspects of Religion Debate led by Christine Gill at her house
23	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
26	Sa	10.00am	<i>12noon</i> : Coffee Morning and Plant Sale at Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Jubilee Concert with Chedworth Band at Village Hall
27	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Pentecost Service at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
29	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: <i>Co-op Choir</i> at Silver Threads Hall
30	W	9.30am	Age Concern Half-day outing to Milletts Farm

June

3	Su		Golden Jubilee Party at Red House – see page 9 for details
4	M		Spring Bank Holiday
5	Tu		Golden Jubilee Bank Holiday
6	W	7.30pm	Age Concern Annual General Meeting Silver Threads Hall - all welcome

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

○ 6 May ◐ 12 May ● 20 May ◑ 28 May

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

Purton & Lydiard Charity Fund

I'm writing this in the spring sunshine and, although it might seem like a long time from now, I'd like to ask you to make a note in your diary of our Annual Christmas Craft Show on Saturday 3 November at the Village Hall.

If you are a "crafter" and live in Purton we'd like to give you the chance to take a table to sell your wares before they all go – out of 18 tables we have just 5 left! The cost is £12 per table and the show is open from 10am to 4.30pm.

If you would like to know more please contact Lynda Warren on email lynda.warren@hotmail.co.uk or twitter [@lyndawarren1](https://twitter.com/lyndawarren1).



Lent Lunches 2012

Another successful 6 weeks, raising £1,044 to be divided equally between Tear Fund and Water Aid. As always, a big thank-you goes to all who supported the lunches, and to all our cake makers and helpers.

LINDA TINSON and the Lent lunch team

We Record ...

Baptisms

1 April Sebastian John Pullen at St Mary's Church

1 April Riley Jackson Sawyer at St Mary's Church

Weddings

31 March Barry Michael Lane and Kirsty Marie Raggatt
at St Mary's Church

Funerals

20 March Ted Bunce (95) at St Mary's Church

27 March Leslie Dodson at Purton Methodist Church

29 March Gladys Vera Harper at St Mary's Church

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 ...



Green Tips - Ps and Qs Local Day

On 17 March 2012 in the Silver Threads Hall, Purton, Ps and Qs gave an opportunity for local businesses and organisations to promote themselves. At the same time, during the afternoon, an informal discussion took place on what constitutes a neighbourhood. Invitations were sent out to many known businesses and organisations and the event was promoted through *Purton Magazine*, Ps and Qs' email network and other email networks, *The Swindon Evening Advertiser* and *BBC Wiltshire Sound*. Cotswold Cooks from Purton House came along and provided refreshment – hot soup and rolls, and coffee with raisin buns during the morning.

A number of companies, producers and local organisations attended and many leaflets were available for people to take away. A list had been compiled and was added to on the day which includes businesses, organisations, facilities and things to do in Purton – so far 250 entries!

The consensus was that the event was really worthwhile and a good way to get local companies and organisations promoted. It was suggested that the event should be held each year, perhaps at a larger venue (Bradon Forest School has already offered to host it) with even more local companies and



organisations being able to attend. It was also suggested that there is a need to have somewhere central in the village where Craft and Bohemian products could be offered for sale alongside somewhere to meet – cafe and so on – food for thought.

This event was funded entirely by Ps and Qs and, in the afternoon, we held an informal discussion on *What Constitutes Our Neighbourhood?* Several people remained for this and others arrived just for the afternoon. We discussed some of the implications of the Localism Act, particularly the Neighbourhood Plan – what it is, where it fits and why. A short discussion developed on where we were with the Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Plans in general, and the Core Strategy and how these will affect planning applications currently in the pipeline and others that will come forward in the future. The Localism Act brings forward the opportunity for Neighbourhood Plans and part of the process for a plan to be adopted is a referendum. If 50% of those who vote agree with the plan then it will be adopted so again it is important that residents respond otherwise inappropriate plans could be adopted if only a small group vote.

The Area Board and the whole community area (Royal Wootton Bassett, Cricklade and the surrounding parishes) are taking part in a pilot – *Front Runners* – to look at different ways of developing a Neighbourhood Plan. This is a County-wide initiative. For the Community Area Board the concept of a plan covering the whole Community Area is being looked at. This may be successful if all the towns and parishes agree. However, if they do not agree, and there is some concern already being expressed by towns and parishes, then the work carried out could still be used to form part of individual Neighbourhood Plan, into which the Parish Plan could fit. The discussion quickly resolved that the sensible concept for a Neighbourhood is the parish itself: *'If a parish looks like a neighbourhood, feels like a neighbourhood, then it is a neighbourhood'*.

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

Purton Open Gardens

We now have 19 gardens participating in the Purton Open Gardens during the weekend of 14/15 July. It is not too late if you would like to join us.

We have given donations to various village organisations in the past so if you know of a group, club or organisation who would benefit from a modest boost to their funds for a particular project please let us know. We can't promise but we will do our best.

If you would like more information please contact our Chairperson Nick Yerbury on email: the.yerburys@btinternet.com

Exhibit of the Month: An Invoice

This month I have found an invoice (or billhead) dating to 1870-71. The split in years is because this is actually in the form of an annual account. The business in question is that of R. Grimes, Corn & Seed Merchant and is made out to Mr Morse, though the Museum records have the fuller name of Job Morse. But we had no further details ... more below!

The invoice is dated June 1871 but covers individual purchases of seed, cattle and horse feeds going back to 29 April 1870. There are a lot of repeat entries but here are a few samples – the price columns are in pounds, shillings and pence:

		£	s	d
1870				
April 29	20 lbs Clover Seed		11	8
	Meal		3	
Oct 3	1 quarter Oats	1	8	
Oct 11	½ p Bran		3	3
Dec 31	½ p Toppings		4	3
1871				
Jan 23	1 p Cake		13	
Feb 22	1 Sk Powlts	1	4	

and a late extra purchase:		£13	1	7½
of	13 Sks Wheat	4	8	4½

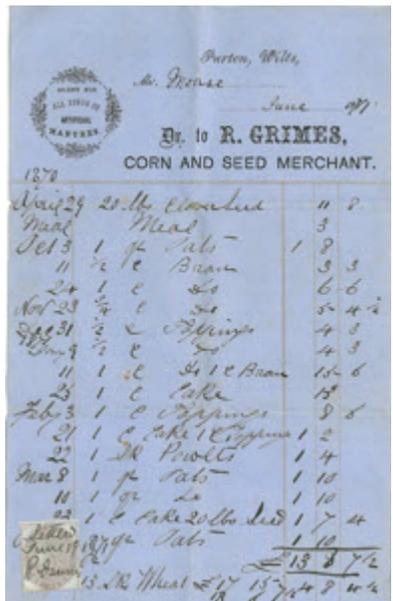
Don't try working out the sum and telling me it's wrong. I've omitted 10 entries!

A few bits of information: a quarter means ¼ of a hundredweight ie ¼ of 112 lbs = 2 stones or 28 lbs – we'd buy about 12.5 kilos today; the abbreviation "Sk" means sack; and p is the closest I can get to the abbreviation Mr Grimes has used for "ditto".

However, I've asked around and despite the  best efforts of Jeanette at Elmgrove Saddlery we can't come up with an explanation of what "Powlts" means. It can't be chickens, they don't come in sacks ... although I did see something like that 20 years ago in a market in Hong Kong! Any suggestions welcomed.

The invoice also says proudly in the top left hand corner "Agent for All Kinds of Artificial Manures" and, in the bottom left corner is a Queen Victoria one penny Inland Revenue stamp across which is handwritten "Settled June 19, 1871, R Grimes". Combined "Postage & Revenue" stamps weren't issued until the "penny lilac" of 1881.

Not knowing any more about the buyer and the seller, I found a wonderful "free!"



web site www.pope-genealogy.me.uk/nwocp_project_details.htm which gives access to transcripts of various of the old censuses for north Wiltshire. Under 1871 for Cricklade 2C, we find that R. Grimes is named Richard, lived at Bagbury and was aged 35 at the time. Job Morse is given as an Agricultural Labourer, aged 26, living at Pavenhill, married to Fanny and with three children, Enoch, Emily and Henry George. With such a huge bill to pay (£1,260 in today's value) I assume Job was actually a foreman or farm manager rather than a labourer and was paying on behalf of his employer.

Remember you can visit our web site at www.purtonmuseum.com.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer

<p>Purton Museum is located above the Library, 1 Station Road and is open during Library hours: <i>Mon 2 - 5pm; Tues 2 - 7pm; Wed 10am - 5pm; Fri 2 - 7pm</i></p>

Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.org.uk



Our March meeting was our AGM which was quite lively compared to many that I have attended with other organisations. The various reports reflected well the many activities that our members have been involved with during 2011-12. Our main meetings have covered such things as Christmas wreath making, healthy eating, Bollywood dancing and the flora and fauna of Lundy Island, to name but a few, but I think for me the highlight was our open meeting on Breast Awareness. A serious subject presented by an excellent speaker combined with a decorated bra competition – an evening not to be forgotten, which was the idea of course!

In addition to the main programme we have talented members who entertain and have been invited to perform at the Wiltshire WI Jubilee Garden Party and at our event in Purton. We have teams that play skittles, whist, Scrabble and Rummikub all very successfully – and the not quite so successful two members who played in a bridge competition but enjoyed the small box of chocolates they received instead of the traditional wooden spoon!

All of this would not be possible without the hard work of the committee and members. Thanks were given by the President to everybody who helps to make our WI the success that it is. Particular thanks were given to Gladys Legg who has stood down from the committee after many years, having served most recently as our treasurer. Our President was re-elected and three new members have come on to the committee. Let us hope that this year is as lively and as entertaining as the last!

The speaker for the meeting of 16 May will be Chris Kinder, on “My Harp”. The competition is “A Poem about Music” and there will be a Music Quiz in Social Time.

HELEN DIXON, tel: 770648

Helping Hand

We are all getting older and need some younger blood on the committee! Would you like to join us? If so, give me a ring and find out all about what we do. Telephone 01793 770251



PAULINE WARD, Chairman

PURTON PLACARD

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

Coffee Morning & Plant Sale

Saturday 26 May
10 am to 12 noon
at Silver Threads Hall
Details and Enquiries:
770251

Purton Mothers' Union
will be holding a

Coffee Morning

at 12 Church Path
(Joyce Berry's)
on Thursday 17 May
10 am to 11.30 am
Raffle Cake Stall
Bring & Buy

Breakfast in St Mary's!

Back by popular demand!
Breakfast will be served in St Mary's Church
on Sunday 13 May
from 9 to 9.45 am

Cost £5

Breakfast will include porridge, cereals, bacon butties,
croissants and fresh coffee! ... as long as it lasts!

This is followed by the Village United Christian Aid
Service at 10.30

Do please come.

It is a great way to start Christian Aid Week
Contact Libbie (771018) for more details

Jubilee Concert

with Chedworth Silver Band

Saturday 26 May at 7.30 pm

at Village Hall

Light Refreshments and Wine
Tickets priced £7 available from
Best One and from 770178

Supporting Help for Heroes

Christian Aid Film Night Singalongafilm night

'Sound of Music'

Do you fancy a slightly whacky, noisy night out?
Come and watch 'Sound of Music'

And join in all the songs
that you know and love so well!

Friday 18 May at 7.30 pm
Silver Threads Hall. £5 + bar money!

Come suitably dressed if you want!
Bring your friends ... make it a crazy fun evening.
Contact Mary Hodges (770505) to reserve your
tickets

as they are strictly limited.
All the profit to Christian Aid

Jumble Sale

Saturday 12 May

2 pm

at Silver Threads Hall

Details and Enquiries: 770251

Christian Aid Quiz

Copies of the Quiz
are on sale

in the usual shops for £1
Entries to be returned
by 10 May

For more details
contact [Libbie](#)

Christian Aid Cake and Plant Stall

Top Shops: Saturday 19 May
From 8.30 am

Come and buy ...
and also put in orders
for plants from Mary
Cakes, buns and cookies
all available to buy
(Any donations of home made foods to
sell will also be very welcome, to boost
Christian Aid funds)
More details: contact Belinda: 770805

Plant Fair & Open Garden

Bushton Manor, Bushton
Bank Holiday Monday 7 May
Plenty of plant and garden related stalls.
Games for children.
Bacon Butty Barbecue and other
refreshments
11 am to 4 pm
Adults £1 : Children 50p
Proceeds to St Mary's Church,
Clyffe Pypard

Cricklade Band

In Concert
Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall
Thursday
10 May at 8 pm
Tickets £5
From tel: 771737 or 770972

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 25 May 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).

Following the retirement of several of our members we are desperately in need
of some new producers and helpers. Should we be unable to find any, we may lose
this longstanding and valuable local asset.



6 High Street
Purton, Swindon
Wilts SN5 4AA
01793 770253

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



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

Book to avoid disappointment

With thanks to Khalique
all Proceeds to ...



Contact Wendy 771749 or Kate 772930
for tickets

THE LYDIARDS AND PURTON BRANCH
OF THE
NORTH WILTSHIRE CONSERVATIVE
ASSOCIATION

Invite you to

Their Summer Event

To be held at Quarry Farm,
The Hyde, Purton, SN5 4EA
By kind permission Jonathan Cook
On Sunday, 1 July 2012
Ticket £10 Raffle

Collectors' Market

Saturday 5 May
10.30 - 4 pm
at Village Hall
Details and Enquiries:
770251

Christian Aid Week Activities: May 13 - 19



Here is a list of the Christian Aid Activities in May so far! Please come and support as many as you can. Volunteer helpers and supporters are also warmly welcomed!

Purton always tries to make a big noisy splash about Christian Aid Week and the activities usually include having a lot of fun as well. All the money raised is desperately needed ... and this year we are focussing especially on supporting families affected by drought and war.

- Sun 13 May Christian Aid Breakfast in St Mary's Church, served from 9 to 9.45 am. £5. Please let us know, in advance, if you want porridge. Also the announcement of the winner of the CA Quiz; followed by:
- Sun 13 May United Christian Aid Service 10.30, at St Mary's; with a visiting Youth Speaker from Christian Aid, who has recently returned from Sierra Leone
- Tues 15 May Curry Night at the Maharajah: £15 (same as last year!)
Two sittings: 6.30 and 8 pm
Tickets: Wendy Johnson (771749) and Kate Robinson (772930)
Early booking recommended to avoid disappointment
- Fri 18 May 'The Sound of Music' Film Night and Singalong!
(by popular demand!)
7.30 pm: Silver Threads Hall + Bar!
Tickets £5 – contact Mary Hodges (770505)
Come suitably dressed to impress (if you want!)
- Sat 19 May Cake and Plant stall: Top Shops from 8.30 am
All donations of cakes, buns, cookies welcome.
Put in your orders for Mary's now famous plants and hanging 'pouches' at the same time.

There are also over 1,000 envelopes to deliver around the village ... and to collect up again.

Also there's the Christian Aid Quiz ... ask Libbie for copies. And please take some to sell to your family, friends and work colleagues.

All offers of help during the week will be gratefully received.

Purton Guide Dogs

We had a table at the Helping Hand Table Top Sale in the Village Hall. It was fairly quiet but we managed to make £9.50, plus of course we are there to promote the Guide Dogs Association. I haven't received any information yet regarding the Country Shows – perhaps in time for the June Magazine.

Many thanks for all your support.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group

[LIBBIE](#)



Purton Historical Society



The March meeting was our AGM and we said goodbye to some long-standing committee members who have given sterling service to the society for a number of years. Particular thanks were given to Jean Belt (Chair) and Eve Booy (Secretary) as well as to Brian Freegard who has stood down as Museum Curator but remains on the committee. We shall miss the knowledge and experience of former members but they will still be active participants of the Society and I'm sure they will be able to answer our many questions!

The new committee look forward carrying on the excellent work done by our predecessors. Our new Chair is Jim Mosley and the Secretary is Helen Dixon.

Following the business part of the meeting Paul Booy gave us an interesting talk on some lesser known facts and figures about the sinking of the *Titanic*, although, judging by the TV and radio schedules by the time you read this we may all be as knowledgeable as Paul!

Some of our members will be rubbing shoulders with royalty on 1 May when they attend a Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury – more about this on [page 4](#) in the Parish Council Article.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 17 May at St Mary's Primary School at 7.30 pm. Martin Way will be giving a talk entitled *God for Harry, England and St George* – I suspect the battle of Agincourt may get a mention!

Along with many organisations, we will be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Sunday 3 June. We will have a special Jubilee exhibition at the Museum (above the Library) between 11 am and 4 pm. If you can't make it that day don't forget that you can visit the Museum during Library opening hours (see Exhibit of the Month).

New members are always welcome (annual subscription £12) or you can come as a visitor (£2.50 per meeting).

[HELEN DIXON](#), Secretary

Purton Historical Society Summer Outing

There is still time to book for our outing to Attingham Park, near Shrewsbury on Saturday 16 June. This elegant house was built in 1785, set in parkland designed to impress with a recently restored walled garden. A short distance away is the stunningly beautiful medieval town of Much Wenlock which is our destination in the afternoon. Visit the Wenlock Priory, Guildhall, museum or take a gentle stroll around this historic town with its traditional shops and many watering holes!

We shall leave Purton at 8 am and return to Purton about 6.30 pm. The cost will be £15 for National Trust members and £23 for non-members which includes a full guided tour of Attingham Park. Booking forms will be available at society meetings, from In Touch Services at 115 Pavenhill, or you can download a form from www.purtonmuseum.com and look for the outing link. You don't have to be a member of the Society to join us. Further information from [Helen Dixon](#).

STOP PRESS . . . Our tour of a local town or village and its environs will take place on Saturday 21 July. More information next month.

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



In recognition of James Sadler's gift of the cricket field to the village two display boards have been erected in the club's tea room detailing his generous support and some aspects of the club's history. Two photographs will be added to this presentation showing club members from 1912 and the current season. Unfortunately the 1912 photograph did not have all the names attached and if any reader recognises any of the players in the enlarged photographs 1 to 4 accompanying this report please let me know.



Back row: *Brian Barnes, Bill Osborne, W. Hewer, Walter Tidmarsh, H. Smith, F. Woolford.*
Middle: *Mr Matthews, Francis Drewe, photo 1, photo 2, Richard Brown, Henry Bull, photo 3, photo 4.*
Seated: *A. Tidmarsh, E. Smith, Joe Stanley, Ewart Iles, Stephen Brown, Josiah Haskins, Alf Woolford*
Seated front: *Edgar Ovens, Reg Iles, Charlie Garrett*



A hundred years after James Sadler's gift the club is still receiving generous support and we thank the Wiltshire Cricket Board and the Parish Council for grants which will help us to purchase a new scoreboard and sight screen.

Matches at Purton in May

5 th	1st XI v Calne	2.00 pm	20 th	U13 v Goatacre	2.00 pm
6 th	U15 v Calne	2.00 pm	26 th	2nd XI v Collingbourne	2.00 pm
12 th	2nd XI v Ramsbury	2.00 pm	27 th	U11 v Malmesbury	10.30 pm
19 th	1st XI v Wroughton	2.00 pm			

From the Archives

Wilts Gazette and Herald 1969 – Swindon Colts 107-2, Purton Colts 70

Purton:- T.Large, E.Gregory, K.Marshall, M.Woolford, T.Brown, T.Howse, G.Haynes, G.Walker, B.Walker, N.Rawlins, J.Walker

Wilts Gazette and Herald 1970 – Wilts Umpires v Swindon Referees

Umpires:- N.J.Higgins, A.Wrixon, A.Grant, D.Evans, E.Dodson, R.Arnold, R.Jones, D.Bisset, D.Howse, J.Sorsby and J.Cammegh

Alex Grant, Dave Evans, Eric Dodson, Dave Bisset and John Sorsby were also members of Purton CC.

JOE GARDNER


Purton Tennis Club

Purton Tennis Club held a centenary Race Night on Saturday 17 March at The Red House Club. The evening was well supported, not only by the tennis members but also by the local community. Neil Saunders was an excellent compère for the evening.

We are extremely pleased that, through the generosity of numerous donations, such as continued support from *The Maharajah* and *The Red House*, on the evening we were able to raise just over £1,600. The money raised will go towards the installation of our new floodlights, and much needed club funds.

Thank you to everyone who supported our evening, and should you wish to join us for social tennis, we would welcome new members. For information please contact Steph Brown.

BOB PIMBLE & SAMMI FRANCIS

Shortly after the Race Night we had another good turnout at the clubhouse to give it a spring clean. It wasn't exactly a 'makeover' but Bob and Sammi did a few trips to the dump; two large bags of old tennis balls went to Sylvia Freeman for Enterprise Shoebox later in the year; a real raid was made on the weeds and moss and once the windows were sparkling we could all sit down on the newly washed chairs and congratulate ourselves with drinks and biscuits. Many thanks to all who helped.

Purton Bowls Club

The green opened on 14 April, and the first friendly was held on 15 April away to Pineholt, Gloucestershire. In the League games the men will be at home to Marlborough on 25 April, while the ladies will be playing against West End away.

The Club would welcome anyone interested in playing this most enjoyable game. Why not come along to the green one sunny evening? For further information contact Mrs A Fail.

BARBARA WOOLFORD



Wise Words

It's the job that's never started that takes longest to finish.

J.R.R. Tolkein

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

'Planting Summer Containers' was the subject of our March meeting presented by Carl Gill. This was a return visit for Carl who has been a teacher at Lackham College since 1994. His current role is Curriculum Manager for Horticulture and Forestry.



He explained that the key components for planting containers, aside from the plants themselves, are compost, fertiliser and watering.

In the absence of container plants, given the early time of the year, Carl prepared two containers using a mix of houseplants including coleus, spider plant and ivy together with the bedding plants, marigold and bellis. Coleus provide brilliant colour without flowers, the 'spider' shoots from spider plants are particularly attractive in hanging baskets and Ivy in its juvenile form is especially interesting and colourful. Carl explained that we should always determine the 'front' and 'back' of the plant before planting up as the 'front' side should always be planted facing outward from the container. Although he personally likes to pack containers, sometimes with as many as twenty plants, he realises, that not only can this prove to be expensive, but that the containers will also need to be watered more often. Carl advised that the compost should only be firmed enough for the plant to stand upright as over firming can result in the compost becoming waterlogged.

He discussed the number of composts now available, some of which are even plant specific. For seasonal containers, a general-purpose compost, such as composted bark, coir or any composted material, is fine.

For semi-permanent containers a loam based product such as John Innes 1, 2 or 3 is required. The difference between them is based on the nutrients they contain. John Innes No. 1 is used when planting up for the first time, No. 2 is for planting on and No.3 is used for permanent planting. Loam based composts hold on to their nutrients much longer although rain and regular watering will gradually wash them out. A good tip from Carl is when watering hanging baskets to place a bucket beneath to catch any water that runs out. This water will contain traces of the nutrients from the compost. This can then be used to water any other plants in the garden that will benefit from the feed.

A controlled slow release fertiliser can be obtained by using granules. They contain nitrogen, phosphates and potassium in equal amounts and are therefore considered a balanced feed. Nitrogen helps to produce vegetative growth, phosphates produce root development and potassium promotes flowers and fruit.

Water gels are now widely available trading under various names. When mixed with water, the gel swells and so helps to retain moisture in the compost. However, the directions for use should not be exceeded as it can have catastrophic effects as one of Carl's students discovered when he poured some down a sink. The resulting blockage cost him dearly when all the pipes had to be renewed. Carl added one scoop to a glass of water to demonstrate its effectiveness and we were soon all convinced when it turned solid within a short time.

A useful tip, for flower arrangers in particular: break up any surplus pieces of 'oasis' and add them to the compost. This absorbs water helping to keep the compost moist.

Apart from sphagnum moss there are now a number of alternatives available for lining hanging baskets including capillary matting and recycled plastic. Recycled plastic is not only water retentive but can be cut to size and allows for holes to be made in it to aid planting. To avoid damage to plants when planting up a hanging basket the cardboard inner from a toilet or kitchen roll can be cut along its length and wrapped around the plant. This is then pushed through the sides of the basket, the cardboard protecting the plant until it is *in situ*. The cardboard can then be easily removed.

Leon Slee proposed the vote of thanks for what was an informative talk.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall on Tuesday, 22 May when Victoria Logue will be talking to us on the subject of 'Practical Propagation: Seed, Cuttings & Beyond'. Our competition on the night will be 'A spray of blossom'.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

MARGARET GOODALL (*Secretary*) & DIONNE CHILD (*Chair*)

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Eggs, eggs and more eggs in the run up to the Easter holidays! The Rainbows decorated cakes with Easter eggs and made Easter baskets, the Guides made chocolate Easter eggs, 2nd Purton Brownies decorated eggs and played Easter egg games whilst 1st Purton Brownies made baskets containing real eggs which they then delivered to the residents of Hooks Hill.

The 1st Purton Brownies' Easter visit to Hooks Hill took an animal theme in keeping with the work they had been doing on the Friend to Animals badge. They told the residents about the visit they had had from a Blue Cross Education Officer and her dog and also about the Brownie visit to the Purton Veterinary Group surgery. Thanks must go to Rachael and Joss at the surgery for the wonderful welcome the Brownies received.

Mothering Sunday wasn't forgotten. Brownies from both units put together the posies for the Mothering Sunday service. 2nd Purton Brownies made cardboard daffodils and cards for their mothers at one of their meetings, whilst the Rainbows made pot pourri gifts for their mothers.

The Guide unit held a very successful party to celebrate 60 years since the unit was reformed after World War II. This was attended by Guides past and present, parents and former leaders. There were a range of activities for the young and the not so young to enjoy, memories to share and scrapbooks and pictures to look at.

Our thoughts are now turning to the summer term's activities which will include outdoor activities, sports, Brownie Holiday and Guide camp. Please keep your fingers crossed for fine weather!

For more information about guiding in Purton, either in relation to girls joining units or adults volunteering, please contact Braydon District Commissioner Jo Begg on braydondc@wncounty.org.uk.

Constructive Thought ...

Any jackass can kick down a barn but it takes a good carpenter to build one.

Lyndon B. Johnson

The Cluster Olympic Torch*

The Torch's journey from St Mary's School, Purton to Wootton Bassett Infants School.

I was approached a few weeks back by Claire Lloyd of St Mary's about the use of an unusual vehicle to transport the Torch to Royal Wootton Bassett and I immediately thought of my husband Len's 1953 BSA M21 motorbike and sidecar in which we had travelled around the South Island of New Zealand a couple of years ago.

The Torch was being carried from one school to another, then looked after for a couple of weeks before going on to the next school. Each school it visited was required to represent a country and St Mary's was Japan.

On Friday 23 March it was a beautiful sunny morning and Len, Margaret Cremin and I arrived at the school with a lovely, clean, shiny motorbike and sidecar which Len and I had spent the evening before making look presentable. It was decorated with red and white balloons before Ian Tucker, the headmaster, sat in the sidecar. After the school had said a fond farewell to the Torch they were off to Royal Wootton Bassett accompanied by 28 children, 4 adults and a Japanese Dragon in a coach which followed on behind.

We arrived at the school to a lovely welcome in the playground with children and adults waving green and yellow streamers which is the colour of Brazil the country they are representing. The dragon did a complete circle of the playground followed by St Mary's children, some wearing Japanese costumes and all wearing white headbands with a red rising sun in the middle. There were lots of cheering and clapping and then the children performed a traditional Japanese dance. They danced beautifully and were rewarded with more cheers and clapping. After the speeches, some in Japanese and others in English, the Torch was officially handed over by Ian Tucker to the head master of Wootton Bassett Infant School. The children were asked to perform their dance once more and they did so even better than the first time and then we were all invited for a drink and biscuits.

We were just about to return to Purton when Claire said how much she would love to travel in the sidecar so Ian handed over the crash helmet and his coat (it can get a bit chilly in the sidecar) and with Claire grinning from ear to ear we all set off back to Purton after a truly wonderful experience.





On the return journey I spoke to some of the children and adults involved and here are their comments.

Archie and James, who were both dancers: "We enjoyed every bit of it."

Natasha and Ella, who were part of the dragon and dancers: "It was amazing and very colourful."

Bethany, who was the head of the dragon and one of the main dancer: "It was great fun but I was very nervous."

Mana, who was part of the dragon and a dancer: "I could not see where I was going, but it was fun."

Reinan, one of the dancers: "It was exciting and I felt confident."

Further comments were that the biscuits were yummy and it was weird dancing on a slope.

Ian Tucker: "It was very moving and powerful and riding in the sidecar was the highlight of my week along with the Torch".

Claire Lloyd: "I was very proud of the children who did a wonderful job and I thought that the ride in the sidecar was brilliant".

Margaret Cremin: "I thought it was a wonderful, colourful spectacle. The



children obviously worked incredibly hard on their performance and they did themselves and St Mary's school proud.

Len Page: "I thoroughly enjoyed it and thought that the children's performance was excellent".

Barbara Page: "I thought that the whole morning was a great experience and was pleased to be part of it. Well done to Class 3 for making the dragon.

BARBARA PAGE

[Ed: The Torch is a representation of the Olympic flame and has travelled around primary schools in north Wiltshire. Teachers are hoping that the Torch will help raise awareness among pupils of both the Olympics and the values that go with them.]*