

Purton *Magazine*



Sea Pods
Sally Cooke, Purton Artists

June 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
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	Ellen Blacker	07557 110414

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

The Diamond Jubilee party and Carnival week are the main attractions this month. Each event only happens because a few people put in an awful lot of time and effort for the rest of us – you know who you are and we thank you, loudly and publicly, through these pages. But it is certainly not too late for others to join in – more hands make the work lighter (and faster) and always help to increase the community spirit.

The latest information about the Diamond Jubilee party on Sunday 3 June at the Village Centre appears on [page 13](#) this month. It all starts with a banner parade which assembles in Highridge Close at 1.45 pm, ready to leave at 2 pm. There are simply too many things happening at the party to repeat them all this month. However if you are still not sure about what's going on, please have a look at page 9 in the May issue of this magazine. If you have already read and recycled the May issue, past editions can be found again on our web site (www.purtonmagazine.co.uk) but only in the second half of the month of publication.

Purton Carnival Week starts on 15 June and we are promised a packed week of events. Even if you have only a short time to spare, more helpers are needed – see [page 37](#).

Despite our justifiable civic pride in events such as the Diamond Jubilee party and the village Carnival, an article on [page 27](#) highlights several areas where we, as a community, still fall short. Simple things such as parking on double yellow lines and across pavements (sometimes simultaneously) often cause great anguish to mothers with young children as well as people in wheelchairs. Surely our civic responsibilities should extend beyond just helping others when we know they have a need. For example, cleaning up after our dogs would avoid the resulting problems arising in the first place.

The new 53 bus service has now been extended to Cirencester by Stagecoach West and bus passes are accepted! While more details and time can be found on [pages 6](#) and [19](#), a doubt has been expressed about how long it will be able to run through to Cirencester, owing to the levels of subsidy. Therefore it could easily be another instance of “use it or lose it” but does that amount to another of our civic responsibilities?

13 mins

past the hour (mostly)
for the new bus to
Cirencester
– see [page 19](#)

10.15pm

is when the official
Jubilee Beacon will be lit
on 4 June
– see [page 13](#)

4069

visitors to Purton Library
between September 2011
and March 2012
– see [page 19](#)

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

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Magazine Committee

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Typeset & Printed by: **In Touch Services**

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by 10th of each month, please

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The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News



Road Closure for Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday 3 June from 1.45 pm until 2.45 pm. The celebrations will be commencing with a Banner Parade starting at Highridge Close and proceeding down the High Street to the Lower Square and will then turn along Church Street ending at the Village Centre. Restrop Road will be closed at the entrance to Highridge Close from 1.45 pm while the parade proceeds down the High Street to the Lower Square. Church Street will only be closed for a short time while the parade proceeds from the Lower Square to the Village Centre at about 2.30 pm.

Diamond Jubilee Event in Salisbury on 1 May: All of Wiltshire's community areas were invited to take part in the medieval-themed event which was held in the Close, in front of Salisbury Cathedral. The event was opened by Sarah Rose Troughton, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Wiltshire. To great excitement The Queen and Prince Philip were present for part of the event and visited 8 of the 18 tents. Each of the community areas was provided with a medieval style tent in which to display, in particular historical information about the county's towns and villages. It was clear to see when walking around the tents that Wiltshire has a wealth of interesting places to visit and much to show off. The Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area tent accommodated displays from Purton, Cricklade and Royal Wootton Bassett. Tabards were provided depicting particular features from each town and village that chose to participate. Purton's tabards had a picture of Purton Church on one and a picture of Nevil Maskelyne on the other with some historical information. We only had room for 30 words so the script was very limited but read as follows:

PURTON

Iron Age hill-fort

Roman and Saxon archaeology

St Mary's Church, spire and tower, medieval wall paintings

Rev Dr Nevil Maskelyne 5th Astronomer Royal 1732-1811, buried in churchyard

The tabards are going to be made into a flag to head the banner parade on 3 June so if you are coming to the village event you will be able to see them on the day.

Our thanks are extended to members of the Historical Society who helped to prepare the display for Purton and to Jean Belt, Jenny Barnes and Jan Walker for attending the event on the day. You can see by the photographs how smart they looked in the tabards. [See also *Jean Belt's article on [page 24.](#)*]



Representatives of Purton, Lyneham, Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade at the Salisbury event.

53 Bus Service – From Monday 14 May 2012 Stagecoach took over the 53 bus service to Purton from Thamesdown Transport. The service will be extended to include regular trips through to Cirencester. Time tables can be down loaded from www.stagecoachbus.com/west, copies are also available from the Parish Council Office, Post Office and Library. [Ed. A summary of times from Purton is given on [page 19](#)]

Dog Warden – Sebastian the Dog Warden will be in the small meeting room by the Village Hall car park on Wednesday 6 June from 9 to 11 am. If you have any dog issues that you would like to talk to him about then please pay him a visit.

The Parish Council has started a poster campaign to raise awareness of the problem of dog fouling. This problem is also being discussed at the next Area Board meeting and we hope some means can be found to encourage more people to take a pride in their village, and pick up after their dogs without all residents having to incur a cost on their Council Tax to try to combat this problem in a more robust way.

PLANNING

N11/02322/FUL – 6 Battlewell: it was decided at the Northern Area Board Meeting of 4 April 2012 that permission would be granted for the five dwellings subject to the applicant entering into a legal agreement under S106 in respect of the provision of a financial contribution towards public open space, as required by policy CF3 of the adopted North Wiltshire Local Plan 2011, and contribution of provision of bin and recycling provision and the maintenance of visibility splays at entrance to Battlewell.

Ridgeway Farm Inquiry: the Inquiry started on 9 May at Chippenham and is expected to run for eight days. The Parish Council will be in attendance to speak against the development.

Widham Farm Inquiry: at the time of going to press we have still not been advised of the new dates for this Inquiry following its postponement in April. The Parish Council will be attending the Inquiry to speak against the development when the time comes.

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 Luncheon Club

We serve over 30 meals to the elderly of Purton twice a week, a very much appreciated service. At the moment we are desperate for help on Tuesday once a fortnight, 9.30 to 1.30 or 11.30 to 1.30. Please will you help us?

Ring Elizabeth on 770239.



News from the Trustees

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

We are very pleased to be hosting the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. It is very fitting to hold an event at the memorial to the men who sacrificed their lives in the 1939-45 war so that our country is still here to celebrate such an occasion. If it were not for them and all the others who fought along side them, there would be no celebrations like this.

Could I thank all the Clubs for their help and co-operation when this day was planned and this includes the Social Club which will be open all day to members and non-members alike. To start proceedings there will be a banner parade from Highridge Close to finish on the football pitch where the banners will be on display for all to see. Following a short service the show begins.

Could I ask you to treat the area with respect – there will be litter bins and a bottle bank to put your rubbish and bottles in. You will be able to picnic on the football pitch but no barbecues or gazebos are allowed. There will be stalls on the junior football pitch where organisations will be displaying what they do to make our village a lovely place to live. One or two will be selling things so we look forward to seeing you there.

On behalf of the Trustees could I thank everyone at Holland Handling for all the help they have given me as Chairman. Over the years it has been a great comfort to know where to go to get help. John would always point you in the right direction and everyone at Holland Handling was kindness itself and, of course, not forgetting that they were third party contributors to the skateboard park. Thank you.

TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

GROW Wiltshire www.growwiltshire.org.uk

GROW is running a cluster event for all voluntary and community groups based in the Salisbury area. Cluster events are designed to help groups to network more effectively with each other in their local area and highlighting how to find out about support and services they can access from GROW as well as other organisations.

If you require any of the following then this FREE event is for you!

- Do you need volunteers?
- Do you need information about working with people with specific support needs?
- Do you need funding but don't know where to look?
- Do you need new trustees or need better support for trustees you already have?
- Do you need training or help identifying training needs?

The event will also be a great opportunity to meet other groups in your area, share knowledge and experiences. It takes place on Thursday 14 June, 10 am - 12 noon at St Michael's Church Centre, Bemerton Heath, SP2 9LE.

Spaces are starting to fill up so **BOOK NOW**

email sarah@growwiltshire.org.uk or call 0845 034 5250 (local rates apply).

*SARAH CULBERT
Services Support, GROW Wiltshire*

Purton & District Age Concern



We continue to lose people who have been part of our community. **Roy a'Court** was an amazing man who I would call Purton's historical photographer – is there any organisation that hasn't had Roy taking photos of their events? What records he has left us and, what's more, he will never be forgotten because every time you look at the photos you will think of him. Mind, he was a good conversationalist and interesting to listen to, even if you had a job to stop him.

Roy was born in a thatched cottage, known as Woodside Cottage, on the way to the crossroads at Braydon, roughly where the bungalow is now. I cannot even remember whether it was two storeys or one but what I do know is that his father rented land from Captain Ward of Red Lodge which he ran as a smallholding and, of course, Roy had to help. I was in the same class as Roy at school, also in the same 'house' – green was the colour, Brooke was the house (named after Lord Bolingbroke, I believe). Roy was an excellent goalkeeper but he could not pursue it as his father was in poor health from 1943, so all Roy's spare time had to be spent working on the smallholding. The old thatched cottage got too bad to live in so they moved into East Lodge on the Red Lodge Estate, where Roy stayed until he got married in 1956. The smallholding did not make enough to keep Roy in 1954 so he went into the Railways but did not stay. Roy was not a very academic person but at anything practical, working on the tools so as to speak, he was tip-top. After about twelve months Roy left the Railways and went to work for the Bristol buses at the top of Eastcott Hill where I believe he was a mechanic.

In his school days Roy would be picked up by Sheppards' coaches (the firm from Broad Town). The coach used to go round Braydon – I would assume it would pick up the Archers first, just after turning off the main Malmesbury Road, and go on through picking up the others. I expect the teachers he had in the infants were Miss Woodward, Miss Martin, Miss Tarrant, Miss Gingell, then you had Miss Tuck, Mrs Chritchley, Miss Wheeler, Mr Romaine, Mr Osbourne and Mr Freegard to name a few. Roy, as I said, was not very academic and did not go a bundle on school and, in his own words, was not very well educated, but certainly made up for it on the practical side. Roy's dad used to rent part of Braydon Wood where it was split into areas like allotments. Most of it was hazel and people coppiced it for bean and pea sticks as well as firewood and they would sell what they did not need. I know my grandfather had a piece with the likes of Wally Selwood, Fred Merchant and Art Griffin.

Roy and Gladys, his wife, were part of our minibus crew in days gone by and what a great team they were. Of course, in later years we were able to return the compliment and pick Roy up for Luncheon Club and various events. Gladys and Roy were very well suited as Gladys was very artistic, doing beautiful needlework and knitting, and very practical I might add. They moved into The Hyde when they got married and I believe Roy owned the cottage before that. He must have lived there for over fifty years where he had very good neighbours – it is like most places in Purton – a nice place to live. Gladys and Roy had very similar backgrounds as Gladys' parents, the Peapells, farmed at Pavenhill Farm. Where is that you might ask – well it was on that corner where the Pavenhill shops are now. When I said

similar backgrounds what I really meant was they both had to work hard as children. I know Gladys had to work like a man. As I said earlier, Roy has left us so many memories and he will never be forgotten – thanks Roy. Could we also thank the family for donations in lieu of flowers going to the minibus fund.

Another person who will be sadly missed is **Mr Peter Brett**, perhaps not so well known in Purton as Roy but very much loved by those that did know him. Peter was born in Swindon in the Faringdon Road area where his father was a tailor. He married his wife Margaret in 1948 so they will have had 63 years of happy married life, although over the last few years neither has enjoyed the best of health. When Peter and Margaret got married they lived in Whitworth Road – these houses had very large gardens. You can tell how large when I tell you that at one time they had a thousand chickens, yes I did say a thousand – well you can tell how big the gardens were as houses have been built on them since.

Those of us that are old enough remember Brett's pet shop in Swindon, first in Cromwell Street then, when all the development took place, in Commercial Road. This was the family shop where Peter worked. I expect you were like me and always loved to go in and look at the animals. Talking about the pet shop – they used to have a Bedford van with Bretts written on the side and the children loved it and would clamour to ride in it on holidays instead of a car. On one holiday they went to a hotel with the van and when Peter went to check in they thought he was a tradesman and told him the tradesman's entrance was round the back. When Peter explained that he had booked to stay at the hotel the receptionist was not very happy and he still had to park the van round the back and not alongside all the posh cars at the front. Knowing Peter I bet he just laughed – as long as the children were happy that was all he would worry about.

One of Peter's joys was swimming with his grandson but he hasn't been able to do this for the last few years as his sight hasn't been very good, in fact he was 99% blind but you would not realise this as he was always so cheerful. When Peter, Margaret and the family lived in Chestnut Springs in Lydiard Millicent, Peter was very much involved with various organisations, especially the Church. He was responsible for the Lydiard Church magazine in years gone by and, when he decided to give it up, the Lydiards Magazine was born. Another of Peter's jobs, or should I say pleasures, was working in the Parish Office which I think was at Lydiard Park. He was also a Church Warden and Verger at All Saints. He had many friends in Lydiard and there was nothing he liked more than going back to the Lydiard Luncheon Club on a Wednesday and making contact with them. He was also a member of that very good organisation, the Rotary Club, and was a doer rather than a delegator. Another of his loves was gardening, where his favourite flower was a dahlia. In fact, in days gone by he has shown them at our local British Legion Show. I don't know whether he won or not but just taking part would give Peter a lot of pleasure. Peter still loved gardening and, although his sight was so bad, he loved to go into the garden with his daughter Cheryl and she would talk about what she was doing and he would say how he would do it which made him feel part of it.

Peter and Margaret moved to Purton in 1990 and they haven't been quite as active as they were in Lydiard but I expect many of you have stopped and had a chat

when Peter was cutting the piece of grass that fronts Willowbrook. Did he plant all those lovely bulbs that come up year after year? They are always a good sign that spring is on its way, although it has certainly lost its way this year. Since moving to Purton he had been a regular worshipper at Playclose Methodist Church where he was a much loved member of the congregation and was always interested in what was going on in the Church and supportive of it. Peter was a lovely man, the type I would term as a perfect Christian gentleman – there certainly would not be any check on Peter at the Pearly Gates – I bet they were already open to welcome him.

Sadly it's the people left behind who suffer; so to Peter's family and to Roy's family we offer our deepest sympathy and also to everyone at the bungalow in Pavenhill in the loss of **Rosalie** who came to live with Myrtle after Annabel died and settled down there so happily. She was lovingly cared for by the staff there and used to enjoy going to the Day Centre at the Cedars in our minibuses and to the befrienders' tea party at Vicky's. We will miss her.

Could I, on behalf of us all at Age Concern, wish **Audrey Griffin** a long and happy retirement. Audrey, along with Linda Houston, ran the Day Care Centre at the Cedars. Linda will still be there so hopefully nothing will change, although, in saying that, there have been a few changes taking place already. Audrey was devoted to her job and always made people's day at the Day Centre very enjoyable, not only playing various games like cards, dominoes etc. but helping them to have a bath and a lovely hot meal. They do so look forward to going to the Day Centre and long may it continue as I am sure it will with Linda there. Audrey – over many years you have been a great comfort to all the people who have been through your care, firm but kind. You certainly kept our minibus drivers in their place but they all loved you for it. Thank you, Audrey – you will be missed but not forgotten.

Another thank-you to Holland Handling for all their help over the years. The business has been sold and John will be looking forward to a well earned retirement although, knowing him, he will have all sorts of plans. Through John they were a company you could always go to no matter what kind of help you needed and they have always been a great help to us, especially when we used to run our Horse Show. I don't know whether it was instilled into them but everyone there seemed to be tarred with the same brush – all the staff were kindness itself. So thank you one and all.

Our last mystery tour went reasonably well – the journey out took us through Chippenham, Bath, Radstock and Shepton Mallett, where we turned off by the show ground for Evercreech and our tea stop. The tea was served in the Church – I said 'reasonable' at the start because the only drawback was that there was only one toilet but the tea was excellent. The choice of fillings in the sandwiches was unbelievable, with homemade cakes and sausage rolls (some of the best I have ever tasted). The return trip should have been Bruton, Nunney Catch and Frome but the A361 was closed between Nunney Catch and Frome because of flood damage to a bridge, so we had to follow diversion signs to get to Frome. We came home via Trowbridge, Melksham and Calne, which was later than expected due to the fact there was only one toilet and also because of the diversion. I hope the new people on this trip enjoyed it and will come again.

The next trip will be an all day one to Salisbury on Wednesday 4 July, leaving at

10 am and returning from Salisbury at 4 pm – names to your street wardens by Tuesday 21 June. Remember there is no food provided on this trip – it's just straight there and back and the cost is £9. Following on from there we have our annual trip to Weston which is on Wednesday 1 August – more details next month.

On Tuesday 5 June you will be able to have tea and scones at *The Maharajah* restaurant – no, not curry flavour! – they will be traditional English ones. This is free of charge but there will be a collection tin for anyone who would like to give a donation which will be divided between the Indian Disabled Children's Rehabilitation Charity and Purton Age Concern. It is an open day so please drop in any time. Many thanks to all at *The Maharajah* for this kind gesture.

Age UK Wiltshire started a T'ai Chi class in the Millennium Hall every Thursday from 2 pm to 3 pm, cost £3. They ran it as a trial period and this was successful and proved the class was needed, so now they would like Purton Age Concern to take it on and we have agreed to do this. If you would like to try it all you need to do is to turn up on Thursdays at 2 pm and join in with the regulars. Why not give it a try – you would be most welcome. Further details from Mick Hull on 772453. I am sure you would enjoy these gentle exercises.

By the time you read this, Louise, our secretary, will have done her 40 mile sponsored walk. We have every confidence she will succeed. The proceeds from the sponsorship will be shared between the Shoe Box Appeal (for transport) and our local Age Concern.

Our next meeting will be our AGM to which anyone is welcome to come along. We are always ready to listen to ideas to make life a little easier for the elderly, whether it is to do with the general Age Concern or the minibuses – we are always open for suggestions. The date for this meeting is Wednesday 6 June at the Silver Threads Hall at 7.30 pm.

We are very lucky that we have found a new street warden for The Peak – Vicky Shepherd who lives at 17 The Peak. We thank her for offering her services in being the link between us and the elderly in The Peak and I would also like to thank Pauline Garside who has carried on acting as street warden there after moving and taking on the job in Dogridge. If you are one of our 'customers' in The Peak and haven't received one of our handouts about the change, please get in touch with me on 770696.

The Link Scheme is basically about community transport. Is there anyone out there who would like to help us develop this scheme? It is basically about using your car to run people to various places that are difficult to get to by bus. You would be given 45p a mile to cover your cost. If you would like more details, give me a ring on 770696 and let's see if we can get this scheme up and running. If we could, this would be an additional service to our minibuses and would fill any gaps that they are unable to help with.

The same applies to the Befriending Service. We want to expand this. What it means is calling on people who would like a visitor for about an hour to have a chat and a cup of tea. We would give you the names and addresses of people to visit. They do so much appreciate a call when they are on their own. If you would like to get involved, give Vicky Fowler, the befriending co-ordinator, a ring on 771261 or, as with anything, me on 770696.

As I am always saying, people are very kind to us. Our annual coffee morning at our usual venue was in doubt. We had offers of new venues from Brian and Joan Frost and Marlene and Bim Herbert, but we felt it was a Bentham Lane function and we would still like to hold it there after all the lovely times we have had at the home of the Bryants. Well, Dick and Jackie Scott came up trumps by offering their home for this very popular event, so our thanks to you all for your kindness. This is a date to put in your diary – Saturday 7 July, 10 am to 12 noon. See you there.

TONY PRICE

Road Closure Postponement

Due to the very wet weather experienced in the early part of May, the road resurfacing through Purton, due to be carried out from 14 May, has been rescheduled for 3 days beginning Tuesday 12 June.

The company carrying out the work, Mouchel, apologise for the delay, but Highways Consultant Shaun Morris had to make the decision as the slurry seal they are using will not stick to the wet roads.

There will be designated diversion routes in place, and gatemen at each end of the closed-off areas to advise on alternative routes and access to homes and businesses, especially to the doctor's surgery on Willis Way.

The surfacing compound the company uses is very fast-drying, and it is possible to drive over it within 20 minutes of it being laid, so it is hoped that access delays will be kept to a minimum.

Purton surgery ask us to stress to patients who have had to have appointments moved or postponed due to the now cancelled works that the decision on when the work takes place is out of their hands. They and Mouchel will attempt to keep patient disruption to a minimum over the period of the closures.

Wiltshire Citizens Advice

In the current economic climate and with the major changes to the benefit system the demand for our service is ever increasing. Last year we dealt with over 75,000 enquiries from our clients across Wiltshire and we expect this number to rise over the next year.

With this in mind we need to recruit more volunteers for a number of roles within Wiltshire Citizens Advice.

To find out more about the value of volunteering come to one of our open days:

Devizes: Wednesday 13 June 2012: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
New Park Street Devizes Wilts SN10 1DY

Salisbury: Wednesday 13 June 2012: 1 pm - 3 pm
18 College Street Salisbury Wilts SP1 3AL

Trowbridge: Thursday 14 June 2012: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
1 Mill Street Trowbridge Wilts BA14 8BE

Chippenham: Friday 15 June: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm
3 Avon Roach Monkton Hill Chippenham SN15 1EE

Further details: Email: volunteer@cabwiltshire.org.uk

Web address: www.cabwiltshire.org.uk Advice: www.adviceguide.org.uk



Diamond Jubilee Party

We're nearly there! By the time you read this, the Village Diamond Jubilee Party will only be a few days away. I'm not going to list everything that's happening on that day, (that's already been done over and over), but there is one thing that I do need to mention. After 8 are organising a book swap on the field, so if you fancy swapping your reading material, bring your books down and exchange them.



The weather hasn't been very good to us so far this year but we're still hoping for the best and even organising things in case of a heat wave. We'll be going ahead with this event even if the weather isn't very good (it will be though) so don't stay indoors worrying about it, get your ponchos, umbrellas, waterproofs etc and come out anyway. There's probably not going to be another celebration like it for years so let's make the most of it. You're mostly made of water anyway so a little bit more won't make any difference. But as it's going to be raving hot that day don't forget the sunscreen.

Remember there will be less parking at the village centre than normal. Bring your table, chairs etc. down by car on the Sunday morning, set yourself up, take your car back home and walk down with your picnic in the afternoon. Enjoy the party and walk home when it's over. You can pick up all your gear next morning. You can drink without worrying about driving and you won't get clogged up in the car park.

Also don't forget that if you're making a cake for us, we would like it delivered to The Millennium Hall on Sunday morning.

If you're watching the banner parade, it leaves Highridge Close at 2 pm. The High Street will be closed to traffic whilst the parade is in progress.

Jubilee Beacon

On the Monday after the village party, Monday 4 June, we will be lighting Purton's official Diamond Jubilee Beacon. This will be at Upper Pavenhill Farm. Our official lighting time is 10.15 pm. All are welcome. As we are quite high up there, it provides the perfect place to see other beacons being lit up.

TONY RICHARDSON

Hosepipe Ban

The wettest April on record and continuing rainfall in May have significantly increased river and reservoir levels, reducing pressure on the environment and public water supplies in some parts of England. These indicators have led the Environment Agency to remove the drought status for certain areas including South West England, though the Agency stressed that groundwater supplies remain low across the country.

However, as we go to press, the Thames Water hosepipe ban for our area is still in force. You can see updates at www.thameswater.co.uk

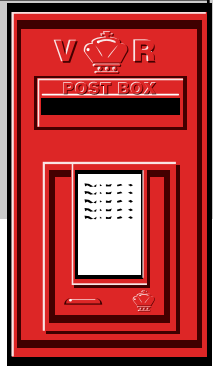
... And thinking of Water

Don't throw away the old bucket until you know whether the new one holds water.

Swedish Proverb

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.



■ CAKE SALE

We would like to say thank you to the people who came to our cake sale on the 16th of March. We raised £40 for two causes.

It was a privilege and will be a great memory.

We would also like to thank our friends and mum for their support and hard work. We only had 3 days to plan it; also a challenge!

*Maddy and Janie Winter,
High Street, Purton*

■ CHARITY POSTERS

With reference to my previous letter about Charity Posters on the Village Notice Board being taken down, I have heard from a local source that the Notice Board was for 'Purton Only'. That poses the question then, why local 'classes' for certain activities are allowed when they have advertised in the past, 'Classes in other areas', and in so doing, proving that it is a 'Business' Ad more than anything.

This type of advertisement seems to stay when a Local Area (Charity Poster), is removed!!

Lots of people from Wootton Bassett etc, come to support Purton functions and Purton people support Wootton Bassett functions. Obviously we do not want the Notice Board overrun with posters but do let us show our support to other communities and do away with the 'This is for Purton Only' attitude!

It was really nice to see Purton people at the show *Half a Sixpence* in

Wootton Bassett, which was a great success. So, to all of you supporters from Purton etc ... thank you so very much for supporting us!

Chris Glead

■ RETIREMENT & KNEE THANK-YOUS

I would like to say a big thank-you to all my friends and work colleagues, Day Care clients and Residents for all the flowers and good wishes on my retirement.

I have worked at The Cedars for 34 years and have enjoyed it very much. I have not fully retired yet as I am looking after Pete. He has had a knee replacement – not an easy task. Pete would like to say thank you for all the cards, goodies and visitors he has had. Also thank you to Helping Hand for their card and fruit. Special thanks to Stephen, Wendy, Darcy, Toby and Bleue for all their help.

Thank you once again,

Love from Audrey & Pete

■ PAM STRANGE

John and family would like to thank everyone for their help and support during Pam's illness and after she died.

It has been an enormous comfort to us all.

Thank you so much,

John Strange

■ BEST FRIEND

I would like to thank everyone for being so kind to me when I lost my best friend Pammy, with your messages, cards and flowers. Pam loved Purton village sales, and seeing you all, you all made us so welcome.

Val Prior

■ BREAKTHROUGH BREAST CANCER

I would like to thank everyone who supported my charity day for Breakthrough Breast Cancer. We started the walk at 10 am on Sunday 13 May on a beautiful sunny day, how lucky we were! There must have been approximately 65 people and 10 dogs who walked around the village, afterwards enjoying a two course lunch at the Silver Threads Hall followed by a quiz and raffle. We raised an amazing £1,200 to send to the charity.

I would also like to thank people who

donated money and raffle prizes who couldn't even make the day! Thanks go to everyone who supplied the food for the lunch, helped with setting up the hall and doing the clearing up and washing up afterwards. I would also like to say a huge thank-you to Tony Richardson and Graham Bates and their teammates who won the quiz, for auctioning off their bottles of wine that they won for winning the quiz – that was so generous of you all. Thank you to my dad, John for helping to work out a good route for the walk and to my mum, Brenda who made the scrumptious apple and blackberry crumbles!

Although there were a few weary limbs, muddy boots and mucky dogs, I think everyone had an enjoyable day. Thank you once again to everyone for making this a day to remember.

Amanda Hazell

After 8

The title *Newspaper Fun* had us all wondering what to expect from our last meeting, would it be a quiz, an exercise in journalism or a current affairs debate? Well it proved to be a bit of all of those. Gwyneth had prepared newspaper cuttings under different headings such as headlines, cartoons, fashion, typeface and pictures. We were set a different task for each section and soon got into the swing of things. Who would have thought recognising newspapers from their sometimes groan-worthy headlines could have caused so much debate?

There was plenty of opportunity for the competitive amongst us to 'gain points' and judging from the headlines/stories made up from a series of pictures, there is a fair bit of journalistic talent in Purton – editor of this magazine be aware!

Imagine an evening loosely resembling an episode of 'Have I got News for you' and you will have some idea of our Newspaper Fun. Thank you Gwyneth for all the preparation and your hospitality, making it thoroughly enjoyable evening.

JANET McCARTHY

Fancy a 'girls' night out with a difference? Why not come along and see what we get up to? Our next meeting, a "Walking Murder Trail in Purton" (approx. one and a half miles), is on Tuesday 19 June. For more details [contact Avril](#).



The meeting of 18 April promised to be an interesting one. Amongst other items of interest, we were to discuss the Resolution: “There are chronic shortages of midwives. The NFWI calls on the government to increase investment in the training, employment and retention of midwives in England and Wales, to ensure services are adequately resourced and are able to deliver a high standard of care”.

Firstly, President Trish Baker took us painlessly through the business items; for example, it has been decided that a copy of our accounts will be displayed monthly at meetings. And, if you so wished, you could put a little money aside each month to pay for the next Christmas meal, as previously.

This evening we treated as a priority the National Resolution, on improving the numbers and conditions of midwives. It was given full weight by our speaker, Sandy Richards, who is a Clinical Midwifery Manager; she has had 25 years’ experience at the Great Western and Princess Margaret Hospitals (and she is also proud member Jill Smart’s fine daughter). How childbirth has changed since I was young! We were absorbed. And the voting in favour of the Resolution was unanimous.

The competition was for a Russian item – and what a wonderful display it made! Sets of Russian dolls, from the beautiful to the political, large and teeny ones, wooden and china; and other artefacts – and the winning entry of the competition was something really unusual in our circle – some roubles and Russian restaurant bills of the year 1990, showing dinner for four costing in total the equivalent of £2.05. (Doubtless it is a little higher these days!) We have to thank our Treasurer, Helen Dixon, for that intriguing item. Helen’s husband Rick informs us “Yes, at the time of my work out there in late Soviet days, there were almost 200 roubles to the pound, but Russians were still paid as though it was the old one-to-one rate”.

Never a dull moment at WI – in the one evening at Purton Village Hall we had an excellent speaker on modern midwifery; plus the competition reported above, and the trading stall with seasonal homemade marmalade; plans for outings and competitions – and an excellent meal of fish and chips, followed by tea, coffee and biscuits!

In July we shall be offering everyone a cream tea, with raffle, and there will be posters around the village to remind you! A WI Cream Tea is always something to enjoy and, as with our popular Soup & Sweet lunches, brings in helpful funds (the last one raised £150!), thanks to the generous providers of the goodies and the jolly team of apparently inexhaustible volunteers in the background. So tasty, too. Join us on 7 July, 3 - 5 pm, at 44 Witts Lane. £4 adults, £2 children.

Members should now have received the May/June issue of our national magazine, WI Life. Please study pp.37-8, relating to Celebrating our Centenary, as your opinions will be welcomed at our next meeting of 20 June. The speaker for that evening will be Brian Barber, on “Radio Stations under Fire in West Africa” – this will be a talk you will remember! Social Time is entitled “Desert Island Discs”.

We don’t offer a programme such as April’s every month; the meal was certainly a tasty one-off, but we can promise discussions, arguments, games, singing,

laughter and friendship, in Purton Evening WI. Members have access to a wider world of national Women's Institute activities, too. Our own new programme for the coming year shows an infinite variety of interests and should bring along many new members – could you be one of them? Welcome!

CONSTANCE REED

Half a million pounds for Nature in Wiltshire

Wildlife projects and areas of biodiversity in Wiltshire have received a £500,000 grant from the Hills Group Limited. The money has been granted to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust by Hills from funds available through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF).

Mike Hill, chief executive of Hills Group, said: "We are long-term supporters of the Trust and have made this contribution to mark the occasion of their 50th anniversary. The funding will ensure that wildlife habitats are created and protected for future generations to enjoy. As a company we care about the locations that give us our living and do our best to give something back. It is a strong principle of ours and one which has benefited all communities in Wiltshire for a number of years."

Gary Mantle, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Director explained: "We have set ourselves a target of raising £1m in our 50th Anniversary year so we can keep protecting Wiltshire's precious wildlife and help communities enjoy their local reserves. We have challenged our members and supporters to raise £500,000 and we are absolutely thrilled that Hills have agreed to match this with their £500,000.

"We will spend the Hills money at our reserves across the county, which include some of the best wildlife habitats in Wiltshire. For example, at Blakehill Farm we will reseed the meadows with green hay to increase the number of wildflowers and at Ravensroost Wood we can now install dormouse boxes. In the wood at Cloately Meadows we will start coppicing to provide the right conditions for butterflies to thrive and at Markham Banks a new bridge means we can use ponies and sheep to graze our meadows.

"And it's not just wildlife that will benefit. At our Lower Moor and Langford Lakes Nature Reserves we will be improving our visitor facilities to make sure local people can easily access and explore their local reserves.

"Hills generosity inspires us to achieve more and more for Wiltshire's wildlife and communities and we are extremely grateful for their continued support and encouragement" said Gary.

Since 1996 the Hills Group has contributed more than £5.3m to the Trust through LCF to support the conservation of biodiversity and the provision of public amenities in the region.

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 29 June 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 to continue this longstanding and valuable local asset.

Purton Historical Society volunteers go to Greenwich!

The PHS organised a visit to the Royal Observatory, Greenwich on 14 April as a thank-you gesture for the volunteers who helped with the organisation of the events during the Nevil Maskelyne bi-centenary year in 2011.

A full coach left Purton, but we were dismayed to find that the scheduled break at Heston was not possible due to the bridge strengthening works on the Chiswick and Hammersmith flyovers. Instead we were detoured along the Great West Road (the A4) into west London. The quick thinking of our driver enabled us to have a stop at Tate Britain, who must have wondered why the influx of art lovers didn't stay long at the gallery.

In spite of our detour, we arrived on schedule at the Royal Observatory and were greeted by Dr Richard Dunn. Richard gave us his talk on Nevil Maskelyne at Bradon Forest school last year, you may remember.

Having divided into two manageable groups (Port and Starboard Watches as we were at the National Maritime Museum!) Richard took us on guided tours around Flamsteed House, which was built by order of Charles I to house his new Astronomer Royal and his Royal Observatory. The astronomer's living quarters have been restored and furnished in the period style and it was interesting to reflect that Maskelyne and his family lived in these quite modest apartments for the 46 years of his tenure at Greenwich, only leaving for their winter holidays at Purton Stoke.

The collection of instruments and clocks include, of course, the Sea Clocks and the watches of John Harrison and the other clockmakers of the time. In the same gallery is the story of the search for a means of determining longitude. A sad note is the Transit Circle telescope, that Maskelyne petitioned for many years to have but was not installed until a year after his death.

The afternoon was free for visits to the Maritime Museum, Cutty Sark, the Planetarium or any of the other attractions of Greenwich. Greenwich Park is in the process of being converted to an equestrian centre for the 2012 Olympic Games.

In spite of diversions, traffic hold-ups and so on, it was interesting to reflect that our journey took only 3 hours, one way, whereas when Maskelyne visited his estates at Purton Stoke it was a two-day journey that cost him £9 18s 8d, including an overnight stay in Abingdon.

BRIAN FREEGARD

The Royal Observatory viewed from near the National Maritime Museum at the bottom of the hill.



Number 53 Bus

The public service bus Number 53 (Swindon/Lydiard Millicent/Purton/Cricklade) had been run by Thamesdown for a number of years.

From 14 May 2012, the route has been operated by Stagecoach, who have extended the service to Cirencester. A new timetable is in operation (full details at www.stagecoachbus.com: Click on timetables, then select Swindon from the Location box and 53 from the Route Number box).

The times the buses run through Purton are:

Monday to Saturday: Purton to Cricklade and Cirencester

09:13 and on 13 past the hour to 19:13, then 20:47, 21:43, 23:18

Monday to Saturday: Purton to Swindon

07:01 (except Sat) 07:49, 09:10, 09:54, 10:54, 11:54, 12:54, 13:54, 14:54, 16:09, 17:54, 18:54, 21:54, 22:54

Volunteers in Libraries – how it's going so far?

Volunteers have now been operating Wiltshire libraries during opening hours since September 2011. We have 310 volunteers who help to open 15 libraries across the county, covering 183 opening hours at these libraries each week, which is an amazing achievement.

We are tremendously grateful for volunteers' help and support for our libraries. They have helped us keep nine of our smallest libraries open for your communities and in six other places they are assisting the Library Service to extend their core staffed opening hours.

This is the first time we have worked in this way with volunteers so it has been a huge learning process for staff, as well as volunteers. It has also been a time of great change for our customers. Hopefully, we can build on our experiences and ensure that our small local libraries remain busy and well used by the community.

We would like to say a special thanks to our Volunteer Coordinators who do a brilliant job with the library rotas each month, putting in a lot of time and effort, and some months the rotas can be a real juggling act!

You may be interested to know that 6,838 items have been issued or renewed at Purton Library and 4,069 people have visited the library between September 2011 and the end of March 2012.

WILTSHIRE LIBRARIES

Wiltshire Blind Association

The Wiltshire Blind Association is looking for a paid club leader to run Cricklade Coffee Club once a month, at the United Church Hall, Calcut Street, Cricklade.

For further details contact: Margaret Hemmings on tel: 01308 723682 or mobile: 07774 145848.

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.

Wessex Male Choir

STEAM Museum, Swindon, Saturday 16 June 2012, 7.30 pm

Wessex Male Choir's annual International Choral Concert is already looking likely to be a sell-out!



The choir, which is the current International Male Choir Champions after its win at the Llangollen International Eisteddfod last year, hosts this concert each year and invites top choirs from other countries to join them. This year we welcome the fantastic, 70-strong, University of Kentucky Women's Choir.

The concert will take place in the impressive Event Hall at Swindon's STEAM Heritage Centre.

Musical Director, Robert Elliott said, "We are thrilled to have the University of Kentucky Women's Choir join us this year as part of their UK Tour in June. The International Concert is the highlight in our calendar and we look forward to entertaining audience members new and old and also returning to STEAM again after last year's sell-out event.

"Wessex Male Choir will be singing some great new songs, including *New York, New York*, Robbie Williams' *Angels*, *World in Union* and a humorous tribute entitled *Wessex sing the Classics*. We will also be honouring the Queen's Jubilee and the forthcoming Olympics, with the choirs and audience finishing up with the singing of *Jerusalem*. What a way to finish!" added Rob.

Tickets (priced £12 adult, £10 over 60, and £5 under 16) are already selling fast and are available from:

- the Information Office (Library), Regent St, Swindon 01793 530328
- STEAM Ticket Office, Kemble Drive, Swindon (in person)
- The choir ticket secretary, 01793 852786, tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk

Purton Helping Hand Club

Would you like to see this Club close??

Next year should be our ***Fiftieth Anniversary!!*** But only if you want us to continue. Please come and join this small group.

We meet on the fourth Monday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall and have a fundraising event once or twice monthly.

Thanks to members of the Carnival Committee, we have been able to give vouchers to all pensioners, widows and disabled of all ages, each year at Christmas, as well as small gifts to villagers when we hear of sickness or accidents.

We really would welcome new members, male or female, at meetings and fundraising events. For more information please ring Pauline Ward (770251) or Audrey Wheeler (771540) or chat to any member.

Activity Week 2012

Activity week will run between 13 and 17 August from 10 am to 3 pm. It is open to 7 - 11 year-olds who live or go to school in Purton. You can come for the whole week, or just certain days. Please put the dates in you diary and come along for fun-filled days!

Swindon & Cricklade Railway



REAL ALE, CIDER AND JAZZ FESTIVAL:

Saturday 2 June to Tuesday 5 June 10 am to 5 pm.

Steam and Diesel Train Rides: Tickets for diesel cost £6 for adults, £5 for seniors or children. Tickets for steam cost £7 for adults, £6 for seniors or children. Family tickets available. Entrance to Ale and Jazz festival separately priced at £8 including drink and free glass to keep

KIDS GO FREE WEEKEND: Saturday and Sunday 9 and Sunday 10 June.

Every adult or senior buying a ticket may take a child with them for unlimited train rides between 11am and 4pm, adults and seniors prices as above.

CREAM TEA ON THE MOONRAKER TRAIN: Sunday 10 June. From 11 am onwards, at £5 in addition to ticket to ride.

FATHERS' DAY WINE AND DINE on THE MOONRAKER TRAIN:

Sunday 17 June from 7.15 pm

MURDER MYSTERY EVENING ON THE MOONRAKER TRAIN: Friday 27 June from 7.15 pm. Pre booking required for the latter two events on 01672 564547

Enquiries on 01753 770335 or 771615. or www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org.

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. Tadpole Lane is currently closed for through traffic but access to the railway is still open from the Purton direction while the River Ray bridge works are in progress (20 weeks from 14 May 2012). See web site for details.

Purton Open Gardens

Please put the date in your diary for the Purton Open Gardens over the weekend of 14/15 July. We now have 27 gardens participating!

There is still time, just, to tidy up the garden, paint the fence and enter for Open Gardens on 14-15 July. But it's not a competition and we're not looking for perfection!

However, if you don't wish to participate remember there will be extra visitors to our lovely village that weekend. It is a very big 'ask', but if you are able to tidy up any of your garden visible from the road and the pavement if necessary, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks very much. Any queries to me at the.yerburys@btinternet.com or phone 770552.

NICK YERBURY, Chair

Purton Guide Dogs

We will be joining in the Banner Parade, and will have an Information Stand on the Red House, with leaflets etc, and show some DVDs about the work Guide Dogs do. Next we shall have a stall at The Purton Carnival Fete. Hope to see you at these venues.

Many thanks for all your support.



BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group

Purton Diary - June 2012

3	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
		1.45pm	<i>to 2.45:</i> Banner Parade from Highridge Close - High St closed
			followed by Diamond Jubilee Party at Red House – see p19 for details
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
4	M		Spring Bank Holiday
		10.15pm	Diamond Jubilee Beacon lit at Upper Pavenhill Farm
5	Tu		Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday
6	W		<i>Last chance to see transit of Venus for 100 years! (in Hawaii)</i>
		7.30pm	Age Concern AGM at Silver Threads Hall - all welcome
7	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
8	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
<hr/>			
10	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
11	M	7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
12	Tu		High Street closed for 3 days for re-surfacing
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Diamond Jubilee party
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
13	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill with the Rev. Judith Wells
14	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
15	F		Start of Carnival Week
		10.00am	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Carnival Coffee Morning at 35 High Street
		7.30pm	Carnival Talent Evening at Village Hall
16	Sa	8.00am	Historical Society: Summer Coach Outing - details from Helen Dixon 770648
		9.00am	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Carnival Mile of Coins through the village
		6.00pm	<i>to 11pm:</i> Carnival Pig Roast & BBQ at <i>The Angel</i> car park
<hr/>			
17	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Carnival Service at St Mary's Church
		11.00am	<i>to 1pm:</i> Carnival Round-the-Houses Race from Village Hall
		3.00pm	<i>to 5pm:</i> Carnival Cycle Route Race from The Red House
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
18	M	6.00pm	<i>to 8.30pm:</i> Carnival Auction at St Mary's School
19	Tu	7.00pm	After 8: <i>Walking Murder Trail in Purton:</i> meet at Village Hall Car Park
		7.30pm	Carnival Quiz at Purton Club
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House

20	W		Summer Solstice
		2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Carnival Bingo at Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Village Hall: <i>Radio Stations under Fire in West Africa</i> , by Brian Barber
22	F	12 noon	<i>to 2pm</i> : Carnival Lunch at Silver Threads Hall
23	Sa	1.05pm	Carnival Procession (<i>start time</i>) followed by Fete at Bradon Forest School - High Street closed during procession

24	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.00am	Carnival Golf Tournament at Bagbury Lane
		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
25	M		
26	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Frances Verity – <i>Coronation Day</i>
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Matt Adams - <i>Growing Food for Nutrition</i>
27	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars

July

4	W	10.00am	Age Concern day trip to Salisbury
7	Sa	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon</i> : Coffee morning at the home of Dick and Jackie Scott at Bentham

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	2.00pm	<i>to 3pm</i> : Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
Th	2.30pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

Moon Phases

○ 4 June ● 11 June ● 19 June ● 27 June

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

Royal British Legion Purton Branch

A date for your diaries!

This year our annual Horticultural Show is on Saturday 25 August at The Red House, Purton.



It is time to plan your entries – there are classes for everyone! The schedules will be ready soon.

Purton Historical Society



We were pleased to have participated in the Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury in May and there is an article about it in the Parish Council News on [page 5](#) as well as Jean's below.

There are no meetings during the summer but we get together again on 20 September when Lynda Warren will be opening her *Treasure Chest of Words and Sayings*.

There may still be seats available for the coach outing to Attingham Park and Much Wenlock on 16 June, but they are selling fast. Please [contact me](#) to check availability.

On 21 July we will be visiting Ashton Keynes. This visit is done by car and we will be meeting at 10 am in the car park of Holy Cross Church in North End on the B4696, postcode SN6 6QR. There is no charge for the visit. To help reduce our environmental impact, we suggest people try to share cars and, if you contact me, I will endeavour to put you in touch with someone else who is going. We usually finish the trip by retiring to a local hostelry for lunch.

[HELEN DIXON](#), Secretary

Purton Historical Society at Salisbury Diamond Jubilee Event

On Tuesday 1 May, Jan Walker, Jenny Barnes and I left Purton at 6.30 am in wet and windy conditions, which persisted all the way to Salisbury. Leaving the car at the London Road Park and Ride, a bus appeared within a few minutes to take us on a free journey into the city. The Cathedral Close was a short walk away. With some difficulty we found the tent occupied by the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board where our Purton exhibit had been placed. Royal Wootton Bassett's Charter was on display, under the watchful eye of two security guards, while Cricklade's five-hundred-year-old document was accompanied by some new items with a fritillary motif specially designed to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

At midday the sun shone brightly as the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived! The whole area looked most attractive on such a beautiful afternoon and thousands of people were able to view the attractions, demonstrations and activities. Many also admired the performances of those in medieval costumes, all demonstrating the rich diversity of Wiltshire's historical heritage and the innumerable skills and crafts that are still practised in the county today.

*Pictured left to right:
Jan, Jean and Jenny*



Finally the cathedral was filled for Choral Evensong; a memorable and uplifting experience for all who attended.

After the Royal party had left the site the Lord Lieutenant for Wiltshire, Sarah Troughton, who lives in Upper Wanborough, visited the tents. A letter congratulating all those who took part in the event has been received from Mrs Troughton.

We should like to thank the Parish Council for asking us to represent the village on such a prestigious occasion and hope that our efforts will result in more people realizing that Purton is an interesting place well worth visiting!

JEAN BELT

Five go to Bristol Cathedral!

Purton's intrepid and talented young church choristers spent three days on the RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) South West Choristers' course just after Easter.

Here are some of the things they had to say about how they enjoyed (or not!) three very full days of learning and leading the evening services at Bristol Cathedral with 55 others, while the usual choir were on holiday in Italy!

"I learned to open my mouth three fingers wide when singing!"

"The Cathedral in the evening was really, really pretty."

"We learned good warm-up techniques."

"I didn't like all the standing up!"

"Non-stop singing for three days was hard."

"I'd do it again, I learned loads and enjoyed the experience"

If you would like to try singing with Purton's church choir, why not come along and take part in some rehearsals? They run from 7.30 pm on Tuesdays in church. Youngsters and men particularly welcome!

KATHRYN WHELAN

Back row from left:

Grace Bartlett, Peter Harris

*Front row: Michael Harris,
Charlie Whelan, Pippa Whelan*



Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Purton Stoke, Bentham, Hayes Knoll, Braydon and Cross Lanes*. If there is anyone or 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.

Treasure Hunting just went Global!

Purton-based events company *Planet Pursuits* has just released its first global based App. *iTreasure* is a mobile phone application, or App, that allows users to create a treasure hunt using an iPhone and then invite friends to join and play. The company's research suggests this is the first App of its type in the world.

Anyone can create a treasure hunt using this App. You start by giving your game a name and location and then you add cryptic questions for your players to answer. You can add clues, photos and hints and then using your phone you fix your location using the inbuilt mobile GPS tracking system. The player can see their location on a map and easily identify where the clue is, if they merge the two spots by physically going to that location they can answer the question or look at clues and photos to help them – which costs extra points. Once you give the correct answer the next location is revealed.

Simon Maddison, *Planet Pursuits* founder, said, "This a great game to play and enjoy for social groups, it can add real value for a tiny investment to any venue, hotel, recreation space, village, town or city. The game content is only limited by your imagination. My vision is to get people outside, playing with technology, and developing an appreciation for the outdoors and outdoor recreation!"

You can find more information at www.itreasure-hunt.com or find the Apple App link at itunes.apple.com/app/itreasure-hunt/id499228665?mt=8

When God made

When God had made the earth
and sky, the flowers and the trees,
he then made all the animals,
all the birds and bees.

And when his work was finished,
Not one was quite the same.
He said "I'll walk this earth of
Mine and give each one a name."

And so he travelled the land and sea
and everywhere he went,
a little creature followed him until
his strength was spent.

And when all were named upon
the earth and in the sky and sea,
the little creature said "Dear Lord,
there's not one left for me!"

The Father smiled and softly said
"I have left you to the end,
I've turned my own name back to front
and called you dog, my friend".

Contributed by a reader



Green Tips - Civic Responsibility



Centuries ago, our forebears built urban centres of which they were proud – and they had every right to be proud; for those centres were first and foremost beautiful, but the beauty went together with durability and immediate functional efficiency. It is a curious thing but we probably today have more voluntary civic bodies for one cause or another than we have ever known, all backed by people ready to give time and energy freely to improving one aspect or another of our common life. Churches, charities, social groups, sports clubs, cultural societies and welfare associations are all flourishing as never before and Purton has every right to feel a sense of civic pride for the high quality of its civic life.

- Why then are there so many signs of civic neglect?
- Why is litter such a problem?
- Why is dog mess such an assault on public health and the foot?
- Why is vehicle parking (on double yellow lines and across pavements) such a constant affront to public order?
- Why is our High Street so dangerous?
- Why, we may well ask, has our High Street become so ugly when once, it is evident, it was so handsome?

The High Street once featured numerous splendid small shops, owned by local families, which meant that local people shopped locally, so that any profits circulated within the village and enriched village life, instead of being drained away to boardrooms and giant supermarkets.

Now many of those small beautiful shops are closed and transformed into houses; we now have a concrete shopping parade with crumbling concrete steps lined with a bleak iron rail that would not grace a graveyard. What has happened to our sense of beauty and civic pride?

Purton has an amazing community spirit but for this to continue to thrive we need to all be part of that community and to take pride in our neighbourhood and be part of the governance of our parish.

So how about it?. Will you now consider where you park your car? Will you try to use local businesses? Will you pick up litter and tidy up in front of your house? Will you support the parish and groups in our community? Will you clear up after your dog? Will you?

Compiled by Ps and 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

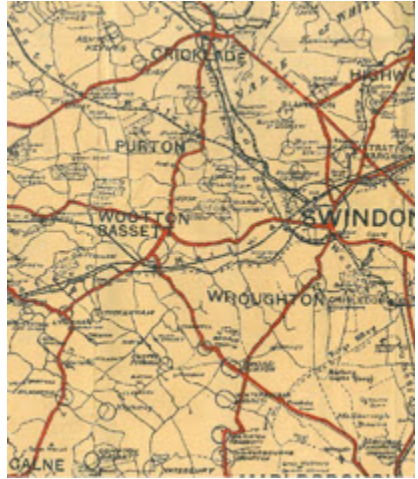
Wiltshire Good Neighbours

Just a reminder that I am here to help with information to (hopefully) solve problems and make your life a little easier. Please call me, Ellen Blacker on **07557 110414**



Exhibit of the Month: A Map

This month's exhibit is a map, printed on linen-backed paper and bound into a red lined cardboard folder. On the folder's cover in gold-coloured embossing it says "Map of Swindon, Melksham, Devizes, Cirencester, Marlborough and District" and says it was printed by the Leicester Printing & Publishing Co. It also has embossed on it in underlined capitals: "Not to be Taken Away". It obviously was or we wouldn't have it in the collection. The unfolded publication itself is 70 cm wide by 84 cm high although only the middle 40 x 46 cm is the map. I've reproduced here a section from the middle covering our local area. Around the map are panels containing 48 advertisements, all in black and greys but bordered in red. The advert sizes vary from a full panel of 13 x 13 cm down to the smallest at 6.5 x 6.5 cm. There is also a gazetteer giving information about the towns of the area.



The Museum's accession record gives the date of the map as "about 1900", but although there is no publication date printed there are a few clues which might help with dating it more precisely. The first and most obvious is that one of the adverts says "J.C. & S. Cooper – Horse Slaughterers, Tanners, Fellmongers, Manure Manufacturers – established 1871." So 1871 is the earliest it could possibly be, but it doesn't really help us.

One Swindon advertiser says "Agents for Postcards" and another in Cirencester "Local Post Cards". The heyday of postcards was the period 1900-1910, when there were two postal deliveries a day. You might send a postcard to someone in the morning post and receive a reply in the afternoon. Of the 48 adverts, only 10 offer a telephone number, one of these being with the National Telephone Company, the others with local exchanges and short numbers like 110 Swindon, indicative that not many people had them. It was the Telegraph Act of 1899 which enabled local municipalities outside London to set up their own local telephone systems. And it was the increase in uptake of the telephone that signalled the end of the non-tourist postcard boom.

But the other very important clue is that, in the Gazetteer, it describes Swindon as "a large thriving town ... centre of the Great Western Railway ... on the Wilts & Berks Canal ... Good service of electric trams." Now the first trams ran in Swindon in 1904 with a network connecting Old Town, New Town and the GWR Station and onwards to Rodbourne on one branch and Cricklade Road, Gorse Hill on the other.

Meanwhile on the Wilts & Berks Canal, in early 1901 a section of the Stanley Aqueduct, which carried the canal over the River Marden between Calne and Chippenham, collapsed and the water from the canal just ran out, leaving all the canal above Lacock waterless. The canal had never been a commercial success

and, rather than rebuild it, various parties attempted to abandon it officially and thus clear their obligations and liabilities. However it was to be another 13 years before the official Act of Abandonment was passed by Parliament.

We also see from the adverts that “large [horse-drawn] pleasure brakes, wagonettes and traps” were available for hire, a dentist in Manchester Road in Swindon was offering “painless extractions by my latest process” for 1/- per tooth (5p), road hauliers were using horse and cart or steam traction engines, and Mrs A.T. Harmer of Cirencester was “Emigration Agent for the District”.

This last is interesting to me since in 1907, my great-grandfather emigrated to Saskatchewan in Canada with his wife and younger children to make a new life on a farmstead with the offer of free land, leaving the older, married children in England. This was a result of a concerted advertising campaign by the Empire and the Dominions to increase the populations of developing regions.

Although there was no period that Swindon had both canal and trams, we might tentatively put a date around 1906 to the map. The trams had just started, there was still a hope that the canal might be reinstated, emigration to the Dominions was active and the infancy of the telephone network had not put an end to the postcard era.

Any other thoughts “on a postcard please” ... or by email to [mail@intouchpurton.fsnet.co.uk!](mailto:mail@intouchpurton.fsnet.co.uk)

There will be clearer pictures of the map and some of the adverts on the 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>

Age Concern Mini-Buses – Can You Help?

Would you like to be part of one of our volunteer crews? We are urgently in need of both drivers and escorts ‘shotguns’ as currently the service we give is becoming very, very stretched and we need to keep this valuable Community Service fully operational. It doesn’t have to be a regular commitment every week but on an ‘as and when’ basis depending on what you are able to fit in. Training will be given.

We have some regular runs like Day Care to the Cedars daily and Lunch Club on Tuesday and Thursdays. We also take people to the surgery plus group visits to the theatre, Sunday lunch, garden centres etc. so it is quite varied.

Please call me, Richard Woodbridge, on 01793 770862 and have a chat about how you may be able to help. Thank you.



Just a Thought

We learn from experience that men never learn anything from experience.

Geroge Bernard Shaw

Christian Aid ... so far ...



Christian Aid started in usual noisy frenetic form! 50 people sat down to Breakfast in the Church on Sunday 13 May, to start Christian Aid Week. Hot porridge was served, plus cereals, bacon butties and freshly made croissants and jam, finished off with fresh fairly traded coffee. It was a feast.

And immediately afterwards, there was a special Christian Aid Church Service with a guest speaker, Mike, who has just returned from Sierra Leone. He told us how the money raised during the week will be spent on tools to enable the local people to look after themselves and become self sufficient.

Over £230 was made at the Breakfast and we would like to thank *Best One* and *Andrew's Butchers* for generously providing the croissants and bacon at a special rate for us. We are extremely grateful. It was all delicious!

On Tuesday 15th there was a fantastic Curry Night at *The Maharajah*. Khalique is always so generous to us and he seems to enjoy the evening as much as we do! He provides dinner, at 6.30 and then again at 8 pm, and this is the seventh year we have had this arrangement with him. Over £425 was raised at this event and everyone seemed to have a great fun time. We are so grateful to Khalique and his staff for making us all feel so welcome.

The infamous Christian Aid Quiz has been marked and it was down to a judge's decision as to who should win, as there were so many people who sent in (almost) perfect answers. Eventually it was decided that the winner should be Mrs Robby Whelan of Noss Mayo in Devon: Julia Cook was a close tie – second, with Mrs Neate who was last year's winner!

Thank you to all who entered; all who screamed at the quiz ... this year it was considered to be 'fiendish' and especially thanks to all the shops in Purton who distributed the quizzes for several weeks.

About £250 was made from selling the quiz for £1 a go ... not bad for hours of fun and frustration!

The rest of the Christian Aid update will have to be in next month's Magazine. Suffice it to say, for now, that the Committee is extremely grateful to all those who have helped and supported the various events. We couldn't manage without you

For more info please contact [Libbie](#).

Wise Words

Almost anything is easier to get into that out of.

Allen's Law

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.

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PURTON PLACARD

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

Queen's Diamond Jubilee Exhibition

at Purton Museum

(above Purton Library)

Sunday 3 June

11 am and 4 pm

A special Jubilee exhibition to celebrate the event.

*If you can't make on the day,
you can visit the Museum
during Library opening hours
(Mon 2 - 5pm; Tues 2 - 7pm;
Wed 10am - 5pm; Fri 2 - 7pm)*

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 of Jonathan Cook
On Sunday, 1 July 2012

Raffle Tickets £10
available from Mollie Groom: 770544
and Sue Cook 770574

The Bentham Coffee Morning

at the home of Dick and Jackie Scott
on Saturday 7 July 10 am to 12 noon
Lots of bargains, cakes, raffle, plants
and much more

Come along and join in the fun!

Purton Age Concern T'AI CHI

Come and experience
this gentle exercise
on Thursdays from 2.00-3.00 pm
at the Millennium Hall

£3 a session
Further details – Mick Hull 772453

CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE AT THE MAHARAJAH IN PURTON

We are having a traditional English tea party, so
please come and join us on Monday 4th June 2012.

Time : 12:00 - 16:00

Enjoy Tea, Cakes, Scones and Biscuits etc.

All proceeds to charities below:

Disabled Children Rehab' Centre in Udaipur,

Rajasthan, India.

Age Concern in Purton, Swindon, UK

Purton Evening W.I. Cream Tea

7 July 3 - 5 pm

44 Witts Lane

£4 adults, £2 children
Raffle

The Jubilee Celebrations in Purton Stoke 1977

Like many villages around the country Purton Stoke decided to celebrate in style and so we held a meeting in the School, now Jubilee Gardens, to elect a Committee to plan and run the day. They were Len Scott (Chairman), John Weeks, Jim Caslaw (treasurer), Mary Fry (secretary), Gerald Carter, Jackie Scott, Ann Said, Don Cakebread, Joan O'Leary

For posterity we planted a tree in the main street and held a ceremony there (*right*). The tree, looking like a Christmas Tree, was a Scots pine, which has since been replaced. The brass plaque on a post in front is still there however.

The ambitious programme for the day included:

- 10 am Sending a telegram to the Queen congratulating her on her 25th Anniversary;
- 10.30 am Judging of the best Jubilee display of house frontages and gardens;
- 2 pm Fancy Dress Parade from the Bell Inn to the River Key and back again;
Tug-of-war over the river;
Greasy Pole swarming and pillow fights over the river;
Raft Race;
- 3:30 pm Novelty Sports – all age groups;
- 4:30 pm Over 60s Hat Competition;
- 5 pm Tea;
- 6 pm Hot Air Balloon ascent;
- 6:30 pm Country Dancing by schoolchildren;
- 7 pm Comic Football. Men v Women;
- 7:30 pm Lighting of the Bonfire. Disco, field activities, barbecue and bar.



To get the money to hold these events everyone in the village was requested to make a donation. £212.50 was raised. Ann Said held an Exhibition of her paintings, drawings, prints and reproductions at her Stable Gallery, in Stoke Cottage, raising £76. A Booklet on the History of Purton Stoke was prepared by Jim Caslaw and raised £35.25. The Village Trust Fund (set up when the Hut was sold) donated £50. A coffee morning and bring-and-buy sale raised £32.96.

Jubilee Day Tuesday 7 June 1977

It was fine and sunny, with a light wind. The day started with the judging of the best decorated houses; Jane Ponting and Rev Blake, the Vicar of Purton and his wife Peta, went around to inspect each of the 14 houses taking part.

At 2pm we all gathered in the *Bell Inn* car park. It was a melee. Every space was taken up with people dressed in costumes. The fancy dress was judged by Mr Smith.

Bernie Ockwell was Chris Evert. Anne Said was a Turk on horseback. The Bitmeads were an Arab family. John Perons was a pirate. The Ockwell ladies were the St Trinian's schoolgirls. Sue Caslaw was a gypsy and Jim Caslaw was a Middle Eastern Prince. Tim Ponting was a baby, with a bonnet, in a pram being pushed by his wife Jane, as a nursemaid. Roger Francome came as a country yokel with cart and Gerald Carter was a tramp.

Col Weeks informed everyone that Joan O'Leary had sent a telegram to the Queen and we had received a thank-you from the Palace, and this was followed by Rev. Blake announcing the winners of the best-decorated house. They were :

- Sue Caslaw - with a washing line holding successive red, white and blue garments.
- Mrs Ockwell - with 3 feet high models of the Queen and Prince Philip on her porch.
- Joan O'Leary - with a full-stocked garden of red, white and blue flowers.

Len Scott then led a parade down the village with Marie Clair O'Leary playing the accordion, and everyone making a noise and following behind. On reaching the Chapel the parade turned around and walked back up to the *Bell Inn*. After a short interval the crowds dispersed to change out of their costumes and then gathered at the River Key for the Tug-of-war (*right*).



The river had been dammed to raise the level 18 inches to bring it up to 3 feet. The Tug-of-war started and after a lot of huffing and puffing, everyone, without exception ended up in the water. (It was great fun to watch but quite a few of the tuggers felt the adverse effects the following day!)

Then it was on to the Raft races (*below*). Younger villagers had been invited to construct a raft of their own design and paddle it between two markers on the river. Those taking part included Andrew Caslaw and William Moffat, Kate and Roddy Perons, the Curtis girls, Ronnie Kennett and Adam Smith, William and Sarah Ponting, Gary and Mark Chessel. Sean O'Leary's raft sank when the passengers got on. Col. Weeks started the race with a double bore shotgun and live ammunition – BANG!



The winners were Simon Cook and Kenny Hawkins.

By that time it was 5 o'clock and so it was time for the field events. We gathered in "Painters", just over the bridge and the races started – obstacles, slow bicycle and others. The schoolchildren then gave an exhibition of Country Dancing that they had been taught

by Mrs Bradley and the Headmistress Mrs Heywood at Purton Stoke School. Everyone gathered round for tea – turkey, ham, ox-tongue, pie, coleslaw, rice, trifle, mousse, cheese biscuits, tea, squash – not as a street party, more like a picnic.

The over 65s had a sit-down tea in the Methodist Chapel.

The games continued after that with Men v Women at football, 15 minutes each way. In spite of all the activities throughout the day we still had enough energy to have a disco in the field later on – straw bales for sitting, music on the back of a farm trailer, and a bar provided by Bim Herbert at his first event after taking over *The Bell* earlier that week.

Thus ended one of the biggest days of events held in the village for many years, and was so successful it prompted us to set up a permanent committee which has been organising events each year since then. Also to complete our appreciation of the Anniversary we sent £40 to the Prince of Wales Appeal, via the Parish Council.

JIM CASLAW

Purton & Green Gable Surgery: Group for Patients - G4P

1. **Appointments** can be made online at www.emisaccess.co.uk. You can also access this website through Purton Surgery website (www.purtonsurgery.co.uk). Repeat medication can be requested in this way too.



For those working during the day there is extended opening on at least one evening per week until 8 pm, early on a Friday morning (from 7.30 am) and also on alternate Saturday mornings (these appointments are pre-bookable only).

2. **Information:** 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

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.

3. **New members:** We have vacancies for one or two people in our group. If you are interested and feel that you have a contribution to make, or know of someone else who might, then please contact Kim at the surgery or email groupforpatients@gmail.com. We will need a proposer and seconder (both of whom must be patients of the Surgery).

The Surgery website (www.purtonsurgery.co.uk) gives 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'.

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary G4P

Wise Words

The only real mistake is the one from which we learn nothing.

John Powell



India Link Trip April 2012 Miss Shelley, Miss Beet and the 11 BFS 'India Link' students returned from a very successful second student trip to India. Our India link has been part of the British Council Connecting Classrooms project with Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) schools. The project involved the sharing of work between schools and many fundraising activities. Bradon Forest students were encouraged to fundraise for the trip, developing the skills of team work, self-motivation and determination. Our JNV link schools in India form part of a network of schools initiated by the Indian President Ranjiv Gandhi, to find and foster talented children from rural parts of India. The schools are residential and enable children from poorer backgrounds to have an excellent education, regardless of their social situation. JNV students have all of the cost of their education met, in order to provide excellence, equality and social justice. The JNV school motto is 'Come to Learn, Go to Serve'. Their students aspire to be future leaders in technology, medicine, engineering, teaching and politics, in order to serve their country as adults.



The BFS group flew from London into the city of Amritsar in the Punjab where they visited the wonderful Golden Temple, a sacred Gurdwara for millions of Sikhs worldwide. At the temple, they learned about Sikh beliefs and culture, and shared langar, a free vegetarian community meal, cooked and prepared solely by volunteers. At the Harimandir (Golden Temple) langar is served 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is an act of selfless service to others, central to the Sikh faith, whereby no one ever leaves 'the Guru hungry'. Two JNV schools were visited on the trip, JNV Taran Taran and JNV Bilaspur. Both schools welcomed us as honoured guests, indeed, the welcome at Taran Taran was spectacular – everyone received garlands of flowers, students performed traditional dancing, flags were flying, and our students were overwhelmed! During our stay we toured each school, and spent time in the classrooms, observing teaching and learning, and interacting with the students. During the evenings we played sport, volley ball and basketball and took part in a cultural evening, where we watched performances of traditional Indian music and dancing. Bradon Forest students performed songs, one in Hindi which our hosts loved. The students boarded at the schools, giving them the opportunity to really interact with the Indian students.

The group spent three days in Dharamshala and McLeod Ganj, the spiritual home of the exiled Dalai Lama, where they learnt about Tibetan history, culture, and Tibetan Buddhism. They visited the Tibetan Children's Village, a school for Tibetan refugees, and we are hoping to develop further links with them through our KS3 India link.

Queen's Visit to Salisbury The school was recently given the opportunity to send two students to take part in the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in Salisbury. Mr Otter

accompanied Cora Danieli and Erin Donnelly who were selected to attend as winners of our Royal Family competition. The focus for the day was the history of Wiltshire, and there was a range of exhibits including rare farmyard animals, displays of medieval life and falconry (in which one of the birds refused to come down from a tree). Each place in Wiltshire had a display tent (Purton's was about the Astronomer Neville Maskelyne). Despite a rather rainy morning, they had an enjoyable day and managed to get great views of the Queen.

Cook for the Queen Students in Years 7 and 8 have worked hard in finding out about local dishes and foods that come from our area. A team of eight have entered the 'Cook for the Queen' competition. They then had to design a menu which could be turned into canapés and served to the Queen at a garden party this summer. Success would mean that they could be on their way to Buckingham Palace to see the Queen and to oversee her chefs turning their ideas into reality. We have also been busy with Year 8 classes decorating cakes fit for the Queen. The classes have each had a demonstration on cake decorating techniques and then they were set the task in groups to design a batch of cupcakes to help the Queen celebrate her diamond jubilee. There were some amazing designs and the classes really enjoyed the challenge.



Investor In Careers – Full Award Success We are delighted that Bradon Forest is the first school in the Wiltshire/Swindon/Oxfordshire area to have been awarded the 'Full' Investors in Careers (IiC) award passing through the final assessment with flying colours. Congratulations to the staff and students involved - they did a sterling job which ensures that their hard work and commitment has been recognised in such a positive way.

Activities Trip to Ambrières-Les-Vallées, France This eight day visit was a new addition to our trips calendar. The setting was a large woodland and river, all centred around a typical French Chateau. The group consisted of 37 Year 11 students and four members of staff, all keen to be put through their paces. From



the moment the group arrived until departure the activities came thick and fast and included archery, fencing, abseiling and a two day canoe trip with an overnight bivvy. The canoeing was a highlight for most of the students, although many found the cold river temperatures challenging. Sleeping rough under a tarpaulin sheet was more of an experience than an enjoyable activity whilst the hot meal and various games around the camp fire were amazing. The only 'down-time' during the eight day visit was a trip to Mont St Michel. The Mount itself offered superb views of the coast and surrounding countryside, especially for those who ventured into the abbey, which began its life back in the 8th Century. Even though there were a few bumps and bruises, the group gelled well and supported each other through challenging moments!

World Challenge: Morocco Trip July 2012

– Preparations Update As training strides ahead for the upcoming trek in Morocco, the team reach their new “team” high point together on the first training trek at the lofty heights of 927m above sea level! Only a further 2303m of climbing would have got us to the same height as our projected high point (3230m) for the upcoming expedition to the Tizi n'Tacheddirt pass in the high Atlas Mountains.



SW England Badminton Finals As Swindon and then Wiltshire Champions, the KS3 Boys and KS4 Girls Badminton squads travelled by school minibus to Exeter for the South West of England Finals. We are very grateful to the PTA who kindly sponsored our overnight stay in the M5 Exeter Travelodge to make sure the students were fresh for a 9.00 am start. The boys team came 4th and the girls 6th in the South West. The standard of badminton was extremely high in both competitions, and our students played excellently and did themselves and Bradon Forest proud.

LEN SPIERS, Headteacher



Carnival: 15-23 June

It is nearly here – where are your entries? Have you got your Programme and Draw Tickets?

There is a packed week of events for you to join in and enjoy and help to raise money for Helping Hand Vouchers for Christmas. We still need helpers so, if you have a short time to spare, contact Pauline on 770251.

Come out and enjoy yourself and meet your neighbours in the community.

See you soon and pray for fine weather please!

Don't forget the Auction on Monday 18 June at St Mary's School starting at 6 pm.

PAULINE WARD, Secretary

We Record ...

Baptism

15 April Eva Eleanor Irene Maddison

Funeral

26 April Sara Anderson

Death

30 April Roy a'Court

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 & District Gardeners' Guild



A wet and windy night in April was made enjoyable by a very enthusiastic talk about 'Promoting Local Food' from Kate Robinson.

Kate started off by describing what a locally sourced meal would look like, using pork from Purton House Farm where the pigs are reared. The animals go from the farm to an abattoir in Gloucestershire, after which a master butcher attends Purton House Farm to butcher and prepare the meat. This is accompanied by vegetables from Kate's allotment or from a vegetable box from Purton House, along with quince jelly made from quinces from her garden.

Kate then went through ten issues concerning food:

1. Concerns around the UK obesity epidemic: the most recent statistics indicate that 60% of adults and 30% of children are overweight or obese in the UK.
2. The amount of food wasted in a year, this equates to 7.2 million tonnes valued at £12 billion pounds every year; it makes you think doesn't it!
3. The quality of our food. With food grown so intensely now, the soil holds 24% less magnesium, 27% less iron and 46% less calcium than 50 years ago.
4. The problems with food security. Due to population growth, economic instability and climate change there are over 800 million people struggling to find an adequate amount of food.
5. Food equality, with the price of food reaching an all time high in 2011, people living in the poorer parts of the UK face tough decisions like who in the family would eat fruit, whilst in more affluent areas parents were able to feed their babies more expensive organic food.
6. An increasing concern to a lot of us was animal welfare. High-profile celebrities, for example Hugh Fernley-Whittingstall and Jamie Oliver, highlighting the plight of cheap meat products and the impact these have on animal welfare.
7. Climate change: Kate outlined the true cost of a ready-made sandwich, and used an example of how a packet of crisps weighing 50g actually uses 120g of CO₂ to be produced.
8. Wildlife and biodiversity; with the decline of our honeybees Kate highlighted the increased use of pesticides and the knock-on effect of reduction in biodiversity.
9. The quality of life with clone towns, economy and community; Kate mentioned that the USA are falling out of love with shopping malls. In Ohio one such mall is being turned into a city farm where the community can to put in as many or as few hours as they are able, and consequently get food with very low food miles.
10. Kate touched on organic, intensive and GM ways of farming.

Kate finished off by discussing what could be done in the future; more education is needed, more local shops stocking local produce, (our local butcher at Pavenhill stocks local produce), and benefits to the community of eating locally produced food.

The vote of thanks was given by Tony Price, who can remember many changes to farming in the local area.

Jill Herbert has arranged a fantastic trip for 19 June; we will be visiting the gardens of John Milton and Mary Berry.

April's competition was a spring arrangement – we had some beautiful entries,

and so a tough decision had to be made by Kate but in 1st place was Mary Reid.

June's competition is a single rose, so here's hoping for a break in the rain and some beautiful blooms.

The next meeting will be held in the Silver Threads Hall on 26 June starting at 7.30 pm. Thomas Sandy will talking us through caring for your roses, history cultivation and pruning. We look forward to seeing you all there, visitors and new members always welcomed.

MARGARET GOODHALL (Secretary) and DIONNE CHILD (Chair) 771672

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Activities this term are all geared towards looking ahead to the summer. The Rainbows made butterflies to decorate their notice board, they planted flower seeds and made floral garland headdresses to celebrate May Day. With the Diamond Jubilee in mind, they have also been learning some facts about the Queen: that she was a Brownie and Guide, how old she was on her birthday in April, about her Garden Parties and her handbags. They spent one meeting dressing up in hats, shoes, scarves, bags and jewellery to meet the Queen. Unfortunately she couldn't come, but very elegant Rainbows sat down to be served with refreshments.

Both Brownie units and the Guide unit are working from a guiding resource called 'On Your Marks' – all about the Olympics and based around the three themes of Sport, Culture and Values. The Guides started by writing what they want to achieve this term, however small, and putting it into an envelope. They'll review them at the end of term and see how they've done. They also played soap netball (not yet an official Olympic sport!) where a bar of soap replaces the ball and two buckets of water are used for the goals.

2nd Purton Brownies have coloured paper plates for "Ancient Art" – to be used as part of a game later on, and looked at the Olympic mascots with each six designing their own, again for use at a later date. 1st Purton Brownies have made clay pots decorated to tell future generations something about the sculptors. They have also made up six mottos and incorporated them into banner designs which were used at their Olympic opening ceremony. Both Brownie units challenged each six to invent their own Olympic sport including rules and what to wear.

Last month saw the presentation of awards to several leaders from the Purton units. Long service awards totalling 70 years have been presented to Amanda Heard and Mary Booth (5 years), Kim O'Brien, Janet Saunders, Rachel Mead and Jane Templar (10 years) and Elaine Jones (20 years). We are very lucky to have such a wealth of experience in our units. The other award presented was a very special one. The Good Service Award is given for excellent service to guiding, by a County Commissioner, for service in the County. Many people wrote in support of the award nomination – leaders, parents past and present and members of other community organisations, including some who have moved away from the area. The result was a very surprised Gill Woodward at our County Annual Review.

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.

To check starting times please contact Rob Negus on 07545 760512 or at robnegustennisacademy@hotmail.co.uk. New starters of any age will also be welcome – contact Rob.



Sunday 3 June – Jubilee Day: The club will be delighted to welcome anyone along for fun, games, tennis practice and competitions. There should be something for all the family to experience and enjoy. Who can deliver the fastest serve?? 1st prize will be free social membership for the year; and 2nd prize a free coaching lesson. Come along and see what is on offer ...

Our revamped website is up and running with details of club events, matches, photo gallery and assorted tennis news close to home and further afield – Wimbledon and the Olympics. You can download membership forms and check court availability. Visit us on purtontennis.net for all information.

And don't forget, though the match season has started, the Friday night social session is still going strong – 6.30 pm onwards. We are introducing Wednesday evenings too – again from 6.30 pm. All ages and standards welcome. Come and join us for the lighter side of tennis.

CAROLINE McLEAN

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



At the time of writing (7 May) the cricket season has suffered a very wet start with only one match starting, only to be deluged off! The new sight screen has been assembled and the new scoreboard is ready for use.

Tickets for the annual club raffle are available and we hope the village will support our endeavours to raise money to maintain the high standards we have set in the facility we provide for cricket. We look forward to proper cricket weather in the weeks to come.

From the Archives

From a club newsletter October 1999

'John Bartlett, Jack Woolford and many others have been busy creating a new and improved soil shed. Special mention must be given to Jack who showed great commitment in completing the floor in time for the soil despite having to work through the pain of an ankle injury ... Many thanks also to Dale Bowler, Mark Gardner and Joe Gardner for shovelling the 10 tons of soil into the shed when it arrived.'

Matches at Purton in June

2 nd	1 st XI v Bradford	1.45 pm	17 th	N.E. U13s v Kennett	2.00 pm
9 th	1 st XI v Box	1.45 pm	23 rd	1 st XI v Nalگو	1.45 pm
10 th	U15 v Goatacre/Spye Park	2.00 pm	24 th	N.E. U10s v Kennett	10.00 am
16 th	2 nd XI v Nalگو	1.45 pm	24 th	U13 v Calne	2.00 pm
17 th	U11 v Wootton Bassett	10.30 am	30 th	2 nd XI v White Horse	1.45 pm

JOE GARDNER

Purton Bowls Club

Since opening the green, several games have had to be cancelled due to the shocking weather. The ladies managed to win their first game against West End.

National and county competitions start on Tuesday 8 May with the Ladies County Fours.

The club will be opening the green at the Red House Sunday 3 June at 2 pm, the afternoon of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Any person interested please join us.

BARBARA WOOLFORD



Purton F.C.

Purton FC would like to thank all last season's sponsors and all the supporters who have followed the teams at both Senior and Youth Levels.

The first team, playing in the Hellenic league, looked likely before the bad weather set in in January and February to finish in the runners-up slot or at the least 3rd in the table, but a bad run, mainly due to several match-free weeks, meant they ended up 7th in the table – a disappointment for Manager Chris Pethick. The Reserves showed a vast improvement from last season under a new Manager Albert Dearing and they too finished in 7th place in the Wilts Premier league.

Marcus Hall was the top goal-scorer for the Hellenic league side with 17 goals and Reece Gilliver topped the scoring stakes with 12 for the Wilts league side.

At youth levels the Under-14s were the best well placed side finishing 3rd in their league but the two Under-12s sides, Under-15s and Under-16s did not fare so well in their respective leagues.

Sincere thanks have to go to Colin Richards for all his hard work on the Red House Pitch as the Club's groundsmen and to our Main Club Sponsor Mr Keith Trowbridge of Ashgrove House Nursing Home and The Care Company whose generous sponsorship has been really appreciated by everyone at Purton Football Club.

Season 2012-13 is only a few months away and we look forward to everyone's support for that campaign.

ALAN EASTWOOD, President/Chairman



Contact Details Wanted

Purton Magazine has been contacted by Peter Benning, who is trying to contact Colin and Jacqueline Jones who used to live at 1 Long Acre, Purton, up until July 2008. Peter Benning and Colin Jones met when they were on the same course to become Flight Engineers for British Airways.

If anyone has a new address for Colin Jones, please let us know at Purton Magazine, telephone 772954 or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk. We will then contact Mr Jones and leave it up to him whether he wishes to pursue it.

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