

# Purton Magazine



*An unusual view of the Cenotaph and gardens featured in the "Spot the Shot" Quiz for Purton Open Gardens on 14 and 15 July.*

*More details next month.*

*Photo and Quiz by: Brigitte & John Wilkinson*

## August 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](mailto:john.railton@btinternet.com)*

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

*Mrs Gladys Legg, tel 770375*

*Alan Woodward, tel 771572*

*David Nettleton, tel 772298*

*[www.communigate.co.uk/wilts/stmaryspurton](http://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

Doubtless you will have noticed that this month we have reverted to a monochrome illustration on coloured card for our front cover. The main reason is that our 12-month series of original artworks so kindly supplied by the talented members of the Purton Artists' Society has now come to an end.

Such has been the colourful creativity over this last year that we have wanted to provide the best possible reproduction opportunities. It has been really pleasing to receive so many favourable comments about the wide variety of front cover colour illustrations. Therefore, although printing in colour on our front covers does incur additional costs, we fully intend to be able to return to colour covers before too long, especially if we can all benefit from another series of local artworks.

Although not monthly, planning appeals affecting Purton have been plural recently. No sooner has the Ridgeway Farm Appeal been addressed with the verdict due after the summer than the next one for Widham Farm comes along on 21 August – see page 5. Even though the draft Wiltshire Core Strategy indicates that it does not foresee any significant need for extra large scale housing in Purton, it seems that a developer is trying to squeeze in 50 new houses at Widham before the Core Strategy is approved and another planning appeal has been called. On page 38, Ps and Qs are asking for supportive e-mails so that a strong case can be brought before the Inspector.

As if to highlight that the Widham appeal might be being rushed, we learn on pages 6 and 10 that work on the Purton Parish Plan is progressing well with questionnaires being delivered to households. It is important that as many people as possible respond with their views. The final Parish Plan needs to be a statement of how we wish to see our community develop in the next 5 to 10 years and then it has to be approved by the residents.

After a gap of 2¾ years the Reverend Ian Tweedie-Smith and his wife Celia will be moving into the vicarage in September prior to his licensing in October. He will take over from John Railton who has been looking after the parish for the last year on a temporary basis. Also on page 20 is the additional good news that Judith Wells was ordained into the Priesthood in Bristol Cathedral.

**£5.99**

plus P&P is the cost of  
"Purton Walking  
Mystery Trail"  
– see page 33

**22<sup>nd</sup>**

September is the date for  
the delayed display of  
Diamond Jubilee fireworks  
– see page 24

**1940s**

-style dance for Age  
Concern in the Village Hall  
on 18 August  
– see page 18

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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.

Magazine Committee

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

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## Parish Council News



### Planning Appeals:

a. The **Widham Farm** Public Inquiry for 50 dwellings to be built on the site will recommence on 21 August 2012, starting at 10 am at the Wiltshire Council Offices at Monkton Park, Chippenham. The Inquiry is expected to last for 3 days. Members of the public can attend the Inquiry and, at the Inspector's discretion, give their views in person or through some other representative. You must attend the Inquiry at 10 am if you wish to speak. The Parish Council will be at the Inquiry and will speak against this development.

b. **29 Purton Stoke** – an appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against Wiltshire Council's decision to refuse the proposed development at 29 Purton Stoke for a replacement garage to include a studio above, two-storey and single storey rear extensions and replacement windows (Resubmission of 11/01992/FUL). The appeal will be determined on the basis of Written Representations.

**Tank Traps** – sadly two and possibly three of the historic World War II tank traps have been destroyed during the ongoing work to replace the river bridge at Tadpole Lane. The Parish Council has strongly expressed its disappointment about this and will be talking to both Swindon Borough Council and Wiltshire Council to see if something can be done to help mitigate this sad situation.

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

- N12/00827/FUL *Park Farm, Braydon*, milking parlour and ancillary buildings.
- N12/00926/FUL *The Old Forge, 41 Pavenhill, Purton*, erection of garden storage sheds.
- N12/00996/FUL *2 Jubilee Estate*, single storey side extension and change of existing garage to habitable room.
- N11/03894/LBC *7 High Street*, strip and relay tiled roof slopes, add installation between the rafters, repoint part of front elevation and chimney, and replace rainwater goods on front elevation.
- N12/01226/FUL *16 The Common, Locks Lane*, rear single storey and first floor extension.
- N12/00540/FUL *38 Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent*, demolition of existing building and erection of a replacement dwelling (Revision of 11/02637/FUL).
- N12/01307/CLP *33 Restrop View*, single storey rear extension.
- N12/00604/FUL *The Scout Hall, High Street*, replacement of Scout Hall.
- N12/01340/TCA *The Red House, Church Street*, felling of beech tree.
- N12/01074/FUL *Shepherds House, Cricklade Road*, erection of detached dwelling and garage following demolition of existing dwelling and garage (Renewal of 08/01019/FUL).
- N12/01336/TCA *The Red House, Church Street*, crown lift and reduce beech tree.

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**Wiltshire Council has refused the following planning applications:**

N12/00582/OUT *Land adjacent to Hillview, Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent, dwelling, double garage and associated access.*

N12/01275/FUL *12 Locks Lane, single storey rear extension.*

**Speeding Issues** – speeding remains a problem in the village, in particular we have had reports of ongoing issues along the B4553 even with the recent introduction of the 50mph speed limit. There are a lot of concealed entrances along this road and people who live there are finding it increasingly difficult getting out of their properties. A request has been put forward for further speed limits to be introduced along stretches of this road including the section where you cross the road from Collins Lane to Berrimans Lane as this is well used and can be hazardous.

Also there have been complaints from people living along The Fox about the speed some people travel down this stretch of road.

Though speeding is a problem in Reids Piece, residents are complaining bitterly about those who transport children to and from school and park irresponsibly with little regard for those who live in The Peak and Reids Piece. Those doing the school run are urged to be more considerate to those living in the locality.

**Code of Conduct** – under the new Localism Bill, Local Authorities including Parish Councils are required to adopt a new code of conduct. A copy of Purton Parish Council's code can be found on the Parish Council's web site and has been displayed on the Parish Council notice boards. If you would like further information about this then please contact the Parish Council Office.

**Parish Plan** – work on the Parish Plan is progressing well and questionnaires will soon be dropping through your door. It is important that as many people as possible fill in the questionnaire so that the plan can be prepared based on your feedback and reflects the wishes and views of the parish residents.

**Neighbourhood Plan** – the Parish Council is also involved with preparing a Neighbourhood plan for the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Community Area, which includes Purton, and over the coming months you will hear more about this. The neighbourhood plan deals more with land based planning and once adopted should influence some planning decisions.

The two plans are different but will complement each other so both are important documents. We are a little unusual in Purton – but what is new about that! – in that we are doing both plans at the same time however there are some advantages in this and of course some challenges. We are confident that with your help at the end of both the Parish Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan we will have some very useful informative documents to hand to work with. So please take the time engage with us on these important projects.

**Mobility Scooters on buses** – A leaflet has been produced by the Department of Transport about taking Mobility Scooters on low floor buses. If you would like a leaflet then one can be obtained via [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info), or telephone 0871 200 22 33. Copies are also available from the Parish Council office.

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## How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

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

## Police & Crime Commissioner information site

An information site about the election of the first ever Police & Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire has been launched.

The Wiltshire Police Authority's website includes details about the role and responsibilities of the forthcoming Police & Crime Commissioner and how they will be scrutinised: see [www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/pcc](http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/pcc).

Much like the existing police authority, the Police & Crime Commissioner will be responsible for overseeing Wiltshire Police on behalf of all residents in the Force area. They will represent people living across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Elections for Police & Crime Commissioners take place on Thursday 15 November 2012. There will then be a formal seven-day transition period before the Commissioner takes office on Thursday 22 November.

The Wiltshire Police area Police & Crime Commissioner will replace Wiltshire Police Authority, the group of 17 councillors and independent members who currently oversee Wiltshire Police.

You can find out more about Police & Crime Commissioners on the web site - [www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/pcc](http://www.wiltshire-pa.gov.uk/pcc). As well as information about their role, it includes a timeline highlighting key dates in the transition from Wiltshire Police Authority to the Police & Crime Commissioner, details about the election, a news section and links to useful documents and other web sites for potential candidates.

## Royal British Legion Purton Branch

### Annual Open Horticultural Show 2012

### Saturday 25 August at the Red House Club Purton

The committee will welcome your entries at the Red House Club on the evening of Thursday 23 August from 7.45 pm to 9 pm. On the day, staging is from 9 to 11 am and we are open to the public 2 - 7.30 pm. There will then be an auction of donated exhibits at 7.30 pm.

The schedules are available from: Best One (Lower Square), John Toomers (Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent) and committee members.

Why not come and join in the fun!!

Further details: David Herbert (Chairman 770002) or Heather Harris (Hon.Sec.) 770850.



## Just a Thought

What may be done at any time will be done at no time.

*Scottish Proverb*

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## Purton Parish Plan Questionnaire

By the time you read this, you should have received the Questionnaire for Purton's Parish Plan and we would ask you to please spend a few minutes filling it in and returning it to us. Your views about the Parish are essential in the development of this Plan.

The concept of Parish Plans was put forward by Central Government and they have been adopted by many Town and Parish councils to help them understand what matters most, their concerns and aims, to their residents and the local community.



*Logo by Sadie Taylor*

In Purton we live in a semi-rural village community which is bounded on three sides by countryside and to the east by Swindon. It has its own unique way of life different from that of large urban towns, one that many residents would like to see, in some sense, preserved. However the pressure for large housing developments and even more infill housing, together with the resulting increase in traffic, particularly from Swindon, can and does create resentment. The idyllic days when one could walk along the byways without having to dodge speeding cars are long gone.

Of course there may be many other issues that concern you: "where are the affordable houses for my children to live, where will I live when I get old and what care will be available, schools for my children, buses that goes where I want, activities for my children, how can we improve the quality of life in the village and the look of the village" and so the list goes on.

The views and concerns you express in the questionnaire will be presented and discussed at a Public Meeting to be held at Purton Village Hall later this year in the autumn. The meeting will decide, from your responses to the questionnaire, what the important issues are to the Parish, the actions required to address those issues and then agree a way forward for the Steering Group to complete the Parish Plan. The Steering Group is made up of local people, business people, parish councillors and unitary councillor.

The Parish Plan has to be approved by the residents of the Parish and the Plan will be a statement of how you, the residents of the Parish, wish to see our community develop over the next 5 to 10 years. It has to reflect the views of all the community and not that of just the steering group. The objective is to identify local problems, spell out how the community wishes to develop and then develop an action plan to achieve these aims. Our Parish Plan will be used to inform the Neighbourhood Plan, for the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Community Area, about strategic planning issues that are important to us, but more of that at a later time.

There is often much cynicism over the value of these sorts of plans especially at a time of financial constraints and with National and Local Government policies that may impact and impede our aims. However, the Parish Plan is owned by the people of the Parish: the future of the village is partly in your hands. It provides us an opportunity to get our views, wishes and concerns across to Wiltshire Council, and, through them, to Government, to inform and help influence their plans and



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policies to the needs of the people of the Parish. This is the main purpose of a Parish Plan. You should be aware of what happens in the villages and local area and, if you have concerns (or praise), speak up and contact the Councillors for the Parish or our Wiltshire Councillor.

So, would you please take a few minutes to fill in the questionnaire and return it to one of our many collection points? Your views about the parish are essential – **Have your Say.**

Thank you from Purton Parish Plan Steering Group.

## Purton & District PROBUS Club



The club for retired **PRO**fessional **BUS**iness people, meets at 10 am on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the lounge of the Red House, Purton.

PROBUS clubs were originally formed for retiring Rotary Club members who no longer wished to be committed to their fundraising activities but still sought the friendship and social meetings. It is not necessary to be an ex-Rotary club member to join Probus and our activities are purely for entertainment.

Coffee and biscuits are served at 10 am allowing us time to socialise before taking our seats at 10.30 to listen to a guest speaker. The talks are very varied on a range of interesting subjects. We finish at noon.

If you are retired, especially newly retired, we invite you to come along and meet with like-minded people for an entertaining morning. If you would like to come to one of our meetings to find out more about our club and to see if you would like to join us, you are most welcome.

In April we hold our AGM and have a full programme of events for the year. We make available occasional coach outings to places of general interest, and, once a year, a mid-week break at a comfortable hotel. At the beginning of December we meet for a special lunch at the Blunsdon House Hotel, giving us all the opportunity to dress up and enjoy a bit of pampered luxury. At all of these events and outings members are encouraged to bring a guest.

Our meetings for August are on the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup>. If you would like further information, please contact me on 770868 or you can come along to a meeting with any Probus member.

### 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 & District Age Concern



Could I start my piece by offering heartfelt congratulations to **Pauline Ward** on the well-deserved award of the MBE? I was going to list all the different organisations she runs, the ones she helps plus all the individual people but then we would fill the magazine. It would be interesting but I am sure she would not want that. Pauline is a very independent person – you could see her walking up the hill and offer her a lift but her reply is ‘Thanks but I’m alright’. When she is going to Luncheon Club she will not accept a lift on the minibus but it is her independence that gives her the strength to do what she does at the age of 90 – yes 90. It just makes you feel tired when you stop and think of all the things she does.

Knowing Pauline, I bet when she was notified – which is six months in advance and you are told not to tell anybody – she would think ‘Not me, there are a lot more deserving cases around’, but we all know it is richly deserved and I am sure there is not a more deserving case anywhere. When someone like Pauline spends her life helping others, never thinking about herself, whether it be with an organisation or an individual, we can all say ‘Purton is proud of you for making the village what it is – a great place to live’.

Could I also congratulate **Judith Wells** on being ordained as a priest. This is another lady that we all admire and respect for the work she does in our community. If anyone can send a true message of Christianity it is Judith. She certainly practises what she preaches and it is lovely to see the support she gets from husband Stephen. I had the honour and pleasure of receiving communion at her first Sunday 8 am service at St Mary’s after her ordination. We can only hope that our new vicar will become part of the community like Judith and be there for everybody. Still I am sure he will have good help and guidance from Judith.

I will carry on with the congratulations in sending them to **Glyn and Christine Shailes**, who will be celebrating their golden wedding on Saturday 25 August. Glyn is an old Purtonian who has lived in Station Road all his life, with Christine joining him 50 years ago. Sorry Christine, you do not qualify to be a Purtonian yet. I am always telling Sheila, my wife, that she doesn’t qualify either as she has only lived here since she was sixteen. Strangely enough, Sheila and I were both at Glyn and Christine’s wedding all those years ago but didn’t know each other then.

Could I thank the family of the late **Barbara Wicks** for money in lieu of flowers being shared between the Helping Hand, Ashgrove Amenity Fund and Purton Age Concern. It was a very kind gesture and greatly appreciated. We in Age Concern feel a bit guilty to be receiving money in Barbara’s memory after all she did for us. Thank you.

A lady we have lost recently was a true Purtonian, **Elsie Harman**, who was born in the Coach House that is next to where the Co-op used to be, nearly opposite the Post Office that, in those days, was Dickie New’s cobblers’ shop. Her father and mother used to work for the local doctor who was Doctor Brown. Elsie’s mum would be working in the house and her father was the handy man – one of those people who could do anything. By the way, her parents’ names were John and Lily Iles

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and she had two brothers, Mervyn and Cyril, who were considerably older than her. Was Elsie spoilt? I ask myself, but it didn't do her any harm if she was, especially with the kindness she showed others. As I have said, her two brothers were quite a bit older than her, in fact Cyril was chauffeur to Dr Brown with peaked cap and all. This was when there were only about three or four cars in the village. I know that Col. Cannings had one but the others I don't know but I could speculate.

I don't know much about Elsie's school life except to say that she was taught by that centenarian of our village Mr Glyn Lloyd, when he first came to teach at Purton. One other little thing I do know, as she often recalled, was that her dad (in Dr Brown's orchard no doubt) fixed up a high jump for her and she would practice night after night. It certainly paid off for she beat all comers, boys as well, when it was sports day and got a silver teaspoon which I believe her son Alan still has. It was always used in the sugar bowl. When Mr and Mrs Iles retired they moved to 11 Church Path and sadly Mr Iles did not live very long after this. Elsie's first job was as housemaid to the Vicar of Lydiard Millicent and one of her jobs was taking the Minister and his wife a cup of tea in bed in the mornings. That could not have been much of a job walking all that way, especially as a lot of Churches in those days had services in the week at 8 am. I know because Canon Willis did every day and I had to walk down to Purton Church in all weathers to serve, but that was only once a week as us boys had a rota. Imagine Elsie, a young lady of fourteen walking to Lydiard every day. When it was really bad her mother went halfway or further until she knew it would be safe for her. You can tell what the weather was as she recalls birds being frozen standing up, I was going to say on telegraph wires, but if that was in 1947 all the wires were down.

On occasions Elsie would help the Minister's wife at the WRVS in the Reading Room at Lydiard but time went by before she would allow Elsie's cakes to be taken there – after several testings I expect! Mind I think they were lucky to have cakes. Her next job was at The Cedars (that was the old Cedars) where I believe evacuated families were billeted. It was while working there that she met Ernie Titcombe who she later married at St Mary's in 1943, moving to The Fox. Alan came along and they moved to Station Road where, I assume, she lived for the rest of her life. Sadly, after a few very happy years, husband Ernie died. Elsie, who had been working at Godwin's bakery part time, found she would have to work full time to pay household expenses plus the mortgage. Alan would be the loser here, missing all those lovely cream cakes. However, Cyril, who had always been a great brother to Elsie, found her a job at Plesseys where he worked. I bet she found this a bit hard, as it was completely different from anything she was used to before but, knowing Elsie, she would say 'Well you just have to get on with it'. In fact, she came to enjoy it and started to broaden her horizons a bit, even going to dances at Mcllroys, which was a great adventure to a country girl. Mind, they used to get a lot of top bands playing there.

It was at Plesseys that she met Harold and they got married, still living in Station Road. They had thirty happy years together, enjoying holidays and their life together. After Plesseys she went to Square D and then on to Ashgrove House, from where she retired at the age of seventy-two. After retirement, she kept in

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touch with the residents and staff and I know Ashgrove has been a great comfort to Elsie over the years as has been the Day Centre at the Cedars. It was always a pleasure to help Elsie in any way, as she was so appreciative of what was done for her. I suppose one of the greatest pleasures Elsie enjoyed was gardening and, as she got older, she would be frustrated at not being able to do the work in her garden, just as she was at gradually giving up membership of the various organisations she belonged to. The most important thing of all was that she was able to stay in her own home and I am sure the family would like me to thank all the people who made that possible. I would also like to thank everyone who sent us donations in lieu of flowers and, as Elsie appreciated our minibuses so much, this money is going in to the minibus fund.

While I am on about donations, we had a very generous donation in memory of the late **Roy A'Court** from **Tom Rigg**. Who is that you ask? Well Tom, along with his family, were evacuated to Purton during the war and they lived at Widham and Tom remembered Roy from when he first went to Purton School in Miss Martin's class at St Mary's. Tom has been back to Purton two or three times now and has always been to see Roy and enjoyed his knowledge of Purton. They would speak on the phone about once a month – Tom has moved back to the Tyne and Wear area although he hopes to be down this way in August on holiday.

People are so kind to us – we were due to have our coffee morning at the home of **Jackie and Dick Scott** at Bentham House Farm, Purton Stoke. Well you all know how the weather has been but we need not have worried. Dick rang me to find out what Age Concern felt about it and said that he would leave it until the Friday before the coffee morning and see what the weather would be, saying not to worry and that he had a contingency plan. The Young Farmer's Hut was free and Dick had rung Alan (Bim) Herbert and we could have it. By Friday afternoon the decision had to be made and everything was reorganised. What a marvellous time we all had in the hut – a lovely atmosphere – and Jason and Jackie allowed us to use *The Bell Inn* car park. Purton Stoke you did us really proud the way you supported us and let's not forget the people beyond. Thanks to the young farmers, Dick, Jackie and Bim for making all the arrangements and Jackie and Jason for the car parking at *The Bell*. This has become an annual event now at Bentham and hopefully we can continue. It was disappointing that we could not have it at Bentham House Farm, the new venue, but who cares about the rain when there is a plan put into place for you to beat it. This was certainly the case as we made £577 so thank you one and all.

The trip to Salisbury was very enjoyable by all reports and very efficiently run. No I am not praising myself as I could not go. Colin Freemantle, our treasurer, kindly offered to take charge, so thank you Colin – I shall have to be careful otherwise I will be out of a job. The next trip is a mystery tour with tea provided. This is on Wednesday 5 September (doesn't time fly) at 2 pm, names and money to your street wardens by 24 September. Then the last one of the year is on Wednesday 3 October. This is with lunch provided so hope to see you on one of these trips.

On Saturday 18 August we have a 1940's dance with the Mid West Big Band and supper. Tickets cost £15 a head and are available from Ron and Heather

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Harris (770850) or Mick Hull (772453). Fancy dress is optional and we hope you'll come along and join in the fun. We have already sold quite a few tickets and we shall limit the number we sell so, if you would like a ticket, ring one of the numbers above. I am sure you will have a good evening.

Our next fund raising event after the dance is a jumble sale on Saturday 1 September at the Village Hall. Items for this sale can be left at the Hall between 12 noon and 1 pm with the sale starting at 2 pm.

*TONY PRICE*



## Carnival 2012

It is all over and it now remains to tie up all the loose ends. Our thanks to all those who helped and supported us and to the team who gallantly took down the marquee, tents etc and cleared the field in the teeming rain – medals all round. There will be a full report in the next magazine.

*PAULINE WARD, Secretary*

## Carnival Draw Winners

Prize winners for the Carnival Draw were as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> £50 - M Whiting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> £25 - Mrs Monk
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tool set - R Volpato
- 4<sup>th</sup> Golf and swim at Blunsdon House - Lisa Hilton
- 5<sup>th</sup> Hot air balloon - Sandra
- 6<sup>th</sup> Clay pigeon shooting - Lauren Law
- 7<sup>th</sup> Baileys - Steve
- 8<sup>th</sup> Panda - Neil Hooper\*
- 9<sup>th</sup> Basketball set - Elizabeth Ward
- 10<sup>th</sup> Cotswold wildlife tickets - Dawn Saunders
- 11<sup>th</sup> Cushion - Mrs Suff
- 12<sup>th</sup> Didcot Railway voucher - Phil Neville
- 13<sup>th</sup> Asda gift card - C Rushen
- 14<sup>th</sup> Toiletries - Ruth
- 15<sup>th</sup> Clock radio - Neil Hooper\*
- 16<sup>th</sup> Photo frame - Clive Walton
- 17<sup>th</sup> Tablemats - Becky Phillips
- 18<sup>th</sup> Tenpin bowling - Lynn
- 19<sup>th</sup> Car of sweets - Sylvia Freemantle

\* Would Neil Hooper please get in touch ([marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk)) as the phone numbers he put on the tickets don't appear to be correct!

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## New Vicar Ian and Priest Judith for St Mary's Church

The long period of waiting for the appointment of a new vicar for Purton is finally over. Our new vicar will be the Reverend Ian Tweedie-Smith who was ordained 27 years ago and is currently Team Vicar in the South Woking Team Ministry in Surrey. Ian's appointment will be as the half-time Priest in Charge of St Mary's Purton, the same as his predecessor Jane Haslam. Ian will continue with his other part-time job as a director of the Stockton House Christian Conference Centre and School project in Fleet, Hampshire.



*Our new vicar Rev. Ian Tweedie-Smith*

We are very grateful to John Railton for temporarily looking after the parish over the last year (not sure how we would have managed without him) but we have missed not having a permanent vicar living amongst us in the vicarage.

Ian expects to move to the vicarage in Purton in late September and be licensed by the Bishop at St Mary's Church in October. Ian and his family, Celia and his adult children George and Ruth, have already visited the village; they joined in our celebrations of the Diamond Jubilee at the Red House.



*Our new priest Rev. Judith Wells  
between two Bishops*

There is yet more good news for the village and St Mary's. On 1 July, Judith Wells was ordained to the Priesthood at Bristol Cathedral. Judith is Purton's Ordained Local Minister (OLM) and she will work alongside Ian in the village and now, as a priest, she will be able to do even more for us. I am sure you will want to join the congregation of St Mary's in congratulating Judith for successfully completing the training necessary for her ordination and thank her for her continued commitment to serve the people of Purton.

Both Ian and Judith have asked for the support of your prayers as they take up their new responsibilities.

*DAVID NETTLETON & ALAN WOODWARD  
Churchwardens, St Mary's Purton*

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## Prayer for Purton

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

## In our midst

Spotted in The Independent:

*James David Grout, actor and director: born London 22 October 1927; married 1950 Noreen Fowler; died Purton, Wiltshire 24 June 2012*

James Grout played the screen boss of Inspector Morse of TV fame and lived in Malmesbury.

## 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**



## Church Floodlighting

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



- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 30 July   | The Church was floodlit in memory of <b>Albert Parkinson</b> on the occasion of his birthday. Dearly loved and sadly missed Husband, Father and Grandad.  |
| 10 August | The church will be floodlit to celebrate Happy Birthday for <b>Ken Bletso's</b> 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday. With all our love, Dad. Geraldine, Dave and family and Sherwood and family   |
| 24 August | St Mary's will be floodlit to celebrate the wedding of <b>Ben Sheppard</b> and <b>Caroline Kameen</b> who are getting married in London. With love and hopes for a long and very happy life together. From Libbie and Francis; Jo and her family; Sam and all the rest of the Sheppard flock. |

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

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## Swindon & Cricklade Railway



**Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August – 11 am to 4 pm**

### Children's Treasure Hunt

An easy fun day for the kids. Spot 30 little engines placed around the railway and win a prize. Adults £7, seniors £6 and children £5.

### OPENING OF THE TAW VALLEY HALT

**Saturday 25, Sunday 26 and Monday 27 August – from 11 am to 4 pm**

The halt will bring the railway to the outskirts of Swindon within walking distance of Mouldon Hill Country Park and new housing estates. Parking will also be available nearby. We have hired a more powerful steam engine for the occasion, consequently the price has had to rise by approximately £2 to £9 for adults, £8 for seniors and £7 for children. Family tickets will apply.

On reading our latest 'Tiddly Dike' magazine, I was struck by how many dedicated members, working flat out to complete the infrastructure for the opening of the halt in time (one in his pyjamas as he was working nights), have been coming to the railway, accompanied by fathers and grandfathers, since they were small boys. They are now adult, key members of the railway, working on their own initiative.

The railway is always looking for new volunteers, there are so many different jobs to do and never enough workers to do them. Everyone fits in, from the shyest to the most extrovert, with plenty of patient people to show them the ropes. Non-working members are also welcome and will receive four very interesting magazines per year, as well as helping the railway with expenses

Further enquiries on 01793 750335 or 771615 and on the web site at [www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org](http://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.

## Diamond Jubilee

Although the Diamond Jubilee celebrations are over, (it seems such a long time ago now) we still have one more thing left to do. We have about £600 worth of fireworks to let off. We have decided to do this on the evening of Saturday 22 September. This will be at the Village Centre. We shall be using the Millennium Hall and the hard standing outside the hall. There will be food and hot drinks on sale from the kiosk and we're planning to have various stalls, entertainment etc. We'll be starting at around 5.30 and finishing at about 7.30 as long as it's dark enough to let the fireworks off.



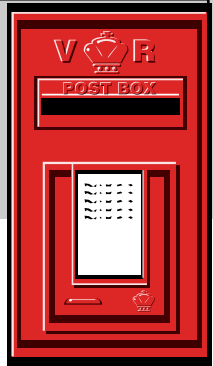
I'll be giving more details in the next Magazine so please watch out for that.

TONY RICHARDSON



# 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.



## ■ JUBILEE PEN

My husband and I would like to thank the indefatigable Tony Price and everyone associated with Purton Age Concern for the unexpected and very useful gift of an inscribed pen to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. It was a lovely surprise (particularly as I am always losing mine) and makes one appreciate the amount of thought that the Purton branch invests in its senior citizens.

Thank you again.

*Fran Ririe*

## ■ THE LATE BARBARA WICKS - "GREENHILL"

After eleven years with Alzheimer's, the last four and a half of which were spent in the wonderful care of the staff at The Ashgrove House Nursing Home, Mum can finally rest in peace.

I would like to say thank you to everyone for their kindness during the past few weeks, since we lost our dear Mum, Barbara. Thank you to all who sent the many cards and messages, remembering her with fondness. My Dad, Ted, has been quite overwhelmed by the amount of people who cared so much about his darling Barbara.

It was a wonderful tribute on

19 June, to see Lydiard Millicent Church nearly bursting at the seams for the funeral. For a woman of 84, who had not been prominent in the community for several years, it was marvellous. It was nice to catch up with faces from the past and I know Mum would have been taken aback by the whole thing.

Thank you to the Rev. Tricia Roberts for a lovely service, and for reading my poem for Mum, as it was written.

On the day of Mum's funeral life was made easier knowing that the refreshments back at the village hall were left in good hands. Thank you Joan and all your helpers, for the lovely spread. Everyone enjoyed it.

Donations were received in lieu of flowers for The Purton Helping Hand, Purton Age Concern and Ashgrove House amenities fund. We don't yet have a total for these, but we are very grateful for your donations. Thank you all.

*Pearl Lait, on behalf of Ted and the Wicks family*

## Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 31 August 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.

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# On The Lighter Side

## More Advantages of Ageing

- Things you buy now won't wear out.
- You can eat supper at 4 pm.
- You can live without sex but not your glasses.
- You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
- You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge.
- You stop trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.
- Your eyes won't get much worse.
- Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
- Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the Met Office.

## NHS Update

Daily Telegraph 3 April

### **Male mothers and the damned lies in NHS statistics**

*By Stephen Adams, Medical Correspondent*

You may have missed them in your local maternity ward but, according to NHS hospital data tens of thousands of men become pregnant each year.

In a study proving the adage that there are "lies, damned lies and statistics", doctors found that 17,000 men were recorded as having been admitted to hospital for obstetric services – a specialism for pregnant women and their babies. Another 8,000 men apparently went to see a gynaecologist and another 20,000 were listed as having been in need of a midwife.

The figures for 2009-10 also showed that more than 3,000 children required geriatric services.

The doctors at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust in London alerted the *British Medical Journal* to the errors, which were due to mistakes by those entering data.

While recognising the funny side, they warned of the implications for reforming the NHS if hospital data were assumed to be correct.

## Worth a Thought

The clock of life is wound just once  
And no man has the power  
To know just when the clock will stop  
At late or early hour.

Now is the only time you have  
So live life with a will.  
Wait not until tomorrow  
For the clock may then be still.

*Anon*

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## Getting on

While working for an organisation that delivers lunches to the elderly, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the walking sticks, zimmers and wheelchairs. One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

## God and Mums

Some musings by primary school children.

Q. Why did God make mothers?

A.1. She's the only one who knows where the sellotape is.

A.2. Mostly to clean the house.

A.3. To help us out of there when we were getting born.

Q. How did God make mothers?

A.1. He used dirt, just like for the rest of us.

A.2. Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring.

A.3. God made my mum just the same like he made me. He just used bigger parts.

Q. Why did God give you your mother and not some other mum?

A.1. We're related.

A.2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's mums like me.

Q. What kind of a little girl was your mum?

A.1. My mum has always been my mum and none of that other stuff.

A.2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.

A.3. They say she used to be nice.

Q. What did mum need to know about dad before she married him?

A.1. His last name.

A.2. She had to know his background. Like is he a crook? Does he get drunk on beer?

A.3. Does he make at least 1 million a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

## Pirate

A pirate got captured. The sailor said to him, "How did you get that wooden leg?"

"Well it was me shark that bit it off."

"And how did you get that hook on your arm?"

"It was me shark that bit it off."

The sailor said, "So how did you get that patch on your eye?"

The pirate replied, "Well a seagull flew by and pooped on my eye."

The sailor said, "How would seagull poop give you a patch?"

The pirate said, "It was me first day with me hook."

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## Purton Diary - August 2012

1	W	9.30am	Age Concern outing to Weston
2	Th	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
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5	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
7	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Christmas Boxes
10	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
<hr/>			
12	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
13	M		<i>to 17<sup>th</sup></i> : Activity Week at St Mary's School
14	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at Red House - new members welcome (p13)
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		6.00pm	After 8: Summer Evening Walk - led by Sandra
15	W	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening W.I. at Village Hall: Open Evening: Demonstration <i>For The Love of Flowers</i> - Anne Bartlett
16	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
18	Sa	8.00pm	1940's Dance with Mid West Big Band, Village Hall ( <i>Age Concern</i> )
<hr/>			
19	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
21	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Life of a Fire Officer
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
22	W	6.30pm	Holy Communion at The Cedars
23	Th	7.45pm	<i>to 9pm</i> : Entries for RBL Horticultural Show at Red House
25	Sa	2.00pm	<i>to 7.30pm</i> : RBL Horticultural Show at Red House ( <i>entrants' staging from 9 - 11am</i> )
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26	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Parish Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
27	M		<b>Summer Bank Holiday</b>
28	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at Red House - new members welcome (p13)
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Duncan Coombs - <i>Autumn Colour &amp; Interest in the Garden</i>

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### September

1	Sa	2.00pm	Age Concern Jumble Sale at the Village Hall
5	W	2.00pm	Age Concern Mystery tour with tea provided

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### Every week

Tu	9.15am	to 11.30am:	Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
	7.30pm		Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	to 12noon:	Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall
	6.30pm		Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
W	7.30pm		RAOB Excelsior Lodge at The Red House
Th	9.15am	to 11.30am:	Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Th	11.15am	to 1pm:	New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre
Th	2.00pm	to 3pm:	Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
Th	2.30pm		Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

### Moon Phases

○ 2 August    ● 9 August    ● 17 August    ● 24 August    ○ 31 August

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

## Once in a Blue Moon

Every 3 years or so we get a 2<sup>nd</sup> full moon in a month, simply because of the difference in duration of lunar and calendar months. August 2012 is one of those months. This relative rarity has brought about the expression, "Once in a Blue Moon".

### We Record ...

#### Baptisms

- 24 June Ruby Isabella Dodson at St Mary's Church  
8 July Oliver Matthew Scott at St Mary's Church

#### Weddings

- 23 June Christopher Ian Hancock & Charlotte Ann Giles  
at St Mary's Church  
30 June Timothy Lewis Baldwin & Alexandra Anne Mary Young  
at St Mary's Church

#### Funerals

- 12 June Pat Stephenson at St Mary's Church  
29 June Elsie Harman at St Mary's Church

#### Death

- 17 June Trevor Bernard Collett at Prospect Hospice  
24 June James David Grout, actor and director (84), at Ashgrove House

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 ...



Sadly, the much-anticipated 7 July WI Cream Tea at 44 Witts Lane had, like so many other events, to be cancelled because of the gruesome weather and the possibility of everything and everybody sinking without trace in Sue's garden. Perhaps "postponed" is a more optimistic word than cancelled. We shall have heard more from our President's news at the July meeting (too late for this issue of the magazine).

The meeting on the evening of 20 June was full of interest, as always, with happy reports from all the active groups, and a photograph in the WI magazine, *Wiltshire News*, of the recent visit to Denman.

Thanks were given to the organisers of a recent trip to Cheltenham, with a real steam train ride included, and supper in a country pub. The countryside, well-watered, was lushly green and appreciated despite the rain. No matter what the weather, we always have a great time and enjoy each other's company.

Our speaker for the June meeting was Brian Barber who, bearded and wearing tropical gear, looked just the part for telling us of his adventures in Liberia. This is one of the many countries to which he is invited by various charities, to deal with their radio problems. There was absorbed silence as he showed illustrations of his life and adventures in West Africa, probably every one of us thinking how lucky we are to be blessed with running, clean water and all the other services that we take completely for granted. Mr Barber is humorous and positive about his work – that involves an element of danger – and we can only hope that his optimism will be fulfilled. He has on hand a number of talks on the various countries where he has worked and now he lives locally, so we might well enjoy more of his adventures that support the stories we see on television news.

Social time was particularly good, based as it was on "Desert Island Discs". Such an interesting selection was read out, some sentimental, some amusing, but certainly stimulating memories. A great idea, bringing us even closer together.

15 August is an Open Meeting and will involve a demonstration entitled "For the Love of Flowers" by Anne Bartlett. The competition is "A flower made from fruit or vegetables" and, knowing the abilities of our members – particularly their sense of humour – we should have many entries to cheer the Hall, and us. And we certainly need some cheering in this (currently) rain-sodden climate, so here's hoping August will be a month full of sunshine!

For those who haven't enjoyed them before, an Open Meeting is one to which absolutely everyone is welcome: gender and age of no matter, financial state bearable as the charge is small. We shall be having two Open Meetings this year, one of them in August and the other on 19 September, when the speaker will be Francis Young of the well-known local *Pear Tree Hotel*. There will also be a tasting of English wines and non-alcoholic grape drinks. The competition that night is a Poster depicting one of Marilyn Monroe's films, for the Autumn Group Meeting. I am tempted to open a book on how many males will be temporary WI members that night.

It must be admitted that the subject for our 2014 Federation Calendar couldn't be more appropriate – "Water in Wiltshire" is the title, so no excuses about lack of

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subject matter. Digital images to be mailed to [info@wiltshirewi.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:info@wiltshirewi.eclipse.co.uk) by 31 December.

You will like to know that, as part of its centenary celebration, NFWI is conducting a pilot survey to provide insight into the opinions, experiences and concerns of WI members.

To take part, visit [www.surveymonkey.com/s/WIsurvey2012](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WIsurvey2012).

It is already time to think of ordering your calendars (£3) and diaries (£3.55) for next year – where does the time go? Also, the NFWI raffle tickets are now on sale, and wouldn't it be wonderful if one of us won the £5,000? But you cannot win if you do not buy a ticket ...

See you on 15 August – please don't forget, it is an Open Meeting, so do bring a friend or two.

CONSTANCE REED, tel 771571

## After 8

On the evening of Tuesday 19 June, 12 of us met in the Village Hall Car Park to take part in "Purton's Walking Murder Mystery Trail". We were very lucky it was a beautiful warm summer's evening.



To solve the mystery we had to decipher the clues. Some of the clues identified a person so that person could be eliminated from enquiries. (We had a list of suspects.) Some of the clues helped to identify a weapon. (We had a list of weapons with dates attached.) If you could work out the date you could eliminate the weapon. Here are some examples to be found near *The Angel*.

Clue 14: "Add the miles to Cirencester to the distance to Bath and deduct the miles to Wootton Bassett. Eliminate that weapon which ends in the resulting number."

Clue 17: "The name of someone who committed no crime is written in connection with the "sorting" associated with GR."

The Trail was about 1.6 miles and took about one and a half hours.

We then retired to *The Angel* for a welcome drink. All agreed that it was great fun.

Our thanks to Eve for leading us.

These Treasure Trails take place all over the country. You can purchase this "Purton Walking Mystery Trail" on-line from [www.treasuretrails.co.uk](http://www.treasuretrails.co.uk) – the cost is £5.99 plus postage and packaging.

AVRIL AINSCOUGH

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14 August - "A Summer Evening Walk" led by Sandra. The walk starts at 33 Restrop View. Please confirm with [Sandra](#).

Contact [Avril](#) for more information on After 8.

**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.

## Wise Words

Do not look back in anger, or forward in fear, but around in awareness.

James Thurber

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## Shoebox News

The shoe shop where we have been given the majority of our boxes over the past two years has now closed down. So if anyone feels inclined to pop in to a shoe shop when passing and asking for empty boxes, it would be appreciated. Any time of the year is ok. The earlier the better, as by leaving it until later in the year means many people are doing the same thing.



The project is now well under way with people knitting, covering boxes and bargain hunting. Our target is to meet last year's figure of around 350 boxes.

Louse Tidman completed her sponsored walk in May and raised £430, divided between Age Concern and ourselves. This money will be put towards the transportation costs of the boxes. Many thanks Louise.

On Monday 17 September, The Fellowship of Women will have their monthly meeting at the Methodist Church. This meeting will be an OPEN INVITATION to anyone (male or female) who would like to come, as the speaker will be from Operation Christmas Child, Melksham. The talk will be on *The Journey of a Shoebox*. This is at 7.45 pm. Also on 29 September the Shoebox Fund Raising Day will be at 35 High Street from 10 am - 3 pm. This will again include lunches from 12 noon. More details on this will be given nearer the time.

If you are not yet involved with this project and feel you would like to, either by filling your own shoebox, donate items, make a financial donation towards items, or providing empty shoeboxes, it would be very much appreciated.

To read more about this project go to [www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk)

For local information please contact Sylvia Freemantle who coordinates this project in Purton, on 01793 770686.

## Children In Need

It's time to start thinking about Children in Need once again and we've got three events coming up, so please put these dates in your diary:

**Sunday 14 October** – A walking treasure hunt, probably starting and finishing at The Red House.

**New Year's Eve** – A supper dance in the Village Hall.

**Saturday 15 June 2013** – A Summer Ball at the Village Centre.

We've only just started work on these ideas so we have no further details at this time. I will publish details in further issues.



TONY RICHARDSON

## Activity Week 2012

Activity week will be happening this year from 13 to 17 August at St Mary's School. It is open to any 7 to 11-year-olds who live or go to school in Purton. We have many exciting activities this year including a day with our local artist, Toni, African drumming, Tae Kwon Do taster session, visit from birds of prey, and a day's trip to Bourton on the Water. If you require further information or an application form please contact [Mary](mailto:Mary).



## Exhibit of the Month: Days in the Life of a Stray



Last week I was given a little book. It is a charming collection of cartoons featuring a little, resourceful, stray dog, drawn by the late Leslie Holland in 1988 and printed for Leslie by Keith Mobey, the then owner of In Touch Services that traded from the Apsley House Arcade in Wootton Bassett. Keith and June were sorting out some old papers and passed this on to me, and I in turn will be passing it on to the Museum.

The booklet is 1/3rd A4 in size, but cut lengthways rather than like a compliment slip, so it is 297mm wide by 70mm high – a good format for strip cartoons. There are 7 inside pages with from 2 to 4 cartoons per page and I have reproduced one strip below.

When he retired, Keith Mobey sold the business on to his assistant, Lois Ingham, who continued at Apsley House for some years before transferring the business to her home at Church Street in Wootton Bassett. Lois in turn retired (early!) and now lives in the Vendée region of France with her husband Ray. At that time, in 2002, I bought In Touch Services from Lois and moved it to Purton where I have been trading ever since.

So at the end of this August, I shall have completed 10 years here at Pavenhill and wish to thank all my clients, including Purton Magazine for their valued support over that period.

There will be clearer pictures on the web site at [www.purtonmuseum.com](http://www.purtonmuseum.com).

(Copyright of the booklet belongs to the Holland family.)

*RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer*



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

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

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## Green Tips - Water!



In the first seven years of the new millennium, more studies, reports, and books on the global water crisis have been published than in all of the preceding century. Almost every country has undertaken research to ascertain its water wealth.

There is a finite amount of available freshwater on the planet and it makes its way through a cycle that ensures its safe return to us for our continued use; water vapour condenses to form clouds; winds move the clouds spreading the water vapour; when the clouds cannot hold the moisture, they release it in the form of rain or snow, which either seeps into the ground to replenish groundwater or runs off into lakes, streams, and rivers. As these processes happen, the heating by the sun causes evaporation, changing liquid water into vapour to renew the cycle.

So, we should never “run out” of water. The issue for our parish is how much how much descends on us and when. As we have seen recently, that is not an easy prediction. Appropriate management of our water is vital to ensuring that water quantity and quality is maintained at least, and improved where possible throughout Wiltshire. Three river basin management plans have been prepared for Wiltshire (and surrounding areas) which recognise that many of Wiltshire’s rivers are over-abstracted or over-licensed, putting stresses on the rivers that are likely to be exacerbated in the future due to climate change.

So, new developments must use water efficiently. The *Code for Sustainable Homes* provides water efficiency standards for new homes. Policies in the new draft Wiltshire Core Strategy sets levels of the code to be met by new homes and for water efficiency measures that should be incorporated within non-residential development.

In addition to these requirements, Wiltshire Council is supposed to maintain dialogue with infrastructure providers and neighbouring planning authorities to ensure an overall improvement of critical water resources, and to ensure that development proposals can be serviced without increasing the pressure on existing natural systems. In practice, it is not as seamless as one might expect. Water companies have a statutory duty to provide water and rarely, if ever, object to new residential developments; since their job is to provide water come what may.

So, although we should never “run out” of water, we can anticipate that it will be scarce on occasions, and be far more than we would like at other times.

In the parish we are fortunate in having a large number of wells, aquifers, two main watercourses (River Key to the west of the village and the River Ray to the east) and a vast ditch system. More detail on the wells and aquifers, and even an old reservoir may be found on the Ps and Qs web site under *Transform Purton Parish*. If you have any information on any other water sources please let us know as this information can be plotted on maps to provide a more detailed appreciation of the overall water system of Purton. Potentially, the village could have a good supply of water for the future. Thinking more creatively, there could even be opportunities to use naturally-occurring wet land (such as behind Jewels Ash and

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Vasterne Close) and the storm water from the top of the village to develop new amenity in the village.

### **Stop Press**

Later this month the Widham Farm Appeal begins; on 21 August. If you wish to speak then it is essential to be present on that first day (just prior to 10 am) to register. Since the Appeal is scheduled for two or three days, third parties (those who want to speak) may not be called to speak on that first day. Usually, the barristers (for Wiltshire Council and for the Appellant) and their witnesses occupy the first day. We are increasingly observing that inspectors like to know how much support there is for third party opinions (such as those of Ps and Qs). Consequently, we would appreciate an email (with name and house address) to support our presentation to the Appeal. Please email to [advice@purtoninfo.org.uk](mailto:advice@purtoninfo.org.uk) – the Ps and Qs case may be accessed via our web site [www.purtoninfo.org.uk](http://www.purtoninfo.org.uk)

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

## **Purton & Green Gable Surgery - Group for Patients - G4P**

### **1. Talk on Dementia: Tuesday 2 October, 7.30 - 9 pm**

We will be hosting a Talk on Dementia by Dr Simon Manchip, Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry and Memory Problems on Tuesday 2 October, 7.30 to 9 pm in Purton Surgery. Also present will be Heather Wannell, Legal Executive for Forrester and Forrester, solicitors specialising in Wills, Probate and Elderly Client Affairs.

Although this is a free event, tickets are required due to limited seating. Please contact Purton Surgery, tel 01793 770207, for tickets

**2. Appointments** can be made online at [www.emisaccess.co.uk](http://www.emisaccess.co.uk). You can also access this website through Purton Surgery website ([www.purtonsurgery.co.uk](http://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).

**3. 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](mailto: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 year, so it would help if you left four each year.



SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary G4P

# PURTON PLACARD

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

Purton Age Concern invites you to a  
**1940's DANCE**  
with the Mid West Big Band  
on Saturday 18 August  
Purton Village Hall at 8 pm.  
Supper and licensed bar  
Fancy dress optional  
Tickets £15  
from Ron and Heather Harris 770850  
or Mick Hull on 772453

**PURTON AGE CONCERN  
JUMBLE SALE**  
at the Village Hall  
on Saturday 1 September  
at 2 pm.  
Jumble can be left at the hall  
from 12 noon to 1 pm.  
Nearly new, bric a brac,  
books, toys, lots of bargains

Group for Patients  
Purton and Green Gable Surgery  
**Talk on Dementia**  
by Dr Simon Manchip  
Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry and Memory Problems  
Tuesday 2 October 7.30 to 9 pm  
at Purton Surgery  
Also present will be Heather Wannell  
Legal Executive specialising in  
Wills, Probate and Elderly Client Affairs  
Free event but tickets are required due to limited seating.  
Tickets from Purton Surgery, tel 01793 770207

**PADS**  
**The Government Inspector**  
by  
**Nikolai Gogol**  
5 and 6 October  
at the Village Hall  
More information next month

**Queen's Diamond Jubilee  
Exhibition**  
at Purton Museum  
(above Purton Library)  
**Until the end of August**  
A special Jubilee exhibition to  
celebrate the event.  
Open during Library hours  
(Mon 2 - 5pm; Tues 2 - 7pm;  
Wed 10am - 5pm; Fri 2 - 7pm)

**Purton Age Concern  
T'AI CHI**  
Come and experience  
this gentle exercise  
on Thursdays from 2 to 3 pm  
at the Millennium Hall  
£3 a session  
Further details from Mick Hull  
772453

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## Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



The Rainbow unit has welcomed some new members: Amelie, Ellieanah, Hana and Mollie. Unfortunately the unit has only managed one outdoor meeting so far which was a trail to find rabbit shapes. They have also made bunny helicopters and helpful elephants to help the girls keep the Rainbow promise.

The weather has meant all units have had to shuffle their meeting plans around but it has meant we've appreciated our fine weather evenings all the more for their rarity this summer.

Guides have spent a lot of time outdoors: they went to the County Campsite near Wroughton where they joined with Guides from across the County for outdoor activities. Making smores (toasted marshmallows sandwiched between chocolate digestives) was a real hit. Some Purton Guides will be joining Guides from Melksham for camp in August, so the unit had a camp preparation evening where they practised bedding rolls, knots for camp gadgets and made edible campfires. Another evening was spent at Lydiard Park for wide games and at the end of June nine Guides and two Brownies took part in a Canadian Canoeing taster session at Coate Water. As well as paddling around, they played ladders and stood on the end of the canoes to wobble them!!

The Brownies have been carrying on with challenges from the Olympic resource. Both units have staged pentathlons; 1<sup>st</sup> Purton used the original pentathlon events – running, long jump, javelin, discus and wrestling (the Brownie version was arm wrestling!). 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton's events included pistol shooting (water pistols), show jumping (riding space hoppers through a course) and 'hoplitodromos' (running in full armour!)

2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies have also made granola bars for energy, designed sports kits and played a wide game at Lydiard Park where they had to "race for the rings", finding five different coloured rings and completing an activity at each one. They completed the Culture section of the Olympics badge by making poi (they used socks weighted at the end). Poi is a Maori dance, developed by New Zealand women to keep their fingers supple for weaving. The poi are swung round in various shapes.

1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies have been lucky enough to have visitors to help them with other parts of the Olympics challenge. They enjoyed a tennis coaching session during Wimbledon fortnight – followed of course by strawberries and cream washed down with Brownie Bucks Fizz. Linked to a discussion about the Paralympics, they and the Guide unit welcomed a coach and two members of Swindon Rockets, the powerchair football team for an evening. Following a demonstration from the two Dans, the girls had the chance to go on a powerchair and dribble a football (which was much harder than it looked!) as well as the manual chair which they couldn't get to 12mph like the powerchair! They also found out lots about powerchair football from the question and answer sessions.

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 874066 or [braydondc@wncounty.org.uk](mailto:braydondc@wncounty.org.uk).

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## Don't miss The Cricklade Show!

Yes, it's that time of the year again for the Cricklade Show extravaganza which will be held on the customary Bank Holiday Monday which this year falls on 27 August.

This year to excite and interest we have a full programme of arena attractions, traditional horse show, dog agility display, live music, exotic animals including Sid the python, fun fair, variety of catering, beer tent, working dogs, vintage vehicles, carriage driving, craft tent, trade stands and much more.

The Show takes place by kind permission of the Sweet family at the usual location of Upper Broadleaze Farm, just a short walk along Chelworth Road from the end of The Forty. Free car parking will be signposted from the Purton Road. This year we have reduced the cost of a family ticket (2 adults and three children) by £3 and so it is now just £15 for a full day's entertainment. Gates open at 9 am.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer as a helper, or if you would like to book a trade stand (it's not too late) then please visit our website [www.crickladeshow.co.uk](http://www.crickladeshow.co.uk) or phone me on 01793 750099 or 07557 523825.

I look forward to seeing you there!

*MARK CLARKE, Cricklade Show Chairman*

## Purton Guide Dogs

The weather on Carnival day wasn't as good as we wanted it to be, but still a fair number of people came and supported the Fete. We took £56.57 on our stall plus two donations which gave us a total of £66.57 for the day. I have now received the application forms for the Cricklade Show on August Bank Holiday.

Many thanks for all your support.

*BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group*



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## For Your Diary

Silver Threads: 15 September    Jumble Sale  
                         21 September    Open Day

Helping Hand    7 September    Concert by Kennet Accordion Orchestra

## It Makes you Think ...

What you don't see with your eyes, don't invent with your mouth.    *Jewish Proverb*

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### Investors In Careers Full Award Presentation:

As reported in the last issue we were delighted to have been awarded the 'Full' Investors in Careers (IiC) award passing through the final assessment with flying colours. Bradon Forest is the first school in the Wiltshire/Swindon/Oxfordshire area to have gained this award.

Julie Cathcart, (Head of School Improvement, Wiltshire Council) presented the award and plaque to Mr Hutchings (Progression Manager). The award recognises the quality work undertaken by the Progression, PSHE, Pastoral and Learning Support teams with our students.



Back row L-R: Mr Spiers, Mr Campbell (Connexions), Mr Winward  
Front row L-R: Grace Bartlett (Y9), Mr Hutchings, Ms Cathcart, Olly Webb (Y11)

**National ICT Quality Mark: 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium Learning Award:** Earlier this year Bradon Forest had been invited, as one of only 108 schools, to be part of the national pilot for this new award. The award is designed as the next step for schools which hold the ICT Mark. As a holder of the ICT Mark since 2006, we were keen to showcase the excellent use of ICT by students, teachers, governors and partner primaries. This new award is assessed on two videos produced by the staff and students which are submitted to the national judging panel. Mr Wright worked with members of the e-team, both students and staff, to identify outstanding practice across the school and the team then contributed to our video submission which you can see at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mu3jmhbLJJq&feature=email](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mu3jmhbLJJq&feature=email)

**Stop Press:** We have just been informed that we are one of the 36 successful schools out of the 108 schools. The presentation of the award will take place at the NACCE National Awards ceremony at Intel HQ in Swindon in early July.

**Science Fieldwork at Ravensroost Wood:** Year 8 students have all recently spent a morning investigating this question at the local beauty spot Ravensroost Wood, with thanks to the landowners, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. They braved the conditions resulting from the rainy weather to use fieldwork techniques that they have learnt in Science lessons to compare the plant species growing in areas of the site that have been managed in different ways. They took measurements of temperature and light intensity and collected soil samples. Back in the laboratories the students analysed the pH and humidity levels of their soil samples.



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Finally they looked for correlations between the number and variety of species they recorded and the physical conditions they had measured. It was an activity that develops a range of practical and thinking skills and gives the children opportunity to take their scientific studies beyond the classroom.

**King James Bibles:** Many of you will have read about the gold-embossed King James Bibles that have recently been presented to every school (primary and secondary) in England by the Secretary of State for Education. The Bible is in its own burgundy gold-embossed sleeve and is an exact replica of the original. We have donated the Bradon Forest copy to the St Mary's Parish Council. They will be dedicating it to the junior section of the church and using it for bible study. In light of the costs/sums involved in printing and distributing these Bibles to every school at least our copy will be used appropriately for the benefit of Purton children who are members of St Mary's Church.

**'Love and Monsters' presented to the Library:** Mr Booy, a former history teacher at Bradon Forest School, and his wife have presented the student librarians with a copy of the book *'Love and Monsters, The Doctor Who Experience 1979 to the present'*, for the school library. The book was written by their son **Miles**. The student librarians thought it was fantastic to have a former teacher talking about the history of Bradon Forest and hearing about the success of a former pupil.



**'Book Buzz' for Year 7s:** Mrs Styles and Mrs Sykes, our Librarians, report: *'Booked Up' was a government funded project to provide each Year 7 student across the country with a free book – chosen from a selection – at the start of secondary school. The government has stopped its funding for this, but the charity book trust 'Book Buzz' is continuing to offer each new Year 7 student a free book for a cost to their school of £2.50 each. We are keen to offer this to next year's Year 7s so are delighted that we are able to fund this next year utilising the £500 for school use from Emma Bessent's recent success in the Readers Digest Competition. We believe that supporting the scheme reinforce our belief that encouraging reading is an important Bradon Forest principle we all subscribe to.*

**KS3 Enrichment Trip - Kingswood Centre, Bembridge, Isle of Wight:** This is



the fourth year that we have chosen to visit The Kingswood Centre. During the last four years we have taken 48 students from KS3. The purpose of the trip is to work as a team, challenge our fears and extend skills we have in sharing with others. The various high rope challenges certainly took its toll on some of us who are a little intimidated at walking a balance beam at 30ft. Well done to those who smashed this challenge.





Our early start from school on Friday allowed us to explore the island which included visiting the Victorian Shopping Centre in Ryde and The National Trust at The Needles. The welcome we received at The Kingswood Centre is second to none. Matt Sandall was our Team Leader for the weekend and having years of experience serving in the Army, Matt certainly put us through our paces; his professionalism and focus on 'personal challenge' was just the ticket for our able

students. Throughout the weekend the group worked as a discrete team. The programme this year consisted of Balance Beam, Jacob's Ladder, Leap of Faith, Climbing, Archery, Fencing, Aeroball, Go-Karting, 3G Swing, Team Challenge assault course, Nightline blindfold challenge and sports activities. We look forward to our fifth anniversary in 2013 but this year will certainly take a lot to beat.

*LEN SPIERS, Headteacher*

*Purton Tennis Club*

Its hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of the summer season. Anyway as far as matches are concerned. In spite of the rotten weather many matches have been played but it will take time to find out where everyone is in their various divisions. What we do know is that the Ladies A, previous winners, in Division 1 are presently lying in third place (so there's plenty to play for!) while the Mixed A are in second place also in Division 1 – so it could be an exciting finish! ... All the other teams are having mixed fortunes but are enjoying their games – on the whole! And that is also true of our young players who, in spite of not winning the Junior matches, thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have all felt that their match play has improved – so well done Matty Hall, Elliot Gunton and Jake Looker. The future of the club is with you. Meanwhile the Saturday morning sessions being run by Nicola Gardner now have 20 children playing so they will soon be snapping at the heels of those three.



Plans for Activity Week in August are going ahead and there will be tennis available for the young people of Purton. Let's just hope that the weather is kind. Anyway, we are delighted to be part of this village enterprise. Ben Langley will be in charge and is preparing to give the youngsters a really good work out but also to let them enjoy the day. Any queries about the programme should be addressed either to Justin Miller on 07881 020002 or Ben Langley 07954 350579.

It is maddening to report that we are still having problems with minor vandalism and anti-social behaviour. There is to be a meeting of all on the Red House campus with Parish Councillors and the Police to see a way forward. In the meanwhile we are grateful to members of the public who have alerted us to problems on site. It **is** a help to know what is happening as we can't be there 24/7. Many thanks for your vigilance and for reporting problems to us.

*CAROLINE MCLEAN*

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## Purton Bowls Club

This last month has been a very sad time for the club with the death of Pat Stephenson, a much loved and respected lady in the bowling world, who held many positions in National, County, Swindon and District and Club organisations, including umpiring a World Bowling competition. Our thoughts are with her family.



League, Club and County competitions are being played with the friendly games at the weekend being well supported. We look forward to the game at Windsor on 12 August – there are a few spare seats available at £10 – call P Reddan on 01793 525016

BARBARA WOOLFORD

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

Although the junior teams have recorded some impressive results and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI have completed most of the scheduled fixtures the 1<sup>st</sup> XI has been badly hit by the recent wet weather with the last four games either not being started or completed. This has been the wettest season in living memory and the players are desperate to have a sunny, warm second part of the season.



### Fixtures at Purton in August:-

4 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI v Cherhill	1.45pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	Wilts U13 Boys v Wales	1.00pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI v Biddestone	1.45pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	U11 v Shrivenham	10.30am
18 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> XI v Westinghouse	1.45pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	U15 v Wootton Bassett	1.45pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI v Potterne	1.45pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	U13 v Shrivenham	1.45pm

### From the Archives – North Wilts Herald Aug 1862

‘The return match with the Royal Agricultural College was played at Purton on Wednesday Aug 27. The Purton Club may be proud of the fact that in the late match at Cirencester when the “United” – an England XI – were so signally defeated, nine members of Purton played and scored 147 runs, 41 more than the United Eleven made in their first innings, and 12 more than they made in the second innings.

‘The scores in the Purton v RAC were as follows:- Purton 147 and 114, RAC 120 and 31 for 1.’

JOE GARDNER

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

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## Purton F.C.



The new season will commence in early August with the first team again competing in the UHlsport Hellenic League Div 1 West under the guidance of joint managers Chris Pethick and Stephen Hall and a Reserve team competing again in the Plaister Auto Wilts Premier League again under the guidance of manager Albert Dearing.

Pre-season training re-commenced in late June and Friendly games played in July. Both sides will be hoping to improve on last seasons final placings in which both sides finished 7<sup>th</sup>.

At their AGM in early July Alan Eastwood was re-elected as President/Chairman and Hon Sec and Wendy Phillips re-elected as Hon Treasurer. The Club's committee members will be Chris Pethick, Stephen Hall, Jamie Cowley, Albert Dearing and Colin Richards, Gary Norman and the team captains of both Purton sides.

Any new players will be welcomed to the club and anyone wishing to sponsor the club in the form of a Match programme advert should contact Alan Eastwood (tel. 729844) who will gladly accommodate you. Although no silverware was collected last season, first Team skipper Marcus Hall was awarded the Hellenic League Div 1 West player of the season award, a worthy winner who notched 17 goals from his mid-field position last season.

Youth and Minors season re-commences in September but currently not able to say at what levels as this is still in progress.

ALAN EASTWOOD

## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



On a drizzly, overcast June evening we welcomed Peter Sanday for his talk on 'Roses, Care, History, Cultivation and Pruning'.

Peter informed us that all rose species had already evolved as long ago as five million years.

The Emperor Nero, is known to have spent vast sums on sumptuous banquets which would begin with an *hors d'œuvres* of roses. Guests were able to wash their hands in rose water and reclined on couches stuffed with rose petals. At the end of a banquet an abundance of rose petals would be dropped down from the tables to the floor. It was not unknown for the occasional guest to roll off a couch, in a drunken stupor, and to be found suffocated by roses the following morning.

Moss roses, so called because of the furry effect on the underside of the flower, became popular in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and in later times roses were introduced from China and the Far East. Although weaker than European roses they were found to give a repeat flowering. Cross-breeding of the two produced the Bourbon rose.

The 'Bractea' rose is thought to be the longest living of all roses. A German cathedral is believed to have been built on top of a 'Bractea' rose which continued to survive whilst building progressed.

Their popularity since ancient times has ensured that an astonishing number of hybrid roses are cultivated today.

Peter went on to discuss the characteristics of a variety of roses such as shrub

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roses which vary hugely in habit, some as neat as 2 feet high, some as tall as 20 feet. Climbers and ramblers are wild roses and are invaluable in the garden for growing amongst other shrubs. 'Sanders White' displays all the characteristics of a Rambler. Its stems are flexible allowing it to be easily trained to romp through shrubs and trees. On the other hand climbers are stiff and upright and more moderate in growth. The sweet 'Briar Rose' produces a beautifully perfumed sap between May and July smelling of apple blossom, hence its name. Floribunda roses, such as the popular 'Iceberg', produce clusters of flowers as opposed to single flowers.

Peter provided us with invaluable information for buying and caring for roses.

Firstly, always do your homework prior to buying to ensure that you choose the right rose for the right spot and never plant a new rose in the soil vacated by an old rose as this can decimate the new plant. Bare root roses are fine to plant. However care needs to be taken with container grown roses to ensure that the root ball is not disturbed exposing the young white roots.

Secondly, when pruning, always use a sharp pair of good quality secateurs to prevent disease. Pruning should only be undertaken when there is a reasonable sap flow, about mid-February. If the weather is too cold the sap will not rise to heal the cut. Always prune hard back, removing any frosted or damaged stems and then look at the bush to see if there are enough stems to allow one or two old stems to be removed at ground level. This will produce new basal growth.

To dead-head roses, cut just above a dormant eye to divert the sap flow to the eye. In summer, roses can be cut back harder to maintain a bushy shrub.

Climbers and Ramblers just need a trim and tidy up as wherever a cut is made, new growth will shoot.

Thirdly, deal with pests and diseases promptly. An insecticide should be used to eliminate greenfly and caterpillars that hide on the underside of the leaves.

A fungicide should be used to control rose rust which is brought on by warm days and cold nights. In all cases read the instructions for use carefully and only spray in the evening. If spraying takes place in the morning, water is evaporated by the early sun and the concentrate remains on the leaves which can scorch.

Avoid watering as water will not penetrate to the deep roots and humidity occurs, the perfect breeding ground for mildew and black spot on the leaves. The only remedy is to remove and burn the leaves.

A sucker is a parasite living off the energy of the root. It should be removed by ripping it off where the heel joins the root.

There were many questions for Peter at the end of his talk and I'm sure that we all went home the wiser for all the information we had gained from a brilliant talk delivered so enthusiastically and humorously.

There were many lovely entries for our 'single rose' competition. The winners this month: 1<sup>st</sup> Delia Walters, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jill Herbert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mary Read

Our next meeting will be on 28 August at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall when Duncan Coombs will join us to talk about 'Autumn Colour & Interest in the Garden'. Competition: 'Selection of 4 vegetables'. New members welcome.

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

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