

Purton Magazine



World Challenge Morocco Trek Team at the highest point of the trek. Picture taken by Sam Denny (World Challenge leader). See article on [Page 39](#)

September 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

David Nettleton, tel 772298

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 Olympic Games have now finished and the Paralympic Games will be starting at the end of August. By all accounts and from all perspectives, the Olympics have been a resounding success. The organisers had everything ready on time and – we are told – on budget, while the travel organisers appear to have emptied the city of London with their dire warnings about traffic grid lock and steep penalties for entering “games lanes.”

Then there were the “games makers” – some 70,000 volunteers who have been universally praised even before competitors from Team GB started winning so many medals. For once, Britain is again being seen as Great in the eyes of other countries and some of their comments have been collected in an article on [page 26](#). The Evening WI were fascinated by their speaker last month whose subject was “Olympic Equestrian Sports and Dressage Training” and, according to the report on [page 28](#), those attending the talk were able to view the events in Greenwich Park with a much greater knowledge.

Just before the Games started, George Griffin set off on his World Challenge Morocco Trek for “an amazing 2 weeks” and a photo showing his team at their highest point is on our front cover this month with his report on [page 39](#).

Physical activities of a more local nature also find their way into this issue of your magazine. For example, tennis coaching starts next month as does their Friday evening social tennis out on their courts. Then there is the annual Parish Walk on 16 September. All are welcome to join in and details are on [page 5](#) – as are details of the next informal Rights of Way meeting which might also interest local walkers.

Success resulting from physical activities comes from the Open Gardens weekend. Despite the damp start, many gardeners were able to show off their hard work to lots of appreciative visitors. Around £2,700 was raised for good causes. While a little under £1,000 is going to charities chosen by the individual garden owners, the rest will be collated and distributed locally. As in previous years, many cream teas were provided, although this year, ladies from the Luncheon Club also provided lunches in the Silver Threads Hall. Concluding his report on [page 13](#), Nick Yerbury wonders about combining chefs and gardeners next time – even though the image his title suggests is a little disturbing!

15th

September is the new date for the postponed Jubilee fireworks display – see [page 36](#)

72 or 73

-year-olds’
Purton School reunion
on 19th October
– see [page 19](#)

600+

Jubilee
party pennants
now available for hire
– see [page 28](#)

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Purton
Magazine

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Parish Council News



Parish Walk – each year the Parish Council organises a parish walk. This year the walk will be held on Sunday 16 September, starting at 2 pm from Ringsbury Close, congregating at the seats/flower troughs. The walk will cover approximately 3.5 miles. All are welcome to join the walk. Sturdy waterproof footwear is recommended.

If you would like further details then please contact Cllr Ron Harris on 770850.

This is not intended to put anybody off of walking but please be aware that Lyme Disease can be contracted from ticks so if you have a tick bite we would advise you to seek medical advice as Lyme Disease can have some serious long-term side effects.

Informal Rights of Way Meeting – Our next Informal Rights of Way meeting will be held on Monday 3 September, starting at 7 pm in Purton Village Hall. If you have an interest in walking and want to find out more about the numerous rights of way we have in Purton Parish then please come along. Definitive maps and walks booklets will be available to buy.

Wiltshire Warm and Well Scheme – The Wiltshire Warm and Well scheme is funded by Wiltshire Council and along with other grant funding from energy suppliers is offering grants to help insulate properties throughout the Wiltshire area. The funding is only available until September (if you enquire up to mid-September you should be in time) so if you are interested then you will need to make contact as soon as possible. You can find out more by phoning Freephone 0800 500 3076, Text WARM to 83010, email: warm&well@swea.co.uk, online at www.warmandwell.co.uk

Bus timetables are available from the Parish Council Office.

Parish Plan Questionnaires – don't forget to fill in your questionnaires and return them so that your views can be taken into account in the Parish Plan.

Street Lighting – Wiltshire Council is carrying out consultations on changes to street lighting in the county. The Council needs to save money and reduce its carbon footprint by reducing energy usage. Rising energy costs, carbon tax and budget restraints make it necessary to change the way we light our streets. The proposals include introducing part night lighting so that about 50% of the council's street lighting on less busy streets are turned off between midnight and 5.30 am, and other are dimmed at less busy times. Wiltshire Council is conducting an online survey on their web site. The Parish Council would like to know your views on these proposals so would be pleased to hear from you. Either complete the survey on line or contact the Parish Council for more details.

Wiltshire Council has approved the following planning applications:

- N12/00830/FUL *Malfords, Locks Lane*, single storey front and side extensions
- N12/01367/FUL *Land at White Lodge Farm, Braydon*, excavation and installation of slurry lagoon (Revision of N11/03789/FUL)
- N12/01271/FUL *9 Smiths Court*, single storey extension

Wiltshire Council has refused the following planning applications:

N12/01219/FUL & N12/01347/CAC 4 Church Street, Purton, demolition and replacement of boundary wall

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

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

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

News from The Trustees of the Purton War Memorial & Village Centre

We are very concerned about children leaving the Village Centre on scooters and skateboards etc, going straight out into the road, although there are signs warning them of the danger of this. They don't only go out into the road but they stay on the road – only the other day I was in the Lower Square and one skater shot straight over the halt sign (like a lot of motorists!) and on down the hill, not looking one way or the other. I suppose they do not have any fear but WOULD PARENTS PLEASE WARN THEIR CHILDREN OF THE DANGERS. We do not want any accidents or to have to close the skateboard park.

On another serious issue, we have had a lot of bad vandalism at the Centre which entails a great deal of cost and disrupts the Clubs and the public. It is such a shame when the Trustees try and provide facilities for all to use and don't forget what it is there for – it is a memorial to those who lost their lives during the 1939-45 war. It was bought by the village for the village as a tribute to those brave men and women. We have had a meeting of all interested parties and this includes residents in close proximity to the Centre. The outcome is that a working party will be set up to look into what can be done to stop these unnecessary and mindless acts of vandalism. Could I say that one of the most important things to do if you see or hear anything happening, please ring the Police on 101. I cannot stress how important this is.

You will see a considerable change at the Centre – as previously mentioned, one of the copper beech trees has to be felled through disease. The other one has to have considerable work done on it hopefully to keep it for a few more years. We would like to thank Carolyn Blackburn, who runs the yoga classes in the Millennium Hall, for her kind donation towards the cost of the work being done to keep this tree for a few more years. It is not advisable to plant another tree in the same area for about ten years as the disease is still in the ground.

On a much brighter note, could we thank Paul and David, our ground staff, for the lovely flower display around the Institute, the Village Hall and the Top Square. They look really lovely and, coupled with that, thanks to whoever looks after the two troughs at Ringsbury Close. It all helps to enhance our village.

Cllr. TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

Just a Thought

The greatest pleasure in life is doing what others say you cannot do.

Anon.

Purton & District Age Concern



I would like to pay tribute to a man we have sadly lost from our community who will be greatly missed not only by his family but by his neighbours and everyone who knew him. He was the type of person who, with his help and kindness, made our village the place it is – a lovely place to live. Some of you may know the person I am talking about – **Roy Hunt** who lived in Witts Lane, someone it was always a joy to meet and speak to, very positive in his outlook on life. Roy was born in Oxenwood in Wiltshire, one of four brothers. What a lovely area to play and work in, in fact it was only yesterday by coincidence that I came through that village (I am writing this on 9 August). After leaving school in the village, he followed in the family tradition working on a farm but moving on over the border to Brightwater in Berkshire. It proved a very good move for this is where he met Stella, his wife to be. They got married in 1956 – however in those days farm workers' contracts were from year to year. I don't know whether that had any bearing on Roy and Stella moving to Purton in 1962. The one thing I do know from all reports, and from what I have seen, any farmer would be glad to have someone as hardworking and excellent as Roy to work for them.

I am thinking that, when they moved to Purton, it was to work at West Marsh Farm where Retters used to farm, roughly where Handy Gas is now (or have they changed the name). I don't think they lived there but lived in New Road – I think Hills owned West Marsh Farm and when they closed it down Roy went to work for Yorkshire Imperial Plastics, making plastic pipes. From there he went on to work at Doeflex Compound making records. Now I am told that a certain Purton gentleman worked there who liked his drink and Roy often wondered what the compound was like when he mixed it because the measurement was quite precise – still that's another story! After that, when he was 60, Roy went to work for Joey Frost. I believe this came about as Joe was working on Roy and Stella's house in Witts Lane – they had moved there in 1972. Another factor was that Roy was working nights and wanted a change. I expect Joe saw Roy's potential and asked if he would like to work for him. This was the time when we had a granny annexe and a flat built and I began to get to know Roy and found him to be a very honest, reliable, hardworking man who was always very cheerful and obliging. While working with Joey he worked on the changing rooms at the Village Centre, then in semi-retirement he worked with Brian Baker digger driving. Don't think he sat down in semi-retirement because he used to help people, cutting grass and tending gardens and all the other little things he did for neighbours, even babysitting in days gone by. He also loved his own garden and, when he came home from work, would be straight out in the garden to work there. He loved the plants he grew and was always pleased if you showed an interest in them.

Roy was a very sociable person insomuch that he would be asked in to have a cup of tea and he would still be there after three hours. It was not all work and no play for Roy because he liked a game of golf. I am told that, whilst the others eyed the ball up – you know how they do – their golf balls would go all over the place, but not Roy – he would put down his golf ball, one swing and it would go as straight as a die.

I suppose he had a good eye because he was no mean darts player – was it *The Ghost Train* he played for or perhaps it was before they changed the name and it was *The Railway Hotel*. In fact he got to the men's singles finals only to be beaten by that star of our time Pete Harding, who got out with the bull in the final leg.

Roy was an early bird and he liked to go and get his paper along with Brian Moody at 6.30 am every morning. I wonder whether that was to see the results of the previous day's crossword as he loved doing them. He was a very placid man – when he was working for Joey he had a hair growing on his nose and it was irritating Joey not Roy (I never thought Joey got irritated!). I don't know what was said but Joey got some pliers and pulled the hair out – Roy only smiled – he certainly was an easygoing man! On about rising early, he used to cut his lawn before he went to work. One of Roy's pleasures was walking his dog around the village, having a chat to one and another. People would go out of their way to talk to him as there would always be a cheerful response.

I have never heard anyone say a bad word about Roy and it was a pleasure to have known such a gentleman as him. To Stella, his wife that he cared for so lovingly when she was poorly in later years, and to all his family and friends we offer our deepest sympathy. We thank the family for money in lieu of flowers coming to our minibus fund.

Could I thank all concerned for the Open Gardens weekend – the weather was not too good to start off but who cares about the weather when you got such a lovely warm welcome on entering the gardens. It is surprising what gardens are behind peoples' houses – a real pleasure to walk round them and get ideas for your own garden and what about the refreshments at different gardens, the different varieties of cakes were unbelievable. It certainly encouraged you to have a piece of cake or a cream tea in each garden and let's not forget the excellent lunch on the Saturday served in the Silver Threads Hall. It hasn't been an easy year for gardeners but this didn't show in the gardens we looked at. I know what a lot of hard work goes into this weekend and you were all a credit to Purton. Could I say a special thank you to **Ron and Ann Gladwyn** and **Richard Park** for money coming to Age Concern raised through the sale of cream teas, refreshments and, of course, Ron's tractor rides.

Another nice occasion was when the Age Concern group plus friends were guests of our President Miss Elizabeth Ward at Red Loge for a social evening with a fish and chip supper. The weather was kind, although it perhaps got a little chilly as the evening went on, but it didn't spoil the pleasure of being at Red Lodge, so many thanks Elizabeth for your hospitality. You are very kind not only to us but to the whole village in so many ways.

Our trip to Weston was very enjoyable, although not quite so many went this time. The weather was kind in view of what we have had lately – rain at lunch time and a torrential storm when it was time to leave. Nearly everybody was either on the coach or sheltering except two who were sat on the pier watching the storm come in and then decided to walk to the coach. They got soaked but the gentleman declined to take his trousers off to dry as suggested when he got on the coach. They were certainly glad to get home, have a shower and change into something

dry. Still I think they learnt their lesson, didn't we Sheila?

On a serious note, would you like a change of venue for our annual trip? We have been going to Weston for the last 26 years. It is a one-and-a-half-hour trip which makes it a nice place for a day. If we went to another seaside place it would be at least a three hour trip which would make it a very long day. Any comments would be appreciated.

Our next mystery tour is on Wednesday 5 September, 2 pm start with tea included, cost £11 – if you have not booked there might still be room so give me a ring on 770696. Following on from September, we have our final trip of the season – 10 am start with lunch, cost £11 – names to your street wardens by 24 September.

On Saturday 1 September we have a jumble sale in the Village Hall. We welcome any good clean jumble and bric a brac. It can be left in the hall between 12 noon and 1 pm. with the sale starting at 2 pm.

The befriending that we want to get going is gaining momentum. We now have five people who have offered their services. Would you like to join them? Basically what it involves is paying someone a visit, having a chat for an hour and perhaps a cup of tea. It is only a little thing but it would mean so much to a person.

Our annual antiques and collectables fayre, kindly organised for us by Jenny Barnes, is on Sunday 21 October at the Village Hall. If you would like a stall, or should I say tables, contact Jenny on 770339 and, of course, we would appreciate any items for Jenny's stall.

I will close by saying I am sorry I got it wrong again when I said a little bit about **Tom Rigg** being an evacuee here during the war. His father moved down here in 1932 from Jarrow having been unemployed since leaving school and I think he left before the famous Jarrow march on Parliament. Tom's uncle got his father a job at Hills brickyard and he lodged with Mrs Tuck at Pavenhill. From there he went on to work for Wiltshire County Council before going into the Army. Sorry about that.

TONY PRICE

Editor's Note:

We would like to point out that Tony is not the "official village obituary writer" and can only write about people he knows. If you wish to have an obituary placed in Purton Magazine you can send it ... hand-written, typed or emailed ... to the regular Magazine address: c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill, Purton SN5 4DB or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk.

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News from The Cricklade Band

Since the band's 125th Anniversary (1887-2012) we've been out and about at our usual busy list of events. One of the 'birthday' events was a weekend visit to Bournemouth which culminated on perhaps the best sunny Sunday of the summer with a performance on Bournemouth's prestigious Pinewalk Bandstand. This was tremendously well-received by a huge audience – the most-repeated comment being 'are you a professional band'. Other comments praised us for playing music that was well-known, music that you could dance to (and some did, including everyone on the crazy-golf course for a while), for not being 'a boring brass band' and for having 'a cool uniform'.

Our BandAcademy (where we coach the musicians of the future) have also been out and about taking part in a festival of young musicians hosted by Phoenix Brass at Pewsey.

The Launch of the band's new CD, *Playtime*, was on Cricklade Festival day with many copies being snapped up. You can get your copy from the Cricklade Council office in the High Street or just call into one of our rehearsals, Monday or Thursday, at the Club at Cricklade. Just £8, the CD shows us off with a mix of music in our unique 'brass big-band' style. The CD has been described more than once by those in the know as being 'very professional' (funny how that word keeps being used) both in content and presentation – we'll leave it to your opinion though.

Onward – it's nearly that time again, nearly time to pack out Cricklade Leisure Centre for what we're calling HOGTOBIRTHDAYFEST. Ok, it's the Hogtoberfest dressed up a bit as a 125th birthday party too. Because of that, and the fact that it's two years since the last Hogtoberfest experience (and that's just what it is!) there are a few extras this year. Some, like having more trimmings with the hog roast, we can tell you about, but most will be pleasant surprises.

Hogtobirthdayfest Tickets will be available from 3 September from the Leisure Centre; at Monday or Thursday band rehearsals at the Club; or by calling Ticket Manager, John Titchener, on 07871 259391.

The important thing is not to delay: get in quick as we only have 400 tickets! Hogtobirthdayfest is on Saturday 20 October. Miss this one and you'll have a two-year wait for the next one!

Just an advance mention, too, about the Autumn Table Top Sale, Saturday 17 November at the Club at Cricklade, put it on the calendar.

Have a look at the website for more stuff about Cricklade's own Band, Crew and BandAcademy – www.thecrickladeband.co.uk

KEITH CARTER

The Lydiards & Purton Branch of N. Wilts Conservative Association

The Branch would like to thank everyone who attended our summer event at Quarry Farm, The Hyde, Purton, on 1 July 2012 when the grand sum of £1340 was raised.

Our thanks also are extended to Sue and Jonathan for the beautiful venue, and all the volunteers – in particular our young helpers – who assisted in making this such an enjoyable occasion.



Carnival 2012

We have had our open meeting and announced a profit from Carnival of £2,100 (half of last year). There has been a lot going on this year and the weather has not helped. Nevertheless we send our most grateful thanks to all who gave up spare time to help in many ways. It is very much appreciated.

Also thanks to all who supported in the events organised – response was very disappointing and we hope that you will support us next year as 2013 is the 50th anniversary of the formation of Purton Helping Hand. More details to come in the New Year. Again thanks to everyone.

PAULINE WARD, Carnival Secretary

My MBE

Goodness gracious!!! When I received the initial notification in an envelope marked CABINET OFFICE my heart did a somersault – what had I done? Then I read the contents and I just sat with my mouth wide open. ME an MBE – no way – it must be a mistake. But NO it was right. I was on my own – could not tell anyone – could not stop shaking and crying. Shattering!!!



Pauline at yet another charity event

Next the Honours List was published and my mailbox started to get full with cards and letters, phone calls, stopped in the street. It was all very overwhelming and unbelievable. I only wished my parents were here to share the honour with me – I think they would have been proud of me.

Thank you to everyone for all the loving wishes and congratulations – all in a very big bag to sit quietly and go through it all.

Since arriving in 1970, I have received a lot of caring and help from the village during the various personal ‘ups’ and ‘downs’ is which has always been appreciated and thank you PURTON for accepting me and my family into a very caring community.

PAULINE WARD

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Friday 28 September 2012

Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall 10 am - 12 noon

The Macmillan Coffee Morning is a good time to meet up with friends and acquaintances. If you can spare the time, do join us in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall on Friday 28th. You will be helping to raise funds to pay for Macmillan time, to help those affected by cancer.



VILMA MUNRO (771259)

Purton Historical Society

We may have had a break from our regular meetings over the holiday period but society members have been out and about.

In June our outing took us to Attingham Park (near Shrewsbury) and Much Wenlock. Unfortunately the weather was not on our side, but nonetheless our guides at Attingham really brought alive the history of this elegant house built for the 1st Lord Berwick in 1785. A few brave souls walked around the recently restored walled gardens and lovely parkland, but I think the rest of us will have to make a return visit in the sunshine to explore the grounds. In the afternoon we moved on to a rather damp Much Wenlock. A few of us paddled around the Priory, others found a rather good butcher's shop and came back with an assortment of goodies and many took shelter in the tea rooms and hostleries! I suspect the beauty and the history of this lovely medieval town was rather lost on most of us as we battled with brollies and waterproofs against the elements.

A sunny day in July saw a group of us in Ashton Keynes. Each year we walk round a local village or small town to discover a little of the history of a place. How frequently we drive through or bypass those familiar names without giving a thought to why or how a community has evolved on that site. I think we all left Ashton Keynes a little better informed about this really lovely and attractive village situated by the River Thames.

Our next meeting is on 20 September at 7.30 at St Mary's School. Have you ever wondered why we say 'Bob's your uncle' or 'toeing the line'? – well all will be revealed by our speaker Lynda Warren in her talk 'A Treasure Chest of Words and Sayings'. See you there!

HELEN DIXON, 770648

Old Road Layouts of Purton

In response to the 1907 postcard featured in the Magazine [*Exhibit of the Month, July 2012*] please find attached a scan of the 1921 road layout taken from the Ordnance Survey. The newly-erected War Memorial is shown by the Reading Room as a dotted circle.

BOB LLOYD

My thanks to Bob for this. The area round the War Memorial is interesting for many reasons. The old route through the lay-by is clearly shown, as is the land taken up for the road straightening which came from the land of College Farm House. The Reading Room location is now, of course, the Silver Threads Hall.

RICK DIXON



Open Gardens 14/15 July 2012 a success!

Despite a dreary start to the weekend, dampening the rush of enthusiasts, numbers of visitors picked up to reward those Purton gardeners who had agreed to show off their colourful flowers, trimmed lawns and tended shrubs, and not disappoint those looking for a weed! It is interesting to read the generally praising comments, noting visitors from other counties, perhaps staying with local friends, even one lady from USA. Someone mentioned "those pesky squirrels"!



A departure from the usual format was for ladies of the Luncheon Club to provide a very good value lunch at Silver Threads Hall on Saturday, a repas I could not resist, so special thanks to Chris, Janice, Marjorie, Diana, Jill, Belinda, Sandy, and also to Val Hale for a donation from the sale of her cards.

Food as a theme loomed large over the 2 days, especially cream teas to replace those used calories. Sales raised funds for charities chosen by individual garden owners, totalling a little under £1,000, with the Meares family sending over £200 to the Smile Train thanks to neighbours' scone making skills and daughter Anna + friends serving and washing up, doubtless with panache. Quarry Farm sent £200 to the Prospect Hospice, Wroughton by selling raffle tickets for a hamper – the winner was Mrs Joan Frost. John and Brigitte Wilkinson raised £165.20 for Cancer Research. UK. Anne Gladwyn and family raised £36 from tractor driving and £146 from cream teas, in support of Purton Age Concern. Mary Nettleton raised £52 from the sale of jams and Helen and Rick Dixon raised £50 for Help for Heroes from refreshments. Thank you to all those who made extra effort to fund raise.

Thanks too to all the outlets selling entry programmes, especially to *Best One* for selling 90 of the 350 sold. Thank you to all those who advertised in the programme for their support. And congratulations to Georgina Lewer who scored 100% in the far-from-easy photo competition – just getting round all the gardens is a challenge; she receives a £15 garden token.

The participants who opened their gardens are too numerous to mention but they are to be praised for the time and effort they dedicate for the enjoyment of others and the raising of funds. Some even attend decision making meetings and of the money raised it was decided to distribute £1,700 in the following fashion:-

- £500 to the Women's Institute for a laptop/projector ICT initiative for its members.
- £800 to Purton Luncheon Club for replacement equipment and installation works for a new dishwasher.
- £200 to Jubilee Gardens.
- £200 for Millennium Garden maintenance and re-planting.

We hope to open a selection of different gardens in 2 years time, it is not a competition but we look for variety and interest, not pristine appearance. So start planning! Perhaps those chefs amongst you could provide sustenance, and consider an Open Stomachs weekend in gardens ... !

NICK YERBURY

St Mary's Church

Ian the Priest

October is going to be a very busy month for St Mary's and you might like to note a few dates in your diary; everyone is always welcome. Our harvest festival is on 7th at 10.30 and will be followed by a bring-and-share lunch. Rev John Railton will celebrate his last service as our priest-in-charge on 14th and there will be a continental breakfast in church between the 8 am and 10.30 services so we can thank John for his time with us.



Then on Wednesday 17 October at 7.30 pm, Bishop Mike will licence Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith as our new vicar. And then on Sunday 21st Ian has asked the churchwardens to invite everyone in the village to St Mary's for "back to church" Sunday. Whether you're a regular churchgoer, someone who only comes once or twice a year, someone who has stopped coming for some reason, or someone who only goes into a church for baptisms, wedding and funerals, please come so we have a full church to welcome Ian at his first services with us.



George, Celia, Ruth and Ian at the Olympic Park

We thought you might like to know a bit more about Ian and his family: Celia and his children, George and Ruth. We plan to interview Ian for an article in the October Magazine, but for this month we will let a few family pictures tell the story.

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



George, Ruth, Celia and Ian on a cycling holiday in Scotland



Ian and Celia as proud parents at George's graduation

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Jubilee Estate, Vasterne Close, Hoggs Lane and Vasterne Hill*. 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.

Chancel Repair Liability

Some readers may have heard or read about potential difficulties that can arise from Chancel Repair Liabilities. The chancel is the part of a church that contains the principal altar and the approach to it. Chancel Repair Liabilities are historical responsibilities which can require some landowners to contribute to the costs of repairing a chancel, provided those liabilities have been registered with the Land Registry.

St Mary's in Purton is a church where such liabilities do exist. That said, only about 10% of the liability for any repairs to St Mary's chancel lies with land or property owners in Purton or Purton Stoke.

In principle, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is required to identify those parties and register the obligations. However, it took the view that the advantage of establishing and potentially benefitting from those liabilities for the church would be far outweighed by the harm that would be done to St Mary's pastoral duty of care for the village, should the church pursue those liabilities.

The PCC consulted the Charity Commission who ruled that, given the small proportion of the liability that would have to be met by those villagers, the PCC would not be in breach of its duties if it decided not to pursue the matter further. The PCC has now taken that decision.

In essence, this all means that no owner of land or property in Purton Parish will be faced with a chancel repair liability – either now or in the future, barring any change in the law.

HECTOR McLEAN on behalf of St Mary's PCC

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**



Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE

Your Magazine can be delivered free to your door every month for a £6 annual subscription within our area. Postal deliveries cost £15 per year. You can join our scheme at any time during the year with the price adjusted pro rata.

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

Church Floodlighting

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



- 8 August The Church was floodlit for **Crystal Woolford** (who would have been 9 years old); daughter of Richard and Janet Woolford; sister of Sarah, Tara + Jamie + Kelly
- 16 August St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Lily Strange**. Always in our thoughts. Frank, Gill and Ang
- 29 August St Mary's Church was floodlit for **Nancy Williams** on what would have been her 80th birthday. Miss you so much, Mum Love from all the girls and the boy.
- 3 September The church will be floodlit in memory of **John Cook** on the occasion of his birthday. Dearly loved and sadly missed husband, father and grandfather
- 14 September St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Jim Young** on his birthday, Loving memories: Peggy and family
- 29 September **Reg and Ann Ovens**: Golden Wedding To Mum and Dad. Congratulations on your 50th Wedding Anniversary, on 29 September With all our love. Paul, Ellie, Noel and Jenny, Stephen, Sharon, Amy, Hollie, Cody and Naomi

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

Coffee and Chat

We meet every Wednesday from 10 am until noon at the Silver Threads Hall. We play Scrabble, cards, dominoes and other games, or you can just 'sit and chat'. If you want some company, come and join us – a welcome awaits.

BOB TINSON

It Makes you Think ...

If life was fair, Elvis would be alive and all the impersonators would be dead.

Johnny Carson

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Having booked the sunshine, Purton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides joined forces with girls from Lydiard Millicent and Minety in July for an activity afternoon: *Let's Go Wild*. The basis for the afternoon was big cats; activities included building an obstacle course suitable for a tiger, mask-making, a puzzle treasure hunt, a scavenger hunt to create a big cat collage, biscuit baking/decorating and cocktail making. *Let's Go Wild* badges were awarded to all at the end of the afternoon.

Both Brownie units completed their work on the Olympics challenge badges before the end of the summer term. 1st Purton spent a very soggy evening at Jubilee Lake. In their sixes the Brownies had to find five volunteers hiding around the park and complete the challenges set for them – completion of each challenge was rewarded with an Olympic ring being painted on their cheek. 2nd Purton had challenges “Against the Odds”, five in total: a blindfolded obstacle course directed by another Brownie; building a wall from Lego in silence, each member of the team having different instructions; doing up a zip, buttons and laces using only one hand; tasting different flavour crisps and smelling and identifying different foods (not easy without the packet!)

End of term parties varied. 1st Purton Brownies had a Brazilian themed evening in honour of the venue for the next Olympic Games. The Brownies tasted fruit, made sequined and feathered carnival masks, did some drumming and had *Vaca Preta* (coke floats). 2nd Purton held a beach party. They made ice-cream in a bag, had a fashion parade and sea shell competition, made paper boats and floated them on a paddling pool. They also coloured parrots, did some hula hooping and had some tasty food provided by the Brownies leaving. As well as fitting in Taya and Zoe making their promise, the Guides had a BBQ with homemade burgers. It looked like they were sending smoke signals to the Bowls Club but the burgers were enjoyed by all!

There were lots of goodbyes at the end of term. Rainbows said goodbye to Alyssa, Rowen and Yenuri, who will all be joining Brownies in September. The two Brownie units said goodbye to Alex, Pippa, Janie, Chloe, Emily, Molly, Megan, Mollie-Ann and Alicia – lots of new members for Purton Guides in September! Unfortunately, 2nd Purton Brownies also said goodbye to a leader at the end of term, Eileen White, who had been a Unit Helper for 4½ years and will be sadly missed. This was her third stint as a Unit Helper, she did 3 years with Purton Guides, took a year's break, then did 9 years with 2nd Purton Brownies followed by a 5-year break before the final stint. Whilst not looking for someone willing to commit to 16½ years (!), it would be great to find someone else to go along and help on a Monday evening.

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

Something to think About

It is far better to be alone, than to be in bad company.

George Washington

Beavers need Help!



On a very blustery week end in June approximately 40 children and 9 adult leaders enjoyed taking part in a District camp at Roves Farm. Cubs and Scouts camped over for 2 nights and Beaver scouts came along for the Saturday. We all enjoyed multiple fun activities based around the Jubilee and the Olympics. In total over 200 children and 50 leaders from our Swindon North District enjoyed being part of Scouting and all that it represents.

If you think Scouting's just about knots, woggles and big shorts, then be prepared to think again. It's how Richard Branson, Barack Obama and David Beckham amongst others, got their start in life and the list doesn't end there!

Every year Scouting helps 400,000 young people in the UK enjoy new adventures; to experience the outdoors, interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

A recent independent report into Scouting's impact found that it make a huge difference both to the lives of our members and across the wider community – for more information on a recent report about the exact figures visit: <https://members.scouts.org.uk/whatwedo>

Beaver Scouts are the youngest section of the Scouting family aged 6-8yrs. Their activities are based around making things, outdoor activities, singing, playing games, going out on visits, investigating nature, listening to stories, learning how to be safe and most importantly, making new friends.

Children join a Beaver Scout Colony for many reasons. It might be they have heard great things from their friends about all the things our Colony gets up to every week. Perhaps parents or carers are keen for them to join, and yes we have a waiting list. Currently however, our Beaver colony is in urgent need of adult help. We meet on Monday evenings from 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm, but work towards an evenings programme is varied and extends outside of these hours. There are lots of jobs to be done!

Volunteering for The Scout Association is easy, fun, offers opportunities to get externally-recognised qualifications, and gives you the chance to have a real impact on the development of young people. How much time you give is up to you, and you don't need any previous experience. We have a huge variety of roles to suit everyone, and whatever role you choose, we'll make sure you're properly trained and supported. There is no age limit either, from 18yrs plus ... you just need to like children!

If you would like to help make a difference to the young people of our village, please, please contact Jan Fisher – Assistant Group Scout Leader on 771216 or by email jan-fisher@UK2.net. We would love to hear from you and you will make lots of little Beaver Scouts happy!

Maxim for Life ...

Pay no attention to what the critics say; no statue has ever been erected to a critic.

Jean Sibelius

Children In Need

We have three Children in Need events lined up. Our first is another of our walking treasure hunts. This will be on Sunday 14 October at 10.30 am from the back of the Red House. Suitable for families and dogs it involves walking round some of Purton's many footpaths solving (usually quite easy) clues. There will be a small prize for the winners and burgers/sausages available at the end. Entry is £2.50 per person – under-14s free.



Next, we're trying something completely new for us. We are organising a New Year's Eve supper dance at the village hall. It will start off as a race night, with raffle, followed by supper and finishing up with music. There will also be a bar. Dress code is smart. No jeans/trainers please. Lower age limit is 14 yrs. Tickets will be £15 per person, no concessions.

We have also started organising our next ball. This will be possibly on 15 June 2013 at the village centre. It's still very much in the early planning stage but quite a bit of interest has been shown both for the ball and the new year's eve dance. So, if you're interested, don't leave it too late. Tables for both events are for 10 people, you can book a table or individual tickets. You can start reserving tickets now.

For information or reservations on any of these events call Tony/Sue on 772581.

TONY RICHARDSON

Purton Guide Dogs

Our next venue will be a Jumble Sale on Saturday 13 October in the Silver Threads Hall, if you have any items you would like to donate, they can be brought to the hall from 12 o'clock. If you need them collected please ring me on 770961 and I will call round on the morning, if you have to drop them off before 12 please put them on the path round the corner by the parking bay, and not in front of the door.



Many thanks for all your support.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group

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

OFFERED: HP2510psc printer. A PC joystick. Also various suitcases (4 off). Telephone 01793 772350.

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

School Reunion

A reunion for former pupils of Purton School will take place on Friday 19 October, 7.30 pm at The Red House Club.

This is for those who left the school at the Christmas Term 1954 or at the Summer Term 1955. Their ages will by now be 72 or 73 years old.

For details please ring Vic Austin on 01793 721495 or Kathleen Fuller (nee Kennett) on 01793 513584.

Bradon Forest Governors



What does a governor do?

Bradon Forest is a Foundation school, which means that the governing body is responsible for:

- Setting the strategic direction of the school, its policies and objectives;
- Approving the school budget and monitoring progress against it;
- Reviewing the schools progress against its objectives and;
- Appointing, challenging and supporting the Headteacher.

Governors are volunteers, usually appointed for four years. We work together and all decisions are shared, which means that we don't need to worry about individual liability.

In practice, we work with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership team at the school to:

- Set up and review the school strategic framework, deciding the aims and objectives for the school;
- Review pupil's achievements and set targets for improvements;
- Approve policies and oversee their implementation;
- Ensure the school is well-maintained and that health & safety requirements are met;
- Approve the school budget and monitor spend against it.

Who is on the governing body?

The governing body is currently made up of a mix of parent governors, staff governors, community and partnership governors and the Headteacher.

Is there much work involved?

Governors meet six times a year for governing body meetings and generally four to six times a year for committee meetings (meetings are held in the evening). There is also quite a lot of reading involved. The amount of time for each governor varies, but in a typical school term month you could expect to spend around six to eight hours on governor duties

What do you get out of being a governor?

Everyone is different, but current and past governors have commented that they value the chance to gain a greater understanding and insight of what goes on in the school and to give something back to the local community. It is a voluntary role and governors offer their time, skills and experience to help improve the school and benefit current and future pupils.

How do I become a governor?

We are very keen to hear from any members of the local community that would like to become a governor, or just understand more about the role. If you would like further information, please contact Helen Griffin (Clerk to the Governing Body) on 770570 email griffinh@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk, or get in touch with Alistair Haney, Chair of Governors on 07785 778689 or you can email him on Alistair.haney@btinternet.com

Get Involved in new Community Oil Scheme and Save Money

Join the super savvy savers of Wiltshire who have between them saved almost £23,000 in the past 10 months on fuel bills.

Anyone who wants to save money on their fuel bills and help the environment too is invited to get involved in an innovative new scheme. *Community First Wiltshire* has developed CF Oil – a brilliant way to negotiate and buy oil for the best price and help local communities save money on their heating fuel.

Members in each area can have their oil delivered every month at the same time, saving on fuel miles for the lorries as well as on cash for themselves. Once it receives all the orders *Community First* organises bulk purchase and delivery of the oil from different suppliers at the best prices, achieving collective savings for all the members in the group.

Since starting in October 2011 we have saved clients £21,688.82 on their combined fuel bills; an average saving of £150 and the highest saving on a single order being £499.

CF Oil now wants to recruit more members and more co-ordinators all across Wiltshire to make the scheme even more economical and worthwhile.

Co-ordinators only have to volunteer for an hour or two each month. They save on the annual membership fee for the scheme, currently £20 a year for private households, £30 for community buildings and £100 for businesses, and don't have to handle any money, since members pay for their order direct to the delivery company.

"This is a great scheme which benefits everyone," said Philippa Read, Chief Executive of Community First. "Every time a tanker comes out to make a delivery, it is using a lot of diesel – a full tanker can get as little as a horrifying eight miles per gallon. If deliveries are organised so that one tanker delivers to several customers in a village instead of making lots of individual deliveries, the fuel consumption is reduced and so is traffic in the village.

If you want to join those who are saving hundreds of pounds on their fuel bills – or would like to know more about being a local co-ordinator please contact CF Oil at Community First, Wyndhams, St Joseph's Place, Devizes, Wilts SN10 1DD; on tel 01380 732809 or email oil@communityfirst.org.uk

A new word ... 'Triet'

Do you know the meaning of the word 'triet'? You may not find it in your dictionary. In musical parlance a piano triet is music for one piano and three pairs of hands (remembering a piano duet is for one piano and two pairs of hands)

Frank Harvey, our local composer, church organist, choir master and musical guru has written 'Double Vision' for piano triet. This piece was performed earlier this year in the Colston Hall in Bristol, at a concert called 'Three is a Magic Number'.

Check it out on Google. Put in Frank Harvey Double Vision and watch the YouTube four-minute clip.

Fascinating music created here in Purton!

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.



■ THANK YOU

I would like to say thank you for the prayers, cards and gifts I received after my recent operation.

Also thank you to my wonderful carer ... Bruce.

Val D'Arcy-Masters

■ **MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS COFFEE MORNING**
Audrey Wheeler and all her family would like to say "thank you very much", to everyone who made our coffee morning such a great success on 21 July.

By attending, or making cakes, or giving donations from raffle prizes and for very generous donations from those who were unable to attend, we were able to send £450 to the multiple sclerosis society funds in the hopes of research to find a cure for MS in the future.

Yours gratefully from,
Audrey, Penny and Delia as well as grandchildren and friends

■ TREVOR COLLETT

As many of you will now know, Trevor Collett died recently after an illness, which he bore very bravely. Whether playing for the skittles team at the Red House, chatting with friends on the way to get his paper or over the fence of his well kept garden, Trevor was a familiar figure, having lived in the village for 55 years. Eve and family are grateful to all those who sent messages of support and donations to the Prospect Foundation which cared for Trevor during his illness.

■ HEDGE

I would like to say sorry to anyone affected by our hedge this summer, but we have not been able to cut it for rain. We did not think cutting with electric cutters was a good idea.

Sun comes out and so do hedge cutters. I stopped to pick up the post before starting, to find a letter from Purton Parish Council, telling us to cut our hedge and do it on a regular basis. Is doing it for 43 years regular enough for them?

I do wonder if the person complaining about the hedge would have cut it in the rain with electric cutters. I think not.

I would like someone from the Council to come and have a look, not at my side of the wall or hedge, but at the weeds growing in the paths and road that I have to weed myself as do many others because the Council does not.

Yours,
*Alison Instone, 41 Ringsbury Close,
26 July 2012*

■ KIND WISHES

I would like to thank everyone for all their kind wishes and help during my recent visits to Oxford. I feel so lucky to live in such a caring village as Purton.

David Sweet

■ PURTON'S PAST

I am trying to purchase a copy of the book "Purton's Past", (ISBN 0 9517142 0 1) published by the Purton Historical Society in 1991 and I wonder if you could place a note to this effect in the next available issue of the Purton Magazine.

I can be contacted either at judy_capener@hotmail.com or on 07596 853390.

Many thanks for your help and may I take the opportunity to say how much I enjoy reading the magazine each month.

Kind regards,

Judy Capener

Christian Aid

Wessex Male Choir and Jubilate

Book your tickets NOW for this unique concert in Purton!



We are planning a very special treat for Purton ... so please note the date and time in your diaries now! Wessex Male Choir is coming to perform at Bradon Forest School on Saturday 6 October at 7pm ... yes, the start time is 7pm.

One reason for this unusual start time is that Wessex Male Choir will also be presenting their guest choir, *Jubilate*, a women's choir that is coming all the way from Harrow, London ... so they need time to travel home again after the concert.

Wessex Male Choir won the International Male Choir Champion title, at the 2011 Llangollen International Eisteddfod. They also won best Male Choir and best Ensemble at the Mid Somerset Music Festival at Bath in 2010. Since then they have continued to perform all over the country, including twice at Twickenham, the second time at the England vs Wales Rugby Union International in March this year. In August, they performed at Wembley Stadium at the Rugby League Challenge Cup Final. The choir continues to perform at local concerts and in June sang to a sell-out audience of 500 at the STEAM Museum in Swindon.

Jubilate has also won prestigious awards: recent competition successes include winner of the ladies choir, folk and popular music classes and runner-up with distinction in the sacred music class in the 2012 Mid-Somerset Festival. *Jubilate* means 'celebration' in Latin, and that's the essence of this ladies' choir. They are known for their high standard of performance, varied repertoire, and sense of fun.

Both choirs have raised considerable sums for charities over the years; and have agreed to perform on 6 October, in Purton, to raise money for Christian Aid.

So please book your tickets as soon as possible, as these will be limited, via Wendy Johnson (771749); [Libbie Sheppard](#); Mary Hodges (770505); or from Rick at [In Touch Services](#).

Price £9 and concessions £6.

Cricklade Country Market

The next Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 28 September 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 Diary - September 2012

| | | | |
|----|----|---------|---|
| 1 | Sa | 2.00pm | Age Concern Jumble Sale at the Village Hall |
| 2 | Su | 8.00am | Holy Communion at St Mary's Church |
| | | 10.30am | Morning Worship at the Methodist Church |
| | | 10.30am | Family Service at St Mary's Church |
| | | 6.00pm | Evensong at St Mary's Church |
| 4 | Tu | 2.00pm | Silver Threads: <i>Musical Companions</i> |
| 5 | W | 2.00pm | Age Concern Mystery tour with tea provided |
| 6 | Th | 10.30am | Holy Communion at St Mary's Church |
| 7 | F | 8.00pm | Concert by Accordion Orchestra at Village Hall (Helping Hand) |
| 9 | Su | 8.00am | Holy Communion at St Mary's Church |
| | | 10.30am | Harvest Festival at the Methodist Church |
| | | 10.30am | Patronal Festival Communion at St Mary's Church |
| | | 6.00pm | Evensong at St Mary's Church |
| 10 | M | 7.30pm | Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome |
| 11 | Tu | 11.00am | Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House |
| | | 7.30pm | Purton Yacht Club at The Angel |
| 12 | W | 2.30pm | Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill: Pam Clements on <i>Accessories</i> |
| 13 | Th | 10.30am | Songs of Praise at The Cedars |
| 14 | F | 9.30am | Age Concern Minibus to Swindon |
| | | 10.00am | to 12 noon: 3M's Memory Club Funding Event, RWB Museum |
| 15 | Sa | 2.00pm | Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall |
| | | 5.30pm | to 7.30pm: Jubilee Fireworks by Millennium Hall |
| 16 | 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 |
| 17 | M | 7.45pm | St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: <i>Journey of a Shoebox</i> |
| 18 | Tu | 2.00pm | Silver Threads: <i>Co-op Choir</i> |
| | | 7.45pm | Royal British Legion at The Red House |
| 19 | W | 2.00pm | Holy Communion at Ashgrove House |
| | | 7.30pm | Purton Evening Women's Institute at The Pear Tree - Speaker: Mr Francis Young (Open Evening - Non-members welcome) |
| 20 | Th | 7.30pm | Historical Society at St Mary's School Hall: Lynda Warren: <i>A Treasure Chest of Words and Sayings</i> |
| 21 | F | 10.00am | to 4pm: Silver Threads Open Day at Silver Threads Hall |
| 22 | Sa | | Autumn Equinox |
| 23 | 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 |
| 25 | Tu | 7.30pm | Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Mini-Show |
| | | 8.00pm | After 8: <i>Art interpretation & appreciation</i> led by Barbara at her house |
| 26 | W | 6.30pm | Holy Communion at The Cedars |
| 29 | Sa | 10.00am | to 3pm: Shoebox Fundraising day at 35 High Street |
| 30 | 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 |

October

3 W 10.00am Age Concern Mystery tour with lunch provided

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

8 September
 16 September
 22 September
 30 September

We Record ...

Weddings

| | |
|----------|--|
| 3 August | Thomas Jason Hardy & Felicity Kaye Lowe at St Mary's Church |
| 4 August | Christopher John Maidment & Gemma Ann Holt at St Mary's Church |
| 4 August | Martin John Ellis & Lynne Marie Parker at St Mary's Church |



To add your family announcements to this section contact Purton Magazine. Addresses on [page 4](#). We are happy to include births, marriages, deaths, special birthdays and anniversaries, exam successes ...

Disclaimer by Purton Artists

The summer edition of the *Purton Today* leaflet gives early notification of the Purton Artists Autumn Exhibition and seeks to link it with an Annual Artists Dinner. Purton Artists would like to make it clear that we have no involvement with this dinner and that anyone attending will not be covered by our insurance.

BRIAN COE, acting Chair Purton Artists

Olympic Perspectives

Doesn't it make you really proud to be British? The Olympics have been simply spectacular – and we don't even have to say that ourselves. An American columnist in the *Washington Post* recently reported, under the headline "Britain's Olympic Medals Success Inspires Admiration Of All Things British" that she is to change her citizenship – as well as the way she spells several words including theater, colors and even civilization.

But her admiration mainly focuses on how we British are reacting to all this success. "For all of the gold rush, the British aren't braggarts. There is a murmured politeness to all their public pronouncements." She also observed that "London is quiet for an Olympic city plotting world dominion, but that's what makes being British so appealing. They know how to do triumph and revelry without fist-pumping and air jacking. Bradley Wiggins was a rare exception, when he celebrated his cycling gold medal

by getting 'blind drunk' and tweeting it. There was a slight hum of disapproval about that. But the head of the British organisation, Lord Colin Moynihan, deflected it with that effortless drollery that is now my cultural inheritance by saying that 'He may have got a bit dehydrated.'"

Another American newspaper, *USA Today*, has carried an article entitled 'British success loosens London's stiff upper-lip'. The writer was impressed by the euphoric reaction to Britain's medals and the general party atmosphere prevalent within the capital. He wrote: "This normally dour city, a place of weepy grey skies and chilly demeanour has been transformed into an enclave of smiling volunteers, efficient transport systems and joyful crowds. Business suits are out; silly flag-themed costumes are in and the favourite pre-Games activity of griping about the Olympics has been replaced by basking in the Olympics."

Other overseas reactions have included Spain's *El Mundo* correspondent who reported home that "despite all their mistakes, it has become clear that without the UK, our lives would not be the same." The German media had been predicting an organisational shambles in the run-up to the Olympics, but the smooth running of the Games has forced them to change their tune. In an article that described the Olympics as the "Good news Games", *Der Spiegel* said: "This has been about more than just sports. In every respect, the country is in good spirits and enjoying itself." There is also a lovely report from the High Commission in Delhi saying that when the Queen appeared during the opening ceremony, every guest rose to their feet.

Even many locals here have been excited at the thought of being able to excel at things we can do sitting down – such as rowing, cycling, sailing and horse-riding, even if some are still rather confused about the cycling. A correspondent is still



none the wiser over the differences between the Kierin, the Omnium and the Peloton, previously imagining that they were probably names of Premiership footballers' children.

However it seems that the director of French cycling team has complained that British riders were using "magic wheels". The head of British Cycling's Research and Development group – wonderfully known as the Secret Squirrel Club – pointed out that, although he had specifically asked for the wheels to be made "perfectly round", they have long been manufactured by a company in France and were first used by the British at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

Then Ben Ainslie finished his sailing race near the back of the fleet and was still awarded a Gold Medal. However, the Horsey events might have been the most mystifying for many with a "3-Day Event" in just one afternoon and particularly the 'Dressage' where the riders get points for dressing up like posh toffs complete with top hats and tights. The horses too, with their colourful bits and pieces strapped on, also have to do some rather unnatural circus tricks.

Finally, there was quite a long period during the games when the spelling in the reports had to be checked very carefully – as in the difference between

- Great Britain has won gold, and
- Australia has one gold!

FRANCIS SHEPPARD

The Dog Pooh Fairy!

I have recently rejoined the dog owning community. I have read several items in this magazine about the problems caused by owners who fail to clean up their dogs' pooh. It has become such an issue that the Parish Council may have to employ somebody to clear up this mess. The Parish Council will have to raise the precept to pay for this which will mean an increase in our Council Tax.

As I wander the fields and paths in and around Purton I have come across another strange phenomenon! This is the dog owner who clears up the mess and puts it in a pooh bag then leaves it by the side of the path, on the roadside verge or hangs it from a tree! I thought at first that perhaps there was a pooh fairy that came to collect these bags in the middle of the night, but sadly this is not the case as these little knotted packages are still there the following day!

It really is not difficult to take the bag home and pop it in your household waste wheelie bin or put it in one of the many red dog pooh bins or you can even throw it in a regular litter bin provided the bag is tied up. I am more than happy to deal with my own dog's waste but I really don't enjoy having to pick up the pooh bag that is regularly left on the verge by my house or across the way. Please take your bags home as they are a decoration that our lovely village and countryside could do without!

Last, but not least, whilst a dog recently won Britain's Got Talent, those of you that allow your dogs to wander the streets may not realise that they are unable to clear up their own mess! Please don't allow your dog to roam without supervision as it is not fair on us or your canine friend!

HELEN

The meeting of 18 July had an Events Table full of things to come and you just needed to add your name if you want to join in. Far too many for me to mention here but the Newsletter issued that night carried a list to which you can refer.

Here's a thought – more than 600 pennants were made for the Jubilee party and these can now be hired, for a small donation. Please telephone 01380 739340.

The speaker was Sharon Smith, on "Olympic Equestrian Sports and Dressage Training". This was fascinating stuff – I still don't comprehend how the horse knows what you want him to do, unless telepathy plays a part. But oh, the costumes and the posture – wonderful! It is all so elegant and subtle but, speaking as an ignoramus as far as horses (and sports) are concerned, I am delighted to admit that I shall now watch the equestrian events in the Olympics with great interest and a little knowledge, and I hope other members feel the same. Thank you, Sharon, your enthusiasm was so stimulating!

We shall be having another Open Meeting this year, on 19 September, when the speaker will be Mr Francis Young of the local Pear Tree Hotel, and there will 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, in anticipation of the Autumn Group Meeting. You will recall that almost anyone is welcome at our occasional Open Meetings – refer to last month's Magazine for further information. Do bring a friend or two – the males shouldn't need much encouragement!

Looking forward to seeing you all on 19 September, in a crowded thirsty room, no doubt!

CONSTANCE REED

Calling All Parents with Pre-School Children

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

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

For more info please call us on 01793 771723

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

Wise Words

We are afraid to care too much, for fear that the other person does not care at all..

Eleanor Roosevelt

After 8 Meeting – Barbecue

We arranged the After 8 summer barbecue for the evening of Tues 24 July, but would we be sitting inside again or were we to be blessed with a fine, balmy summer evening? It was a wonderful evening, sitting outside in Helen's beautiful garden, soaking up the last of the sun's rays, with no wind or rain to contend with. In the background, a tractor from the neighbouring farm was making 'hay whilst the sun shines'.



The food was good as well, a selection of barbecued meat or a vegetarian option plus everyone bringing and sharing their speciality salads. Marion's tabbouleh was a particular hit. This was followed, of course, by a selection of homemade puddings – some healthier than others!

The conversation flowed as did the drink, with a particularly fine brew of mint tea, nicely rounding off the whole meal.

Firstly many thanks to Helen for her hospitality and secondly to everyone for their friendship and bonhomie. A good evening was had by all. Oh to be in England ...

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 25 September: *Art - Interpretation and Appreciation* led by Barbara Gosden at her house. *Barbara is one of our Purton Artists.*

New members are always welcome. Please contact [Avril](#) for further information on After 8.

SANDRA HORSNALL

Purton Surgery Seasonal Flu Clinics

Purton Surgery will be commencing their seasonal flu clinics at the end of September and would initially like to invite the following people to call the surgery on 770207 (752633 for Green Gable branch surgery) to make an appointment

- Anyone over 65 years of age
- Anyone age 5-64 years who has one or more of the following
 - Diabetes
 - Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
 - Chronic Heart Disease
 - Chronic Renal failure
 - Has undergone a splenectomy
 - Severe Asthma resulting in recent hospitalisation or taking inhaled steroids on an ongoing basis (i.e. not seasonal)
- Anyone in receipt of a Carers Allowance
- Pregnant Ladies

We intend to virtually complete our vaccination programme by the end of October. Please ring to make an appointment from **5 September** onwards. Please note that patients who are given an appointment who do not fulfil NHS criteria will be turned away as we are unable to give this vaccine privately. A special Saturday clinic will be available on **Saturday 6 October** which as with all clinics is strictly by appointment only.

On The Lighter Side

Say What?

Here are some comments made by NBC sports commentators during the Summer Olympics that they would like to take back:

Paul Hamm, Gymnast: "I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father."

Boxing Analyst: "Sure there have been injuries, and even some deaths in boxing, but none of them really that serious."

Softball announcer: "If history repeats itself, I should think we can expect the same thing again."

Basketball analyst: "He dribbles a lot and the opposition doesn't like it. In fact you can see it all over their faces."

Zen Musings

- Corduroy pillows are making headlines!
- We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
- The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.
- Always remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.

Only Three Doors

An airline captain was breaking in a new blonde stewardess. The route they were flying had a stopover in another city. Upon their arrival, the captain showed the stewardess the best place for airline personnel to eat, shop and stay overnight.

The next morning, as the pilot was preparing the crew for the day's route, he noticed the new stewardess was missing. He knew which room she was in at the hotel and called her up wondering what happened. She answered the phone, crying, and said she couldn't get out of her room. "You can't get out of your room?" the captain asked, "Why not?"

The stewardess replied: "There are only three doors in here," she sobbed, "one is the bathroom, one is the wardrobe, and one has a sign on it that says 'Do Not Disturb!'"

Billing

A doctor and a lawyer were talking at a party. Their conversation was constantly interrupted by people describing their ailments and asking the doctor for free medical advice. After an hour of this, the exasperated doctor asked the lawyer, "What do you do to stop people from asking you for legal advice when you're out of the office?"

"I give it to them," replied the lawyer, "and then I send them a bill." The doctor was shocked, but agreed to give it a try.

Next day, still feeling slightly guilty, the doctor prepared the bills. When he passed them across to his secretary for posting, she handed him a bill from the lawyer.

Going Wild in Purton

For this article I am indebted to some residents of Upper Pavenhill, a beautiful area of Purton which I do not think I have reported on before. There has been an increase in the sightings



Common Buzzard

of three pairs of buzzards from this road. The swallows arrived in April from the south, which is earlier than usual, though they have struggled to raise their young in the barns during later cold weather. As I write this in August, swallows are still breeding and enjoying warmer and drier weather. The local sparrowhawk has been in evidence near the fields, as in other parts of Purton. It has enjoyed a diet of blue tits and the odd pigeon. One resident keeps her bird table well stocked and a tame cock

pheasant "and his ladies" have regularly visited to eat the bits that have fallen to the ground. Jays have also stopped by to enjoy this largesse on the ground.

We have experienced some awful weather this year but the goldfinches have revisited Upper Pavenhill, though in very small numbers. However, the sightings of greenfinches have increased whilst the numbers of sparrow and chaffinches around suggest a population explosion. Siskin, a wren and a variety of tits also enjoy feeding in this part of the village.

There has been a family of shy greater spotted woodpeckers in this area. The youngsters enjoyed assaulting the legs of a garden table for a while, before discovering that eating peanuts like their parents was much more nutritious and tasty. Upper Pavenhill has fewer squirrels than usual this year, though a fox, a rabbit, a badger and a muntjac have been seen occasionally. Whether you love or dislike badgers I am sad to report that one of them was killed on this road recently. One odd report is that deer have pruned roses in one garden. This is amazing to me considering the thorns on these beautiful plants. Their tongues must be very thick and tough.



Greater spotted woodpecker

Muntjac deer seem to be on the increase in Purton; there being several sighting down Hoggs Lane/Vasterne Hill and now Upper Pavenhill. If anyone else in Purton is seeing these small deer please let me know and we can put together a more complete picture.

Compiled by Jane Smith for Ps & Qs
Ps and Qs stands for Purton's Qualities
Valuing Community Life - campaigning for sustainable communities
New members are always welcome

Contact: Jane Smith (772422) Jacqui Lay (770704)
or via our web site: www.purtoninfo.org.uk

Swindon & Cricklade Railway



Sun 2 Sept from 11am: CREAM TEA IN THE MOONRAKER COACH

Sun 16 Sept: HIGH TEA IN THE MOONRAKER COACH

Enjoy the luxury of being served a cream tea (or high tea on 16th) in the steam hauled Pullman style coach. Tickets cost £5 for the cream tea plus the normal cost of the train ride. For the high tea price please apply to Jim Larkin on 01367 820623.

Fri 7 Sept MURDER MYSTERY EVENING: 7.15pm start

A great Friday evening out with a superb two course hot buffet and a train ride and join your fellow sleuths in solving the crime. We are grateful to the Highworth Players for their dramatic assistance. Period dress invited. Pre booking required, tickets cost £26 from Adrian Brodie on 01672 564547 or scr@gmx.co.uk

Sat and Sun 15 and 16 Sept: KIDS GO FREE WEEKEND from 11 am to 4 pm.

Every adult buying a ticket can bring a child at no charge. Tickets cost £7 for adults and £6 for seniors.

Due to delays in planning permission, the new Taw Valley Halt will not be opening until Easter 2013. However trains will run on the extended running line (totalling 3 miles for the whole railway) to "Taw Valley" from the end of August, but passengers will be unable to alight there.

The all-volunteer railway has a cafeteria, shop, museums, picnic areas and a very friendly atmosphere.

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). For further information, please enquire on 01793 771615 or www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org.

Sing For Four Community Choir

To all of our enthusiastic members from Cricklade, Purton, Swindon and Cirencester, I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks for your tremendous support and achievements during the busy summer months. We all gave of our best and produced some memorable performances in celebration of our Queen's Diamond Jubilee, culminating in our own Town Hall concert with guest soloists Erin Hughes and Tim Rabbitt.

We now look forward to re-grouping in September with two planned blocks of four rehearsals leading up to our big winter occasion, our Christmas Concert on 9 December. Please watch the notice boards and local magazines for dates of rehearsals in September and November. (Members notified by e-mail.)

It is a good time to WELCOME new members. There are no auditions and we share a great love of singing together, in a variety of styles for community occasions. The comradeship is a splendid bonus and has been a real life-line for many. If you would like to join us, please contact Mary New (01793 770630) or any choir member.

Exhibit of the Month: From Marsh Farm to the Moon*

This month's exhibit is brand new! Brian Freegard, former Museum curator, has written a book to draw to a close the Nevil Maskelyne bicentenary that Purton Historical Society celebrated last year. The cover of the book shows a picture of Dr Maskelyne's newest namesake ... the Maskelyne crater on the moon, photographed by the Apollo 10 Space Mission in 1969. This of course was the mission before Apollo 11 that put the first men on the moon in July that same year.

Chapter 1 of the book discusses Natural Philosophy in Georgian England setting the background against which the work of Maskelyne, the 5th Astronomer Royal, can be set with advances in the sciences, engineering, communications, mapping ... and scientific instruments.

This period was also the height of the Agricultural Revolution in England and Chapter 2 discusses Purton at the time, where the young Maskelyne would have grown up. The biography of the Maskelyne family over many generations is the subject of Chapter 3 but highlighting Nevil's life and work including the maritime headache of the age – working out longitude.

No discussion of the Longitude Question would be complete without looking at the importance of the development of accurate timepieces and the story of the clockmakers is taken up by Chapter 4.

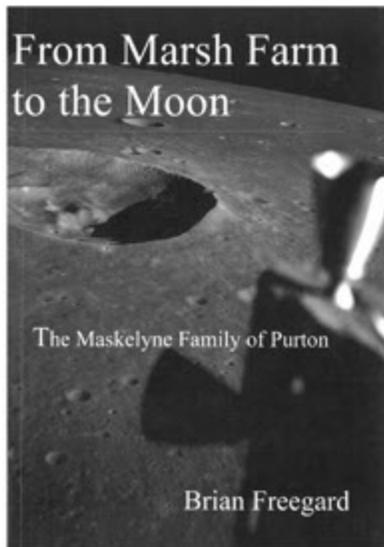
Chapter 5 takes us through some of Maskelyne's notebooks, journals and diaries including a packing list of all the things to be taken with him on holiday to Purton Stoke in 1802. This included maps, almanacs, instruments, a prayer book and among a list of foodstuffs not common in the country (eg coffee) but also, of all things ... cheese!

There follow some Appendices including Nevil Maskelyne's will, his autobiographical notes plus the Royal Warrant of George III creating him Astronomer Royal.

This 130 page A5 book is available, priced £8.50 from Purton Historical Society or from [In Touch Services](#). If you want a copy posting to you, postage and packing will be £2.80 by 2nd Class packet rates. Enquire for 1st class or overseas rates.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer

**From Marsh Farm to the Moon: The Maskelyne Family of Purton. © Brian Freegard 2012, ISBN 986-0-9517142-3-2. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.*



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

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

PURTON PLACARD

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

Purton Age Concern
JUMBLE SALE

at the Village Hall
Saturday 1 September 2 pm

Jumble can be left at the
Hall from 12 noon to 1 pm.
Bric a brac, nearly new, books,
toys, etc. raffle and refreshments.
Come along and find a bargain!

PADS
The Government Inspector

by

Nikolai Gogol

5 and 6 October

at the Village Hall

More information next month

**SHOEBOX FUNDRAISING DAY
WITH LUNCHESES**

On Saturday 29 September

At 35 High Street Purton

10 am to 3 pm

(LUNCHESES FROM 12 NOON)

Bric-a-brac, Raffles, Cakes, Tombola,
Books

Entrance £1 for Coffee/Tea

Proceeds for transportation costs of the
boxes

St Mary's Fellowship of Women
invite you to a talk on
"The Journey of a Shoebox"

Given by Hilary McFall of Operation
Christmas Child

On Monday 17 September
7.45 pm

At Purton Methodist Church

Purton Silver Threads
Jumble Sale

Saturday 15 September
2 pm

Silver Threads Hall

Raffle Refreshments
Loads 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

Purton Helping Hand
Concert by
Accordion Orchestra

Friday 7 September
8 pm
Village Hall

Raffle Refreshments
Tickets available
Minibus available
Tel: 770251

Purton Silver Threads
Silver Threads Open Day

Friday 21 September
10 am to 4 pm
Silver Threads Hall
Coffee Morning 10 - 12
Lunches 12.30 - 1.30
Cream Tea 2.30 - 4 pm

Raffle Tombola
Bric a Brac Cakes
Members Exhibition
Minibus available
Tel: 770251

A Performance by Award Winning

WESSEX MALE CHOIR



with guest choir 'JUBILATE'

at Bradon Forest School, Purton
on 6th October 2012
at 7.00pm

Tickets available from September from
Bradon Forest School, In Touch Services,
Wendy 771749 and Libbie 771018

Price: £9.00; concessions £6.00

Any enquiries to
Wendy and Libbie

All profits to Christian Aid

**WATCH THIS
SPACE!!!**

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

3M's Memory Club
- Latton to Lyneham -
First COFFEE MORNING

event to be held
21 September 2012
Civic Centre, Royal Wootton Bassett
10.30 - 12.30

Open to all - with Memory Loss
and their Carers

Funding event
14 September 2012

To be held under
the Town Hall/Museum
Royal Wootton Bassett
Time: 10 am till 12 noon
- Bric a Brac and Cakes -
Donations gratefully received
Contact Jacqui Lay 01793 770704
jacquilay@yahoo.co.uk

**MORE PLACARD
OVERLEAF**

PURTON PLACARD

- plus -

St Mary's Church
will be holding a
Murder Mystery Evening
on Saturday 20 October
in conjunction with PADS
in Silver Threads Hall
at 7 pm

Tickets £10
to include a two-course meal
(bring your own drinks)

Tel: Sandra 770157, Sheila 770970,
Val 771201, Gladys 770375

Age Concern
**ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES
FAYRE**

Sunday 21 October at the Village Hall
10.30 am. to 4.30 pm.
Admission 50p.

Refreshments available
Raffle and many interesting
stalls to browse round

Further details – Jenny Barnes 770339

Diamond Jubilee Fireworks

First of all, an apology. There is, no doubt, a bit of confusion as to the date of the Jubilee Fireworks Event. My fault. I put the wrong date in last month's magazine, my apologies. The correct date for this event is Saturday 15 September. It takes place in and around The Millennium Hall from 5.30 pm to around 7.30 pm. There is no admission charge.

The main aim of the evening is to use up the fireworks which we had purchased for the Diamond Jubilee celebration, which, as I'm sure you remember was somewhat damp. We have around £800 of fireworks. As well as the fireworks, the kiosk will be open, serving teas, coffees, burgers etc. and the Red House will be open for the stronger variety of beverage. We have Martin MacClay, the British arm wrestling champion hopefully accompanied by the Belgian arm wrestling champion, they'll be organising a display and possibly a match and if you're feeling tough you can take them on. We have PADS Can-Can dancers who were unable to perform at Diamond Jubilee due to the weather.

We will also be exhibiting the wind catching machine which was Swindon's entry to the Olympic opening ceremony at Weymouth. Designed and built by Gordon Dickinson from Pavenhill, this machine, with others from various counties, took part in the opening show to encourage the winds for the Olympic sailing events. Obviously it worked because we won a few medals. [See [page 26](#). Ed.]

We are still working on other items to be included in this event. We hope to see you there.

TONY RICHARDSON





Quality Award Success Third Millennium Award Success. The presentation of the award took place at the NACCE National Awards ceremony at Intel in Swindon in early July. Only 106 ICT Mark schools nationally were invited to apply and we were one of the 38 who gained the award. Bradon Forest has been asked to be part of the national group who will judge the award when it is fully launched by NAACE and the DfE in September.



Bradon Forest Internet Radio. We were successful in a bid for a Wiltshire's 'Inspire, Create, Teach' project and we used the funding to buy an Anderton Tiger Internet Radio set. After the training provided by Russell Prue of Anderton Tiger for the E-team and staff the Internet Radio has been used widely over the last 6 weeks of the summer term it was used extensively and has already made a major impact both in the 'classroom' and with 'extra curricular' activities.



Internet Radio Team visit BBC Radio Wiltshire. The e-team visited BBC Radio Wiltshire in July to get new ideas for broadcasts. They were hosted by Amelia, the Station's Administration Manager and visited the news room and the studio as Lee Stone was broadcasting his afternoon show. The pupils have produced a range of shows this year including a weekly news update and special shows for induction featuring our new Year-6s and for the Science Fair featuring students and judges. Next year we will be broadcasting over the internet so watch out for details to see how you can tune in at home and work!



Year 11 Prom June 2012. Over 180 students attended along with many members of staff and everyone had a superb evening. As is traditional, the 'Prom' was organised by our Senior Prefect team with the help of the Key Stage 4 team and support staff. The students looked terrific and fortunately the rain held off for the traditional arrival of limos, buses, sports cars, lorries, tractors, classic cars, etc. Every year the students look so grown up, elegant and fantastic: the girls in a superb array of beautiful dresses and the boys in their tuxedos.



Senior Prefect Training – Braeside Education Centre 2012. This year we have selected 26 pupils from Year 10 to become next year's Senior Prefects (2012/13) who will take on important roles within the school. Their training consisted of a two day course at Braeside Education Centre in Devizes where they were put through

a number of different activities in order to prepare them for working together next year.

Our 2012/13 Prefects Team comprises: Laura Araoye, Emma Bessent, Courtney Boyes, Niamh Butler, Ellen Cleary, Luke Cordas, Hannah Curtis, Antoinette Du Toit, Chloe Ellen, Callum Gunston, Elliot Gunton, Lauren Hoard, Emma Hobbs, Kyra Jenkins, Gemma Lucas, Robert Mills, Chandanie



Mistry, Aaron Moody, Stephen Moyes, Molly Nowell, Erin Page, Jackson Price, Bethany Richards, Rebecca Stevens, Joanna Stewart and Polly Whinfrey.

Peer Mentor Training 2012 took place at Purton Youth Centre on 14/15 June 2012. This year 16 Year 9 students were selected to be Peer Mentors for our incoming Year 7 tutor groups. The group had an intensive two days of training



where they were put through their paces in a number of different challenges and tasks. The purpose of the training was to prepare the Peer Mentors for the work they will do throughout the year and prepare them for situations they may encounter. Advice'. Our 2012/13 Peer Mentor Team comprises: Grace Bartlett, Charlotte Butler, Liam Elliott, Lauren Field, Gus Gardner, Molly Griffin, Jessica Griffiths, Sam Harper,

Keiran Jones, Eleasha Kell, Frances Linsell, Lucy Taylor, Maddie Turner and Bethany Wakefield.

Our traditional three-day Induction Programme for Year 6 pupils who are joining Bradon Forest in September 2012 was very successful. This was preceded by a Year 6 Parents' Evening where parents met with their child's Year 7 tutor, our Student Peer Mentors (pictured) and with Senior Staff. In our experience, parents have found this very helpful in supporting their children when they come in for their induction days the following week. The induction was thoroughly enjoyed by our new Year 7s. They had a great range of experiences including meeting their tutors and a number of teachers who will be teaching them next year. Feedback from parents and students has been very positive. In the assembly at the end of day three, the Year 6 pupils already felt part of the Bradon Forest family and, judging by feedback, are certainly 'raring to go' in September.

India Link News. The Bradon Forest India Link has been busy this term. Miss Shelley, Miss Beet and the students who travelled to India at Easter gave a series of terrific assemblies for Key Stage 3 students. The assemblies focused on the India link aims - Connecting Classrooms, Connecting Cultures and Connecting Lives. The students reflected on how the trip had impacted on their own lives, the opportunities they had, the new friends they have made in India, and their future aspirations. The assemblies also gave us the opportunity to show the new India link video, which is a wonderful reminder of why the link is so important to us. Many of the students now have a thirst for travel and



intend to return to India in the future, as part of their gap year, or with their families.

Wiltshire International Partnership Conference. Five India link students delivered presentations at the Wiltshire International Partnership Conference, held at Wootton Bassett School. Those involved were Oliver Webb, Charlie Markham, Loren James, Bebhinn Langride and Georgia Samrai. They each spoke about their involvement in the India link, our current projects, and why they think it is important to be global citizens. It was a fantastic opportunity to share experiences of International Partnership work in the county, and for our students to mix with primary and secondary students from like-minded schools. During the conference, the Wiltshire Schools International Partnership Book was launched. Bradon is very proud to have entries for our India link and Trinidad and Tobago link, and to have won first place in the photography competition, with our photos on the front and back covers of the book.



Year 8 'Annual Camps' - Outdoor Education Days at Waterlands, Ashton Keynes.



Miss Moore reports: Two very different days in terms of weather, but the same outcomes on both days - two very happy groups of students! The A side of Year 8 had to dress in waterproofs and wellies, whilst the B side needed sun cream and sun hats. Students chose to take part in an activity from kayaking, raft building and archery. This was the highlight for most. Another activity of erecting an old 'A' frame canvas tent was challenging for all, with the ridge pole often left out altogether! The students claim they have not seen a tent like it before, which does make me feel old as we used to camp in these when I was in Guides! The Year 10 PE students did a fantastic job of leading the initiative games and the BBQ tea was most welcome after a walk around the lake.

LEN SPIERS, Headteacher

World Challenge Morocco Trek

After 2 years of fundraising the time finally came for me to depart on my expedition to Morocco on 14 July. I'm now back from an amazing 2-weeks' trekking in the Atlas Mountains and working in a local school re-painting the classrooms and laying a new path, in the southern oases, ending in a visit to the souks of Marrakech which was an incredible experience. Thank you to all who supported my fundraising events that allowed me to have this wonderful and worthwhile experience.

GEORGE GRIFFIN

The World Challenge Morocco Trek Team were photographed in enthusiastic pose at the highest point of the trek – see the picture on the [Front Cover!](#)

Open Studios

Community Artists *No Added Sugar* have open studios on the weekends of 8 - 9 and 15 - 16 September from 11 am to 5 pm showing the work of both Toni and Gordon Dickinson plus images of their public art and large scale work in education. Everyone is welcome.

The event is at 87 Pavenhill in Purton (SN5 4DA).

Enquiries to Toni Dickinson (toni@noaddedsugar.org) or by phone to 01793 772088, mobile 07775 641680. You can also visit the web site at www.noaddedsugar.org to get a flavour of what *No Added Sugar* is and does.

Gordon's Wind Machine

Gordon Dickinson was asked by the Big Arts Day organisers at Lydiard Park to create a unique event for their 2012 festival finale. Gordon built a machine to gather Wiltshire's wind to take to the Olympic sailing venue in Weymouth!

The idea was tell a story loosely based on the Greek myth of Aeolis, the God of the Winds, where each county creates a machine to 'capture' and carry their wind to Weymouth, to battle it out in a performance to see who has the best sailing winds.

Artist and former Swindon railway worker Gordon Dickinson was approached to invent the machine whilst UK slack line champion Jake the Juggler took the role of Wiltshire wind collector Eurus who, with dancers and circus performers from Swindon presented the county's performance in Weymouth.

For power Gordon used an old bike supplied by the Salvation Army Recycles project, whilst pushers using their legs sat on two old tractor seats facing backwards.

During the day at Lydiard Park festival goers discovered the music that can be created using organ pipes, bellows, and a home made xylophone mounted on the machine created on an old caravan chassis.

In the evening finale Jake put on a high wire act whilst the machine with a DJ on top, steam whooshing from its engine, surrounded by dancers, captured the Soul of Swindon.



Pictured left, Gordon in his workshop with Swindon's wind collecting machine. Right, the wind gathering machine ready for its Big Arts Day outing.

You may just have noticed that already the nights are drawing in and that visibility is diminishing almost by the

hour – well, at last for us this is no longer going to be a problem! We have our lights installed and the problems of glare have been dealt with and from now on we can use the lights on the courts when needed. Most importantly it also means that our coach, Ben Langley, can now offer coaching session to children in the early afternoon after school with no worries about fading light. Tennis has a British Olympic Champion in Andy Murray and we can now begin the process of ensuring that the 'legacy' is passed down to children in our community. The coaching programme will start on 10 September – Please call Ben Langley on 07954 350579 to book your place We'll be looking out for a potential champion!

On the social side, Purton will be holding a golfing day on Saturday 15 September at South Cerney to celebrate a fantastic summer season so far. Ring Justin Miller for further details on 07881 020002.

Because of the downpours that we have all experienced this summer there are still matches left to play but the Mixed A are currently top in Division 1 (4 left to play). Ladies A are 3rd in Division 1 and should finish 3rd when their last match has been played and the B team are fighting to stay up in Division 2 with a good chance of succeeding when their remaining 2 matches have been played. The C team were struggling in Division 3 but should find life much more comfortable next year as they head Division 4. As for the Men's A team they could be anywhere from 1st to 4th in Division 1 and the B team could equally finish between 1st and 3rd – medal places remember! Men's C could stay up in Division 4 as can Men's D – but there remains a lot of uncertainty at this stage. But good luck to them all.

September will see the first year when our Friday evening social tennis can take place on our courts – what a treat for us all and for anyone new, or newish, to the game who wants to join in a non-competitive exercise from 6.30 onwards. To check out what else is on offer and the rates for social membership as well as the usual rate do check our website: www.purtontennis.net for up-to-date information. We welcome all comers. From now on you can play in your village and enjoy the camaraderie of your Tennis Club. We look forward to hearing from you.

CAROLINE McLEAN

Purton Bowls Club

The club are in the last month of league and club competitions. Colin Baker will be playing at Worthing in the Champion of Champions. Alison Fail qualified in the Two-Wood at Leamington, was runner-up in County Two-Wood, in the semi-final of mixed fours and semi-final of Secretary and Treasurers competitions with Paul Boyles. The Swindon and District games are still being completed. The Club Finals will be played on 1 and 2 September and the Club Tour is from 14 to 17 September at Torquay.

BARBARA WOOLFORD



Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



The continuing wet weather will mean that nearly a half of the club's matches have been cancelled or abandoned. The 1st XI has been particularly hard hit and although winning 8 out of 9 matches played it will be difficult to gain promotion as other teams have played more matches and gained more points.

On the few occasions when the sun has shone, the club managed to host junior county matches when both the U13 girls and U13 boys recorded victories against Berkshire and Wales. The spectators were fulsome in their praise of the attractive setting of the ground and made many complimentary comments on the appearance of the field. They were however surprised to learn that we attract very little local support. When they described the setting of their grounds it is easy to see why they would have willingly swapped locations with us.

From the Archives

Swindon Evening Advertiser – 9th June 1909

Purton 2nd XI v GWR 2nd XI

Played at Purton on Saturday and resulted in a narrow win for the home side by 6 runs. W.Hewer (Purton) was in good form with the ball taking seven wickets for nine runs.

JOE GARDNER

The Hatter Family Yokes

The History of the Yokes 1912-2012

Walter Hatter of 6 Church Walk, South Rodbourne Cheney, commissioned the yokes to be made by Mr F Lewis of Common Platt, whose workshop stood where G.W. Birch & Sons premises are today. Mr Lewis was the village carpenter, undertaker and general woodworker, including many more skills. They cost £1:0s:0d in 1912 and Walter Hatter rode his bike from Rodbourne Cheney to Common Platt to collect them, with his son riding on the crossbar of the bike – he was 5 then.

The yokes have been in the Hatter family for three generations: first with Walter, then his son Walter George (always known as George Hatter). On George's death in 1991 they passed to his daughter and son-in-law. They are proudly displayed in his workshop at Tockenham.



Yokes were generally used by farmers and gardeners to carry water, milk and feed to livestock and harvesting vegetables and had many other uses.

*DAVID & JANET NEWMAN
West Tockenham*

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



A glorious summer's evening was the backdrop for our July meeting when Ann Paisley, teacher of floristry at Lackham College, joined us for her talk on 'Flower Arranging'.

Ann has always had an interest in floristry, following in the footsteps of her grandfather and father, *George Davis and Son*, the well - known Swindon florists. She attended the Welsh College of Horticulture for 2 years and on graduation worked in a florist shop in Bristol before returning to Swindon to work in the family 'firm'. This move coincided with the business procuring a contract on board Cunard's QE2 and Ann was lucky enough to spend the next 5 years at sea, crossing the date line on many occasions, whilst she continued to perfect her floristry skills in a glamorous working environment.

Whilst giving us the background to her career Ann worked on four separate flower arrangements highlighting her artistic background, incorporating shape and form.

She explained the three types of flower arrangements.

'Form Linear'- based on the form and shape of the flowers and the space used.

'Vegetative' - flowers and plant materials arranged in the way they grow naturally, i.e. 'nature decides'.

'Decorative' – i.e. the designer decides, by working fancy ribbons and decorations into the arrangement.

For her first arrangement Ann used a variety of twigs and willow from the garden to produce a framework, rather like a bird's nest, binding the layers together with paper covered wire. She then proceeded to make a hand-tied design threading foliage and stems of solidago, sunflower and alchemilla mollis through the spaces in the bound framework.

Until the arrangement was complete the stems were kept long. They were then cut to the height of the vase to enable the twig framework to rest comfortably on the neck of the vase. By cutting the stems at an angle, water is able to rise up the stems. When a flat cut is made, stems sit on the base of the vase and are unable to take up water. Ann advised us to use a knife rather than scissors for cutting to prevent the stems from being crushed. The result was a stunningly beautiful, bold arrangement.

Ann's second arrangement was in the form of a length of mini log roll to which test tubes had been attached at regular intervals along the inside. The roll was then formed into an 'S' shape. She inserted one white rose into each test tube together with multi flowered stems of alstromeria and once again alchemilla mollis. The result was a very modern take on flower arranging.

For her third arrangement, Ann used a clay pot lined with cellophane and filled with 'Oasis'. Cotoneaster was used to form cross shaping, and for impact, bergenia, with its large waxy leaves, and fatshedera, with its glossy serrated leaves, were incorporated into the design. Colour was provided by adding stems of stachys, (lamb's ears) and purple dyed stocks. A folded piece of purple tissue paper was secured around the outside of the pot at the centre point and with the

addition of a number of small purple tissue bows, another brilliant arrangement was completed.

For her final arrangement, Ann used a wide, twig framework, which she had made earlier. Within the twigs she had attached test tubes, randomly spaced. She inserted a gladioli stem into each tube, together with white freesias, and to complete the arrangement she laid honeysuckle amongst the flower filled test tubes. Once again a strikingly unique arrangement was achieved.

For the care of flowers Ann recommends the use of flower food either in the form of a liquid feed or granules. Directions for use should be followed to ensure the correct balance of feed to water. If the feed is over diluted, it will not have the desired effect and if it is not diluted enough, it will damage the stems.

Adding lemonade to water speeds the development of blooms. However by speeding up the process, flowers die more quickly. The use of bleach helps to kill bacteria without killing the flowers. However it does bleach the stems.

Regularly refreshing the water in a vase will cause flowers to tire and die off more quickly. This is because the flowers have to constantly adjust to the change in the water temperature. The best advice for prolonging the life of a vase of flowers is to add them to the diluted feed, then position them in a cool environment and leave well alone.

Val Faulkner proposed the vote of thanks to Ann for providing an inspiring insight into the art of flower arranging.

There were some beautiful entries for our competition, 'A photo of a hanging basket' and the winners were: 1st Pauline Hall, 2nd Mary Jones and 3rd Val Faulkner.

Our next meeting is at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 28 August in Silver Threads Hall. Duncan Coombs will be talking to us on the subject of 'Autumn Colour & Interest in the Garden'. Our competition will be 'Selection of 4 Vegetables'. New members and visitors are always welcome.

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

Wiltshire Voices

Earlier this year the Wiltshire Voices project started in our community area and the Area Board chose to engage with those who have Memory Loss. From the initial meetings it seemed clear that residents wanted to set up a community group and I am pleased to say that a new group called 3M's Memory Club - Latton to Lyneham - has set up. The aims of the group is to bring Fellowship, Information, Contact & Support from Peers, Access to Professionals and Advice.

Our first club meeting will be on 21 September 2012 at the Civic Centre, Royal Wootton Bassett – 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. It will be a coffee morning, very informal and a chance to network with others in the area. The event is for anyone who has memory loss and their carers and those interested in supporting us.

If you would like to attend please RSVP initially to me – so we can have an idea of how much milk and coffee to buy (plus cakes to bake).

JACQUI LAY

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