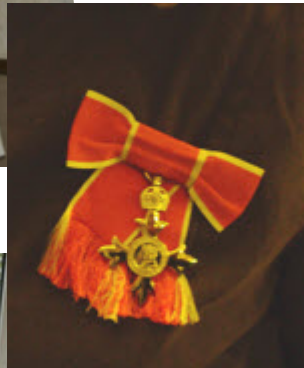


Purton Magazine

December 2012



At the Investiture of Pauline Ward with her MBE, by the Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Sarah Troughton, on 12 November 2012. See [page 31](#).

Photos: Pearl Lait, Rick Dixon

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	Maurice Card	770338
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 Ian Tweedie-Smith, tel 770077

email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk

Assistant Curate: Revd Judith Wells, 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

It is one of the quirks of producing and printing your magazine that while this December issue naturally contains many Christmas messages and information, it is being prepared in the middle of November and Christmas still seems a long way ahead – that is, until venturing out to a shopping centre!

Although not necessarily seasonal, your magazine this month includes some headline findings from the Parish Plan questionnaire that was distributed around the village back in August. A Parish Plan feedback meeting is to be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 12 December at 7 pm. More details start on [page 6](#). Later in that article we are treated to a few of the findings relating to what respondents think of speeding traffic and parking as well as the often contentious matter of how many new houses should be built in the next 5 years and where in the village should they be located. The responses to the Business questionnaire showed similar concerns with additional worries that include Internet speeds, power cuts and prospects for the future. There is also an invitation on [page 8](#) for businesses operating locally to attend the feedback meeting with their business cards for others to take away.

This magazine can only maintain the 50 pence cover price because of all our advertisers and we always encourage readers to check through our advertisers' when looking for products and services, although adverts are removed from the Internet version.

Keeping as much business within the village as possible is clearly important to the future of our community. The Ps and Qs article on [page 38](#) also considers that point from the perspective of whether or not to buy in bulk. It contains some interesting thoughts about customer service and loyalty as well as the often forgotten aspect of needing our local shops in emergencies, such as when we were all snowbound.

We know that Purton is a very caring community – and again this month there are several pieces from grateful villagers who have received outstanding support in their hour of need or celebration. Maybe we should try and care a little more about the businesses in our village as well.

In closing, please can we remind readers that as we again plan to produce the January edition before Christmas, the final date for contributions is Monday 10 December. Until then, we hope that your Christmas preparations are comfortable and constructive.

25p

stamps for Scouts' Christmas post

– see [page 13](#)

50th

Purton carnival next year and plans are already starting

– see [pages 12](#) & [21](#)

70

bags of donations for Prospect Hospice collected from Purton

– see [page 21](#)

CONTENTS

[Age Concern](#)
[Bollywood comes to Purton!](#)
[Bradon Forest School News](#)
[Carnival 2013](#)
[Children in Need](#)
[Church Floodlighting](#)
[Coffee & Chat](#)
[Community volunteering](#)
[Compost Facility certification](#)
[Cricket Club](#)
[Cricklade Band](#)
[Cricklade Country Market](#)
[Cricklade Rotary](#)
[Diary Pages](#)
[Evening WI](#)
[Exhibit of the Month](#)
[Gardeners' Guild](#)
[Guide Dogs](#)
[Helping Hand](#)
[Hills Group railway grant](#)
[Historical Society](#)
[Local Businesses & Parish Plan](#)
[M.B.E.](#)
[The Meaning of Christmas](#)

[Minibus Teams](#)
[Neighbourhood Policing](#)
[New Scout HQ!](#)
[Oil Buying Syndicate](#)
[P&L Charity Fund](#)
[Parish Council News](#)
[Parish Plan feedback](#)
[Prayer for Purton](#)
[Ps & Qs: Green Tips](#)
[Purton Churches at Christmas](#)
[Purton Placard](#)
[Purton Postbag - Letters](#)
[Purton Profferings](#)
[Rainbows, Brownies & Guides](#)
[Scouts Christmas Post](#)
[Situation Vacant](#)
[Swindon & Cricklade Railway](#)
[Swindon Choral Society](#)
[Tennis Club](#)
[We Record](#)
[Wessex Male Choir](#)
[Wiltshire Good Neighbours](#)
[Your Magazine Delivered Free!](#)

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

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Magazine Committee

Avril Ainscough, Barbara Compton, John Creasey, Helen Dixon,
Rick Dixon, Sheila Fowler, Nigel Manfield, Francis Sheppard

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tel & fax: 01793 772954 email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Distribution enquiries only:

[John Creasey](#)

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

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News



New Web Site for the Parish Council – The Parish Council is in the process of preparing a new web site. We hope that it will prove to be a much better means of communication with the public. We are aware that our existing web site does not have the capacity to provide all the information we would like. Agendas and minutes will be published on the new web site and we will have the means to be able to seek your views on some of the work we undertake, plus many other features. We will keep you informed of its development and launch date.

Wiltshire Council has approved the following planning applications:

- N12/02370/FUL *31 Ringsbury Close*, proposed rear extension, raising roof and dormers to existing bungalow
- N11/02322/FUL *6 Battlewell*, demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 5 new dwellings
- N12/03280/AGN *New Moonleaze Farm, Braydon*, New agricultural building.
Decision: further details not required.
- N12/00619/FUL *Bridge Paddocks, Leigh*, permanent stationing of caravan for 1 Gypsy Pitch
- N12/02092/TPO *86a Reids Piece*, 25% crown reduction to 3 beech trees

Wiltshire Council has refused the following planning applications:

- N12/01970/FUL *Lower Farm, Stoke Common Lane*, storage for 6 touring caravans
- N12/03028/CLP *6 Locks Lane*, single storey rear extension and conservatory

Ridgeway Farm Appeal – at the time of writing this report the outcome of the Ridgeway Farm appeal is still awaited.

Mud Lane Inquiry – the Inquiry was held in the Village Hall on 13 and 14 November 2012.

Tadpole Bridge – some parishioners may be aware that three of the tank traps that were situated near Tadpole Bridge were destroyed when the river bridge was reconstructed. Sadly the traps will not be replaced however seven tank traps still remain *in situ*. Plans are in place to erect an information board detailing the history of the tank traps. This board will be located in an easily accessible location and should prove to be very informative. We are advised that the bridges should reopen in early January 2013.

Purton Common – although the land at the end of Witts Lane is known as The Common it is not Common Land as such, it is in private ownership. Wiltshire Council has confirmed that there is no common land registered in Purton. The current owner has deeds dating back to around 80 years after the Inclosure Awards of 1738. It is thought that the land was divided in parcels which individuals took ownership of and over the years they sold their plots of land onto others. Hills purchased the land at one time and after a few years sold it on, the current owner

purchased it in the 1970s and now rents the land to a local resident.

Wild plant charity Plantlife (www.plantlife.org.uk), are hoping to reach out to many wild plant enthusiasts and nature lovers by inviting them to become wild plant 'pioneers' and subscribe to a free quarterly e-learning bulletin to learn more about our native wild plants via the *Wild About Plants* project web site - www.wildaboutplants.org.uk. The Project aims to help people reconnect with the outdoors and their local green spaces. Working with schools, families and communities from all walks of life and with fantastic free downloadable resources, the team hope to engage people with the nature on their doorstep. In recent years subscribers have been asked to record the plant life in their local area and recount what they used to see/pick and forage for. *Wild About Plants* is funded by Natural England through Access to Nature, as part of the Big Lottery Fund's *Changing Spaces* programme. It is a partnership project involving partner organisations throughout the country.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS – The Parish Council would like to wish all parishioners a very happy Christmas.

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

web site 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.

Parish Plan Feedback Meeting

This concerns you – a date for your diary: Wednesday 12 December, 7 pm at the Village Hall

There will be a feedback meeting showing the results of the recent Parish Plan Questionnaire. All residents of the Parish are invited to attend and discuss the results/actions with members of the Parish Plan team, Parish and Unitary Council, Police and Wiltshire Council.

Display boards will be used to show the feedback for each question, comments made on the questionnaires, actions and proposed solutions. This will be followed by a short summary presentation and a question/answer session.

The questionnaires were delivered throughout the Parish. The number of completed household questionnaires returned was approximately 20%. Plus Bradon Forest pupils with more than 500 responses - see what they had to say!

Just to whet your appetite, typical results of the questionnaire are shown below.

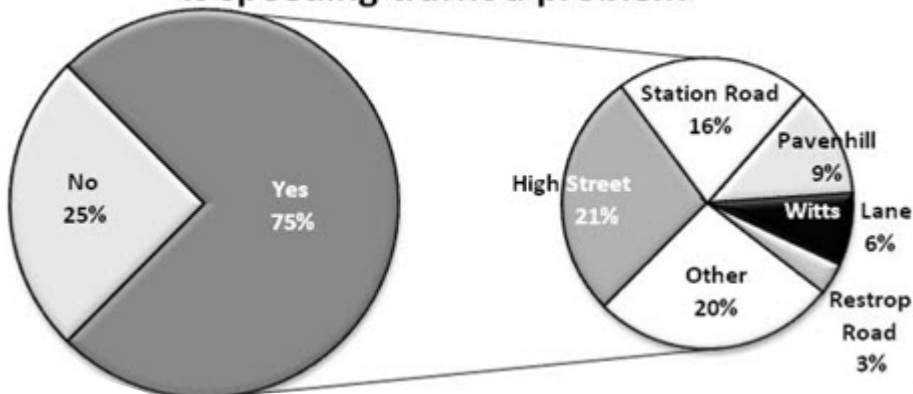
A surprising result:-

- 62% said that they did not know the non urgent police phone number (**101**). The Police have acted quickly and have supplied many shops in the Parish, and also the Parish Council Office, with cards showing the 101 number.

Other interesting results

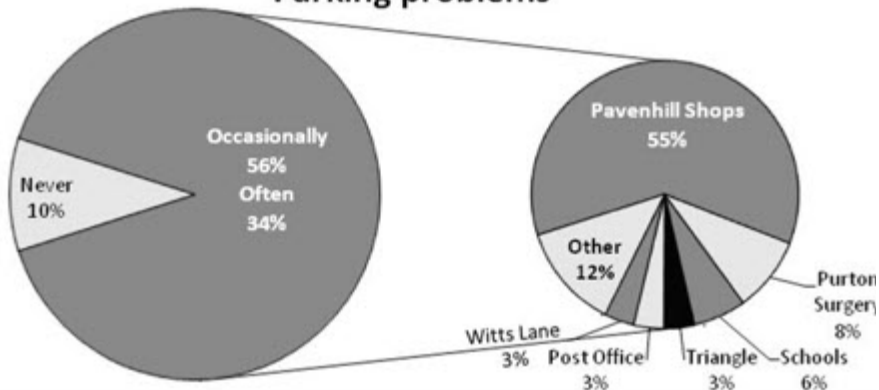
- 59% replied that there was inadequate police presence. You can now see police on foot patrol within the Parish.
- 75% reported speeding as a major issue in a number of areas throughout the Parish, including in the High Street, Station Road and near the Pear Tree. There will now be more random speed checks. Suggestions how to reduce speed included speed humps, chicane, rumble strips, speed guns and illuminated speed signs.

Is speeding traffic a problem



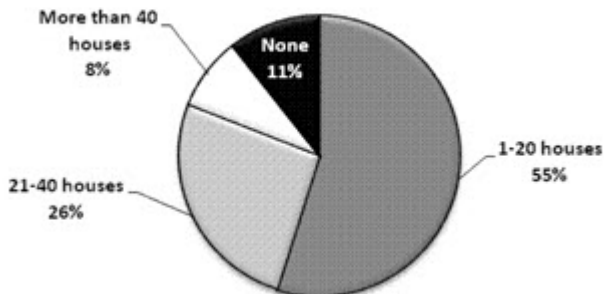
Parking, including yellow lines, as expected, is seen as a major problem in many areas in the parish.

Parking problems

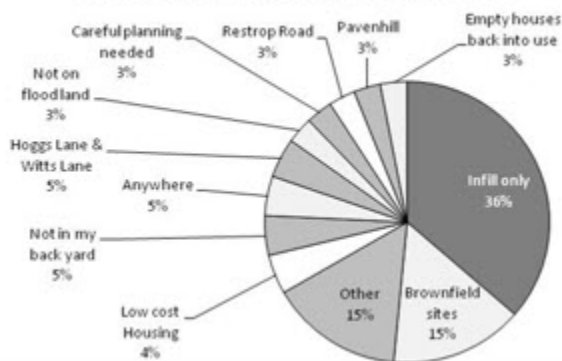


Development and Planning are emotive subjects across the Parish. The Widham Farm application has been rejected on appeal, but, Development and Planning will be a major topic in the feedback meeting.

How many houses should be built in next 5 years



Where should new houses be built



The need for Care homes and provision for the elderly in the Parish are seen by many as another important issue.

Many other topics are covered in the questionnaire, e.g. train station for Purton, Broadband problems, flooding, voluntary work and pride in the appearance of the Parish.

Responses from Business questionnaires showed, in general, that they had the following concerns:-

Parking, attitudes to buying locally, littering and dog mess, Internet speed, power cuts and prospects for the future.

Come along to the meeting on 12 December and see the results from the questionnaires. Discuss and put forward your comments and further suggestions.

Local Businesses & the Parish Plan

Are you a business operating from the parish and would like to publicise free at the Public Feedback Meeting for the Parish Plan? You are invited to bring your business cards for the public to take away at the meeting which is to be held on 12 December at the Village Hall – come along as well and see what the Parish Plan is all about.

JACQUI LAY, jacquilay@yahoo.co.uk

Purton & District Age Concern

An important notice before you start reading my piece – as you will see below, we have a new minibus co-ordinator – Maurice Card.



Another important notice is a reminder of the new police number which I am sure you will have read elsewhere. If you need to ring the police and it is **not an emergency** you ring **101** but in an emergency still ring 999.

It might surprise you that I am starting my piece with good news for a change. Well it is that way through my piece unless anything unforeseen happens. We are so lucky that we have a gentleman who has come forward to offer his services as minibus co-ordinator. The kind man is Mr **Maurice Card** – I don't know whether his arm was twisted by Louise, our secretary, as it was her suggestion that he might be asked as he is a very capable, well organised person, so Louise undertook to do the honours. Maurice met with Richard Woodbridge, retiring co-ordinator, Joe Ricketts – minibus secretary, Graham Price – minibus treasurer – the principals of the minibus committee, Louise, our general secretary and myself – I am lucky enough to have the honour of being chairman over both committees. Maurice was told all about what the job entailed and was able to ask questions and the outcome is that he is going to give it a go, which we greatly appreciate. I do not think we have anything to fear about the future of Age Concern with the genius of Louise in knowing who to ask to do what! On behalf of us all in Age Concern and beyond could I thank Richard for all his work on the co-ordinating side of the minibus, ably assisted by his wife Hazel – they have done an excellent job and I know they will be there for Maurice if he requires any information and, of course, they are both still going to carry on driving. Hazel and Richard volunteered when we needed someone, just like the situation now. It is such an important service that they and the rest of the minibus personnel provide for the village. What about giving Maurice a good start by volunteering to become a driver. I am sure you would enjoy it and look at the service you would be helping to provide.

I have just said I don't think we have anything to fear about the future. Well here is another example – **Mick Looker** and his lovely wife **Maria** have just celebrated their silver wedding and wanted donations instead of presents if anyone wished to give – to be shared between Prospect Hospice and Purton Age Concern and, my word, they have some kind friends who are very generous. Mick is our vice chairman who also knows many people who are always prepared to help him and I know that will serve us well in the future. In saying that, we are still looking for additions to the committee as well as minibus drivers. Why not make it your new year resolution to join us. I am sure you would enjoy our company!

Our Antiques and Collectables Fayre was, as usual, a great success – thanks here to Jenny Barnes, who organises it for us. I do not know how many years this has run for – it was Jenny's idea after the Arts and Crafts Fayres that Basil and Thea Marchant organised for us stopped. We had twenty-one tables, including Jenny's – her stall is made up of items people have kindly given us – and didn't it all sell well. It was not only in that area that people were generous, as we had some delicious cakes for refreshments. Could I say how well everybody worked, especially as a lot

of our seasoned campaigners were unable to attend. So thank you one and all for all the items you gave us to sell, cakes and raffle prizes, and to the stall holders and all of you who came along to support us, and, of course, especially thanks to Jenny for giving us all such an enjoyable day. We shall certainly be having one next year as we already have a waiting list for stalls, as we limit them to twenty.

Could I offer belated congratulations to **Ben and Rita Gough** on the occasion of their diamond wedding. Ben and Rita, along with their sons, farm at Red Lodge, Braydon. Rita hasn't moved too far as, before being married, she lived at Maplesale Farm, which is just across the road from Red Lodge. It is such a lovely area so I don't blame her. Although Ben and Rita live at Braydon I still consider them very much part of Purton for the way they support the village in many ways. I am sure they support Andrew, our local butcher, as their grandson Ben is one of the principals behind the counter. Somebody will tell me if I am wrong, but I believe Ben and Rita got married in the old Hoggs Lane Chapel, because Rita's mum and dad used to go there. I am just putting two and two together and perhaps making five, but I do know it was a Chapel sixty years ago.

It was a splendid wedding, with several bridesmaids, and it was the talk of the village. What a lovely wedding – I expect their celebrations of their diamond wedding would have been the same. Someone was heard to remark 'What a lovely occasion with such nice people'. Well the answer to that is quite simple – when you are kind, thoughtful and nice like Ben and Rita, the type of people you mix with are the same. I could not mention Rita without saying about her involvement in Braydon Chapel. It is amazing over the years how she has supported it and helped to keep it going. It is certainly a credit to Rita and all her friends for their commitment – it is such a lovely, homely place to worship. Congratulations Ben and Rita and best wishes for the future. Just a little footnote – I was in the same class as Rita at St Mary's School.

I suppose Christmas will soon be on us – we are finalising our arrangements now and we will already have had our less able party when you are reading this and now it is the turn of the able party. We have different entertainment which sounds good. There might still be room if you contact your street warden. After 1 December you will be getting your Christmas voucher to the value of £8 to be spent in the village at any shop, Toomers Garden Centre, Greatfield Nurseries, Bolingbroke Arms, The Bell Inn, The Angel, The Club and The Red House. We hope you enjoy your purchases and remember the vouchers must be spent before 31 December. Could we thank Mr Robert Cook for printing them for us and making such a good job as he always does.

It seems a bit cheeky what I am going to say now, after saying we are giving you £8 vouchers. We are running our usual Christmas Draw – books are £1 each. We sold out last year and we are always optimistic, so we have ordered extra ones this year. If you would like a book, or could even to take a few to sell, just give me a ring on 770696 and, of course, any prizes would be greatly appreciated. The draw itself will take place in the Silver Threads Hall on Tuesday 11 December from 7.30 pm. and anyone is welcome to come along.

On Saturday 8 December we have a Christmas Market Stall at the Pavenhill

shops. Anything for these stalls would be greatly appreciated. We usually have an excellent cake stall and thanks to your generosity, this always goes well. The added attraction is the tasting of Andrew's famous sausages, so many thanks to Andrew and his staff for their support here.

Enough of asking for your help in our fundraising, now is the time to give something back to the village. We will be putting up our usual Christmas tree on the Institute wall again this year. This is thanks to Mr and Mrs Orr Ewing – I think they have been funding the tree ever since they came to The Fox and we are exceedingly grateful for this. I know Purton appreciates this tree so very many thanks for your continued support. Mick, our vice chairman, tells us we are in for a nice surprise with the lights this year as a friend of his is very well up in this field, so we will have to wait and see. Mick and his friends are going to fund it as well. This is supposed to be our thank-you to the people of Purton for the way you all support us all the year and it's costing us nothing! All I can say is a big thank-you to all of you. One of Mick's friends gave us a very generous donation thinking how nice it is for the residents of Norbury Court, where his mother used to live, to look across at the lights.

Another thing we like to do for the village is our carols under the tree at the Institute with hot punch and mince pies on Christmas Eve at 7 pm. This is thanks to Mary and Graham New and the group of musicians they get together for the occasion, so many thanks to you all. One thing we do provide is the hot punch and mince pies during the interval. This is held in the forecourt of the Institute and we want everyone to stand inside the railings – if people stand out on the pavement this forces passers-by to walk in the road to get by. Please keep inside the railings and make this occasion a safe one. If it is wet we will be in the Village Hall.

Could I wish you all, on behalf of Purton and District Age Concern, a happy and enjoyable Christmas.

TONY PRICE

Neighbourhood Policing

Your local Neighbourhood Policing Team will be at the following specific locations during December and January if you would like to come and speak with us in person about any concerns you have in your area.

- 12 December 12 noon, Cricklade Police Station
- 14 December 2 pm, Lay-by next to the Vets, High Street, Purton
- 19 January 3 pm, Bath Road, Cricklade
- 28 January 2.30 pm, outside Bradon Forest School

Alternatively you can always **telephone us on 101** and ask to speak to the Cricklade and Purton NPT or email us at:

woottonbassetnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Thank you,

*Pc 1988 LEE KUKLINSKI,
Beat Manager, Cricklade and Purton NPT*





Purton Carnival Procession 2013

Hopefully everyone knows by now that 2013 is the 50th year of Helping Hand and thus of Carnival. Every year since I've been in the village people have said to me, "I enjoy Carnival, but wish there was more in the procession" so this year I am setting the target of getting 50 entries to the procession, one for each year of its existence!

I know we as a village can do it, as there was a wonderful turn out for the Jubilee Banner Parade in the summer. I appreciate that not everyone can produce a huge float, but there are also options of walking, bicycles or even mobility scooters. Some might prefer to just carry a banner representing their organisation and that would be fine too. We have already booked two bands for the procession, so it will be quite a spectacle if we get enough people.

So, could you join the procession? With an organisation, group of friends or the street where you live? If so, please let me know on marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk. I will be announcing how many entries we have got each month in the Magazine, and coming round to see groups to see if I can encourage those who are a bit shyer! Purton is an amazing village and it would be wonderful to have an incredible procession to celebrate 50 years of Carnival.

Can you help with the Carnival procession?

I appreciate that many people are really busy with both parents going out to work and raising a family at the same time. They will probably have read my piece above and said "I'd love to but I just don't have the time". When I was retired the one thing that I found I had was lots of time and I'm sure others are in the same situation. So my thought was to try to pair up the two groups. Could you make a costume or two? Design a float? Paint some scenery? Go round charity shops to get props? There might also be people who have a vehicle, but no creative skills who would be willing to lend their vehicle for the procession for others to adorn! If you can help out in any way or need some help, please contact me and I will try to match you up.

MARY NETTLETON

Minibus Teams

Thank you all for your voluntary work in manning the 'buses for those who are unable to get 'out and about' and fetch them from home and return them home in such a caring way.

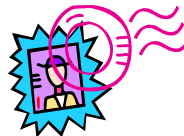
Thank you, Richard, for all the years organising the schedules and welcome to Mr Card for taking over – I will try not to give you too much confusion!

A Very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all.

*from PAULINE
at Purton Silver Threads,
Purton Helping Hand,
Purton Carnival, etc.*

Swindon Scouts Christmas Post

As usual, 1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group will be participating in Swindon Scout Christmas Post!



We are selling stamps at our usual locations: In Touch Services, Best One and Shear Success in Purton and at Toomers Garden Centre, in Lydiard Millicent.

Christmas cards must be properly addressed including postcode and only posted in the Special Scout Post Boxes. Stamps are 25p each, a real saving! Please **DO NOT USE** Scout Post stamps on cards posted through Royal Mail postboxes. They are not valid and the receiver of the card will have to pay a £1 surcharge!

**Posting is between: 1 December and
4 pm on Tuesday 11 December 2012**

The cards will be delivered between 15 and 16 December 2012

The delivery area for the Swindon Scout Christmas Post is Swindon Borough and some of the surrounding towns and villages as follows:

Swindon Borough: This includes all areas of Swindon, Badbury, Bishopstone, Blunsdon, Burderop, Chiseldon, Draycott Foliat, Elcombe, Hannington, Highworth, Hinton Parva, Hodson, Inglesham, Langton Park, Liddington, Overtown, Red Barn, South Leaze, South Marston, Stanton Fitzwarren, Stratton St Margaret, Thorney Park, Wanborough, West Leaze, Wroughton.

Other Towns and Villages: We deliver to Royal Wootton Bassett, Purton, Lydiard Millicent, Bushton, Clyffe Pypard, Tockenham, Broad Town, Cricklade, Latton, Ashton Keynes, Shrivenham, Watchfield, Bourton, Idstone, Ashbury and Kingston Winslow.

We DO NOT deliver to any other location.

Thank you everyone for supporting us; especially the local businesses for housing our boxes and selling stamps! All profits go to run Scouting in the Swindon, Purton, Highworth and Wootton Bassett areas.

Purton Guide Dogs

Our, Jumble Sale in the Silver Threads Hall was fairly quiet. Our thanks to all who were able to come, and to Barbara Herron who did her Stall, and again donated the entire proceeds to us. Also I received donations from others which covered the hire, with the result we made over £100.

On the Stall at the Silver Threads Table Top Sale in the Village Hall, we made just over £18.

I will be having a Trading Goods Stall at *Christmas at Steam* along with Swindon Branch later this month.

We would all like to take this opportunity to wish you a, Very Merry and Peaceful Christmas. Many thanks for all your support.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group



The Meaning of Christmas

“Doesn’t he look like his Dad”. Oh, for a pound for every time I have heard this said whenever a new born son is revealed to the world. But it’s just what John is saying in Chapter one of his Gospel. When he states in verse 18 – “no one has ever seen God, the only Son He has made Him known” – John is saying to those who read his gospel, for God, substitute Jesus. If you want to know what God says, listen to the words of Jesus. If you want to see what God would do, watch Jesus and see what He is doing. If you want to see what God thinks of us, watch Jesus especially on the cross.

But that journey of discovery must begin somewhere and trust God to surprise us with a little out of the way place, in the circumstances of political upheaval and in the life of a very ordinary family. If God can do it there, he can do it anywhere, even here and among us. Happy Christmas.

- - -

Lord, please surprise us this Christmas by making your presence known in the everyday and in traditional celebrations, for we would open up our hearts to become a manger for your Son. Amen.

*Rev DAVID PERKINS
Methodist Minister*

We Record ...

Baptisms

- 21 October Noah Bailey Lewin Birch-Long
at *St Mary’s Church*
- 4 November Scarlett Victoria Woods at *St Mary’s Church*

Funerals

- 28 September Denise Dodson at *St Mary’s Church*
- 8 October Glyn Lloyd at *St Mary’s Church*
- 9 October Mary Wright at *St Mary’s Church*
- 12 October Hazel Iles at *St Mary’s Church*
- 15 October Philip Short at *Kingsdown Crematorium*
- 16 October Doris Wadsworth at *St Mary’s Church*
- 17 October Sid Walker at *St Mary’s Church*

Golden Wedding

- 22 December Joe and Rosemary Gardner celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary – ‘Congratulations Mum and Dad, Gran and Gramp, love from Nicola, Mark, Sarah, Megan, Ellie and Gus.’

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





Purton Churches at Christmas 2012

Sunday 9 December

4 pm Christingle at St Mary's Church

Friday 14 December

6 pm Carols with Pies and Punch
at The Vicarage, Hyde Lane

Sunday 16 December

10.30 am Carols for Christmas at Methodist Church

Sunday 23 December

6 pm Carols by Candlelight at Methodist Church

Christmas Eve

4 pm United Carol and Crib service
with the Cricklade Band at St Mary's Church

11.30 pm Midnight Mass at St Mary's Church

Christmas Day

8 am Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

10.30 am Parish Communion at St Mary's Church

NO Evensong

Sunday 30 December

10.30 am Covenant Service at Methodist Church

6 pm Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's Church

Sunday 6 January

10.30 am New Year Family Service
at St Mary's Church

Church Floodlighting

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



- 27 October The Church was floodlit in memory of **Roy a'Court**, who lived for many years in The Hyde: and it would have been his birthday on 27 October.
- 19 November St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Duncan Bamford's** birthday. Always loved and sadly missed by Jean, Gary, Tracey, Howard and family.
- 3 December St Mary's will be floodlit, in loving memory, of **Jake Smith** on his 22nd birthday. Very much loved and missed by all his family and friends.
- 9 December St Mary's will be floodlit for **Elsa Trotter** 'in memory of a loving Mother's birthday.'
- 19 December The church will be floodlit for my Mother, **Elsie Goodings**, on what would have been her birthday. From Pete Goodings
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day St Mary's Church will be floodlit to wish all Purtonians a very **Happy Christmastide**.
- 28 December St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Nelson Woolford** on the 12th anniversary of his death. Also in memory of Mary. Loved and remembered always. Barbara, Martin, Alan and families
- 31 December The church will be floodlit in loving memory of a much loved Dad, **Reginald (Reg) Hedges**, on his 100th birthday. Always in our hearts and thoughts. With all our love. Gloria, Terry, Kelvin, Chris, Paul and families

Floodlighting contact: [Libbie](#)

If the lights don't work, for any reason, we offer our apologies and, of course, we offer another floodlit evening for free, or your money back.. These things happen occasionally and it is really disappointing for all concerned.

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

Community First Oil Buying Syndicate

Community First has joined together with other Rural Community Councils to form part of an oil buying syndicate across the whole of England. Our members are currently seeing significant savings on their heating bills which you too can benefit from by joining the scheme. There is an annual membership fee of £20 which you should get back on your first order and works out at less than £2 a month. Community Buildings can join for £30 a year & businesses for £100.

CF Oil, Wiltshire's Community Oil Buying Scheme has now been running since October 2011, with just over 199,000 litres of oil purchased between its members. Compared to the average price for heating oil in Wiltshire our members have overall made a saving in excess of £10,000 whilst compared to the highest prices this rises to over £20,000.

Ordering is simple, once a month members will receive an email reminding them of the next oil order date and the deadline for when orders need to be received at the CF Oil offices. For members not on email, they will receive a telephone call asking if they need to order oil. Our negotiators (who are very experienced within the oil industry) then go to the market to negotiate the best possible price for that day. Members will then be paying the oil supplier directly after receiving an invoice from them.

CF Oil not only saves you money on your heating oil, but also takes out the hassle of phoning around for quotes each time you need oil.

If you would like further information or would like to join the scheme, please contact CF Oil's Administrator Jess Emery on 01380 732809, or email oil@communityfirst.org.uk.

Purton & Lydiard Charity Fund

... would like to thank the traders and all those who attended our Christmas Craft Show in November. Nearly 200 people attended and we made approximately £250 after expenses. We are very grateful for your continued support, which in turn helps us to support local organisations.



LYNDA and JENNY

A personal thank-you

Some of you will know that I was very ill during the summer, and after 5 weeks in hospital spent 4 months attached to a vacuum machine which has been repairing a large wound in my tummy. I hope to be off the machine by the time you read this. I would like to thank everyone who sent cards, passed on good wishes and asked about my progress during this time. In particular I would like to thank Pauline and Jenny, who were a great support to me, but in particular my son Christopher who visited me every day when I was in hospital, did washing and shopping, looked after me during my recovery and continues to be my best friend and helper. I couldn't ask for a better son.

LYNDA WARREN

An important event was taking place at Purton Church on the night of our October meeting and so our numbers were not as high as usual. However, it was still a memorable evening! The pile of Firemen's outfits and heavy gear were reminders that tonight we were to enjoy a talk by the son of one of our members, Rob Millican, speaking on his life as a fireman, and he was a mine of information. As our President Trish Baker said afterwards, had we been aware of the courage and knowledge necessary to become a fireman we would have held them in even deeper respect.

A full Newsletter gave us much information on forthcoming activities, and there seems to be never a dull moment! We also received the results of our enquiry as to what we really enjoy (or not) about our WI and that makes for interesting reading ...

We should next be together on 19 December *at the Silver Threads Hall*, for our Birthday and Christmas meeting, and with the added pleasure of hearing songs performed by Graham Davison-Smith. Just sit back and enjoy! (And if you haven't booked a meal, you are still welcome to join in our company as usual and we won't be throwing chicken bones over our shoulders to you, à la Henry VIII!) If you still need to book your meal, ring Helen on 770648

I am so looking forward to seeing you all at that joyous function, winding up the year with laughter and happy memories. There couldn't be a more pleasant way to enjoy Christmastide than to launch it with WI friends, could there?

CONSTANCE REED, tel 771 571

Hills' Compost Facility gains Certification

Hills Waste Solutions' composting operation has achieved two significant certifications after moving to a new, purpose-built site at Parkgate Farm, near Purton.

The compost produced on site, known as *Warrior Compost*, has been certified to the BSI PAS 100 (2011) and the Compost Quality Protocol (CQP) standard, accredited by both the Association for Organics Recycling and the Soil Association.

Ed Dodd, divisional director Hills Waste Solutions, said: "PAS100 and the CQP give the customer an assurance of quality and traceability via an independent assessment during the production cycle of the compost."

In addition the site's environmental management system was certified to the international ISO14001 standard following an extensive audit by an independent external certification body, SGS United Kingdom Limited. This standard ensures that key environmental issues are identified and that procedures are in place to deliver effective management, prevention of pollution, environmental improvements and legal compliance for the site.

Green waste collected from Wiltshire households via the kerbside service and at the county's 11 household recycling centres is processed at Parkgate Farm where it undergoes a rigorously monitored process. The raw material is first finely shredded, then stacked in 'windrows' and constantly turned to speed up the decomposition process which takes some 12 weeks. The final product is screened to remove any over-size particles and then bagged for sale. *Warrior Compost* can be bought in bags or loose at all the household recycling centres. It can also be purchased in bulk loads.

Making a Difference in your Community

I am part of a community, as are you and everybody you and I know. This means that everything we do affects the community, just as the kind of community we live in can affect us. We can help to change our community or keep it the same depending on what we do within it. So have you thought about the skills you have and whether you could put them to good use by helping the community and consequentially helping ourselves.

Perhaps you enjoy a cup of tea and a chat? Maybe you have some great accountancy, legal or administration skills you'd like to put to good use? Would you like to pass on these skills? Or perhaps you'd love to support a cause that you believe in but are not quite sure what you can do? Volunteering could be the answer. At Volunteer Centre Wiltshire there are hundreds of different options you can choose from, so there's bound to be something that takes your fancy and the best bit is that you benefit too. One good thing about volunteering is that you can choose how much you want to do and how often. You can volunteer on one-off occasions or have a regular shift somewhere.

There are lots of opportunities out there: you can become a befriender and support an elderly person, a child or young person, a carer or someone with a disability. You can join the trustees or management committee of an organisation whose cause you are passionate about and help shape it's future. You can be a volunteer driver for a link scheme or other organisation, a credit union cashier, a room guide or museum volunteer, a collection box volunteer, a school governor or help with wildlife conservation to name but a few of the roles that are out there. Many roles don't require previous experience so there's nothing to stop you getting involved. This could be the chance of a lifetime, an opportunity to do the kind of thing you have always wanted to do.

What better reason is there to do something than having a feel good factor? Volunteering is undeniably a good way to achieve this. It's a two way process, the organisation gains from your time and skills and you gain by being part of a community and feeling useful and appreciated, and by doing something that you are really interested in. You can connect with others and widen your social circle, meeting like-minded people. Being part of a team and doing something meaningful is something that volunteers often say is one of the main reasons why they do it. Others, who are not in the work place, found that volunteering gives them routine and reason and structure to their weeks, and thankfully it comes without the responsibilities of paid employment.

So how do you find out about the opportunities in your area? Volunteer Centre Wiltshire has details of hundreds of volunteering roles and you can talk to the Volunteering Adviser on 0845 521 6224 or visit their web site: www.volunteercentrewiltshire.org.uk. If you would like to volunteer but you feel as though you may need extra support, ask about the Mentor Supported Volunteering Project to see if you are eligible.

*RUTH ROSS
Volunteer Centre Wiltshire*

■ SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

We would like to thank all our friends and family for a very special weekend celebrating our 25th (Silver) Wedding Anniversary. Thanks to everyone's generosity we received donations totalling £430.00. This has been divided equally between Purton & District Age Concern and Prospect Hospice. We hope that these donations can help towards the continued support locally. Looking forward to the next 25 years and Happy Days!

Mia & Mick Looker

■ GOLDEN THANK-YOU

May we through the magazine thank relatives, friends and family for their kind wishes, cards and presents in celebration of our golden wedding anniversary. Special thanks also to Tony Price for his lovely words in his Age Concern report. We had a lovely day.

Jackie & Cyril Walters

■ AIR AMBULANCE

We wish to thank those people who supported the whist drive for the Air Ambulance and for donations we were given. This enabled us to send £300 to this worthy cause.

Gladys Legg

■ PROSPECT COLLECTIONS

Thank you, from all of us here at Prospect Hospice for the kind generosity of the people of Purton and fabulous donations of approximately 70 bags that we have received today (13 November).

Our 'Village Collections' are a fantastic and new initiative that our volunteers have come up with to assist us with maintaining our stock levels at this difficult time in the recession. They involve us parking up in a village at a designated pick up point to receive and collect donations of clothing, bric-a-brac and toys etc for our 13 charity shops.

Vicki Lowe

Retail Administrator, Prospect Hospice

Purton Helping Hand

Christmas Vouchers will be delivered from 1 December onwards.

Qualification is as follows:

- Married couples (Man 65, Lady 60);
- Single Man (65); Single Lady (60);
- Widows (any age); Severely Handicapped (any age);
- You must live in the Parish of Purton/Purton Stoke.

Any enquiries to Pauline (770251) or Audrey (771540).

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

PAULINE WARD, Chairman

50th Anniversary in 2013

Helping Hand has a special year in 2013 when there will be lots going on. Will you **please** help me to prove that Purton is as good as anywhere else in Wiltshire and come forward with your entertainment Talent – it is not X-Factor, it is you having some fun and at the same time giving pleasure to others.

I know the Talent is there; let us see what you are worth! The date will be given in the new year. If you are interested, please contact Pauline.



Purton Diary - December 2012

1	Sa	5.00pm	to 8.30pm: Age Concern Party for able elderly at Village Hall
2	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United UJC Anniversary & Parade Service at the Methodist Church
		2.00pm	to 4pm: Christmas Bazaar, Village Hall (Under-5's Playgroup)
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
5	W	7.30pm	Helping Hand Whist Drive at Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Black's Magic at Bradon Forest Theatre
6	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		7.30pm	Black's Magic at Bradon Forest Theatre
7	F	10.00am	to 12 noon: Christmas Coffee Morning at 18 Church Path
		7.30pm	Historical Society: Annual Christmas Social, St Mary's School
		7.30pm	Black's Magic at Bradon Forest Theatre
8	Sa	9.00am	to 12 noon: Age Concern Christmas market stall outside the Pavenhill shops
		10.00am	to 2pm: Jubilee Gardens Open Day
		2.00pm	to 4pm: Christmas Table Top Fayre at The Cedars
9	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Christingle 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
		11.30am	to 4.30pm: Silver Threads Christmas Party
		4.00pm	Last Posting Time for Scout's Christmas Post
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Angel
		7.30pm	Age Concern Christmas Raffle draw at Silver Threads Hall
		8.00pm	After 8 Christmas Sing-along at Cathy's
12	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship Christmas Meeting, Hooks Hill
		7.00pm	Parish Plan feedback meeting at Village Hall
13	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
		3.30pm	Christmas Fayre at St Mary's School (PTA)
14	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon for all areas of the village
		6.00pm	Pies and Punch at the Vicarage
		7.30pm	Twinning Association Annual Christmas Quiz at Village Hall
15	Sa	8.00pm	Swindon Choral Society: Handel's <i>Messiah</i> , Holy Rood Church
16	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Carol Service at Braydon Methodist Chapel
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church

18	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
19	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI: Birthday & Christmas meeting at <i>Silver Threads Hall</i>
20	Th	6.30pm	<i>onwards:</i> Father Christmas comes to town - details in 'Placard'
21	F		Winter Solstice
		6.30pm	<i>onwards:</i> Father Christmas comes to town - details in 'Placard'


23	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Carols at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
24	M		Christmas Eve
		4.00pm	United Crib Service at St Mary's Church
		7.00pm	Carols under the tree at the Institute with hot punch and mince pies
		11.30pm	Midnight Mass at St Mary's Church
25	Tu		Christmas Day
		8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church

30	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Nine Lessons & Carols at St Mary's Church
31	M		New Year's Eve

Every week

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

Moon Phases

 6 December
  13 December
  20 December
  28 December

If your Club or Organization's Events are not included in the Diary Pages, let us know:

Purton Magazine c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill
 or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Please note: priority is given to events which are open to everyone.



SPORTS NEWS - YEAR 10 GIRLS' FOOTBALL

Kirsten Harris (10S) reports: *In the first round of the English Schools' National Cup we beat Kingsdown 3-1, so on Monday 15 October 2012 we played the second round of the competition. The opposing team, Isambard, were definitely on form but were no match for our team with a final score of 4-3 to Bradon. Meghan Larkin (player of the match) opened the scoring and soon got a second before Isambard scored, so we went in at half time 2-1 up. Georgia Clifford scored and we hit 3-3 with a few minutes to spare thinking we were going to have a repeat of our last match against Isambard – penalties. Brilliant goalkeeping from Ellen Cook helped us stay in the match. Amy Bergin hit the crossbar then moments later found the*

back of the net! After an amazing match with brilliant support the 4-3 win left us all set in a good frame of mind for the next round which is against The Grange School and Sports College, Bristol, 2.00 pm kick off on Monday 5 November 2012. Well done to the whole team including a huge thank-you to our officials Polly Whinfrey (11P), Jack Howse (11Q) and Miss Moore.



NEW PRIEST AT ST MARY'S PURTON: Welcome to Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith

Below is a report from Grace Bartlett regarding the recent formal 'installation' and welcoming of the Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith to Purton Parish. Grace Bartlett (10Q), Rebecca Stevens (11Q), Juliet Coleman (11X), Eleasha Kell (10Q) and Mr Winward (Deputy Head – Community/Pastoral) represented Bradon Forest School. The girls performed a 'modern' musical item prior to the official start of the proceedings and later in the service Grace Bartlett led prayers on behalf of Purton Parish residents alongside Curate, Judith Wells. Once again Bradon Forest students did us proud.

Grace Bartlett (10Q) reports: *On 17 October 2012 at St Mary's Church, the new vicar of Purton, Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith was licensed. The service began with four students from the school performing a modern worship song 'Blessed Be Your Name' by Matt Redman. It was a lovely service attended by the Bishop of Bristol, all the Clergy from the surrounding area as well as all the congregation from St Mary's and lots of members of the Purton community. There was a huge involvement with students from Bradon Forest, as well as those performing at the beginning of the service, some others also performed in the choir and helped compose and read the prayers. The service went really well and everyone is looking forward to welcoming the new vicar to the church from this week onwards.*

NEWS ON MR BARKER'S RECOVERY

Mr and Mrs Barker live in Purton and have been regular supply teachers at Bradon Forest School for the last 6 years. When not working at Bradon Forest they both work as ski instructors. Unfortunately this summer Ray Barker had a minor accident on his bicycle which had major consequences. Ray was wearing his helmet and came off his bicycle injuring his spine. Sally Barker is kindly keeping us updated on Ray's recovery. Ray is currently undergoing rehabilitation in the spinal unit at Salisbury Hospital and we are delighted that he is making such good progress. Sally sent us the message below:



“Ray is fine and he is doing well. He is now wheeling himself around in a wheelchair for up to 8 hours a day. He is now able to write again with his right hand which was affected the most and he is also able to do a little typing as he gets stronger with all the wheeling around. His physiotherapist has got him to stand and start to walk with support. They are also getting him to move from his bed to the wheelchair with a nurse ready to catch him! Recently he has started hydrotherapy and is enjoying swimming. The photograph was taken on the afternoon of the Dedication Ceremony of the new garden at the Spinal Unit in Salisbury. It commemorates the Wiltshire student Horatio Chapple who was killed by a polar bear while on an Artic Expedition last year. Horatio used to do volunteer work in the unit and his Dad is a spinal consultant at the hospital. It is a really nice garden with walls that mimic the shape of the spine and it is totally designed for wheelchairs and beds.” I am sure that you will all join with us in wishing Ray well.

CHRISTIAN AID CONCERT SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2012



Emma Hayden reports: On Saturday 6 October 2012 Bradon Forest School played host to a musical concert with The Wessex Male Choir featuring a guest appearance by Jubilate (a ladies choir from London) all in aid of Christian Aid. The

packed audience were treated to a wonderful mix of songs culminating in a joint rendition of Jerusalem which raised the roof!

Organisers, Libbie Sheppard and Wendy Johnson, said they were delighted by how successful and enjoyable the evening had been and were thrilled with the

£1,200 taken on the night. Overall Libbie and Wendy have raised more than £6,000 this year for Christian Aid from fundraising events! The ladies expressed their thanks for all the help they had received from the school, and in particular to David Calder for helping to stage this event.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY NEWS

We are looking forward to quite a range of photographs and articles from Food Technology over the coming weeks. Mrs Jones has organised the following events during Term 2/3:

- Carole from *Sugar Celebrations* in Swindon is coming in to run an after school session for the Year 11 GCSE Food group who are making Christmas cakes, the student members of our new Christmas cake club and our regular cup cake club. She will decorate a Christmas cake and then show them how to make mini Christmas models for the top of their cakes.
- Samathana Field (Lauren and Elenya's mum) will be giving demonstrations to the members of the cupcake club.
- Harriet Harding's dad is a chef and he will be coming in to work with the Year 10 GCSE group on Food and Nutrition.
- There will be a return visit from Simon who is the fishmonger at Cobbs Farm shop in Hungerford to work with the GCSE classes.
- Matt Brooks from the Glass House Restaurant at Marsh Farm has also kindly offered to work with both the Year 10 and 11 Food groups.

PTA QUIZ NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who supported the PTA Pop/General Knowledge Quiz held on Friday 12 October 2012. A fabulous £253 was raised for PTA funds and the 14 teams who entered all had great fun. Special thanks to Stuart Allinson, and John and Jill Beattie who gave up their time to compile the questions and host the Quiz.

L SPIERS, Headteacher

Children in Need

By the time you read this, Christmas will be almost here, and, of course that will be quickly followed by New Year's Eve. Are you coming to our supper dance at the Village Hall? Tickets are available at £15 each. There will be a bar and, of course, a quality supper with a race night, so you can try and win some money to replace that which you spent over Christmas. There will also be a raffle and we'll be 'dancing in' the New Year.



Tables are for 10 people but you can buy individual tickets. Dress code is smart – no jeans or trainers please, lower age limit is 14. So come and see the New Year in with fellow Purtonians and help raise some money for Children in Need.

For tickets or information call Tony/Sue on 772581.

TONY RICHARDSON

Overheard - at a West Country supermarket checkout

A jovial Vicar being congenial with the lady at the check out "Winter draws on, my dear!"
Lady at check out replies "Matteravact I 'av – but wottsit t'do with you?"

The Cricklade Band: 1887-2012 and still ahead of our time!

If you're a **Hogtobirthdayfest** survivor you'll know that the band put on a "terrific party" in October to celebrate the band's 125th anniversary. There were fireworks, roast pork, some beer(!), kazoos, congas, birthday cakes, professional sound, lighting and stage set, Dambuster-dancing and of course **The Music**. Some who were new to the experience didn't know quite what to expect and were surprised at the professional quality of it all – they were soon told that "this is how the band does things". If you missed it, look out for the next one in October 2014.

On to a What's On – we have a festive 'Christmas Present' at the The Club at Cricklade on Sunday 16 December at 7.30 pm. This will be a smaller event this year, but just as beautifully wrapped. There will of course be all the carols and Christmas music you'd expect to sing, and this year our BandAcademy will also be taking an important part. We'll have seasonal refreshments, and a raffle kindly supported by Cricklade traders and businesses. You'll also have the bar available throughout the show.

'Playtime', the band's new CD will also be available. Just £8, the CD shows us off with a mix of music in our unique 'brass big-band' style and what a good Christmas present choice!

Entry at the door is still just a fiver. Switch the telly off, come along, squash in and have a festive sing. Christmas doesn't start with the DFS ads – it starts here!

We're all geared-up as usual for a busy festive season. Our December diary has details of 14 occasions between the 8th and Christmas morning when we'll all be out and about playing all the familiar carols and Christmas music. The band will be tramping the streets of Cricklade, Purton, Ashton Keynes and Latton. Your kind donations during our traditional door-to-door collections will this year, in addition to the band itself, benefit The Cedars and Ashgrove House, both providing excellent care in Purton to our elderly local community members.

Swindon Choral Society

Swindon Choral Society will be performing Handel's Messiah at Holy Rood Church, Groundwell Road, on Saturday 15 December. The performance begins at 8pm. (Doors open at 7.30 pm).



The performance will be conducted by Robin Nelson with professional soloists and musicians.

Tickets cost £12 with concessions of £10, available from Swindon Information Centre, members of the Society or from www.swindonchoral.org.uk

Wessex Male Choir

Wessex have 2 CDs on sale: *It's Christmas* (£9 inc p&p) and *Shades of Wessex* (£8) available at In Touch Services and from the choir's web site: www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk. Or you can buy the two together at £13.



The choir have also released a track *Blades of Grass & Pure White Stones*, available for download from iTunes, Amazon for 79p. The Choir are donating all proceeds from these downloads to the Royal British Legion.

PURTON PLACARD

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

Christmas Table Top Fayre at The Cedars

Saturday 8 December
2 pm to 4 pm

Jewellery
Christmas Cakes
Christmas Flower Arrangements
Cards and Crafts
The Pampered Chef with Louise
Refreshments

Braydon Methodist Chapel Carol Service

The members of Braydon Methodist Chapel would like to invite you to their Carol Service to be held on Sunday 16 December at 6 pm.

It will be concluded with hot drinks, sausage rolls and mince pies.

For more information
please telephone 01666 510265.

Christmas Coffee Morning

at 18 Church Path
Friday 7 December

10 am - 12 noon

Raffle Cakes Books Bric a Brac
Profits to Purton Coffee & Chat

PURTON AGE CONCERN CHRISTMAS MARKET STALL

on Saturday 8 December
from 9 am to 12 noon
outside the Pavenhill shops
Come and taste Andrew's
famous sausages

Lots of bargains – home made
cakes, books, toys, bric a brac
and much more

Purton Twinning Association Annual Christmas Quiz

14 December 7.30 pm
at The Silver Threads Hall
£5 per person (including supper)
Teams of up to 6
Licensed bar.

For further details and entries contact:
Len Page or Sara Brown

St Mary's Church Pies and Punch with Carols

Friday 14 December
at The Vicarage
2 Kingsacre, Hyde Lane
6pm

No tickets - donations at the door
Tel 770157, 770970, 770375

St Mary's School PTA Christmas Fayre

Thursday 13 December
from 3.30 pm
at the School Hall

Jubilee Gardens Open Day

Saturday 8 December* from 10 am to 2 pm

Sale of hyacinths, Christmas Wreaths,
bird boxes, pickles and much more.

Refreshments
Raffle and tombola
Free admission

Church Bush Hall, Purton Stoke

(*Please note: slightly later than usual this year)

**Whist Drive
by Helping Hand**
Wednesday 5 December
7.30 pm
at Silver Threads Hall

Purton Carnival
Father Christmas
will be in Purton to collect your
letters, children.

Thursday 20 December
6.30 pm onwards

Ringsbury Close to *The Angel*

Friday 21 December
6.30 pm onwards

from *The Angel* to Locks Lane

Get your letters written now!!

Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sunday 2nd December

Village Hall, Purton
2-4pm

Meet Father Christmas in his grotto, have
your picture taken and receive a gift.
Also Grand Prize Raffle, Tombola, Cake Stall,
refreshments and lots more

Free Entrance



Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup
Registered Charity 1031501

Black's Magic by Fleur

Mystery, magic, mayhem, strange
characters, surprising puppets and
even a Bog Monster will be discovered
in this colourful family show.

Bradon Forest Theatre

5 - 7 December 2012

7.30 start Tickets £4 & £3

Situations Vacant

A part-time vacancy has arisen in the Purton area for a companion for an elderly lady who would like some company and trips out. Ideally the successful candidate will be fit and active, perhaps recently retired, looking for a part time befriending role with a few caring duties. Own transport is a must due to location. You would be required for approximately 2 hours per day, 3 days per week, details can be flexible, but reliability a must. Generous hourly rate offered to the right candidate.

For further details about the role please call your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator, Ellen Blacker on 07557 110414 or post your application giving a brief resume to: Ellen Blacker, c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill, Purton SN5 4DB.

Just a Thought

Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground. *Theodore Roosevelt*

Purton Historical Society

At our October meeting we welcomed Martin Collison. He not only spoke to us about drinking glasses and decanters of the Georgian and Regency period but illustrated his talk with slides and brought samples of glasses and decanters from his large collection. It is amazing that such fragile objects survive intact for centuries!



Our next gathering is our Christmas Social on Friday 7 December at 7.30 pm at St Mary's School. We shall enjoy a buffet supper with glass of wine or juice, a lucky draw, bar, raffle, a quiz and entertainment by the 'After 8' singing group. Tickets are available at £10 and can be obtained from In Touch Services or by contacting me.

HELEN DIXON, tel. 770648

Exhibit of the Month: A Bentham Lane Resident

Last month I showed you a postcard photo from 1912 of 'Curly Tom'. This month we have an unknown gentleman from another local postcard of the same period. His humble cottage once stood in Bentham Lane. Alec Robbins in *Purton's Past* suggested that here is a character to ponder over. Does his coat indicate an elegant and more prosperous past? He has the heavy boots of a farm worker but his coat, large cravat and tall hat give him a certain air of distinction.



If anyone can shed any light on who he was and what he did, the Museum would be very grateful.

As always there will be a clearer picture on the web site at www.purtonmuseum.com.

RICK DIXON, Outreach Officer

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

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

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *The Fox, The Pry, and Collins Lane*. If there is anyone or anything that you would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship, please contact Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith, Revd Judith Wells or Revd 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.

M.B.E.

Someone in Purton decided to nominate me for the above award in Jubilee Year and my 90th birthday year – surprise, it was accepted. From then onwards my life took on a different aspect, full of emotion, amazement, disbelief and even “had it gone to the wrong person?” No, it was right and, on Monday 12 November 2012 at 3 pm at the *Red House*, I was presented with my MBE by the Lord-Lieutenant.



I cannot describe my feelings except to say my heart performed acrobatics and I felt numb.

A group of my friends, “Purton MI5”, decided that this was to be “my day” and I was not to do anything – well they succeeded in their quest. IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL DAY FOR ME – and I will never forget it. Thank you, “MI5”.

I am now getting back to normal but I keep having a little sneak at my MBE to prove it is not just a dream. Purton is still here and my life with you all is back to normal except for that special black case. Thank you all,
PAULINE xx

Hills Group Grant for Railway

A project to renovate a coach by a heritage railway group has been boosted by a grant from local company The Hills Group. Hills has committed a further £6,000 towards Swindon & Cricklade Railway on top of £21,000 already given. The money has been made available through the Landfill Communities Fund which is administered for Hills by Community First, the Rural Community Council for Wiltshire.

The Swindon & Cricklade Railway is Wiltshire’s only standard gauge railway and run by volunteer enthusiasts. It now runs for 3 miles between Swindon (Mouldon Hill) and near Cricklade (Hayes Knoll) with plans to extend the line further.



S&CR carriage exterior: extensive repairs to the body of the coach have been undertaken



Mike Hill, chief executive of The Hills Group, said, “We have long supported the work of the Swindon & Cricklade Railway which not only provides a marvellous facility for local people and visitors but

S&CR carriage interior – interior panelling has been replaced. New flooring will be laid and special tables to be installed to accommodate wheelchair users.



S&CR people: Mike Hill, chief executive of The Hills Group (second left) with Swindon & Cricklade volunteers (l to r) Mick Hicks, project leader; Chris Palmer, deputy project leader; Brian Pound, chairman; and Mary Hardwidge, grants officer for Community First.

maintains a piece of heritage which would otherwise be lost.

“The renovation project will provide them with much needed extra resources but they have been hampered by poor weather, a daunting set of repairs and marshalling the volunteers.

“We’re happy to help to make sure all the hard work put in so far is not lost. I certainly look forward to riding in it once all the repairs are complete.”

In 2009 Hills donated £21,000 to help convert a 1959 corridor coach into an open and integrated vehicle with full wheelchair access including an onboard disabled toilet. It was badly damaged by rust and work repairing it was delayed by two ferocious winters and the loss of a volunteer.

It meant that work has not been completed as soon as hoped but that it is planned to be completed by Easter 2013. The coach will then be fully accessible.

To ensure the volunteers can complete the work and bring the coach into use Hills agreed a further grant of £6,000.

Brian Pound, chairman of Swindon & Cricklade Railway, said, “Having the use of this coach will be a great asset to the Railway as wheelchair users can ride in the same carriage as non wheelchair users and in a much more comfortable manner.”

*MONIQUE HAYES, MCIPR
Group Communications Officer*

Swindon & Cricklade Railway

SANTA SPECIALS

Sun 2nd, Sat & Sun 8th, 9th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd. Sat 8th December only 11 am to 5 pm. Mon 24th 11 am to 5 pm diesel trains only. All the rest are steam trains. After the train ride you will find Santa in his grotto who will have presents to suit all ages, from toddlers to early teens. Voted one of Britain’s best heritage railway Santa Specials.

Adults £7, children with present £10, under-threes £5, Seniors £6. Family of two adults and two children £32. Pre-book on www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org or pay on the day.

Due to major bridge reconstruction, the access to the railway will be closed from the Purton and Cricklade end until January, but it can be approached from Blunsdon Stadium (off the A419) following the brown signs towards Purton for approx 2 miles, or via Oakwood. Enquiries on 01793 750335 or 771615,or

www.swindon-cricklade-railway.org.



New Scout Headquarters!

After months of hard graft, planning and meetings, 1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group are very pleased to announce that their plans for a new Scout HQ in the village were passed this summer. Not only were they passed but we are ready to start fundraising in earnest to start work on the new building.



Plans for the new HQ can be viewed on our website at www.plscouts.org. You will notice that the plan is to take the building down completely and enlarge the hall, facilitated by our purchase of the small strip of land to the side of the building. We hope the village will embrace our project which when completed and landscaped will not only be much more pleasing to the eye, but more importantly provide the scouting youth of the village with a purpose-built HQ.

We hope that scouting members past and present, as well as local businesses and anyone else out there, will consider sponsoring and donating to our new build.

Please contact Ian Bartlett, Group Chairperson on: 778059 for further information on how to donate or for offers of help!

Bollywood comes to Purton!

The first of our 2013 fundraising efforts is a Bollywood night by kind invitation of Khalique at *The Maharajah* Restaurant, Purton. Brighten up a dreary winter's night on Tuesday 5 February, 2013, with the fun and glitz of Bollywood and a sumptuous Indian buffet.

There will be 2 sittings the first between 6 pm - 8.15 pm for adults and children (adults £15 and children under 8 years £10) and the second sitting at 8.30 pm for adults and children (over 13 years only) – all at £15 per head.

Bollywood dress is encouraged but optional! There will be a raffle and other surprises on the night. Entrance is by ticket only, so order your tickets now. Please call me on: 771216 – Jan Fisher, Assistant Group Scout Leader, and a pass to Bollywood will be yours!

Wiltshire Good Neighbours

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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

Instead of remembering to buy your Magazine every month you can have it delivered free to your door.

For a £6 annual subscription we will deliver FREE 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](#).

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



New starts and promise evenings continue: Lydia and Jessica have joined Rainbows and Megan has joined 2nd Purton Brownies from another Brownie unit. 1st Purton Brownie held a promise evening for Alyssa, Mia and Rowen whilst Isobel and Yenuri made their promise with 2nd Purton Brownies.

Seasonal activities also continue. Rainbows made a scarecrow for harvest, did leaf printing with paint and had a go at leaf rubbings. 1st Purton Brownies made soup using autumn vegetables and everyone took some home to enjoy. 2nd Purton Brownies held a Halloween craft evening making bat mobiles, beadie critter pumpkins and pom pom spiders; they also managed to fit in apple bobbing and eating marshmallows off strings. Bonfire night couldn't be ignored – 2nd Purton Brownies celebrated that too with edible bonfires, rocket bookmarks and a treasure hunt using glow sticks. Their sparklers simply would not light however, so they have been held over for Diwali – a festival of light! The Guides were more successful with their sparklers which they enjoyed along with hot chocolate after a night hike. Guides made Halloween beadie critters too and another evening they made friendship bracelets for Sangam's World Friendship Fund, Sangam being the world guiding centre in India.

The two Brownie units joined forces in October for a sleepover at Maud Heath, our County Guiding Centre. A total of 34 Brownies took part in an action-packed 24 hours. A morning of sports – ultimate Frisbee, non-stop cricket and human table football – was followed by a desert island wide game in the afternoon. In groups they were set challenges to aid their escape from a desert island they'd been stranded on. The evening involved games, a disco and a DVD, then a range of crafts were on offer for the Sunday morning before parents collected them – at least one fell asleep in the car on the way home!

For more information about guiding in Purton, either in relation to girls joining or adults volunteering, please contact Braydonc District Commissioner Jo Begg by phone on 874066 or by email at braydonc@wncounty.org.uk. You can also register interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

Cricklade Christmas Country Market

The Christmas Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 21 December 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).

Please order any Christmas requirements for collection at our Christmas market on 21 December.

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

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

WANTED: Photos of coal yard or lorries from Alec Dobson's Coal Yard that used to be in Station Road. Contact David Telling on 01793 331044

Cricklade Rotary Club



The Club recently presented the International Rotary movement with a cheque for £1,000 towards their aim of eradicating Polio from the world's populations. Rotary raises funds to make sure every child

receives access to the polio vaccine.

The club meets at the White Hart in Cricklade on Thursday evenings: a drink in the bar 7.45 pm-ish, followed by a meal at 8 pm. This year's president, Martin says, "We are a small club who meet twice a month for a 2-course meal with coffee, usually an interesting speaker or activity, and the enjoyment of good conversation with our colleagues and friends."



On the other weeks, they get together informally in the bar for a bar snack.

Visitors, guests and friends are always welcome. More information can be found on their new web-site on www.cricklade-rotary.org

Members are drawn from the villages around Cricklade – from South Marston in the South to Perrotts Brook in the North and the whole of the Cotswold Water Park area.

Rotary members (53,000 in UK) are men and women from all walks of life, of all ages from 18 upwards, with a host of different talents and professional skills. Some joined Rotary for the social life, some for business networking opportunities, and others for the chance to give something back to their communities. Yet the one thing they share is a common interest in friendship, making a difference and having a good time in the process. As well as serving their communities, clubs are communities in their own right – vibrant, focused and friendly ones.

DISCLAIMER

Contributions to Purton Magazine are always welcome for consideration on the understanding that the contributor's name and address are supplied (but may be withheld from publication on request) and that all related copyright issues have been cleared for publication in this Magazine - especially with those recognisable in any photographs.

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Maxim for Life

Life is a great big canvas, and you should throw all the paint on it you can.

Danny Kaye

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



On another wet evening Gordon Cottis joined us at our October Meeting to talk about Plants for a Winter Garden.

Gordon started off by showing us some wonderful photos of Anglesey Abbey gardens in Cambridgeshire, where they specialise in gardens for all seasons. The Silver Birch Winter Walk inter-planted with red dogwood (*Cornus sibirica* 'Westonbirt') looked spectacular. Gordon presented on how we could adapt this idea for our own gardens. Two of Gordon's other favourites for winter interest are the *Acer griseum* with its cinnamon peeling bark and the flowering *Prunus subhirtella* which can flower from November through to Easter.

Gordon then moved onto plants and shrubs for winter, of note was the Phormium Dazzler with its dramatic deep red and purple arching leaves which looks great in the winter sun, but needs protecting from frost. Most agreed that you can't do better than the vibernum with its fantastic scent, Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis mollis*) with its spidery flowers and Winter Sweet for its strange white flowers and alluring fragrance. Also good for a deep but colourful winter garden is twisted hazel with its un-natural but intriguing branches, *Cotoneaster lacteus* with its small red berries against dark green leaves and Mahonia Charity or Winter Sun for its deep purple berries and leather like leaves. In contrast Skimmia *Kew Green* has creamy white flowers, Christmas Box is very tolerant of shade and has small flowers but a very rich scent and Daphne Jacqueline Postill's have pink buds sweetly scented followed by purple black berries; some of the best Gordon had seen were at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens and Arboretum in Hampshire.

Two great climbers that anyone can grow are Winter Jasmine and Clematis *Cerrhosa*. Some plants are unusually chosen for a winter garden such as the Willow, which has a good for stem colour.

Flowering from Christmas through to Easter are the Hellebores, winter-flowering Iris, Unguicularis and the Christmas Rose, although you may think twice about the native "stinking hellebore". Whilst talking about winter woodland flowers that can also be adapted for the home garden, Gordon mentioned that the best Common Snowdrops he'd seen were at Kingston Lacy in Wimborne Minster, and the S. Arnott snowdrop in particular is a great naturaliser. Also similar to the Common Snowdrop is the Snowflake, although much bigger in size. From the Cyclamen family the Cyclamen Coum also a great naturaliser and the Cyclamen *Meadon's Crimson* with its deep pink flowers and Christmas tree patterned leaves, adds depth of interest and texture to a winter garden.

Finally Gordon ended on a firm favourite of his, the daffodil, the best of the 'daffs' being January King.

October's competition was a vase of autumn leaves and berries, in 3rd place was Doreen Freegard, in 2nd place Janice Simpkins and this month's winner is Jill Herbert. Thank you to all that entered.

Our next meeting is on 27 November, where we will hold our annual American Supper with entertainment from the folk group 'Chalice'.

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



What a successful Year, it has been.

First, the Purton Tennis Club would like to thank Caroline McLean who after a good number of years has decided to stand down as Secretary. Her contribution to the club committee has been brilliant and although we are sad to lose her from the committee we know she will continue to keep us on our toes, especially on court!



AGM

The annual general meeting was held on 7 November and Neil Saunders our Chairman reviewed our centenary year.

Nicola Gardner and Justin Miller, our Captains led the teams throughout the summer to success especially for the Mixed A, Men's A and Men's B Teams. We are also delighted that our Ladies A team remain in the top division for next year.

Through the strong leadership of Nicola and Justin the team spirit and morale has remained buoyant though out. Well done and thank you! Our two new coaches Ben Langley and Simon Hennell reported success in their group sessions generated from promotions within local schools and personal recommendations.

We have seen a 12% increase in membership this year which brings the total membership now to 87 members and we are particularly pleased to see the junior membership double this year. We aim to build on this achievement by increasing our membership by another 30 in 2013.

Many thanks went to Sam Rose our maintenance committee member who has been faced with many challenges this year as you would expect from a 'mature' club house and special thanks go to Brian Wheeler and Lance Kendal, who have come to our rescue so often this year.

We have had so much to celebrate and be proud of over the past year, the Centenary celebrations where we met old friends of the club and the Jubilee celebrations where we had many young visitors on court despite the raindrops. We have also been able to use the floodlighting for winter league and practice sessions; this is beginning to make a positive impact on the quality and fun aspects of the club.

The committee was re elected with a few changes:

Social Committee	Rachel Williams
Membership Secretary	Mary Turner
Secretary	Steph Brown

We wish every one well in their new roles.

Centenary Exhibition

The club also has an exhibition in the Purton Museum which you may want to have a look at. It celebrates the last 100 years of the club and is open when the library is.

Presentation Evening

Looking forward we have our league presentation evening at the Village Hall where Purton will receive trophies – Well done Purton!

If you are interested in joining or coaching please contact us at purtontennis.net or just come along on a Tuesday evening (ladies) or Friday evening for mixed at 6.30 pm.

STEPH BROWN

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com

About 60 members and supporters enjoyed the club presentation evening organised by Claire Harmer and hosted by Phil Duffell at which the trophies were awarded.



Awards made to junior members were as follows:-

	Batting	Bowling	Coaching
U9	Daniel Waylen	Jack Kendall	William Burrige
U11	Alex Duffell	Alex Duffell	Keiron Bennett
U13	Elijah Samuel	Patrick Whitaker	Joe Atkin
U15	George Russ	Keegan Lane	Arora Abhiraj

The senior awards were presented to:-

	Most League Runs	Most League Wickets
1 st XI	Elliot Hill	Aaron Lee
2 nd XI	Dave Allen	Neil Tunicliffe

The most catches award was won by Mark Gardner and Gus Gardner was presented with the Clubman of the Season award.

From the Archives

North Wilts Herald 17 Feb 1893

CRICKET CLUB – The annual general meeting of the Perseverance Cricket Club (Purton) was held at the institute on the evening of Thursday last week. The following officers were elected for the following season:- Captain, F.Cook, sub captain, B.Staley, secretary, J.Staley, Treasurer, H.Woolford, committee, W.Woolford, J.Daniels, R.Newman, R.Barnes, J.Spanswick.

JOE GARDNER

Green Tips: To Bulk Buy or Not to Bulk Buy ...

By the time you read this some will be all set for Christmas!

Having pushed the boat out yet again, the New Year often brings a time to take a look at our budgets. Inflation may be fairly static, which is what we have come to expect these days, but soaring food and energy prices during the past few years have put the budgets of households and community groups under pressure. Poor harvests creating shortages and the cost of fuels to get our shops stocked from around the world have all contributed to rising food bills. Shopping around does reduce bills (provided you do not factor in the cost of your time and transport) but the really big savings are often only achieved when commodities are ordered in large quantities – something that is often beyond the means of householders and small community groups. That is why some are joining up with other members of their community to reduce their bills by buying collectively.

Creating Food and Oil hubs/clubs

From a few people clubbing together to buy organic food to larger, organised heating-oil buying syndicates – what does this mean? The high cost of heating oil



has prompted the formation of syndicates who buy on behalf of perhaps several community groups. Oil Clubs could be a great way to save money on fuel costs, in that they help the environment by cutting down the number of tanker journeys on roads and offer support for people struggling with fuel bills – www.citizensadvice.org.uk/index/campaigns/oilclubs.htm – gives some information on such clubs.

This has to be a good thing ... right? Hmm, well let us see ...

In many rural areas, some properties are not on mains gas. The cost per litre of heating oil may be four times as much as a few years ago. As a result, the incentive to club together has grown, similarly with various staples such as flour. The logic of buying in bulk to keep prices down is very seductive. There is a hidden cost of course because there is a reason why individual prices may be higher than a bulk-buy price. The lower bulk-buy price is just about cost and profit. The higher individual price often includes an element of “customer service” and “loyalty”. Buying into one may diminish the other.

Have we not seen this with the emergence of supermarkets and their Buy One Get One Free schemes versus the small local shop?

Shopping in supermarkets is another form of bulk buying

How often have we bemoaned the loss of our local shops? When the village was snowbound the local shops ran out of supplies – suddenly everyone wanted to support them. Whilst there is no easily identifiable direct link between bulk buying and the demise of a local shop or supplier, the former clearly takes away business from the latter. If we want to retain the diversity of our local shopping or have local suppliers on whom we can rely in an emergency then buying in bulk and cutting out the local shop or supplier clearly is not going to help. For instance, the “community-oil” schemes do not always use local suppliers.

One of the reasons that local prices may be higher is because we all bulk-buy, whether or not we see it like that: the out of town supermarket is merely a bulk buyer on our behalf.

So, what to do? We need to manage our household budget but we also need to appreciate that cheapest is not necessarily best in the long run. We also need to be aware that several schemes rely on volunteers or not-for-profit organisations that have their own motivations/subsidies for participating.

Perhaps a resolution for the coming year is to use our local shops, the milk delivery and suppliers as much as we can? Perhaps there is an option to bulk buy from the local shop? Being regular, all year round, customers may bring benefits for a regular bulk order on essential items?

Ps and Qs wishes all its readers a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Compiled by Jacqui Lay and Richard Pagett for Ps & Qs

Ps and Qs stands for Purton's Qualities

Valuing Community Life - campaigning for resilient communities

New members are always welcome

Contact: Jane Smith or Jacqui Lay

or via our web site: www.purtoninfo.org.uk