

Purton *Magazine*



St Mary's Daisy

photo: Gordon Dickinson, member of Purton Artists

July 2014

50p

PURTON CONTACTS



Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctors	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgeries	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2 - 5pm; Tuesdays 2 - 7pm; Wednesdays 10am - 5pm; Fridays 2 - 5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum	Curator: Jan Walker	770124
<i>(Wednesdays: 2 - 5pm; Saturdays: 10am - 1 pm)</i>		
Police / Fire / Ambulance	Emergency number	999
Police	Non-emergency Number	101
Post Office	c/o Best One	770775
Purton Age Concern	Tony Price	770696
Minibus	Maurice Card	770338
Purton Parish Council	Steve Wylie	771066
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	Ellen Blacker	07557 110414

Schools and Play Groups:

Bradon Forest School	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

CHURCH OF ENGLAND – PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY

<i>Vicar:</i>	<i>Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith (Priest-in-charge), tel 770077 (for emergencies only, 773031) email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Curate:</i>	<i>Revd Judith Wells, tel 770627, email curate@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Wardens:</i>	<i>David Nettleton, tel 772298 Sandra Horsnall, tel 770157</i>	
<i>Administrator:</i>	<i>Rosie Harris, tel 773035, email administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Web site:</i>	<i>www.stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Services:</i>	<i>See Diary Page in this magazine</i>	

METHODIST CHURCHES

<i>Minister</i>	<i>Rev David Perkins tel 853197 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 8LT</i>	
<i>Services:</i>	<i>PURTON See Diary Page in this magazine BRAYDON Sundays 6.00 pm Evening Worship</i>	

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT

<i>Parish Deacon</i>	<i>Reverend Terry Aspell tel 325681 Church of the Sacred Heart, High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett</i>	
<i>Services:</i>	<i>Holy Days 7.30 pm Sundays 11.00 am Mass For times of weekday services please see Church notice board</i>	

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE

<i>Priest</i>	<i>Father Philip Beisly tel 01285 712586 St Mary's Church, High Street, Cricklade</i>	
<i>Holy Days</i>	<i>7.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Sundays 9.30 am Mass</i>

From The Editors

This month's magazine confirms a significant changing of the guard at Age Concern. Tony Price concludes his last piece as Chairman saying that "so many people who make this village the place it is by all the kind, thoughtful and generous things they do." So speaks someone who has already given more than most to our community and doubtless will continue to do so, especially as the new President of Age Concern.

Surprisingly we learn on [page 7](#) that 38 years ago Tony volunteered as a representative from the Workman's Club, thinking that he was joining the Carnival Committee and then was too proud to admit his mistake when he discovered that he had joined Age Concern. Perhaps the Carnival might now have 19 committee members, 37 street wardens and 22 minibus personnel! Age Concern has come a long way in Purton under Tony's leadership and we look forward to receiving "the odd thing to write about" in his unique style for future issues.

In 38 years' time, will another organisation be making a presentation to someone reading this and taking up one of the several new local volunteering opportunities that can be found in this issue? The choices are varied and interesting. On [page 5](#) the Parish Council is seeking a few volunteers to help maintain the planters that certainly help to brighten up our village surroundings as well as some more volunteers to join the Footpath Group and help maintain the many footpaths in the Parish that are such a pleasure to many villagers.

St. Mary's church is appealing for more volunteers to join their cleaning rota, perhaps for as little as 30 minutes once a month to keep the very special building respectable for Sunday services, baptisms, weddings and funerals – see [page 33](#). Volunteers will also be key to the success of the Purton Community Café project; the latest information is on [page 12](#).

We have Purton Open Gardens this month ([page 16](#)) raising money for local Purton charities then in September there is to be a Scarecrow Trail, involving a route around the village to find some "scarecrows". Each is to have a cryptic meaning with varying degrees of difficulty and anyone who would like to make their own scarecrow or "host" one in their garden for someone else is invited on [page 32](#) to make contact and volunteers can be as artistic or as simple as they wish.

Yet again there are lots of opportunities to contribute to our vibrant and caring community.

£325

was raised from
selling the annual
Christian Aid quiz
– see [page 14](#)

<650

downloads of the
Transform Purton Parish
report
– see [page 17](#)

9330

children in Wiltshire joined
the Summer Reading
Challenge at their library
– see [page 24](#)

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

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Magazine Committee

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

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Advertising enquiries and copy for contributions

by 10th of each month, please

to: Purton Magazine, c/o In Touch Services, 115 Pavenhill, Purton SN5 4DB
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



Road Closure Lydiard Millicent from 28 July – Wiltshire Council will be carrying out road re-surfacing works in Lydiard Millicent in two phases so people will not be able to drive through Lydiard Millicent to go to Swindon. During the 1st phase closure, two weeks from 28 July until 8 August the road will be closed from Lydiard Green Crossroads to the junction that goes to Washpool. The 2nd phase will commence on 11 August for two weeks and the road will be closed from the roundabout that goes to Royal Wootton Bassett and Purton, to the junction that leads to Washpool. Diversion signs will be in place throughout this time. Please be mindful that the diverted traffic will be coming through Purton during the first two weeks of the road closure.

Volunteers sought to assist with additional Parish planters – we believe there is support in the Parish for more planters that help brighten up our community. Volunteers would be needed to maintain additional planters. Please contact the Parish Council if you would be interested in volunteering.

Volunteer Footpath Group – we also seek more volunteers to help maintain the footpaths in the Parish. Groups usually go out on Tuesday mornings. Please contact the Parish Council if you would be interested in helping.

Purton Cemetery – our grounds staff remain busy with grass cutting and strimming, which is a time-consuming task around the headstones. To keep this task as easy as possible please keep any pots/ornaments etc on the base of the headstone to reduce the risk of breakage, and to avoid them causing a hazard when strimming.

Hedges – The gardens and hedges in the Parish are growing vigorously at this time of year with an abundance of colour. Just a reminder that if you have a hedge that is close to a road or footpath please ensure it does not cause an obstruction as it grows. The Parish Council receives a lot of calls from local residents about overgrown hedges during spring and summer, so please check to ensure there is no protruding undergrowth that could cause an obstruction or nuisance to others.

Thank you.

Computer training - Wiltshire Council provides free training and support through digital champions across the county. This can be with one to one support or groups. For further information on this see the Wiltshire Online web site www.wiltshireonline.org

The following Planning Applications have been approved by Wiltshire Council:

N14/02982/FUL and N14/03195/LBC

Purton House, Reconstruction of existing conservatory.

N14/03297/FUL *Purton Under 5's Playgroup, St Mary's School, Construction of raised timber deck area within existing outdoor play garden, disabled compliant ramp to access garden and new fences around.*

N14/03366/FUL *Bagbury Lane Farm, Construction of livestock building.*

N14/03368/FUL *Buryhill Farm, Braydon, Outdoor riding arena.*

Parish Councillors and the positions they hold – Parish Council committee chairs and committee members were reviewed at the May Council meeting:

- **Chair of Council** - Mr Ray Thomas - 28 Restrop View, Purton, SN5 4DG
Tel: 771462 stags@btinternet.com
- **Vice Chair of Council** - Mrs Susan Matthews - 59A Pavenhill, Purton SN5 4DA
Tel: 771091
- **Chair of Planning Committee** - Mr Geoffrey Greenaway - 44 The Hyde, Purton SN5 4EA
Tel: 771140 greenaway414@btinternet.com
- **Chair of Finance, Staff and General Purposes Committee** - Mr Bob Tinson - 12 Vasterne Close, Purton SN5 4EY
Tel: 771282 bob@tinson.eclipse.co.uk
- **Chair of Rights of Way and Burials Committees** - Mr Ron Harris - 73 Witts Lane, Purton SN5 4EP
Tel: 770850
- **Chair of Charities** - Mr Anthony Price - 16 Church Path, Purton SN5 4DR
Tel: 770696
- **Chair of Play Areas/Recreation Committee** - Mrs Elizabeth Wilson - 74 Witts Lane, Purton SN5 4EP
Tel: 771854 elizabeth.wilson74@gmail.com
- **Councillor** - Mrs Vicky McKerrow - 25 The Hyde, Purton SN5 4DX
Tel: 778190 vicky@wintz.plus.com
- **Councillor** – Mr Kevin Law – Setter House Church Street, Purton SN5 4DS
Tel: 07768 456989 Council@KevinLaw.co.uk
- **Councillor** – Mr John Papworth – 26 High Street, Purton SN5 4AE
Tel: 772214 papworthjohn@yahoo.co.uk
- **Councillor** – Mrs Helen Hicks – 11 New Road, Purton SN5 4HF
Tel: 778207 peter414hicks@btinternet.com
- **Councillor** – Mr Dave Woolford – 8 Restrop View, Purton SN5 4DG
Tel: 770889 david.woolford@hotmail.co.uk

We still have vacancies on the Parish Council. If you would like to become a Councillor then please write to the Parish Clerk or speak to one of the existing Councillors to find out more about the role. It can be a very interesting and rewarding way of getting involved in the community and helping to deal with many aspects of village life.

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066 Fax 772646

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

Website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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.

On our web site you can join up to receive regular updates and newsletters which will keep you informed of matters happening in and around the village such as planning information and road closures etc. Please have a look at the site. We currently have over 100 people signed up and we have been getting some very good feedback. Go to www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk and sign up today.

Purton & District Age Concern



Could I say how very sorry we were to hear that Pete and Pat Willis are giving up as our street wardens in Hook. They have been great to have in our organisation and it is through their ill health that they are standing down. It is only their grit and determination that has allowed them to carry on for so long and for this we thank them most sincerely. They have always been so willing to help us in all ways, especially when we were doing a fund raising event (and let's not forget the way you cooked for Lunch Club, Pat). The pair of them have been prepared to help anyone they could. Our thoughts and prayers are with them both and, of course, our grateful thanks for all they have done. The person who will be replacing them is John Strange – a well known Hook person – so our thanks go to John for coming forward.

We celebrated fifty years of Purton and District Age Concern at our AGM this year – what a fifty years it has been with the late Chris May starting it off with the likes of Harold Waldron and a representative from each organisation in the village. I have been involved for thirty-eight years and Chairman for thirty-six – volunteering as a representative from the Workman's Club. (I did actually think I was joining the Carnival Committee and was too proud to admit my mistake when I discovered it was Age Concern!) However, I'm very glad I did and I've enjoyed all these years. We certainly struggled in the early days when we were short of committee members and officers were continually changing but let's be thankful that we are where we are today with nineteen people on our committee, thirty-seven street wardens and twenty-two minibus personnel, plus all of you who are prepared to help and support us at all times. We are very lucky in Purton Age Concern.

There are one or two changes to our organisation that came out of the AGM. I had the greatest honour I could wish for bestowed on me by being elected President – it is a position I shall treasure and honour. It's such a privilege to be President of such an organisation and to follow the late Elizabeth Ward in this job. I was going to stand down as Chairman in any case this year but I didn't expect this honour. I just wanted to serve on the committee. It is a lovely feeling for me to know that Purton Age Concern can continue for another fifty years with the people we have on the committee. Mick Looker has been elected Chairman with Jenny Barnes, our longest



Tony Price (left) receives his presentation from Mick Looker

serving member as Vice Chair and Louise Tidman is continuing as secretary and Colin Freemantle as treasurer with Sylvia his assistant. We are lucky enough to have younger people joining our committee and it makes a good blend with the new backed up by us old stagers. At the end of the AGM I had a very pleasant surprise when Mick Looker presented me with a beautiful picture by none other than Catherine Pier. It's of the High Street from the

vets on down – everyone knows how fond I am of Purton so I couldn't have anything better – it was a very emotional evening with a few tears but I will never forget it, so thank you one and all for something I never expected – it was a marvellous choice.

The evening had a touch of sadness to it as Rita and Alan Webb resigned from the committee, although Rita is staying on as street warden in Hooks Hill for which we are very grateful. They are two people you could always rely on, especially when we were struggling and the people in Purton have certainly benefited from their knowledge and expertise. I remember we were all chatting about food and it was said that you didn't see the really old fashioned spotted dick with suet. We had a jumble sale at the Silver Threads Hall a short time after and the usual procedure was to set it all up and then stop for lunch. Well this particular day Rita said 'I have a surprise for you – come and have your lunch at Hooks Hill'. We were all wondering what the surprise was so off we all go to Hooks Hill. I know there is a cookery quiz about at the moment and, if there is a question on there about who makes the best and biggest suet spotted dick pudding, the answer would have been easy – Rita Webb! – because it was delicious, about eighteen inches long and done properly in a cloth. I've never had one before or after quite like it.

Alan got us interested in our first Carnival entry as he, with friends, had made a 'Thomas the tank engine' model and we dressed up as characters from the stories (I was the Fat Controller!). This was our first Carnival entry and we went on to take part for quite a few years. I could write a book about all the things we've done together in Age Concern and all the fun we've had as well as the hard work and Alan and Rita have been such a big part of it all.

There are still places at the Luncheon Club every Tuesday and Thursday. You get a good hot two course meal with tea or coffee to follow. You would be in good hands and good company. Give Pat Suddaby a ring on 771331. I know you won't regret it.

The half day trip to Milletts farm went very well and was enjoyed by all according to reports, despite the rain. Our next trip is on 2 July to Winchester with a 9.30 am start YES 9.30 AM – why I emphasise this is because there has been some confusion about the time – and we shall leave Winchester at 4 pm. The coach will be coming up through the village and the cost for this is £10. There might still be room on this trip when you're reading this so contact your street warden.

After that we have our annual outing to Weston and this is open to anyone. The cost is for elderly and children £13 and others £15. We leave Purton at 9.30 am, returning from Weston at 6.30 pm, straight there and back. Names to your street wardens by 30 July or to me (770696) for non-pensioners who do not know the street warden in their area. You will gather from this that I shall still be organising the trips.

We in Age Concern Purton can introduce you to the following products and services provided by Age UK – Home insurance, car insurance, motor breakdown cover, travel insurance, gas and electricity, Age UK weekly lottery, funeral plans, wills or legal services, annuity services, stair lifts, bathing aids and riser and recliner chairs etc. To do this you need to use a telephone number that is unique to Purton and District Age Concern and we will benefit from a commission percentage. To find out more about this give Louise, our secretary, a ring on 772558.

We will be holding our annual coffee morning at the home of Dick and Jackie Scott at Bentham House Farm, Bentham Lane, Purton Stoke. This is a lovely setting and a lovely community which guarantees a lovely morning. There will be the best plants you could ever wish for on the plant stall, the cakes will be the same and, of course, there will be the bric a brac, tombola, raffle and a nice cup of coffee with a special biscuit – cost £1. Anything for the stalls would be appreciated. The minibuses will be running so give Maurice a ring on 770338 if you require this service. Our thanks here to Jackie and Dick for hosting this for us and let's not forget Phil and Joyce Bryant and the late John Bryant whose inspiration it was to start these mornings off. We have had some enjoyable times in Bentham and made a lot of money for Age Concern. There are people like Joan Frost, who has always been there with her plants and Margaret Carter with her biscuits which you have with your coffee, and Marg Linsell who has always run the tombola but has gone into a well-earned retirement this year. However, we shall still have a tombola so don't worry. All these people have been so kind along with a lot more, too many to mention, but many thanks to you all.

Due to requests and popular demand we are holding another 3Bs evening on Friday 10 October in the Silver Threads Hall at 7.30 pm. I know some of you were disappointed last time because we do not issue tickets on the door. If you are interested and would like tickets give Ron and Heather Harris a ring on 770850. Hope to see you there.

Could we thank The Maharajah restaurant especially Khaliq, Wendy Johnson and Sue Giles for hosting the afternoon tea, the proceeds of which were divided between a charity for disabled children in India and Purton & District Age Concern. It makes me feel a little humble being linked with such a charity as that and from the feedback it was an excellent afternoon so very many thanks to all concerned.

Don't forget about the village diary that Best One has kindly allowed Pauline Ward to put in there. It could save a lot of events clashing, although you are bound to get this happening to one or two with all the things going on in the village. So our thanks here go to the Best One and to Pauline for supplying the diary.

We had another little set-back as Heather Harris who does our printing has retired. I said a little because Heather, being the type of person she is, made arrangements so that there would be a minimal amount of disruption so our thanks to Heather for that and hope she enjoys a long and happy retirement.

This will be my last piece for Age Concern in the Magazine although I might find the odd thing to write about. Could I thank all the personnel connected to the Magazine for their help and understanding over the years. When I first started writing, the late Canon Roy Blake was the editor and he used to take all my handwritten pieces and sort them out – grammar, spelling, the lot. Never once did he say 'You should have done this or that' and never did he try to belittle me for my lack of education. It must have been a nightmare for him. Now, since we have been married – that's 27 years – Sheila, my wife, has had the problem. Never once has she complained – apart from being a lovely wife, she is the wind beneath my wings, so very many thanks to you sweetheart.

Earlier on I spoke of my love for Purton. I have lived here all my life and, as I

have said on many occasions, have no desire to live anywhere else. It is the people who make Purton, like the two young men who helped us when they were doing their Duke of Edinburgh award - Morgan Crumbie and Alfie Griffin – and are going to continue. Then a young man who rang me up about fly tipping in The Fox and asked what could be done about it. I told him the procedure and I said I would report it and asked him what had happened to the TV along with a table and four chairs. He said 'I have picked it up and got rid of it'. Wasn't that nice. He made enquiries about how to stop it but he did something to solve the immediate problem – so well done Jack Cook. Then there is our school crossing lady who brightens everyone's day with her smile and the people of Jubilee who gave Ivy Pratt a surprise party for her 90th birthday – what a lovely thing to do – I bet she felt like a queen. I could go on and on – there are so many people who make this village the place it is by all the kind, thoughtful and generous things they do.

I have really enjoyed my years as Chairman of Purton Age Concern and I know you will go on supporting our new Chairman as you have me.

TONY PRICE

The Purton Grapevine has been a reliable source of communication for many years but just for once I want to make a formal announcement.

It's with great pleasure that I can inform you (if you don't already know) that we have elected a new President to represent Purton & District Age Concern in the future. At our AGM Tuesday 3 June, Tony Price was elected our President. We can't thank Tony enough for all of the hard work and support he has contributed over the years and it's very reassuring to know that he's not finished yet! I'm sure you will all join me in wishing Tony the very best of luck.

I will take over the role of Chairman and I have the support of Jenny Barnes as Vice Chairman.

MICK LOOKER

Betty Frost

Just over 2 years ago, Betty celebrated her 90th birthday. She was so pleased Tony Price had written in the Magazine to congratulate her and also wrote a few lines about her life in Purton. Sadly on 11 May Betty passed away, one of our oldest inhabitants and a true Purtonian.

Betty was born and lived all her life in New Road, attending the village school and working not far away at Associated Dental Products where she was a hard-working and respected employee. She was loved and cared for by all her family spending holidays with them in America – an experience she enjoyed immensely with lots a memories to treasure. Betty's other love was her garden and the birds who visited every day, giving her so much pleasure. A contented, cheerful lady who will be missed but always remembered by her loving family and friends.

How fitting she should pass away sat in her own home, in her own armchair. God bless.

JENNY BARNES

Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...

10 years ago, Purton Magazine included some articles looking at reputations. Then as now the magazine committee welcome comments and criticisms that help us to

improve this publication. As the July 2004 issue was only the 6th undertaken by the then new committee, we had received quite a few compliments as well as a complaint or two that the magazine was being produced and delivered too early.

In the article 10 years ago, all the different steps and processes were described between contributions being received by the 10th of each month (please) and copies landing on readers' doormats. Interestingly very little has changed in the production cycle in the last 10 years although more pages are being printed these days. Although far from complacent, we hope that your magazine has built a reputation for being a reliable read with enough of a variety of contents to interest the majority of readers and to encourage our advertisers to continue – without them your magazine would need to have a substantially higher cover price.

Other reputations were aired 10 years ago including the news that some Russians working in service industries were actually being taught to smile, especially for the increasing number of tourists. Other aspects of Russia's reputation might have been revised in recent months.

Finally our then Vicar, Jane Haslam, referred to a book she was reading 10 years ago. In Gerard Hughes' *God in all Things* ways to change our thinking included writing our own obituary notice; not the one we may be afraid we would be likely to receive but the one we might long for in our wildest dreams. By that method, the author believes that we might well discover the sort of person we would really like to be as well as the sort of things we really would like to spend our lives doing.

The book suggests that few of us would really hope to be remembered only as someone who looked smart, had a desirable home and a respectable job, for example. However, in our dreams we can be selfless, strong heroes, committed to helping others and changing things by caring for our environment and especially our community. Now that's a worthwhile reputation to achieve.

As all past issues from January 2004 (but without advertisements) can be accessed through our on-line archive, please visit www.purtonmagazine.co.uk for further information.

Obituaries

Purton Magazine is always happy to include obituaries. If you wish to have us publish an obituary of a loved one, please send it, perhaps with a recent photo, via the contacts on [page 4](#) of the Magazine. We can crop or resize photos supplied.

Coffee & 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

Purton Community Café Project

This exciting project began last autumn with a questionnaire being circulated in the village. Since then, a team of interested people has been meeting to plan the way forward. A 'core team' has been formed to focus on market research, finding suitable premises and drawing up a business plan.

Volunteers will be key to the success of the project. Finding committed local people to help set up and run the Café is of paramount importance. Volunteers will be needed for every aspect of the project, from day-to-day running, cooking, management and finance to property maintenance, interior design, and sourcing of equipment.

The location and accessibility of the Café is critical, so careful consideration is being given to finding somewhere that will be suitable for all ages and groups in the village as well as having the potential to attract 'passing trade'. The amount of work needed on the venue will largely determine how much money we need to get the Café up and running. A short list of potential venues has been drawn up and their individual pros and cons are being considered, in discussion with landlords, planners and other interested parties.

Although Purton Community Café is a non-profit making project, it must be financially viable, covering its running costs. We expect the initial start-up costs to be covered by grants and other donations. A group of volunteers visited the Community First organisation in Devizes for advice and guidance.

As the Café project develops, we'll be gathering more detailed information from those who have already expressed an interest in volunteering, and talking to other members of the immediate community in Purton. We will also make the project known in Bentham, Purton Stoke and Lydiard Millicent where there are undoubtedly more potential customers and volunteers.

Updates on progress and decisions will be publicised as widely as possible to keep everyone informed, engaged and involved in this exciting community project.

As a community, volunteer-led venture it's important that we gauge the level of interest both from villagers who wish to use the Café and those who'd like to help run it. So, do contact Dave on 01793 772298 or Leigh on 01793 770765 or email david.nettleton@hotmail.co.uk if you can support us in any way!

DISCLAIMER

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

To make the best use of available space, we ask that contributions are written concisely and reserve the right to edit contributions and advertisements.

Advertisements are accepted in good faith and their inclusion does not imply the Magazine's endorsement of the product or service.

I'm back! Ignore last month's news – I have bullied dear Helen into letting me continue to do the WI news because I felt so lonely without the job. She promises to stand in when I can't make it. Now, there's a true friend.

At the May meeting the provision of a newsletter for everyone was much appreciated. And also a print-out of the minutes of the last meeting, which settled the argument of whether or not they should be read out by the Secretary at each following meeting. Not that I don't enjoy the dulcet tones, but it did cause problems for those of us whose hearing is not what we would desire. There was also a monthly newsletter, which we will all find useful. Thank you, Committee!

Discussion took place about the use of profits from the Sales Table, that supplies those nice little touches such as a card when you are poorly, wishing you well. If you live alone, as so many of us do, these are the things that brighten our lives and reassure us that we are not alone. Anyway, the problem is – nobody is bringing in anything for the Sales Table these days! How about it?

Trish was delighted with the response to her appeal for "nice things" that could make the lives of women in the Refuge more normal and bearable. A generous basket of shampoos, makeup, etc. will be going to them now.

She also gave a lively report of the Wiltshire Weekend at Denman – eight members attended, enjoying a varied programme. Some did cookery, others sewing and crochet, I tried T'ai Chi, Margaret gave a jolly talk; my only moan was the price of the food – £15 a bottle. Still, it was a perfectly drinkable red wine.

Many trips and various delights were offered at the Information Table this month, even a visit to New Zealand. And just as we were anticipating a great summer – you'll never guess – the order form is in for next year's calendars and diaries! I make no comment.

The speaker was Bruce Porter from the Jubilee Gardens Project, which was founded some 35 years ago. We all rush to help the physically disabled, but we don't spend much time worrying about how those with learning disabilities cope when their whole lives stretch before them and they cannot find suitable employment. Well, they do at Jubilee Gardens.

You cannot miss it - follow me to The Bell at Purton Stoke and you pass right by the door. There you will meet adults with learning disabilities who are perfectly able in dealing with plants and who will be absolutely delighted to show you how! You may buy their produce, too, if you wish. The workers are also provided with literacy and numeracy teaching and – importantly – they have a good meal at lunchtimes. It may be a registered charity but they really want to be treated like a business, and in fact they supply vegetables to local restaurants

Don't listen to me – few people do – but just go and see for yourselves!

Our get-together of 16 July is an Open Meeting, and appropriate for current affairs. The title is "A Modern Military Mother" and the speaker is Clare Mcaughton, who we understand is very amusing. As this is an Open Meeting, you are welcome to bring along friends and family – and if possible some bright young people who will be longing to join our WI! Appropriately, the competition is for First World War

Memorabilia, and you will be singing familiar songs in Social Time. Sadly for me I shall be on holiday, but you can tell me all about it when I get back from Ilfracombe (my birthday present from the family). I shall miss seeing you all, my dear WI friends, but anticipate some cider stories from me! – ah, so that's why they are taking me to Devon ...

The WI Food Festival will be on 25 October. If you are a local food or hospitality supplier and would like to participate in this event, please ring Helen on (01793) 770648 or email her at mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk

CONSTANCE REED, tel 771571

Christian Aid says Thank You

The Purton Christian Aid Team would like to thank many of the shops and staff in Purton for their support and generosity during Christian Aid Week.



- Khalique and his staff at The Maharajah organised yet another Curry Night for us this year and raised an incredible £500.
- The staff at Andrew the Butcher, at Best One and Rick's In Touch Services all sold Quiz sheets for us and we raised over £325 that way.
- The Butchers also provided bacon for us at a special rate, so that we could sell bacon butties at the Top Shops and we raised extra funds that way
- And one or two shops, including One Stop were willing to take our collecting tins for the week, for which we were really grateful.

So thank you to all involved in fund raising in this way. We really are very grateful to you, yet again.

And thank you to all knitters.

This year Christian Aid had a boost to the funds thanks to the hard work of many ladies who took up their knitting needles for the cause! We were given dozens of wonderfully smart outfits fit for teddy bears which we sold at Cricklade's teddy parachuting day and also at the Cakes and Plants Stall at the Top Shops.

The intrepid teddies and their knitted outfits raised over £152 at Cricklade. This included a raffle, the parachuting and, we are delighted to say, many teddies were bought and taken home to be loved. The remaining teddies and their clothes also raised another £67 when they were sold at the Top Shops, with bacon butties.

So thank you to all knitters. Your efforts gave us another £200 and made a lot of children (and teddies) very happy!

From the Purton Christian Aid Team

To advertise in Purton Magazine telephone 01793 770648

or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

2014 Annual rates:

1/8 page £85 1/4 page £170 1/2 page £340

other rates available on application

Bank Holiday Charity Tea Party at The Maharajah in Purton

We had yet another successful Tea Party courtesy of The Maharajah. Huge thanks to all who attended and supported the event, and in particular to our host Khalique.

A wonderful array of cakes were enjoyed by all who attended, some of which were donated by many generous people.

The event raised a grand total of £565.00 to be split equally between the two charities, Help the Aged in Purton and the Special Needs Unit in Udaipur, India (who last year spent their share on a much needed fridge freezer for the hostel).

Particular thanks go to Kris Brown (the Barista) for the wonderful coffees; Basanti for the delicious savoury snacks and Indian sweets; Mohet who ably assisted Basanti in the kitchen; Ashish who marketed the event and arranged the presentation of the hostel in Udaipur (showing the items purchased from donations in previous years). Also, Mike Looker from Age Concern who promoted the event locally and Sue Giles who attended as a Dementia Champion to raise awareness in the community.

Finally, special thanks to Numan and Belal who gave their services and exceptional support throughout the afternoon.

Khalique has offered us the venue for another event next year, so watch this space!

TINA GRANT & WENDY JOHNSON



Purton Luncheon Club

Quiz Sheets are available from Best One, In Touch Services and Luncheon Club committee members. The theme of the quiz is Food and costs £1 with a prize of £20 for the winner. Sheets to be returned by 26 July and the winner will be notified by 2 August. If you have any difficulties obtaining a quiz sheet please ring Helen – 01793 770648.

Our cream tea will be on Saturday, 2 August, 3 pm to 5 pm at College Farm House. Home made scones and unlimited cups of tea and entertainment all for £5! We will also have a raffle. Please join us. All proceeds to go to Purton Luncheon Club



WHAT'S ON?

Wessex Male Choir

Saturday 5 July is the Choir's Annual Summer Concert at **Steam Museum** in Swindon. Wessex will be joined by guests MJ-UK Music & Arts and mezzo soprano Maria Jagusz for this year's event which has been a sell-out in previous years. The concert starts at 7.30 pm though tickets give you free entry to the Museum and bar from 6.30 pm before the concert doors open at 7 pm.



Tickets are £12 (under 16s free, but must have a ticket) and available from the Choir on (01793) 825378 or tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk, from the Information Office, in Swindon Central Library, Regent Circus, Swindon (01793) 466454, STEAM Ticket Office, Kemble Drive, Swindon (in person), the Choir's web site www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk and from In Touch Services in Purton.

Purton Open Gardens

Saturday 5 July and Sunday 6 July: 10.30 am - 5 pm

Fingers are crossed for good weather on the weekend of 5 and 6 July so that we can all enjoy seeing the many and varied Purton gardens open over the two days.



Programmes are available for £5 at various outlets including Toomers, Best One and In Touch Services (115 Pavenhill) or from participating gardens on the day. Your programme will admit one adult to all gardens over both days, accompanied children under 16 are free.

There will be some 20 gardens open around the village and plenty of refreshments at many gardens including cream teas and homemade cakes (I can feel those calories mounting up!) as well as ploughman's lunches at the Silver Threads Hall. Money raised through refreshments etc. by individual gardens will be donated to charities of their choice including Hearing Dogs for the Deaf and Breast Cancer Awareness.

We have several organisations in the village who have applied for funding, so please bring you family and friends so that we can give these worthy causes a healthy donation. Thank you.

If you need more information or can spare a couple of hours to help with the lunches at the Silver Threads Hall then please contact Nick on 01793 770552 or Brigitte on 01793 772133.

Cricklade Country Market

The next Country Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 25 July from 9 am to 11 am. Please call Anne on 01793 750125 for more details, to place an order or to become a market producer (baking or growing).

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.



■ FICTION!

With reference to the May article in Purton magazine "Is this Purtons' first fictional novel", the answer is no! Dave Seviour has written several novels including "The Dapleton Stone" published in 2011 and "When the Cobra Strikes" about the houses of parliament with a twist in the tale. Well worth a read I recommend them.

Inez Gale

■ THANK YOU!

Regular readers will know that excerpts from Transforming Purton Parish have been published in the last 16 issues of Purton Magazine with the final excerpt published last month. All excerpts can, of course, be accessed from the magazine's web site at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk. To date, there have been nearly 650 downloads

of the full report (from <http://carbonbrake.com/transforming-purton-parish>) and I am extremely grateful to all those who have provided encouragement and useful information.

The next big thing in planning terms will be the neighbourhood plan. This has been worked upon for several months by a small group in the village although the final document will be largely written by external consultants funded by Wiltshire Council. We hope to see a first draft of this plan soon. If you would like to stay abreast of community planning and other community issues then please feel free to subscribe to my community network at www.carbonbrake.com and, thanks again.

Richard Pagett

Thinking Cap Corner

- The maker doesn't want it; the buyer doesn't use it; and the user doesn't see it ... what is it?
- What occurs once every minute, twice in every moment and never in a thousand years?
- What five-letter word becomes shorter when you add 2 letters to it?
- If you take the numbers one to ten, which one comes last alphabetically?
- I can run, but I can't walk. I've got a mouth, but I can't talk. I have a head, but I never weep. I have a bed, but I never sleep. What am I?
- What word starts with an E, ends with an E and contains only one letter?
- Light as a feather, there is nothing in it; the strongest man can't hold it for more than a minute ... what is it?
- What's the only anagram of the word Monday?

Answers on [page 39](#)



Head Student Viewpoint: End of School Review



Anna Witka and Jake O'Neil report: We're slowly reaching the end of our five years at Bradon Forest but it feels like we haven't been here all that long; all the memories have blended into one and it's difficult to distinguish between what happened in which year. It isn't because our time here has been perfect – there has also been a lot of stress and pressure but we have always been supported through it and this, combined with the overall amazing experience, is what made it such a

major learning curve for all of us and means that our time at Bradon Forest will remain extremely memorable.

One of the best parts of our experiences here has been the many opportunities that we have been given. The arts faculty have been amazing at organising performance opportunities both in and out of school as well as enabling us to see professional pieces. We have also been able to represent the school at sport events and play for the school teams thanks to the range of extra-curricular activities, not to mention trips like World Challenge and India Link and projects like Duke of Edinburgh which were once-in-a-lifetime experiences we will never forget.

However, none of this would have been possible without the incredible team of staff who supported us all the way from year 7 to where we are now. We'd like to say 'thank you' for putting up with us all along and helping us not only to pass exams but with anything that we ever needed. The friendly overall atmosphere and the level of co-operation between staff and students is what makes Bradon Forest



Jake in a Year 7 Football team photo, 2010

such a great environment for both learning and making some amazing memories which we will keep with us forever. Thank you!

The opportunities we've been given have been endless and will benefit us throughout our lives. We remain extremely thankful for these and believe that along with memories and lessons we have learnt at school; they will help us succeed in our exams and help us achieve in college and beyond.

Open Evening and Mornings: Advance Notice:

Year 6 pupils and parents are warmly invited to come and visit our supportive and friendly school where every student matters. Individual attention means your child will quickly find their feet in the important transition to secondary school.

Open Morning: Saturday 20 September 10 am - 11.30 am
Open Evening: Thursday 25 September 4:30 pm - 8.30 pm
Open Morning Week: Monday 29 September - Friday 3 October 9.15 am -11.00 am
Please call Emma Hayden, our Admissions Officer, on 01793 770570 for more information.

Bradon Forest Staff Reunion

We would like to invite anyone who has worked at Bradon Forest over the past 50 years to a reunion on Saturday 19 July 2014, 11 am to 3 pm.

It will be a lovely opportunity to meet up with old colleagues and reminisce over 'the good old days', as well as a chance to look around the school and see what has changed. A light lunch will be provided in the hall. If you have any old photos or news clippings it would be great to have a display.

If you are still in touch with old teachers, we would be grateful if you would pass the invitation on.

R.S.V.P. to Sue Davies (daviess@bradonforest.wilts.sch.uk) by 7 July 2014.

Talented Musicians Entertain

Fiona Fleet reports: Eleven Bradon Forest students, one ex-student and one St Mary's pupil took part in an after-dinner entertainment for the Royal Wootton Bassett Rotary AGM and dinner on Saturday 26 April. They raised a total of £200 for the charity 'ZM Camp Fund' to enable Belarusian Orphans to attend a Music Camp in the Summer. They were a credit to the school and there were many compliments:



"I need to thank you for last night. Any help we can give young people to fulfil their potential is a bonus and last night they wowed the audience. All the ladies wanted to take the young man home with them and he was such a young gentleman at the end. Thanks again for making my evening a complete success!"

Dave Fenwick, a Rotary member.

Congratulations to the students involved: Bryony Lewis, Lory Baker, Ania Witka, Grace Bartlett, Caitlin Macclay, Charlotte Humphries, Elisha Vandeusburg Smith, Summer Scotford, Chloe Reeve, Thomas Keen, Ella Compton and Katie Terrett from St Mary's. The vocal Coach was Lucy Bosley, a past pupil of Bradon Forest School.

Bradon Forest School Community Event: Family Fun Day

Friday 18 July: 4 pm onwards

Rounders Tournament with BBQ and Refreshments

Everyone is welcome. Rounders Teams can be made up of both students (over 11) and adults. Enter your team by calling Emma Haydon on 01793 770570. You can also register as individual players and we will assign to to a team on the day.

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

The Rainbows are nearly at the end of their alphabet-themed meetings:

- **V** is for vegetables so they planted cress, tasted and talked about favourite vegetables and did potato prints.
- **W** is for the windmill pictures they made.
- For **X** they made an x-ray picture of a skeleton, played a treasure game with X marking the spot and listened to the “Funny Bones” story

As part of Christian Aid week the Guides delivered over 100 envelopes around Purton. The sun shone on them, unlike last year! The Guide unit is also continuing with the Big Brownie Birthday Challenge and the Guides have used travel brochures to plan a trip around the world. Luckily money was no object as all four Patrols spent well over £10,000! One of the unit’s Young Leaders, Kirstie, also planned an evening for the Challenge, where they visited America without leaving the UK! The Guides learnt some American slang and made popcorn.

1st Purton Brownies welcomed some of the Brownies’ mums to talk about their jobs one week as part of the Big Brownie Birthday Challenge. They found out more about being a Maths teacher, an accountant, a recruitment consultant and a glass artist. They also held a promise ceremony for Tayla-Rae and Ellieanah.

2nd Purton Brownies had a couple of evenings where the sixes took over the meeting. The Rabbits and Squirrels had a pyjama-themed evening while the Foxes and Moles had a Hawaiian evening. They planned all the activities and games and leaders were expected to join in. Although they did dress up, they passed on the limbo dancing! They’ve also had an evening making campfires – toasting marshmallows, singing and making campfire biscuits.

The two Brownie units went away on Brownie Holiday during the May half term break. They stayed at Macaroni Wood in Gloucestershire and spent four days on a ‘Frozen’ theme. Hopefully there’ll be an account from a Brownie next month.

June also saw the third of the four special County events being held to celebrate The Big Brownie Birthday. Both Brownie units took part in ‘Blast’ at Wichelstowe, where they canoed, went on the Dragonfly narrowboat, had a go on a climbing wall, did craft, singing, silly games, agility and team-building exercises. It was a fantastic event.

For enquiries about joining one of our units (girls or adult volunteers), please contact Braydon District Commissioner Jo Begg by phone on 874066 or by email at braydondc@wncounty.org.uk. You can also register interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested
www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision



Something to Think About

A fashion is nothing but an induced epidemic.

George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)

Mythical Maze Summer Reading Challenge

from 12 July in Wiltshire libraries

This year the national Summer Reading Challenge for 4 to 11 year olds will run in Wiltshire libraries from 12 July to 6 September, and the theme will be 'Mythical Maze'. The challenge is simple, for children to read six books over the summer, tell us about the books and collect 'rewards' to mark their progress. Incentives this year include a neon green wristband, scratch and sniff stickers, and a medal plus certificate on completion.



Mythical Maze is not a competition, but a fun personal challenge to encourage children to read more and use libraries more. Last year 9,330 Wiltshire children joined the challenge, with 5,803 reading all 6 books and 38,441 books being read in total. Families love the challenge and last year 96% of the participants said that by taking part in the challenge their reading had improved a little or a lot.

Children's reading can 'dip' during the long summer holidays, and The Reading Agency's annual Summer Reading Challenge helps get three quarters of a million children into libraries to maintain their reading skills and confidence. It's free, it's fun and it really can make a difference to a child's love of reading – because everything changes when we read.

For further information contact Purton Library . Tel. 01793 770870

All about Cats



Purton Diary - July 2014

2	W	9.30am 10.00am	Age Concern whole day outing to Winchester "Storytime" at library for pre-school children
3	Th	10.30am 3.30pm	Communion at St Mary's Church Communion at The Cedars
5	Sa	10.00am 10.30am 7.30pm	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Age Concern Coffee Morning, Bentham House Farm <i>to 5pm:</i> Purton Open Gardens Wessex Male Choir Concert at Steam Museum concert hall
6	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 6.00pm	Communion at St Mary's Church <i>to 5pm:</i> Purton Open Gardens Family Service (LEP Anniversary & Parade) at St Mary's Church with Bishop Mike followed by Bring & Share lunch in church Evensong at St Mary's Church
7	M	7.30pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Choral Society concert at St Bartholomew's Church, RWB
8	Tu	11.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House Silver Threads: Dorcan Choir at Silver Threads Hall Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
9	W	2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Hooks Hill with Andrew Steel - 'Mission Aviation Fellowship'.
10	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
11	F	9.30am 7.00pm	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon Fashion Show & Clothes Sale at Village Hall (World Challenge Fundraiser)
13	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
14	M	7.30pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
15	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
16	W	2.00pm 7.30pm	Communion at Ashgrove House Purton Evening WI, Village Hall: Open Meeting: Clare Mcaughton - <i>A Modern Military Mother</i>
18	F	6.00pm	Silver Threads: Books & Bangers at the Silver Threads Hall
19	Sa	10.00am	Historical Society: Marion Hobbs - <i>Walk the paths of history</i> - meet at Dogridge
20	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church Communion with Baptism Morning Worship at the Methodist Church

		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
21	M	7.30pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: Carl Saddler - <i>The Garden Trug</i>
22	Tu	2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Andrew Bullock - <i>Lavenders & Buddleia</i>
		8.00pm	After 8: "Summer Social" at Helen's
25	F		<i>to Sun 27: Festival on the Farm at Purton Farm - see ad p63</i>
26	Sa	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon: Tea, Coffee & Cake Morning at Silver Threads Hall</i>
27	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
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church

August

6 W 9.30am Age Concern Village outing to Weston

Every week

Tu	9.15am	<i>to 11.30am: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall</i>
	12 noon	Luncheon Club at Silver Threads for over 60s
	7.30pm	Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	<i>to 12 noon: Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall</i>
	6.30pm	Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
Th	9.15am	<i>to 11.30am: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall</i>
	11.15am	<i>to 1pm: New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre</i>
	12 noon	Luncheon Club at Silver Threads for over 60s
	2.00pm	<i>to 3pm: Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall</i>
	2.30pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church

Moon Phases

 5 July
  12 July
  18 July
  26 July

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

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

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 £16 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](#).

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 or email me at wbcrickladedgnc@communityfirst.org.uk



Anorexia/Bulimia Support

St Peters Lounge, St Peters Court, St Peters Road, Cirencester is the venue for free monthly meetings to support those who are either a sufferer or carer of eating disorders.

The first Wednesday in every month from 7.30pm volunteers run a support group offering confidential, accessible and approachable forum to share experiences in a relaxed and friendly environment. We have books to borrow and leaflets to take away and lots of signposts of help to access to help all who are going through this difficult illness.

The group has been running since 2003 so is well established under the national charity BEAT-eating disorders. Further details in confidence from Pat on 01285 770385.

Wiltshire Police

Keeping you informed

Don't become a victim – protect yourself against Burglary!

You may be aware that you are living in one of the safest areas in one of the safest counties in the country. However, recently there have been a few burglaries committed at houses situated in the Purton and Lydiard Millicent area, and a number of suspicious incidents.

The most recent break-ins took place during the early hours. Methods of entry have included forcing doors, breaking patio doors/windows and trying door handles on properties and garages. Please be especially aware of the need to keep your homes as secure as possible at all times, by locking doors and windows even during the hot weather that we are experiencing.

All these offences are being actively investigated. However, the police would be grateful for any information that may identify the persons responsible for these crimes. Please be aware of any strangers in your area who appear to be behaving suspiciously or trading from door to door.

Please record descriptions of such people and any vehicles that they may have with them and contact the police on 101, or dial 999 in an emergency. Remember that you can also provide information anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Further information and advice on home security can be obtained from The Crime Reduction Department on 101.



*ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT
RURAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM*

Purton Branch, The Royal British Legion

There will be a special church service to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of World War 1.

This will be at St Mary's church on Sunday 3 August at 10.30 am and we would like as many people as possible to attend, in particular our British Legion Branch members, Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies, but all will be welcome.

We are hoping to include the children in scattering poppy petals and reading war poems, but this, of course, depends on whether enough can attend as many will be on holiday.

PLEASE COME, Thank you.

COLIN PEARSON, *Hon Secretary*



Royal British Legion Purton Branch Horticultural Show

Saturday 23 August at the Red House, Purton

Schedules available from Best One (Lower Square), John Toomer (Lydiard Millicent) and all committee members.

Please come and join in the fun. Classes for everyone.

Details tel: Heather Harris (Hon. Sec.) 770850 or David Herbert (Chairman) 770002.

Silver Threads Over 60's Club

Have you thought any more about coming along to our Club? If not, why not come along to our meeting on Tuesday 8 July at 2 pm and spend an enjoyable afternoon listening to the Dorcan Choir?

We are asking for help at our fortnightly meetings on a tea rota. Our list of volunteer helpers is down to 3-4 groups owing to health and aging. If you can help please give me a ring and find out what is involved.

PAULINE WARD, 770251

Activity Week

This year Activity week will be the week 18-22 August. It will run every day from 10 am to 3 pm and is open to 7-11 year olds who live or go to school in Purton. If you are able to volunteer to help out at all during the week please contact Mary on 772298 or marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk.

We Record ...

In Memoriam

16 July

In Loving Memory of **Jim Young**
who passed away 16 July 2011.
Time passes but memories stay.
Loving wife Peggy and family.



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 ...

Wallace & Gromit with the Chicken Run do California

After a great trip to New Zealand with the motorbikes for the International BSA Rally in 2010 we decided, that is Len, myself and The Browns, Dougie and Sara, that it would be rather fun to go to California for the 2014 BSA International Rally. So plans were put in place, firstly arranging for the bikes, our 1953 M33 motorbike and sidecar, Dougie's B175 1970 Bantam and Sara's D7 1965 Bantam, (hence the title) to be shipped out with 23 other bikes from the UK in a container to California they only trouble was it was Long Beach, Los Angeles and the rally was in Petaluma, 40 miles north of San Francisco which was 500 miles away. So out came the maps and a route was planned along Highway 1, which is the coast road.

We arrived safely in LA picked up the bikes, loaded them up and were away.



The first day was hot, hot; hot about 90 degrees but we made it to our first stop at Santa Barbara (of course). The next day was again hot, hot, hot but this time we were out of the built-up area and out into the countryside. The scenery was lovely with the hills to one side and the Pacific Ocean on the other. Next stop Cambria, a lovely town just off the coast where we stayed in a fifties-style motel. We met a couple of guys who were running a sculptor camp just down the road

so the next day we visited them and had a fascinating tour around the camp. Then back on the road, passing a beach where there were over 1000 elephant seals basking in the sun, so we stopped and took some photos but you can imagine the smell was a bit ripe. Again the scenery was lovely and it was still hot, hot, hot. Our next stop was Watsonville, not such a great place but by this time we had done over 440 miles and were getting a bit bum sore. The next day we reached Petaluma which is the chicken and egg capital of the USA, after even more stunning scenery, and a trip over the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco which was shrouded in fog so we did not see much.

We booked into the Quality Inn, Petaluma – after riding 560 miles, we had made it – and then booked into the Rally which was being held at a local camp site about one and a half miles from our Inn. We met up with lots of other BSA bikers, some we had met in NZ and had a really chilled-out evening knowing that we had achieved the first part of our adventure.

The rally was great fun, going on various local runs and one that sticks out for me is a visit to Bodega where the film “The Birds” was made and believe it or not I was attacked by a bird because I had walked under a tree where it was nesting. The weather had calmed down a bit and was very pleasant so, instead of going on an organised run, Len and I had a great day wandering around San Francisco and

I even wore a flower in my hair. On the last-but-one evening there was a dinner and dance, plus prize giving and Sara won a prize (a china Bantam, what else) for the most original bike. All too soon, after six days, the rally was over and it was time to say goodbye to the friends we had made and make our way back to Los Angeles.

We decided on a different route, going inland this time, but first over the Golden Gate Bridge, this time in brilliant sunshine and again it was hot, hot, hot. We spent the first night at Santa Cruz and then onto Highway 152 past lots of fruit farms and onto Highway 129 with a quick stop at Hollister where there is a big motorcycle meet every year, and then another stop at the Pinnacles National Park again with some stunning scenery. Our rest that night was King City which was a bit like being in Mexico.

The next day was Mothering Sunday and the roads were empty so we took advantage of it and rode 80 miles along Highway 101 and then stopped for the night at a place called Solvang which is like a Danish theme park with fake storks on chimneys and fake windmills and in the evening all the trees have fairy lights in them, all very twee (get it).

After visiting a very interesting motorcycle museum we were on the road again this time heading for Malibu where a friend of Dougie's lives. We stayed there for a couple of nights and on the first morning we took the bikes on a ride on the famous Mulholland Drive and then in the afternoon Len and I had a paddle in the Pacific Ocean.

We were now on the last leg of our trip with the bikes and arrived in Los Angeles with the temperature at 102 degrees and our last port of call with the bikes was to have our photo taken in front of the "Queen Mary". We booked into a great motel which had a very inviting swimming pool, the bikes were taken back to the warehouse



ready to be shipped back home and we lazed around the pool, very tired but very happy. We met some lovely people and seen some beautiful sites and the bonus was that Len and I being senior citizens managed to get cheap rates almost everywhere.

I have so much admiration for the incredible little bikes which just kept going and also for the riders who overcame some difficult situations, like the heat and mad American drivers.

I had it easy just sitting in the sidecar taking photos, doing a bit of navigating and admiring the scenery. So a big thank you to Len, Sara and Dougie for making the trip so memorable and enjoyable.

Home was calling but first Len and I had a stopover in New York to celebrate my 67th birthday, a lovely end to a great adventure.

BARBARA PAGE

Purton Historical Society



Thursday 15 May 2014 – Lights for Learning – Roger Mugridge

Roger gave a presentation to the Society about the dedicated and valuable work carried out by Cricklade based charity, Lights for Learning. The charity installs solar/battery powered lights in schools and clinics in African Villages that otherwise would have to depend on expensive and hazardous kerosene lamps in order to work after dark. The daylight hours are limited in this part of the world from 6 am to 6 pm and are needed to prepare land, gather and prepare food etc. Lights for Learning enables children and adults to be educated after dark and is also of great importance in Health Clinics.

We learnt about Roger's many interesting trips to install lights and also to train local people how to complete installations. Statistics show that educational standards and the examination pass rates have increased dramatically where lights have been installed. Health Clinics have benefitted, particularly with light being available for babies born during the night and the infant mortality rate has decreased.

Roger and his colleague showed great enthusiasm for their work and gain great satisfaction from the obvious results of their dedication. Full details of the charity's work together with details of how to make a donation can be found on www.lightsforlearning.org

Historical Walk – Saturday 19 July (Everyone welcome, including children)

Walk the paths of history is a 2-hour walk in Purton led by Marion Hobbs. We will meet at Dogridge (by the telephone box) at 10 am. Comfortable walking footwear advised.

Next meeting – Thursday 25 September 2014 (Note: No August meeting)

John Winterburn will give us a presentation about Gallipoli 1915 at 7.30 pm in the Purton Village Hall.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

TONY & JAN NEATE, tjneate57@gmail.com

Museum News

First of all, an apology to anyone who tried to gain access to the Museum from 31 May to 13 June. Wiltshire County Council rather sprang re-decorating upon us and it was not possible to keep the Museum open during this time. We hope that many of you were able to visit the excellent display made by the Purton Guide Dogs Group.

In July the Luncheon Club will be mounting their display for a month and then we commence our commemoration display for the commencement of World War 1.

We intend to open our tribute to the Great War on Saturday 2 August. If anyone has an item of interest, photographs or memorabilia concerning World War 1 that you would be prepared for us to have on loan, we will be proud to include it in our displays. Our stewards will be pleased to receive any contributions when the Museum is open on a Wednesday afternoon from 2 pm to 5 pm or on a Saturday morning from 10 am to 1 pm.

We are looking forward to being able to pay tribute to the brave men and women who took part in that dreadful conflict.

JAN WALKER, Curator

Great War Project

Part 12. July (and a bit of August) 1914: The Road to War

Since the 1878 Congress of Berlin, military spending had escalated in most of the European Powers – Germany's by five times, and Britain, Russia, and France had tripled theirs. However spending in the Austrian Empire had not even doubled despite major advances and changes in armaments. The empire had lost ethnic Italian areas to the newly resurgent nationalism in Italy. It also had many territories with a Slav population, and the emergent Serbia was seen as a threat to the empire's holding onto those provinces especially in the south. The Serbian successes and territorial gains at the expense of Turkey in the Second Balkan War of 1913, especially alarmed Vienna and Budapest. Count Alois Ährenthal (d.1912) when foreign minister had overseen the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1908. He had assumed that any future war would be in the Balkan region and that assumption had pointed the empire's military and political policy in that direction.

On Sunday 28 June 1914, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne, was assassinated in Sarajevo by Serbian nationalists – see Part 11. That same day the Prime Minister of the Hungarian half of the Empire, István Tisza, travelled to Vienna to meet the Minister of Foreign Affairs Count von Berchtold and the Army Commander Conrad von Hötzendorf. Von Berchtold and von Hötzendorf proposed an immediate invasion of Serbia. Tisza, also a social scientist, suggested that they should wait to find out if the Serbian government would confirm or deny its involvement in the assassination. Back home in Budapest, he wrote to Emperor Franz Joseph saying he could not support armed invasion because there was no proof of Serbian involvement. Tisza felt that war with the Serbs would bring an armed response from Russia and a more general European war – he used the term *Weltkrieg* (World War) in his letter, the first known instance of the term. As a Hungarian he was also concerned that, after a successful war against Serbia, Austria would seek to annexe Hungary, reducing its status from being a partner in the Empire and Dual Monarchy to that of a vassal state.

The Emperor was now 84 years old and against anything that smacked of change, including war which he saw as an unnecessary adventure. He was certainly too old to lead the army and had appointed Archduke Friedrich von Österreich-Teschen as Supreme Army Commander but left von Hötzendorf the power to take strategic decisions. And for some years, von Hötzendorf had wanted to confront the resurgent Serbian nation in a preventive war.

Austria's political leaders, including von Berchtold, backed by their ally Germany, decided (5 July) at Potsdam, outside Berlin, to attack Serbia before it could incite a revolt. However they recognised that world opinion would at least require them to take the interim step of an ultimatum. On 23 July, Austria presented Serbia with the "July Ultimatum" – a list of ten humiliating demands which they believed Serbia could never accept – and with a deadline for acceptance by the

Serbian government by 5 pm on the Saturday evening, 25 July 1914 . After much argument and soul-searching, Serbia eventually accepted nine of the ten demands and partially accepted the remaining one. But Austria-Hungary still cut diplomatic ties with Serbia and began to mobilise its forces.

On 28 July, Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia and started a gunnery bombardment of the Serbian capital, Belgrade, only about 50 miles from the empire's border.

The response from Russia must have been expected: that day Tsar Nicolas II ordered a partial mobilisation of forces followed by full mobilisation on 31 July. Germany was Austria's partner in the Triple Alliance and declared war on Russia on 1 August, in response to the Russian defence of Serbia, and mobilised its own forces. The same day, France, in alliance with Russia under the Dual Alliance, also mobilised against an expected attack on France by Germany. And the New York Stock Exchange closed to await developments.

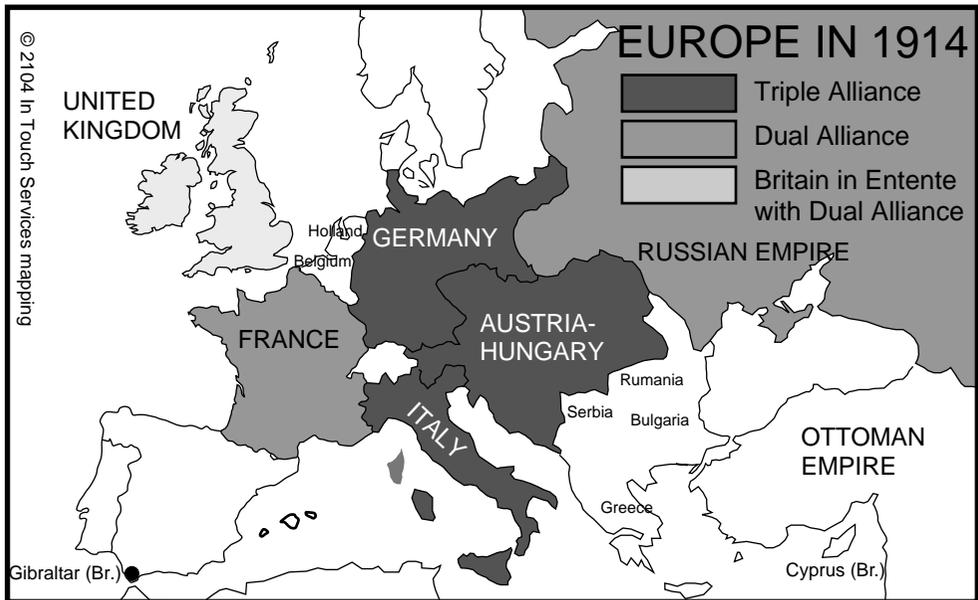
On 2 August, Germany invaded Luxembourg and occupied it in line with its strategic Schlieffen Plan for the conquest of France. Germany also issued an ultimatum to Belgium, with a 12-hour deadline, to allow free passage of German troops towards France.

Believing it would be granted that free passage though Belgium, Germany declared war on France early on 3 August.

- - - -

Theory had it that Germany would occupy Paris in 39 days and see the capitulation of France within 42 days. Theory had it that all the dominoes that would fall, had fallen ... and that Britain wouldn't go to war over Belgium. Theory had it that, if the worst came to the worst, 'It will be all over by Christmas'. Theory isn't everything.

RICK DIXON



Purton & District Probus Club



On 8 April Dinah Starkey of the Chippenham Civic Society gave the club a talk on the Navvies of Box Tunnel. The accent was on the life style of such men. Work began in 1838. Six vertical shafts were sunk at equal intervals, 25ft in diameter, 70ft deep at the eastern end and 300ft deep towards the western end. Men, equipment and spoil were lifted in and out by steam winches. Blasting, lit by candle light, was carried out while the navvies were in the tunnel. This and water ingress lead to about 100 deaths. The tunnel was eventually opened in 1841 and the census of that year showed that many of the men employed were from local families. Navvying was hard physical labour requiring regular and adequate food. The money was good but often spent in the tavern which invariably belonged to the Railway. The speaker delivered a very vivid picture of the time.

13 May brought another visit by Lew Lawton, a speaker from Swindon, who has recently visited China with a cycling expedition. His subject, The Terracotta Army of Qin Shi Huang is not merely a load of old ceramics. 240 to 221 years B.C. Qin conquered and united the greater part of China – indeed Shi is the root of the word China. The warriors, 8000 soldiers and horses etc, were set up at Xi'an to guard his tomb. Unfortunately a subsequent emperor of the Han dynasty had them smashed. Since 1974 when they were recently uncovered archaeologists have had the painstaking task of reconstructing them from shards. Lew also showed images of modern China and an explanation of written Chinese characters.

On 27 May Malcolm Lewis from Cirencester Probus gave a talk 'Birmingham, a City of Culture'. Malcolm grew up in Smethwick and his nostalgia for this Area was evident. He began with the local industries: Glass and steel for the Crystal Palace and the Houses of Parliament, pen nibs by the million, screws and fastenings by G.K.N., Avery scales and weighbridges, Engines by Boulton, Watt and Tangye, cycles and saddles, Ruskin pottery, Murdoch gas lighting, all served by canals developed by Bradley, Smeaton and Telford. Mitchell the founder of the brewery was a great benefactor. Smethwick had famous politicians: Suffragette Cristobel Park Hurst, Oswald Moseley and Patrick Gordon Walker. Alfred Dobbs (Labour) died in a crash the day after his election. Malcolm X visited in 1964 and was assassinated in the U.S. 9 days later. Musicians and entertainers born in Smethwick included Charlie Chaplin, Albert Katelbey (In a Monastery Garden) Liza Goddard, Frank Skinner and Julie Waters. Many famous stars 'cut their teeth' at the Victorian built Birmingham Hippodrome – Lawrence Olivier, Sid Field, Noel Coward, Webster Booth and Ronnie Ronald. Our speaker put Smethwick at the spearhead of progress and culture in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Purton & District Probus Club meets at 10 am every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at the Red House lounge. New members welcome. Upcoming programme: 24 June - 'A Day in the Life of an Undertaker'. 8 July - 'Hitler's Germany (1938-39)'. 22 July - General Robert E Lee.

Purton Carnival

We hope you enjoyed the 2014 Purton Carnival and thank you for supporting us



If you have any ideas, suggestions or constructive criticism then please either e-mail us or come to the open meeting next month (details in the August issue of Purton Magazine).

We want to hear about what you liked and what you didn't and if there is something you would like to see then let us know ... it might be possible.

Please keep checking the website www.PurtonCarnival.co.uk for updates on the open Meeting and Carnival 2015.

I personally would like to thank the Carnival Committee who give up their time freely and get up at 'stupid o'clock' to set things up. Without them there would be no Carnival so thank you, thank you, thank you.

Thank you to Cllr Jacqui Lay for arranging for the High Street to be swept and cleaned prior to the procession for everyone's enjoyment.

And huge thanks to all the volunteers and helpers who help us with the marquee and marshalling. We are proud to be part of a village that has such a wonderful sense of community spirit.

KEVIN LAW, Purton Carnival Chairman

Scarecrow Trail

To raise funds for local good causes we are planning a scarecrow trail around Purton. For anyone unfamiliar with this idea, it involves following a route around the village to find "scarecrows" in gardens or at various sites. Each one will have a cryptic meaning which will usually be easy to solve, but with a few tricky ones thrown in to make the competition worth the prizes that may be won. Anyone who would like to be involved is welcome to either make their own scarecrow or "host" one for someone else in their garden if that is easier. You can be as artistic as you want or keep it really simple.



Any shops or businesses in the village could put a scarecrow in their window, "sponsor" a scarecrow on the trail, or offer a prize.

The theme will be "Fairy Tales & Nursery Rhymes".

The dates are Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 September 2014.

If you would like to be involved or to ask for more details, please email us on info@purton-scarecrow.co.uk or contact Ali on 01793 772579 by 31 July 2014.

Please let us know your name, address, email address (if you have one), telephone number and postcode and then we will be in touch with you to give you more information. Please also tell us your 1st and 2nd choices for a fairy tale or nursery rhyme: if they have been taken we will ask you to choose another.

A quiz sheet with a map of all the scarecrow locations, parking and refreshment sites will be available from various places in the village.

ALISON DAVIES

Volunteer Cleaners needed at St Mary's Church Purton

What does St Mary's Church mean to you? Perhaps you are a regular or occasional church-goer, or maybe you just appreciate the church as a historical building. In order to keep such a big building in good shape it requires an army of volunteers to help clean it on a regular basis, so it can look respectable for Sunday services, weddings, funerals and baptisms, all of which are part of the fabric of our society. At present the church is divided into sections for cleaning on a rota, so work is kept to a manageable level for everyone. The more volunteers we have, the easier it is. We are steadily losing volunteers due to illness or old age; some of them have been quietly cleaning the church for many years doing a fantastic job. Could you spare half an hour once a month to help with a bit of dusting, polishing or sweeping? If so, we would love to hear from you.



Please contact Rosie Harris, the Parish administrator on 01793 773035 or email

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Hillside, Station Road, Willowbrook, Bamford Close, Shaftesbury Close, Smiths Court, Widham, Clardon Lane and New Road*

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.

Church Floodlighting

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



- 11 June The Church was floodlit for **Charlotte Telling** in memory of her birthday.
Love always, from all the family
- 14 June St Mary's Church was floodlit to celebrate the wedding of **Alistair Moradi** and **Nell Bryden** from New York.
- 1 July St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of my loving husband **David Ernest Arthur Chamberlain**, who fell asleep 22 years ago.
Forever in our thoughts.
Iris, Roslyne, Lesley and the Grandchildren and the Great-Grandchildren.

Floodlighting contact: Sandra Horsnall: 770157.

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

Whole day outing to Winchester

Wednesday 2 July

Coach leaving at 9 am

Cost £10 (no food included) with a chance to explore this historic and beautiful city and its amenities.

PURTON AGE CONCERN COFFEE MORNING

at Bentham House Farm, Bentham.
Home of Dick and Jackie Scott

Saturday 5 July - 10 am to 12 noon
Lots of bargains, home made cakes, plants, books and bric a brac, raffle and a chance to enjoy lots of chat!

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT CHORAL SOCIETY
present

SUMMER CONCERT

on Monday 7 July at 7.30 pm
at St. Bartholomew & All Saints Wootton Bassett

A programme including Madrigals and Folk Music
with guest appearance of BAKERS DOZEN.

Free Admission
Cheese and Wine Refreshments
Retiring Collection
Contact Roger Powell, Tel 850868

Lachlan Thorpe's World Challenge Fundraising Fashion Show & Clothes Sale

with Half-Price Surplus Stock from High Street stores

Purton Village Hall

7 pm on Friday 11 July

Admission £3

tickets from Dee on 771435

Raffle Licensed Bar

Scarecrow Trail

Sat 27 & Sun 28 September

Around Purton

"Fairy tales &

Nursery Rhymes"

Further information

or to participate, contact:

info@purton-scarecrow.co.uk

or Ali on 01793 772579

St Mary's Church

Bishop of Bristol

coming to St Mary's Church, Purton
Family Service 6 July, 10.30 am
Bring & Share lunch in church afterwards
All welcome!

Commemoration of the start of the First World War

Service & Act of Remembrance
at St Mary's Church Purton
Sunday 3 August 2014 at 10.30 am
with the Royal British Legion

Royal British Legion Purton Branch Horticultural Show

Saturday 23 August

at the Red House, Purton

Schedules from Best One (Lower Square),
John Toomer (Lydiard Millicent) and all
committee members.

Details tel: 770850 or 770002.

First World War Centenary

28 June: Launch of Purton Remembers Community Project

July: Information boards in Purton Library

3 August at 10.30am: Service of Communion at St Mary's Church

7 September: Your Village Needs You!!



Tea, Coffee & Cake Morning

Saturday 26 July

10 to 12 noon

Silver Threads Hall

In aid of NDCS

The National Deaf Children's
Society

(Audrey Wheeler & Family)

PURTON AGE CONCERN Village outing to Weston-super-Mare

for all ages on Wednesday 6 August
Coaches leaving at 9.30 am.

Returning from Weston at 6.30 pm.

Cost - £13 for children and OAPs
£15 for others

Come and join us for a fun day out!

Forthcoming Event

Books & Bangers Evening

Friday 18 July

6 pm at Silver Threads Hall

Books, Raffle, Sideshows, Cakes,
Bric-a-brac

Competitions, Refreshments

£1 – including a cuppa

Minibus available: tel Pauline 770251

Purton Open Gardens

Saturday 5

and Sunday 6 July

10.30 am - 5 pm

Admission Programmes £5

from Toomers, Best One

and In Touch Services

and from participating gardens

(accompanied under 16s admitted free)



Wessex Male Choir

Summer Concert

Saturday 5 July

7.30pm

Steam Museum Concert Hall

Tickets £12 from

(01793) 852786 or

tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk

and In Touch Services



Purton Luncheon Club

Cream Teas

Saturday 2 August, 3- 5 pm

College Farm House

Home made scones

unlimited cups of tea

and entertainment all for £5!

Raffle

Ridgeway Breast Care Support Group
Telephone 07813 493572

PAMPER EVENING

Monday 30 June : 7 - 9.30 pm

White Horse Cricket Club,

Manor Farm, Broad Hinton SN4 9PL

Taster sessions of aromatherapy,
acupuncture, manicures, pedicures,

Chocolate, Jewellery, Cosmetics and
many other stalls

£5 entry on the door

includes glass of wine, strawberries and
cream and raffle ticket

Please tell, and bring all your friends

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



The topic for our May meeting was 'Fuchsias' and John Nicholas, editor of the British Fuchsia Society magazine, joined us as guest speaker. John has been growing fuchsias for over 30 years and advised us that there are a staggering 15,000 named fuchsias, 5000 of which are still in cultivation across the world.

He began his talk by demonstrating the process of producing new fuchsia plants from cuttings. He uses a mixture of 2 parts moss peat, 1 part grit and 1 part of vermiculite, for the purpose. A non-flowering shoot approximately 4" long is taken from the parent plant cutting neatly above a bud. Trim below a leaf joint or node to make a cutting about 2-4" long. After removing the bottom leaves and pinching out the soft tip, the cutting should be placed in a propagator. This can be something as simple as a small plastic drink's glass placed on top of the plant pot holding the cutting or even a plastic bag held in place with a rubber band. The compost should be kept moist until the cutting is well rooted.

As the cutting grows it will need to be potted on and this was demonstrated by placing an empty pot of the same size as that holding the cutting into a pot one size larger and filling around the gap between the two with compost. When the empty pot is lifted out the cutting can be transferred into the space left behind causing the least disturbance for the roots. Transferring a cutting into a pot that is too large would encourage the roots to grow down to the bottom of the pot and curl around the base and with too much compost in the pot, the roots stay wetter for longer and fuchsias are known to grow at their best when they are only just ready for watering.

John continued his talk describing the features of some the many types of fuchsias available today including:

- Fuchsia Excorticata, a New Zealand species plant that will grow to 40-50 feet. The bright blue pollen from the flowers is used by the Maori for face paint.
- Ornamental foliage varieties, such as the hardy 'Tom West' with its purple-veined, cream and light green variegated leaves, and 'Sun Ray', John's particular favourite, with its red, green and cream foliage.
- Encliandra hybrids often described as the miniature or dwarf-flowered fuchsias. They are primarily from high up in the mountain regions of Mexico where it's cool, dry and foggy and so are hardy to our climate. After the blooms fall off there is an abundance of small, edible sweet berries
- Standard fuchsias, these can be mini, quarter, half or full, depending on the stem length achieved. One mini standard bears John's name. He considers 'John Nicholas' to be a difficult variety, much as himself! (John's own words I hasten to add).
- Triphylla types such as 'Eruption' are small shrub plants. They can grow as high as two or three feet.
- Half-hardy trailing fuchsias. Their advantage is that they flower in clusters above two shoots and as they are free flowering are ideal for hanging containers. Together with their toleration of direct sun and heat they are favoured by parks departments.

- Small pot cultures that allow you to grow fuchsias in a variety of shapes, fan, conical – half way between a pillar and pyramid, and ring shaped formed around a wire frame.

A most informative talk was followed by a slide show highlighting many aspects of John's talk with glorious examples of a multitude of flowering fuchsias in all shapes and sizes including the triphylla 'Thalia', the hardy upright 'Snowcap' and the trailer 'Swingtime'.

Leon Slee kindly proposed a vote of thanks for a most enjoyable evening, the number of questions raised and answered by John indicating the level of interest in this subject.

It remained for John to judge our competition, 'A Spring Arrangement', not an easy task for him given the number of beautiful entries. Congratulations to our worthy winners, 1st Maureen Griffin, 2nd Lorna Comley and 3rd Janice Simpkins.

We meet again on at 7.30 pm on 22 July in the Silver Threads Hall when Andrew Bullock will be presenting a talk on 'Lavenders and Buddleia' and our competition will be 'A Lavender-Themed Craft'. If this is a subject you would like to hear more about please come along and join us. Visitors and new members can be assured a friendly welcome.

LINDA ROBERTS, *Chair* & MARGARET GOODALL, *Secretary*

After 8

The May meeting began with the question, 'What are Coffee Table Books?' We all agreed they are likely to be attractive, large and well-illustrated and 'dipped into' rather than read cover to cover. Gwyneth's large collection of these books dispelled any thoughts of them as being showy and superficial.



At Gwyneth's invitation, we had time – which whizzed by – to peruse some of these.

Too numerous to mention individually, the books covered such subjects as the sea, art and artists, Medieval illuminations, ocean birds, the Millau Bridge, the Ridgeway and ancient maps. They contained fascinating facts, and included beautiful illustrations or perceptive photographs – often benefiting from the large page size – which enhanced the understanding of the subject.

The books were very much admired by everyone and we all appreciated Gwyneth's generosity in offering to share them with us for a very enjoyable evening.

BARBARA GOSDEN

The July meeting will be the Summer Social on the 22nd at Helen's.

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

OFFERED: A child's sand pit (on legs) with accessories. tel 771906

OFFERED: Youth/ladies mountain type bicycle. In need of some TLC - not been ridden for a while. 771906

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

Purton FC



The new season commences on 9 August with the Club running just the one Senior side competing again in the Hellenic League Division 1 (West) where they finished 7th last season.

After ten seasons in charge Manager Chris Pethick stepped down from the post at the end of last season. His assistants Jamie Cowley and Stephen Hall have also left the club, and we thank all three of them for all their hard work in their posts.

It was important the club reacted quickly to their departures and we have been fortunate in obtaining the services of a former player who has played for many clubs above our required standard, Justin Miller, who also has Dave Gee and Nick McCrae also former players and vastly experienced also along with Mark Jordan which will be the new team in charge this season.

Pre- season training will re-commence at 7 pm at the Red House on the first Tuesday in July and every Thursday and Tuesday thereafter and six friendly games have been arranged as follows:-

Saturday 12 July	Away	Pewsey Vale	KO: 3pm
Friday 18 July	Away	Highworth Town	KO: 7pm
Tuesday 22 July	Home	Devizes Town	KO: 7.15pm
Saturday 26 July	Away	Shrivenham	KO: 3pm
Tuesday 29 July	Home	Southbrook	KO: 7pm
Saturday 2 August	Home	Wantage Town	KO: 3pm

The Purton FC Annual General Meeting will take place at the Red House Club on Saturday 5 July commencing at 12.30 pm - everyone welcome.

The Club is again looking for sponsorship for the new season, and anyone interested can contact Alan Eastwood on 01793 729844 or can email: alan.eastwood83@ntlworld.com from whom details can be obtained.

The Youth Section of the Club under the supervision of Gary Norman will be running sides again in the North Wilts Youth league that will commence in September. Gary can be contacted on gary.norman@purtonfc.net.

Attendances at the Red House last season saw us top the Div 1 West league even beating many Premier league sides of the Hellenic, so please give the team your support in what we all hope will be a good season for the new Management Team and players.

ALAN EASTWOOD, Chairman/Hon Sec

Purton & District Guide Dogs



The only things to report on for this month are, the Exhibition in the museum seems to have gone well and I was asked to do a stall at the 'Big Picnic'. This is a joint venture by Rodbourne Cheney churches, held on Akers Way with Various stalls and activities. I took £72.15 on my stall.

I have received information to apply for a stall at Cricklade Show, and Cricklade Band have offered to do a concert for us in October. Date will be advised later.

Many thanks for your continued support.

BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



The first month of the season was one of mixed weather as were the results but by the end of May all teams were playing with confidence and expectation and several wins have been recorded. The 1st XI's season which started with two narrow defeats has improved to such an extent that the team is in third position in the league. Several juniors have represented Wiltshire teams and have performed with credit. Both grounds, at Purton and Lydiard Millicent, are winning praise from visiting teams.

Matches at Purton in July (Saturday/Sunday)

5 th	1 st XI v Marlborough	1.00pm	19 th	1 st XI v Devizes	1.00pm
12 th	2 nd XI v Winsley	1.00pm	20 th	U11 v Swindon	10.30am
13 th	U13 v Malmesbury	2.00pm	26 th	2 nd XI v Calne	1.00pm

Matches at Lydiard Millicent

5 th	3 rd XI v Charminster 4	2.00pm	19 th	3 rd XI v Devizes 3	2.00pm
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From The Archives

May 1985 Parish Magazine entry

'The annual Cricket Club May Day Fair will be held on Monday, May 6, beginning at 2.15. As usual there will be a car boot sale and various other attractions. Pitches for the car boot sale may be booked by phoning 771103. Entrance is free though there will be a small car parking charge.

On Thursday, May 14, the Cricket Club will once again present the Swindon Big Band in concert at Bradon Forest School. This was a very popular event last year, so book your tickets early by contacting a club member.'

A.J. Kirk

JOE GARDNER



The weather has relented enough for most teams to get into the swing of the league matches although there are still a few teams, notably the Ladies A, who have had a much interrupted start to the season. They have only completed 3 matches so far but this is enough to see them early leaders of Division One. Other teams who currently top their respective leagues are the Ladies B in Division Two and the Men's D in Division 7. The Men's A and Mixed A are currently second in Division One.

The May Holiday Camp was very well attended with 16 children turning up at different times during the week.

The junior teams have played one more match each since last month's magazine. Unfortunately, both lost, the 18U to Wanborough and the 14U to Wootton Bassett.

NICOLA GARDNER

Thinking Cap Corner - Answers (from [page 17](#))

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| a. A coffin | c. Short |
| b. The letter M | e. A River |
| d. Two | f. Envelope |
| g. Breath | h. Dynamo |

Purton Bowls Club



We are still struggling with the friendly fixtures, and have had to cancel some of them because of lack of players. We do seem to be suffering from a lot of absenteeism due to illness, holidays and perhaps unwillingness to commit to playing when the weather is so indifferent, let's hope it settles down in June/July.

We have a 40-seater coach booked for Sunday 10 August when we are playing away to Windsor, this is a particularly good venue and we still have a few seats remaining if anybody fancies a day out – the cost is only £10 per person. Call Phil Reddan on 01793 525016 if you are interested.

Congratulations must go to our ladies in the County fours, who have yet again reached the final where they will be playing against Highworth and will be representing Wiltshire at the national finals at Leamington on Tuesday 5 August. So well done Alison, Julie, Chris and Sue and good luck for the final.

We played against Wootton Bassett in the Top Clubs competition which involves various combinations of play in one evening, two-wood singles, four-wood singles, pairs, triples and rinks, all played at the same time, and although we lost overall, one player, Dave Hall, managed to beat Neil Smith in the four-wood singles – Neil is ranked in the top ten players in the country! Well done Dave.

One of our recent members, Julie Jones, who hails from Rodbourne Cheney club, has recruited well for our club, her husband Dave, her daughter Rachel, along with Rachel's husband Dave and her father John are all playing regularly in league and friendly matches alike. Keep it in the family Julie.

NB: Not every man in the club is called Dave!

PETER BERRY

That Cat

I was looking at my snoozy cat the other day and composed this poem.

I have a very lazy cat,
it sleeps and sleeps all day.
It might pop out between times
to tour the garden, say,
but soon it's in and after food
and ready for a snooze
up on its chair it settles down
there is no time to lose.
It mustn't waste a moment,
it needs to have its rest,

for come the night it's time to fight,
I really do not jest!
I'm understanding now the need
she has for all this napping,
for half the night all I can hear
is her and another scrapping,
a wailing and a growling.
I feel like tearing out my hair,
come the day all I can say
I'm joining her on the chair!

CAROL GLEED

Is that True?

Much of the social history of the Western world over the past three decades has involved replacing what worked with what sounded good.

Thomas Sowell (Is Reality Optional? 1993)
