

Purton Magazine



Purton Workingmen's Institute
by Colin Moore (late father of Debbie Whitty, CycleCare)

August 2015

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
	(Mondays 2 - 5pm; Tuesdays 2 - 7pm; Wednesdays 10am - 5pm; Fridays 2 - 5pm)	
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
	(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)	
Museum	Curator: Jan Walker	770124
	(Wednesdays: 2 - 5pm; Saturdays: 10am - 1pm)	
Police / Fire / Ambulance	Emergency number	999
Police	Non-emergency Number	101
Post Office	c/o Best One	770775
Purton Age Concern	Louise Tidman	772558
Minibus	Keith Hart	771533
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Brenda Cook	770431
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

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

METHODIST CHURCHES

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

CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT

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

ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE

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

From The Editors

This month we are pleased to publish the winning story in the children's section of the Parish Council's "There's no such thing as a Dog Poo Fairy" recent short story competition. Jonathan Priddle's story on [page 15](#) introduces us to an ideal world where whenever someone didn't pick up their dog's poo, Jonny was on the scene within minutes and soon became known as the 'POO BUSTER'. Sadly there is regular evidence for all to see that Poo Busters are still needed in Purton especially with children now on holiday from school.

The school summer holidays will be helping the different aged junior sections of Purton Cricket Club and it is good to see on [page 34](#) that many young players are also well established in age-group county squads. It is particularly encouraging to see that several girls have joined the club and that, on Sunday 23 August, there will be an under 13 Girls county match between Wiltshire and Worcestershire on our picturesque Purton cricket ground.

Following last year's successful Purton Scarecrow Trail, the new Community Defibrillator has been delivered and installed in the main entrance of the Village Hall. Awareness sessions about the use of the defibrillator are planned for late August or early September for anyone interested in attending. While more details are on [page 29](#), readers are reminded that people cannot do any harm by using the defibrillator and that it can save lives.

Local lives in the Second World War were discussed at a recent Probus meeting when Local Defence Volunteers signed up in Cirencester where both memory and evidence exactly reflected the humour and disbelief of "Dad's Army" – see [page 25](#).

In the 25th part of his amazingly detailed Great War Project on [page 22](#), Rick Dixon points out that August 1915 was a bad month for Purton with photographs and descriptions of five from our village who were killed on active service 100 years ago. While other men with Purton connections were mobilised, Rick again includes summaries of the situations on the different war fronts at that time.

By the end of this project there will be a wonderful historical reference detailing all the contributions from Purtonians to "the war to end all wars." That series of World War I articles has also encouraged readers' contributions with stories from their family's war although the contribution on [page 24](#) might have been rather unexpected!

2' 6"

was the final length of a "crocodile" hatched in the UK during WWI – see [page 24](#)

50

objects needed to illustrate the history of Purton in the museum – see [page 26](#)

£841

raised for Jubilee Gardens with a quilt and other prizes from Purton Patchers – see [page 16](#)

CONTENTS

10 Years Ago	Our Family's War
After 8	Parish Council News
Age Concern	Police Community Beat Manager
Bowls Club	Prayer for Purton
Bradon Forest School News	Probus Club
Coffee & Chat	Purton Horticultural Show
Cricket Club	Purton Patchers
Cricklade Country Market	Purton Placard
Diary Pages	Purton Postbag - Letters
Flu Campaign 2015	Purton Profferings
Gardeners' Guild	Reggie Roberts
Great War Project	Scarecrow Trail
Group 4 Patients	Shoebox News
Guide Dogs	The Cedars
Historical Society	There's no such thing as a Dog Poo Fairy
Library Hours	We Record
Lost Property	Wiltshire Good Neighbours
Lydiard Art Exhibition	Women's Institute (Purton Evening WI)
Museum News	Your Magazine delivered free!
Obituary Contacts	

Purton
Magazine

© 2004 - 2015

Magazine Committee

Avril Ainscough, Barbara Compton, John Creasey, Helen Dixon,
Rick Dixon, Sheila Fowler, Sandra Horsnall, Francis Sheppard

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

Advertising enquiries and copy for contributions

by 10th of each month, please

to: Purton Magazine, c/o In Touch Services, 115 Paventhill, Purton SN5 4DB
tel & fax: 01793 772954 email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Distribution enquiries only:

Sandra Horsnall 01793 770157, or sandra_horsnall@yahoo.co.uk

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

Community Speed Watch – Volunteers needed:

Purton has a Community Speed Watch campaign running with one volunteer who covers the area of The Fox. Several other areas are highlighted and in need of your help. If you could spare the time, are willing to attend a professionally run training course and able to give up time to carry out this function, please contact the Clerk.



Village Hall Car Park Resurfacing

Car park resurfacing is now complete – thank you for your support and patience.

Cemetery Paths/entrance

The final phase of works is due to commence shortly. Please bear with us during this final stage and thank you for your co-operation. The cemetery is accessible via Church Path during works as normal.

Small Wildflower Bank

The banking to the side of the Village Centre is going to be transformed in the next spring/summer season to a wildflower bank. If you have any poppies growing that you can keep the seeds for us to use, please contact the Clerk. As they say, Watch this space !

Household Recycling Centre

The Centre will open from 10 am until 4 pm, Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday and will be closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays. For more information please visit the Wiltshire County Council website at

www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres

Garden Waste Collections

Wiltshire County Council no longer collects garden waste free of charge. The charges levied and details of how to register with Wiltshire County Council are available on their website or you can call 0300 456 0102.
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/gardenwaste

Facebook, Twitter and Website

Just one click away will see you interact with the Parish Council. Events, road closures, meet the staff, “did you knows”, photographs and much more. If you have an event in the Parish that you would like us to promote on any of the above media sites please contact the Clerk on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk or call 771066.

Find us at - Facebook – Purton Parish Council, Twitter - @PurtonPC

Play Close – Temporary Road Closure - Wiltshire Council

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic: Play Close, Purton; from its junction with C414 High Street for its entire length.

To enable: Wiltshire Council to carry out kerbing, carriageway resurfacing, road marking and adjustment of ironworks.

No alternative route is available; access for residents will be maintained.

The closure will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 17 August 2015 and it is anticipated that the closure will be required daily between the hours of 07:00 – 19:00 until 19 August 2015. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses, although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. For further information please contact Balfour Beatty Living Places on 01249 468582 (office hours) or 07966 895171 (Duty Manager).

Watkins Corner – Road Closure – Wiltshire County Council Highways

The works will consist of reconstruction and resurfacing of the carriageway between a point 80m north of the access to Haxmoor Farm south to a point 200m east of the junction at Packhorse Corner; Installation of 100m of drainage pipe in the vicinity of Watkins Corner to provide support to the carriageway and installation of new kerbs where necessary to provide carriageway edge protection and prevent further erosion of the verge / carriageway.

The scheme is due to commence on Monday 27 July 2015 for a duration of 7 weeks.

More information can be gained from Wiltshire County Council on 01225 730630 – Contact: Daniel Ward, Highways Engineer.

Litter Bins

Do you live in an area of the village that you feel needs a litter bin? The Council are reviewing the positioning of bins throughout Purton and would like your suggestions for consideration. Please email or call the Parish Council Offices.

The follow planning applications have been approved, with conditions by Wiltshire County Council

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| N15/02938/FUL | 16 Locks Lane. Erection of porch to front elevation. |
| N15/03375/FUL | 11 Pear Tree Close. Single storey front and rear extension and garage conversion (Resubmission of 14/08308/FUL). |
| N15/03670/FUL | 10 Orchard Gardens. Re-position of front door, part-conversion of garage, single storey side extension and two-storey rear extension. |
| N14/10200/REM | Ridgeway Farm, Common Platt. Proposed erection of 422 residential dwellings and associated drainage, parking, garages, landscaping, open space and roads including the realignment of new junction proposal of the B4553, Discharge of Associated Outline Approval (N/10/04575/OUT) Planning Conditions for this phase of Development – Condition Numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 16, 25, 29 and 30. |
| N15/02000/FUL | 35 Ringsbury Close. Proposed detached disabled annex. |
| N15/03799/FUL | Hillcrest, 30 Upper Pavenhill. Proposed single storey rear extension. |

N15/03873/FUL The Spa, Stoke Common Lane. Purton Stoke. Demolition of existing garden room and erection of two-storey rear extension.

Parish Council Meeting Dates

No meetings are held in August. September Meetings as follows :

7 th	Rights of Way / Planning	21 st	Village Centre and Charities
14 th	Full Council meeting	28 th	Rights of Way / Burials
16 th	Play Area and Recreation		

Purton Parish Plan

The plan is available to view on line on our website at

www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066

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 website 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 www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk and sign up today.

Facebook - Purton Parish Council

Twitter - @PurtonPC

Shoebox News

This year's project is now well under way. We aim once again to send 60 filled boxes for each category making a total of 360 that we, as a group, like to complete. Then of course, there are many extra filled boxes that arrive, individually donated.

Donations of items for the boxes, or financial (for us to buy the items) would be much appreciated from any time now. We are particularly looking for soap, toothpaste (own brands) toothbrushes, small activity/dot to dot books (Poundland), items for girls' hair (slides, bands, clips etc.), small toys for both boys and girls, tennis balls, note pads or paper that can be cut to A5 size. Also of course, empty shoe boxes.

Our Fund Raising Day (with lunches) will be at 35 High Street, on Saturday 26 September. This as usual, will be to raise money for the cost of transporting the boxes at £3 each. More details about this in next month's magazine.

There are so many of you that are committed to this project and have helped to make it a success. Thank you. May it continue this year.

SYLVIA FREEMANTLE, Coordinator: tel 770686



Something to Think About

Take rest; a field that has rested gives a bountiful crop.

Ovid, 43 BC - 17 AD

Purton & District Age Concern

Due to the success of the recent boat trip I am hoping to organise a Christmas shopping trip to Worcester at the end of November. Also, I'm hoping to organise a train trip in June/July next year. If you are interested in either or both of these trips please contact me on 772558. I will gauge the interest in these outings and let you know more next month.

Sadly, I have to inform you of the death of Pam Bastin. By the time you read this, Pam's funeral will have taken place. Our thoughts are with Pam's family and friends at this difficult time and we thank them most sincerely for donations in lieu of flowers coming to Age Concern.

Charlotte Griffin, our new treasurer, is settling in well; she is getting used to envelopes dropping through her letterbox from our street wardens. At our recent meeting we welcomed two new faces, Helen Griffin and Laura Phillips. We are very pleased they have decided to join the Age Concern committee, it's great to have so many younger people getting involved.

FUTURE EVENTS

Day Trip to Weston – On Wednesday 5 August we will have our annual village outing for all ages to Weston-super-Mare. The coach will leave Purton at 9.30 am and return from Weston at 6.30 pm. The cost is £13 for children and OAPs and £15 for others. (Food is not included.) So come along and join us for a fun day out! To book your place, please contact your street warden before Saturday 25 July.

Mystery Tour – Our next mystery tour is Wednesday 2 September with a 2 pm start. Cost including tea is £13 for village pensioners and £14.50 for non-pensioners and people from outside our area. Please contact your street warden before Monday 24 August to book your place.

Jumble Sale – We will be holding a jumble sale at the Village Hall on Saturday 5 September at 2 pm. Jumble can be left at the Village Hall between 12 noon and 1 pm and the sale starts at 2 pm, so put the date in your diary and come along and grab yourself a bargain or two!

PAST EVENTS

Full day Trip to Stratford – The numbers were lower than usual for this trip even though it was the most requested destination on the questionnaires we sent out last Christmas. Hopefully everyone who went on the trip enjoyed themselves.

Coffee morning at Purton Stoke – What a lovely morning we had, the weather was very kind to us this year. Thanks to Jackie and Dick Scott for hosting our coffee morning at their home in Purton Stoke again this year. Thanks also to everyone who baked cakes, donated raffle and tombola prizes, books and items for the bric-a-brac stall. Special thanks go to Joan Frost who sells her lovely plants and donates the money to us and Margaret Carter who bakes all the delicious biscuits you had with your coffee. We made a total of £724.10 on the day. We are extremely grateful to all who came along to support us and to all who helped on the day.



INFORMATION

Fire Service & Bobby Van – If you need a smoke alarm fitting or checking please contact the Fire Service on 0800 389 7849. If you need the Bobby Van please call them on 01225 794652.

Luncheon Club – There are still places at the Luncheon Club every Tuesday and Thursday. This is held at the Silver Threads Hall. You get a good hot two-course meal with tea or coffee to follow. Please give Pat Suddaby a call on 771331 if you would like to give it a try. I'm sure you won't regret it. Transport is available if required.

Minibuses – Please contact Keith Hart our minibus co-ordinator on 771533 if you would like to book the minibus.

If you are thinking of volunteering as a driver or "shotgun" (driver's assistant) on the minibuses please contact Andy White the minibus secretary on 771656 or email him at andywhitepacmb@gmail.com. (New volunteers are always welcome).

Introducer Service – The list of products and service offered by Age UK Enterprises has been amended recently. They now offer, Home Insurance, Car Insurance, Travel Insurance, Gas and Electricity, Funeral Plans, Annuity Service, Equity Release Advice Service, Hearing Aids, Personal Alarms, Stairlifts and Bathing Aids. For further information and/or a quote please contact Age UK on 0800 032 6476. If you would like a product and services leaflet please contact Louise on 772558.

T'ai Chi – We hold T'ai Chi sessions each Thursday at 2 pm in the Millennium Hall. There are places available so if you would like to give it a go (the first session is free) please contact Mick Hull on 772453 or Alan and Rita Webb on 770453.

LOUISE TIDMAN

Notes from The Cedars

July was spent organising our special 15 year anniversary party. On 28 July we shall have held our special 15 year anniversary with cocktails, mocktails and an assortment of garden games whilst listening to the sounds of Neil Patterson. The Cedars has been looked after by The Orders of St John Care Trust for the past fifteen years and during that time has undergone a few changes. The latest being updating the reception area in keeping with all the other OSJCT homes which will be completed later this year.

Marie Cranfield, the Home Manager is continuing to welcome new residents into the home and enjoys seeing old friends coming back into the home for short respite stays.

On Friday 14 August the theatre group Daisy Chain will be performing "A night at the Musicals". Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy their favourite songs from a variety of musicals and the performance starts at 2 pm – please feel free to drop by.

To find out more about living, working or volunteering at The Cedars, please call 0800 988 8133 or visit www.osjct.co.uk.



BEVERLEY WILSON

The Late Reggie Roberts

A tribute to my uncle Reg from Alison

Reg was born in September 1931, the seventh of eight children, to Mabel and Henry Roberts at 3 Diana Cottages, Purton. His elder siblings Vic, Bill, Joan, Rita and Ron had left home – some had married and some were on active service, leaving Peter, Reg and Kathleen at home. As children, the family lived by the railway line and would often spend hours looking out for the many trains and waving to the passengers, feeling cock-a-hoop when they received some friendly waves in return. As they were young and under age the three children could often be seen knocking at the back door of the local pub, The Hope, to see if the latest delivery of Smiths' crisps had arrived. If they had, the children scraped the money together and handed over the princely sum of threepence to Mr and Mrs Shurey who were the landlords at the time.

As a teenager Reg became involved with many organisations in the village including football and cricket. It was about this time his love for the outdoors started to blossom with the many long walks he liked to take. His walking habits continued right up until he left Purton later in his life. One of the routes he took included walking over to Lydiard Millicent and the surrounding area then back into Purton via The Fox and the cricket field. On numerous occasions later in life he could be seen at Francome's hill taking the air with his many close friends before heading off to the local club for a drink whilst putting the world to rights. They were often referred to as Foggy, Clegg and Compo but I am not sure who was who! Reg's love of the outdoors increased as he grew older, often taking his nieces and nephews on a Saturday afternoon stroll (which was more like a ten-mile yomp for the little legs of an eight year old girl) more often than not ending up at Purton cricket or football pitch.

When Reg left school he gained employment as the local roundsman for Godwin's the baker, delivering the many loaves, rolls and lardies. As time moved on, things changed and in 1950 Reg received his National Service call-up papers, going to Malaya on active service with the Royal Army Medical Corps, helping with the restoration of medical and sanitation services to the many local villages which had been left totally ruined. On his return to the village he joined the local Territorial Army for a number of years as an infantryman. His national service was a fundamental part of his later involvement with the Royal British Legion and he remained a member until his death.

When Reg moved back to Purton after Malaya he again became involved with the local football and cricket teams. When his position as goalkeeper was confirmed in the local team he would wear a v-necked jumper back to front and this habit stayed with him for life and became a source of fun for the family! In his twenties Reg remained at home with sister Kathleen. His older siblings now had families of their own. This is when the role of an uncle came to him, a role which he both enjoyed and cherished. There are many stories the older nieces and nephews can tell that involved copious amounts of teasing and the cold water tap. His nieces and nephews enjoyed his company, his easy going nature, sense of humour and love of fun.

Around this time Kathleen and Ernie started to walk out together. Reg and Ernie met for the first time and, needless to say, the meeting was a little tense to say the least with Reg being protective of his little sister and Ernie trying to put on a good show. When Ernie left the Roberts' family home that first time, Ernie started to cycle home to Moredon. When he got a short distance, there stood a stranger in the road with an intimidating stare and menacing silence. Ernie rode on past the stranger for a few yards then, confidence getting the better of him, turned around to have a look at this silent stranger. The stranger too was also looking at Ernie and, being a confident young man, Ernie then decided to poke two fingers up at the stranger in a V sign. That stranger was, of course, Reg, and that first difficult tense meeting turned into a fifty-plus year friendship.

Time moved on and many of Reg's friends began to settle down and have families of their own. Reg was best man to Jim and Ruth Mills, later becoming godfather to their daughter Sarah. Also Reg started playing skittles, darts and crib for a few of the village pubs – over the years collecting many trophies. For work he was now at RAF Lyneham as an aeroplane service engineer, later moving to RAF Wroughton working with helicopters. He then joined Whitehall Frozen Foods where he remained until well past retirement age, in fact still working the occasional shift up until he was seventy-seven years of age. Unfortunately Reg was involved in a motorcycle accident in the High Street in Purton which resulted in him being hospitalised (the accident happened outside The Angel – maybe a message there or not?). Actually he was on his way to work one morning in May 2008 and he suffered injuries to his head, chest, ribs, legs and knees. Regrettably this led to Reg's life being transformed – no more motorcycle, not so much socialising in the village and unfortunately not so many long walks. I understand from Matt at The Club that this resulted in a loss of profit and a surplus supply of bottled Guinness for some considerable time afterwards.

Eventually Reg went to live at Ashbury Lodge in Old Town, Swindon, making many new friends and acquaintances. He enjoyed his time there although sometimes he was more than a little hostile towards the older ladies' many advances. However, he became involved in the many activities and frequent day trips offered. Only recently Reg and another resident visited Swindon Town Football Club for a tour of the stadium, sitting in the dugouts. I wonder if Reg's four, four, two formation would have got us promotion this year! His last visit was going to a local garden centre, resulting in a rather fetching picture of Reg and a gorilla.

Overall we have heard about a loyal man, a very honest man, a good and generous friend, a loving brother, much loved uncle, a man who would help anyone if he could. I for one will miss this proud man, the polite and reserved man with the perfectly shone shoes walking up and down the High Street. To summarise, Reg was a thoroughly decent man and upstanding member of the community, a man who will be missed by plenty and was loved by many, in all a man who it was a pleasure to know.

ALISON

What a lovely tribute from Alison to her uncle Reg and what a marvellous world it would be if we all had Reg's character, full of kindness, satisfaction and

contentment. Could I, on behalf of Reg's family and his many friends, thank George and Rose Pratt for their kindness and the friendship they showed Reg – it was greatly appreciated. You have heard me mention Fred Comley's 'tanner boys' football team, well here is a photo of us when we played down Collins' Lane in the Swindon Borough League, with Reg as our goal keeper in 1947.

TONY PRICE



Back row left to right – Tom Lewis, Eddie Young, Bill Marsh, Tony Price, Neil Herwood, Gordon Rees, Fred Comley.

Front row left to right – Peter Ovens, Milton Chamberlain, Reg Roberts, Roy Downs, Albert Sutton.

New Community Beat Manager

PC David Canavan

I would like to introduce myself as the new community beat manager for Cricklade and Purton. I was confirmed in post on Monday 15 June.

This is a new and challenging role for me, as most of my previous police service has been centered around inner city/town policing. I am looking forward to working with the partner agencies and most importantly the public, in helping to deal with issues that effect the local community. In terms of experience, I am originally from Liverpool and have been a member of Wiltshire Police for just under seven years. The majority of my career in Wiltshire Police has been spent on the inner town response teams based at Swindon. I have also served attachments on CID, and the Local Crime Team.

I am all about visibility policing, meaning getting out of my car and walking about and meeting the public. Most importantly I would like your police to work for you! And the best way we can work is in partnership through intelligence led policing. That means if you believe something criminal is happening within your local neighbourhood, tell me about it! Please feel free to email me or any member of my team.

PC 2491 David Canavan – David.canavan@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Richard O'Halloran - Richard.O'Halloran@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Andrea Jayne Hector - Andrea-Jayne.Hector@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



Bradon Forest School News www.bradonforest.org.uk

GCSE Dance Student wins Choreography Competition



Year 11 Student Alyssa Weymouth (*pictured*) recently won a Dance Choreography Competition.



This resulted in twenty Bradon Forest Dance Students performing at New College, Swindon on Wednesday 24 June 2015. The students all took part in a big dance event called 'The Platform'. They performed brilliantly and were really well received by the audience. Alyssa was presented with a trophy for the school to look after until next year's competition.

Young Enterprise Teams completed the Final Leg

MADTurtle Studios and Get Shirtee completed the final leg of their Young Enterprise journey when they took part in the County Final held at Wrag Barn Golf Club in Highworth. They faced some very tough competition, but I am extremely pleased to report that MADTurtle Studios and Get Shirtee were winners in a number of categories. MADTurtle Studios won first prize in three categories: Best Under 16, Best Media and Best Customer Focus. Get Shirtee also walked away with first prize for the team that showed the most potential and were runners up for the Best Under 16 award.

The teams were required to set up their display stand and answer some very tough questions posed by nine judges selected from a number of business leaders in the Wiltshire area. Following this, they each presented to an audience of approximately 100 comprising of judges, students from participating schools, teachers, business advisers and parents. Both teams were articulate and exuded commendable levels of confidence.

Young Enterprise is highly regarded by members of the business world and at further and higher education establishments. Accordingly, our two teams have enhanced their CVs enormously. Moreover, the opportunity has afforded them the chance to develop skills that will enrich both their educational and extra-curricular experiences in the future.

Mrs Hawley said, "I know that I also speak for our business adviser, Anne Young, Managing Director at The Pear Tree, Purton, when I say I am immensely proud of our two teams and cannot express how much I have enjoyed working with them."

The two teams are pictured below with their awards.



above: MadTurtle

below: Get Shirtee



Bradon Forest Open Visits

We welcome parents and pupils to come and visit our school. No booking necessary:

- Open Evening - Tuesday 15 September - 6 pm to 8 pm.
- Open Morning - Saturday 19 September - 9.30 am to 11.00 am.
- Open Morning - Monday 5 October - 9.15 am to 10.30 am.

For more information, please contact:

Admissions, Mrs Emma Hayden, 01793 770570 or visit our website
www.bradonforest.org.uk

Flu Campaign 2015

Purton Surgery, Saturday 10 & 31 October, 8 am - 4 pm

The Department of Health has recommended that we offer vaccination against Influenza to all our patients over the age of 65 and also to patients who suffer from a 'high risk' condition, regardless of their age.

This includes: diabetes, chronic heart disease, chronic renal failure, COPD, have undergone a splenectomy, severe asthma (taking inhaled steroid – not seasonal), carers and pregnant ladies.

Also, all 2 - 6 year olds (born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2013) are invited for the nasal spray flu vaccination.

If you fall into one of these categories please call after 8 September to make an appointment on one of the above clinics.

Only eligible patients may receive the vaccine.

PURTON SURGERY

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

OFFERED: Large Black Plastic Compost Bin. Steven Rowlands tel 01793 979229

OFFERED: 10 Giant's Footprint stepping stones. Approx18" x 10". 5 right feet and 5 left. Lynne tel 778165

OFFERED: Pine 6-panel interior door. Small size 1925mm x 680mm Lynne tel 778165

OFFERED: Pine bi-fold door with etched glass top panels. 1960mm x 760mm Lynne tel 778165

OFFERED: Qty 10 pond fish in gold and mixed colours Steven Rowlands 01793 979229

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

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 rwbcricklade@gnclcommunityfirst.org.uk



Purton Parish Council recently ran a competition for short stories to highlight the dangers of dog mess in the village. We are printing the winning stories in the adult and children's sections. This month we feature the winner's story in the children's category. The final story in the adult section will follow next month ...

"There's No Such Thing as a Dog Poo Fairy"

By Jonathan Priddle

There once was a young boy named Jonny. He had a dog named Buddy. He was upset because every time he took Buddy for a walk people would always say to him how they hate dogs because their owners don't pick up their poo. However Jonny was not like this, he always picked up Buddy's poo. But these people just assumed that because he was a child with a dog it was his fault.

One day Jonny was walking Buddy and he saw a dog doing a poo. But the owner didn't pick up the poo. This made Jonny very angry. So he ran as fast as he could to catch up with the horrid man who owned the pooing dog. When Jonny finally caught up with him he had forgotten what he was going to say. So to make himself not look stupid he just continued on walking past the man; with Buddy at his heel. When Jonny got home he had a dream. He would be a poo buster.

Twenty years had passed. Jonny couldn't get a job. But one day, when he was moving out of his mum's house, he found a book. It was torn at the edges and the paper as stiff as tree bark. He opened it. Then he realised what it was. It was the note book he had as a child, the same book as the one he made the plans to be a poo buster. Because he couldn't get a job this gave Jonny an idea. He would really be a poo buster.

He spent countless hours making suits and equipment. Then he was ready. There was a man walking his dog. Then the dog bent down, he was having a poo. The smell was unbearable. Then he appeared, Jonny in all his kit. It was a sight. He sprinted over to the site where the dog had dropped the bomb. He put an old clothes peg on his nose, and went in. The fumes from the poo burned his eyes. He put his quivering hand into a bag and grabbed the poo. Then Jonny tied the bag up and handed it to the man whose dog had committed the crime. He then he whispered to the man "There's no such thing as a dog poo fairy". Finally Jonny gave the horrible man a piece of paper saying "Fine £100", the man's eyes sprang open at the amount of money he had to pay. Jonny then said "You have ten days", then he left.

Within weeks it was all over the news, Jonny the poo buster. Whenever someone didn't pick up their dog's poo Jonny was on the scene within minutes. "When a dog has a poo, in the neighbourhood, who you gonna call, POO BUSTERS!"

One day when Jonny was at work. He was dealing with an insane poo-dle. He was as crazy as his owner. When he got a call. It was his mother. She was crying down the phone. She cried "Buddy. He's ill!" This came as a great shock to Jonny. He fell to his knees. The crazy man and his insane dog took one good look at Jonny and walked off. Jonny looked gormlessly at an empty space. His childhood best friend was going to die. Jonny got in the Poo Mobile and rushed home as fast as he could.

When Jonny got to his mums house he found Buddy laid on the table with a vet at his side. Buddle looked up at Jonny and blinked. The vet then turned around and whispered to Jonny "There's nothing I can do. You must now say goodbye". Jonny walked up slowly to Buddy. When he came to his side he bent down to be at Buddy's eye height. And said "Buddy, you're the best friend I could ever have. You're the best dog in the whole wide world". A tear fell from Jonny's blood shot eyes. Buddy nudged Jonny's hand. And made a quiet cry. Then Buddy's eyes began to close. They finally they were completely closed, and Buddy's loving heart stopped. Jonny stroked Buddy on the back, stood up and walked out the room. The next day Jonny and his Mum buried Buddy under his favourite tree. It was where he would lay down on a hot sunny day to get in the shade. They carefully placed Buddy's loving buddy in the hole. Jonny then stood back and said goodbye.

Now Jonny is back at work saving the world from dog poo. So if you have a dog then pick up its poo. Or you will have to deal with Jonny. The poo buster!!!!!! "When a dog has a poo, in the neighbourhood, who you gonna call, POO BUSTERS!"

A dog is a man's best friend.

Jubilee Gardens & Purton Patchers

At the end of May this year. Jubilee Gardens had a Spring Open Day with produce sales and raffles; this was a fund raising event. Purton Patchers gave a quilt they had made, and one or two other prizes. £841 was raised for the project, so we came away very pleased with the outcome. It was a lovely visit and we became aware of just how much hard work goes on at the centre and just how much it is appreciated by those who work there, a lovely atmosphere. The weather was perfect for exploring the different gardening areas and refreshments were available. A definite return visit at the Christmas and Spring Fairs.



The team: Pam Stevens, Sheila Price, Brenda Hanks, Sheila Kirk, Iris Parsons and Marjorie Shailes, not forgetting Pauline Hall, we know she would have been pleased with the outcome!

Cricklade Country Market

The Country Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 28 August 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 PLACARD

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

Purton Stoke Social Committee invite you to our

Garden Party
2pm - 5pm on Sunday 16th August at **Bentham House**
Cream Teas, raffle, home-made cakes ...

PURTON AGE CONCERN
Village outing to Weston-super-Mare
for all ages on Wednesday 5 August.
Coaches leaves at 9.30 am
Returning from Weston at 6.30 pm
Cost - £13 for children/OAPs
£15 for others
(food not included)
Book your place with your street warden
Come and join us for a fun day out!

PURTON AGE CONCERN
Mystery Tour
Wednesday 2 September
Coach leaves at 2 pm
Cost - £13 for village pensioners
(tea included)
come and join us for the afternoon!

PURTON AGE CONCERN
Jumble Sale
Saturday 5 September at the Village Hall
Jumble can be left at the Village Hall between 12 noon & 1 pm.
Sale starts at 2 pm
Lots of bargains!

Vintage Tea Event
at 89 Pavenhill, Purton on 20 August : 1.30 - 4.30 pm
Come and enjoy a selection of sandwiches, home made cakes and scones
Also a variety of teas
Admission on the day
£5 per person
All proceeds to Pavenhill Amenity Fund

Lydiard Millicent Art Exhibition
25, 26, 27 September
At the Parish Hall Lydiard Millicent
Pre View Fri 25th 6pm - 9pm
Sat 26th 10am - 5pm
Sun 27th 10am - 4pm



Refreshments available
Original paintings, cards, and art materials for sale.
For more information please call Tracey Rapson 01793770996

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.

■ WILLIAM "BRUCE" D'ARCY-MASTERS

No words could ever express our appreciation for the love and support we have received following the passing of Bruce, a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and friend

We are deeply grateful and would like to say thank you for the many cards, letters and flowers we have received.

We would also like to thank Dr Richardson and the staff at Purton surgery.

Our thanks to all who attended the service and also for the donations to Purton Age Concern and Prospect Hospice. With special thanks to Revd Judith Wells and to Revd Ian Tweedie Smith for a lovely service and to Scott for giving a moving tribute to his grandad.

Our thanks and gratitude to Shani and Mark at The Angel for giving Bruce a lovely send off

Val D'Arcy-Masters and family

■ COMMUNITY KINDNESS

I just wanted to say a huge thank-you to all the people who have offered help to Bernice and me while I undergo my chemotherapy. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness of people offering all sorts of assistance, from lifts to hospital to fresh baked cakes delivered to my door, and by the genuine concern that so many people have shown.

I have lived in Purton for over thirty years, but I have to say that I do not think I have ever felt so much a part of



our amazing community.

Just saying thank you almost feels inadequate and I only hope that an opportunity for me to repay this tremendous kindness will present itself at some time in the future. But, for now, I will have to settle for two words that mean so much:

Thank you!

Dave Seviour

■ BLAZER OF GLORY

May I, through your columns, thank all those who expressed an interest in my mislaid old school blazer? I thought I had loaned it to a local person, but on a rare foray onto Facebook, to view photos of my youngest son and family, I espied it languishing on his back at a themed party! So, I have now located the blazer, but that does not mean it has been returned to me; soon hopefully.

Yours etc, Nick Yerbury

■ BENCHES (*Continued*)

What a tremendous response I had to my last months letter on the Red House benches farce!

Most of the comments I received mentioned that about 3 or 4 years ago there were benches outside so what has changed as nobody complained then and outside functions on the

"Putting Green" when plastic glasses were provided by the club. Also some have visited the Village Centre to see the piece of hallowed grass in question that cannot accommodate 3 benches and looked at me in amazement as to what all the fuss is about.

Nevertheless we will continue to find a solution although I do have a feeling it may be closer to Christmas than summer when the weather is likely to bit a bit colder and trade not so buoyant!

Terry Crumble

■ THANK YOU PURTON

It was with fear and trepidation that we as a committee decided to make radical changes to Carnival Day 2015. Would the village support us and join the procession and the Fete in its new location?

Well, all fears disappeared when I stood watching so many happy faces pass me to go and enjoy themselves on the field! Cricklade Band said what a wonderful new route it was, and many, many people came up to me, on the day and since, saying how good it all was. Of course there were a few teething problems which we will need to work on for next year, but on the whole I think it can be deemed to be a success.

And we couldn't have done it without

YOU! So, thank you Purton for supporting us, thank you Purton House for all your help and the use of your amazing field, and thank you to all members of the Carnival Committee for all your hard work. Please keep supporting all the events we run through the year as I feel that Carnival is a very important part of our village.

Mary Nettleton

■ CARNIVAL CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to congratulate the Purton Carnival Committee for this year's huge success.

How wonderful it was to see the High Street and the field full of people having a great time.

I hope next year will be as sunny and full of life.

Well done to you all.

Maria Looker

■ SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

On Tuesday 4 August Bernice Seviour will turn 60! She has lived in the village since March 1983 and has been and is still involved in a great many activities within Purton, including delivering the Purton Magazine. I would like the village to wish her a very happy birthday. From both her daughters and her new son-in-law.

Penni Seviour

Lydiard Millicent Art Exhibition

This year our fabulous Art Exhibition is being held from 25 to 27 September at the Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall, opposite the Church. Our Preview evening is Friday 25th from 6 to 9 pm. Meet the artists, have a glass of wine and buy original art work on the first evening of opening. The exhibition continues on Saturday 26th from 10 am until 5 pm and Sunday 27th from 10 am until 4 pm.

As well as an amazing eclectic range of paintings for sale we are also selling original greeting cards and art materials. There will be refreshments throughout the weekend available and certainly a friendly face to welcome you, so please don't miss out on this chance to see our local artists exhibiting some of their exciting art work this year. For more information, please call Tracey Rapson on 01793 770996.

Purton Diary - August 2015

2	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
4	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Diana Thombs - <i>My Life in Teaching</i> at Silver Threads Hall
5	W	9.30am	Purton Age Concern: Village outing to Weston-super-Mare
6	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
9	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
11	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>If Only Stones could Speak</i>
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
12	W	7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
13	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
14	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
16	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		2.00pm	to 5pm: Garden Party at Bentham House
18	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Tony Price - <i>Age Concern Take Two</i> at Silver Threads Hall
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
19	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening W.I. at Village Hall: Nicola Cornick - <i>My Work as an Author and Guide at Ashdown House</i>
20	Th	1.30pm	to 4.30pm: Vintage Tea Party at 84 Pavenhill (Amenity Fund)
23	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
25	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: Hugo Eckener: Master of Airships
		12.30pm	After 8: Three Crowns for lunch followed by a walk
		2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Bruce Porter - <i>Vegetable Growing for Show</i>
28	F	6.00pm	to 6pm Sunday: Beer Festival at Royal George

-
- 30 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church
10.30am Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
10.30am Communion at St Mary's Church

31 M **Summer Bank Holiday**

September

- 2 W 2.00pm Age Concern Mystery Tour- (with tea included)
5 Sa 2.00pm Age Concern Jumble Sale at the Village Hall
-

Every week

- Tu 9.00am *to 11am*: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
12 noon Luncheon Club at Silver Threads for over 60s
7.30pm Bridge Club at the Red House
- W 10.00am *to 12 noon*: Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall
6.30pm Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
- Th 9.00am *to 11am*: Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
11.15am *to 1pm*: New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre
12 noon Luncheon Club at Silver Threads for over 60s
2.00pm *to 3pm*: Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
2.30pm Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church
- F 10.00am *to 11.30am*: Tea, Coffee & Cake at The Cedars

Moon Phases

7 August 14 August 22 August 29 August

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

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

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

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.

Great War Project

Part 25: August 1915

August 1915 was a bad month for Purton.

Ernest Henry Kibblewhite (aged 27), **Arthur Robert Bunce** (aged 21) and **Sidney Rowland Smith** (aged 18), all with the 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment were killed in action on 10 August 1915, when the battalion was decimated by a Turkish attack at Chunuk Bair on the Gallipoli peninsula. None have a known grave. They are remembered on the Helles Memorial Panel 156 to 158. The Memorial at Helles bears more than 21,000 names. Sidney was reported missing in action, and later presumed to have been killed.



A few days later **George Arthur Paginton** (aged 28) was killed in action on 16 August 1915. George was attached from the 6th Wilts to the 7th (Service) Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. The Turks launched an early morning attack in large numbers. The battalion was withdrawn to reserve at 1000 hrs. During the action the Dubliners lost 11 officers and 137 other ranks. George has no known grave and is remembered on Panels 190 to 196 on the Helles Memorial.

Frederick John Mills was born in Purton but had emigrated to Australia in 1911 or 1912. He joined the 18th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, with the rank of Bugler and landed at ANZAC Cove on 18 August 1915. An eyewitness report says, "Bugler Mills was in a charge against Hill 60 on Sunday morning 22 August 1915. He came on a Turkish machine gun in the charge and endeavoured to use it on the Turks. Whilst doing this he was wounded in the wrist. Shortly afterwards he was shot through the heart." His body was never recovered so he has no known grave. He is remembered on the Lone Pine Memorial at Gallipoli which commemorates more than 4,900 Australian and New Zealand servicemen who died in the Anzac area whose graves are not known.



The Helles Memorial



The Lone Pine Memorial

Above, top to bottom:
Arthur Bunce
Sidney Smith
George Paginton
Frederick Mills

(no picture of Ernest
Kibblewhite is
available)

In August 1915, the following men with Purton connections were mobilised:

To France:

George King, Royal Engineers, Labour Corps.

Ernest Jessie Matthews, B Sub Section, "A" Battery 61 Howitzer Brigade Guards.

To Gallipoli:

Arthur Paginton, 7th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers (see above).

Frederick John Mills, 18th Battalion Australian Infantry Force (see above).

To the Royal Navy:

Herbert Ernest Martin, Royal Navy.

Western Front:

1 August is regarded as the start of the 'Fokker Scourge' with the German Fokker 'Eindecker' (single deck or wing) monoplane dominant over the Western Front. It was the first type of aircraft to have a 'synchronization gear' which allowed a machine gun to fire through the spinning propeller without striking the blades. This gave an important advantage over other fighter aircraft where the pilot could only guess where his guns were pointing. By late 1915 the Germans achieved air superiority, making it difficult and dangerous for Allied planes to acquire aerial reconnaissance. This began the era of the 'Air Aces'.

At Home on 16 August, Lowca and Harrington, near Whitehaven (Cumbria), were shelled by a German submarine.

Gallipoli sector:

On 1 August, Constantinople harbour was raided by British submarines but without significant result.

Meanwhile on the Gallipoli peninsular, an attempt was made on 6 August to break out from Anzac Cove to create a third bridgehead to link up with Anzac forces and then capture nearby heights. This involved a major Allied landing at Suvla Bay on the northern shore with a diversionary attack at Sari Bair:

The next day saw the assault against Russell's Top. 232 Australians died in the battle.

Eastern Front:

The Russian retreat of July 1915 was followed by a large land grab in Russian Poland by the German forces. On 5 August, Warsaw fell, followed by Novo-Georgievsk and Osovets, and Kovno in Lithuania. By the 23rd, Tsar Nicolas II took over control of the Russian Army but not in time to halt the fall of Brest-Litovsk on the 25th and Byelostok the next day.

Germany had started a naval attack on Riga, Estonia, on 8 August. On 19 August the British submarine E-1 torpedoed the German battle cruiser Moltke in the Gulf of Riga, and E-13 was attacked by German warships while aground in Danish waters. The German naval attack on Riga continued until 21 August.

Further south, Ivangorod was taken by Austro-German forces on 5 August.

Lusitania follow-up:

On 19 August, the White Star liner SS Arabic was torpedoed by the German

submarine U-27 and sunk with two Americans among the 44 killed. The U.S. threatened a diplomatic break unless Germany repudiated the action. The German ambassador passed back a note, saying that "liners will not be sunk by our submarines". Wilson had not stopped the submarine campaign, but he won agreement that unarmed merchant ships would not be sunk without warning and, most importantly for him, he had kept the U.S. out of the war.

HMS Baralong, a British special service ship, had responded to Arabic's distress calls and, though unable to save Arabic, picked up survivors and destroyed U-27 while it was attacking the British steamer Nicosian, which was carrying munitions and mules.

In the same area, 21 August saw the first authenticated case of a German submarine firing on a ship's survivors in lifeboats after the sinking of SS Rue, off Lands End.

Meanwhile, Wilson requested and received funds from Congress for 500,000 troops plus a five-year Navy plan for major construction of battleships, cruisers, destroyers and submarines.

RICK DIXON

Our Family's War

Our thanks to Chris Compton who has provided another family tale:

The World War One Crocodile

My Grandfather, a Mr Smith, was a pilot instructor during WW1 and, at his home in Sherston, he and his family kept chickens to supplement their income. Now we have set the background to our story, I will explain about the crocodile.

Granddad was somewhere hot, Egypt? with his aeroplane. In his leisure time he would dig up some croc. eggs, not allowed these days, and put them next to the boat engine during his journey home to Blighty, keeping them moist and turning them regularly.

When he returned home he placed them in the chicken incubator – where they hatched out. They had a great time feasting on the day-old chicks, so only one croc. was allowed to survive, and it grew to 2ft 6ins long, (you clever people can convert it to metric). It was then killed, stuffed and mounted in a glass case.

I still have that same crocodile and case in the roof and I have owned it for 60 years or more.

My brother and I always called it a crocodile, but it could be a Gorrall. Perhaps someone can tell me what it is.

[Similar pictures on the internet, suggest it might be a gharial, from India. Any other thoughts? Ed.]



Purton & District Probus Club

On 9 June, Peter Grace, Amateur Archaeologist and Mainspring of the Living Museum History Association of Cirencester, gave an account of the defence measures installed in and around the town during WW2.



After Dunkirk, June 1940, Anthony Eden called for Local Defence Volunteers, the LDV, which, in August 1940, became the Home Guard. In Cirencester evidence and memory exactly reflect the humour and disbelief of "Dad's Army"! Weapons and Ammunition were scarce. One Veteran remembered guarding Kemble Airfield with a bayonet welded to the end of a length of gas pipe! LDV recruits were, more often than not, 1st World War veterans and like Cpl Jones aspired to NCO rank.

At the first call 152 men reported to the Old Police Station in Park Lane, but with no preparation or forms it was, like Captain Mannering's army, rather chaotic. The Old Bathurst Museum in Tetbury Road was the second signing-on centre and it is claimed that 110,000 gas masks were later assembled in this building. Original WW2 Defence Plans, marked "Secret" and only recently uncovered indicate that Cirencester was considered an Anti-tank Island; this in the event of Bath and Bristol having fallen to the enemy.

The German threat of Operation Sea Lion lingered well into 1943 and the defenders of Cirencester, like the rest of the Country, had continued to respond. All strategic points of the boundary were reinforced with anti-tank concrete block barriers. The obvious defence line chosen was that of the Roman wall but also to include the buildings of Lord Bathurst. Abbey House became the HQ because it had a gun room. At the north end, Gloucester Road Bridge, in addition to concrete barriers, a Smith-Gun was installed. Picket and barbed wire fencing stretched along the Abbey grounds' eastern boundary. Where what is now a rose-bed, a Blacker Bombard gun was set on its pivot to counter tanks and possibly parachutists. Road-blocks were used at Spitalgate lane, London Road and Swindon Road, at bridges over the Churn. Dragon's Teeth in Watermoor Road and on the railway platform would give opportunities to destroy tanks with Sticky Bombs. In a garden overlooking the emergence from the Watermoor railway bridge a machine gun post was established together with a Bombard gun. The Kemble railway would be defended by a gun mounted on a hand-pumped trolley which could retreat down the line! The defensive line continued with road blocks along Chesterton Lane, across the park to Cecily Hill with its barracks and down to the bridges at Barton Farm, which completed the circuit. Post holes were prepared in Park Street to drop in railway-steel bollards. Many firing positions were identified, including the oriole window looking down Dyer Street, and regular drills were practiced. Experiments with vehicles were tried; cars with armour plating and utility personnel carriers with cavity walls filled with sand. On manoeuvres, an "enemy" HG platoon from South Cerney managed to breach the defences by arriving in civvies in a bus! When the code word "Cromwell", meaning Total Invasion, was received, the Abbey Bell began to ring. It was a false alarm, but the Guard requested written orders to stop. Peter closed his account with images of Lord

Bathurst taking the Salute at the standing down of the Home Guard in 1944. The museum mentioned above is in Sheep Street.

On 23 June, Tony Sykes gave us *Mobile Phone Forensics*. Tony is an Electronics Engineer who specialises in IT and communications. For the past 25 years he has been an Expert Witness, regularly retained by both prosecution and defence teams to testify in criminal trials. The talk concentrated on mobile phones and the part they play in providing evidence to the court. He began by explaining how data held in the memory of a mobile phone is not really lost when the user deletes it. Only the access details are deleted. It is possible using software to recover the data. Tony believes he was the first person in the UK to undelete a text message.

Data gathered by mobile phone masts (cells) is retained by the phone companies for a year and contains not only details of the call or message, but can pinpoint the exact geographical location at the time of use. Using examples of cases ranging from gangland rivalry in the northeast of England to multiple phone-shop burglaries in Kent, Tony demonstrated how he was able to use the data from both mobile phones and the companies' records to show exactly where the defendants (or their phones) were at the time the offence was committed. The speaker assured us that, although criminals were becoming more aware of the detection methods available, most were not knowledgeable enough to evade them totally. The talk was very interesting, novel, and much appreciated.

Probus meets at 10 am in the Red House lounge. August 11: *If Only Stones could Speak*. August 25: *Hugo Eckener; Master of Airships*. Visitors and new members are welcome to come along.

BOB STEVENS

Museum News

The Museum Committee meeting held on 17 June began with a tribute to Brian Freegard, a valued committee member who sadly passed away in May. Brian was extremely knowledgeable about the history of Purton and during his time as Museum Curator carried out considerable research on many topics. He will be greatly missed.

Purton Museum is still in need of a Curator. This is a very rewarding post as we have such an interesting village. Should anyone be interested please contact our Chairman, Mrs Marion Hobbs on 01793 770185.

During the month of August the Museum will be featuring the first of our new 'Then & Now' displays based on a picture of a building in our collection with a brief history and some photographs. We will be displaying an original painting of the Blacksmith's Forge at Widham.

During the month of September we are featuring a new display of 'The History of Purton in 50 objects'. Should any reader have an item of particular interest they could loan us until the museum closes at the end of November; please get in touch with Jan Walker on 01793 770124.

In the meantime our exhibition centered around World War 1 has some new items on loan to refresh the display. We hope to see you in the museum soon!

JAN WALKER

Purton Historical Society



Outing to Croft Castle and Parkland, Yarpole, Near Leominster

On 20 June a full coach of members and guests departed Purton at 9 am for the 2-hour journey to Croft Castle. The journey itself was enjoyable, passing through very scenic countryside and ending deep in rural north Herefordshire.

When we arrived at Croft Castle there was such a variety of things to see that we were spoilt for choice. The beautiful castle itself, with options of cellar and attic tours, the estate church of St Michael, the wonderful and very large walled garden, the parkland with extensive far reaching views towards the Welsh hills and, of course, the usual good quality National Trust restaurant. The present castle was re-built in the early 17th century but there have been settled communities farming the area since the Iron Age. Almost 30 generations of the Croft family have lived there over the last thousand years, and they live there still. The link between the castle and the Croft family appeared to come to an end in 1746 when they sold the castle. The castle was, however, re-purchased by the family in 1923 and was handed over to the National Trust in 1957.

We must again say a big thank-you to Helen Dixon who organised a highly enjoyable and successful day out. The 'behind the scenes' work of choosing the venue, organising the coach, taking the bookings and collecting the money etc, is greatly appreciated – thank you, Helen.

Future Meetings

Thursday 24 September at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall

Britannia Under the Eagles – Martin Way. The story of Roman Britain – further details will be published in the September magazine

New Members and visitors always welcome

TONY & JANET NEATE

email: tjneate57@gmail.com tel: 01793 770117

STOP PRESS ... The Museum and Historical Society website has been closed down for a major refurbishment. Further information will follow when available.

Purton Horticultural Show: Saturday 29 August

Purton Village Hall, public viewing from 2 - 6 pm

The Show this year will be held in Purton Village Hall. All proceeds from the show go to The Royal British Legion.

Everyone is welcome – free parking and entry. Tea and cake will be available.

Classes include: vegetables/flowers, flower arranging, fruit, children's classes, photography, baking, handicrafts, preserves and more ...

A raffle and auction are held at the end of the day where you can bid for anything from a giant onion to a delicious pot of jam!

For a schedule please see our new website www.purtonshow.wordpress.com, email purtonshow@outlook.com, call Mr David Herbert on 01793 770002 or pick one up at Toomers, Stone lane, Lydiard Millicent.

New Practice Manager

We welcome our new Practice manager, Mr Kai Howard, who joined the Practice at the beginning of May.

Information Evening – Arthritis, Tuesday 13 October

As there were so many who were unable to attend our last evening on this subject we are holding a repeat presentation on Tuesday 13 October. Once again our speaker will be Dr David Collins. Tickets will be available from Purton Surgery from the beginning of September. As always, tickets are free but numbers are limited to 40 due to space.

Feedback from Patients – Friends and Family Test (FFT)

You may have seen the forms in the Surgery for patients to say (anonymously) how likely they are to recommend our surgery to friends and family. Kai has collated some of this feedback which is summarized below. Out of the 39 responses in May, 32 have said they would be 'extremely likely' and 7 said 'likely' to recommend the Practice.

- 'Perfect service!'
- 'All treatment received is excellent'
- 'We are very happy to have a surgery like this'
- 'GPs and nurses seem to care and take time to listen'
- 'Friendly and efficient - easy to get an appointment'
- 'Staff, doctors and nurses are very caring and always make sure patients feel welcome'
- 'All doctors are caring and helpful. Green Gable surgery essential for those without transport'
- 'Continued excellent service. Excellent in all areas. Reception, nurses and doctors. Difficult to improve'
- 'Not had any bad experiences over a number of years'
- 'Over 35 years myself and family have always received an excellent service from the practice doctors. Nurses and reception staff are most approachable and helpful'
- 'Friendly and efficient practice, both Cricklade and Purton'
- 'Please leave our wonderful surgeries the way they are. I would hate to see them run like other practices in other areas. Job well done for great service from all'

Practice website

The website is full of useful information, do check it regularly - www.purtonsurgery.co.uk

Information from G4P

In addition to information in village magazines and newsletters, other useful information is emailed to those who have provided their contact details. If you would like to join those receiving these emails then please let a member of the committee know or email us via groupforpatients@gmail.com.

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary, G4P

Purton Scarecrow Trail

Following the successful Purton Scarecrow Trail 2014 and the money raised from it, we are delighted to announce that we have had delivery of the Community Defibrillator (AED). It has been sited at Purton Village Hall to the right hand side of the main entrance. Wiltshire Ambulance has now activated the system, the equipment has been put in place and is now ready to use.



We have planned an awareness session (approximately 2 hours long) on the use of the defibrillator for late August or early September 2015 (exact date to be confirmed) for anyone interested in attending. Places are free of charge and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. If we are oversubscribed we shall have a reserve list to ensure that the session is full. When you register for the awareness session, please ensure that you leave contact details so that we can let you know more information. Please check Purton Scarecrow Facebook page, contact purtonscarecrow@aol.com or phone 01793 772579 to leave your details.

Once again, we wish to say a big thank you to our donors: Phillips and Sutton Plumbing Services and James Phipps, plus others who have chosen to remain anonymous.

We still require some further funding to cover the cost of installation of the defibrillator, so any contributions would be gratefully received. We shall also have a collection plate for contributions on the training day. If anyone raises money and is looking for a good cause to which to give donations there will be ongoing maintenance costs and replacement parts to buy in future.

As soon as Wiltshire Ambulance Service gives us permission, we shall place the defibrillator in the locked box and it will be ready to use in an emergency. We have been advised that we should not wait for the training session to activate the system as the equipment is easy to use.

Remember that you cannot do any harm by using the defibrillator as it is safe to use and you may well save someone's life, so come along to learn how to use it.

ALISON DAVIES, 01793 772579

Purton & District Guide Dogs

I did the stall at the final Charity Dog Show at Bowood House, on Sunday 21 June and took £56 on the Trading Goods side, and £17.50 on the Tombola. Then on 4 July Sue Matthews and I did the stall at the Carnival Fete and we took £58.85 on the Trading Goods and £51 on the Tombola.

And I can now confirm that the Cricklade Band will be giving us a Concert in the Village Hall on Thursday 8 October.

Many thanks for your continued support.

BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group



After 8 - White Horses

We were entertained in June by the stories of the white horses in the local area as researched by members of our group.

Starting with Uffington, which won "by a long chalk" on age, design and size. Its origins are uncertain, dating back to 1400-600 BC, and being a stylised, moving horse, 110m long. The others which are still visible are mere babies by comparison, starting with Westbury, cut in 1778, but which may in fact replace an earlier Saxon one. The horses need to be maintained, generally by cleaning and re-covering with chalk chippings every few years, but Westbury has been concreted over and painted since the 1950s.

All the horses have interesting histories. Cherhill, for a long time had an eye formed by glass bottles, but this proved too tempting and has been replaced by stone. The original Pewsey horse faded due to lack of cleaning, and a new one was cut by volunteer firemen in 1937 to celebrate the coronation of George VI. The Marlborough, or Prechute, horse was first cut in 1804, by the boys of Mr Greasley's Academy, but fell into disrepair after the death of Mr Greasley in 1830. Renovation has resulted in a much altered shape. Alton Barnes is an impressive beast which has been lit by candles for recent special events such as the winter solstice.

Devizes had an old horse which can under certain conditions still be glimpsed, but now has a new Millennium horse, the only one in Wiltshire facing to the right.

Most of the horses are depicted standing still, but Hackpen and Broad Town are both shown trotting. It has been suggested that many of them have been based on the paintings by Stubbs.

Eight Wiltshire horses remain visible, but it is evident that there were other horses, which no longer exist. There are also the very interesting WW1 badges carved into the hillside at Fovant.

We are grateful to Dave Ellis, a local pilot, who provided us with his excellent aerial photos to illustrate the sites.

Thanks too to Sandra for an excellent evening, and for her suggestion that we all go on the 90 mile hike around the features. Next year perhaps!

CATHY MOSLEY

There is a white horse at Kilburn in Yorkshire, cut into limestone so is is the wrong colour and needs artificial whitening every year! *Avril*

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 25 August when we will meet at "The Three Crowns" for lunch at 12.30 pm with maybe a walk after this.

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 Sandra Horsnall, 01793 770157, or sandra_horsnall@yahoo.co.uk



Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.wordpress.com



So many things going on, with such good weather! On 4 July the WI was well involved with Carnival, the Bottle Stall being our own main interest (isn't it always? – mine, anyway ...), and we raised a sum of money sufficient to propel us well along the way to affording a Loop system in the Village Hall. As we well know, loss of hearing can affect even the youngest of us, but most nuisances can be overcome with modern equipment. And sufficient cash. We are needing to raise cash for a Loop system in the Hall for the benefit of so many of us whose hearing is losing its acuity. On the other hand, we do have other senses, and as you walk into the Hall your eye is immediately caught by the flower arrangement, and a lovely scent from them, too.

As for the meeting of 17 June just looking at Val, our (member) model, made us appreciate her sense of fun in volunteering to being a model for our speaker, Philomena Liston, who teaches at the College and whose clever fingers transformed Val from an elegant girl to a villainous lady in no time at all! And if you couldn't hear as well as you might have wished, it was possible to enjoy watching the transformation, with the aid of pastes and coloured liquids, from a pretty young person to a good old grump! Poor Val was transformed back to her usual lovely self in the time it took us to enjoy our tea and nibbles. A fascinating demonstration for young and old.

Money is not our main aim, though the WI does have to be sensible in raising funds, but we can offer our own less obvious gifts – which means, for example, helping with refreshments a couple of times a year. Also it helps to bring, say, gifts for the Sales table – new books seem particularly popular, not to mention home-made jam and marmalades, and all sorts of interesting "surplus to requirements" articles. Also there is a raffle every month with a number of good prizes. And if you have new or novel ideas for fund-raising or just for fun, you can always come and pester me about it and I shall pester the next man up the ladder – do I really mean that? Oh!

Our meeting of 19 August will involve a talk by Nicola Cornick, on "My Work as an Author and Guide at Ashdown House" (is that a trip coming up?) and the quiz will be on Authors. And you will need to bring along the cash for your orders of 2016 Diaries, and Calendars entitled "Hidden Corners of Wiltshire" (absolutely lovely, from what I have seen of them).

It will be good, at that meeting, to hear other versions of what happened at the Carnival of 4 July, especially for the benefit of those who could not attend for some vital reason or other.

The purpose of this small screed is to encourage new members. So here's hoping to see you, either for the first time, or to push you a little harder in our direction! Purton Village Hall is fine and large and you ladies are all welcome, for a very small sum, to cover refreshments, etc. Though indeed we are very fond of the current friendly faces, new ones would be welcome as you watch me struggle with new names! (I have never been very good with names, so do tell me if you can't stand being called "dear" any more!)

So, see you there!

CONSTANCE REED, tel:771571

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

Our speaker for June was Robert Harvey a professional environmental scientist, photographer, horticulturalist and writer, who gave us a talk entitled 'Travels in Search of Remarkable Plants'. Accompanied by his superb slides, Robert took us on a journey through six continents chronicling his plant hunting in diverse and often inhospitable places, from mountains to deserts, from forests to wetlands.

Beginning with Mountains, Robert explained how plants, such as 'Moss Campion', adapt to high altitude by hugging and spreading across the ground to avoid heat loss. The Alpine tundra, dominated by rocks sculpted by the wind, stands 3900 metres above sea level. Here is the limit for plant growth but 'Gentian', albeit short-stemmed, grows here, as does Phlox, with a cushion-like habit unlike the garden plant we know.

Robert spoke about a trek he took up the tropical mountain of Mount Kinabalu in Malaysia – recently in the news for less worthy reasons! The mountain is over 4095 metres high and needless to say the going was tough. On the lower stretch balsam was found, with oak and chestnut above 1300 metres. A bamboo zone with tree fern appeared at 1800 metres and by the time Robert reached 2000 metres the forest was shrouded in thick, saturating mist where mosses and orchids grow. At 3350 metres he was amazed to find hotel accommodation and spent the night in the VIP suite with running water. The whole trek proved to be a remarkable and unforgettable experience for him.

Moving on to Deserts Robert explained how plants have learned to deal with the heat and shortage of water in a variety of ways.

Artemesia with their silvery leaves deflect sunlight, and cacti the best known of all the succulents store water in their fleshy stems and grow spiky leaves to ward off animals.

We were reminded that deserts are not always a hostile environment for plants.

For example, in early spring the deserts of South Africa, burst into flower producing daisies, nemesias and azaleas in a myriad of colours. These flowers all lean to the north, towards the sun, to soak up as much warmth and light as they can and at night the flowers close to protect the stamens from the cold and absorb water from fog that forms over the desert.

The third category of Robert's talk concerned forests. Warm, damp and lacking light best describes the habitat, perfect for fungi to thrive.

The forests of Cradle Mountain in Tasmania are cool and damp and ferns grow to remarkable sizes, often in excess of 15 metres. Tropical rain forests, however, form a closed canopy all year, dense and multi-layered, where vines such as Passion Flower succeed in germinating high up in the canopy.

In the final category of Robert's talk, 'Tropical Wetlands', we learned about the remote area of the 'Kaieteur Falls' in Guyana, only accessible from the air, where a remarkable plant grows on bare rock, its survival dependent on the spray from the falls collected in a tank formed by its leaves.

In Robert's opinion, the most remarkable plant in the Amazon basin is the giant water lily. Its leaves are 2 metres across and can carry the weight of a human baby.



Their stunning flowers last for only two days and nights. To achieve pollination the flower, in its female form, opens up on the first evening. It takes approximately 15 minutes to achieve this and at this point it emits a butterscotch/pineapple scent to attract a specific beetle pollinator. At the same time the plant heats up a chamber at its base and produces sugar and starch as an additional enticement. Once a beetle enters the chamber, the flower closes trapping it inside.

At this point the flower changes colour and becomes male. This denotes that pollination has taken place.

On the second evening the flower re-opens and the beetle escapes to restart the process on another plant. The flower then dies and the process is complete. A truly remarkable plant.

On behalf of members, Diana Thombs kindly thanked Robert for the fascinating and informative content of his talk.

Congratulations to the winners of our competition 'A single rose': 1st Mary Read, 2nd Janice Simpkins and 3rd June Mobey.

Should you wish to join us, our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 25 August at 7.30 pm in Silver Threads Hall when Bruce Porter will be joining us to speak on the topic "Vegetable growing for showing". The competition will be '3 different vegetables'.

New members and visitors can be assured of a warm welcome.

MOIRA WHITE (Chair) & MARGARET GOODALL (Secretary)

Purton Bowls Club

I hope you all enjoyed the Carnival, please take a minute or two to read our leaflets. I'm sure everybody should have one by now, seeing as my team handed out so many on the day. Thanks to all of them, we now have our fingers crossed waiting for new members to appear.

Is it just me or did the Carnival seem to lack something this year, and why did it end up almost outside of the village? There must be a better location, more suited for the villagers. OK, I've had my moan so back to business.

We held the 'Smithy' trophy, an annual knockout game on 27 June which was won easily by Ray Fish as he beat all of his opponents. I was one of them, so well done to Ray. It is a format of three games each of seven ends with players rotating after each session.

The ladies' evening league is doing well, I think to date they have played 10, won eight and lost two. Unfortunately the triples team are not fairing so well, played four and are yet to win a game.

S&D comps are now well underway with a number of ladies from Purton entering this year. Alison Fail was beaten in the semi final of the county 2 wood, Chris Mitchell and Alison reached the quarter finals of the county pairs and both Alison and Chris are still in the county singles.

The men are still struggling with only two wins in the Wilts league so far, but have managed to stay middle of the table in the S&D league. Monday afternoon leagues are progressing quite well with mid table results for the four teams we have representing us.



Our friendly games have been great fun, even if both sides want to win, we get to meet up with so many different clubs and characters, and of course venues, some of these being better than others. A lot of them sell their alcoholic drinks at very reasonable prices, so we try to exploit this when we can. After all we are just being 'friendly'.

PETER BERRY

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com

Mixed fortunes continue on the playing front but recent results been encouraging against Winsley by the 1st XI and Marshfield by the 2nd XI. our junior sections are producing promising players many of whom are well established in age-group county squads. Several girls have joined the club this year and on 23 August we host an under 13 girls match between Wiltshire and Worcestershire.



The pavilion fund set up in memory of Ainslie Duffle, wife of Phil and mother of Alex, received a major boost when a raffle organised by her friends raised a huge amount of £1900 for the fund. Purton Cricket Club thanks all those who supported the draw either by donating prizes or buying tickets.

August Fixtures

1 st	1 st XI v Devizes	1.00 pm	16 th	U-13 XI v Marshfield	2.00 pm
2 nd	Wilts U-14 v Dorset	1.00 pm	22 nd	1 st XI v Trowbridge	12.30 pm
8 th	1 st XI v Malmesbury	12.30 pm	23 rd	Wilts U-13 XI (girls) v Worcs	1.00 pm
15 th	2 nd XI v Calne	1.30 pm	29 th	2 nd XI v Malmesbury	1.30 pm
16 th	U-11 XI v W/Bassett	10.30 am			

From the Archives

10 Years Ago: 28 August 2005

Swindon U-11 XI	41	C Wright 3 for 8 C Miles 4 for 9
Purton	45 for 1	C Wright 24*, C Miles 17*

Last Month: 9 July 2015

Gloucestershire CC v Northamptonshire CC

Craig Miles 41 and 5 for 25

Gloucestershire won the match in two days (it was a 4-day match) and Craig played a major part in the victory.

JOE GARDNER

Prayer for Purton

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

If there is anyone or anything that you would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship, please contact Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith, Revd Judith Wells or Rev. David Perkins. Their contact details can be found on the inside cover of this magazine. You can give as much or little information as you wish. We don't even have to know a name.

We Record ...



Baptisms:

28 June Jack Robin Rushen-Gough at St Mary's Church

Weddings at St Mary's Church:

20 June David Rys Watkins & Jade Elsie Victoria Fair

20 June Daniel James Cozens & Gemma-Jade Linda Haines

4 July Gordon James Hall & Laurie Frances Reynolds

11 July Marko Dragosavac & Susannah Marie Pearce

Marriage Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church:

5 July Matthew Giles Bather & Heather Jane Ponting

Funerals at St Mary's Church:

3 July Daniel Jack Climance

6 July Mary Alice Maslin

In Memoriam:

30 July In loving memory of Ruby Mary Keene (née Horsell) died on 30 July 2013. Will always be sadly missed by Tony, Val, Terry and all the family. R.I.P.

10 August 1915 Ernest Henry Kibblewhite, killed in action, Chunuk Bair, Gallipoli, 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

10 August 1915 Arthur Robert Bunce, killed in action, Chunuk Bair, Gallipoli, 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

10 August 1915 Sidney Rowland Smith, killed in action, Chunuk Bair, Gallipoli, 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

16 August 1915 George Arthur Paginton, killed in action, Gallipoli, 7th (Service) Battalion, Royal Dublin Fusiliers

22 August 1915 Frederick John Mills, killed in action, Hill 60, Gallipoli, Australian Imperial Force

Special Birthday

4 August Bernice Seviour's 60th birthday

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 ...

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. Minibus available – contact Keith Hart, tel 771533.

BOB TINSON

Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...

Has triumph ever been so closely followed by tragedy – and all for the same city? 10 years ago, Purton Magazine described the events of 6 and 7 July 2005 as moving from delight to devastation in 24 hours. Only one day after winning the bid to host the 2012 Olympic Games in London, 4 separate bombs were detonated on three underground trains and a double decker bus, killing 52 people and injuring more than 700. This year, a national silence was held to remember the victims and a special service has been held at St Paul's cathedral. Sadly, in 2015, the country is also remembering those 30 Britons who were killed on a beach in Tunisia in July 2015.

Many positive achievements were remembered in the August 2005 issue of Purton Magazine, starting with the award of a gold medal to Pauline Ward in recognition for her services to our community. The award was from Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour throughout the South West. It was wonderfully appropriate for Pauline to be recognised for over 40 years work with the Helping Hand, especially for all her outstanding efforts with Purton Carnival. One contributor wrote that “*it’s a shame there aren’t more Pauline Ward’s in this world, always ready to give and not to take, although Pauline does take in some way – the pleasure she obviously gets from her hard work in her payment.*” We are so fortunate to live in a community where many others are following the same tradition.

Another on-going example is the annual fun and fund raising efforts of the Purton Christian Aid team who, 10 years ago, raised just over £4,200 which itself was an 8% increase on the previous year. Regular readers will know that the team’s antics continue these days with a gratifyingly increasing number of helpers.

10 years ago the question about re-opening Purton Station was again discussed in this magazine with many thoughtful observations about the pros and cons around costs, users, development and location as well as probable noise and pollution. 10 years ago the case for re-opening Wootton Bassett station could not be made on economic grounds but has the replacement of a second track through Purton in the intervening years made any material difference here?

All past issues from January 2004 (but without advertisements) can be accessed through our on-line archive. Please visit www.purtonmagazine.co.uk.

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.

Lost Property

During the summer months, I pick up articles left behind on the Playclose. If you have visited this area and think you may have left something behind, then please call in or telephone me.

Anything not claimed by September will be donated to a jumble sale.

BERNICE SEVIOUR, 18 Church Path, 771210