

September 2015

Purton Magazine



*Purton Twinning Association at the Héric 24-Heures de Tandem
photo courtesy of Len Page (see [page 20](#))*

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 (Wed: 2 - 5pm; Sat)	Curator: Jan Walker	770124
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
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane (10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)		
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

There can't be too many community magazines that introduce readers to fairies and cavemen in the same issue. On [page 15](#), we learn that the Cricklade/Purton Division of the Wiltshire Fairy Association have recently had to relocate at the bottom of Witts Lane because of the disruption caused by the diggers and excavators close by their previous home along Tadpole Lane. Whether or not diggers and excavators are involved, the main road to Cricklade remains closed for a scheduled 7 weeks from Monday 27 July (see [page 6](#)) and therefore should be opened by Monday 14 September – although we may not have the confirmation in time to publish in the October issue.

The banking to the side of the Village Centre is going to be transformed into a wildflower bank next year and the Parish Council are appealing for seeds to be collected from poppies – see [page 6](#). Other Councils have already cultivated attractive wildflower areas along side main roads even if the thought of cultivating wildflowers seems a little contradictory.

Wild flowers often appear on the edges of approach roads to towns and villages in France yet the report on the Purton entry in Héric's 24-hour tandem race on [page 20](#) does not make mention of the local flora and fauna. Even so, it does conjure up images of a very memorable trip to our French twin community with an enticing description of a sporting occasion with a distinct carnival atmosphere . The photographic image on our front cover shows two slightly recognisable cavemen pedalling furiously. However it seems that our cavemen are getting older by the year and there is an appeal for some younger Purtonians to join the tandem team and represent Purton next year – it does sound like great fun.

Help is sought nearer to home which could also contribute to Twinning activities in Purton. The initiative to set up a community café, known as PIPS, is progressing well. The location is now confirmed following an agreement that has been reached with Purton Club to use their Function Room and the next challenge now is to raise the money required. More details, including several different ways that individuals can help, can be found on [page 16](#).

We already know which items of confectionary PIPS should sell with the answers on [page 23](#) to the question "if Purton Village was a sweet ..."

6th

September at 2.00 pm
for the annual Purton
village walk
– see [page 5](#)

225

miles covered by the
Purton team in the
Héric 24hr tandem race
– see [page 20](#)

£6039

raised in Purton for
Christian Aid week
2015
– see [page 27](#)

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Purton
Magazine

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Magazine Committee

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The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News

The Annual Village Walk will be held on **Sunday 6 September 2015**.

Please meet at the College Road layby at 2 pm for a 4-mile walk (approx) to Down Farm returning via The Hyde. If attending and you need to drive, please park sensibly. For more information please call George on 771532. We look forward to seeing you there.



Drug Awareness

Drug paraphernalia has been found in an area owned by the Parish Council. The police have been informed but please keep vigilant and report any suspicious concerns to the Police on 101. The Police would much prefer a call of concern/suspicious activity rather than a report of items being found or worse. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

Play Areas

Village Centre – it is with sadness that I write to advise that we have already had some vandalism carried out to the newly refurbished play park. Please report to the Police on 101 any suspicious activities or wilful acts of vandalism including graffiti. The play area is designed for children up to the age of 14 years only so please no adults using the equipment as this will put undue strain on the design and structure and cause damage.

Play Close – We have had reports of dog fouling in the play park. Please do not allow your dog access. If you notice a dog owner allowing their dog entry please report to the Parish Council or dog warden at Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0100 or visit Wiltshire website to report www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

Please note that BBQs and open fires are not permitted on Play Parks and Open Spaces owned by the Parish Council, unless permission for an organised event has been given by the Parish Council, whereby risk assessments and full indemnity can be determined to safeguard the users of this space and those attending the function.

Defibrillator – An amazing community project

Following the successful Purton Scarecrow Trail 2014 and the money raised, Purton now has a Community Defibrillator (AED). It is sited at Purton Village Hall to the right hand side of the main entrance. The project organisers wish to say a big thank-you to our donors: Phillips & Sutton Plumbing Services and James Phipps plus others who have chosen to remain anonymous.

Scarecrow Trail still require some further funding to cover the cost of installation of the defibrillator, so any contributions would be gratefully received. 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.

Wiltshire Ambulance Service has given the all clear to allow use. It's now live and although we all hope as a village we don't have to use this piece of equipment, it is an amazing benefit and may save lives.

Contact details for donations, information or contact Purton Scarecrow Facebook page, contact purtonscarecrow@aol.com or phone 01793 772579 to leave your details.

Parish Council Meeting Dates

- September 7th Informal Rights of Way followed by Planning
September 14th Full Council meeting
September 16th Play Area and Recreation
September 21st Village Centre and Village Hall Charities
September 28th Rights of Way followed by Burials

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

As from 15 June 2015 Wiltshire County Council no longer collect 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*

Road Closure – Watkins Corner – Wiltshire 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 commenced on Monday 27 July 2015 for a duration of 7 weeks. Permits have been issued by Wiltshire Highways to those living or working in the areas of closure. No access to anyone else will be granted.

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.

Planning

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

Permission Granted with Conditions

- N15/02938/FUL *16 Locks Lane.* Erection of porch to front elevation.
- N5/03375/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.

The Purton Parish Plan is available to view 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 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.

Knit-A-Square (KAS)

Thank you to all the people who continue to make squares for KAS. I have an ever growing collection of knitted/crocheted items which will be shipped to South Africa in October or November. With that in mind I will be holding a "Garage Sale" on Saturday 12 September from 10 am - 12 noon at 16 Vasterne Close.

I have many donated items to sell and tea/coffee will be served. All proceeds are for KAS so please come along and see some of the beautiful things people have made for the orphans. For more information please contact me on 772558. Thank you.

LOUISE TIDMAN

News from The Trustees

The Village Hall

You will all have seen the notice about parking if you use the Village Hall. We have tried to be fair with reference to the hall users and people using the Post Office. We are taking note of various issues like how long different people park for, people parking overnight etc. It is not fair when people hire the hall, which includes the car park, and users find they have nowhere to park. The office staff and library staff and clients are perfectly entitled to park. Please look at conditions and adhere to them so we do not have to take any action.

The loop system looks a possibility and it will include permanent speakers and easy to use microphones. It is a system that people with hearing aids will be able to tune into by touching a button on their hearing aids and then they will be able to hear those speaking at a meeting quite plainly. For people with normal hearing the system will make the sound clearer, also those addressing an audience will find it easier and not have to shout. Why I said it is now a possibility is that we have two generous donations given towards the cost. It would be nice if we could have a few more donations as this shows public interest when we go to the Area Board to see if they will help us. The total cost is £5355.80. If we are successful we are hoping we will not have to put an extra charge on for the use of the equipment. It will be an inclusive fee with the hire of the hall. The system is the same as the one in St Mary's Church so any help would be appreciated.

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

We, the Trustees, are quite concerned about people meeting at the Centre and dealing in drugs. Perhaps the drugs are not being taken in the area but, with scales and other items found in the Centre, we are very concerned about these activities. Obviously the Police have been informed.

Cllr. TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

15 Year Anniversary Party at The Cedars

The Cedars care home in Purton, run by The Orders of St John Care Trust, celebrated its 15 year anniversary on 28 July. Guests were entertained by Jazz singer Neil Patterson whilst sipping cocktails and playing croquet in the garden.



Marietta Cranfield, Home Manager commented: "It has been fun planning the anniversary party and I am looking forward to the next 15 years. Many of our residents are local to Purton and enjoy the interaction with the community"



OSJCT took over running the home in 2000 and since Marie has come on board all the communal areas have been refurbished with themed areas around the home.

For further information, contact: Beverley Wilson, Customer Relationship Advisor, tel: 07795 590373.

Purton & District Age Concern



Recently we were given a cheque for £70 from The Red House Saturday night skittle team. They had decided not to purchase any trophies this year so donated the money to Age Concern instead.

We are very grateful to all the skittle team members for thinking of us. Thank you all.

I'm sure by now most of you know that Roger Lawrence has passed away, his Thanksgiving service was held at the end of July. Our thoughts are with Viv, Janet and all of Roger's family and friends. Please read Tony's obituary in this magazine for details of Roger's life.

Last month I asked people to contact me regarding a possible Christmas shopping trip to Worcester and a train trip next summer. Only one person has expressed an interest in the shopping trip and five in the train trip. Due to lack of response neither trip will be able to go ahead. The numbers for our annual trip to Weston at the beginning of August were much lower than in previous years. We will be discussing all of our trips at a future committee meeting, if anyone has any suggestions please contact Louise on 772558.

After many years of dedicated service to Age Concern and the pensioners on her patch, Brenda Lilley has decided to step down from her role as street warden. We are extremely grateful to Brenda for everything she has done, I'm sure she will be missed by everyone in Vasterne Close but I'm pleased to inform you that Brenda has found her replacement – Jane Farr. We are pleased to welcome Jane to Age Concern. Pensioners in Vasterne Close can contact Jane on 771198. Thanks Jane for agreeing to take over as street warden. Brenda, we wish you a well-deserved rest and thanks again for everything.

FUTURE EVENTS

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 book your place with your street warden before Saturday 22 August.

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 come along and grab yourself a bargain or two!

Mystery Tour – Our final mystery tour of 2015 is on Wednesday 7 October with a 10 am start. Cost including lunch is £13 for village pensioners and £14.50 for non-pensioners and people from outside our area. Please book your place with your street warden before Monday 28 September.

3B's x2 – Our second 3B's evening this year is on Friday 9 October at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall. The cost is £6 and includes a two-course supper; soft drinks will be available but bring your own alcoholic drinks. Admission tickets are available from Jenny Barnes on 770339. (Please note change of person selling the tickets!) Bingo tickets will be on sale on the night. There will be no admittance on the night without pre-booking. This is a fun evening and tickets sell out very quickly so don't leave it to the last minute to get yours, you may be disappointed!

Antiques & Collectables Fayre – This will be held on Sunday 18 October from 10.30 am - 4.30 pm at the Village Hall. There will be lots of stalls selling a variety of items. Admission is £1.00 and refreshments will be available. For further information and to book a table please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339.

LOUISE TIDMAN

Bradon Forest School News www.bradonforest.org.uk

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 Wheeler, 01793 770570 or visit our website www.bradonforest.org.uk



Want to use a Computer but don't know where to start?

Help is at hand!

Welcome to Wiltshire Council's 'Wiltshire Online' service – a scheme designed to help people who aren't yet online to get online and enjoy the benefits of the internet that so many of us take for granted. Free, one-to-one computer support is provided by Digital Champion volunteers, who can help you learn all the basics of computers, iPads, tablets and smartphones at a time and location that suits you. Whether it's turning a computer on, getting to grips with the mouse or touchscreen, learning how to email, Skype or shop online, our volunteers will do their best to help you.



As a learner with Wiltshire Online, you can enjoy relaxed, informal support with your very own Digital Champion volunteer. There's no set programme to follow and no curriculum – simply tell us what you need help with and we'll match you up with a volunteer who can support you. Between you, you can decide when and where you want to meet, although we suggest you allow up to one hour for each session.

For the Purton community areas, we now have six Digital Champions at your service. Support is available in either a public venue (such as your local library, WiFi enabled pub or café) or in the comfort of your own home (using your own equipment). We also run a group at Cricklade Leisure Centre on Monday mornings. The service is entirely free regardless of where you receive help, so just let us know what would suit you best.

If this sounds like the answer to your needs, then please get in touch. Simply contact the Wiltshire Council customer services team to register, telephone 0300 345 0100 quoting 'Wiltshire Online computer support'.

And finally ... If you've read this article out of curiosity but happen to be a potential volunteer, Digital Champion, the Wiltshire Online team would love to hear from you. Please call or see the details in the volunteering section at www.wiltshireonline.org.

Roger Bond Lawrence

How can I possibly do justice to a person like Roger Lawrence with all the things he did in the community, especially at the Church and what an excellent service of thanksgiving Roger's funeral at St Mary's was. It will be very difficult but I will try and do my best for a man for whom I had the greatest respect

Roger was born at 77 High Street. He got his second name, Bond, from his mother's maiden name, the same as Mrs Kennett, her sister. Their brother, Les Bond, was caretaker at the Institute along with his wife. Up to the age of eleven Roger went to St Mary's School, then to the High School in Bath Road, Swindon, along with brother Robin. To help pay for their education his mother opened a sweet shop in Station Road next to Dodson's Coal Merchants where Janice and John Holland live now.

Roger didn't have much spare time when he was young, what with homework and helping his dad in their large garden. You grew vegetables in season and ate them in season and this is why Viv and Janet had the reading 'A time to sow' at Roger's funeral. Roger joined the Young Conservatives along with the likes of Philip New, Nelson Woolford and Victor Hill. They always entered Purton Carnival. Roger told how they spent hours one year making a dragon. They were all so pleased with it, 'so life like', they got to the start of the procession. It frightened Dick Turpin's horse, he couldn't control it and it ran right through the middle of the dragon – this was before the judging!

High School was good for Roger, teaching him the values of life. While there he was confirmed at Christ Church and religiously attended Remembrance Services at Christ Church along with school friends to remember the ex-pupils who lost their lives during World War 2. Of course, he was always at our Cenotaph for our service. Many of his old school friends came from far and wide for Roger's funeral. Mr and Mrs Lawrence must have been really proud of the way Roger was growing up, not only in education but with his manners as he was always the perfect gentleman, kind and always thinking of others.

Roger was always in Church with his mum and dad at the 6.30 pm evening service. His Mum looked after the shop in the week and had to be on her toes as Caddy Liddell's shop was just up the road. Roger served his apprenticeship at a dental practice in Bath Road and later went to Princess Margaret's Hospital as a maxillofacial technician. He spent two years in the Royal Army Dental Corps before returning to PMH.

In 1952 Canon Willis, then vicar at St Mary's, wrote and directed a nativity play and Roger was cast as a shepherd, Viv was an angel and I was a king with a gold crown with wine gums stuck on for jewels. This play was the start of a long and happy life together for Viv and Roger. I don't know how many were in the play – about 18-20? Roger sent a congratulations card from Colchester, addressed to Viv, to all the nativity players. I said to her at the time 'He's after you' and now we all know what happened. Viv still has that card.

Viv and Roger married in 1961 and in 1964 baby Mark arrived but sadly he only lived for five weeks which was devastating for them both. However, in 1967 Janet

arrived, which gave them great happiness. They were both very supportive of what Janet did, even to the extent that Roger did her homework while she was out socialising! Roger and Viv were both very proud of her. Another bonus is that Janet is living in her grandparents' house and it is nice for us to have good neighbours along the path. Her grandparents would be proud of that. Roger, working at PMH, got Janet her first interview and she started nursing. People have said to me that, when Roger was in his line of duty at the hospital, he would walk past a waiting room, see someone from Purton and stop and have a word with that nice smile of his. It made you feel quite honoured to have someone like Roger stop for a chat and this applied to children as well.

If someone said to me 'What is your fondest memory of Roger?' I would say his love of St Mary's. The years he has been part of the Church doing things quietly in his own way, replacing a light bulb high up in the Church with Viv standing on the bottom of the ladder. Mind, if Viv wasn't about, he would do it without her. That was Roger – the jobs he did at St Mary's were unbelievable from cleaning the brass and the vestry to making sure the Probation Service had enough petrol for the machines when they were working on the Churchyard. Who knew more about St Mary's than Roger? What an interesting and fascinating time you had going on one of his conducted tours. What always came through was his love of St Mary's.

One of the things Roger was proud of was the restoration he did on the model of St Mary's. There are only two other churches in the country with a tower and a spire and I think what made him doubly proud was that this model was on exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum. There is a photo in St Mary's with the then Archbishop of Canterbury looking at it. What a valuable asset he was during the interregnum – periods when we were without a vicar – and then helping the new one when they arrived. Viv and Roger were both on the PCC and Roger was a Church warden for twenty-five years – what a record! He always flew the flags on High Days at St Mary's.

What about Lunch Club? He used to deliver meals on wheels and also bring people into Lunch Club. Along with the other British Legion members he would make tea and serve it to the Silver Threads. Roger would have remembered Gardiner's lardies as well – nothing was quite the same as them. He did jobs for the Silver Threads too. He who would help anyone if he could. It gave him as much pleasure as the person he was doing it for. It is no wonder he was made the first male 'Pride of Purton'.

Roger was a member of Probus and was president for 2003-4 then he was made an honorary member in their appreciation of the work he did in the community. What about his work on the Cenotaph? He felt sorry for the likes of Albert Clifford, Frank Glass and Les Smith as they were getting on a bit, so he offered his help and kept it looking nice, working on and encouraging others to keep it up until his health forced him to stop. Roger and Viv also put all the names on the crosses and, with members of the Royal British Legion, put them around the Cenotaph at the time of Remembrance. It is fitting that members of the Royal British Legion brought Roger to the last Remembrance Service so that he could still be involved. Roger was a member of the Historical Society and I am sure his local knowledge was a great asset to them.

Roger was involved with The Gleed and Hiscock Charity that pays out the charity money early in the year at the Village Hall. This is the one they used to pay out on Good Friday at Church, which was always an interesting feature if you were in the choir, with people like Sam Culley lighting up his pipe and Neller Ricks talking out loud to Sam during the sermon.

Roger was a pillar of strength at the church and in the community. He was his own person who loved to help others always with a smile on his face. Purton is certainly a nice place to live in and this is thanks to people like Roger with his thought for the community and surrounding area. With council approval, he painted the milestones so we all know how far it is to Bath.

My congratulations to Viv and Janet for such a well thought out thanksgiving service in Roger's memory, with prayers, hymns and music. The Revd Judith always does an excellent service and what a lovely thought to have Revd Dr John Railton involved in view of his friendship with Roger during his time at St Mary's. Everything was perfect right down to the car parking so thanks to all concerned – you all did him proud. Thank you, Roger, for being you.

TONY PRICE

After 8

Summer Social held at Helen's in July

A selection of one liners from some of our members who attended

"Slightly cooler, great selection of meats and vegetarian option cooked by Helen outdoors, eaten indoors."



"Lovely, food sharing table! Good company."

"Yummy salads and puds. Good food and good company."

"Wide ranging discussions ... from Internet providers to garden produce, rail fares to health, holidays ... to road works."

"Tasty salads and tempting puds."

"Good friendship and a delicious variety of food (provided by the members) – can't beat that."

"Some wonderful deserts including one of my favourites, Summer Pudding yum!"

"We swapped recipes and stories and of course discussed the weather."

"Relaxed atmosphere, lively chat, lovely food."

"Looking forward to next year."

Next meeting 29 September at Eileen's. Planning followed by Food and Drink Treasure Trail. Don't forget to bring clues.

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

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.

Purton Amateur Dramatic Society

Autumn Play –“The Frogs” by Aristophanes

Our autumn play is a Greek Comedy, adapted and directed by Olli Webb. This will be on Friday 9 and Saturday 10 October and is something different for you to enjoy - please come along and support us. Details will be in next months' magazine.



Panto – 2016

Put a date in your diary for the next Pantomime – 4/5/6 February. Readings will probably be September/October time so contact us if you are interested in being involved in the production – we especially need actors aged 20 to 50, men in particular!

LINDSEY HALL/KATE BATH, tel: 771 890 / 771 442

Murder Mystery Evening

PADS would like to thank all those who attended our Murder Mystery Evening on



18 July at Silver Threads. The evening was organised as a fund raiser for the Jubilee Gardens Project. It was most gratifying that the head count of audience was 53.

The audience were treated to a two-act drama during which a murder is committed. (No surprise there then.) Between the acts a ploughman's supper was served and when the answer sheets were collected

they contained some very interesting conclusions fortunately for the markers only one identified the correct murderer and supplied the correct clues.

At the end of the evening PADS was able to present Jubilee Gardens with the sum of £551 which is far more than we expected to raise.

Once again thank you to all who attended for their generosity and thank you to the cast of Barbara Page, Nick Yerbury, Lynda Wright and Lindsey Hall, Colin Littler, Alan Bevington, Sara Brown, Oliver Webb and the Narrator Margaret Cremin. Thanks also to all those who gave their time to help with the food and manned the door, helped set up and tidy away

If you missed this production we will be staging it later in the year possibly with a different outcome.

LEN PAGE

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 finish with the joint winner in the adult category.

There's No Such Thing as the Dog Poo Fairy

By Jan Walker

The Cricklade/Purton Division of the Wiltshire Fairy Association had just moved to the relative safety of a large elm tree at the edge of a field at the bottom of Wits Lane. The noise and disruption caused by the diggers and excavators at their former Tadpole Lane home had proved to be unbearable and the Fairy Surveyors advised them that their new home would be safe, at least for the time being.

Their group consisted of six members who shared the duties between them. They had been recently issued with biodegradable fairy suits and their wings were neatly folded into a backpack when not in use. Duties included wild flower dispersal, tadpole direction to nearest ponds and finding hibernation homes for hedgehogs and toads. General tidying and maintenance of field habitats for wild birds was a favourite task as they were sometimes invited to join in a flight soaring above the hedgerows and having a wonderful time.

One day when they returned to their tree, the Chief Fairy Commissioner was waiting for them with a very serious look on his face. Apparently the amount of dog poo not collected by owners in the village had reached dangerous levels and was entering streams and ditches as well as being a health hazard to the human population, it was up to this Division to clear things up. The fairies were not too bothered about the humans but they were concerned about their countryside friends.

The worst offenders were late night/early morning dog walkers who thought that their pets' misdemeanours were unnoticed.

All the fairies became suddenly occupied with other tasks apart from Ned who had been having a bit of a daydream and did not leave the tree fast enough to find another task. Nevertheless, he took on the job with true fairy integrity and did several flying circuits of the village at different times of the day. There was a problem and he took several days but came up with a plan. The wild flower seeds were delivered to the Fairy HQ in small jute sacks with handles. Ned collected several of these bags and with a mask over his nose and mouth and wearing gloves he scooped up the offending heaps and delivered them back to the doorstep of the dog's owner.

This took very careful surveillance but the outraged owners began to blame each other and eventually they all carried disposal bags and used the bins provided in the village. With one exception – and Ned had him under constant watch. This person did not care about the trail of excrement left by his dog and Ned was obliged to resort to desperate measures. Fairies were not permitted to reveal themselves to humans; there was, however no reason why they could not appear in disguise.

One dark evening our villain did his usual circuit of the street where he lived and as his dog poised himself to do the dirty deed, Ned, dressed in a piece of plastic sheeting he had found by the railway line, swooped down from the sky and terrified the dog. As he did so his sheet slipped a little and as the man chased after his rapidly

disappearing hound he caught a glimpse of Ned's wings flapping and the light caught on his green suit. The man shook his head several times and kept saying to himself "there's no such thing as a dog poo fairy". We know differently do we not?

Progress on Pips but now we need your help!

Most would agree that Purton is a fantastic and friendly place to live, generally well served with amenities. However, there is one important amenity missing, Purton does not have a café where villagers can sit and chat about village life. Regular readers of Purton Magazine will know that we, a small group from the village, have set ourselves the challenge to rectify this by opening a community café in the village – Pips. It will be a not-for-profit enterprise run by the people of Purton for the people of Purton – a place for villagers of all ages to meet over a cup of something and a bite to eat. We hope it will also become a place where village activities are planned and, where appropriate, take place. Your response to our questionnaire about the need for a café in Purton circulated last year, confirmed Purton needs a café and that many of you would be interested in helping run it. Thank you, but before we can open the café we need some help now.

Over the last year we have been working hard behind the scenes to move the Pips project forward, and now we are pleased to say that we have an agreement with Purton Club to use their Function Room. Unfortunately the Function Room does not have a kitchen so the next step is to apply for planning permission to build one using the plans kindly drawn up by Mike Ferne of MJF CAD Solutions.

We also need to start raising the not insignificant amount of money needed to cover the cost of building the kitchen and for the other things required to open the cafe. It is estimated that we will need about £40,000 to get up and running. We will be applying for numerous grants from organisations who give to community projects, but some of these are dependent on having matched funding raised. We are doing well on donations so far, we have raised £2,500 to-date, but now we are asking the village and beyond if there is any way you can help too.

We are suggesting 4 ways that you can help.

1. Donation – any amount appreciated!
2. Open ended loan. Money would be repaid (interest free I'm afraid!) when the cafe has sufficient funds. (When Pewsey Community Tea Rooms did this all loans were repaid within a year.)
3. Fixed term loan. Money would be repaid (interest free I'm afraid!) by a date set by you.
4. Donation of your time during the set up which can be counted for matching funding. Especially needed are builders, plumbers and decorators.

If you can help out in any way, please email me at marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk or write to me at 4 Church End, Purton, Wilts SN5 4EB (preferably with an email address too so I can acknowledge and thank you). Cheques payable to Purton Community Cafe.

Many thanks in anticipation!

MARY NETTLETON, Treasurer

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.

■ ROGER B. LAWRENCE

Vivien and Janet wish to thank everyone for the numerous cards, kind expressions of condolence and donations received in memory of Roger, for Helen & Douglas House and Prospect Hospice.

Thank you to Ashgrove House Nursing Home and Dr McKemey and colleagues at Purton Surgery for their excellent care during his short time with you.

We would also like to thank Revd Judith Wells and Revd Dr John Railton for their support during Roger's illness and for their meaningful and fitting service which has been a great comfort to us.

A very special thank-you to the many friends and neighbours who so kindly provided transport to Kings Court Care Home enabling Roger and me to spend valued time together. Your kindness will always be remembered.

Vivien & Janet

■ A HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Many thanks to everyone who very kindly sent cards, flowers and all sorts of gifts to me on my 60th birthday. What a great day I had. I was overwhelmed by people's generosity and kindness.

So thank you all very much.

Bernice Seviour

■ HOLIDAY LITTER

I wonder if I am alone in thinking that, since the School Holiday began, I have seen an increase in litter, especially around the area that I live; Reids Piece, Kibblewhite Close and Proud Close. I have collected plastic bottles, food bags, polythene wrappers and the like from the 'Green' area and the footpath leading from Reids Piece to High Street! (We have a 'Litter Bin' on the telegraph pole close by!)

Branches from nearby small trees have been broken off and left on the path for someone else to dispose of.

I have also noticed that the fence belonging to and installed by a resident, has been badly damaged! Am I correct in thinking that the children have become 'bored' and lack parental supervision during this period of 'School Holiday'?

As a child and teenager, I was brought up to 'respect' the area you live in, not to drop litter and to treat people's property as though it was your own!

Chris Gleed



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 PLACARD

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



Shoebox

Fundraising Day

Saturday 26 September
at 35 High Street, Purton

10 am - 3 pm

(Lunches from 12 noon)

Morning and Afternoon Raffles

Tombola, Cakes, Jigsaws

Bric-a-Brac

Coffee, Tea, Biscuits £1 : Lunch £5

Proceeds towards transport of
Shoeboxes



QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 17 October

Purton Village Hall 7.30 pm

Raising funds for Jack Harper and Luke Webster's

Bradon Forest School India Link trip
Maximum teams of eight

Licensed bar Raffle

Tickets available at £5 per person from
Will Webster 772129
or Dave Harper 771300

Lydiard Millicent Art Exhibition

At Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall

Fri 25 Sept: 6pm - 9pm

Sat 26 Sept 10am - 5pm

Sun 27 Sept: 10am - 4pm

Refreshment available

Original paintings, cards and art
materials for sale

Tracey Rapson 01793 770996

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Mystery Tours

Cost - £13 for village pensioners

Wednesday 2 September

Coach leaves at 2 pm

(tea included)

come and join us for the
afternoon!

Wednesday 7 October

Coach leaves at 10 am

(lunch included)

Join us for our last mystery tour
of 2015!

KNIT-A-SQUARE

Garage Sale

with refreshments

Saturday 12 September

9.30 am - 11.30 am

16 Vasterne Close

All proceeds to

KNIT-A-SQUARE

PURTON AGE CONCERN
3B's x 2 Evening

Friday 9 October at 7.30 pm
In the Silver Threads Hall
Cost £6 and includes supper
Ring Jenny Barnes on 770339
for admission tickets.
Join us for a fun evening!

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!

PURTON AGE CONCERN
Antiques & Collectables Fayre

Sunday 18 October 10.30 am - 4.30 pm
At the Village Hall
Admission £1.00
refreshments available
Enquiries & to book a table contact
Jenny Barnes on 770339

Jumble Sale

Saturday 19 September : 2 pm
at Silver Threads Hall

Do you Know your Birthday?

We've all heard the rhyme: "Monday's child is fair of face, Tuesday's child is full of grace, Wednesday's child is full of woe, Thursday's child has far to go, Friday's child is loving and giving, Saturday's child works hard for a living. And the child that is born on the Sabbath Day is fair and wise and good and gay."

However, not all of us know the day on which we were born. Well, here's a formula to work out what day of the week you were born for any date in the 20th century.

Example: 6 May 1966.

a. Take the last two digits of the year you were born and add a quarter, ignoring the remainder: **66 + 16 = 82**.

b. Add the **day** of the month: **82 + 6 = 88**

c. Add the **appropriate month** using the following table:

Jan= 1 (0 in a leap year); Feb = 4 (3 in a leap year); Mar = 4; Apr = 0; May = 2; June = 5; July = 0; Aug = 3; Sept = 6; Oct = 1, Nov = 4; Dec 6. **So 88 + 2 = 90**

d. Divide by 7: so 90 divided by 7 equals 12 remainder 6.

e. The remainder equals the day of the week as follows:

Sun =1; Mon = 2; Tues = 3; Wed = 4; Thurs = 5; Fri = 6; Sat = 0. Therefore, if you were born on 6 May 1966 it was a Friday.

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

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

Héric - Our 20th-year's visit

Introduction

You have all seen the signs at each end of the Village "Twinned with Héric." Héric is a village about 2 hours' driving south of St. Malo in France, with a population approximately the same as Purton.

I have had the pleasure and honour to drive the mini bus to Héric for many years now, taking a team to Héric's 24-hour tandem race.

This event is a mixture of sporting occasion with a carnival atmosphere, each team has 6 riders, two on two off and two sleeping, and the rules state that each team must cycle at least one lap each hour over the 24 hours.

In the past our team has been more serious competitors coming in the top 5 out of 80 teams. Nowadays they are more sedate coming 16th out of 80 teams.

This year they were dressed as cave men (*pictured right and front cover*, they looked great; the distance covered was about 225 miles, whilst the winners cycled 400 miles. Enough of the race!

The main event is the social side, when we arrive we set up tents in a roped off area, amongst thousands of French people who want to party all night, throwing bangers, blowing horns and playing very loud music, this only lasts for 48 hours – thank goodness for ear plugs. The race starts at 5 pm local time on Saturday and finishes 5 pm Sunday. At the end of the race the riders are very tired and saddle sore but the alcoholic anaesthetic seems to do the trick. We then collect our prizes, break camp and spend a night in a very good hotel, with comfy beds, a shower and good food.

As it happened ...

We journeyed down to Portsmouth and were loaded on to the boat for the overnight crossing. The evening's entertainment was two singers and a magician – quite enjoyable.

Arriving in France at the crack of dawn, we disembarked, then set off to a stop at Comberg for tea, coffee or something stronger. And off to Héric we go.

Tents and two gazebos erected, then down to Super 'U', their supermarket, for food and anything we might have forgotten + more beer. This was followed by a civic reception, Mayoral speeches, wine and nibbles and everything was interpreted by an English girl who lives in Héric. Back to camp for a short time then off to a private house for galettes and crêpes, wine or coffee – very special.

Next day we prepare the bike and costumes, then off to the parade lap through the village from 3 - 4 pm then to the start at 5 pm Saturday, finishing at 5 pm on Sunday. The course has a pub on each corner and a huge bar area (very popular) next to a food bar selling almost anything, with chips, which stayed open for 24 hours.



A French fireman's wife, who spoke excellent English, offered to go home and get some cream and put it on the sore areas! – This was declined.

When all the festivities were over it was back to the hotel for the night. Next day, off to Avranches, ½ way back to Cherbourg, for a good night's sleep and then back to Portsmouth, via the fast catamaran. We arrived in Purton Tuesday pm, tired but had had a wonderful time, as always.

After many years the older contingent are feeling that it is time we had some younger people to carry on the tradition of going to Héric in June. This will keep The Twinning alive and the French folk are very hospitable – **believe me it's an adventure that will remain in your memory for a long time to come so please come and give it a try.**

Our youngest members of the group are Harry Joslyn 01793 771475: Pete Webber 07805 017497 and if you want to ask the present members you can contact Jos on Harry's number and Alan Bevington (Bev.) 770620, or any member of the Twinning Association.

CHRIS COMPTON, Mini Bus Driver

Lydiard Turkeys wins Great Taste Award 2015

The world's most coveted blind-tasted food awards, Great Taste, has just released the Great Taste stars of 2015 and Lydiard Turkeys is amongst the producers celebrating as its Traditional Free range Bronze Christmas turkey is now able to proudly carry the little gold and black Great Taste logo.

Judged by over 400 of the most demanding palates belonging to food critics, chefs, cooks, restaurateurs, producers and a host of food writers and journalists, Great Taste is widely acknowledged as the most respected food accreditation scheme for artisan and speciality food producers. When a product wears a Great Taste label it carries a badge of honour but more importantly, the Great Taste logo is a signpost to a wonderful tasting product – hundreds of judges have worked tirelessly to discover the very best, through hours and hours of blind-tasting a total of 10,000 different foods and drinks.

Recognised as a stamp of excellence among consumers and retailers alike, Great Taste values taste above all else, with branding and packaging ignored.

There were 10,000 Great Taste entries this year and of those products, 130 have been awarded a 3-star, 597 received a 2-star and 2,382 including Lydiard Turkeys were awarded a 1-star accolade. Only 34% of entrants receive an award.

Further details can be found on www.lydiardturkeys.co.uk. Orders are taken from 1 October 2015.

Macmillan Cancer Support

**The World's Biggest Coffee Morning will take place at
Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall on Friday 2 October from 10 am - 12 noon**

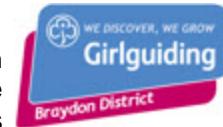
The Coffee morning is a good time to meet up with friends and acquaintances. We can drink coffee and tuck into cake whilst raising funds for Macmillan. Money raised at the coffee mornings helps provide vital support in the community. Do come and join us.



VILMA MUNRO, tel: 771259

Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

We are very lucky to have so many outdoor spaces that we can enjoy locally. Just outside our meeting place we've been able to have sports, including football in honour of the Women's World Cup as well as having fun with water games. One unit enjoyed a very sunny evening for the water games whilst another unit had rain, but they were getting wet one way or the other anyway!



You may have seen 2nd Purton Brownies out and about in the village one evening. If they were looking puzzled it's because they were trying to answer various questions in a given time. Jubilee Lake was the setting for the Guides to play wide games, organised by those working towards the Baden-Powell Challenge (the highest award a Guide can gain). 2nd Purton Brownies went to Lydiard Park for nature activities and both Brownie units played crazy golf at Coate Water. Our County campsite is very close by and the Guides visited for campfire singing and food – toasted marshmallows and chocolate melted into bananas are always firm favourites.

2nd Purton Brownies said goodbye to Megan at the end of the summer term. She had chosen a pyjama party as her last meeting. 1st Purton Brownies said goodbye to Aimee and Alyssa who organised a meeting of games, biscuit decorating and craft for their Brownie friends.

One evening, just as 1st Purton Brownies were arriving at the hall, the Wiltshire Air Ambulance landed outside. The helicopter and crew were on standby for an accident elsewhere in the village but in the end weren't needed; the Brownies were very excited as they watched the helicopter take off. As a follow-up, the unit invited a volunteer from Wiltshire Air Ambulance to come and talk about their work and then a couple of weeks later they held a fundraising evening. Thanks to the generosity of friends and families they raised £171.44 for this very worthy cause. Rather than just send off a cheque they went on a day trip to Devizes by bus in the summer holidays and made the cheque presentation in person. They made a day of it with a trail round the town, picnic lunch and playing in the park before heading home.

July saw a coachload of Brownies and Guides from Purton and Minety head off to Exeter for the day for Cookafest. This was a South West Region event and the culmination of the Cookafun challenge which the units had taken part in. There were food based activities including chocolate fountain, fish handling, fruit tasting, cookery demonstrations and competitions as well as a funfair, climbing walls, zorb balls, bouncy castles, roller skating, bungee trampolines – and crafts for anyone who could sit still enough with all of those activities on offer. It was a fantastic day

out and parents reported that their daughters were buzzing with excitement talking about it when they got home. All participants slept very well that night ... zzzz ...

At the time of writing Guides are just back from their summer camp. They were on a Scout site alongside West Midland Safari Park. We wait to hear if it really was so close that they could hear the lions having breakfast as they'd been told. They teamed up with Guides from Telford and Melksham and camp activities included archery, climbing tower, caving and orienteering as well as honing traditional camp skills.

Our City Hopper Alice has also just returned from her expedition. Along with 9 other girls from Girlguiding Wiltshire North she travelled from London through Brussels, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Copenhagen and Stockholm before reaching the island of Vässarö where they joined an international camp. "It was the best thing I have ever done in guiding", said Alice and what higher praise could there be?

For enquiries about joining one of our units (girls or adult volunteers), please contact Rachel Mead by phone on 07729 462054 or by email at braydondc@wnccounty.org.uk. You can also register interest at

www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested

www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision



Purton Guides

The Guides have had a busy term focusing on the City Hop Challenge Badge. The highlights included making fashion items out of blue and yellow plastic bin sacks, but for a greater challenge the clothes had to be removable without tearing the sacks. Much laughter was had for the fashion parade and the undressing of these plastic clothes.

We said a sad goodbye to Alice and Jenny, but they will not be leaving Purton Guiding completely as they move onto new horizons.

Alice O'Brien and her Guide International Trip

I would like to thank everybody who has so generously helped me in Fund Raising for my Guide International Trip to Sweden. Part of my fund raising was a Sweet Quiz (kindly devised by Jane Templar a.k.a. Daisy), where you had to find the sweet from the cryptic or marketing strapline clues. There were 49 questions and a tie break question in the event of a draw.

I am delighted to announce that the winning entry was from the Brice Family (largely Nicki & Natasha) with the tie break answer of: "If Purton Village was a sweet ..." The obvious answer is a Pear Drop (based on Purton's heritage), but we love living in "Peaceful Purton" and as Jelly Babies used to be called "Peace Babies", that's the sweet for us.

A close runner up who should also be mentioned was the Wardle Family with their tie break answer – If Purton Village was a sweet it would be a Cadbury's Caramel because everyone takes it easy in Purton.

With many thanks,

ALICE O'BRIEN

Purton Diary - September 2015

1	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Harvest Festival led by Linda, Rose & Sylvia
2	W	10.00am	"Storytime" at library for pre-school children
		2.00pm	Age Concern Mystery Tour (with tea included)
3	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
4	F	1.30pm	to 4pm and 4.45 to 7.15pm: Blood Donor sessions at Village Hall www.blood.co.uk
5	Sa	2.00pm	Age Concern Jumble Sale at the Village Hall
6	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
		2.00pm	Annual Village Walk: meet at College Road lay-by
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
		7.00pm	Carnival AGM at Silver Threads Hall, all welcome
8	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>Waterloo</i>
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
9	W	7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
10	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
		7.15pm	Sing For Four rehearsals start, Jenner Hall, Cricklade
11	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
12	Sa	10.00am	to 12noon: Garage Sale for Knit-A-Square, 16 Vasterne Close
		7.30pm	Race Night for Purton FC at Red House Club
13	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Harvest Festival Service at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion and Patronal Festival at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church St Mary's School: theme - the Prodigal son
14	M	7.00pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
15	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Sylvia and her Shoeboxes from Christmas
		7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
16	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening W.I. at Village Hall: Molly Gratland - <i>Silk Printing</i>
19	Sa	2.00pm	Jumble Sale at Silver Threads Hall
20	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's Church
21	M	7.30pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: Lynda Warren - <i>Sugar & Spice</i>
22	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>Walking the Windrush</i>

22	Tu	7.30pm 2.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Mini-Show Communion at White Lodge
23	W		Autumn Equinox
24	Th	7.30pm	Historical Society at Village Hall: Martin Way - <i>Britannia Under the Eagles</i>
25	F		to Sunday: Art Exhibition, Lyd Millicent Parish Hall - see p35
26	Sa	10.00am	to 3pm - Lunches from 12 noon: Sebox Fundraising Day at 35 High Street
27	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.00pm	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church Communion at St Mary's Church Youth Service at St Mary's Church
29	Tu	2.00pm 8.00pm	Silver Threads: Musical Companions with Bob Maskell After 8: Planning Meeting followed by <i>Treasure Trail</i> led by Avril at Eileen's

October

3	Sa	7.00pm	Barn Dance, Purton Village Hall
7	W	10.00am	Age Concern Mystery Tour with lunch included

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

● 5 September ● 13 September ● 21 September ○ 28 September

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.

Climbing the Cuillin Ridge for Christian Aid

Here's a way to spend a pleasant two-day break from work ... or so Purton's Richard Harris thought!

Richard, of Waitemeads Close, decided to climb some of the highest ridges and peaks on Skye, to raise money for Christian Aid. He waited and waited for the right weather conditions as it is so dangerous up in the Cuillins. Having driven over 500 miles to Fort William and beyond, he had to sleep in the car as there was no bed available for him in the bunk house!

He was climbing with a mate, Tim and the two set off early on 15 July and walked for 12 hours, a distance of 10kms, with 2km ascent. There were rock falls, cloud cover, scree, water falls and extremely slippery rock faces. They completed 6 Munros (peaks of over 900 metres) including the highest peak, Sgurr Alasdair (993m) and the "Inaccessible Pinnacle" (986m), which involves a scramble and an abseil! It was an incredibly risky climb.

They had fantastic views over Loch Coruisk and although the trip was completely exhausting, they returned to Glen Brittle having completed yet another Munro, Sgurr a Ghreadaigh (973m). Very few people manage to achieve 7 Munros in one trip. And then they had the drive all the way back to Purton again!

It sounds as if it was a spiritually uplifting trip of a lifetime ... and, not surprisingly, proves to have had a profound impact on Richard.

Richard and Tim have currently raised £800 plus a further £500 donation from their employer (Nationwide) and there is still time to donate www.justgiving.com/cuillinridge. Christian Aid in Purton is extremely proud of Richard's achievement and the charity nationally is absolutely delighted by their success.

In fact Christian Aid is celebrating 70 years since the organisation was formed ... 70 years of struggle to overcome poverty. So Christian Aid has put forward the challenge of conquering 70 of the Munros of Scotland ... with a view to raising £70,000, to help their belief that the mountain of inequality, corruption and injustice can be challenged.

Richard and Tim have achieved an impressively brilliant contribution to the success of the challenge. And the Harris family are also delighted to have their father back safe and well after such an amazing expedition. Thank you, Richard, from all involved with Christian Aid in Purton.

Prayer for Purton

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

If there is anyone or anything that you would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship, please contact 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.



Grand Total for Christian Aid Week

In the July magazine we were pleased to tell you all that we had raised over £5,500 in Purton this year for Christian Aid.



However we are now absolutely delighted that the final sum is £6038.91. This is an amazing achievement for a small village, and Christian Aid nationally is very thankful to every single person in the village, who gave their time or their financial contribution to the fund raising.

I am especially grateful to you all for your enthusiasm and generosity.

Thank you very much indeed.

LIBBIE SHEPPARD, on behalf of the Purton Christian Aid team.

Church Floodlighting

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



30 July	The Church was floodlit in memory of Albert Parkinson , on the occasion of his birthday. Dearly loved and sadly missed Husband, Dad and Grandad.
27 August	St Mary's was floodlit, remembering Sidney "Bill" Wheeler , a son of Purton, on the first anniversary of his death. With love and fond memories from Hilary and Francis; Karen, John, Luke and Susanna
6 September	The Church will be floodlit in loving memory of Doris Wadsworth whose birthday it would have been. Lovingly remembered and so sadly missed. Reg, Jean, Mark and all her dear family

If you would like the church floodlit, for a special date, occasion, memorial, please contact Libbie: 771018. The cost is £17 for one evening and an announcement can also be put in this magazine for no extra cost.

Harvest Festival in St Mary's Church

We always try to make sure that St Mary's Church looks especially beautiful for Harvest Festival. This year our Harvest Sunday will be on 4 October. We shall be so happy to welcome any of you to come and help us decorate the Church, maybe by bringing a basket of flowers, or a vase or any other arrangement.

Garden flowers and Children's flower decorations are especially welcome.

Nothing has to be big or elaborate. There is no need to spend a lot of money.

Or please just come to the Church on Saturday morning 3 October, any time from 9.30 onwards.

Afterwards these flowers may be distributed to people in the village who are unable to get to church but who would like to join in Harvest Festival celebrations.

Please contact Libbie on 771018 if you would like to know more. Thank you.

Purton Historical Society



Walking tour of Lacock Saturday 18 July 2015

On a lovely sunny Saturday morning over 20 members and friends assembled in the National Trust car park to join the 'guided' walking tour of Lacock. We were met by members of the Lacock Historical Society who had kindly offered to share their knowledge with us. We split into 2 groups and during the walk were told historical details and 'up to date' information about the beautiful village which dates from the 13th century. Walking around Lacock is akin to taking a step back in time. Mostly owned and managed by the National Trust, it has been beautifully preserved and unchanged since it was a thriving township that traded in wool. Lacock is frequently used as a film location for 'period' TV dramas and films.

The tour included a visit to the church of St Cyriac. It is possible there was a Saxon church on this site, but the first definite church was Norman, built at the end of the 11th century. Since then there has been some rebuilding, remodelling and additions, leading to some mixing of styles and unusual features in what we see today. In addition to the history we learnt about the visit of many of the royal family when Camilla Parker-Bowles' daughter was married there.

Following the walk there were plenty of places open for a leisurely lunch and many members took the opportunity to visit the famous abbey during the afternoon. A big 'thank you' to Jackie Parker who arranged the visit with the Lacock Historical Group

Future Meetings

Thursday 24 September 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Purton Village Hall

Britannia Under the Eagles – Martin Way

Many members remember when Martin Way visited back in 2012. He talked and dressed up: his subject was "God for Harry, England and St George"

By popular request he is back again. We look forward to another lively evening on "Britannia Under the Eagles" - The story of Roman Britain. The talk will cover 400 years of Roman Occupation of Britain.

New Members and visitors always welcome

TONY & JAN NEATE,
tjneate57@gmail.com tel: 01793 770117

The Walk and Talk at St Mary's Church with Bob Lloyd took place on a glorious Sunday afternoon with twenty keen folk. Bob Lloyd's further research fascinated us for over two hours.

Revd Robert Birch Harrison Vicar of Purton in the latter half of WW1, lost his sons in the Great War and donated the memorial in the church. Mrs Ethel Richardson of Purton House also lost her sons in WW1. Ethel worked tirelessly for the WW1 cause and she is buried in the graveyard.

Bob's recent research discovered the exact records of where soldiers died or were injured on the battlefields, their injuries and the journey to hospitals in England and their final journey to rest in Purton. In Bob's archives he has postcards sent to the soldiers' families in Purton. If you can help him with retrieving such items he would be truly grateful. Email: bobmech03@talktalk.net

MARION HOBBS, Chair Person, Purton Historical Society

Museum News

Our new display entitled 'Then and Now' is now in place showing the Forge Buildings and house at Station Approach, Widham, Purton. Thanks to the photographs we have on loan, it can be appreciated what a considerable business this was in the hands of the Barnes family. As we have accumulated a more sizeable display than anticipated we have decided to keep it in place until the museum's winter closure at the end of November. We will resume the 'Then and Now' feature in the new year with different subjects.

In early September we will commence our exhibition entitled 'A History of Purton in 50 Objects' which we hope you will find of interest. Our opening hours are Wednesday 2 - 5 pm and Saturday 10 am - 12.30 pm. We have been able to keep the museum open all year thanks to the sterling work of our volunteer stewards. We are extremely grateful for their continuing support.

JAN WALKER

Purton & the Great War

It's over 12 months since my research entered a new phase of continued research and commemoration driven events. Many thanks to all who have helped so far from old friends to newer ones including PHS, Swindon In The Great War, Wootton Bassett and the Great War, Wiltshire at War, Radnor Street Cemetery Society, Swindon Central Library to name a few. Events have enabled me to continue to raise money for *Combat Stress* a cause that continues to be close to my heart. £467 raised this year with a grand total of £3,490 since 2010.

'Purton Remembers' continues with email listing sent out to commemorate the 100th anniversary of each death, candles being lit at the War Memorial (lit by John Sawyer), ceramic poppy created by Sally Cooke at Bradon Forest laid up each Armistice service, Rick Dixon using my material alongside his excellent work in the Purton Magazine

If anyone has any ideas for the future let me know your thoughts. I am not the only person with an interest in the Parish Great War story and would love someone else to come forward with ideas as to how we can continue to commemorate the Parish story.

The next 12 months will see further talks, further walks at St Mary's, hopefully a ringing of bells to commemorate the death of Mervyn Richardson next March, continuation of 'Purton Remembers', continued use of my community Facebook page to highlight the Parish, continued work plotting where people lived in the Parish.

Many thanks to all again. See updates on my community Facebook page at Purton and the Great War or email me at bobmech03@talktalk.net

BOB LLOYD researching Purton (Wiltshire) & the Great War

bobmech03@talktalk.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pgw1418

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@communityfirst.org.uk

Great War Project

Part 26: September 1915

Battle of Loos 25-28 September

This, the largest British battle of 1915 on the Western Front, was part of the attempt by the Allies to break through the German defences in Artois and Champagne and end the war in the trenches. Despite an opening artillery bombardment the British guns had not broken through the German barbed wire in many places. In the following advance over open fields (25 September), British losses to German machine guns and artillery were heavy. The British also used poison gas (chlorine) for the first time in the lead up to the attack, releasing about 140 tons of it with mixed success.

William Booker, son of Thomas and Eliza Booker of Moonsleaze, Braydon, Purton, was serving with the 10th Battalion Gloucester Regiment.

On that first day of the Loos offensive, the 10th Battalion were part of the first wave in their sector attacking the Bois-Carre feature and Hulloch beyond. Gas clouds, uncut barbed wire and murderous German machine gun fire took a terrible toll. The Battalion took 459 casualties on the first day of the Battle, just over 60 men made it to the German trench system at Bois-Carre. William was killed in action during this attack, aged 23.

Loos was the first set piece Battle that Kitchener's "New Armies" had been trained for. Few of those involved apart from some of the Officers and NCOs had seen enemy fire until they crossed the parapets. The Battalion had scarcely arrived in the frontline trenches before they were sent across no-man's land and into the German strongholds and machine gun emplacements amongst the French mining villages and slag heaps.

A lull fell on 28 September, with the British retreating to their starting positions, having lost over 20,000 casualties, including three major-generals.

William has no known grave and is remembered on the Loos Memorial (*top right*), panel 60 - 64, and on the War Memorial in Lydiard Millicent (*below right*).

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

To France:

Cecil George Hull, 9th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment

Reginald Charles Iles, Royal Engineers

Robert Mills, 7th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

Leslie James Smith, Berkshire Regiment



To Gallipoli:

William John Edmonds, 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment
Mervyn Kempster, West Somerset Yeomanry

To the Royal Navy:

Percy John Barnes, Royal Navy (HMS Liverpool)

Technology

The first prototype tank was constructed in Britain during August and September 1915 and nicknamed Little Willie. The prototype that would become the Mark I tank was demonstrated to the British Army in February 1916.

Eastern Front:

On 5 September, Tsar Nicholas took over personal command of the Russian armies in the face of steady German advances. This did not prevent the German forces capturing Vilna in Russian Poland (Vilnius, now capital of Lithuania) on 18 September.

Lusitania follow-up:

On 1 September, the German government accepted United States demands for limitation of submarine activity.

RICK DIXON

Steam Picket Boat



This model of a 50ft Steam Picket Boat (T198, 1910), was built by Brian Freegard, and is now at Portsmouth Naval Museum. It will be used as a working model boat

for exhibitions and in 2016 for the Battle of Jutland centenary. The actual boat from which this was modelled steams from Portsmouth to Gosport for displays and private trips.

DOREEN FREEGARD



left: The real T198 under way at Portsmouth

Our Family's War

Lilian Monks, the Munitionette

A family story from Rick Dixon

It was only in 1999, that I was even aware that Gran Lomas, born Lilian Monks, had been a Munitionette – a woman working in artillery munitions. The whole family, at least as I knew it, lived in Glossop, Derbyshire, where I was born in 1950. Grandad as a teenager had emigrated with his father and family from Tideswell, Derbyshire, to Lloydminster, Canada in 1907. (Lloyd for short.) Grandad came back to England during the Great War to work in munitions. He and Lilian (Gran) married during or after the war. They moved back to Canada where my Mum was born in Saskatchewan in 1924. That much I knew. And as a child in the 1950s-60s little was said, and I didn't know to ask about the Great War years.

When Dad died in 1999 we took Mum to Canada, visiting the cousins who still lived in Lloyd. They showed us old family photos including the one in this article: Gran as a young lady, wearing overalls and a mob cap at a munitions factory together with 3 co-workers – she's 2nd from the left. What I have pieced together is still a 'work in progress'.

But which munitions factory? Still thinking "Glossop" I thought first of the Royal Ordnance Factory at Risley in Cheshire, but soon discovered Risley was a WW2 establishment. The only R.O.F. that fitted the bill for the Great War was Leeds. Now Leeds isn't too far by train from Glossop, but Mr and Mrs Monks would never have allowed their daughter Lilian, at such a tender age of say 25 (as she would have been in 1916), to have gone unescorted to such a distant location. That suggested the Monks side of the family actually lived in Leeds.

Gran never suffered from any of the chemical poisoning from trinitrotoluene (TNT) and sulphuric acid that coloured other workers yellow so was probably working on finishing of shells rather than stuffing them or in chemical manufacture. Grandad worked as a lathe operator perhaps in finishing which could be how they met.

Grandad would have been 31 in 1916 ... I remember him always called Gran "kid"! The first actual date I can put in here is that they married in 1917 and uncle Frank was born in England in 1918, and auntie Mabel in 1920. In 1921 or 1922 they moved back to Lloyd to the log cabin farmstead that great-grandad had established. Mum was born in a blizzard there in November 1924. It was actually at Big Gulley Lake some 14 km from Lloyd itself and the snows had already started by late September that year. The midwife didn't get through until May the following spring!

Gran couldn't cope with the -40°C winters and +40°C summers ... with the attendant flies ... so they moved back to Derbyshire in 1928. Not all the Lomas



family had gone to Canada in 1907, and those that remained had moved the 13 miles north from Tideswell to Glossop in the meantime. So that was where Gran and Grandad decided to settle. Grandad was employed again in lathe working and I remember something being said about him working on the very first dies for making contact lenses.

If it hadn't been for the Great War none of this would have happened and I wouldn't be here to tell the tale. But I am going to have to do an awful lot more digging in records and archives. What a shame I didn't know to ask them when they were alive.

We have already received a number of contributions for OUR FAMILY'S WAR, for which we are most grateful. If you want to share a memory of your family's life in the Great War, in the forces or the home front, please send it to us at one of the addresses on [page 4](#). The memory doesn't need to be Purton related.

Autumn 'stile-less' Historical Walk

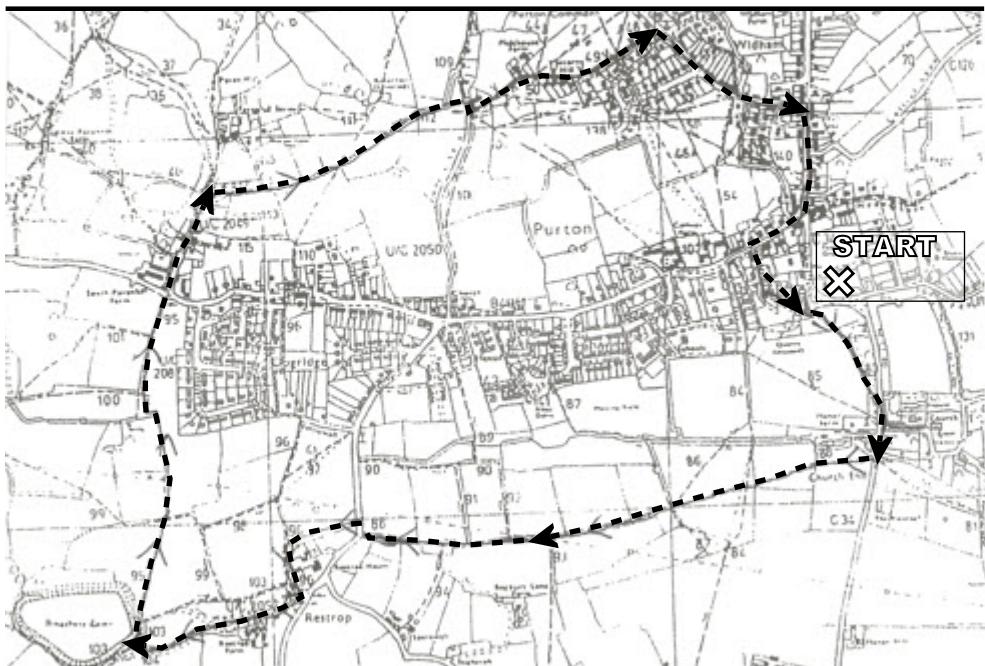
suggested by Marion Hobbs

This walk is in memory of Brian Freegard and Ron Harris, both loved the village and worked to preserve these rights of way.

Commence at the Red House marked with an X (*map overleaf*), follow Church Path towards St Mary's Church, look out for the millennium stone on your right, pass the Medieval Tithe Barn, then the Manor House to the St Mary's Church which is usually open during the day. Return to the Tithe Barn, turn left pass the Weir Pond take FP88 on your right walking westerly to Restrop Road. Be careful crossing Restrop Road.

Go through the metal gate, keep Restrop House garden on your left, pass through the hedge, join FP96 go through the wooden gate on your left keep Restrop House garden on your left and the cottage on your right. You are now on Mud Lane FP104 turn right, follow the metal road until you reach Restrop Farm House, pass through the wooden gate, keep Restrop Farmhouse and the garden wall on your left, follow Mud Lane until you reach Ringsbury Camp an Iron Age Fort. Turn right and pass through the kissing gate on your right onto FP95, cross the field going north, pass through another kissing gate, keep the hedge on your left. Stop to have a look at the scenic views of Bradon Forest and beyond, continue until you arrive at South Pavenhill Farm House. Be careful crossing the road.

Walk down Upper Pavenhill, stop for a glimpse of the 17th century Granary on your left in the farmyard. The views from Upper Pavenhill across Red Lodge Plantation are delightful. Continue to the entrance to Stony Barn allotments, turn right onto FP112, pass the allotments, then the cornfield to the corner, go through the belly gate on your left onto Francombs Hill also known as the High Hills, stop for a rest on Dom's memorial stone, enjoy the views of Cricklade, Blunsdon and on the right Liddington Hill. Descend the steep hill, still on FP112 to another belly gate, walk over the sleepers to Hoggs Lane. Both Hoggs Lane and Mud Lane are ancient sunken lanes. Turn right, then left down Vasterne Hill, take a moment to enjoy the views, at Wits Lane turn right, walk to Station Road then turn right again.



Stop to have a look at Collins Lane Toll Gate opposite the old Hope Inn, then climb the hill to the Village Hall, do visit the Museum above the library, open Wednesdays 2 pm to 5 pm and Saturdays 10 am to 12.30 pm. Next make your way up the High Street to the Angel Inn for refreshments. As you walk up Playclose the old workhouse is on your left. Playclose has been a place for recreation since the 17th century. Pass the Methodist Church and the old St Mary's Primary School, follow Playclose pass the Quarry allotments and you are now back at the Red House.

Thank you to Purton Parish Councillors and the voluntary Stile Gang who place the way markers, clear paths, cut back hedges, install and mend stiles, to Wiltshire Council who have in recent years updated bridges and fingerposts.

Finally a note of appreciation to the generous folk of Purton Parish who donated the gates.

MARION HOBBS, Chair Person, Purton Historical Society

Purton Carnival AGM (Open Meeting)

The AGM is on Sunday 6 September 2015, 7 pm at the Silver Threads Hall.

PURTON
CARNIVAL

If you have feed back, good or bad, this is the time to tell us.

If you have an idea that the Carnival could fund for the good of the village, please let us know at this meeting.

If you would like to join the carnival committee, put your name forward at this meeting.

The 2015 carnival committee looks forward to seeing you

KEVIN LAW, Purton Carnival Chairman

Do you need Funding for your Group?

Our challenge is to make a positive change in Wiltshire and Swindon by helping local groups make life better for their communities. We want to help you to support those who need it most.



You can apply for grants for project or core costs and overheads for:

Foundation Grants: Apply for up to £5,000 a year for up to three years' funding. Funding will go to projects where the majority of people who will benefit, experience disadvantage either economically, socially, geographically or physically. Expression of interest closes on 1 October 2015.

The Office of Police & Crime Commissioner Grants: Apply for up to £3,000 for one year's funding. Applications are welcomed from groups who seek to bring communities together to tackle local issues around anti-social behaviour, crime, drug and alcohol related crime, reducing re-offending, violence against women and girls or youth crime. Expression of interest closes on 28 August 2015.

Comic Relief Small Grants: Grants available up to around £1,000-2,000 to support work where there is clear evidence of a sustained beneficial impact on people's lives who are excluded or disadvantaged through low income, rural or social isolation, age, disabilities, race, sexuality or gender. Priority is to be given to small, locally based groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community and are undertaking actions as a means of addressing these needs. Available in 2016.

Foundation Small Grants: Up to £1,000 available all year round for groups starting up or for smaller projects and items of equipment.

Visit our website at www.wiltshirecf.org.uk for more information and click on the 'Apply' menu. The first step is to fill in an 'Expression of Interest' survey and the link for this can be found underneath the listing of our criteria. If you meet our criteria we will send you a link for an online application form.

Call us on 01380 729284 or email info@wiltshirecf.org.uk to find out more about how we can help. This information is valid until end of October 2015.

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 & Green Gable Surgery Group for Patients - G4P



Donation in Memory of Brian Freegard

We are grateful to Brian's wife, Doreen, for a generous donation to Purton Surgery in memory of Brian. The money is being used for the purchase of equipment. Thank you very much, Doreen.

Information Evening: Arthritis, Tuesday 13 October, 7.30-9 pm, Purton Surgery

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

Heart Matters Evening: Monday 9 November, 7.30 - 9 pm, Silver Threads Hall

We have rearranged our Heart Matters Evening which we had to cancel last March when Dr McCrea was unwell. As there were so many patients who wished to attend, we have booked Silver Threads Hall in Purton, when we will also have a speaker from the British Heart Foundation. By holding this in the Hall we will be able to accommodate more patients, tickets are available now from Purton Surgery as usual.

'Flu and shingles vaccines

These vaccinations will be given on Saturday 10 and Saturday 31 October in Purton Surgery and appointments can be made from September. Please check the information from the Practice regarding eligible criteria for these vaccinations

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, Newsletters and other useful information are 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

'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 & 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 Purton & District Probus Club

Admirals in Collision. The Probus meeting on 14 July was addressed by Paul Booy, known for his lectures at the Purton Historical Society and also to other Probus groups. The talk concerned an extremely regrettable incident which sank a major battleship and cost the lives of 358 seamen including that of the Vice Admiral, in charge of the fleet, who gave the order. It happened on 22 June 1893 during a peacetime naval exercise on an approach toward Tripoli in the Lebanon.

Two squadrons were sailing, line astern, on parallel courses 6 cables apart, 5 ships in the port line with HMS Camperdown leading and 6 ships to starboard with HMS Victoria at the head. Vice Admiral Tryon KCB on the flagship Victoria, commanding the exercise, gave the order for the lead ships to turn inwards and for those behind to follow. Battle ships of this class would require to be 8 cables apart to 'u' turn without crossing each other's paths. The resulting inevitable collision saw the ram of the Camperdown ploughing 9 feet into the starboard flank of HMS Victoria just aft of bow-armour and to a depth of 12 feet below the waterline. When disengaged the Flagship settled nose-down, rolled to starboard and 13 minutes later disappeared end-up with the screws still turning. It was a difficult and dangerous situation for the rescuing of survivors. One who survived was 1st Earl, Commander J R Jellicoe who happened to be in the sickbay with a fever.

The wreckage of the Victoria, located in year 2004 at a depth of 150 metres, stands vertical in the sea-bed. The enormous weight of the 16 inch cannons combined with the still functioning propellers drilled the ship's bow 30ft into the sea-bed where it remains today. In charge of HMS Camperdown and second in command of the Mediterranean Fleet when the collision occurred was Rear Admiral Albert Hastings Markham. When he had received Tryon's order he was hesitant to obey until "What are you waiting for" was signalled, whereupon he executed the order as instructed. At the subsequent Courts Martial of the survivors of HMS Victoria, including the Captain, Maurice Bourke, all were found innocent of responsibility. Tryon alone was to blame. Under-officers were not expected to challenge their Admiral! Markham was never tried.

Though Tryon's mistake was regrettable, the sinking did accentuate the need for a review of battleship design and fleet/battle practice in the Royal Navy. Since 'Trafalgar' 1805, until the end of the 19th century, with the exception of the Crimea, the Royal Navy had had little opposition. Its main activity was to protect merchant vessels throughout the Empire and the enforcement of law against Slave-Trading. According to A J Madder, author of "Dreadnought to Scapa-flow" (5 vols) the Royal Navy had, for 100 years, been in a rut, drowsy, ineffective and moth-eaten. Now new threats to the colonies, from Germany and Japan, obliged it to revise its strategy. Captain Sir Percy Scott of the cruiser 'Scylla' recognised that big guns with short range and slow firing rate were not the answer. He advocated cannons of small bore, ranging up to 9000 yards with telescopic range-finding equipment. Impressed by this, Admiral Sir John 'Jacky' Fisher, First Sea-Lord of the Admiralty, convened a Design Committee whose aim was a battleship with improved speed,



more gun-turret manoeuvrability, plus a greater range and speed of firing. The result was HMS Dreadnought which entered service in 1906. Subsequent Dreadnaughts, after the Battle of Jutland, managed to blockade the German fleet. The meeting closed with a lively debate about what Admiral Tryon's Order, which led to the collision, had meant to achieve.

On 28 July Bernard Tidmarsh recalled his “Life as a Farrier”, after 51 years working as such. Bernard began with some history: a Tidmarsh came to this country with William the Conqueror in charge of a regiment, settled just south of Pangbourne and gave his name to the village of Tidmarsh. More recently the family forge was established in Crudwell by his uncle, who specialised as a farrier and trained his father in the same skills. A farrier, as opposed to a blacksmith, makes adapts and fits horse-shoes, trimming and balancing the hooves, with some veterinarian skills to care for the horse's feet. Since 1975 registration has been necessary in order to practice as a farrier. After WW2 the number of horses on the land was much diminished, but Bernard's father found useful work making plates for strings of race horses, one being that of Ivor Anthony at Wroughton.

However, a farrier needed to become mobile, so Dad adapted his bicycle to carry his assistant – one of three brothers, first Caleb, then Ernie and finally Bernard. Shoes were forged at Crudwell and fitted on site cold. Later Father bought uncle's 1936 Austin 7 which could carry a mobile forge. Days were long – an early start, sometimes from 4 am until 9 in the evening. As a child of 10, Bernard shod his own pony.

Things picked up when a groom at Bowood rang to say that their local farrier had passed on. Services were then extended to Bath, Box, Calne and Colerne. ‘Tidmarsh’ became a byword for excellent horse care, and the name passed around the ‘landed’ gentry. Father and son had shod the horses of the Phillips family since Captain Mark had been 9 years old. Contracts with the Beaufort Hunt, with Princess Anne, Princess Michael of Kent and the Prince of Wales followed. Indeed Bernard's wife was a groom at Highgrove when they first met. Early on his wedding day he did some work in the forge – he said “he didn't want to waste the whole day”. Bernard shod ponies for polo at Cirencester, donkeys at Ilfracombe and attended 3-day eventing at Badminton and Burghley. At Burghley he shod for the British and the Americans – he was not popular when the Americans won. A 13-year liaison, first recommended by a vet, to a school with many horses, 8 miles beyond Chepstow, meant two long days of travelling and hard work.

Bernard's talk was interesting and amusing with anecdotes about the origins of the fringe on the farrier's apron (it indicates a superior profession) and the Patron Saint, St Ely, who shoes a horse by removing and restoring each leg in turn. Bernard has the light and wiry stature of a jockey. When asked if he had ever been kicked, he replied “never; its' a matter of making the horse feel at ease from start to finish”, like the Horse Whisperer.

Purton Probus meets at 10am every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month in the Red House lounge. 8 September: Waterloo. 22 September: Walking the Windrush. New members and visitors welcome.

BOB STEVENS

Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.wordpress.com

The meeting of 15 July opened with a minutes silence for Roger Lawrence, the husband of member Vivien Lawrence, who had sadly died. Belonging to a group can be a comfort at times of loss and to a small extent you don't feel quite so alone. We hope that happened in this instance.



But our speaker was waiting ... We had anticipated this meeting with much pleasure – the speaker was to be John Hughes – who was tall and handsome and had obviously enjoyed his work in the Metropolitan Police, which was the subject of his talk. We weren't to be disappointed. He had some great stories to tell but what engaged me particularly were tales of long airborne trips with VIPs, particularly unnamed prime ministers, and there was one aspect we might not have considered before. Obviously, like the rest of us, John was doing a job of work which called for a number of hours, rest periods, sleeping and eating, but the VIP was not necessarily in a mood for that. He/she had to consider making speeches, wondering what sort of reception was likely, possibly being shot at. Understandably, they would be in a fair state of nervous tension – and so who to talk to, to pass the long hours? Why, the Protection Officer! He who had just got into his pyjamas, brushed his teeth, slid thankfully into bed, closed his eyes – and then there would be a gentle knock on the cabin door, and an anxious voice would say "I couldn't sleep – do you mind if we chat awhile?" This scene must be quietly maddening! (and quite, quite decent!). So we don't envy James Bond after all – it's not a bit like we had imagined.

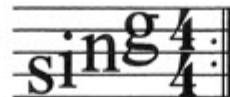
Our next meeting is on the 16 September when we will mark the WI centenary by welcoming our speaker Molly Gratland who will talk to us about "Silk Printing". I have also heard rumours that there may be some celebratory bubbly and strawberries and cream! You are invited to bring a piece of your own embroidery for the competition. It should be a very pleasant evening indeed!

The WI's attractive calendars and diaries are now ordered, and Christmas in Purton is being discussed – the committee has to spend half the year ahead of itself! Talking of diaries, you might like to note in yours that the next popular Soup and Sweet lunch (and including a cake stall) will be held on 12 October, 12 - 1.30 pm, at the Silver Threads Hall. If you should have interesting comments to make while you are there, especially about joining Purton Evening WI if you are not already a member, do look out for me. I'll be happy to introduce you to fellow enthusiasts!

CONSTANCE REED, tel 771571

Sing for Four Community Choir

Your thriving, locally based, opportunity to enjoy the benefits of singing together, now in its sixth year of development, welcomes members both old and new, as we resume rehearsals after the summer break. We all look forward to our new series of rehearsals **commencing on 10 September**. We are based at the Jenner Hall in Cricklade: 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.



We have an exciting new programme to prepare in readiness for two Christmas Concerts, to be held in Cricklade and Purton. Tickets will be available in November from choir members. Dates for your diaries are 6 and 10 December. Enquiries: Mary New tel. 01793 770630.

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

We welcomed Dawn Collins to our July meeting for a talk entitled 'The Path to Paradise: A journey through the Stourhead Landscape'.

Dawn has been a volunteer guide at Stourhead for nine years and her passion for the subject was soon made evident to us. She began by explaining how she had decided on the title of the talk – 'The Path to Paradise'. Whilst looking at an old map of the estate she discovered that the lake in the grounds is formed by several springs, one of which is called Paradise. As Dawn considers Stourhead to be her vision of paradise then the title was settled.

Stourhead is considered to have one of the most beautiful gardens in the country, admired by visitors from all over the world especially the Germans who love the English landscape. It is especially renowned for its spectacular spring and autumn displays of colour provided by, amongst others, Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Acers and Maples.

We learned that Stourhead dates back to the 18th century and the Hoare family, owners of Britain's only independent bank, still surviving today in London. Deciding to invest in property, Henry Hoare I purchased the Manor at Stourton and proceeded to demolish it, replacing it with the Palladian Manor we know today and christening it Stourhead.

His son, Henry Hoare II, inherited the house, and set about creating the iconic landscape garden with its lake, temples and monuments.

He chose his grandson, Richard Colt Hoare, as heir. He removed some of the original ideas, adding some of his own, including the re-siting of the gatehouse 50 yards along the drive to meet the public highway, and the addition of a picture gallery and library either side of the house, as well as significant changes to the garden and across the estate.

Following a fire in 1902, Sir Henry Hugh Hoare oversaw Stourhead's restoration. His only son died in the First World War and determined to keep the estate intact he gifted the house, gardens and 2300 acres to the National Trust in 1946 with a condition of the transfer that a member of the Hoare family could use rooms there, Lady Audrey Hoare currently residing there.

Dawn explained that it was from the south side of the house that Henry Hoare would start a walk with his visitors. Here Jonquil and bluebells cover the ground in spring, replaced by meadow flowers through which gardeners cut a swathe to form a walkway for visitors in summer.

The lake is central to the design at Stourhead, its edges adorned with rare and exotic trees, enchanting grottos and classical temples.

One of these is the circular 'Temple of Apollo' dedicated to Apollo, the sun God. It nestles on a hilltop above the garden and lake, so that just as the sun looks down on the earth, so the temple looks down on the garden.

The 'Pantheon' built in 1753-4 is based on the Pantheon in Rome and is filled with statues of classical deities including a marble of Hercules.

Continuing the Roman theme, The 'Temple of Flora' was the first garden building erected by Henry Hoare II and is dedicated to the Roman goddess of



flowers and spring.

An obelisk, erected by Richard Colt-Hoare, sits directly in line with the centre of the house and also forms a focal point from the other end of the fir tree walk.

On the far side of the lake is the Grotto, a circular, domed chamber built to resemble a cave. In Renaissance times grottos were built as a retreat from summer heat.

The 'Bristol Cross' forms a focal point at the other side of the lake. This restored medieval monument, originally sited in Bristol, was brought to Stourhead by Henry Hoare II in 1765, using six wagons pulled by oxen.

Nearby is the five arched Palladian bridge built in 1762, its setting lovingly painted and sketched over the years by hundreds of visitors.

By this time, accompanied by a slideshow, we had completed the 'path through paradise' presented by Dawn with great enthusiasm and knowledge of the subject. Tony Price kindly offered a vote of thanks for a most entertaining evening.

Congratulations to the winners of our competition 'Photo of a landscape' – 1st Janice Simpkins, 2nd June Mobey and 3rd Val Faulkner.

Our Mini-show takes centre stage for our September meeting, a chance for members to show off the fruits of their labours and an opportunity to sample some of them! This is always a popular evening so come and join us on 22 September at 7.30 pm in Silver Threads Hall. You won't be disappointed!

MOIRA WHITE (Chair) & MARGARET GOODALL (Secretary)

We Record ...

Baptism at St Mary's Church:

9 August	Annabel Louise Kinchin
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Weddings at St Mary's Church:

25 July	Paul McCue Reilly & Sarah Catherine Manfield
8 August	Brian Patrick Wheeler & Emma Susan Mary Hayden

Funeral at St Mary's Church:

30 July	Roger Bond Lawrence
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In Memoriam:

25 September 1915	William Booker, 10 th Battalion Gloucester Regiment, killed in action, Loos, France
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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 ...



Cricklade Country Market

The Country Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 25 September 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 Bowls Club

We are steadily moving towards the end of our season and all of the Club competitions are being played off and will culminate at the finals weekend on the 19-20 September. Good luck to all those left in at this stage.



In the ladies section Chris Mitchell won through to the National Championships at Leamington Spa in the County 4 wood singles. Unfortunately she lost 21-20 in the opening round but it was a very entertaining game with some lovely bowling. Alison Fail also qualified in the National Champion of Champions, reaching the last 16. Unfortunately she also lost 21-16, her opponent went on to win the title.

Paul Boyles and Alison Fail have reached the final of the County Secretary and Treasurer's competition, to be played on 5-6 September at Devizes.

The ladies evening league team are still doing well. Unfortunately at the time of writing we are still awaiting an up-to-date league table (sounds like a glitch in the system).

The men are not doing so well in the leagues, we are languishing mid-table in both the Wiltshire and the Swindon & District competitions. There is a competition between all of the officers from local bowls clubs and we have just been beaten in the semi-finals, so a good run has come to an end there.

We have two teams in the over 60s men's triples who have managed to reach the semi finals with Dave Mitchell, Eric Collier and Colin Baker in one team and John Williams, Peter Mitchell and Mike Crouch in the other. They play these on 29 August at Chippenham, and if they both win, will play each other in the final. That should be interesting! Anyway good luck to both teams and well done.

Our coaching evening on Fridays is still going on, so anybody interested could still come along and join in to see if they find it interesting, 6.30 pm onwards.

PETER BERRY

Purton cricketers have got it covered

Thanks to a generous £3,800 grant from the Landfill Communities Fund.

Purton Cricket Club, which is the oldest of its kind in Wiltshire, has splashed out on new mobile wicket covers to protect the playing area when it rains. It means that even the worst of the British weather won't dampen the enthusiasm of Purton players, young and old, for many years to come!

The total cost of the project was more than £5,000 and Purton CC was only able



to go ahead with the promise of a grant of £3,800 from the Landfill Communities Fund. The club was able to access this fund as their ground is not far away from the Hills household waste recycling centre in Purton.

"Our club coffers were about to take a massive hit. We knew we had to get new

Left to right: Phil Duffell (2nd XI captain), Mat Bull (Club chairman) and Aaron Lee (1st XI captain)

New covers at Purton CC

covers, but we didn't know if we could really afford them," said Phil Duffell, Purton's 2nd XI captain and U15 coach, who took control of the bid.

"We always try our hardest to win cricket matches, but this is the best result we've had off the field for a few years."

Purton have now done their own bit of recycling in return, passing their old covers on to another cricket club in the south of the county for repair and re-use.

Purton Cricket Club was founded in 1820 and has around 100 members, with senior men's teams in the Wiltshire Division of the West of England Premier League. The club also boasts a thriving junior section with girls and boys playing in the Wiltshire Youth League at U9, U11, U13 and U15 level.



Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com



The sunny weekends in 2015 have resulted in all 15 fixtures to date (8 August) being played in dry conditions. All junior and senior teams have enjoyed some successes but the erratic nature of player availability has prevented any chances of challenging for places at the top of the league.

Fixtures for September

Sunday 6 September Purton XI v Local Celebrity XI 1.00pm

From the Archives

August 1995 – Morse Shield Final

Purton 160 for 2 – Mark Bisset 53, Mark Gardner 55

Lechlade 90 all out – Robert Preddy 3 for 19, Nic Cope 3 for 28, Steve West 2 for 14 and Simon Philcox 1 for 21.

JOE GARDNER



With just a few matches to be completed in the Swindon & District League the fate of most teams has been decided. There have been mixed results this year but we have still had a successful season with the Ladies C winning Division 3 and the Mixed C winning Division 4. In addition to this the Ladies A are runners-up in Division 1 and both the Men's A and Mixed A will at worse finish runners-up in Division 1 and could yet be champions should results go their way!

The availability of the men's side has made it a challenging season for Justin Miller, the men's captain who is stepping down this year so he can spend more time on Purton FC. The club would like to thank Justin for his sterling work over the last few years.

NICOLA GARDNER

Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...

With the start of the recent refurbishment of the Village Centre play area announced in the May issue this year, it is interesting to note that in the September 2005 issue the official opening of the new slide and tactile board took place. 10 years ago several groups were thanked for helping to make it possible, including children carol singing, 1st Purton Brownies, Purton in Bloom and PEST (Purton Extreme Sports) as well as the Parish Council and North Wilts Area 2 committee. It must be satisfying for all concerned to see that the play area remains in very regular use – especially during the school summer holidays.

There are usually many activities in Purton during the summer holidays and 10 years ago the magazine carried a report on the Purton Stoke Open Gardens and Scarecrow Festival. At least 65 scarecrows were on guard, including one called "Ellen McUnder" who was seen clambering over her capsized yacht after an unsuccessful attempt to circumnavigate "the pond" to remind us what thankfully did not happen to Ellen MacArthur when she broke the world record for the fastest solo circumnavigation of the globe in earlier in 2005. Many of the other scarecrows were imaginatively created and interestingly described in the September 2005 magazine.

Also in the magazine 10 years ago was a letter all the way from Vancouver in British Columbia. The author was looking to expand his research project that started with his first visit to Purton in 1981 and his great grandfather, James Large (1835 - 1912) who was of Purton ancestry for many generations. It is good to feel that our magazine is a very useful resource for those anywhere in the world wishing to trace their ancestors and long may we be able to continue to provide that service.

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

The Ellendune Community Centre

Barnett Way, Wroughton

22 September: 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm

Dr David Collins, Consultant Rheumatologist talking about Bone Health during and after Breast treatments.

8 October: 7 pm for 7.15 pm - 9.30 pm

Our biggest event of the year is the Consultants' Evening, which brings together all of the consultants from all of the local hospitals who deal with breast cancer (surgeons, oncologists, radiographers, etc.) in one place to talk, advise and answer questions. This event is quite unique and a great help and support to cancer patients in this area.

This evening is for anyone affected by breast cancer, including those newly diagnosed, on their journey through treatment and beyond.

The "Breast Specialist Team" will endeavour to clarify the myths created by the media and update us with what's new in patient care.