

# Purton Magazine



*Three Bees*  
photo by Rick Dixon (see 3B's x2 on [page 8](#))

October 2015

50p

## PURTON CONTACTS



Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctors	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgeries	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2 - 5pm; Tuesdays 2 - 7pm; Wednesdays 10am - 5pm; Fridays 2 - 5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum <i>(Wed: 2 - 5pm; Sat)</i>	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	<i>( 10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>	
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	Ellen Blacker	07557 110414

### **Schools and Play Groups:**

Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Playclose Playgroup	Dawn Phillips	778141 or 07759 583566
Purton Under 5's Community Playgroup	Fionna Griffiths	771723
St Mary's Primary	Secretary	770239

### **CHURCH OF ENGLAND – PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY**

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

### **METHODIST CHURCHES**

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

### **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

#### **CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT**

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

#### **ST MARY'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE**

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

## From The Editors

16 September: The top story on the news tonight was of migrants from Syria trying to fight their way into Hungary from Serbia. Few of them apparently wanted to be in Hungary, just wishing to pass through to Germany, Sweden and other more welcoming countries. Sights of migrants and their children suffering the after-effects of tear gas were distressing.

On [page 22](#), we read of the fall of Serbia in the Great War. It is ironic that it is exactly 100 years ago that the same border, Austria-Hungary with Serbia, also saw conflict as Austria invaded Serbia and mass migration into Albania resulted. Only the direction has changed.

Aristophanes was a wild card in ancient Greece, forever showing up the absurdities of his world. PADS are producing their latest play this month, details on [page 21](#), where we see that a modern adaptation of Aristophanes' *The Frogs* will be at the Village Hall for 2 nights. In the last year of his life, Aristophanes wrote, "A man's homeland is wherever he prospers". I wonder how that applies to our world and its borders today?

On [page 23](#), Purton Historical Society is looking for a new curator for the Museum. And Chris Wintle at St Mary's School has retired after notching up 28 years at the school ([page 12](#)). We read on [page 5](#) that Lesley Miles has been Village Hall booking clerk for 25 years, a major service to the village, especially looking at the number of events in [Purton Placard](#) held there, as well as in other halls.

It is interesting to note that the students at Bradon Forest School want to revert to blazers, shirts and ties. As we read on [page 11](#), these young people are taking "ownership" of their school environment and see this as a part of their own professional development. We salute them.

Congratulations must surely go to the summer sports teams on their successes in the past season and, as we change to the winter season, our best wishes to those sports just re-starting. Sports news is on [pages 34 to 35](#).

We are reminded of the countryside and the seasons by two articles. A poem ([page 14](#)) by Mary Morton, late mother of Libbie Sheppard, is a personal account of her feelings for October. And Gaffer returns with a story about sheep-breeding – [page 15](#). He warns about uncontrolled dogs, but the Guide Dog group have a more controlled concert at the Village Hall with Cricklade Band; details are on [page 17](#).

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years as Good  
Neighbour Coordinator  
achieved  
- see [page 10](#)

£400

raised by  
Purton Bowls Club for  
Paternoster Charity  
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£739

profit for RBL Flower  
Show but they need to  
reduce costs  
- see [page 24](#)

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The logo for Purton Magazine, featuring the word 'Purton' in a large, stylized serif font above the word 'Magazine' in a smaller, simpler font.

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**Also on line at [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk)**

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# Parish Council News



## Exciting News !

The Council has been busy recruiting new Councillors – we will be in a position to post information next month! Watch this space.....

## 25 years and still going strong

With an ever changing working ethic it isn't very often that you see the same staff in post for 25 years ... but it seems Purton Parish Council is starting a trend. The Parish Council is delighted to announce and celebrate that Lesley Miles has just reached 25 years' continuous service as Halls Booking Clerk. On behalf of Purton Parish Council we would like to thank her for her hard work, cheery nature and dedication.

## Annual Parish Walk – message from Barry Pitts

The Annual Parish walk took place on Sunday 6 September. It was a lovely sunny afternoon and thirty walkers of all ages left the lay-by for a walk of just over 4 miles taking in Folly Down Farm, Smithmead Lane and The Hyde. Everyone seemed to enjoy the walk, thanks to all who came and made it a pleasurable afternoon.

Thank you.

## Footpath Team

Did you know that Purton has 160 footpaths soon to be 161; all maintained, walked and loved by residents of Purton. We are fortunate to have a great team of volunteers who help to keep the paths open and repaired. Would you like to be part of this team? You could be a volunteer who helps trim back footpaths to keep them accessible, or a rambler who wants to keep an interest and report items to the team for consideration. Please contact the Council offices for more info or email [admin@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:admin@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk).

## Parish Council Meeting Dates: Mondays in October:

5 <sup>th</sup>	Planning	26 <sup>th</sup>	Village Centre Charity
12 <sup>th</sup>	Council	26 <sup>th</sup>	Village Hall Charity
19 <sup>th</sup>	Finance		

## Hall Hire

Purton Parish Council has three buildings that can be hired for meetings or events. The Village Hall and the Millennium Hall, all year round, and the Bowls Club Room from October to April. If you need a venue to hold a meeting, a dance class, a social event, please contact our Halls Booking Clerk, Lesley Miles for more info on 778351.

## Road Closure – Witts Lane

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic Witts Lane, Purton, from its junction with C414 Station Road to its junction with Locks Lane, to enable Wiltshire Council to carry out footway reconstruction, kerbing and adjustment of ironworks. Access will be maintained by a gateman. The closure will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 16 October 2015 and it is anticipated that

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the closure will be required 24 hours per day until 30 October 2015. It is anticipated that the works will take the stated duration to complete depending upon weather conditions. Access will be maintained for residents and businesses although delays are likely due to the nature of the works. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information please contact Balfour Beatty Living Places on 01249 468582. Sustainable Transport Group, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN.

**Household Recycling Centre:** see days and times on page 2.

### **Planning**

The following planning applications have been approved, by Wiltshire Council:

#### **Permission Granted with conditions:**

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| N15/03930/FUL | 13 The Fox. Erection of detached garage.   |
| N15/04628/FUL | 28 Restrop View  |
| N15/04235/FUL | 96 Reids Piece. Single storey extension to be used as annexe.  |
| N15/04337/FUL | 55 Pear Tree Close. Proposed single storey side/rear extension. Resubmission of 14/11695/FUL.  |
| N15/03295/FUL | 3 Witts Lane. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of four dwellings.  |
| N15/04083/FUL | 6 Purton Stoke. Two-storey side and rear extension and single storey rear extension. Erection of single garage.  |
| N15/01671/FUL | Manor Hill Farm. Creation of new field access. Front extension to garage & rear extension for disabled conversion.   |
| N15/04957/FUL | 61 Pavenhill. Construction of conservatory and construction of detached garage/store.  |
| N15/05427/LBC | Packhorse Farm, Cricklade Road. Demolition, alterations & single storey extension to the farmhouse and alterations to existing barn (Revision to 12/00993/LBC) |
| N15/05900/FUL | Packhorse Farm, Cricklade Road. Demolition, alterations & single storey extension to the farmhouse and alterations to existing barn (Revision to 12/00992/FUL) |
| N15/05739/FUL | 49 Peartree Close. Single storey rear extension.   |
| N15/05664/FUL | Clearwell House, 74 High Street. Single storey side extension and obscure glazed window on first floor side of elevation.                                      |
| N15/05729/CLE | Builders Yard Adjacent to 5 Lower Pavenhill. Certificate of Lawfulness for existing builders/roofers yard. Approved.   |
| N15/05777/FUL | Linton House, 7 Oldenburg Close. Erection of rear conservatory.  |
| N15/05601/FUL | Packers, 23 High Street. Single storey extension to rear.  |
| N15/05602/FUL | Packers, 23 High Street. Storage building to front of 23 High Street.  |

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- N15/05935/FUL Willow Barn Bagbury Lane. Proposed garden room, double detached car barn and log store.
- N15/04326/FUL Berrifields 49A The Hyde. Extensions and alterations.
- N15/06190/FUL 6 Pavenhill. Proposed first floor rear extension.
- N15/06321/FUL Buryhill Farm, Braydon. Extension to existing outdoor arena and creation of additional parking area.

### **Refused Applications:**

- N15/04692/FUL Folly Down Farm, Packhorse Lane. Proposed disabled dwelling (Resubmission of 14/09786/FUL)
- N15/00752/FUL Pond Farm, Pond Lane, Purton Stoke. Conversion of agricultural building to single dwelling.

### **How to contact the Parish Council:**

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](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk) or call 771066.

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

**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](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and sign up today.

## **Purton Food Festival**

We will be holding our third Food Festival on Saturday 14 November at the Village Hall from 12 noon to 4 pm, with all profits going to Pips Community Café.



We will be welcoming some of the food producers who came last year and some new ones as well as some very talented crafts people. Come along and start planning your Christmas menu and you might even be able to cross off a few items on that pressie list!

We will be serving light refreshments including homemade soup and cakes as well as the usual tea and coffee and some of our exhibitors may tempt you with a few samples of food as well!

There will be activities for the children and entry is £1, children under 16 free.

For further information or if you would like to exhibit (£10 per table) please ring Helen on 01793 770648 or email [mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.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.

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## Purton & District Age Concern



At our September committee meeting we welcomed Freda Ackroyd, a Befriending Support Worker from Age UK Wiltshire in Devizes. Freda told us all about their befriending service, available to anyone over the age of 55 who has less than 7 hours social contact each week. Due to a lack of volunteers in our area, Freda has people waiting for a befriender to visit them. If you would like to become a volunteer befriender or would like a befriender to visit you at home please contact Freda on 01380 727767 or email her at [admin@ageukwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:admin@ageukwiltshire.org.uk)

The T'ai Chi classes have started again after a three-week summer break. The classes are held at the Millennium Hall each Thursday at 2 pm. There are spaces available so please contact Mick Hull on 772453 or Rita & Alan Webb on 770453 for more information.

We have had some feedback regarding destinations for next year's outings. Bournemouth has been suggested instead of Weston for our day trip in August, returning home at the earlier time of 4 pm. Garden Centres seem to be a popular choice, Lacock, Marlborough and Cirencester have also been suggested for a shorter day out. Please contact Louise on 772558 if you have any other suggestions as we will be making decisions fairly soon for all our outings in 2016.

The community defibrillator on the outside of the Village Hall is up and running after thirty people attended the recent training session. It's good to know we have the defibrillator and the people trained to use it but let's hope it's not needed too often!

I'm sorry to report the deaths of two Purton residents; Mr Roy Gregory and Mr Dennis Kelly. Our thoughts and condolences are with the families and friends of both gentlemen at this difficult time. We are very grateful to both families for allowing donations in lieu of flowers be shared between Purton Age Concern and other worthy causes.

**October 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 contact your street warden to book your place before Monday 28 September.

**3B's x2 Evening** – 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, or you may be disappointed!

**Antiques & Collectables Fayre** – This is on Sunday 18 October from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm at the Village Hall. There will be lots of stalls selling a variety of items. Admission is £1 and refreshments will be available. For further information and to book a table please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339.



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**Christmas Party at the Silver Threads Hall** – Our Christmas Party for less able pensioners is on Saturday 28 November from 3 pm to 5 pm at the Silver Threads Hall. The cost is £2.00. Wheelchair users and their carers will be made very welcome.

**Christmas Party at the Village Hall** – Our main Christmas Party is on Saturday 5 December from 5 pm to 8.30 pm at the Village Hall. The cost is £5.

**Christmas Market Stall** – Our Christmas market stall outside the Pavenhill shops will be on Saturday 12 December from 9 am to 12 noon.

Put these dates in your diary, more details about all three Christmas events next month.

### **Past Events**

**September Mystery Tour** – 40 people went on this tour. The numbers were higher than our previous two trips, proving our mystery tours are still popular. I've had some lovely feedback regarding the scenic route the coach driver took.

**Jumble sale** – This was our latest fundraising event on Saturday 5 September. We had a successful couple of hours. I will give the actual profit made in next month. Thanks to everyone who donated items for us to sell. Our next jumble sale will be in February 2016 – further details nearer the time.

### **Information**

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

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

**Minibuses** – to book the minibus, please contact Keith Hart on 771553.

**Introducer Service** – The list of products and service offered by Age UK Enterprises includes: Home Insurance, Car Insurance, Travel Insurance, Gas & Electricity, Funeral Plans, Annuity Service, Equity Release Advice Service, Hearing Aids, Personal Alarms, Stairlifts and Bathing Aids. For further information and/or a quote please contact Age UK on 0800 032 6476. If you would like a Product & Services leaflet please contact Louise on 772558.

*LOUISE TIDMAN*

## **Purton & District Age Concern Minibus Group - Volunteers Needed**

If you can spare a little time every week or even just a couple of hours now and again, please consider volunteering to drive our minibuses or be a driver's assistant. We are especially short of a driver's assistant on Friday mornings.

You don't need to commit to every week, just when you have some spare time. Any help would be really appreciated.

If you are interested please contact Andy White (Minibus Group Secretary) on 771656 or [andywhitepacmb@gmail.com](mailto:andywhitepacmb@gmail.com) for more details.

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## Purton Luncheon Club

Volunteers are required at the Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall, Purton.

Have you got time to spare to help us at the Luncheon Club? Tuesdays or Thursdays, 10.30 am to 1.30 pm. Once a fortnight or monthly?

It's a nice way to make friends and meet new people.

For more information please contact Pat Suddaby on 01793 771331.



## Five years on...

It's amazing to believe that I started the role of "Good Neighbour Co-ordinator" five years ago this month. Like all good projects, it started small with myself and two others recruited to cover three small areas of Wiltshire. Building on our success, we soon grew to cover the whole of Wiltshire and I could give you a load of statistics with client numbers etc. ... boring. Just believe me, it runs into thousands of people benefiting from the service.



Perhaps a recap of what I and my colleagues actually do. The whole concept was to be the person in the community who could help and support older and vulnerable people to live happy, healthy and fulfilling lives in their own homes. There are lots of organisations out there now doing something similar – GPs, Social Services, etc, plus organisations such as Carers Support, Alzheimers Society, Stroke Association etc. All of these help and support people that meet their specific criteria; many would ask why the GNC role is needed!

The difference is that we get to know the person rather than their medical condition and so support all elderly people. As we get older we often need to modify our lives in tune with changing abilities. Prime example being that I now need to use reading glasses – but I don't admit to getting old!

So, GNCs offer information on a huge range of topics and if we don't know the answers, we try to find out. We can provide information on health and home safety, finances and benefits, transport and mobility, befriending and social groups within your community. Our service is free and confidential and we only visit when asked, we don't "cold call".

If you have any questions about this or, if I can help in any other way through the Good Neighbour role, give me a call on: 07557 110414.

*ELLEN BLACKER*

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2015

**24 October to 7 November**

Can you help with this year's Poppy Appeal? Extra help is always needed both with the house-to-house collections in the village, and also with the collections held at the West Swindon shopping centre on the Thursday and Friday of each week.



Please contact Michael or Shirley Lawrence on 01793 771084. We will be very pleased to hear from you.



### Smart New Start for Bradon Forest School

New Year 7 students at Bradon Forest School will start the term proudly sporting the smart new uniform, as chosen by our students.

Students approached staff during the last academic year to say that they didn't feel the old uniform of polo shirts and jumpers reflected who they wanted to be as learners. After consultation with the Student Council a variety of formal and more relaxed options were presented to the rest of the student body. The overwhelming vote was for new blazers, shirts and ties. Students felt that the new look emulated the professional workplace and prepared them for learning.



*"We were pleased to work alongside our students to create a new uniform and PE kit for Bradon Forest School. It is great to see young people taking ownership of their school environment and having a mature approach to their studies,"* Dr Morrison, Headteacher.

Students return to the school celebrating the success of the summer, with record GCSE results for the third consecutive year. 62% of students have achieved the government's 'gold standard' of 5 A\* - C including English and Mathematics.

With half of students taking individual Biology, Chemistry and Physics alongside Humanities and MFL subjects it is great to see our students succeeding in many of key qualifications valued by employers and universities. As ever there were several notable individual achievements with 21 students gaining eight or more A - A\* grades.

The beginning of the new academic year also marked the start of life for Bradon Forest School as an academy. The school has become a member of the Athelstan Trust, a group of three secondary schools established by Malmesbury School.

We are still running **Open Morning Tours** during the School Day in early October for parents and pupils currently in Year 6. Parents of Year 5 pupils also welcome.

**Monday 5 October 2015 to Friday 9 October 2015 from 9.15 am to 11 am.**

*No booking necessary.*

We welcome parents and pupils to come and visit our school. For more information, please contact: Admissions, Mrs Emma Wheeler, 01793 770570 or visit our website [www.bradonforest.org.uk](http://www.bradonforest.org.uk)



# St Mary's CE Primary School



## Mr Wintle Retires and Excitement at the Start of Term

At the end of the Summer Term we said farewell to Mr Chris Wintle. Mr Wintle had been a teacher at St Mary's for an incredible 28 years, and during that time had a huge impact on many pupils and families not only in the classroom, but through sharing his passions (and time) by organising football teams, arranging productions, leading choirs and much more! He will be missed greatly as a highly valued and experienced member of our staff team. At the end of the Summer Term a special farewell assembly was held for Mr Wintle where we used our maths skills to work out a variety of questions about his life at St Mary's. How many minutes do you think Mr Wintle taught for? How many football matches do you think he organised? Even how many cups of tea he drank! We all wish Mr Wintle a very happy, enjoyable and rewarding retirement.



We have welcomed a number of new members of staff this year and they have enhanced our pool of talented teachers

still further. The new Foundation Stage children have already settled well and are enjoying making new friends and starting their journey into school life. All the other children have returned excited and ready to learn and have already been enthused about their topics this coming term.

The teachers and other adults have prepared the class environments to be exciting and stimulate learning. Our libraries look fantastic and are ready to welcome all our young readers again. New outdoor toys have been purchased, with help from our supportive and dedicated PTA, so playtimes are great fun. The school is buzzing!



At St Mary's we believe that when children are interested in learning they will



thrive, therefore our topics are wide and varied. Our curriculum is creative and we link all subjects to an over-arching topic, this ensures our children enjoy and are engaged in all aspects of learning. Below are just a few examples of the activities they will be doing this term. There is so much fun planned, I can't describe it all!

**Year 5 and 6:** The children are learning about 'Great Britons'. They will be exploring the roles of scientists, sports people, artists, mathematicians, musicians, politicians and computing experts to name just a few. They

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will be using role play, art, music, ICT and more to explore how these individuals help to make Britain great. They will be reading, writing and using their maths skills to further enhance their learning experience.

**Years 3 and 4:** The children are learning about natural habitats, particularly the river bank, within the topic 'The Wind in the Willows'. They have been making masks in art, writing settings in English and linking music to this theme too!



**Years 1 and 2:** The children are focusing on 'Fantastic Families'. They are learning about families from the youngest members of their family, to the oldest, with lots of number work here too! They have been singing songs, creating art work and writing facts. With lots more planned for the coming term. They were even visited today by a brand new baby!

**Foundation Stage:** The focus is 'Knowing Me, Knowing You'. The children are getting to know each other and the adults in school. They are learning about people within school who help them, those who help in the local community. They will have visitors into class and make visits to places in the local community.

Giving the children plenty of first hand experiences is a key focus for us and all our children at St Mary's CE Primary School.

We know the children at St Mary's will have every opportunity to have great fun learning this year! We look forward to sharing this learning with you.

*Mrs CLARKE, Headteacher*

## Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

At the time of writing the units have only just returned from the summer break and all units have welcomed new members. Those joining Rainbows are brand new to the organisation whilst most of the new Brownies and Guides have progressed from the younger age groups. It's always exciting to 'move up' although it can also be a little daunting to go from being the eldest in the previous age group to the youngest in the new one. Making new members feel welcome is very important to us and it's a responsibility shared by girls and Leaders in the units alike.

Rainbows love nothing better than a celebration, so to kick off the term they made crowns to celebrate the Queen's "longest reign". There was expert use of silver foil and hair grips although sadly no real rubies!

1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies shared news of their summer holidays and had some very diverse tales to tell. 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies started on the Seasons badge by making butterfly mobiles. In the Guide unit, Kirstie, their Young Leader, organised games to get everyone working together in Patrols. There was lots of giggling and a healthy dose of competitiveness.

Rosie and Becky, Brownie and Leader respectively with 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies, are



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back into the swing of rehearsals for the Swindon Gang Show taking place at the end of November. Purton Brownies and Guides will be going to one of the performances to cheer them on. Tickets are now on sale via the Wyvern box office and support for our local talent would be welcome. Have you booked your tickets yet?

At the end of the summer term the Rainbows said goodbye to Megan (Owl) who had been a Guide Helper/Young Leader with the unit for five years. Unfortunately her studies now mean that she's unable to be back in the village in time for Rainbows. 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies also said farewell to Beth who had been with them for a few months to complete the service element of her Duke of Edinburgh's Award. She enjoyed herself so much that she stayed for longer than the period she needed to and hopes to return when she progresses to the next D of E level. Both Megan and Beth made great contributions to the units and will be missed.

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@wncounty.org.uk](mailto:braydondc@wncounty.org.uk). You can also register interest on-line at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

[www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision](http://www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision)



## Autumn

October sunrise spangles cobwebs draped on the hedge to dry.  
Late roses view for attention  
with their own red hips and, in the angle  
of the buttressed wall,  
tall Chinese Lanterns deepen to coral. All the dancing trees  
kindle in colour as the clouds mass and pile, and pale wild asters  
smoke at the foot of the incandescent Spindle.  
Why, this third Season,  
the melancholy ice-shard in the heart?  
With what reason rue  
such a brave parade celebrating the closing year?  
See! Before the Holly has coloured crimson  
or Beechfall dropped to a crisp drift, look,  
There, on the Hazel bush, unquestionably showing  
among the fat nuts and the gilded leaves,  
January's infant catkins already growing.

*Mary Morton*

## Requiem for Soldiers

As part of the Royal Wootton Bassett Art Festival 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the First Performance of *A Requiem for Soldiers* by the renowned Purton composer Frank Harvey will be performed by Royal Wootton Bassett Choral Society as part of a full musical evening at The Academy Royal Wootton Bassett School on Sunday 15 November, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets available from usual RWB outlets including Brian Taylor Music in the High Street..

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## Gaffer's Tales

Hello again, Old Gaffer here,

Sheep. It seems their only goal in life is to die. Turn on their backs, they can't get up. Best place for sheep is on a plate, with mint sauce. That's a good way to worry sheep, yell 'Mint Sauce!' at them, they do not like that. While on the subject of sheep worrying, there is a law in this country that permits a farmer to shoot dogs that chase sheep. So please do not let your dog worry sheep, it might be fatal for the dog.

I kept a few sheep once, only about 8 ewes and learnt a bit about them as I went along. I was only a teenager at the time and I bought them at the local market. They were Cluns, quite a big breed, surprisingly big and strong when I had to handle them to check their feet. After a while it was time to put them to the ram. I did not have a ram, so had to borrow one. There was one I could have about twenty miles away, but how to get him home?! The farmer I was working for said he would fetch it, if I came too. It was when the ram was sat on the back seat of the car, with me, I knew why I had to go as well. Rambo the ram was quite well-behaved on the journey home. I had to hold him still, while he glowered at me with his big black slit eyes. He had a thick curly fleece, and a black nose, but never said a word. On arriving home, he leaped out of the back seat, and surveyed his small flock of new wives, no doubt he felt his luck was in. He soon settled down, and all was fine. After he had done what he came for, he was taken back, again on the back seat. I'm sure he had a grin on his face.

In the following spring, the ewes were about three weeks off lambing, then one Wednesday, I heard them bleating, and the sound of a hunting horn. Looking out I was horrified to see the horses of the hunt charging across the field, with the heavily pregnant sheep running madly about. They crashed through the hedge and into the next field, followed by the hunt in full cry. What with the hounds baying, and the huntsmen, the sheep were chased across three fields, a road and into two more fields, I was very cross and shouted at the hunters. They didn't seem to care one bit. Ever since I have hated the hunt. They seem to think they can go where they like. The sheep seemed to be alright after their ordeal, but I was concerned about them being chased so near to lambing. It was a case of wait and see.

Three weeks later, the first lamb arrived safely, soon followed by some more. Then there was a problem, a ewe was trying the lamb, a large lamb, and it was decided to get the vet. He duly arrived, and after examining the patient, he decided it was a case for a caesarean operation. The ewe was sedated and placed on a bale of straw, and made ready for the off. I was designated to hold the sheep's back legs, and to keep the sheep still. All went fine, wool was clipped and we were set. The vet, with his scalpel, started and said "I'm just cutting the peritoneum", I said "the perishing what?", with that, blood spurted and I was on the floor, out like a light, sheep on top of me. I was excused and the vet finished the operation. Two fine lambs were born. The rest of the flock lambed well, with no dead lambs, even after their experience with the hunt!

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All the sheep were sold at market with their lambs, and while at the market I overheard a woman say to another "I'd love to take a lamb home and cuddle it in bed". The other woman replied "I'd rather take the farmer!"

That's all for now

GAFFER

## Swindon Dial A Ride – A lifeline service

**Swindon Dial A Ride** provides door to door transport for people of any age who are unable to use existing public transport due to a temporary or permanent impairment or disability. Community Transport provides a vehicle hire service for local community groups.



Our fleet of fully accessible minibuses travel throughout the Swindon Borough including Purton and the Lydiards. The Dial A Ride Bus service can be used for a variety of purposes, such as traveling to work or training, going shopping or social activities like the cinema or bingo. The service runs Monday to Saturday 9 am to 5 pm; to book a journey simply call at 10 am the day before you would like to travel.

**To use Dial A Ride you will need to register with us. For a FREE registration pack or further information please telephone 01793 616050 after 12 noon.**

**Community Transport** has a range of wheelchair accessible minibuses that any voluntary or community group in the local area can hire. Perhaps you run a scout group or a senior citizens club? The minibus would allow you to take your group on a day trip or longer, maybe to the seaside or to a garden centre for a cream tea.

Additionally, we have an Access Car available for hire to individuals, small groups or families where one member has a disability. It is particularly suitable for people who need to travel in their wheelchair.

The hired vehicles can be used to travel anywhere in mainland Britain and could mean that a family member or friend can join you on a weekend break or summer holiday.

**For further information about Community Transport vehicle hire please call 01793 617828.**

## We Record ...

### *Weddings at St Mary's Church:*

15 August	Daniel Gray & Rebecca Ann Fallon
26 August	Martin Andrew Bund & Melanie Herman

### *Funerals at St Mary's Church:*

18 August	Robert William Henry Dibling
7 September	Charles Roy Gregory

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





# PURTON 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.



## ■ ROY GREGORY

Margaret Gregory and family wish to say a big 'thank you' for all the many lovely cards and messages of condolence received in remembrance of Roy. We thank everyone who attended the services at St Mary's Church and at the Crematorium and especially the Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith who conducted the services at both venues.

We are also grateful to the staff at Great Western Hospital for making Roy's last days as comfortable as possible.

I am grateful for the support of my family and friends, for helping me through this sad and difficult time. Their thoughtfulness has been such a blessing

## ■ DEAR FRIENDS

What a wonderful day I had when you joined me to help celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Also, such lovely cards and presents. My garden has new plants, the

house had lovely flowers, I enjoyed fruit, chocolate and homemade biscuits! Also many other super gifts, the most unusual one being a Bag Garden for a family in Africa, via [sendacow.org.uk](http://sendacow.org.uk).

Thank you all so much.

*Moira Hayward*

## ■ CHARITY WALK

I would like to thank the many people from Silver Threads, neighbours and friends who sponsored my charity walk to raise money for cancer research. To these people I owe a great debt of gratitude.

I also wish to thank my very patient husband who trained by my side on every training session.

*Mrs Hazel Beckett*

## Purton & District Guide Dogs

On 12 September I did a stall for Swindon Branch at the Old Town Autumn Fair, which is held in the grounds and Community Centre of Christ Church. I will tell you how I got on in the November Magazine.

The Cricklade Band will be giving us a Concert in the Village Hall on Thursday 8 October, 7.30 pm start. Admission is £6. The first part of the concert will be by The Academy, then the full band play for the rest of the concert. Some of the Academy members have reached the level at which they can also play in the full band. Those of you who have been to previous concerts will be fully aware of the excellent performance quality we have come to appreciate, so come along and be entertained. We will have a stall, raffle, and will serve light refreshments in the interval.

Many thanks for your continued support.

*BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group*



# PURTON PLACARD

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



## PURTON AGE CONCERN *Mystery Tour*

Wednesday 7 October  
Coach leaves at 10 am  
Cost - £13 for village pensioners  
(lunch included)  
Join us for our last mystery tour of 2015!

## St Mary's Church **CHRISTMAS MARKET**

on Saturday 28 November  
in the Village Hall  
12 noon - 2.30 pm  
Come and have your lunch!! ...  
Lunches served – Hot meat baps  
Many attractions and stalls, including:  
Home-made produce  
Books, Cakes and many more stalls  
Activities for children  
St Mary's School Choir will be singing  
Mince pies, teas and coffees

## 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!

## **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

## **Afternoon Cream Tea**

Silver Threads Hall  
Sunday 1 November : 1 - 3 pm  
Tickets £5 - Scone, cream & jam +  
slice of cake + tea or coffee  
Under 8s £3.  
Homemade produce for sale + Raffle  
Raising funds for Archie Moody's  
World Challenge trip to Iceland  
with Bradon Forest School  
in July 2016.  
Please call 772562 or 07449 940195  
to book tickets.

### **Whist Drive**

Wednesday 25  
November  
7.30 pm  
Silver Threads Hall  
Raffle Refreshments  
Proceeds to Wiltshire Air  
Ambulance



### **Coffee Morning**

Saturday 24 October : 10 - 12  
Silver Threads Hall  
Various Stalls & Raffle  
Admission £1 includes  
refreshment and biscuit

Purton Tennis Club

### **Race Night**

The Red House  
Saturday 21 November  
7.30 pm

### 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

### **Purton Food Festival**

Saturday 14 November : 12 noon to 4 pm  
at the Village Hall

Food producers - Crafts people  
Light refreshments - Tea and coffee  
Homemade soup and cakes  
Entry £1, under 16 free.

01793 770648 or

[mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk)

All profits to Pips Community Café.

### **Magazine delivered FREE**

Your Magazine can be delivered free to  
your door every month for a £6 annual  
subscription within our area. Postal  
deliveries cost £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](mailto:sandra_horsnall@yahoo.co.uk)

## Malta in Mediterranean History

### **A series of six weekly talks organized by the Purton Historical Society**

No other island of its size in the World has such a dramatic history as Malta. Its location in the Mediterranean has made it attractive to endless settlers and conquerors. Perhaps the most romantic and influential were the Knights of St John.

**Venue:** The Silver Threads Hall, Purton.

**Speaker:** Mr. P. Booy B.ed Hist. Hons.

**Dates and Times:** See below

**Course Fees:** £22 on the night, £20 if booked in advance.

**Further Information:** Inez Gale, 770138 or Paul Booy 770755

Wed 7 Oct 7.30 pm: Malta: Pre-History, St Paul in Malta

Wed 14 Oct. 7.30 pm: The Siege of Malta,  
The Battle of Lepanto

Wed 21 Oct 7.30 pm: The Inquisition, Caravaggio comes to Malta

Wed 4 Nov 7.30 pm: Napoleon in Malta, Malta and the British Empire

Wed 11 Nov 7.30 pm: Malta in World War II, The Air War



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## Purton Diary - October 2015

- 1 Th 10.30am Communion at St Mary's Church
- 3 Sa 6.60pm Harvest Festival charity auction at The Royal George  
7.00pm Barn Dance, Purton Village Hall
- 4 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church  
10.30am Harvest Festival:United Parade Family Service at St Mary's Church  
6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's Church
- 7 W 10.00am "Storytime" at library for pre-school children  
10.00am Age Concern Mystery Tour with lunch included  
7.30pm Historical Society Course: Malta, at Silver Threads Hall, *then on 14, 21 October*
- 8 Th 10.30am Songs of Praise at The Cedars  
7.30pm Cricklade Band concert at Village Hall *for Guide Dogs*
- 9 F 9.30am Age Concern Minibus to Swindon  
7.30pm Age Concern 3B's x 2 evening at Silver Threads Hall  
8.00pm PADS presents "The Frogs" at Village Hall
- 10 Sa 8.00pm PADS presents "The Frogs" at Village Hall
- 11 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church  
10.30am United Service at the Methodist Church for Methodist Church Anniversary  
4.00pm Messy Church at St Mary's Church
- 12 M 7.00pm Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
- 13 Tu 10.00am Purton Probus at the Red House  
10.30am Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House  
2.00pm Silver Threads: Dorcan Choir entertain  
7.30pm Purton Surgery, Information evening – Arthritis
- 14 W 2.30pm Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church: Speaker - Rev Rachael Wilson from Cricklade  
7.30pm Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
- 17 Sa 7.30pm Quiz Night at Village Hall - see Placard for details
- 18 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  
10.30am *to 4.30pm: Antiques & Collectable Fayre at Village Hall*
- 19 M 7.30pm St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: *Work of Swindon Commercial Chaplaincy*
- 20 Tu 7.45pm Royal British Legion at The Red House  
8.00pm After 8: Looking back, led by Eve at Marion's
- 21 W 2.00pm Communion at Ashgrove House  
7.30pm Purton Evening W.I. at Village Hall, Purton Bell ringers
- 22 Th 7.30pm Purton Historical Society at Village Hall: Martin Collison – *Life in the East End – a story of a Fancy Box Cutter*
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24	Sa		to 7 Nov: RBL Poppy Appeal House to House collections Coffee morning at Silver Threads Hall
25	Su	10.00am	<b>British Summer Time ends, clocks go back</b>
		8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
27	Tu	2.00pm	Silver Threads: Jenny Burnes - <i>Memories of Silver Threads</i>
		2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Jeff Nichols - <i>The Molecatcher Show</i>
31	Sa		<b>Hallowe'en</b>

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### 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

🌑 4 October
● 13 October
🌓 20 October
○ 27 October

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

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

## Purton Amateur Dramatic Society present:

### **The Frogs by Aristophanes, Adapted by Olly Webb**

Our Autumn Play is "The Frogs" by Aristophanes – adapted and directed by Olly Webb. This will be on Friday/Saturday 9/10 October at 8 pm and is something different for you to enjoy – please come along and support us. Tickets £7.50 Adults, £6 Concessions. Available from the usual places or telephone numbers below. Licensed Bar during the interval and afterwards.

This is a Greek Comedy with varying degrees of weird and wonderful characters, past and present (not all Greek!) We are pleased that Tania and her Dancers are providing the chorus so please come along for an enjoyable evening of entertainment.

LINDSEY HALL (771890) / KATE BATH (771442)



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# Great War Project

## Part 27: October 1915

### ***Edith Cavell:***

To many, the most memorable event of October 1915 was the execution of British nurse Edith Cavell. When Brussels fell to the German invasion in November 1914, she began sheltering wounded British and French soldiers, and Belgian and French civilians of military age, hiding them from the Germans and providing them with false papers. They were then helped out of occupied Belgium to Holland which was a neutral country. In doing this, Cavell was helping soldiers to escape to a country at



war with Germany, i.e. Britain, and was therefore violating German military law: "Conducting soldiers to the enemy". For that the penalty was death. She was arrested on 3 August 1915 and charged with harbouring Allied soldiers.

The Geneva Convention (1906 version) stated that protection of medical personnel was forfeit if they were used their position as cover for any belligerent action.

Cavell was one of 27 put on trial. Five were condemned to death, though 3 were later reprieved. Cavell and Phillipe Baucq (an architect in his thirties) were executed by firing squad on 12 October 1915. The German legal position did not prevent international outrage.

The night before her execution, she told the Reverend Stirling Gahan, an Anglican chaplain who had been allowed to see her, "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone." These words are inscribed on her statue in St Martin's Place, near Trafalgar Square in London.

### ***The Fall of Serbia:***

At the time of the Great War, Bulgaria owned the Aegean coastline between the Greek island of Thasos and the border with European Turkey. When Bulgaria signed a treaty with Germany on 12 September 1915, Greece was alarmed. On 2 October, the Greek Prime Minister, Venizelos, without parliamentary approval asked Britain and France to land troops at Salonika (modern Thessaloniki) as soon as possible. Allied troops began arriving off Salonika the following day, landing on 5 October. King Constantine and the Greek government protested and announced a policy of armed neutrality. Venizelos resigned.

Austria captured Belgrade, the Serbian capital, on 9 October and Serbia, foreseeing an attack from the east by Bulgaria, asked Greece for help under the terms of the 1912 Serbo-Greek Treaty. Greece declined. Bulgaria entered the war when its forces invaded Serbia on 14 October. An advance by British and French forces from Salonika into Serbian Macedonia only managed to slow the fall of Serbia and allow many of the Serbian army time to escape to Albania, and onward to Corfu. Britain and Montenegro declared war on Bulgaria on 15 October and

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Britain began a naval blockade of the Aegean coast.

On 16 October Britain offered the island of Cyprus to Greece on the condition that Greece entered the war on the Allied side. The Greek Government rejected the offer and remained neutral.

### **Gallipoli:**

In October 1915, the following men with Purton connections were mobilised to Gallipoli: Ernest John Godwin, Australian Imperial Force  
Arthur Frederick Purnell, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

The actions at the Dardanelles had stalled and as summer turned to autumn, severe south-westerly storms lashed the Gallipoli peninsula (8 October). Considerable damage was done at Anzac Cove, particularly to the water supply.

A War Office memorandum had been issued to hospital ships warning against defeatism and saying that medical staff must maintain a hearty tone of optimism to raise the confidence and courage of the fighting men in their charge. However, talk was of an evacuation but General Sir Ian Hamilton suggested that half the total force might be lost in the process. The Cabinet's Dardanelles Committee dismissed Hamilton as commander of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force, appointing General Sir Charles Monro in his place.

The decision was taken to wind down actions at Gallipoli and the final meeting of the Dardanelles Committee was held on 30 October. The next day, Monro advised Lord Kitchener there should be a complete withdrawal from Gallipoli. He estimated that evacuation could lead to a casualty rate of 30-40 percent of the force and an equal amount of war material.

On 21 October, Vera Deakin, daughter of former Australian Prime Minister Alfred Deakin, established the Australian Red Cross Missing and Wounded Enquiry Bureau in Cairo. And perhaps the youngest Australian soldier to die at Gallipoli was Private James Martin, 21<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Victoria) from enteric fever, aged 14, on 23 October.

### **In the Air and on Sea:**

On 13 October, the most severe airship raid on London and the English east coast resulted in 200 casualties. And on 23 October, the German armoured cruiser SMS Prinz Adalbert was torpedoed in the Baltic by the British submarine E8; only three men were rescued from a crew of 675.

*RICK DIXON*

## **Museum News**

### **Appeal for an Hon. Curator**

It is now 25 years since Purton Museum opened. The first official Hon. Curator was Alec Robbins and since Alec moved away from Purton, there have been 4 Curators, all helping to develop the displays and archives.

Purton Historical Society are now looking for someone to carry on the baton, with the assistance of the retired Curator Jan Walker and the Museum Committee.

For more information please contact Marion Hobbs, Chairperson, Purton Historical Society Telephone 01793 770185, [roy.marion@btinternet.com](mailto:roy.marion@btinternet.com)

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## The Royal British Legion Purton Branch Flower Show



Sadly we had to change our venue from the Red House because it was not big enough for our continued increase in entries. This is excellent but, of course, the Red House is the headquarters of the Royal British Legion and the shows have always been held there.

As you can imagine, with a new venue there was lots of organising to do but we felt that it all went well with only a few minor adjustments to make for Saturday 27 August 2016. Yes we are having one next year!

The biggest problem we see is the cost of the hall. This year we were very lucky as Chris and Lindsay Rumming of Lydiard Turkeys sponsored it, for which we are extremely grateful. If anyone feels they would like to help sponsor the cost of the hall for 2016, no matter how small a contribution, it would be most appreciated. Any sponsorship means we can give more of the profit to the Royal British Legion.

Looking ahead to 2016, we are looking for a new secretary as Heather Harris has resigned from the committee – quite understandable in her circumstances. Could we thank her most sincerely for all the hard work she has put in, helping to make the show the success it is today. Many thanks Heather, we shall all miss you.

I have said about the success the show is today, well we made £739 profit. If we take the cost of the hall out - £175 - this would bring the profit down considerably. We would also like to thank all the other sponsors and advertisers for helping us achieve this total and, more importantly, the exhibitors. Thank you one and all.

The exhibits at this year's show were very good, in fact some were excellent to a very high standard. When you looked inside the hall at all the exhibits laid out, it was a picture. It would be a great help if the entries could be in before we set the hall out on the Friday evening. David Herbert, our chairman, did a very good job laying it all out but, with late entries, he had to move everything round to make extra room.

If you feel you would like to know more about becoming secretary or a sponsor, please contact one of the committee – Dr John Belt, Maureen & Arthur Griffin, David Herbert (chairman), Graham Price (treasurer), Sheila & Tony Price and Lindsay & Chris Rumming.

Get planning for next year's show!

**OUR FAMILY'S WAR:** We have already received a number of contributions for this feature, 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.

### DISCLAIMER

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

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

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



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## Bierkeller Night with the Cricklade Band

The Club at Cricklade – Saturday 17 October!

If you fondly remember surviving past 'Hogtoberfests' then you'll know what's ahead!

The music, all live and all lively, is a mix of the best oompah that you would hear at Munich's Oktoberfest together with all the party-piece music\* that you just have to dance to – and all from Cricklade's brass big-band. \*Yes, including the 'Dambusters'!

You'll also be able to buy pork rolls, together with all the trimmings and a vegetarian option too. Then there's a great choice from the bar – with German Bier of course – and all served to your table.

As far as etiquette goes, there is none – get into the spirit of things by wearing something appropriate or even inappropriate! We'll have something for you to make some noise with if you wish, join in with the clapping, swaying, the Hogfest Conga, the dancing and the singing. Please have a think before you bring those under 18!

Bierkeller Night tickets – here's the important bit – they will be available from 17 September exclusively from the friendly staff at Cricklade Council Office, in the High Street. Entry and entertainment is by ticket only at just £8 – there are only 150 tickets, and when they're gone, they're gone!

Have a look at the website for more stuff about Cricklade's own Band, Crew and BandAcademy – [www.thecrickladeband.co.uk](http://www.thecrickladeband.co.uk)

## Ashton Keynes Choir Seeks New Accompanist

Ashton Keynes Village Choir is urgently seeking a new accompanist to start immediately. Are you interested, or do you know someone who might be?

We are a mixed ability, mixed age choir founded in 1996. We have about 45 members, most of whom live in Ashton Keynes with others drawn from surrounding towns and villages, including Purton. Rehearsals are every Tuesday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm in Ashton Keynes Primary School.

We perform two concerts in the village each year, at Christmas, in Ashton Keynes Church and in May/June, usually in the school hall. Choir terms run from September through to mid May/June (depending on concert date) with breaks at Christmas and Easter.

Over the years, the level and variety of music tackled have both increased. Larger works have included Vivaldi *Gloria*, Fauré *Requiem*, Pergolesi *Magnificat*, Monteverdi *Beatus Vir*. Programmes have also featured medleys from various musicals including *Les Miserables* and *Phantom of the Opera*, and many shorter works such as spirituals, folk songs and arrangements of contemporary pieces.

Fees for this position are negotiable. Even if you cannot commit to playing every week, we would still be very interested to hear from you.

If you would like further information please look at our website [www.ashtonkeyneschoir.org.uk](http://www.ashtonkeyneschoir.org.uk) or contact the choir Secretary at [ashtonkeyneschoir@gmail.com](mailto:ashtonkeyneschoir@gmail.com)



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## Purton Defibrillator

The Purton Scarecrow Team is delighted to say that Purton now has an active defibrillator. It is located outside the main entrance to the Village Hall at the top of Station Road.

We should like to say a big thank-you to all of our volunteer checkers who will be keeping a close eye on it to ensure it is maintained in good working order.

We held a “defibrillator awareness” session on 26 August and it was very helpful: training in operating it is not required because if you have to use the defibrillator it will talk you through each step and there is a video screen with examples of how to use it too. Our instructor, Jonathon, gave us an informative but light-hearted session that highlighted the relevant key points in an emergency, making learning about a very serious and potentially stressful situation both memorable and enjoyable.

We wish to offer our thanks to Age Concern for their generous donation towards the defibrillator maintenance fund. As we mentioned in previous articles we shall continue to raise money because there are on-going costs, such as battery and defibrillator pad replacement if the expiry date is passed, or for future training sessions. In the long term we are keen to raise enough money to purchase a second defibrillator to be situated at the top of the village. If you would like to donate please contact [purtonscarecrow@aol.com](mailto:purtonscarecrow@aol.com) or telephone 01793 772158 – any donation welcome. We are also very grateful for the excellent support that we have received from Purton Parish Council. Debbie Lawrence, Geoff Greenaway and the team have all helped us to achieve our goal.

Remember that in an emergency if someone collapses and you think their heart is not beating correctly, if you need to use the defibrillator, you can do no harm: Dial 999 and the operator will tell you how to access the equipment. It will only activate to give a shock if it detects that it will help the person who has collapsed. This action buys precious time whilst waiting for the Emergency Services to arrive to help you after you have called 999.

ALISON BUNCE

## Purton Historical Society

### Future Meeting

**Thursday 22 October at 7.30 p.m. in Purton Village Hall**

**Life in the East End – a story of a Fancy Box Cutter – Martin Collison**

This talk covers the social history of the East End of London, mainly in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries together with Martin’s own personal family history during that period.

It highlights the social deprivation of the area, the people who sought to improve the life of the working poor and the colourful characters that lived there.

The talk also covers the major changes brought about by the building of the London docks and the political turmoil of the time. New members and visitors always welcome, email [tjneate57@gmail.com](mailto:tjneate57@gmail.com) or call 770117.

TONY & JAN NEATE



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## Decorating St Mary's for Harvest Festival

Please do feel very welcome to come and join us when we decorate St Mary's for Harvest Festival. We shall be in the Church from 9.30 on Saturday 3 October. Little baskets or bunches of flowers will be welcome, as well as garden flowers that can be used in vases and other decorations.

We welcome everyone of every age and skill level

Thank you:

LIBBIE, tel 771018

### Church Floodlighting

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



- 2 October      St Mary's will be floodlit for **Lilian Slade** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of her death. Always in our hearts and thoughts. With all our love. Ron, Geoff and Lyn and families
- 3 October      St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Frances Scott** on the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of her death. From her sons Mick and Nigel
- 30 October     The Church will be floodlit in loving memory of **Jessica Mutter** on her birthday. From all her family

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

### 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

### Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Witfield Close, Glevum Close, The Common and Locks Lane*.

If there is anyone or anything that you would like us to pray for during our Sunday worship, please contact Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith, Revd Judith Wells or 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.



## Information Evening – Arthritis

As there were so many who were unable to attend our last evening on this subject we are holding a repeat presentation on **Tuesday 13 October from 7.30-9pm 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:** 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 on Monday 9 November** when we will also have a speaker from the British Heart Foundation. The evening will run from **7.30-9pm**. 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 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 eligibility for these vaccinations

## New Patient Check-in System, Purton Surgery

As you will remember the money raised at our Vintage Tea Party last January was to part-fund a new patient check-in system in Purton Surgery and we are pleased to tell you that there are now plans to install this in the near future. We are sure that some of you will already be familiar with this kind of system in other surgeries you may have used, but initially there will be staff on hand to assist and patients can still check in with a receptionist if they wish to.

G4P will be holding our second Vintage Tea Party on Saturday 16 January and the money raised from this will be given to the Surgery to support this system.

## Online appointments for children

In line with national policy and due to the legal complexities of the Gillick case (1986), the surgery is unable to offer online booking to under-16 year olds in order to maintain patient confidentiality. The surgery has to balance the requirements of patients and their parents whilst avoiding the legal problems which could result in an inappropriate situation slipping through, particularly with an older child. However, it is realised that this can cause problems for some parents and if you do need to make an online booking for your child then please make the appointment in your own name and then add a note that this appointment is for a child and give your child's name and date of birth.

**The Practice website** is full of useful information, do check it regularly: [www.purtonsurgery.co.uk](http://www.purtonsurgery.co.uk)

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary, G4P

## Lifestyle

Reminds me of my safari in Africa. Somebody forgot the corkscrew and for several days we had to live on nothing but food and water.

W. C. Fields (1880 - 1946)

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## Purton Purton & District Probus Club



At the meeting of 11 August, Amy Woolacott of the Leckhampton Local History Society gave a talk entitled "If the stones could only speak". It was inspired by the rediscovery of the Tibblestone, now a listed monument, at Teddington Hands crossroads north of Cheltenham. Folklore tells that a Giant threw the stone toward the Severn at Tewkesbury leaving a heel mark on the side of Dixon Hill where he stood. Also known as Theobald's stone, it gave its name to the Tibblestone Hundred and archaeology suggests an Anglo-Saxon meeting place. The talk was illustrated by slides of the many different areas where megaliths and cromlechs occur: from Scotland to Land's End and from west Wales to Oxfordshire, there being little evidence of any sites east of Oxford. There are many myths and legends attached to almost all of these monuments, but only painstaking excavation can make the stones reveal the true stories. A legend, illustrated by Arthur Rackham pictures, told the story of Blakemere pond on a high peat moor in Staffordshire. A certain Joshua Linnet, rejected by a young lady, accused her of witchcraft which resulted in her being drowned in the pool. Three days later he also drowned there as a result of her curse. The pictures show a Mermaid who lures men to their deaths and frightens wildlife from the pool. The next slide showed Thor's Cave, again in Staffordshire, high above the Manifold valley, with evidence of habitation from 8000 years ago. Stone tools, pottery, amber beads and bronze items with a burial of at least 7 humans indicates use of the cave through Palaeolithic, Iron Age and Roman Periods. The talk continued with slides of some of the many stone circles and megaliths that are found all over Celtic Britain. The Orkney's complex of megaliths has 'passage mounds' similar to those found on the Boyne in Ireland. In the Lake District we saw Castlerigg, Swinside and in a churchyard near Penrith the Dacre Bears. Also nearby is Long Meg and her daughters from the Bronze Age – 59 stones, some with mysterious ring markings, set out with Solar and Lunar significance. In Yorkshire the picture was of The Devil's Arrows, in Shropshire of The Devil's Seat. In Wales we saw the King's Quoit and Pentre Ifan with their massive cap stones of 15 to 20 tons. On Bodmin, The Hurlers is a site with three stone circles and one of many giving evidence of widespread settlement on the moor and towards Land's End the Men-an-Tol (Cornish for 'the hole stone') was probably part of a burial chamber. The Muckle Stone in Shropshire is very similar. Such Holes in a stone were considered to be the entrance gate between Life and Death. Nearer home we came to the Rollright Stones, on the Oxfordshire/Warwickshire border, with its myth of a petrified King and his soldiers, together with a dolmen – The Whispering Knights. We saw the West Kennet long barrow and the Wayland Smith's Cave near the Uffington White Horse. Amy concluded with the chalk-stone figure of the Cerne Giant and related one or two of the legends associated with it.

On 25 August, Barry Dent related the biography of "Hugo Eckener - Master of Airships". Dr Hugo Eckener (1868-1954) was elected manager of the Luftschiffbau Zeppelin after the death of Graf von Zeppelin. He was born in Flensburg, his father Johann Cristoph Eckener, of Bremen, his mother Anna Lange. He was deemed an indifferent student, more interested in sports than science, but by 1892 had earned

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himself a Doctorate in Experimental psychology. After a short spell in the army, he worked as a journalist and editor at the Flensburg Nachrichten. In October 1897 he married Johanna Maass. While working for the Frankfurter Zeitung in 1905-06, Eckener got an assignment to cover the first flights of Zeppelins LZ1 And LZ2. He was very critical of the performances of both airships, but praised Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin for his dedication to the enterprise. The Count decided to talk to his critic and Eckener was so impressed by the Count that in October 1908 he agreed to become a part-time publicist for the Zeppelin Company. His interest in Airships grew and in time he joined the company full-time. In 1911 Eckener got his airship license becoming an airship captain with his talent for flying. His first flight on 16 May 1911 in the LZ8 damaged the airship due to excessive wind-speed but, in time, he became a very successful captain and trained airship pilots during and after WW1. In 1918, Dr Eckener succeeded his boss to take charge of the company, but by the Treaty of Versailles Germany was not allowed large airships. By lobbying the US and German governments, he was able to build LZ126 as part of Germany's war reparations. Later it was renamed USS Los Angeles and became the longest-serving rigid airship to operate in the US Navy. The next one built was Graf Zeppelin, the most successful rigid airship ever. Eckener was at the helm of Graf Zeppelin during most of its' record setting flights including the first intercontinental flight in 1928, around the world in 1929 and the Arctic in 1931. In the German presidential elections of 1932, Eckener opposed Hitler which angered the Nazi party. He was made 'persona non grata' and in 1933 was arrested. However he survived WW2 and, after the Hindenburg disaster, experimented with helium to replace the inflammable hydrogen, but large quantities of helium could not easily be obtained. He died in Friedrichshafen in 1954 and is remembered as the constructor of the most successful airship of its time. The subject of Barry's lecture was little known to most of us and was very well received.

The Probus Club meets at 10 am in the Red House lounge every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. 13 October: "South Sudan". 27 October: "Parish Ministry then and now".

New members and visitors welcome.

BOB STEVENS

## Purton Evening WI [purtonevewi.wordpress.com](http://purtonevewi.wordpress.com)

Everything went very well for the August meeting, when Nicola Cornick told us of her work as an author and guide at Ashdown House. This Oxfordshire residence, rather like a dolls' house and those innocent drawings we made as children, dates from 1665, and was designed for Lord Craven, of Cliveden fame – and a great admirer of Elizabeth of Bohemia, sister of Charles 1. Having been most of its life in the possession of a sole owner, it now belongs to the National Trust and must really be something dramatic to view – apparently the remarkable staircase takes up a quarter of the building! Nicola gave an excellent talk, packed with information and mostly about money, which seems to have been the keynote of the story!

Readers will already be familiar with my lack of dexterity with hand bells, as any Lydiard Millicent ringer will tell you. Its arms and legs flying everywhere; not



just the bells but also the music stands. I think I'll volunteer for tea-making at the time. Anyway, at the meeting of 21 October, Purton Bell Ringers will entertain and also encourage us to have a go at learning this pleasant skill.

To add to the variety of our programme: do prepare for 18 November, Members' Night, everyone talking about childhood or adult life and hobbies. Such a diverse group of ladies as we have in Purton means that we should have an interesting evening.

There are other pleasing moments if you are a WI Member – almost monthly we are each given a copy of Wiltshire News, which concerns WI activities in the County, and almost monthly the postman will call at your door with the national magazine, Life. Then there is the new WI rose (where should it be established?); and the need to support the Loop System for the Village Hall; and if you want to know more, then you just must come along and join us!

You are welcome to tea ... or coffee if preferred!

CONSTANCE REED, tel 771571

## After 8

Our August meeting was a lunchtime get-together which unfortunately meant that there were some working members who were unable to join us. However after initially thinking that there would only be six or seven, then around ten, we eventually ended up with thirteen meeting at the *Three Crowns* at Brinkworth with the staff getting more tables and chairs out to accommodate us!

As many will realise, the difficulty with having that number on a long line of tables is that there are several conversations going on at the same time and those in the middle try to keep pace with what is being said on each side of them (isn't it a human trait to be interested in other people's conversations?) plus having their own conversation ...

We looked at the menu and it was choices, choices – with some opting for a

lunchtime 'snack' (when they came we didn't think they were small enough to be called snacks though) and others choosing from the main menu. Then the choosing of puds – more decisions.

We were looking forward to our planned walk afterwards, but if you remember the weather at the end of August you will perhaps remember the rain! While most had decided not to walk there were at least three brave souls who came back to Purton for their boots with the intention of heading out and braving the weather.

Our 20 October meeting is "Looking Back" led by Eve at Marion's

SHEILA



**On The Lighter Side**

POPULAR MECHANICS ADVERTISING SECTION 45

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time.

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## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



We welcomed Bruce Porter to our August meeting for a talk entitled 'Vegetable growing for showing'. He has been the Principal of Jubilee Gardens for 30 years and calls himself an enthusiastic vegetable gardener. A garden of one acre, 2½ allotments and three greenhouses have allowed him to indulge his passion for show exhibiting, a passion he has followed for over 40 years.

He admits that show growing is an obsession and at local level has a somewhat cut-throat image, but maintains that at national level there is great camaraderie amongst exhibitors.

Beginning with the '4 Vegetables' class, Bruce explained that the allocation of points by show judges varies according to the vegetables being exhibited. For that reason it's more beneficial to exhibit onions, potatoes and leeks as they have a high points value, as opposed to the likes of courgettes and sweet corn that generate a lower points value.

Potatoes should be regular in shape, not too big and not too small. Particular varieties are Kestrel, Bluebell and Bonnie. As growing in the ground can produce scab, especially in this area, exhibition growers buy 20 litre plastic bags filling them with peat-based compost and fertiliser and placing them in soil enriched trenches. One of the best potato growers in the country grows as many as 500+ bags in this way.

When it comes to onions, Bruce referred to his 'long suffering wife', who has no summer holiday and has the misfortune of sharing her bedroom with his onion plants! In this category, judges look for uniformity, equal shapes and sizes.

The heaviest onion class speaks for itself with 'Kelsey' being one of the best varieties to grow. The ideal circumference should be 22" and the outer skin should be complete. Bruce uses Johnson's fine talcum powder rubbed in to the outer leaves to dry them out.

With Parsnips and Carrots, long, straight specimens is the order of the day and, to achieve this end, Bruce grows his in plastic tubs and wheelie bins. Using 1½-2" diameter pipe measuring about 2-3 feet in length, with a ½" diameter pipe fitted below will achieve a total depth of approximately 5 feet. The pipes are filled with a mixture of sand, sieved peat and 1 part sieved soil with the addition of phosphate or potash or calcified seaweed for a beneficial extra boost.

Small carrots will also benefit from this method of growth, albeit it with a smaller bore hole diameter and a pipe depth of just 18". A good tip to prevent green tops on short carrots is to cut the bottoms off 3" plastic pots and push them into the ground above the neck of the plant so that the rim of the pot is just 1" above the soil surface. By filling up to the top of the pot with soil, the problem of green tops is eliminated!

French beans that have acquired the ideal show length of 8½" can be safely picked up to 8 days before the show. Wrapped tightly in cling film and stored in the fridge, they will retain their freshness, so preventing last minute searching for the perfect specimens on show day.

The same principle applies to runner beans. However in this class, judges are



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looking for an exhibit about 17" long.

The longest runner bean Bruce has grown was 31½" and was transported to the show in a snooker cue case for safety!

He uses black velvet to present his beans to best effect.

With tomatoes a regular, long truss is the order of the day. They should be a regular, round shape, red and ripe, but not squidgy, and should have the calyx attached. The current British record for a giant tomato is 1.8 kg!

Cucumbers need to be a dark, regular shape about 18"-20" long. Having the flower attached at the end is always a bonus when exhibiting, enabling the judges to differentiate from 'one bought at Sainsbury's'!

Bruce's real passion is the trug class. This took him about 4 years to master as a vast number of vegetables are required to fill the requisite 30"x18" trug.

He explained that the hardest part of exhibiting is the transporting of the exhibits themselves. In 2013 his car broke down on the way to the show and all his efforts that year came to naught as the car, full of exhibits, never made it to the show.

He explained that exhibitors can still be staging their exhibits as late as 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning on show day, with judging of exhibits usually taking place between 6.30-7 pm.

Peter Berry offered a vote of thanks for Bruce's fascinating insight into his world of show growing, although I have a feeling that the majority of those present on the night will be sticking to the more 'normal' methods of planting up their veggie patches and allotments and just praying for a successful yield for their labours. And just how many of the ladies will put up with onions plants in the bedroom anyway, not me for one!

The October meeting will be on Tuesday 27 October at 7.30 pm in Silver Threads Hall as usual. Jeff Nichols will be entertaining us with 'The Mole Catcher Show'. This is a comical look at the humble mole and man's plight to be rid of it.

There will be a number of seats for the show available for non members should you wish to join us. Please ring Margaret on 770906 to check availability. The cost of tickets to non members will be £3.

The competition on the night will be 'A decorated pumpkin'.

See you there.

MARGARET GOODALL, *Secretary*

## Cricklade Country Market

The Country Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 30 October from 9 am to 11 am. Delicious homemade cakes and pies; pickles and preserves; plants and flowers; fruit and vegetables; gifts and cards ... Everything is homegrown or homemade by us for you.

Please call Nikki on 01793 751845 to place an order or for further information about the market. We are still desperately in need of help to keep this 25-year-old community event alive. If you are able to help by being the committee secretary or would like to join the team as a helper or producer, please call on the number above or visit us at the next market. Many thanks! We look forward to meeting you.



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## Purton Cricket Club [purton.play-cricket.com](http://purton.play-cricket.com)



Season 2015 ended on Sunday 6 September when two matches were played and enjoyed by the U11 team against Shrevenham and a senior Purton XI v Sherston. This fundraising event in aid of the Ainslie Duffell pavilion fund raised £1,600 and the Club wishes to thank all those who sponsored, made donations or supported the afternoon's event. It concluded with an end-of-season barbecue which was well attended.

### From the Archives

Club Minute Book: 19 June 1978:

*Draw:* Mr Gardner reported that the Derby Draw have made a profit of about £90.

*Gloucester Civil Service Fixture:*

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI had been somewhat dismayed on Sunday 18 June to find no tea had been provided at this away fixture. However it was agreed that all 4 fixtures next year remain.

*(Obviously the 'good old days' were not always so good!)*

Is anyone able to help identify two players in this photograph?

Standing L to R No. 3. Sitting L to R No. 5. Many thanks.



JOE GARDNER

## Purton Bowls Club

Well it's happened! Two teams of our men playing in the over 60's Swindon and District triples have won through to the final and will meet each other to decide the winners. Well done to all of them and may the best team win!



The Club finals will have been played by the time you read this, but because of the deadline I will not be able to publish them until next month; watch this space!

We have had a lot of success by small groups of players within the club this year with Alison Fail and Chris Mitchell reaching various semi-final and finals, with Alison competing in three S&D finals, which unfortunately she came second in all of them, after such a good run it was such a shame. Paul Boyles is also in three S&D finals and together with Alison competed in the County Secretary and Treasurers' finals which they won by one shot, well done to them.

We have had various other club competitions played in September including the Bartlett Triples which consists of teams of three players playing 4 games each of 8 ends then rotating with the other teams, two games being played in the morning, then lunch which is normally cottage pie and a sweet, then two more games in the afternoon. It was a lovely day and we raised £400 for the Paternoster Charity in

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Cirencester which helps children with learning difficulties. Well done to the organisers, and especially the cooks and all the willing helpers, for running the event so well. It was won by Phil Reddan, Maurice Watkins and myself so that is why it gets more mention!

I have to mention the ground staff once again. Our green has bowled and looked magnificent this year. There is always a lot of work to be done to keep it in great condition, so well done to Graham and all his helpers for their valiant efforts.

We will be having the Presentation Evening for all the Club competitions on Saturday 21 November at The Club at Cricklade. I encourage all members who have not yet bought tickets to contact any of the Committee and pay just £15 for a two-course roast dinner and entertainment – it is always a very good evening. We would also appreciate raffle prizes to be donated.

We are planning to have an Open Day early in the season next year for all new bowlers to have a chance to play on the green with our coaches in attendance. We have to work around the Club matches so I will let you know nearer the time as to the exact date.

*PETER BERRY*



As expected the Men's A and Mixed A finished runners up in Division 1 when David Lloyd and Swindon respectively held their nerve to secure the necessary points to become champions.

Four teams have been entered in the Wiltshire Winter League again and they are hoping for a drier season than the 2014 one!

The club is holding its annual Race Night in the Red House on Saturday 21 November with the 'Junior Stakes' getting the horses out of the stalls at 7.30 pm. Please put this date in your diaries and come along and join us for an enjoyable evening including a raffle.

*NICOLA GARDNER*

## Purton FC

The new season is underway and the Hellenic League first team have won 2 drawn 2 and lost 1 of their opening 5 league games while the Hellenic League reserve team lost their opening game of the season.



Chairman Alan Eastwood would like to thank all those individuals and Companies that sponsored the club in the form of match day sponsorships, Programme adverts and donations in particular Mr Keith Trowbridge of Ashgrove House and The Care Company who have been our Main Club Sponsor for 20 years. The Care Company has now been renamed (First-City Homecare) and Keith has again supported the club his new Company emblem now on all Purton FC football kits.

Thanks also to all those who contributed to our club's 'Pound a Point', ably run by one of our Commercial Officers Terry Crumble, and to our other Commercial Officer Phil Storey who is doing a great job in raising funds.

Support at our opening games has been good but are ready and able to attract

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others to our games with programmes available at £3 for the First team games and £1 for Reserve team games and a good tea bar to get snacks and hot drinks and the Red House Club available for those who like another kind of drink before and after the game. Please note however that alcoholic drinks are not permitted on the ground.

After nearly 50 years the old metal goal-posts on the Red House Ground have been replaced and new nets included to which the Club is most grateful to Mr Mark Crumbie (Phoenix Electrical Services) for his Company's generous contribution and to the hard work put in by several people. A special mention to Justin Miller, Phil Storey and Nick Webb for their excellent input on getting them on site.

ALAN EASTWOOD

*Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...* The October 2005 issue of your magazine reflected on the strength of communities, prompted mainly by how the communities in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama were reacting in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The sheer size and scale of that disaster is still so hard to imagine, living here in peaceful Purton.

However, even in our comparatively tiny village, your magazine continually contains many examples of the strength of our own community. Seemingly every month readers will find many heartfelt thank-you messages to everyone who had sent cards, messages, prayers and practical presents to friends in their time of need – whether to comfort families after bereavement or to encourage and support others through a serious illness. While all those published messages are a clear demonstration of why so many people like living in Purton, it should be remembered that the vast majority of neighbourly kindnesses that happen here every day are not formally thanked in print.

10 years ago Purton Magazine carried the conclusion of Eric Ball's story of Bill Neville's boyhood in Purton Stoke in the 1930s, a fascinating piece of social history. Some lovely old photographs were also published including two of an old Citroen car that had been resurrected from a farm shed. Initially it was modified with galvanised iron sheets to help with the hay making before being modified again with a circular saw to become a mobile device that he used to cut wood for his neighbours – just another of those many kindnesses so many in our community did and continue to do for others.

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

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

OFFERED: V Fit, AC2, fitness bike, free for collection, call 772461.

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

### **Something to Think About**

Under every stone lurks a politician.

*Aristophanes (450 BC - 388 BC)*

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