

# Purton Magazine

50p

November 2015

## SWINDON & NORTH WILTSHIRE SCOUTS FIREWORK & BONFIRE SPECTACULAR

SAT 7<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER  
at LYDIARD PARK

£8 Adult  
£3 Children

- + Gates open 5.30 pm
- + Cars via Hook St
- + Bonfire lit 6 pm
- + Live Music
- + Entertainment

Please leave your own fireworks  
and sparklers at home!

plscouts.org.uk  
phone: 534500



Organised by 1<sup>st</sup> Purton & Lydiard Scout Group

(See also [page 8](#))

## 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 ( 10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	Ellen Blacker	07557 110414

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

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

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

<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>	<i><a href="http://www.stmaryspurton.org.uk">www.stmaryspurton.org.uk</a></i>	
<i>Services:</i>	<i>See Diary Page in this magazine</i>	

### **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

Our front cover this month proudly announces the annual Firework and Bonfire Spectacular held by the Swindon and North Wiltshire Scouts in Lydiard Park. Over the years it has grown into a real spectacular and is wonderfully staged and managed with many volunteers contributing in the considerable build up and on the night itself. If you have never witnessed this highlight, more details are on [page 8](#), and a splendid show awaits!

As often seems to be the case, the Remembrance Service is held on the day after the fireworks sometimes causing thoughts to wander about any similarities between the noises of current day fireworks and the noises of battle, especially 100 years ago. Then, on the following Sunday, 15 November the first ever performance of *A Requiem for Soldiers*, composed by our very own Frank Harvey, will be part of the Royal Wootton Bassett 10<sup>th</sup> Art Festival – details are on [page 43](#).

The 28<sup>th</sup> part of Rick Dixon's wonderful *Great War Project* appears on [page 30](#). Then, on [page 32](#), there is an advance notice of the centenary of the evacuation of Gallipoli being included in next month's *Great War Project*. We know that Purton Magazine reaches the far flung corners of the globe and Rick would like to include any memories from ANZAC descendants or their friends as the contributions to the Great War from soldiers living in the Commonwealth, Dominions and the Empire (as they were) must never be forgotten.

Elsewhere in this edition of your magazine, readers will find numerous mentions of – whisper it quietly – Christmas. Even though this is only the November issue, a quick glance through the pages reveal that there are already mentions of two parties, two markets and one each of the following Christmas related activities; a concert, raffle tickets, vouchers, a fair, a bazaar, a newsletter, a quiz and, of course, a tree. We won't spoil your fun by giving you the individual page numbers and we fully expect that a few eagle-eyed readers will find one or two more Christmas activities listed.

In closing, there is one more Christmas activity that brings this editorial full circle. As usual, 1<sup>st</sup> Purton and Lydiard Scout Group will be taking part in the Swindon and District Scout Post. Stamps go on sale from 3 November although posting is only between 27 November and 4 pm on 15 December – [page 26](#) has all the details.

**6**

new Purton Parish  
Councillors are  
announced (and  
warmly welcomed)  
- see [page 5](#)

**161?**

Footpath number 161  
could be confirmed at a  
Public Inquiry in the  
Village Hall  
- see [page 33](#)

**£8830**

raised in Purton from  
the Poppy Appeal in  
the year to  
September 2015  
- see [page 32](#)

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

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## Parish Council News



**Welcome:** Purton Parish Council is delighted to announce that, as from 12 October 2015, it has six new co-opted Parish Councillors; Mike Fawcett, Scott Harflett, Neil Hooper, Mark Lewis, Chris Mason and John Saunders. The existing Council welcomes its new recruits and looks forward to an interactive, renewed view on village involvement and Parish Council activities.

A revised list of contact details will be posted on our website and notice boards as soon as possible.

### **Wildflower Bank - Thank you:**

A big thank-you for all those who have kindly donated seeds for our new wildflower bank along Church Street. The Grounds team are working on this area now before sowing seeds and waiting in anticipation of what will grow. Continue to watch this space!

### **Parish Council Meeting Dates – Mondays in November:**

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Finance Meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Village Centre, Village Hall
9 <sup>th</sup>	Council Meeting		Charity Meetings
16 <sup>th</sup>	Finance Meeting	30 <sup>th</sup>	Planning and Highways

**Room Hire – Purton Bowls Pavilion:** As from 1 October we have access to hire the Purton Bowls Pavilion until the end of March 2016. The Pavilion is an excellent venue for children's parties, wakes or meetings. Facilities include a small kitchen, tables and chairs and free parking at the Village Centre. An excellent venue for a great price. For more information check our website or contact Lesley on 778351.

**Remembrance Service:** On Sunday 8 November, the Royal British Legion will be holding a remembrance service at the Cenotaph from 2.30 pm. The Road will be closed to all traffic from 2 pm to 3.30 pm. All are welcome to show respect and remembrance to our fallen heroes.

**Cemetery Rules and Regulations:** The Parish Council has reviewed and updated its Cemetery Regulations with effect from 5 October 2015. If you wish to receive a copy please contact the Parish Council Clerk, Deborah Lawrence, for more information.

### **Road Closure – Witts Lane**

Wiltshire Council: Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

Temporary Closure of: Witts Lane, Purton (Ref: TTRO 3932)

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** – dates and times see page 2 of this Magazine

**Garden Waste Collections** – to register with Wiltshire Council call 0300 456 0102 or visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/gardenwaste](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/gardenwaste)

## PLANNING

- N15/08103/DEM Former LPG Depot Mopes Lane. Proposed demolition of cylinder refilling shed and footings and enclosure of former propane and butane gas area. Prior approval not required.
- N15/06360/FUL 11 Highridge Close. Demolition of garage and erection of rear extension. Approved with Conditions.
- N15/06606/FUL The Bungalow, Playclose. Extend the front porch and add two pitched roof dormers to the front of the property. Approved with Conditions.
- N15/06653/FUL 7 Lower Pavenhill. Attic conversion and minor alterations. Approved with Conditions.
- N15/07032/FUL Setter House, Church Street. Increase to height and pitch of roof (retrospective). Approved with Conditions.

### How to contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk)

Website [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The **Parish Council's letter box** is on the wall adjacent to the side door (entrance door to the Parish Council offices) to the rear of the Library/Institute.

### Facebook, Twitter and Website

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

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

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.

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## Purton & District Age Concern



I must start this report with a warning about a scam! A woman in Purton has been contacted on her home telephone by a “Policeman” telling her there was unusual activity on her bank card so she must put the phone down and ring her bank to discuss this with them. The woman was suspicious so used her mobile phone to contact the Police to ask if they had telephoned her. Obviously they hadn’t and she later discovered there wasn’t a problem with her bank card either. The scam works as follows, if you do as the caller requests and put your phone down, the caller doesn’t hang up so when you pick your phone back up to dial your bank the original caller will still be on the line and will pretend to be working for your bank, then will ask for all your bank details and be able to access your bank account. Please *do not give your bank account details to anyone over the telephone*. Your bank will never ask you to divulge this information over the phone. Please contact the Police on 101 if you are worried about any telephone calls you receive and please make sure you can hear a dialling tone before you make a call so that you know that no one else is on the line.

We are heading towards our busiest time within Age Concern. Starting at the end of November we will be decorating the Silver Threads Hall and the Village Hall, Mick Looker and his friends will be putting the Christmas tree on the Institute building and the first of our two Christmas parties takes place. In December we have our second party and Christmas market. We will be selling Christmas raffle tickets and the street wardens will be delivering your Christmas vouchers and newsletters. I would like to thank the street wardens in advance for the time and effort they put into the deliveries on their “patches” it is much appreciated by all in Age Concern.

I must inform you that after 24 years working for the minibus service, Richard Woodbridge has decided it’s time to retire. Richard has been at the heart of the minibus service as a driver and co-ordinator during these 24 years and will be missed by fellow drivers, shotguns and passengers. Richard, everyone in Purton Age Concern would like to thank you most sincerely for all your hard work and dedication to the minibus service. You and Hazel were a great duo during your time as co-ordinator, able to stand in at the last minute if a driver was poorly or on holiday and very helpful keeping us up to date with any training. We wish you well in the future. Luckily for us Hazel has agreed to continue driving the minibuses. Thank you Hazel.

### **FUTURE EVENTS**

**Christmas Party** – On Saturday 28 November from 3 pm to 5 pm at the Silver Threads Hall we will be holding a Christmas party for our less able clients and their carers. Wheelchair users are very welcome. The cost is £2.00. Entertainment this year will be provided by Tony M. Please contact your street warden to book your place. We look forward to welcoming you to this lovely festive afternoon.

**Christmas Party** – Our main Christmas party this year is on Saturday 5 December from 5 pm to 8.30 pm at the Village Hall. The cost is £5.00 and a variety of entertainment will be provided by Braydon Forest School. Please contact your street warden to book your place.

**Christmas Market** – Our Christmas market will be held on Saturday 12 December

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from 9 am to 12 noon outside the Pavenhill shops. There will be sausage tasting, cakes, bric-a-brac, books, mistletoe and other festive items; also it's your last chance to buy our Christmas raffle tickets.

### **PAST EVENTS**

**Jumble Sale** – Following on from last month, we made a profit of £372 at our September jumble sale.

**October mystery tour** – The numbers were lower in October. 31 people went on our final mystery tour of 2015. The coach went via Burford, Chipping Norton to Murcott where a lovely two-course lunch prepared by the local WI was enjoyed by everyone. The return journey was via Woodstock, Witney and Faringdon.

**3B's x 2** – This event is always very popular and was fully booked again this time. Thank you to all who attended, you all seemed to enjoy the evening judging by the amount of chattering and laughter we could hear in the kitchen. Thank you to Brenda and John Lilley for calling the bingo and everyone who helped out on the night to make it such a successful event. The next 3B's will be on Friday 8 April 2016!

### **INFORMATION**

**Minibus service** – To book the minibus please contact Keith Hart on 771533.

*LOUISE TIDMAN*

## **Swindon & North Wilts Scouts Fireworks**

The annual Fireworks Spectacular will be held on Saturday 7 November at Lydiard Park. Gates open at 5.30 pm and the bonfire will be lit at 6 pm. Entry is £8 for adults and £3 for children. There will be live music and entertainment. If you are travelling by car, please use the Hook Street entrance.

This is a charity event run by the Local Scout Group and supported by other Scout Groups in the area. All profit is returned to charities and last year we were able to donate a significant sum, thanks to the great weather and tremendous turnout. This year we are once again supported by the local band 'Interlight' and will be putting the display to music. Come and enjoy the display, watch the bonfire, let the children play on the fairground attractions and enjoy the Scout-run catering.

### **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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## Dennis Kelly (Den)

I would like to pay tribute to a man who has brought a lot of pleasure to people through his nature and attitude to life. The person I am talking about is Dennis Kelly who has sadly passed away. You can imagine waiting to go to Lunch Club and not knowing whether to go or not and Dennis turns up – shotgun on the Age Concern minibus – to pick you up, all cheerful



and happy. It would make you feel a different person and off you would go, glad to have made the effort. Apart from Dennis's company of course you would have a nice lunch amongst friends. Most of what I am going to say comes from the funeral where the Revd Judith Wells did an excellent service of which Dennis would have been proud. Also he would have been proud of his daughter Patricia Ayres MBE for her tribute.

Dennis was born on 1 January 1926 at Great Torrington, Devon. His mother already had several children and you can imagine this was a great financial strain on family resources and it is thought that his father didn't go to work. (Perhaps that's why they had several children – eleven in all). Dennis was born with bow legs and had to wear irons to straighten them and must have been teased a lot at school. You do not imagine what sort of childhood some people can have until you hear about it. Dennis spent most of his childhood in foster homes or institutions around Plymouth. He left school and worked in a local pie shop, went on to the Co-op and then was offered a job in the railway industry as a junior cleaner at Laira sheds. Normally you had to be 16 but, with the war on and being in Plymouth, he was accepted early. I wonder if they had to go round Plymouth as they did in Swindon, knocking up the drivers and fireman when they were on early shift.

Those of you who knew Dennis would know that everything had to be spot on. He rose to chief cleaner and, in 1943, was transferred from war torn Plymouth to Swindon. He took up lodgings in County Road but had to move on after three months when the landlord died and he moved in with a lady who had a nice daughter, Queenie. Dennis and Queenie became more than friends and they married in 1944. Dennis had not had much in the way of stability but he had it now, even more so when, in 1945, his daughter Patricia was born. Queenie, Dennis and Patricia lived with Queenie's mum and dad until they had a house of their own. Being the practical people they were they even kept chickens at the bottom of the garden. In about 1955 they had another addition to the family when Denise was born. It must have been difficult times for Queenie as Dennis would be on shifts and if ever he could get an extra shift he would, which meant that Queenie never knew when he was coming in for food. Very often you would see a plate of food over the saucepan keeping warm. Also, apart from the children's washing, there was all Dennis' dirty washing, not only all the small stuff but the bib and brace which

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was part of their unofficial uniform. A bit later on I believe there was a scheme where the Railways paid to have the overalls cleaned. However Queenie was a very tidy person and Dennis I am sure would always be properly turned out. Later on I would think that, when he was promoted to engine driver, he would not become quite so dirty but knowing Dennis I am sure he would help the fireman.

I have heard it said that Dennis was a good driver to work with. He used his controls sensibly which would save the fireman excessive coal shovelling. He had great pride in his job and loved it and had many loyal friends through his work, none more so than Dave Manners, who was loyal to Dennis right to the end with his regular visits. There were several of his old works colleagues at his funeral. I would imagine it was one of Dennis' proudest moments of his life when he qualified to be a driver. You can imagine his pride driving an express train through a non-stopping station with the whistle blowing and the throttle back. I know when I was doing my National Service and was standing on Reading station, an express train would go through and I would feel proud to think I might have been involved in building that engine, even if it was only boring a connecting rod. When they brought in diesels to replace steam in 1964 it was a sad day for Dennis. As I have said, he loved steam, but in 1986 it must have been the highlight of his career when he was asked to drive the lead engine on the double header Red Dragon Express on 14 June. This was all part of the GWR's 150 years' celebrations. On retiring he used his experience to help the Swindon and Cricklade Railway and he was a permanent figure there as the photo shows. He not only used his railway skills but he used his personality skills as he was Father Christmas there for many years and this extended to the village of Purton at various parties and bazaars.

Dennis, Queenie and their family moved to Purton in the 1960s to live at Vasterne Close in a bungalow. Queenie loved flowers and their front garden was a picture thanks to Dennis. Mind, round the back of the bungalow was the veg garden, where all veg in season was grown and enjoyed by the family. What was a bit of a mystery was that, when he moved to the country, instead of having chickens at the bottom of the garden he built an aviary and kept budgies and canaries, with a favourite budgie who lived indoors. Sadly in 1999 Dennis lost Queenie and was lost himself. He wasn't very good with his own company but he decided to go on one of the Age Concern trips and sat next to Della. This led to friendship and later to marriage which was a very joyous day uniting two families who have enjoyed life together since.

This is another string to Age Concern's bow – since then Della and Dennis didn't miss many trips which they always appreciated. I shall certainly miss Dennis because he would always go round the coach and collect 'a drink for the driver' with Sue Cook supplying the bag for the collection. You can see we are very well organised! Could I say in passing how generous people are towards these collections. Thank you. Dennis and Della were very generous people. I know, in Age Concern, how we have benefited from their kindness – for example at Christmas there were always three or four good raffle prizes for our Christmas draw and they were also very generous with their time. What was very important, they had time for others.

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Judith summed Dennis up very well, remembering him at Coffee and Chat on a Wednesday at the Silver Threads Hall. Always smartly dressed, along with Della, he would come in whistling away, carrying his shopping bag and saying he had done the veg for lunch but he would tell you with pride that Della was the cook. What always impressed me most was that, if there were any visitors or anyone on their own, he would chat to them and offer them the chance to have a game of dominoes. There was one 'special needs' lady who came to Coffee and Chat and Dennis would always make a point of going to her and having a thoughtful and sensitive conversation with her.

Dennis, as I have said, had many friends – some were very special like Dave Manners and another was Brian Pinhorn and, of course, Frances. I would imagine their friendship started when they all moved into Norbury Court. Dennis enjoyed a good game of whist and he and Brian would go to Wootton Bassett and Wroughton for a game then would play at home, visiting each other on alternate weeks, with Della and Frances providing the supper. I have heard whispers that invariably the ladies won. When the men were questioned on this they would say 'Well we had to let them win otherwise we would get no supper'. What I think was nice was that Brian would visit Dennis every day as he became poorly and have a game of crib or draughts or just have a chat about sport.

Dennis and Della were very much part of Purton. It is so nice when people move to Purton and get involved with village life, giving as much as they receive. As I have said, Dennis was involved with Age Concern, acting as a 'shotgun' on our minibuses and Dennis and Della enjoyed Luncheon Club, Silver Threads, Coffee and Chat, Gardener's Guild and their own small garden at Norbury. While Dennis and Della found happiness with each other they never forgot their previous partners, Queenie and Doug, who were never far from their thoughts. I have included Della in a lot of this tribute because, as a couple, they gave so much to the village. Dennis was a very kind, helpful man – it was a pleasure to have known him and could I finish by thanking Della and respective families for donations in lieu of flowers being shared between B.E.A.T. and Age Concern. It is greatly appreciated. To finish – a quote from the service - 'Dennis started his working life on steam; Dennis finished his working life on steam and then, at 89 years, he ran out of steam'.

*TONY PRICE*

## Mrs Joy New

How do you do a lady justice when she has meant so much to so many for her kindness, understanding, and thoughtfulness. It was always a joy when she was around as was said on one of the sympathy cards Christopher and Eileen had - 'Joy by name and joy by nature' which was exactly how she was. The lady I am talking about is Joy New who has sadly passed away.

Joy was born at No.4 The Peak on 11 May 1926. I didn't know this before – they say you learn something every day – and, of course, Joy and myself had something in common because I was born at 14 The Peak six years later almost to the day. She was brought into the world by that well known nurse



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of the day, nurse Griffin. It's funny how you did not know their Christian name, they were always referred to as 'Nurse'. Notice I didn't say 'first name' as Joy was born into a Christian family. It shows what a good down to earth family they were as Phil Kennett, Joy's dad, turned round and cooked a full English breakfast for his wife Marion and nurse Griffin and they all ate it together. I doubt if Joy had any but what a lovely way to celebrate a birth – it's a bit different today. However Joy didn't stay in the Peak as long as I did because, after six months, they moved to 77 High Street along with aunts Isobel and Cicely and uncle Les. This was the home of Thomas Henry Bond and his wife Frances and the idea was to run the family business of F. M. Bond, Grocers and Confectioners.

Joy was christened at St Mary's and that would have been by Cannon Willis, then went on to be confirmed and was a regular worshipper, at St Mary's all her life. It would be interesting to know how many times she visited St Mary's. I can remember seeing her at evening service with her mum and dad when I was a boy in the choir. She would also attend catechism on Sunday afternoons and later on the 8 o'clock service with her father, who was a Church warden. This allowed her mum and dad to go to the 11 am service while Joy cooked the lunch. Yes, it was 11 am in those days.

I have gone on a bit too quickly because Joy went to St Mary's School when she was five years old and another good old Purtonian started on the same day – Barbara Walker, who is now, of course, Barbara Woolford. Miss Woodward would have been their teacher – she lived in the row of houses close to the road at the bottom of Witts Lane. Barbara and Joy became friends and kindness ran in the family as Mrs Kennett gave Barbara a fairy cycle to come down to school on as Barbara lived in Wootton Bassett Road – now Restrop Road. I would imagine that Barbara would leave the bicycle at Joy's home – the shop was at the bottom of College Road where the vets is now. What a loyal friendship this was because they have been lifelong friends, joining the Brownies then the Guides together where they had a lot of fun camping at Marlborough. Guess what – Joy was the cook! She did make one or two mistakes, like putting too much lard in the frying pan – it caught fire and everything got burnt but when you are young you still eat it. This learning at camp stood her in good stead as she went on to be an excellent cook. She would help to organise functions to raise money for the Purton War Memorial and Village Centre when the village was hoping to buy the Red House complex – these events were held at the Angel and the Institute.

When she left school she went to work at the Dental Factory. They had moved to Purton after being bombed out of London and the work they were doing was pretty important to the war effort so they were soon found alternative accommodation here in Purton in what used to be a milk factory. I have said how important it was to the war effort as, when Joy's mother hurt her arm, Joy had to apply to the Ministry for them to give permission for her to leave the Dental Factory to run the shop in the High Street. Things happen so easily as Mrs Kennett broke her arm picking up a tin of broken biscuits awkwardly and it became infected. The authorities wanted to amputate it but she insisted that she did not want it taken off. At that time penicillin had come out and it cured her but left her hand deformed.

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Penicillin was very expensive and, through Joy's dad Phil Kennett working in the GWR, the treatment would have been free through the Great Western Medical Fund. I know because, when I was thirteen I was in hospital at Stratton St Margaret and was having penicillin injections four times a day. The consultant Mr Schofield told me that each injection cost £10 so we were both very lucky.

Joy, I would think, knew her husband to be Philip New most of her life as he lived a little further down the High Street where his father Dickie New had his cobblers' shop. They started walking out together mainly around Lydiard on Sunday evenings after Church – this was a favourite walk with people in those days. Any further advancement in the relationship was put on hold as Philip was called up in 1942. However Joy did go and visit him at Catterick and North Wales before he was sent to India. Joy could remember all the soldiers round Purton, mainly the Airborne Division, just before D Day with the aeroplanes towing gliders taking off from Blake Hill just down the road. Like most homes in Purton, Joy's mum and dad had an evacuee who came with his mother, this was Barry and Mrs Sutton. Really they were not eligible for evacuation as they lived in Kent, but Barry's dad was in the army and he was being posted abroad and wanted his family safe. As he said, it is people that make a difference to a place and Barry certainly had Joy and her family to thank for the pleasure he had during his time in Purton, especially Joy. Although older, she always had time for Barry and he remembers that not everyone had electricity – petrol pumps were worked by hand, radios has accumulators and in Barry's last conversation with Joy they talked about the stray bombs that fell in Purton, killed a cow in a barn and all the structure falling kept the dead cow upright. Was this West Marsh farm, I wonder?

Joy, as we all know, was great friends with Miss Elizabeth Ward and would go down to Red Lodge at Braydon to play tennis on their tennis courts. Mrs Joyce Wheeler, née Smith, could tell me that they would have tournaments. Joyce had an entry in her diary – Wednesday 2 July 1947 - 'Joy and Joyce had to play Mrs Sutton and Miss Pearce in the championship'. Others who had taken part – Philip New, Bill and Harold Wheeler, Margaret Hinton and of course Elizabeth – they had some lovely times at Braydon. Joy was treasurer of the Young Conservatives and, along with Joyce Wheeler, was invited to a grand Ball at the Mansion House in Cirencester, a rather grand affair. They had a lovely old staircase there and Joy remarked that she would love to come down it in her wedding dress. One thing is certain, these two ladies would have done this staircase justice. Mentioning weddings, Joy loved weddings and always had a new hat. Joy and Philip married at St Mary's on Saturday 24 July, followed by a reception at the Angel with a honeymoon on the south coast leaving at 5.30 pm. How about that for information! Joy and Philip went on to have a son, Christopher, who has lovely memories of growing up surrounded by a happy, loving family. They all loved family get-togethers and looked forward to the annual one at Lower Earls Court Farm, South Marston for the cricket match. No rules – if you turned up you played and then had tea, with Joy involved you had a lovely selection of sandwiches and cakes, the kettle boiled on an open fire and Godwin's lardy to finish.

Another of Joy's happy memories was when she was in London along with Betty

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Leach when VE day was celebrated. She was outside Buckingham Palace when Winston Churchill was on the balcony with the King and Queen. It was the first time the two young princesses had been allowed to mingle with the crowds and they came outside the gates to get the feel of people's happiness and to listen as the three on the balcony addressed the massive crowds.

Joy took over the shop in 1960 when it became known as J. M. New, Grocer and Confectioner. On Fridays, along with Viv Lawrence, they would make up the orders to be delivered by Philip and Christopher – could I add here that Viv and Joy were more like sisters than friends. In 1979 Christopher married Eileen, then Lorna came along, followed by Hayley and Hannah. Joy and Philip had retired to a bungalow by then and they had so much pleasure from their grandchildren and loved taking them on holiday down to Apple Tree Farm at Dunster. Retirement suited Joy and Philip but you can try to imagine how Joy felt when Philip died – her life was shattered. However, she had good friends around her which would have been a great comfort to her. Joyce Berry would spend Saturday afternoons with her, Barbara Woolford would spend Sundays with her, cooking lunch and spending the afternoon, and, of course, Brenda Cook was across the road and was a frequent visitor. I would gather that Brenda had forgiven Joy for the fact that, when Brenda was expecting Elizabeth, Joy always said 'It doesn't matter what time day or night I will come over and stay with Angela and Robert.' Brenda went into labour in the middle of the night, so Victor went over to try and wake Joy, shouting, ringing the door bell, knocking the knocker. Everyone woke up in that area except Joy so they left the children in bed. When Victor got back he had a phone call to say Elizabeth had been born and, best of all, the children were still asleep.

Always on Sunday morning Elizabeth Ward would drop Joy off after Church and Joy would call into Brenda's with the Church notices, catch up on local news and generally put the world to rights, perhaps over a cup of tea. Mind Joy had some little secrets -she loved a kit kat and would have one only when the shop was empty. It keeps coming through how fond Joy was of St Mary's Church. She was on the flower rota – her task was to decorate the war memorial in the Church. She was treasurer of the Mother's Union, first President of the Evening WI (which was formed fifty years ago when they used to meet in the top room of the Red House before it had dry rot and had to be pulled down giving us what we have today). Another area where Joy was involved, along with Caroline McLean and Elizabeth Ward was Lunch Club and meals on wheels. What a great asset this has been to the village and let's not forget her involvement with the Silver Threads. It is people like Joy who have made Purton like it is – as Barry, the evacuee, said. 'It is people who make places.'

When Joy felt that she could no longer look after herself she made the brave decision to go into the Orchards' Nursing Home at Wroughton where she has been lovingly cared for, something very much appreciated by the family. One of the nicest things I think was that she was not forgotten. She would always receive home communion. This was started by the Revd Brian Fessey, then when she moved to the Orchards four members of the Mothers' Union, Viv Lawrence, Joyce Berry, Barbara Woolford and Gladys Legg would go over and share communion with her.

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Joy was a lovely person, always nicely turned out, an inspiration to us all so thank you Joy for being you. 'Joy by name and joy by nature' always with a lovely smile – it's a pleasure to have known you.

TONY PRICE

## 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.

## Oak and Furrows Wildlife Centre

Oak and Furrows Wildlife Centre has recently opened its new premises. Experts in wildlife rescue, the Centre recently relocated to the Blakehill Nature Reserve on the Minety to Cricklade road and every year takes in over 3,000 casualties, as well as receiving thousands of telephone calls from people seeking help and advice.

The staff and volunteers treat sick, orphaned and injured creatures and the animals and birds are then released back into the wild. Working with vets, the RSPCA and the Police, Oak and Furrows continues to rescue and assist these wildlife casualties.

Centre staff are also available to visit schools and other groups, to educate everyone in the needs of wildlife, how to care for the immediate needs of injured creatures and how to recognise if the animal requires human intervention or not.

The Patron of the charity, Pam Ayres, officiated at the Opening Ceremony of the centre, cut the ribbon and unveiled the splendid plaque displaying the name of the Charity. She then spoke with great affection of her own love of wildlife, its importance to the local community and the environment, concluding with one of her poems, which have made her so famous, and well, loved!



Other guests included Dr Gary Mantle, CEO of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, and Barry Branigan, General Manager of the Centre. The visitors saw the newly-built facilities, including a splendid Visitor Centre.

Top prize for the "Impossibly Cute Current Residents", went to the numerous Hedge Hoglets ... They also won the prize for the "Small, But More Smelly Than Anticipated, Even Though Impossibly Cute" section!

So if you find any wildlife in need of help, Oak and Furrows is there to assist.

Email [oakandfurrowswrc@msn.com](mailto:oakandfurrowswrc@msn.com) or call 01793 751412.

*BASIL the Badger*

*Patron Pam Ayers with one of the Oak and Furrows Volunteers*

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## Purton & District Guide Dogs

Following on from last month's magazine, the proceeds from the stall at the Old Town Autumn Fayre on 12 September, came to £79.61.

On 8 October the Cricklade Band gave us a concert in the Village Hall, with the first part being performed by The Academy, which in effect is the Training School. Some of the members have got to the stage of playing in the Show Band which played for the rest of the evening. With a wide variety of music, quality soloists, a truly entertaining evening was enjoyed by everyone, and it raised £289.74.

Many thanks for your continued support.

*BRIAN DAVIES for the Purton Support Group*



## Wiltshire Good Neighbours

### Staying connected ...

Do you have a computer or tablet but don't feel confident to use it? Or perhaps you would like to do more on the Internet. Although computers aren't for everyone, there are many benefits to using them, especially if you find it difficult to get out and about. You can stay in touch with family and friends and share photos with them. You can use the Internet to research your interests and develop new ones. Computers can make life easier by shopping or paying bills online – it is estimated you can save up to £560 per year this way.

There are local services available to help you develop confidence in using computers. There are several clubs where you can go and get together with others while getting help from a tutor. There are also a number of schemes where someone can help you at home on a one-to-one basis – some of them free of charge.

As your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator, I can help put you in touch with these services. For this or any other query about issues affecting older people, please contact me, Ellen Blacker, on 07557 110414.



## 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.



## 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.



### Stay Safe Alive Roadshow

Bradon Forest School has been working closely with Wiltshire Fire Brigade, Wiltshire Police and the county Road Safety Units to educate students about road safety, their actions and possible consequences as drivers or motor cycle riders on our roads.

The Stay Safe Stay Alive Roadshow was held at the Empire Cinema in Swindon and Bradon Forest was the first school in the area to attend the event on Wednesday 24 September 2015. The roadshow is aimed at 15 to 18 year olds and was well attended by the whole of our Year 11.

### India Link – Pioneer Foundation, Nepal

Bradon Forest India Link has been working with schools in northern India for several years. The work began through the British Council Connecting Classrooms initiative. One of the most important values held by these schools is 'Others Before Self'. In light of this, and as part of our developing international charity work, funds from the Non-Uniform Day on 16 October 2015 will go towards the rebuilding of a school in Nepal, destroyed during their recent earthquake. The funds will go directly to the Pioneer Foundation, a Nepalese charity, to rebuild a Himalayan village school - The Shree Rameshwary Secondary School.



We are delighted that the Student Council are supporting this charity as we can make a real difference to lives of children who have faced such difficult times.

India Link students will lead assemblies on the theme of 'Others Before Self' and will hopefully give students an opportunity to reflect on the differences they can make to the lives of others.

### Sports Awards

Our Sports Presentation Evening was recently held on Thursday 1 October 2015, an inspiring annual



A rip-roaring tale of living gargoyles, hunters, wily foxes and dodgy politicians  
Tuesday 1 to Friday 4 December 2015  
7.30 pm  
Tickets: £5. Concessions £4  
Box office: 01793 773981  
[www.bradonforesttheatre.co.uk](http://www.bradonforesttheatre.co.uk)

event celebrating the many and varied sporting achievements of our students. Our guest presenter, Mark Beggs, is the Great Britain National Talent Development Officer for Ice Hockey. Mr Beggs brilliantly illustrated the attitude and self-discipline needed to succeed particularly in sport but also in any other aspect of life. As he said, "Hopefully one or more of the students listening will turn out to be a professional athlete of the future."



***Sport is a story,  
you define how you want it to be told.***

# PURTON PLACARD

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



## **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.

## Purton Twinning Association **Annual General Meeting**

The Red House Club

Wednesday 18 November

8 pm

Everyone welcome

Bradon Forest School  
India Link



## **Christmas Fair**

Saturday 5 December

12.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Silver Threads Hall

£2.50 on entry (£1 for children)  
All money raised will go to our India Link Fund, thank you!

Sophie and Harriett Kell - 01793  
770217 / 07471 203701

## 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

St Mary's Church presents:

## **Oddments Theatre Company**

Inspiring Drama

at Family Service

Sunday 1 November 10.30 am

Something for all ages

Coffee & Croissants

Purton Under 5s' Community  
Playgroup

**Christmas Bazaar**

Purton Village Hall  
Sunday 6 December  
2 - 4 pm

Stalls, games, crafts  
and meet Father Christmas.

Purton Tennis Club

**Race Night**

The Red House  
Saturday 21 November  
7.30 pm

Group for Patients  
Purton and Green Gable Surgery

**Talk on Heart Matters**

Monday 9 November  
7.30 - 9 pm

Silver Threads Hall, Purton

Speakers:

Dr William McCrea

Consultant Cardiologist,

Great Western Hospital

Plus a representative from

British Heart Foundation

Although this is a free event, tickets are  
required due to limited seating.

Please contact Purton Surgery, tel 770207.



**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

\* Activities for Children \*

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.

Purton Age Concern

**Christmas Party**

For the less able  
and their carers

Wheelchair users most welcome

Silver Threads Hall

Saturday 28 November

3-5 pm

£2 per person

**Whist Drive**

Wednesday 25

November

7.30 pm

Silver Threads Hall

Raffle Refreshments

Proceeds to Wiltshire Air  
Ambulance



**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**

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## Purton Under 5s' Community Playgroup



Purton Under 5s' Community Playgroup has been at the heart of village life for nearly 40 years, with generations of local families passing through our warm and nurturing environment. The playgroup was run from the old Scout hut on the High Street for many years until it moved to its current, purpose-built location in the grounds of St Mary's Primary School, in 1993. This enabled the playgroup to focus on the needs of pre-school children, with a single-level building to aid accessibility for all, low-level toilet facilities to encourage independence, separate areas for reading, toys, crafts, snack time and an outdoor space.

Over the years these areas have all been improved and developed, particularly the garden. This now has a covered deck area (*right*) with a ramp down to an all-weather space, filled with play equipment to encourage physical development, such as balance and gross motor movements, role play toys, a mini picnic space and a garden (*on opposite page*) where the children help grow flowers and vegetables and learn how the seasons affect them. There's also a patio which has become a popular gallery space for chalk drawings! Children are given the opportunity to play outside every day, all year round, and the garden is used for a wide range of learning and sensory experiences.



In the cosy book corner the children are encouraged to choose a story from an extensive library, which they can take home and share with their families. This promotes a love of literature, understanding of story composition and creates an opportunity for parents to bond with their children over a good book. The craft table enables children to make and draw using a wide range of textures, colours and materials. They learn about mixing colour, and how to use tools safely, such as scissors. Fresh, home-made play dough is made every week, with the children helping to decide which colour to make, and whether there's a chance of sneaking some glitter into the mixture!

The playgroup has built up a strong team of highly qualified and professional staff, who encourage children to develop vital skills through play, these include; independence, confidence, problem-solving, conflict resolution, self-regulation and co-operation. This child-centred approach, and the dedication of the staff enabled the playgroup to maintain its Ofsted rating of 'Good', when it was inspected during the summer term. Recently, the playgroup has retained its Bristol Standard, (a self-evaluation framework which helps Early Years settings, Childminders and Play settings to develop and improve the quality and effectiveness of their provision through an annual cycle of reflection).

The playgroup uses local amenities and spaces to enrich the children's experiences, with nature walks, treasure hunts and visits to nearby play areas. It works closely with the children and their parents to provide an exciting and

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stimulating environment, which is tailored to each individual's interests and needs. And most importantly it endeavours to provide a happy, stimulating and safe place where children feel empowered to make decisions and reassured that it's ok to make mistakes.

During the summer term the playgroup makes a weekly visit to St Mary's Primary School where the children due to start school in the following September are able to familiarise themselves with the building, outdoor space and members of staff. The children enjoy a variety of activities; from visits to the school library, joining in with World Book Day celebrations, watching plays and performances, and using the school hall for sports, to checking out what's creeping and crawling in the nature areas. This summer they were able to watch the new butterfly sculpture take shape.

Visitors often generate great excitement at playgroup, the children have welcomed members of staff from St Mary's to read stories, dance teacher Katie John teaches a regular dance and movement session, and Jonathan's Jungle Road show has let the children get up close to different insects and reptiles. All of which create lots of interesting conversations between parents and children about their experiences.

Each child has a 'Learning Journey' record, updated with photographs, observations and one-to-one assessments by their key worker. This gives parents an indication of their child's progress and often makes for amusing reading! Parents are also able to speak to staff, either formally or informally, about any concerns they may have, and there are parent liaison representatives that can offer information about all kinds of things from drop off and pick up procedures and session times to lunch box ideas!

The playgroup has an active committee made up of parents, and meetings are held regularly as a committee, and with staff, to discuss matters arising. The committee organises a number of events throughout the year to help raise money for the playgroup, these include the popular Christmas Bazaar, sports day, cake and ice cream sales, and an annual playgroup outing. This year the children enjoyed a coach trip to the Cotswold Farm Park.

The playgroup is now able to offer spaces for three-year-olds to stay all day on a Monday and Friday. This means those moving on to school in the following September can be better prepared for those long school days, and it's more convenient for parents who work or with children already at school. So on these two days there are now three time options for children to finish; 11.55 am, 12.55 pm and 3 pm. The two later pick up times enable children to stay for lunch club. From Tuesday to Thursday, the afternoon sessions are for two year olds and are much more focussed on developing independence through stimulating play, in preparation for starting the pre-school sessions. For the full session timetable, please see the Purton Under 5s' advert on page 62.



*PURTON UNDER 5S' COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP COMMITTEE*

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## Road Safety

Being a Road Safety/Advanced Driving Practitioner, I went along to St Mary's School to see the 'Presentation' by Rod King.

He did put up a good case in many aspects and he quoted, 'Pedestrian Deaths' but did not elaborate on the statistics of, 'Pedestrians are 24% of Fatalities', but is the motorist at fault, I ask?

From the 'Freedom of Information Act', it states that, 18,000 Pedestrians were injured in an accident involving a vehicle during the last 'Full Year'!

It is reported that 'failure to look properly' and 'failure to judge other person's path or speed' was the biggest pairing of factors when it came to vehicles in accidents. And now the pairings of factors listed by police for all pedestrian casualties in accidents can be revealed.

'Pedestrian failed to look properly' with 'pedestrian careless, reckless or in a hurry' were named as factors in 4,100 casualty accidents, or 23% of the overall total putting them clearly at Number 1.

The remainder of the factor combinations listed are as follows:

2. 'Pedestrian crossing road masked by stationary or parked vehicle' with 'pedestrian failed to look properly' - 1,961 casualties (11%)
3. 'Pedestrian failed to judge vehicle's path or speed' with 'pedestrian careless, reckless or in a hurry' - 1,204 casualties (7%)
4. 'Pedestrian crossing road masked by stationary or parked vehicle' with 'pedestrian careless, reckless or in a hurry' - 1,013 casualties (6%)

He quoted 'Cyclist Deaths', which is understandable, but we do now have 'Thousands' more cyclists.

The road through Purton is where 'Motor Vehicle movement is a Primary Function' and Rod mentioned 'Walking and Cycling to School'. Would many children cycle to Purton Schools if there was a 20mph limit? I doubt it! Would it lead to 'Carefree Cycling' and less Hazard Awareness. Would Children on bicycles become 'Unpredictable'?

I voiced my concerns to Rod and he said, "You know the problem, look for the solution by making people drive less and reduce cars, you are making excuses." When I said, "You are the 'Expert,'" he finished the conversation by turning away!

I was going to ask, how he would start to facilitate a possible solution? I wasn't entirely convinced his idea would work.

It seems that if you don't 'Donate' or agree with Rod then you have your work cut out!

Some benefits may be possible with a 20mph Limit/Zone but we seem to be reducing speeds all over! We are adding Traffic Calming measures that degrade vehicle components over time due to their very nature. We do need to think about it and look at it from all sides! I have my doubts in our area but, of course, it may help! Lots of thought required from all aspects!

*CHRIS GLEED (FAIRSO) Proud Close, Purton  
01793 772314*

## Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Both the Rainbows and 2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies have picked up the theme of autumn for their programme. The Rainbows made wool trees whilst the Brownies made bird feeders. As anything involving food is always a winner; the Rainbows made apple turnovers and the smells coming from the kitchen as they baked were mouth-watering. The Brownies went blackberry picking one week, filling three large containers which were frozen and then used the following week to make blackberry and apple crumbles.

1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies have been working on the Road Safety badge and are grateful to Purton's lollipop lady, Pam, for coming and talking to them. The Brownies have been on a walk around the village, putting into practice what they've been learning. Young Leader Alice shared her experiences of her summer City Hop expedition with the Brownies, inspiring some of them to say that they too would like to go on an overseas trip with Girlguiding when they're older.

After completing the Oink Challenge on summer camp, Guides decided to enjoy some activities with a bovine theme and are working on the Moo Challenge. Activities have included milk tasting (soya was not a hit with the Guides), a cattle drive, making ice cream, milking a 'cow' and being cowgirls. Now the evenings are darker, Guides have also enjoyed their favourite activity: 'in the dark games'. Thanks go to Zoe, Elizabeth and Taya for organising the evening for their Baden-Powell Challenge.

Purton units have expanded this term with the addition of 1<sup>st</sup> Purton Rangers, part of the Senior Section, for those aged 14-26. So far, the members have been deciding on the important things like the colour of their neckers but have also decided on a varied and exciting range of activities for the term, including blackberry picking and making a crumble with their foraged fruit.

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 at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)

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



### We Record ...

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

26 September Calum McDonald & Francesca Russell

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

16 September Dennis George Kelly (89)

#### *Funeral at Kingsdown Crematorium:*

28 September Frederick William Gordon Stevenson (98)

*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 ...*



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# Purton Diary - November 2015

1	Su		<b>All Saints' Day</b>
		8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church with Oddments Theatre Co.
		1.00pm	<i>to 3pm: Afternoon Cream Teas at Silver Threads Hall</i>
		6.00pm	All Souls' service at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church with Oddments Theatre Company; music, drama, coffee and croissants
2	M		<b>All Souls' Day</b>
3	Tu		Scouts Christmas Post stamps on sale from In Touch Services, Cyclecare & Shear Success
4	W	10.00am	"Storytime" at library for pre-school children
5	Th	10.30am	Communion at the Live & Let Live!
6	F	5.00pm	<i>to 9pm: Bonfire &amp; Hallowe'en at Purton House Farm</i>
7	Sa	5.30pm	<i>bonfire at 6pm: Scouts Firework &amp; Bonfire Spectacular, Lydiard Park - cars via Hook Street - <a href="#">page 8</a></i>
<hr/>			
8	Su		<b>Remembrance Sunday</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
		2.30pm	Remembrance Service at Cenotaph - High St closed 2 - 3.30
9	M	7.00pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome
		7.30pm	<i>to 9pm: Talk on Heart Matters in Silver Threads Hall</i>
10	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>Discovering Medicines</i>
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	<i>to 4pm: Silver Threads Club: Marion Hobbs - Pictures of Purton's Past</i>
11	W	2.30 pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship, Methodist Church: Paul Evans - <i>Poems and Monologues</i>
		7.30pm	Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
12	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
13	F	9.30am	Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
14	Sa	12 noon	<i>to 4pm: Food Festival at Village Hall (Pips Community Café)</i>
		7.30pm	<i>80s/90s Disco at Village Hall (St Mary's School PTA)</i>
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15	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
		7.30pm	RWB Choral Society perform premiere of <i>Requiem for Soldiers</i> (Frank Harvey) at RWB Academy
16	M	7.30pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: Dave Seviour - <i>Who Knows? Again!</i>

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17	Tu	7.45pm 8.00pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House After 8: Japanese Evening led by Yvonne at her house
18	W	2.00pm 7.30pm	Communion at Ashgrove House Purton Evening W.I. at Village Hall: Members' Night – <i>Childhood, Adult Life and Hobbies</i>
		8.00pm	Purton Twinning Assoc. AGM at Red House. All welcome
19	Th	11.30am	Communion at The Cedars
21	Sa	7.30pm	Race Night at Red House ( <i>Tennis Club</i> )

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22	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 4.00pm	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church Communion & Baptisms at St Mary's Church Messy Church at St Mary's School
24	Tu	10.00am 2.00pm 2.30pm 7.30pm	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>The Arctic to 4pm</i> : Silver Threads Club: Co-op Choir Communion at White Lodge Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: American Supper with Entertainment
25	W	7.30pm	Whist Dive at Silver Threads Hall ( <i>Air Ambulance</i> )
26	Th	7.30pm	Historical Society at Village Hall: Lynda Warren - <i>Sugar &amp; Spice - spice trail of the Arab Merchants</i>
27	F	7.30pm	Scouts Christmas Post Boxes open - locations see <a href="#">page 26</a> Carnival Christmas Quiz at Royal George
28	Sa	12noon 3.00pm	to 2.30pm: St Mary's Church Christmas Market, Village Hall Age Concern Christmas Party for the less able at Silver Threads Hall

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29	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at the Methodist Church Youth-led Service at St Mary's Church
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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

● 3 November

● 11 November

● 19 November

○ 25 November

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## Swindon Scouts Christmas Post



As usual, 1<sup>st</sup> Purton and Lydiard Scout Group will be participating in Swindon Scout Christmas Post! We are selling stamps **from 3 November** at our usual locations: In Touch Services, Cyclecare and Shear Success in Purton and at Toomers Garden Centre, in Lydiard Millicent.

All profits go to run Scouting in the Swindon, Purton, Highworth and Wootton Bassett areas.

Christmas cards must be properly addressed including postcode and only posted in the Special Scout Post Boxes. Stamps are 30p each, a real saving!

Please **DO NOT USE** Scout post stamps on cards posted through Royal Mail post boxes. They are not valid and the receiver of the card will have to pay at least a £1 surcharge!

We can only deliver Christmas Cards. We cannot deliver letters, bills, diaries or calendars. No money or cheques should be sent through this service.

**Posting is between 27 November and  
4 pm on Tuesday 15 December 2015**

The cards will be delivered between 18 and 23 December 2015

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

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

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

**We DO NOT deliver to any other location.**

Thank you everyone for supporting us; especially the local businesses for housing our boxes and selling stamps! A wonderful contribution.

## Cricklade Country Market

The Country Market is at *The Club at Cricklade* on Friday 30 October and 27 November 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 – including Christmas Orders! - 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.



# METHODIST CHURCH ORGANISTS WED

TWO church organists were married at Brinkworth Methodist Church, today. They were Mr. Alan Webb, assistant organist at the Lydiard Methodist Church, and Miss Rita Mavis Selwood, who has been the organist at the Callow Hill Methodist Church, Brinkworth.

Mr. Webb is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Webb, of Bagbury Lane Farm, Purton. He has just returned from a two-year tour of Austria with the Royal Army Service Corps, and is working with his father on the farm.

His bride has been an active member of the Callow Hill Methodist Church, working as a Sunday School teacher, treasurer, organist, and assistant leader and secretary of the Youth Fellowship. She has been employed by the firm of E. K. Cole, Ltd., Malmesbury, in the buying department. She is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Selwood, of Freestone House, Brinkworth.

The bride wore a classic gown of white brocade with a circular embroidered veil held in place by

a coronet of orange blossom. She carried a spray of white rose buds, lilies of the valley and mixed white flowers.

Her bridesmaids were the Misses Mavis Vincent and Gillian Hunnux (cousin). Mr. Hedley Webb, the bridegroom's brother, was best man.

After a reception for 60 guests at the Parish Hall, Brinkworth, the couple left for a honeymoon in Cornwall. The bride wore a green mohair coat and tan accessories.



**Happy 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**Alan & Rita**

**12 November 2015**

## Carnival News

Purton Carnival is pleased to announce profits from the 2015 Purton Carnival have been put towards:

- Purchase of a 2<sup>nd</sup> community de-fib machine for the top of the village (£2400.00)
- New Tables for the Silver Threads Club (£400.00) and
- A contribution to the Community Café (£200.00)

The date for the 2016 Carnival Procession and Fete is Saturday 2 July and the theme is ... Super Heroes.

And the date for the 2017 Carnival & Procession is Saturday 1 July 2017.

*Still to come this year:*

- Christmas Quiz (In November) at the Royal George Friday 27 November at 7.30 pm. Teams of up to 4 at £10.00 per team.
- Carnival Bingo 2 December at The Silver Threads Hall at 7.30 pm. £10.00 for your bingo book, the Flyer, Tea or Coffee and a mince pie.
- Santa comes to the top of Purton on Thursday 17 December at 6 pm, starting in Ringsbury Close. Then at the bottom of Purton on Friday 18 December at 6 pm starting at the Village Hall car park.

Please check out December's issue of Purton Magazine for details of 2016 carnival events.

*KEVIN LAW, Purton Carnival Chairman*

**PURTON  
CARNIVAL**

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## Purton Bowls Club



After the weather we've seen this year we must consider ourselves very lucky to have had two really nice days for our Finals weekend at the Club. There was a lot of support for the players involved and lots of cakes, scones and a barbecue supplying bacon and sausage rolls both days. The winners were:

Ladies 4 wood singles – Alison Fail  
Ladies 2 wood singles – Alison Fail  
Ladies Pairs – Maggs Biddiscombe & Julie Jones  
Mens 4 wood singles – Dave Hall  
Mens 2 wood singles – Graham Price  
Mens Pairs – Andy Hunt & Eric Collier  
Mixed 2 wood singles – Alison Fail  
Mixed Handicap – Colin Baker  
Mixed Pairs – Judy Preddy & Andy Davie

Mixed Triples – Norene Richardson,  
Jackie Nolan-Clarke & Geoff Smith  
Novices – Boxer Austin  
Smithy trophy – Ray Fish  
James Cup – Judith Fish  
Andy Rudden Cup – Margaret Adams & Anthony Turner  
Bartlett Triples – Maurice Watkins, Phil Reddan & Peter Berry

We have sadly lost two fellow bowlers in the past month, Richard Harrison and Dougie Thompson. Both gentlemen had not been in the best of health and had not been able to play for a while now. Tragically Dougie's wife Hazel has also passed away since his death. Our thoughts are with both families at this sad time.

As I mentioned last month we will be having the Presentation Evening for the Club competitions on Saturday 21 November at The Club at Cricklade. Tickets are only £15 each for a two-course roast dinner and entertainment, so if you want to come along, even if you don't play bowls, then give me a ring on 778119 and I'll get some tickets. You're bound to know somebody there from the village, or perhaps even one of the bowlers.

On Friday 11 September, we went on tour to the Isle of Wight for four days. A 6 am start meant that we were in for a long day, with the first game on the Island in the afternoon. The hotel was one we had visited before but with improvements to all the rooms ... the staff were pleasant, the rooms comfortable and the food very good. Evening entertainment on two of the nights meant that we all had a chance to 'strut our stuff', or at least wiggle a bit. Jane Herbert even managed to dance on one leg; it's not a trick she learnt, but a hip replacement on the other.

We just about managed decent weather and the results were two wins and two defeats. Each lowest scoring rink means that the team have to wear a losers' lanyard which this year was a card with lots of bowling 'excuses' printed on it. This has to be worn for the rest of the day. Fancy having to dance with a loser in the evening!

The last day we played at Ventnor and although we knew we would be getting on a late ferry, the Isle of Wight Festival and a ferry breakdown meant that it was 10.40 pm before we set off, resulting in us getting back to Purton at nearly 2 am Tuesday morning! Needless to say most people were very tired the next day. But it was all worth it, we had a really nice time. We should congratulate the organisers,

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Eric Collier and Phil Reddan for their hard work in co-ordinating the whole event.

The Bowls Green is now closed until April next year, but there is always lots of ongoing work to be done and the 'gang' are hard at it, making all the necessary preparations.

PETER BERRY

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



On 23 October it was 100 years since WG Grace died. He was the first celebrity cricketer and there have been many events to celebrate his life and achievements in cricket. Another Gloucestershire CC player, local man Craig Miles, received the 'Young Player of the Season' award at the recent end of season dinner at Gloucestershire CC. Well done!

In a few weeks' time, coaching sessions will begin for current junior Purton cricketers and we wish Craig and all aspiring local players good luck for their futures.

### From the archives

Centenary Season 1920 – Swindon Olympic 78, Purton 92

The report on Purton's batting contained the following: 'the homesters made an even worse commencement than the Olympic, three wickets down in the first over with only one run scored. Subsequently however, thanks to steady batting from Staley and Fendley and a "Jessopian" display by Chris Woolford, the visitors total was passed by the four of the eighth wicket much to the delight of the numerous spectators!

Gilbert Jessop, 'a Cheltonian', who played first-class cricket for Gloucestershire was a renowned striker of sixes. He was named after another famous Gloucestershire cricketer, William Gilbert Grace. Chris Woolford was certainly in good company.

JOE GARDNER

## Shoebox News



Yet again our Fund-raising Day was a great success and we raised £1210.77 for the transportation of the boxes. So we now know that we can send 400 filled boxes again this year, plus any others that are donated individually. Thanks to everyone who supported the day.

The supervisor from OCC came to Purton at the beginning of October to see how we operate our project. She was thrilled with all she saw and was more than pleased when shown the items that are put into the boxes. I gather the amount, standard and variety of items is, I quote 'amazing'.

I can only repeat what I have said before, that the commitment of so many is what makes the project so successful.

By the time you read this article, the boxes will be ready for collection and will go to Westbury where they will be packed into large cartons. They will then be sent to their destination. I will, during the following weeks get to know where our boxes went and hopefully, will be able to report on this in the January issue of this Magazine.

SYLVIA FREEMANTLE

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# Great War Project

## Part 28: November 1915

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

### **To France:**

Edward George Mills, "K" Battery Royal Horse Artillery  
Joseph New, Army Ordnance Corps

### **To Gallipoli:**

Percy Edward Dash, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment  
Frederick Henry Litten, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

### **Service in UK:**

George Titcombe, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment

### **Serbia:**

The fall of Serbia was complete by the end of November 1915. Despite the British Prime Minister, Herbert Asquith, declaring the independence of Serbia to be an essential object of the war, little could be done to prevent the fall.

Following a series of losses, the Serbian Government, which had already abandoned Belgrade, now left Nish for Prizren on 3 November. Nish fell to Bulgarian forces on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Austria and Bulgarian forces pushed further in from both sides and the Serbian Government was forced to leave Prizren for Scutari on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Serbian King Peter I fled to Albania on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

On 25 November, the Serbian Army was ordered to retreat, and they began their retreat through Albania on the 30<sup>th</sup> with the Austrians in pursuit. Due to appalling weather and poor roads, the retreat wasn't finally completed until 10 February 1916.

French and British forces also withdrew back to Greece.

Austro-Hungarian and Bulgarian soldiers committed many atrocities against the Serbs. As well as executions of prisoners of war, civilian populations were subjected to mass murder and rape; villages and towns were burned and looted.



*Austro-Hungarian soldiers  
executing Serb civilians)*

### **Gallipoli:**

On 4 November, Lord Kitchener sailed for Gallipoli to see for himself the situation in Gallipoli. Arriving on the 10<sup>th</sup> he inspected positions at Helles, Anzac Cove and Suvla. On 22 November, he advised the British Government that Gallipoli should be evacuated. This would involve taking off more than 93,000 troops, 200 guns and

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more than 5,000 animals as well as vast quantities of stores and ammunition.

On 15 November, Winston Churchill, one of the main architects of the Gallipoli campaign, resigned from the British Government and went to serve with the British army in France as a Major with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Grenadier Guards.

On 27 November, very poor weather led to 15,000 troops being evacuated from Anzac Cove for frostbite, trench foot and exposure.

### **Mesopotamia:**

In Mesopotamia (approximately modern Iraq) there were mixed outcomes for the Allies. On 2 November, Kasvin (West Persia) was occupied by a Russian force. Representatives of the Central Powers left Teheran on 15 November as Russian forces advanced.

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, the Indian Corps began to leave France for service in Mesopotamia, but while they were still in transit, on 11 November, a British and Indian advance on Baghdad began, carried out by 6<sup>th</sup> (Poona) Division. The Turks halted the advance at the Battle of Ctesiphon on the Tigris River between 22 and 25 November and the defeated 6<sup>th</sup> (Poona) Division began a retreat to Kut-al-Amara on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

On 24 November, Field Marshal von der Goltz of Germany took command of Turkish forces in Mesopotamia.

### **At Sea**

The “unseen war” continued. On 7 November, a German cruiser SMS Undine was sunk by the British submarine E19. The same day, an Italian liner SS Ancona was torpedoed and sunk without warning by an Austrian submarine, with over 200 lives lost. Then on the 17<sup>th</sup>, the British hospital ship Anglia was sunk by a mine off Dover.

Two new British maritime regulations came into force on 10 November. The Ship Licensing Committee was formed and prohibited voyages between foreign ports except under licence. The Requisitioning (Carriage of Foodstuffs) Committee was also formed and authorised the military requisitioning of merchant ships for carriage of foodstuffs.

### **Pact of London:**

On 30 November, in order to bolster the Allies position, the formal signature of the Pact, by Great Britain, France, Russia, Japan and Italy, ensured that each declared it will not make a separate peace with the Central Powers.

### **Other News:**

On November, Albert Einstein presented his “field equations” to the Prussian Academy of Science. These equations specify how the geometry of space and time is influenced by whatever matter and radiation are present, and form the core of Einstein’s general theory of relativity.

*RICK DIXON*

## **Purton Twinning Association**

The Annual General Meeting of the Purton Twinning Association will be held on Wednesday 18 November at The Red House Club at 8 pm. All are welcome.

*LEN PAGE, Chairman*

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## The Royal British Legion - Purton branch



The Purton Branch members would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Purton and the surrounding area for their generosity over the years towards the Poppy Appeal, and the support of everyone is very much appreciated. The financial year to the end of September 2015 was very successful, resulting in a total for the Branch of £8829.67p which is a big increase on last year, so thank you all very much.

Earlier this year we lost our dear friend, and long time Poppy Appeal organizer, Joyce Berry, but we are fortunate in having her wonderful daughter and son-in-law Shirley and Mike Lawrence to take over, and all the many other wonderful people who give their time to help to collect for the Poppy Appeal. To all of them we extend our grateful thanks. In addition we would also like to thank all the customers of ASDA who gave so generously.

### Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 8 November at 2.30 pm at the Cenotaph. Regardless of the weather it will be held outside, so come dressed accordingly but, in the event of inclement weather, for those who don't wish to stand outside, the Silver Threads Hall will be available and a speaker will relay the service indoors.



We hope that, as now has become the custom, the road will be closed for approximately one hour, and diversions put in place, but the police will not be on traffic duty and this will be carried out by volunteers, so please have a little patience and understanding as the task is quite difficult enough without adding to the problem.

The Branch would again like to extend a warm welcome to any serving or ex-service members of the civil or military uniform branches who would like to join us in the parade, regardless of whether or not they are British Legion members.

Thank you very much

*COLIN PEARSON, Honorary Secretary*

# Our Family's War

## ... Calling the World

This is Purton Magazine, representing only a small village in England. But I know we have readers in Australia and New Zealand as well as the USA, Canada, India ... just to mention a few. This is your magazine too.

As a suggestion, the December 2015 issue will mark the evacuation of Gallipoli with many poignant memories for ANZAC troops. If you have a Purton connection, however tenuous, we would love to hear a paragraph or more related to your great-great-grandparent, great-grandparent, grandparent, mum or dad related to this period of our joint history. And if you have yourself lived on to have been a survivor of that war, we would love to hear your story.

So many from the Commonwealth, Dominions and Empire as they were, contributed to those days that they must never be forgotten.

Please contact me at [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk).

*RICK*

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## Footpath 161 Inquiry

Purton is very well known for its footpaths – currently 160 in the Parish – that are well monitored and maintained by the Parish Council's Footpath Committee.

It is also true to say that generations of Purtonians have been using a path from the top of Hogs Lane in a north-westerly direction to join footpaths 110 and 112 in the top corner of the field, sometimes known as the High Hills. That path has been designated as path No. 161 and a public local inquiry will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday 9 March 2016 in Purton Village Hall.

Villagers who have an interest in this can attend, even if they have not commented on it before and it would certainly strengthen the case in favour of the new footpath if as many people who use the path were able to attend. Anyone with an interest in making sure that this path becomes our official footpath no. 161 and who has not already commented is encouraged to contact Wiltshire Council (details below) to register their interest and to receive all copies of relevant documentation.

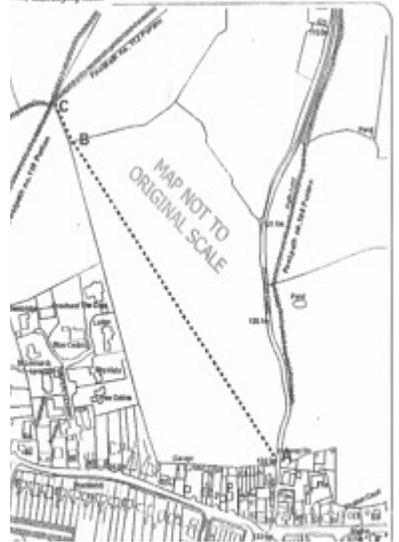
Anyone can also speak at the inquiry although they will need to submit a *Statement of Case* (see below) to Wiltshire Council before 12 January along with copies of any documents they wish to submit in evidence, and a list of those documents.

If any reader decides they want to speak at the inquiry, then it is also essential that they arrive at the inquiry on the opening day a few minutes before the start, to register their interest in speaking. However, before then, the following timetable must be adhered to because the Planning Inspector is very strict and items sent in late are simply not considered.

By **1 December**, Wiltshire Council must have sent in its *Statement of Case* to the Secretary of State. Anyone who has made an objection or other representation will receive a copy. By **12 January 2016**, anyone else who wishes to provide evidence to the Inspector must have sent in their own *Statement of Case*. Again all parties will receive a copy. By **10 February 2016**, anyone who wishes to speak at the Inquiry must ensure that what they want to say (*Proof of Evidence* plus a summary) is sent in by this date.

Every interested individual should, **before 30 November**, send in their statement of case (and proof of evidence if you wish to speak) to: Clive Richards, Rights of Way, Planning Inspectorate ([clive.richards@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:clive.richards@pins.gsi.gov.uk)) quoting: Ref: FPS/Y3940/7/18 - Parish of Purton Path No. 161, Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2014. It is worth repeating that the Planning Inspectorate is very strict and items sent in late are not considered.

*Statement of Case*: a written statement with all the information that you wish to



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put in front of the planning inspector, including copies of any supporting documents you intend to refer to or put in evidence.

*Proof of Evidence:* what you actually want to say at the public inquiry, emphasising the key points only

FRANCIS SHEPPARD

## Purton Historical Society

### **Thursday 24 September – Britannia under the Eagles – Martin Way**

Martin Way, gave members a very entertaining illustrated talk on the story of Roman Britain. Martin certainly brought the subject to life turning up fully dressed as a Roman Centurion. Not only did Martin look the part, his talk was full of interesting facts about the 400-year Roman occupation of Britain.

Martin explained how 'well ordered' the Roman occupiers were and how disciplined they remained in battle. In addition to weapons, every soldier was equipped with cooking utensils and a 2-week supply of grain to ensure survival in difficult circumstances. Ample evidence is available on archaeological sites throughout the country of their 'forward thinking' ideas – i.e. well planned villas, mosaic floors, under floor heating, Roman baths and, of course, the routes of their straight roads are still in use today.

To add to the full regalia of total body shield, iron helmet, chain mail armour, sword, cloak and sandals etc, Martin brought with him a wonderful selection of artefacts to illustrate his subject. Some of these were original and some were actually made by the very talented Martin. There were coins, lamps, jewellery, swords, daggers, pottery fragments etc.

Altogether a very informative and entertaining evening.



### **Future Meeting**

#### **Thursday 26 November at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall**

#### **Sugar & Spice – spice trail of the Arab Merchants – Lynda Warren**

We are very pleased to welcome back Lynda who has previously entertained us with an excellent presentation. Lynda has supplied the following resume for her presentation Sugar and Spice. 'A spice is said to be a dried seed, fruit, root, bark, or vegetable substance primarily used for flavouring, colouring or preserving food. They are among the most demanded and expensive products throughout history, the most common included many we use today, black pepper, cinnamon, cumin, nutmeg, ginger and cloves. Some, such as frankincense and myrrh are now mostly used in the perfume industry.

'Following the history and geography of the Spice Trail, we will explore their use in cooking, medicines, cosmetics and household purposes, supported by a free handout for those who are interested in finding out more.'

***New members and visitors always welcome***

TONY & JAN NEATE, [tjneate57@gmail.com](mailto:tjneate57@gmail.com)

Telephone 01793 770117

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## Church Floodlighting

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



- 6 November            The Church will be floodlit in loving memory of **Mary Simpkins** who would have celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this day. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Barbara, Audrey, Dave, Paul, Nic and Mark.
- 14 November            The church will be floodlit in memory of **Monica Sue Kinnett**. It's been 10 years since you have been gone, but we still miss you every day. Love Pete, Mandy, Paul, Jenny, Jerilynn and families.
- 16 November            St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Trevor Bird (Trev)**. All our love always. Jean, Amanda and Paul xx.
- 27 & 28 November      St Mary's will be floodlit on Friday and Saturday in memory of **Elizabeth Ward** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of her passing. From everyone on Red Lodge Estate.
- 28 November            St Mary's will also be floodlit remembering **Mary Wightman** and celebrating what would have been her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark and Ben; daughters-in-law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
- 29 November            St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Nesta Maskrey** on her birthday. From all her family and friends in Purton.

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

## Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Church Path, Church Street, Hyde Lane, The Hyde, Parkside, Church End and Manor Hill*

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

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## Knit-a-Square

Thank you to all the people who came along to support my Garage Sale on 12<sup>th</sup> September and thank you to everyone who helped out on the day and everyone who donated money, gave me bric-a-brac, clothes, books and cakes to sell and to those who donated squares, jumpers, cuddly toys, baby's sleeping bags, hats, scarves and mittens and bags of yarn. We made a grand total of £323.60 which is fantastic!

I was recently asked by KAS to delay sending my October shipment because of the sheer volume of goods arriving at their office which has put a huge strain on their finances. (KAS is a not-for-profit charity, run entirely by volunteers and funded by donations. If anyone is able to make a financial donation to KAS please visit their website at *knit-a-square.com* for details.) As my house was bursting at the seams, I decided to divide some of the items between the consignment of goods going to help Syrian refugees via John & Anne Cuthbert, the JBay recycling Project in South Africa and Knit for Peace based in London.

At the moment a group of us are sewing squares together to make blankets as requested by KAS to reduce their costs. Hopefully we will return to sending squares in the spring. A HUGE thank you to the ladies who are sewing blankets.

On Tuesday 6 October a few of us met with Sandra Herbert and her group of knitters at RWB Methodist Church. We watched three KAS videos, I answered some KAS related questions and handed out KAS knitting patterns. Our output of creativity will now increase, with this in mind we will continue to support KAS but will also donate some items to, Knit for Peace and the JBay Recycling Project. Our group will now be known as "The Peace Square Knitters & Crocheters". I was very pleased to receive a donation of £132 towards transportation costs from Sandra and the RWB ladies. Welcome aboard everyone, happy knitting and crocheting!

Bernice and Jude will be manning a KAS stall at St Mary's Church Christmas Market on Saturday 28 November in the Village Hall from 12 noon to 2.30 pm. There will be lots of attractions, stalls, lunches being served and activities for children.

*LOUISE TIDMAN, 772558*

## Royal George Beer Festival & Harvest Festival

We would like to thank everyone for their support in raising money for Prospect at our Beer Festival and Harvest Festival.

We raised a total of £1,070.10 from

Darts	£170	Auction	£137
Raffle	£290	BBQ food	£200
Aunt Sally	£19.10	Marbles	£53.50
Funfair	£30	Harvest Festival	£170.50

We will be holding both events again next year:

26 to 28 August 2016 : Beer Festival

1 October 2016 : Harvest Festival

*MEL & EDDIE, Royal George*

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## Purton Purton & District Probus Club



**On 8 September, Martin Collisson**, from R.W.B. Probus gave us an account of **The Battle of Waterloo**. The defeat of Napoleon's French Army by the combined forces of Wellington and Blucher at Waterloo on 18 June 1815 was a turning point in European history. This was the climax of the Napoleonic Wars and was a major influence on the shape of Europe for the next century. When Napoleon deposed the unpopular Directory and took power in 1799, the war between Revolutionary France and the rest of Europe had already been going on for 7 years. From 1803 he conquered most of Europe and installed his brothers as Puppet Kings. To seal an alliance with Austria, in 1810, he married Marie Louise. After the Peninsular War, his Retreat from Moscow, and defeat at the Battle of Leipzig, he was forced, in April 1814, to abdicate and was exiled to the island of Elba. On 26 February 1815, while the Congress of Vienna was in progress to settle new boundaries, Napoleon escaped and took ship to France. He returned to Paris in triumph, while Louis XVIII fled to Belgium. Marshal Michel Ney, sent to arrest Bonaparte and having served with him in the retreat from Moscow, changed sides and brought an army of 30,000 in support of the Emperor. The 7<sup>th</sup> Coalition of the Allies, Britain, Prussia, Russia and Austria, declared war on Napoleon (not on France) and bound themselves to supply 150,000 men each to end his rule. However the Allies were not yet assembled and Napoleon realised that in order to defeat them he would have to attack them individually, before they could come together. The first contact between opposing forces came in the early afternoon of 15 June at Ligny. Casualties were heavy on both sides. Blucher lost almost a fifth of his men but managed a strategic withdrawal to the Northeast. William of Orange had already taken the initiative to defend Quatre Bras with an Anglo/Dutch force and skirmishes began early on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The main battle began at 14.00 Hrs. But unaware of Blucher's position, Wellington was forced to fall back 9 miles to the ridge of the Mont-Saint-Jean escarpment. The allies occupied and armed 3 sets of buildings to break up the line of the approaching French attack: Hougoumont Farm on the French left, La Haye-Sainte in the centre and Papelotte on the right. Napoleon ordered a diversionary assault on Hougoumont hoping to expose the allied forces on the ridge. 1200 Allies at the farm resisted the attack of 9000 French. At midday 2 companies of Grenadiers joined the defence and shortly after managed to close the gates and trap about 30 French inside. Hougoumont held the line in spite of incendiary attacks throughout the battle. At 13.00 French cannons began firing at forces on the ridge and shortly after D'Erlon's infantry advanced. Ney's Cavalry reached the Allied guns on the ridge but faced a checkerboard of 25 infantry squares, four ranks deep. After an overlapping volley of fire, British Cavalry counter-charged down the hill, and reached the French cannons. Cuirassier charged from the flanks. 4000 French were dead on the ridge and 2500 taken prisoner. The 'invincible' Imperial Guard was sent in, but 30,000 Prussians arrived rapidly from the right, put the French to flight and took revenge for Ligny. At 20.39 the Earl of Uxbridge lost his leg to almost the last cannon shot of the day. The Napoleonic Adventure was over and Napoleon was exiled, this time

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to St Helena. Today's speaker gave a very detailed account of the famous Battle. Footnote:- Two of the French Golden Eagles captured were recently exhibited in Edinburgh.

**On 22 September David Sweet, the Club Secretary,** gave a talk on the **Life and Art of Rembrandt**. At the time of Rembrandt's birth in 1606, the Dutch Revolt against Spain was still in progress. Leiden had sustained its independence by resisting and relieving the siege of 1573/74. This had been achieved by opening the dykes and flooding the lowland, so that only flat-bottomed boats could reach the city. Rembrandt's paternal grandparents were mill owners and as a young woman, Grandma Lysbeth Harmensdr is known to have helped to bring bread and barley to the besieged city. The famous painting "Relief of Leiden" by Otto van Veen shows the distribution of bread and herrings (1574). William, Prince of Orange who supported the Calvinists against Catholic Spain, founded Leiden University in 1575 and printing began there in 1580. Spain, after the Armada, was losing its influence but total home rule was not achieved until 1648. Rembrandt Harmensoon van Rijn was born on 15 July 1606 to mother Cornelia van Zuydbroeck. His father, a miller, was Harmen Gerritsz'n. They were wealthy enough to give Rembrandt a good education. Aged 7, he began at Latin school and at 14 went to Leiden University to study Law. He was already painting and soon gave up Law to join the local studio of Jacob van Swanenburgh and later that of Pieter Lastman in Amsterdam. He painted many self-portraits and "The Stoning of Saint Stephen" (1625) features 3 persons with Rembrandt's face. After 6 months in Amsterdam he returned to Leiden to set up his own studio. Joined by friend Jan Lievens, he established his reputation, received commissions and took on pupils, when he was barely 22 years old. In 1631 Rembrandt moved to Amsterdam and, now famous, marries Saskia van Uylenburgh (1634), cousin of a successful art dealer. He was now much in demand for portraits and religious themes. "The Blinding of Sampson" (1636) is a typical masterpiece. In 1639 Rembrandt borrowed money to buy a fashionable house in Amsterdam and filled it with treasures. Here Saskia gave birth to 4 children but only Titus survived and she herself died in 1642. Hendrickje Stoffels, engaged as housekeeper, about 1649, eventually became his common-law wife and the model for many paintings. By 1656 Rembrandt was bankrupt and was forced to sell the house and all its contents. Titus was given power of attorney and six years on Rembrandt even sold Saskia's grave. When Rembrandt died in 1669 over 300 painting were catalogued, but he probably achieved twice that number plus etchings and sketches. David's talk was amply illustrated by much of Rembrandt's work, e.g. The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicholas Tulp (7' x 5' The Hague), Belshazzar's Feast (National Gallery), The Abduction of Europa (Paul Getty Museum), Bathsheba at Her Bath (The Louvre), The Jewish Bride and The Night Watch (Rijksmuseum Amsterdam). "The Storm on the Sea of Galilee" painted in 1633, was stolen in 1990 from the Boston Museum and is still missing. An enjoyable Meeting.

Next Probus meetings – 10 November: Discovering Medicines – 24 November: The Arctic. At the Red House Lounge at 10.00 am. New members welcome.

*BOB STEVENS*

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



It takes time, but members should spare a little while to look at the Information Table at meetings! This time we spotted the Magna Flora Festival at Salisbury Cathedral and, thanks to our generous member-drivers, many of us were able to enjoy this remarkable Flower Show, meeting not only our own members but those from other branches of the WI. It was a wonderful show in itself, with the extra joy of meeting old friends

I wish all the ladies of Purton could have attended the September meeting, when Molly Gratland demonstrated her silk printing, particularly of scarves, and of cushion covers. Silk is such a beautiful, sensuous material to run through the fingers, and the colours and patterns were gorgeous. To describe them adequately would seem like one of my customary exaggerations, but honestly, they really were lovely. The demonstration itself involved taking a plain silk scarf and with simple colours, plus water and rock salt, turn them into objects of beauty. Actually it seemed remarkably within the range of most of us, to produce our own scarves at least. Molly was generous in showing how to achieve remarkable patterns – and then she handed over the final scarves freely, for our prizes. Such a lovely material – no wonder it has been a much-loved fabric for so many years. A delightful evening – and with good cakes, too!

On 14 November Helen Dixon will this year be running the Food Festival at the Village Hall, on behalf of Pips (the Community Café) from noon till 4 pm. We hope that members will be free to come and support this occasion, from which we should all benefit.

The forthcoming meeting, on Wednesday 18 November, is a Members' Night. Some members have already volunteered to give a short talk each, about their childhood, or interesting incidents in their adult life, or hobbies they have undertaken. Will there be a few secrets? We hope so! Possibly we would welcome even a few more anecdotes, time allowing, so do have a note in your pocket and let Barbara Compton know ...

To finish up the year will be our Birthday Meeting on 16 December and this will be held – please note – at the Silver Threads Hall. It will be our 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, as well as the Christmas meeting. The entertainment will be provided by Jean Whitfield and the songsters. We hope to see some old friends there, too. Members are invited to decorate their tables with a golden theme and to wear something golden to mark this very special occasion. See you there!

*CONSTANCE REED, tel 771571*

## Lifestyle

Laughter is the sun that drives winter from the human face.

*Victor Hugo 1802 - 1885)*

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.

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## After 8 - Cryptic and twisted minds

16 of us assembled at Eileen's house for a planning meeting followed by a "quizzzy thing" – the topic of which was food and drink. I never realised that I knew so many people with a penchant for twisted and cryptic thoughts and with the ability to produce so many brain-teasers. Some stumped us, some were answered in a jiffy.



Here are some for you to try. Answers below:

- Outer garment – large tuber.
- Well cooked in Derbyshire.
- Throw away the outside and eat the inside. Then throw away the inside.
- Accident in French café gave birth to this.
- A rodent loses its tail and double before an alias.
- Squashed coins.
- Woman come, so.....
- Not so quick or you will be trapped.
- A heated American state.
- Encounter some bread.

I had a very tired brain at the end!

The next meeting on 17 November is a Japanese Evening led by Yvonne at her house.

SHEILA

Answers: 1 baked potato; 2. Baked potato; 3. Corn on the cob; 4. Tart Tatin; 5. Mousaka; 6. Mushy peas; 7. Mango; 8. Sloe gin; 9. Baked Alaska; 10. Meat Loaf

## Purton Food Festival

The third annual Purton Food Festival will be taking place on Saturday 14 November at the Village Hall from 12 noon to 4 pm, with all profits going to Pips Community Café.



Food producers who came last year will be welcomed back with some new ones, as well as some very talented local crafts people. Why not come along and start planning your festive feast, and you might even be able to cross off a few items from that pressie list!

Refreshments will be served throughout the festival, including homemade soup and cakes as well as tea and coffee. Some of our exhibitors will be tempting you with a few tasty samples as well!

There will be activities for 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)

## Something to Think About

If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, we could have paradise in a few years.

*Bertrand Russell (1872 - 1970)*

## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



The annual 'Mini-Show' was the focus of our September meeting and, as members set out their exhibits, it was soon obvious that, despite the poor summer, they had still managed to produce a fine assortment of vegetables, fruits and flowers from all their gardens and allotments labours.

The voting process required those present to vote for their favourite in each of the 24 classes, and as ever, members needed little encouragement for the task, paying particular attention when sampling the variety of delicious cakes entered in the domestic category, including Victoria sponge cakes, ginger cakes and cheese scones. 'It's so difficult to choose' was the comment overheard on several occasions, with some members apparently needing a second 'turn around the table' before finally casting their vote!

Voting over, the committee began the count whilst members happily chatted over tea and biscuits.

Prizes were awarded in each of the 4 categories: 'Flowers': 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Read, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maureen Griffin and 3<sup>rd</sup> Marlene Slee

'Vegetables': 1<sup>st</sup> Howard Ockwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Read and 3<sup>rd</sup> Margaret Goodall

'Fruit': 1<sup>st</sup> Sue Berry, Joint 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter Berry and Mary Read

'Domestic': 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Read, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marlene Slee and 3<sup>rd</sup> Maureen Griffin

Congratulations to Mary Read who received the cup for the 'Overall Winner' having received the most points from all 23 classes.

It finally came to the presentation of the cup for the final class, 'Best in Show', chosen by members from all the exhibits entered. Congratulations once again to Mary who was the worthy winner for her stunning flower arrangement. Lots of silver polishing this year Mary!

Congratulations to all our winners and to all those who exhibited for without you we would not have a show.

Our last meeting of 2015 will be the 'American Supper' on Tuesday 24 November at 7.30 pm in Silver Threads Hall. This is a popular social evening and this year entertainment will be provided courtesy of PADS. So don't miss it and remember to bring a plate of goodies to share.

As there is no meeting in December our 2016 program will begin at 7.30 pm on Tuesday, 26 January with the AGM followed by a talk by Sue Carter entitled 'Gardening for Bees'. More about the 2016 program will be in the December issue of the magazine so watch this space.

*MOIRA WHITE, Chair & MARGARET GOODALL, Secretary*

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## 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 as well as 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.**

On The Heavier Side!



This is what happens when your notice board is too heavy!

Seriously though, I've lost count of the number of times I've reported the 'Leaning Lamp Post of Purton' to Clarence at Wiltshire Council. The first time was back in March or April, I believe.

The current angle is 9.6°.

RICK



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# WHAT'S ON?

## Wessex Male Choir Annual Christmas Concert 2015

The Choir's annual Christmas Concert will take place at Holy Rood Church, Groundwell Road, Swindon SN1 2LU on Friday 18 December.

The choir will be accompanied by guest artists the Aldbourne Brass Band.

The choristers look forward to welcoming you to a musical evening to start the celebration of Christmas.

The concert starts at 7.30 pm, with doors open at 7 pm.

Tickets are £15 per adult (free for under 16yrs, free though a ticket is still required to ensure a seat). Tickets are available from 01285 869955, [tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk) and from In Touch Services.

Please bring a cushion with you for comfort.

Visit [www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk](http://www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk) for further information on the choir. New members are always welcome.



## What's on . . . From the Cricklade Band

The band funds all it does in a not-for-profit sort of way – so, to help pay our way, please turn up at the Autumn Table-Top Sale on Saturday 14 November. It's going to be at The Club at Cricklade from 11 am to 1 pm – a really friendly event too!

If you're a Table-Top seller, please give Val a call on 01793 750516 to book your table at just £5. Setting up is from 10 am.

If you're a Table-Top browser, who knows what you might find? Although the band itself will have our now famous cake array, tea, coffee, games of chance and a raffle.

Another date for the diary too . . . we have our Christmas Present at The Club at Cricklade on Sunday 20 December at 7.30 pm – watch out for the posters.

There's much more about the band at [thecrickladeband.co.uk](http://thecrickladeband.co.uk) – and on Facebook too.

## 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.

Who amongst Purton Magazine readers would have remembered that it was 10 years ago that Thompson's garage was demolished to make way for what we now know as Thompsons Court? The piles of rubble created by the process in late October 2005 must have been a sad sight for those who used to work there and for all those villagers who benefited from the forecourt and vehicle workshop. However, the new dwellings soon became a useful addition to the community.

There was an article in the November 2005 magazine celebrating the fact that there are 160 footpaths in the Parish and that there was a map with them all numbered available from the Parish Office. 10 years later, news arrives that there will be an inquiry in the Village Hall on Wednesday 9 March 2016 from which footpath number 161 could be confirmed – further details are on page 45.

Reports of other forms of physical activity in the village were given in the magazine 10 years ago including details of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Purton Pram, Barrow and 3-legged race in which 8 hardy teams took to the course on a cold, rainy day. Each team had three members with two pushing and one riding and the course required 1½ pints at each of the then 5 watering holes in the village, including two drinks at the start and finish venue, the Red House. The afternoon was completed with a BBQ, bar (of course!), music and 3-legged races for adults and children on the field.

Finally we learnt “what gets you through the week – your emotional crutch”, at least in the minds of Purton After 8 members 10 years ago. Most referred to time to themselves; prayer; meditation; family; friends, Bruce Springsteen and Cold Play among the more helpful things while all agreed on the therapeutic value of pets and chocolate. Perhaps only the popular music performers change over the decades!

*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).*

## Harvest Festival

Thank you so much for the wonderful gifts of fruits, vegetables and flowers that were given as gifts to St Mary's Church for Harvest decorations.

The Church looked so beautiful with all these contributions. Two new volunteers came to help with the flower arrangements this year for which we were extremely grateful.

Many of the flowers have now been distributed to people around the village; the vegetables and fruits have been used by Purton Lunch Club; and all the tinned and dried food have been taken to the Swindon Foodbank ... so nothing has been wasted. Thank you all for your generous care.



**LIBBIE SHEPPARD**

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

OFFERED: Large Plastic Compost Bin. Contact Steven Tel: 979229.

OFFERED: Rotary dryer. Tel 770155.

OFFERED: 1930's oak bookcase with leaded glass doors. Lockable with key. Free to booklover, but must be collected. Tel 771006.

WANTED: Bookcase for Silver Threads. We have a table with books stacked on but need to Tidy Up! Contact: Chris Gleed 772314 or Jenny Barnes 770339.

WANTED: Any Carpentry Tools in exchange for a Garden Shredder. Contact Steven Tel: 979229.

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For further information contact Avril Ainscough,  
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