

Purton Magazine



HM The Queen's Official 90th Birthday on 11 June

June 2016

50p

PURTON CONTACTS



Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctors	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgeries	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2 - 5pm; Tuesdays 2 - 7pm; Wednesdays 10am - 5pm; Fridays 2 - 5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum	Curator: Beth Farnham	
	<i>bethaney23@icloud.com</i>	
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	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Brenda Cook	770431
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane	<i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>	
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Veterinary Group	771869
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	Ellen Blacker	07557 110414

Schools and Play Groups:

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

CHURCH OF ENGLAND – PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY

<i>Vicar:</i>	<i>Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith,</i> <i>tel 770077 (for emergencies only, 773031)</i> <i>email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Curate:</i>	<i>Revd Judith Wells, tel 770627, email curate@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Wardens:</i>	<i>Sandra Horsnall, tel 770157 Jane Smith, tel 772422</i>	
<i>Administrator:</i>	<i>Rosie Harris, tel 773035, email administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk</i>	
<i>Web site:</i>	<i>www.stmaryspurton.org.uk Services: 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

Most readers will know that Purton Magazine is produced by Rick Dixon and his team at In Touch Services. Each of the last 150 editions has been assiduously assembled, carefully checked and punctually printed at 115 Pavenhill. Your raw material continues to arrive in a various forms and formats, including some handwritten scraps on backs of envelopes and all are made ready for the proofing processes.

Yet producing these magazines in the current house style is no mean feat. Consider, if you will, how month after month, it seems that everything fits so neatly and nicely in the different spaces, usually in some sort of logical sequence on the pages that you, dear reader, have been kind enough to buy and read. Indeed, you might be surprised to learn that it is not magic and that some tiny, typographical talisman (or woman) does not hide behind the many boxes of different paper and card, currently so carefully stacked on the shelves inside 115 Pavenhill.

Rather it is usually a painstakingly persistent process with a metaphorical shoehorn to fit in everything that readers provide into these pages – thank heavens for electronic page design and management software systems that allow items to be resized and repositioned with a minimum of mouse clicks prior to printing.

However, times are about to change – as you will read on page 38. The very good news is that Rick and his team will continue to receive and make-ready complete artworks for future copies of Purton Magazine after this issue. The less convenient news is that In Touch Services is moving from the shop in the top square and that final printing of our magazine will now be completed outside the village.

While the cover price and advertising rates will not change at the moment, this last “printed in Purton” issue is using up stocks of different coloured card for the covers. Of course, you will not necessarily know that other copies of this issue will have a different coloured cover to the one you are now reading – but there is a small prize for any reader who can correctly identify exactly how many different colours of covers we have used for this, the June 2016 issue. Naturally, all members of the magazine committee are not eligible to enter but any of the committee members listed on page 4 can receive reader entries by Saturday 4 June.

4 June

The village Carnival
kicks off with
a Pig Roast and BBQ
in Playclose
- see page 20

40

home cricket club
matches this season
needing volunteers to
help with the teas
- see page 40

£721

raised for Purton
Age Concern and
Prospect Hospice at a
recent concert
- see page 17

CONTENTS

10 Years Ago	Historical Society
Advertiser Index	Historical Society Outings
After 8	In Touch Services
Age Concern	Library Hours
ATC Volunteers needed	Magazine Contacts
Blunson Open Gardens	Maharajah Tea Party
Bowls Club	Methodist Church
Bradon Forest School news	Museum News and the Co-op
Carers Week - June 2016	Obituary Contacts
Carnival News	On the Lighter Side
Christian Aid Week	Our Family's War
Church Floodlighting	Parish Council News
Coffee & Chat	Prayer for Purton
Cricket Club	Probus Club
Cricklade Country Market	Purton Placard
Diary Pages	Purton Postbag (letters)
Dr Gwylfa John	Purton Profferings
Foggy's Swindon	Radiotherapy Experience
Football Club	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides
Found	Ridgeway Breast Cancer
Gaffer's Tales	Scarecrow Trail
Gardeners' Guild	St Mary's School
Great War Project	Tennis Club
Group for Patients	We Record
Guide Dogs	Wessex Male Choir
Guild of Wiltshire Artists	Women's Institute (Purton Evening WI)
Health & Well-Being Champion	Your Magazine delivered free!

Purton
Magazine

© 2004 - 2016

Magazine Committee

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

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

Advertising enquiries and copy for contributions

by 10th of each month, please to: Purton Magazine,
c/o In Touch Services, Quarry House, 51 The Hyde, Purton SN5 4EA
tel 01793 772954 email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Distribution enquiries only:

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

Other enquiries and comments for the committee to:
The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

Parish Council News



Village Centre Open Day - Saturday 7 May 2016

A big thank-you to all the clubs, groups, stall holders and residents who attended the Open Day at the Village Centre. A great day supported by many. Pictures are posted on the council's Facebook page and website.

Do you think we should run a similar event on a regular basis? Let the Clerk know on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Councillor Vacancy: The Parish Council has the option to co-opt a Councillor to fill the current vacancy. If you are interested in your community and how the Parish Council forms its decisions and provides the services, please contact the Clerk on (01793) 771066 or email for more information clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk.

Volunteers Required: Purton Parish Council is in the process of creating an Emergency Plan for Purton. At this stage we are seeking likeminded people who would wish to help in an emergency by either being a "first point" contact, (Cascade contact list) or could advise and help the vulnerable in Purton, or being a valuable resource such as a 4x4 driver, tractor driver, nurse, doctor, chain saw owner etc. Please contact our offices with offers of help. More information on this plan will follow.

June Meeting Dates – all are Mondays

6th Finance, Staff and General Purposes
13th Full Council

20th Planning
27th Village Centre Charity

Updated "Walks of Purton" Booklet

The Volunteer Footpath Team have begun work on this project and would welcome help from anyone interested in walks/maps etc with a bit of time to spare. Help is needed in many areas - e.g. selecting and checking out walks; designing and illustrating route maps; composing directions and descriptions of interesting features/historical notes. If you would like to contribute to this village project in any way, please contact Paul Dempsey on 07796378136 (paul.dempsey@live.co.uk) or the Clerk on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Cemetery: During 2016, we will be undertaking a project to enhance the area to the far end of the Cemetery where the first cremated remains were placed. This area is in need of light, renewed edging and also relaying of weed suppressant and stones.

We are anticipating this work will be completed during 2016 taking into consideration weather conditions and current work schedules. Notices will be placed to advise when works will commence. Please bear with us during this period of works. Any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk.

Sponsor a Footpath: What better way to remember a loved one or leave a legacy for future generations, than to sponsor a footpath gate on one of Purton's 161 footpaths.

If you are interested, please call the office for more information or email admin@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Planning & Highways

Below are the Approved, Refused and Appeal Planning applications from April's

Planning meeting and the Road Closures advertised on our website and noticeboards.

Approved

- N15/12698/FUL Hills Waste Solutions Depot, Mopes Lane. Replacement of existing dilapidated portacabin office with new single storey extension to Workshop/Office building to contain office and training facilities. New car park for staff and visitors.
- N16/00356/TCA 12 Church Path. 20% crown reduction to ash tree.
- N16/00572/TCA 7 Church Path. Fell 1 sycamore tree, 1 conifer and 2 apple trees. Objection.
- N15/11129/VAR Land at Watkins Corner, Purton Stoke. Variation of Condition 4 of Planning Permission N08/02038/FUL to allow for the parking of No. 1 horse box.
- N15/11132/FUL Land at Watkins Corner, Purton Stoke. Erection of additional stable, tack room, store and two loose boxes for the keeping of horses. (Retrospective)
- N16/00148/FUL 35a The Hyde. Construction of garage with games room above.
- N16/00766/HRN White Lodge Farm, Braydon. Removal of 50 metres of hedgerow.
- N15/12543/FUL Bradon Forest School, The Peak. Proposed construction of new sports hall within grounds of Bradon Forest School.
- N16/00331/FUL Hayes Knoll, Purton Stoke. Proposed alterations& extension to dwelling.
- N16/01120/FUL 30 Pond Lane, Purton Stoke. Proposed two storey extension.
- N15/12096/FUL 3 Witts Lane. Proposed demolition of existing dwelling & erection of four dwellings (Amended to Previously) Approved Application 15/03295/FUL)
- N15/12164/FUL Land on Junction of Dogridge and Orchard Gardens. Two bungalows with associated car parking and Landscaping.
- N16/00779/FUL Ashgrove House Nursing Home, 63 Station Road. Proposed extension to lounge.
- N16/01044/FUL 12 The Hyde. Proposed extension and alteration.
- N16/02246/TCA 2 Church Street. Fell 27 metres of leyland cypress hedge.
- N12/01442/FUL St Marys School, College Road. Part demolition & change of use from education to residential.

Refused Applications

- N16/00658/FUL 12 Church Path. Side, front & rear extension.
- N16/00744/FUL Longcroft, 6 Station Road. Extension and alterations to existing dwelling.
- N16/01188/FUL 3 Willowbrook. Garage extension.

Appeals

APP/Y3940/W/16/3144842 Land Adjacent Hyde View House. Erection of four-bed detached dwelling with double garage (Resubmission of 15/08165/FUL)

Road Closures

Witts Lane, Purton

Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Temporary Closure of: Witts Lane, Purton (Ref: TTRO 4228). 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 Station Road for its entire length.

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

No alternative route is available; access will be maintained for residents and businesses. The closure will be clearly indicated by traffic signs.

This Order will come into operation on 3 May 2016 and it is anticipated that the closure will be required daily between the hours of 09.30 and 15.30 until 6 May 2016. 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 Atkins on 01225 730360 (office hours) or 01225 777234 (outside of office hours). Sustainable Transport Group, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

Hook Street Swindon

This Order is being introduced to allow carriageway resurfacing works and will prohibit vehicles from proceeding on Hook Street from its junction with Bess Road for approx. 250 metres in a north westerly direction.

Traffic will be diverted along Whitehill Way, Tewkesbury Way, The Street, Lydiard Green, Greatfields, Hook Street and vice versa.

The Order will come into force on 16 May 2016 for 6 months but it anticipated closure will be in force for 5 days from the 16 May 2016 between the hours of 9 am to 4 pm.

Highways and Transport Services, 22 April 2016. For further information regarding this notice please contact the Street Works on: (01793) 466380 (direct line) quoting TTRO 2543

Lydiard Millicent

Temporary Closure of: C28 (Part) Lydiard Green and Church Place, Lydiard Millicent (Ref: TRO 4076)

Notice is hereby given that Wiltshire Council has made an order to close temporarily to all traffic:

a) C28(Part) Church Place, Lydiard Millicent; from its junction with The Street to its junction with Lydiard Green.

b) C28 Lydiard Green (Part), Lydiard Millicent; from its junction with Church Place for a distance of approximately 1.2km in a westerly direction.

To enable Wiltshire Council to carry out footway works. The order will come into operation on 23 May 2016 until 17 June 2016.

Purton Carnival: 2 July 2016 between the hours of midday & 14.00

The following roads and streets in the Parish of Purton are to be closed (save in any case of emergency) to all vehicular traffic.

- a) Station Road(Part); from its junction with Witts Lane to its junction with High Street.
- b) High Street; from its junction with Station Road to its junction with Pavenhill.
- c) Pavenhill(Part); from its junction with High Street to its junction with Ringsbury Close.
- d) Dogridge (Part); from its junction with Pavenhill to its junction with Restrop View.
- e) Restrop View (Part); from its junction with Dogridge to its junction with Ringsbury Close.
- f) Ringsbury Close Part); from its junction with Restrop View to its junction with Pavenhill.
- g) Church Street; from its junction with Station Road/High Street to its junction with Church End.
- h) Church End; from its junction with Church Street to its junction with The Fox.

Temporary Closure of C67 Eighty Acres(Part), Purton (Ref: Ttro4267)

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

Temporary Closure of: C67 Eighty Acres (Part), Purton (Ref: TTRO 4267)

Notice is hereby given that the Wiltshire Council has made an Order to close temporarily to all traffic:

C67 Eighty Acres (Part), Purton; for a distance of approximately 500m between No Parish Farm and Highbarn Farm.

To enable: Thames Water to carry out water supply works.

Alternative route:

Via C67 Eighty Acres, Purton (unaffected length) – C76 Ravensroost Road – C91 The Common / Mile Straight – C67 Eighty Acres, Purton (unaffected length) and vice versa. **The closure will be clearly indicated by traffic signs and access will be maintained for residents throughout the works period.**

This Order will come into operation on 6 June 2016 and it is anticipated that the closure will be required for three days. The Order will have a maximum duration of 18 months.

For further information, please contact Ihsan Ahmed Farid (Clancy Docwa/Thames Water) on 0203 577 8328.

Sustainable Transport Group, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN

How to Contact the Parish Council:

Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

Facebook, Twitter and Website

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

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

On our website you can join up to receive regular updates which will keep you informed of matters happening in and around the village such as planning information and road closures etc. Please have a look at the site (www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and sign up today.

Health & Wellbeing Champion

Ellen Blacker: Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Community Area

Supporting individuals to live independent, happy, healthy and fulfilling lives by offering information on a variety of topics. Working to improve outcomes for people by representing their needs at decision making levels.

- Information to empower individuals to make decisions about their lives
- Responding to calls of help from individuals who need support to maintain a happy and healthy lifestyle
- Offering options to support health, transport, finance & emotional issues
- Supporting individuals to access provision & services to ensure their needs are met wherever possible
- Working with local groups to strengthen & encourage membership and ensure sustainability for the group
- Supporting new activities & projects
- Working with ‘Local Champions’ to increase capacity in supporting vulnerable people

Ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk, 07557 922020

“The person to contact to get information on just about anything which will help our older & vulnerable community.”

Purton Guide Dogs

We did our stall to promote Guide Dogs for the Blind at the Open Day in the Village Centre. We were there to answer people’s queries and also had a few items for sale. It was quite a reasonable day until about three o’clock when the rain storm arrived ... torrential, everyone trying to get under cover. We took £16.80 on the stall.



Our next venue will be at the Purton Carnival Fete. We hope to see you there. Many thanks for your continued support.

BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group

Found

Small gold-coloured bracelet (no hallmarks) on the path between Willowbrook and Waites Mead Close. Probably a child’s size. Contact Lynne on 778165.

Purton & District Age Concern



This month we have our boat trip on the Rose of Hungerford on Friday 3 June, followed by the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration on the green outside the Red House on Sunday 12 June from 2 pm to 6 pm. There will be a BBQ and cream teas for sale, but please bring your own picnics if you prefer. There will be music and games for all ages to enjoy or just sit and chat to your friends and family, our gazebo's, chairs and tables will be available or bring your own picnic rugs or fold-up chairs. Families are welcome to join us and the Red House will be open for drinks all afternoon. We want to see as much red, white and blue as possible so please wear your most patriotic outfit; let's celebrate our Queen's 90th Birthday in style! Please contact Hazel Woodbridge the minibus co-ordinator on 770862 if you need transport.

In July we are going to Gloucester Docks and holding our annual coffee morning in Bentham, please see future events for more details.

I'm afraid I have to report the recent passing of two great supporters of Age Concern. Firstly, **Dr John**, who many years ago ran our dog shows on the lawn at Purton House, and continued to support us when the show grew bigger and moved across the road. He was always interested in what we were doing within Age Concern. Secondly, **Keith Instone** has passed away quite suddenly following an operation. Keith who along with his wife Alison have for many years put together a beautiful festive hamper as a prize in our annual Christmas Raffle. We are pleased to say Alison has said she will continue the tradition even though Keith is no longer with her. Thank you so much Alison and thank you for money in lieu of flowers coming to Age Concern. Our thoughts are with Mrs John and Mrs Instone, their families and friends at this sad time.

Finally. I will end on a more cheerful note. By the time you read this all pensioners in our area should have received a travel voucher for £5 off one of our outings during the rest of 2016. We have outings planned up to November 2016. If you haven't been on an outing with us before we hope you will take advantage of this discount and come along and enjoy a day out with us, we look forward to meeting new people. For our regular customers you will save £5 on one of your outings, a little thank you for supporting us. Please write your name on the front of your voucher before you hand it to your street warden as part payment for one outing. Thank you.

FUTURE EVENTS

Boat Trip - Friday 3 June with a 9 am start. Cost £20 which includes a fish & chips. May be sold out by the time you read this. Please check with your street warden if last minute places are available.

Gloucester Docks – Wednesday 6 July – our monthly outing is to Gloucester Docks with a 10am start. Food is not included in this trip. We will return from Gloucester Docks at 4 pm. The cost is £8 for pensioners and £9.50 for non-pensioners and others from outside our area. Please book your place with your street warden before Friday 24 June.

Annual Coffee Morning – This will be on Saturday 9 July from 10 am to 12 noon

at the home of Dick & Jackie Scott, Bentham House Farm, Bentham Lane. Admission will be £1 and includes tea/coffee/biscuit. There will be plants for sale, bric-a-brac, tombola, cake stall and a raffle. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

PAST EVENTS

April Outing – Jenny was in charge for this outing. Everyone seemed to enjoy their time at Lechlade Garden Centre. The lunch was good value, two courses and a drink for £8.

Our **Afternoon Tea at the Maharajah** was on Bank Holiday Monday 2 May and what a busy afternoon it was. Everyone seemed to really enjoy a lovely social afternoon with lots of tea and cake. We are very grateful to Khalique, Wendy and the team at the Maharajah for holding this event each year. They raised the wonderful sum of £650 which is being shared between Age Concern and a Children's Charity the Maharajah supports in India.

INFORMATION

Fire Service & Bobby Van – We have a new telephone number for the Fire Service. If you need a smoke alarm fitting or checking please you can now contact the Fire Service on 0800 038 2323. A woman in Purton called this new number recently and her smoke alarm was changed within 2 hours, amazing service! If you need the Bobby Van please call them on 01225 794652.

We hold T'ai Chi sessions for pensioners each Thursday at 2 pm in the Millennium Hall. There are places available so if you would like to give it a go please contact Mick Hull on 772453.

Minibuses – Please contact Hazel Woodbridge our minibus co-ordinator on 770862 if you would like to book the minibus.

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

LOUISE TIDMAN

Dr Gwylfa John

It is with sadness we report the loss of a Purton resident. On 12 April 2016, Dr Gwylfa John sadly passed away following a long and painful illness. A devoted husband, father, grandfather and dedicated doctor, Dr John will be sorely missed by many. Prior to his illness, Gwylfa led a happy and fulfilling life and certainly enjoyed his many happy years as a Purton villager.

UNA JOHN & FAMILY, Malthouse Farm

Obituaries

Purton Magazine is always willing 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.

Great War Project

Part 35: June 1916

Purton men mobilised in June 1916 - To France:

William John Tuck, 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

James Richard Webb, Royal Berkshire Regiment, Labour Corps.

Salonika

Lieut.-General Sir George Milne had been appointed as General Officer Commanding British Forces, Salonika (Thessaloniki) in May 1916. With the Serbian government in exile also based in Salonika and faced with Greek government objections to the allies' presence there, the Allies proclaimed martial law in Salonika on 4 June.

Herbert Shopland was born in Purton in 1877 but, by the time the War started, he was living in Great Yarmouth, which was where he enlisted. He served in the Royal Army Medical Corps attached to the 28th General Hospital at Salonika in Greece. No details are available of his death on 18 June 1916. He was buried in the Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery and also remembered on the War Memorial in Great Yarmouth.

Lord Kitchener

On 5 June, the British Minister for War, Lord Kitchener, and his staff were aboard HMS Hampshire on a diplomatic mission to Russia. The Hampshire hit a mine off the Orkney Islands, Scotland, and sank. Of the 655 crewmen and 7 passengers aboard, only 12 crewmen on life rafts managed to reach the shore alive.

Western Front

Battles were being fought in both the Ypres and Verdun sectors of the Western front 1st German attack on Fort Vaux, Verdun, with ground being lost and retaken in quick succession. For example, Fort Thiaumont at Verdun changed hands 16 times.

A new horror was unleashed when phosgene gas was used for the first time at Verdun by the Germans on 22 June.

The Battle of the Somme was initiated on 24 June when the Allies opened up an artillery barrage along a 25-mile front against German trenches on the Somme, in advance of the start of the campaign on 1 July.

Eastern Front

On 4 June, Russia commenced a massive offensive under General Aleksei Brusilov against Austria-Hungary forces in Carpathia breaking through the Austro-Hungarian lines. Continuing until 20 September, the Brusilov offensive nearly knocked Austria-Hungary out of the war.

Arab Revolt

On 5 June, Hussein bin Ali, the Sharif of Mecca, and with British support led by T.E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia) declared the Arab Revolt against the Ottoman Empire. The Sharif's intention was to create a single unified Arab state spanning from Aleppo to Aden.

On 6 June, an Arab attack on Medina was repulsed by the Turkish garrison but Hussein proclaimed the independence of the Hejaz on 7 June and Arab forces captured Jeddah on the 9th. The next day, the Turkish garrison of Mecca surrendered to Hussein's forces.

America

The US war with Mexico continued. On 17 June, US troops under General Pershing marched into Mexico but his expeditionary force was beaten by Mexican troops on the 21st when President Carranza, ordered them to oppose the Americans at Carrizal. 18 American soldiers were killed or wounded.

RICK DIXON

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

Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...

10 years ago, we were celebrating our National Basketball champions! The Bradon Forest School News

piece in the June 2006 issue proudly announced that their Under 14 (Year 9) Basketball team had travelled to Nottingham and beat Aston Manor School from Birmingham 71-56 to become national champions – from Purton!

There were 12 members of the successful squad – Dean Hobbs, Ryan Way, Michael Farage, Will Evans, Liam Williams, Daniel Norcross, Yoshio Takeuchi, Marcus Welch, Billy Bodin, Adam Bedwell, Adam Corcoran and Tom Barron. That squad will now be in their early 20s all quite probably leading very different lives from each other in many different places but hopefully still able to enjoy remembering their shared national achievement from time to time.

Also in your magazine 10 years ago was a report – with photographs – about the 4th Purton Tug of War competition, again successfully organised by P.E.S.T. (Purton Extreme Sports Team). There were eight men's, two ladies' and eight children's teams taking part and approximately £1,300 was raised on the day which went towards the provision of new medical equipment at the surgery – quite amazing!

Plans for the Purton Carnival in 2006 were well detailed 10 years ago, just as information about the 2016 Carnival can be found on page 30 of this issue.

Returning to the sporting theme, Purton Cricket Club reported 10 years ago that over 90 members had already been involved in coaching sessions and playing in matches, confirming a renewed enthusiasm for cricket in our village. Details of early cricket club activities in this 2016 season appear on page 59 and it is worth remembering that Purton Cricket Club is the oldest in Wiltshire as well as one of the oldest in the country, now in its 196th season.

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

Scarecrow Trail 2016

Sat/Sun 17 and 18 September – Theme: “Musicals”

For those of you who are not sure what a “scarecrow trail” is, it’s a quiz based on clues in gardens around the village. Each one will have a cryptic meaning which will usually be easy to solve but with a few tricky ones thrown in to make the competition worth the prizes that will be won. Anyone who would like to be involved is welcome to either make their own scarecrow to put in their garden/window or “host” one for someone else if that is easier. It has to be easily visible from the road or path outside your property. You can be as artistic as you want or keep it really simple.

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

If you want to take part and make your “scarecrow”, please send us your 1st and 2nd choice of musical by 31 July along with your contact details (email address if you have one, name and telephone number please) to info@purton-scarecrow.co.uk or call Ali Davies 01793 772579 or Ali Bunce 01793 772158 to leave your details. We shall then send out more information about what to do next.

If you plan to offer teas, cakes or any refreshments to fund raise for your favourite charity, please let us know so that we can indicate this on the route map and also please consider donating some of the money raised to the “scarecrow fund” (which is kindly managed by Purton Parish Council) as this will contribute to the funds for the ongoing maintenance costs of the two village defibrillators.

A quiz sheet with a map of all the scarecrow locations, parking and refreshment sites will be available to buy from various places in the village before and on the weekend. We shall provide more detailed information closer to the time.

ALI

Wessex Male Choir

Winners Cheltenham Performing Arts Festival Gold Cup May 2016

The choir’s Summer Concert is at the Concert Hall at Steam Museum in Swindon on Saturday 16 July. We shall be joined by Jubilate, a ladies’ choir (*pictured below*) we have sung with many times before and who entertain wonderfully!

Concert doors open at 7 pm for a concert start at 7.30 pm. Tickets priced £15 can be obtained from the Choir on (01285) 869955; from the Information Desk, in Swindon Central Library, Regent Circus, Swindon (01793) 466454; from STEAM Ticket Office, Fire Fly Ave., Kemble Drive, Swindon (in person); or online from tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk.

In Purton they are also available from Rick Dixon, 01793 770648.

Under-16s are free but still must have a ticket as seating numbers are limited.

Your ticket allows you entry to the Steam Museum from 6.30 pm and free parking at the Outlet Centre North Car Park - take a parking ticket on arrival but the exit barriers are lifted after the show.



Purton Rainbows, Brownies & Guides



Thanks for coming to see us at the Village Centre 'Clubs Together' Open Day last month. It was great chatting to people about what we do and exciting that some showed an interest in volunteering with us. In case you missed us, Rachel Mead would love to hear from anyone else interested in volunteering, especially with the Purton Rainbow unit.

Contact her by phone on 07729 462054 or email braydondc@wncounty.org.uk. You can also register interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested.

The Rainbows have continued their journey through the colours of the rainbow this month by making bluebells, sunflowers and collecting green foliage. Guides have dodged the raindrops by holding indoor meetings. To start the term, they completed 45 activities in 45 minutes, including making a newspaper hat, paying someone a compliment and making a cup of tea for a Leader. They also enjoyed playing board games together and making pompoms for the Clubs Together Open Day.

In guiding we seize any opportunity for a celebration. 2nd Purton Brownies celebrated the Queen's birthday with a quiz, decorating birthday cakes and treasure hunt. The Guides enjoyed a cream tea in honour of the Queen's birthday. The Trefoil Guild also attended with uniforms that the Queen would have worn as a Guide. Everyone enjoyed dressing up and some much preferred these uniforms! Purton Rainbows will have held their joint celebration with Lydiard Millicent Rainbows by the time you read this. Another opportunity to celebrate was the Rangers' hen night for Leader Kate. Food and mocktails included!

Purton Brownies have had a busy time. They had barely unpacked their bags from one weekend away before they were packing them again for the next. First was the B-Wise event; they spent a day hopping on and off buses in Swindon competing in a trail set for them and other Brownies from across Wiltshire North. All 120 'slept' at the National Trust's Heelis Building that night and a mass drumming session followed the next morning. It was a great way of keeping everyone awake!

The next weekend was Brownie Holiday. Jungle Book was the theme this year and 29 Brownies had an action-packed weekend at Woodhouse Park, a Scout Centre just outside Bristol. Orienteering, archery, crate stacking, climbing, adventure course (very wet and muddy!), low ropes and go-karting were all on the programme. It was fantastic to see the Brownies challenging themselves and



encouraging each other on the adventurous activities. One Brownie said she was claustrophobic and didn't want to attempt the tunnels on the adventure course, but then decided she didn't want to miss out on the fun and went through the tunnels not once but several times. Another got nervous halfway across an obstacle, but made it across thanks to another Brownie on the ground who was calling out, "Come on, you can do it, face your fears!" These are the things that memories are made of.

www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision



After 8



The January Meeting of After 8 was held as usual at Jan's house. Jan had worked hard devising her 2015 round-up of events quiz. This year proved to be particularly difficult with all the dreadful events that had happened during the year. However, she managed to find 8 brain-challenging events to test our memories along with some "Just For Fun" teasers.

It is not often there is quiet in our meetings but when faced with the question sheet for a while you could hear only our brains ticking over.

Do you know the significance of the numbers 23,226 days, 16 hours and 30 minutes?

Discussions about how long it takes to travel to distant planets could be heard but the answer was the time when our Queen became the longest reigning monarch.

How is this for a good answer to the question "How many dark squares on an English draughts board?" – the same number as the white ones!

Marking the quiz was harder than working with a class of children! There were so many reasons given as to why half marks should be awarded for almost right answers because no one wanted to get nil points! Why worry, after all as someone said, "It's only a quiz".

Sandra was the overall winner with 8 out of 14 points. Well done.

Next Jan had a picture recognition quiz to identify celebrities, slightly easier but still brain taxing. Trying to put a name to a face is still tricky so we pooled our brains.

Cathy, Sheila and Avril's team won scoring 13 out of 20 although an extra point could have been gained for knowing Adele's surname. Do you know? ... because we didn't. It's Adkins.

Thanks Jan for a most enjoyable evening.

LORRAINE GOODALL

We find that as a group we are oversubscribed and are now unable to welcome new members for the time being.

Purton Pubs

The After 8 group of Purton Ladies, met in The Royal George pub, to a warm welcome, for their monthly meeting to discuss the local public houses past and present

The village of Purton has had a variety of pubs over many years. The Angel and The Royal George are sadly the only survivors of the modern public house era, but we could mention 'The Red House Club here.

Bygone pubs of Purton were, the Ghost Train (formerly The Railway Hotel) situated next to Purton Station, which closed under Beeching in 1963; The New Greyhound (formerly The Greyhound) is now flats for local residents; The Hope Inn now trades as a saddlery. There were also the Masons Arms at Upper Square (commemorated as Masons Close), and the Live & Let Live at Upper Pavenhill. There was also the Queens Arms in the High Street, and The Fox, in the Fox, which is now a private house.

The Angel dates from 1704 and Purton folk considered it to be far more than a simple public house; various gatherings took place, including local magistrates who

held their monthly meetings there. At one time The Angel brewed its own beer, and it is said that at one 18th century fair 6000 gallons were sold. In 1910 it was advertised as 'good accommodation for hunting gentlemen'.

The Royal George, dates back to 1800, and was the oldest pub at that end of the village. Legend has it that the pub, was named after a ship, the HMS Royal George which sank off the coast of Portsmouth in 1782. Part of the mast was used to build the bar.

The idea of pub signs came to Britain at the time of the Roman invasion, and most indicated the trade of the area, examples include The Woolpack, The Plough, and the Coach and Horses aptly named to rest and attend to the horses on a long journey.

Across the UK, the Red Lion remains the most popular pub name; some 944 pubs have this name, followed by The Crown with 826 and the Royal Oak with 771. Popular pub names that didn't make the top slots were, The White Hart, The Kings Head, and The Swan.

Everyone loves an 'olde worlde pub' with log fires oak beams, and horse brasses, nevertheless, even in an historic pub, the oldest item is probably the sign outside.

DIANE

PURTON POSTBAG

The Editors reserve the right not to publish letters received where space and content dictate. No correspondence can be accepted for publication without the proper name and address of the correspondent being supplied. However those details may be withheld from being published if so requested.



■ GWYLFA JOHN

Una and her family would like to sincerely thank all who have offered their condolences and attended the funeral of her late husband, Gwylfa John.

*Una John and family,
Malthouse Farm*

■ RECENT CONCERT

The Concert by Chedworth Silver Band and Purton Peartree Pealers Handbell ringers raised a total of £721.00. This will be split between Purton Age Concern and Prospect Hospice. Many thanks to all who supported this event.

Alan Woodward

Ridgeway Breast Cancer Care Support Group

You are invited to a SUMMER FAIR. It is being held at the White Horse Cricket Club, Manor Farm, Broad Hinton, SN4 9PL on Monday 27 June from 7 pm to 9.30 pm. Tickets cost £5 which includes strawberries, shortbread biscuits and a glass of fizz.

There will be a prize for one lucky ticket holder. There will also be a bar and Jazz, sung by Mothers Jam. Bring your partner along with you to enjoy a drink and good music. There will be a variety of craft stalls and you can also have a manicure or facial - be thoroughly pampered, and much, much more.

Apply for tickets at info@ridgewaybreastcaresupportgroup.org.uk

PURTON PLACARD

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

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Day Trip to **Gloucester Docks**

Wednesday 6 July

Coach leaves at 10am

Cost £8 (food not included)

Book your place with your street warden before Friday 24 June.

Prospect Hospice
Support Group

June Fair

Saturday 4 June, 10am

At Silver Threads Hall

Tombola, nearly new, bric-a-brac, books, raffle, plants, cakes & refreshments

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Boat Trip

Friday 3 June

On the "Rose of Hungerford"

Limited to 50 places!

Coach leaves at 9 am Cost £20 – lunch included.

Book your place with your street warden

Afternoon Cream Tea

Sunday 3 July

Village Hall - 2.30 to 5.30 pm

Raising funds for the Aspire charity (supporting people with spinal injuries). Archie's Bradon Forest Schools World Challenge trip to Iceland.

Tickets £5

Homemade cake, scones, jam & cream + tea/coffee

Bethany - 07584 049660

Lyndsey - 07846 219575

Archie - 772562

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration

Sunday 12 June

2 pm - 6 pm on the green outside the Red House.

All ages welcome. Bring a picnic. BBQ & Cream Teas will be on sale. Music and games, wear your most patriotic outfit and celebrate the Queen's Birthday in style!

Group for Patients - Purton and Green Gable Surgery: G4P

Coffee Morning

Tuesday 7 June,

10 am to 12 noon

Cricklade United Church Hall

All patients are welcome.

Meet Health Professionals such as Community Nurses, Age Concern, Dementia and Health Promoters. Drop in for a coffee and informal chat with them.

Small charge for coffee and biscuits. Tombola.

Raising funds for high-backed chairs with arms for waiting rooms.

Purton Methodist Church
present a

Thamesdown Choir Concert

Saturday 16 July : 7 pm
at Purton Methodist Church



QUIZ NIGHT

LICENCED BAR RAFFLE

FRIDAY 24TH JUNE 7.30PM

PURTON VILLAGE HALL

£5 PER PERSON – MAX TEAMS OF 8

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

Kathryn Bartlett: 778059 OR 07811583286
Grace Bartlett & Sam Harper

RAISING FUNDS FOR



Julia's House
The Clonon & Wilton Children's Hospital



St Mary's Church
Everyone welcome to join us on
Saturday 16 July
for a

Walking Purton Quiz

Followed by a Supper
in Silver Threads Hall

Meet at 6.30pm, Silver Threads Hall

Please note the date.

Further information regarding Tickets
to follow

FIGHTING BLINDNESS
(Retinitis pigmentosa)

Books, DVDs and vintage clothes sale

In aid of the above charity

Saturday 4 June, 10 am to 4 pm

3 Old Surgery Close, Hyde Lane

(3 minutes walk from lower square)

RWB Arts Festival 2016

June Music, Singing and Instrumental Festival

Thursday 23 to Sunday 26 June

St Bartholomew's Church and Memorial Hall

Total Piano - at RWB Academy
Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 June

Purton Silver Threads

Cream Teas

Sunday 26 June : 3 to 5 pm

Silver Threads Hall

Admission by ticket - £5

Contact Bernice Seviour:

771210

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
Richard Woodbridge, tel. 770862.

BOB TINSON

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

OFFERED: Wooden dropside cot and mattress. Telephone 771248.

WANTED: The loan of a bugle - in any condition- to be used as a prop in a show,
so it won't actually be played. Can be returned in time for Christmas! Libbie: 771028

WANTED: Gentleman's vintage wristwatches wanted by collector, everything of
interest. Steven 07921 254768

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

Nearly Time for Carnival!

This year's theme is Superheroes so I hope you have your costumes ready? If not there is still time. Are you and your friends entering a float or walking group this year? It's free to enter; just fill in a form from the carnival website.



The next Event is The Pig Roast and barbecue with Live music new date new venue Saturday 4 June at Playclose Play Park. The pig is back by popular demand and Burgers and Hotdogs from our Local Butcher "Hiscock Butchers" serving from 4 pm -11 pm (subject to availability).

We have some great live music for you and our Carnival Bars has Draft Ale, Cider and Lager. We have a Pimms and Prosecco Bar and even a Snack Bar for the kids. Plus a Bouncy Castle and Swing Boats

Still to come this year:

Sat	4 June	Pig Roast & BBQ	Playclose Play Park	4.00 pm
Tue	7 June	Poker Night	Royal George Pub	7.30 pm
Sat	25 June	Aunt Sally Competition	Royal George Pub	4.00 pm
Sun	26 June	Carnival Golf	Oaksey Golf Course	10.00am
Tue	28 June	Teddy Bears Picnic	Purton Club	1.30 pm
Tue	28 June	Carnival Quiz	Purton Club	7.30 pm
Wed	29 June	Carnival Bingo	Silver Threads Hall	7.30 pm
Thu	30 June	Carnival Crib	Angel Pub	7.30 pm
Fri	1 July	Carnival Lunch	Royal George Pub	12 -2 pm
Sat	2 July	Carnival Procession	From Ringsbury	12 -2 pm
Sat	2 July	Carnival Fete	Purton House Field	12 -7 pm
Sat	6 Aug	Family Quiz	Angel Pub	6.30 pm
Wed	28 Sept	September Bingo	Silver Threads Hall	7.30 pm
Fri	25 Nov	Quiz Night	Royal George Pub	7.30 pm
Wed	7 Dec	Christmas Bingo	Silver Threads Hall	7.30 pm
Thu	15 Dec	Santa comes to Purton	Top of Village	6 pm onwards
Fri	16 Dec	Santa Comes To Purton	Bottom of Village	6 pm onwards

On Carnival Day there will be a minibus that can transport you to the fete. Pick-up points are the Royal George car park, the layby (by the Vets) and The Village Hall Car Park; they will drop you off at the fete.

Please note this is only a one-way trip for most, return trips are for OAPs only.

If you would like to help with the road closure (you will still be able to watch the procession) please get in contact with a member of the committee.

Please remember the road will be closed from 12pm to 2pm on Saturday 2 July.

KEVIN LAW, Carnival Committee Chairman

Purton Methodist Church

We have had a busy month at our Church! On 11 May we had a lovely lunch with the Methodist Fellowship, again Linda and her ladies (Sylvia and Sheila etc) did us proud. What a lovely afternoon, and thank you to all who helped on that day.

On 16 May, St Mary's Fellowship had a fundraising dinner for the Jubilee Gardens Project, and again it was a very enjoyable evening, we learned so much of the work that is done by the Project. Fundraising total to follow next month.

On 16 July we will be holding a concert with the Thamesdown Choir and special guest, Thomas Keen. The ticket sales are going well, so please let me know if you would like to go. Tickets are £5 and will not be available on the door, price includes refreshments and the concert starts at 7 pm. As parking at the Chapel is a bit difficult, we have made arrangements for parking at Brenda Cook's yard, opposite the Angel, with just a short walk up the path next to the Vets'. There will be help on hand in the yard and at the Chapel so if you have a passenger who cannot walk, they can be dropped off before you park your car. We have also booked the Age Concern Bus, which can be booked through me, as well as your ticket.

We look forward to seeing you on 16 July!

ROSE STUMP, Tel: 770564

Cricklade Country Market

Find us at "The Club at Cricklade" on Friday 24 June, from 9 am to 11 am. Coffee, tea and cakes available too.

Please call Nikki on 01793 751845 to place an order or for further information about the market.

Look out for us at the Cricklade Town Festival on 19 June too.

Also for your diary: Market date of 29 July.



On The Lighter Side

But seriously, whichever way you decide to vote ... please do!

The EU Referendum is on
Thursday 23 June.

If you are in Purton, the Polling Station is The Village Hall.

If you haven't already arranged to vote by post in elections, you will need to apply by 5 pm on Wednesday 7 June to vote by post in the EU referendum.

Download a form by Googling:
voting by post



...and when it comes to 'the peace' I want all those who want to stay in Europe to shake hands with all those who want to leave...

Purton Diary - June 2016

- 1 W 10.00am "Storytime" at library for pre-school children
- 2 Th 10.30am Communion at St Mary's Church
- 3 F 9.00am Age Concern boat trip on the 'Rose of Hungerford'
- 4 Sa 10.00am Books, DVDs and Vintage clothes sale, Old Surgery Close
10.00am June Fair at Silver Threads Hall, for Prospect Hospice
- 5 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church
10.30am Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
10.30am Family Service at St Mary's Church
6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's Church
- 7 Tu 10.00am *to 12 noon:* G4P Coffee Morning, United Church Hall, Cricklade
2.00pm *to 4pm:* Silver Threads Club: Lynda Warren – *Heroes & Sweethearts of WW2*
5.00pm Last date for postal vote applications for EU Referendum
- 8 W 10.30am Songs of Praise at the Cedars
7.30pm Purton Yacht Club at The Royal George
- 10 F 9.30am Age Concern Minibus to Swindon
- 11 Sa **HM The Queen's Official 90th Birthday**
- 12 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church
10.30am Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
10.30am Communion at St Mary's Church
2.00pm Age Concern Queen's Birthday Celebration, Red House lawn
- 13 M 7.00pm Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome - see page 5 for committee dates
- 14 Tu 10.00am Purton Probus at the Red House: *US 9th Air Force*
11.00am Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
- 15 W 2.00pm Communion at Ashgrove House
7.30pm Purton Evening W.I. – John Selby: *Fruit farm in Spain*
- 16 Th 7.30pm St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Methodist Church: Fundraising Meal with proceeds to Jubilee Gardens Project
- 18 Sa 9.00am Historical Society Outing to Waddesdon Manor
- 19 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
- 20 M **Summer Solstice**
- 21 Tu 2.00pm *to 4pm:* Silver Threads Club: W.I. Choir
7.45pm Royal British Legion at The Red House
8.00pm After 8: Mini Garden Olympics led by Diana at her house
- 23 Th **European Union Referendum Day**
- 24 F 7.30pm Quiz Night at Village Hall, for Julia's Hospice
- 26 Su 8.00am Communion at St Mary's Church
-

	10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
	3.00pm	<i>to 5pm:</i> Cream Teas at Silver Threads Hall
	4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's School
28 Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus at the Red House: <i>Along the River Kwai</i>
	2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
	7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall: Peter Briggs - <i>Solving problems in the garden with plants</i>

Every week

Tu	9.00am	<i>to 11am:</i> 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	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Coffee and Chat at Silver Threads Hall
	6.30pm	Rock Solid at the Methodist Church
Th	9.00am	<i>to 11am:</i> Purton Toddler Group at Village Hall
	11.15am	<i>to 1pm:</i> New Beginnings at Purton Youth Centre
	12 noon	Luncheon Club at Silver Threads for over 60s
	2.00pm	<i>to 3pm:</i> Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
	2.20pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Methodist Church
F	10.00am	<i>to 11.30am:</i> Tea, Coffee & Cake at The Cedars

Moon Phases

● 6 June ● 13 June ○ 21 June ● 29 June

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

Purton Magazine Contacts

As In Touch Services is moving from 115 Pavenhill at the end of May, the following contact arrangements will be in place:

Magazine articles: If you have previously handed articles in at In Touch Services, please will you now put copy through the letterbox at 20 Hoggs Lane (round the corner from Pavenhill) the house on the left just before the lane goes down the hill.

If you live at the other end of the village, you can put copy in at Quarry House, 51 The Hyde, SN5 4EA - that's the thatched cottage on the right hand side, 2 houses before you get to Quarry Farm.

The email address for articles is unchanged: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Buying your Magazine: If you normally buy your copy of the Magazine instead of having it delivered, these will no longer be available from In Touch Services. Instead, we have arranged the following outlets:

One Stop Shop, 113 Pavenhill **Shear Success**, 58 Station Road

Alternatively, why not consider having your copy delivered to you each month. Details of this service are on page 38.



Skills, Spills and Thrills in Yorkshire

For the third year running, a group of Year 10 GCSE PE students headed to Yorkshire during the Easter holidays for a 4-day mountain-bike experience with High Adventure Outdoor Education. Led by Mr Matthews, Mr Bray, Mr Hartley and Miss Daniels, the 19-strong group got to practice on a variety of obstacles such as steep drops, berms and jumps.

"I think everyone crashed at least once! I fell off and rolled down the hill a bit, but I was ok. The challenge was trying to stay on!" Katie Shears was one of only 3 girls to take the opportunity to try a new sport. *"I think the consensus is that mountain biking is a man's sport, but the top 3 female downhill mountain bikers in the world are British, so it's definitely a sport that suits girls too."*

Abby Cook added, *"Downhill was definitely the best bit. You felt really proud when you got to the bottom ... and extra proud if you didn't fall off on the way!"*

Finley Taylor said that although he rides a bike with his friends, he's never tried mountain biking before. *"It was definitely more difficult than I thought it would be. You have to have a positive mind-set and just go for it! I've heard that there is a cool local trail called Croft. It would be great if one of the local mountain bike clubs had a provision for teenagers. I think more of my friends would have a go then too."*



India 2016: Our twenty-five students had an amazing trip to India. They embraced the cultural changes with maturity and really bonded as a group becoming our 'India link family'. There were many highlights in the trip, from experiencing the

festival of Holi first hand, visiting the Taj Mahal and Golden Temple, and visiting schools and orphanages.

"To visit an Indian School first-hand was truly amazing. To see how much the students at Salwan Public School valued their education really makes you appreciate what you have. Their determination to succeed is truly inspiring! It was so clear to see how proud the students were to talk

about their heritage and campus. They really were brilliant hosts. Our group witnessed a science experiment taking place. 'It is now recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records'. It was very impressive and something I had never seen



before,” Hannah Saunders, Year 11.

“As hard as it was to visit the Mother Theresa orphanage it really was an amazing place to see. We were greeted by one of the sisters who was absolutely lovely and she took us to see the children in her care. There was a mixture of children with and without special needs ranging from around 1 to 5 years old. It was a lot to take in at first but one of the little boys really made our heart melt. We made a school donation to the orphanage and everyone contributed to the point that the envelope was bursting! The sister informed us that there were 20 of these orphanages across India. This really affected us all as a group, and made us determined to want to do some more fund raising to give them all the help they need,” Emilia Hutchison, Year 11.

Ex-Student 6th Form Award Success: Congratulations to Mary Francis and George Dudman on their recent success at the Cirencester College 6th Form Award Ceremony, as reported in the Swindon Advertiser:

Around 30 students from the Swindon area were rewarded for their outstanding achievements at a recent awards ceremony at Cirencester Sixth Form College.

Former Bradon Forest School pupil, Mary Francis from Cricklade, was presented with one of the top awards, the 1457 Award for Excellence in English Literature. She was described as “a highly sensitive and accomplished critic of English literature, whose gentle demeanour and uniquely thoughtful contributions made her an invaluable member of the group.” She is now studying English at the University of Warwick.

A new award this year, donated by McGills Accountants, for Aspiring Accountants was awarded to another ex-Bradon Forest student George Dudman, also from Swindon. He was described as: “a thoughtful student who was also one of the hardest-working, frequently submitting additional questions to be marked. This was a strategy that paid off for him when he gained an A grade at A2 Accounting. George has now gone on to Aston University to further his studies.

We Record ...

Baptism at St Mary's Church

24 April Zara Jennifer Scott

Wedding at St Mary's Church

7 May Ryan Peter Brown and Victoria Dawn Edmonds

Cremations at Kingsdown Crematorium

18 April Jean Miles (87)

25 April Iris Park (90)

Service of Remembrance at St Mary's Church

18 April Jean Miles

In Memoriam:

18 June 1916 Herbert Shopland: died aged about 39 at Salonika, Greece.
Buried in the Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery

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 ...





St Mary's CE Primary School

At St Mary's CE Primary School Purton, we are 'Learning Together' in faith, love and friendship and we pride ourselves on our strong family atmosphere. St Mary's has a highly motivated and dedicated team, who ensure that all children aspire to achieve their full potential.

Every child is valued for their uniqueness and our strong pastoral support enables them to develop the self-esteem and skills they will need to be successful in life; playing, learning and working together now and in the future. The support, challenge and determination to achieve exceptional outcomes for all within our school community is fostered by everyone.

Adults, children and families are all supported to achieve and thrive. We aim to nurture children who are inclusive, tolerant and, most importantly, enthusiastic about life itself; they are set superb examples of this by the caring members of our school community.

The children are enabled to successfully grow into citizens of the future through our diverse and creative curriculum, where learning is rooted in experience. We believe that 'Learning Together' with respect and tolerance provides the perfect start to a life-long journey of discovery and fulfilment.

St Mary's is a two-form entry school with pupils taught in single year group classes. Currently pupil places are available for the academic year 2016-2017 in Years 2-6 and the Foundation Stage.

For more information about our wonderful school and all the exciting learning opportunities that take place, visit our school website:

www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk

continued ...

Vacancy: School Crossing Patrol

St Mary's school is seeking to appoint a school crossing patrol to undertake duties concerned with the safe passage of school children and other pedestrians across the High Street at the end of Playclose.

We are looking for someone with a good awareness of road sense and other road users, and good communication skills. You will need to be punctual and reliable with good standards of physical fitness, particularly hearing and vision, and be able to react and move quickly in fast moving traffic conditions.

You will report to the Head Teacher on a day-to-day basis and need to be available between 08:25 - 08:55 and 15:10 - 15:40, weekdays during term time. This equates to 38 weeks per annum but you will be paid for 44 weeks. The current rate of pay is £7.20 per hour.

For further information and/or an application form, please contact Liz Stephenson, School Business Manager on 01793 770239.

Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and can be arranged through the school office admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk or phone us on (01793) 770239.

The Summer Term is always an exciting time in school. We have already enjoyed school visits to Legoland, and the long awaited Residential for Year 6 takes place in July, plus Sports Day on Thursday 16 June. We have many other visitors to school this term including the acclaimed Illustrator, Richy K Chandler.

It is also the time of year when we start to celebrate the progress the children have made throughout the year and children will receive their school reports later in July. From the youngest to the oldest, they have all worked hard and made progress, whether that is learning to read using phonics in Foundation Stage or being able to write a well-constructed balanced argument at Year 6.

Future Teacher Training Days for 2016-2107

Monday 31 Oct 2016

Friday 10 Feb 2017

Monday 3 Jul 2017

Tuesday 1 Nov 2016

Monday 5 Jun 2017

Collective Worship this term will be focusing on the value of Wisdom. The children will be encouraged to act responsibly and think about the wisdom of their words and actions. The children have been thinking about how they value and respect each other and learn to live together in harmony.

Recent Events:

North Wiltshire Cluster Wake and Shake Festival

Following on from lots of hard work, the St Mary's Key Stage 1 dance group put on a great performance at the recent Wake and Shake festival held at Lyneham Primary School. To fit in with this year's theme of 'Ghosts, Ghouls and Monsters' our dance was to 'Freak Flag' from Shrek the Musical. The children looked great dressed as 15 mini Shreks waving their flags in celebration of all things different, and they were all a credit to the school.



Queen's 90th Birthday

The school celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday on Friday 6 May by holding a garden party on the field complete with fairy cakes which the children had decorated themselves. Throughout the day children learnt about the history of the Queen, and the whole school came together in the afternoon to make a 90 shape on the playing field which was captured by The Evening Advertiser photographer from the top floor of the school!



We are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Vouchers, so please do send any in to the school. In the past, we have managed to

order lots of playtime toys and replace PE equipment by redeeming these vouchers.

Finally, if you have a child who is due to start at St Mary's in September 2016, you should have received details of the Induction Process by now. If you would like to take another look around the school prior to the start of these formal sessions, then please do not hesitate to contact us for an appointment – we would love to see you!

Mrs NAOMI CLARKE, Head Teacher

Purton Evening WI purtonevewi.wordpress.com



Our April meeting was our Resolution meeting, as I explained last month, and it would be fair to say that it does not appeal to all our members. But the absentees missed a very informative and entertaining evening. Two of our members had spent a lot of time and effort putting together excellent power point presentations: one covering our wish for supermarkets to sign up to a voluntary agreement to avoid food waste by passing on surplus food to charities to help address the issue of increasing food poverty; and the other for the NHS to provide facilities for carers to stay with Alzheimer and dementia sufferers who have been admitted to hospital. Whilst the majority of members were broadly in agreement with the sentiment of the resolutions, we realised, after listening to our speakers who had done extensive research, that the wording was somewhat lacking. Our comments will now be passed on to our delegate who hopefully will express our views at the Annual Meeting which will be held in Brighton this year.

We would like to congratulate the organisers of the Clubs Together event which saw a host of village clubs and organisations coming together to show and tell us all about their activities. We were delighted to participate but were grateful to be undercover when the heavens opened mid-afternoon!

Our next meeting is on 15 June at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm. We are delighted to welcome John Selby who will be talking to us about Fruit Farming in Spain and, to help us get into the spirit of the evening, we shall be sampling Tapas and Sherry! We look forward to seeing you.

HELEN DIXON, tel 770648



Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE

Instead of remembering to buy your Magazine every month you can have it delivered free to your door. For a £6 annual subscription we will deliver FREE within our area. To get your name on the distribution list, contact Sandra Horsnall, 01793 770157, or sandra_horsnall@yahoo.co.uk. You can join our scheme at any time during the year with the price adjusted pro rata.

Postal deliveries cost £18 per year. For further information contact Avril Ainscough, 01793 771542 or email avrilainscough@yahoo.co.uk.

Purton Historical Society



28 April: **The Story of Cricklade:** About 50 people enjoyed this talk by John Samways on Cricklade the 9th century Saxon Town on the Thames, which still has its own town crier, and is only 4 miles from Purton. His video presentation took us through the development of the town from its earliest settlement as a strategic defensive position, through Roman remains, manorial changes of the Middle Ages, closing with its abolition as a Parliamentary Constituency (a "rotten borough") in 1885. He included the 2 lovely churches of St Sampson's and St Mary's. There followed questions and of course refreshments.

We are all invited to join him for a guided tour of the town on 16 July (details to follow). Those interested will be most welcome to join us.

Clubs Together in Purton – 7 May: The Society participated in this event which generated much interest in the various village clubs and organisations. The PHS display certainly had a good number of visitors and many leaflets giving society details were distributed. Thank you to all the organisers who worked hard to make this such a successful event.

Future Dates

Saturday 18 June: Coach outing to Waddesdon Manor: see article overleaf.

Saturday 16 July: Walking Tour of Cricklade (with historical interest) commencing at 10.00 am.

Depart Purton from College Road Layby at 9.30 am for anyone requiring transport*.

* Please could you let us know if you require transport to Cricklade so that we can ensure that sufficient cars are available – Tony and Janet Neate 01793 770117.

Parking at Cricklade by the Rugby field at the dual carriageway end of Calcutt Street. Meet at the museum in Calcutt Street, at 10.00 am which is when the museum opens. The Museum is in the old chapel, just off the road opposite Priory School.

There will be an opportunity to see St Mary's Church included on the walk, which will take about 1 hour 30 minutes. There will be £2 a head charge for Cricklade Historical Society funds.

Sunday 11 September from 3 pm: Purton's Commemoration of WW1

In conjunction with Purton Amateur Dramatic Society

First Venue: The Old Workhouse, Willis Way – Lunch- time at The Workhouse

Second Act at The Playclose – A Woman's Work is Never Done

Third Act at Village Hall – The Role of the War Horse

Followed by singing, tea, games, plus lots of information in the Village Hall

Contact Lindsey 01793 771890 or Sue 01793 772581.

Thursday 22 September - 7.30 pm at Purton Village Hall: The Golden Age of Coaching – Martin Way

Tuesday, 27 September: Outing to Royal Hospital Chelsea: see article overleaf.

New Members and visitors always welcome

TONY & JANET NEATE, tjneate57@gmail.com Tel: 01793 770117

PHS Coach Outings

Waddesdon Manor: Saturday 18 June

There are still a few seats left for the Waddesdon Manor outing. Contact Helen on 01793 770648 or download a booking form from the Purton Magazine website; purtonmagazine.co.uk/phs-form. (National Trust Members £12 - Non-NT £26)

Royal Hospital Chelsea: Tuesday 27 September

The Royal Hospital is Grade I and II listed and a beautiful legacy left to us by Charles II who had the vision of providing a home for veteran soldiers in the centre of London and which was brought to life by architect Sir Christopher Wren.

The Hospital has been providing a home to the Chelsea Pensioners for over 300 years; anyone who has served as a soldier in the British Army aged over 65 who is on their own is eligible and in more recent times that has included women.

We shall have a 2-hour tour led by a Chelsea Pensioner and some free time.

You do **not** have to be a member of the Historical Society to join us on this outing. The cost is £25.

For more information or any questions please contact Helen on 01793 770648. Booking forms will be available at Society meetings, the information stand at the Library or can be downloaded from the Purton Magazine website www.purtonmagazine.co.uk/phs-chelsea

Museum News

My thanks to everybody who has made me feel welcome during these first new months. Especially Jan Walker who continues to give her time to the museum and to all the volunteers who constantly give their time and are always happy to help.

The Poppies opening day was a great success with around 30 visitors. Please stop by if you haven't already done so; we are open Wednesdays 2 till 5pm and Saturdays 10 till 12.30. The project which is named, PURTON REMEMBERS is ongoing until 2020 and all the poppies to date have been created by Sally Cooke of the Art Dept Tech, from a brief by Bob Lloyd.

The AV Screen is now up and running in the library. My thanks go to Tony Neate for helping me through the somewhat tricky process. I think this is a great idea from the late Brian Freegard and will generate more visitors to the Museum.

In the coming months we will have a travelling exhibition installed named 'Wiltshire at War'. I am also hoping over the summer a display will commence about Lydiard Millicent, bringing in wider interest.

Please don't hesitate in contacting me with any questions about these future projects or any further enquires.

BETH FARNHAM, Bethaney23@icloud.com

The Guild of Wiltshire Artists

... are holding their Summer Exhibition at St Peter's Church, High Street, Marlborough SN8 1HQ from 1 pm on Sunday, 10 July, to 12 noon on Sunday, 17 July 2016. Opening times Monday to Saturday: 10 am - 4.30 pm.

Entry is free. More information from www.guildofwiltshireartists.com

Foggys Swindon

Helping those with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia

We're hoping to arrange a day out to the Seaside at a cost of £10 per person for our 6th birthday in June. Wheelchairs, mobility scooters can be brought along. Friends/loved ones/carer are also welcome at the same price.



You don't have to be a member to come to a meeting. Why not come along and see if you like us?

One of our symptoms is anxiety, which prevents people attending. We appreciate how hard it is, and we hope that we make you feel welcome and relaxed when you come along to our meetings. Being shy (anxious) is allowed, but suffering alone is not.

Foggys was founded June 2010, and in that time, we've seen or heard from over 200 sufferers in Swindon, Wiltshire and surrounding areas. At our first meeting we had 50 people attend.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome / Myalgic Encephalopathy symptoms can vary and can include all, or several of the following:

- chronic, severe and debilitating fatigue, mental and physical
- widespread painful muscles and joints
- disordered sleep
- gastric, digestive disturbances
- cognitive difficulties, poor memory and concentration
- post-exertional malaise
- unrefreshing sleep
- sore throat
- flu-like symptoms
- headaches of a type not previously experienced
- increased sensitivity to light, sounds and smells
- depression

Fibromyalgia symptoms can be similar to Chronic Fatigue Syndrome / Myalgic Encephalopathy but relates more to pain and the following:

- Widespread Pain
- Stiffness
- Fatigue
- Poor quality of sleep
- Cognitive problems ('Fibro-fog'):
- Headaches
- Myofascial Pain
- not being able to regulate your body temperature (feeling too hot or too cold)
- restless legs syndrome (unpleasant sensations in your legs and feeling like you need to move your legs to get some relief)
- tingling, numbness, prickling, or burning sensations in your hands and feet (paresthesia)
- tinnitus (the perception of a noise in one or both ears that comes from inside your body)
- unusually painful periods
- anxiety
- depression

Membership is £10 for the first year, and £5 for renewal.

For more information, see our website www.foggys.net or contact us on 0844 887 2377 (between 12 and 3pm). Email information@foggys.net. We have Facebook and Twitter, details on our website.

We are very much in need of funds to help pay for 20 of our members and a friend/loved one/carer to attend Hydrotherapy every week.

Group for Patients - Purton and Green Gable Surgery - G4P

We shall be holding a Coffee Morning on Tuesday 7 June from 10 am to 12 noon at the Cricklade United Church Hall. All patients are welcome.

We are inviting a number of health professionals such as Community Nurses, along with volunteer groups like Age Concern, dementia and health promoters to join us at this event so do drop in for a coffee and have an informal chat with them.

There will be a small charge for coffee and biscuits. We also plan to have a Tombola.

This event is to raise money to help support the funding of three new large high-backed chairs with arms for the waiting rooms -- one for Cricklade and two for Purton -- which will greatly improve the comfort for many patients.



Tea Party at The Maharajah

The Tea Party at the Maharajah restaurant on Bank holiday Monday was a huge success again. We had an amazing mix of all different kinds of cakes and traditional Asian snacks which had been baked and donated by our wonderful families and friends.

This year we raised the incredible sum of £650! This money will be divided between Purton Age Concern and the Special Needs Hostel in Udaipur as usual.

We hope that everyone who came on the day managed to watch the PowerPoint presentation prepared by Ashish's daughter, Pakhi, which showed how the money which is raised for the hostel has helped the children who live there. It really demonstrated how the generosity of the people of Purton has made a huge difference to their lives.

So we would like to say a very big THANK-YOU to everyone who supported us in any way.

We look forward to seeing you all again next year!!

From 'The Team at the Maharajah'



Purton & District Probus Club



On 12 April David Sweet, the Club Secretary, presented a programme of pictures and short sound tracks to illustrate the Influences of Pop Music in the 60s. Why were the sixties such an influential era in music?

The music of this decade is evergreen – The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Shadows, Bob Dylan, Simon & Garfunkel, The Byrds, Jimi Hendrix, Joan Baez, Pink Floyd, Cilla Black, The Beach Boys and many more are huge names, and their records are still played today.

The 50s had heralded Rock and Roll from such artists as Bill Haley and Buddy Holly, but the prelude to the revolution of the 60s had already begun. In the late 1940s and early 50s few radio stations actually played records, but when Television came into being and began to suck the life blood out of Radio, the broadcasting of records was used to fill the timetable. Radio Luxembourg, Radio Caroline and Disc-Jockeys came on stream and, a little later, request programmes became popular, which all stimulated the sale of records.

It's a common misconception that The Beatles, who dominated the 60s, were an overnight success, but The Beatles benefited from a gradually developing "buzz" about their music. Started by John and Paul, as The Quarrymen in 1957, The Beatles, which now included George Harrison, Stuart Sutcliffe and Pete Best, honed their performance skills in Hamburg between August 1960 and December 1962. Their unique style was influenced by soul, R&B, surf music and skiffle. On New Year's Day 1962, The Beatles recorded some demos for Decca Records, but they were rejected in favour of Brian Poole and The Tremeloes. A month later George Martin signed them to the EMI subsidiary Parlophone Records with a new drummer, introducing Ringo Starr.

During 1963, The Beatles and other beat groups, such as The Searchers and The Hollies, achieved great popularity in this country. British rock broke onto the United States market in January 1964 with the success of The Beatles' "I Want to Hold Your Hand". It became No.1 for 7 weeks and an appearance of the group on the Ed Sullivan Show in February attracted a record 73 million viewers. Of every US dollar spent on records in 1964, 60 cents were spent on Beatles records alone. During the next two years, Peter and Gordon, The Animals, Manfred Mann, Petula Clark, Freddie and The Dreamers, Wayne Fontana and The Mindbenders, Herman's Hermits, The Rolling Stones, The Troggs, and Donovan would have one or more No1 hit-singles in the US market.

David's talk touched on many other aspects of the 60s; LSD and Psychedelic Rock, Bob Dylan and Protest Rock, Woodstock and "San Francisco", Flower Power and the CND, Hair and Aquarius. Many Probus members remember, as teenagers, buying 45s and 78s. Hence it was quite a nostalgic occasion to hear familiar hit records from our youth. A good time was had by all, then and now!

The Annual General Meeting of the Purton Probus Club was held at the Red House on 26 April. Twenty-one members attended. President Bryan Faulkner, completing his second term of office, thanked the outgoing committee members for their dedication to the Club – David Sweet for 3 years as General Secretary, and

David Bisset for 17 years as Treasurer. David Badcott takes over as President and John Godfrey was elected Vice President. Brian Gill was thanked for his first, and somewhat interrupted year, as Programme Secretary helped by Brian Green who handed over the role at the previous AGM. A new member, Trevor Domm, was welcomed and becomes the new General Secretary. I myself was elected Treasurer. Peter Jinks and Ian Mead continue as Committee members. The meeting concluded with President David Badcott thanking the retiring committee members for their stalwart work during the foregoing years and wished the club success for the future.

Probus meetings in June: 14th "The US 9th Air Force", 28th "Along the River Kwai".
We meet every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 am in the Red House lounge.

BOB STEVENS

The Radiotherapy Experience

We sit in a waiting area, cancer uniting us,
We are a happy crowd; talking, joking, no fuss,
Waiting our turn with the big grey machine,
With its cameras and buzzing, and rays making us clean.
Our preparations all done, bladders near bursting
It's my turn next, I hope, everyone laughing.
The radiographer calls the next patients' name,
Not mine, I shall have to wait, what a shame.
When it's my turn to leave the room, I am thankful for that,
I am shown to this area, and a 'how are you?' chat,
Then on to a Varian, imposing and gleaming,
Guarded by staff, all friendly and smiling,
They take your name and date of birth,
Then you get on the bed, not the softest on earth.

Laser light and gentle hands get you in the right position,
I do hope this machine will cure my condition.
The staff, satisfied you're ready to be treated,
Say they are leaving you alone, they have retreated.
The machine starts moving, and there's the odd sound
It whirs a bit then moves further round.
Then there's this buzzing and continuous beeping,
It reminds me of a microwave oven, or vehicle reversing.
The buzzing repeats after the machine moves on a fraction,
I do hope it won't give me a nasty reaction.

Then it's over, the staff return, calling 'that's all for today'
I get off the bed 'see you tomorrow' I cheerfully say
It's thanks to the staff of Varian two,
For their patience with us all, and what they do.

Thanks to you all in the radiotherapy unit

BARRY DAVIS

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



For our April meeting members warmly welcomed Robert Harvey for a return visit following his fascinating talk to us in June last year. On that occasion the subject of his talk was 'Travels in Search of Remarkable Plants'.

This time the subject matter could not have been more different: 'Useful, beautiful but unloved: an alternative look at weeds'.

It was difficult to imagine what we might learn from the talk, but learn we did, starting with the Oxford English Dictionary definition of a 'weed': 'A plant growing where it is not wanted'.

So why might it not be wanted?

It is an alien. It evolved elsewhere from where it is now found, but is regarded as being native in its new setting because you can't get rid of it.

To illustrate this point, Roger showed us photos of gorse-covered mountains in New Zealand and the beautiful flowers of the Japanese Knotweed so prolific in England. Each of these plants is considered as alien, having displaced many native plants and proving virtually impossible to eradicate. Roger reminded us of the vast cost involved in removing Japanese Knotweed from land in East London, to enable the creation of a large urban park in readiness for the 2012 Olympics.

It is poisonous. Roger cited plants such as Thorn apple, and Hendame, an hallucinogenic, whose leaves were once mistakenly recommended by the chef Antony Worrall Thompson as, 'a tasty addition to salads', advice he quickly squashed.

Other Reasons: It is competitive. It is spreading or getting too big. It is damaging, even trees can be classed as weeds when their roots invade the ground and need to be removed. It is unsightly. 'I didn't plant it so I don't want it in my garden'.

How can we prevent weeds? Firstly we should not allow seeds to set as the saying goes 'One year seeds = 7 year weeds'. Never compost weeds with ripe or semi-ripe seeds. If in doubt Roger advised us to put all weeds in a council compost bin.

Follow a regime of hygiene, hoeing and the use of weed killers although the use of herbicides is best restricted to non-cropping areas.

Having discussed the negative side of weeds, Roger proceeded to talk about their many positive properties including: Medicinal; Edible; Flavourings; Dyes and Fibres; Beneficial to other plants; Good for animals.

Roger highlighted the stinging nettle, one of our most well-known weeds. Whilst hated for its sting, it has been used medicinally to help cure arthritis and dandruff, and its leaves can be used in soups, polenta and cheese and the stem fibre can be used, like flax, as a coarse fabric. It makes excellent compost and is the perfect plant food for the caterpillars of several species of butterfly including peacock and comma.

Then the dandelion, reputedly a diuretic. Its leaves are edible, raw or cooked, and its roots can be dried and ground into caffeine-free coffee. It also produces a yellow dye from its flowers and a purple dye from its roots. Dandelion flowers are used for wine making and are an excellent nectar source for bees.

Whilst the roots of *arum maculatum* or 'cuckoo pint' are considered poisonous,

its tubers are high in nutritious starch and have been used in earlier times for starching ruffs and collars. It is also known as a tincture for sore throats and an ointment for ringworm.

Last but by no means least there is ivy. Whilst its leaves are distasteful, they are effective for coughs. It makes excellent ground cover and provides shelter for over-wintering animals, whilst being a prolific producer of pollen and nectar and an excellent source of berries for birds.

When it comes to edible weeds, Roger listed chicory, land cress, yarrow, garlic mustard, golden saxifrage and oxalis. The roots of horseradish, salsify, wild parsnip, ox-eye daisy and waterlily are also edible, as is the foliage of chickweed, hop, mallow and sorrel.

The leaves of ground elder, as well as providing excellent ground cover, have mildly sedative properties. They can be cooked like spinach and the young leaves can be added to salads. They can also act as an anti-inflammatory and, prepared as an infusion, can be used to treat gout, sciatica, and rheumatism.

Apparently a ground elder pesto can be produced from its shoots, mixed with Parmesan, hazelnuts and spring onions. Best not to mention the main ingredient should you have an urge to serve it at a garden party, although I somehow think there may not be many takers for either making or tasting it!

To sum up, weeds are very useful, they are often edible, their flowers are beautiful, many have medicinal properties and they are FREE. Next time you pull up a weed, spare a thought for its many useful properties and love it a little.

Tony Price offered a vote of thanks to Roger for this enlightening talk. Having learned so many of their medicinal properties, Tony felt that our local GP surgery may well see a fall in patient numbers as we all self-medicate with weeds growing in our gardens!

Roger kindly judged our competition 'A bunch of weeds'. Congratulations to our winners: 1st Jill Herbert, 2nd Chris Jefferies and 3rd Maureen Griffin.

Should you wish to join us, our next meeting will be on 28 June at the Silver Threads Hall. Peter Biggs from Wanborough Nursery is speaking on 'Solving problems in the garden with plants'. The competition will be 'A fragrant rose'.

We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members.

MARGARET GOODALL, Secretary: Tel 770906

Blunsdon Open Gardens Weekend 9 & 10 July 2016

Blunsdon will be opening selected gardens to the public on the weekend on 9 & 10 July. Free parking will be available at the Blunsdon House Hotel and breakfasts will be sold at the Village hall from 10 am. St Leonard's Church will host floral displays depicting the life of the Queen. Make your own Miniature garden from recycled materials at a workshop at the Village Hall. Plant Sales and tombola amongst other attractions. Scarecrows and Gardens will be open from 12 Noon till 5pm by ticket admission only. Open Garden Tickets available for sale from the village hall £5 per adult including a minibus service to reach the gardens for the less active. Small extra charge for Scarecrow competition. Proceeds to St Leonard's Church and participating Blunsdon Community Groups. Contact Julie Allen 01793 721429 for further details

Gaffer's Tales

Hello, a bit more about Highland cattle. As mentioned. I had two cows with a calf each, and a bull called Hamish. That was my herd! No, it is not called a herd, it's a fold. So life carried on, the two calves grew up, cows got married to Hamish and so on. Then there was the dreaded TB test. How do you restrain a big-horned animal to inject it twice in the neck? Through a cattle crush, which is made of tubular metal, and about three feet wide. It is like two gates side by side, and three feet apart. The cow's horns from tip to tip are about five feet across. Problem? No! Those cows and Hamish (who was even bigger) just threaded their way through amazingly, with no panic or worry. They then failed the TB test.

Thereafter, my two red cows were joined by a black heifer and a white one. Quite a colourful bunch. And the two first calves kept growing, slowly. Highlands are a slow-growing beef animal, some of the best meat there is too!

As time went on, the two female calves Hamish fathered were getting to breeding age. Hamish, being their sire, had to be kept away, so I decided to sell him, and get another. After a few weeks a farmer from Devon came to see him, liked him, and bought him. When in Devon a year or so later, I went to see Hamish. He was fine on a farm above Lynton, where the rain is horizontal. He had gone to a good home.

My second bull was a red one, I bought him from a friend I had met with a common interest in the breed. The bull was very placid, no malice at all. Never did see his eyes properly through his dossan, but he could see me! His name was Peter; odd name I agree. He was good as his job! The calves kept arriving, so to fund the enterprise, they were sold on a various stages of growth. One local farmer bought one, a heifer, and gave it to his employee, who over the years built up a large fold, with great enthusiasm, and Flora the heifer.



The farm where I kept these cattle was rather wet in the winter. Some winters a neighbour, who had dry land, let me keep the whole lot of them there over the wet months. He enjoyed having them too. Peter went off to other folds to help out with their breeding, but with one thing and another, after ten years, I decided enough was enough. My favourite cow threatened me when I was attending to her new born calf, the wet nature of the fields, and the pressure from the needs of our dairy herd, I had to give it up. One of the happier times of my farming life.

Adverts were placed, and sales were made. Two cows went to South Wales, some went to market, and Peter the bull went to a commune in Pembrokeshire, and I was assured he would stay there until he died naturally. I hope he did!

I hope some of you have enjoyed my ramblings, there may be more occasionally.

Yours,

GAFFER

In Touch Services

As you may be aware, In Touch Services will have moved from Upper Square at Pavenhill at the end of May. The last printing day at the Pavenhill shop will be 25 May when the printing machines will be removed once Purton Magazine is printed and with your distributors. We shall be moving to my home address with a printer of lesser capabilities and out-source printing of magazines. We will continue to typeset the magazine and hope you like it in it's new form starting with the July 2016 issue.

We will continue the business but without a walk-in service and unfortunately we will no longer be able to provide on-demand photocopying. Most of what we have done in the past will continue and we can be contacted by phone on 01793 772954 or email at mail@intouchpurton.co.uk. We can be contacted from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm and there is an answer machine for messages.

My assistant, Heather, and I will continue to work from our own homes but with interconnected computers thanks to the wonders of modern technology.

I would like to thank all in the village for their support over the past 14 years. And I would not want to forget the wonderful assistance over the years from Rupert Whelan, Sam Sheppard and Will Thomas.

Thank you, again,

RICK DIXON

Request for Volunteers!



633 (West Swindon) Sqn ATC are a very successful youth organisation allied to the ACO and are currently seeking volunteers to fulfil the following roles within the civilian committee:

- Chairman (*with immediate affect*) and
- Secretary (*to succeed in current occupied role from September 2016*).

If you would like to express an interest in either of the roles, then please contact the treasurer at the first instance using the following email address – treasurer.633@aircadets.org. More information can be found at www.633atc.co.uk

Carers Week 6-12 June

Caring is part of being human and at the heart of family life. As our population ages and people live longer, often with complex health conditions, more and more of us will find ourselves caring with 3 in 5 of us becoming carers at some point in our lives.

Many people don't identify themselves as carers, they feel they are just doing what anyone else would so they don't always know what support is available to them.

Carer Support Wiltshire is a local charity supporting carers in Wiltshire. They help them to access support, services, education and training, and breaks from their caring role. As part of Carers Week (6 - 12 June) they will be celebrating the contribution unpaid carers make to families and communities in Wiltshire with their Walk a Mile in My Shoes sponsored walk. Walkers are encouraged to decorate their trainers or swap shoes with a relative or friend and show their support for carers. The walk will take place at John Coles Park in Chippenham. You can find out more at www.carersinwiltshire.co.uk or telephone 01380 871690.

Purton Football Club



Another season has come and gone and last season although both the First and the Reserve side participating in the Hellenic League Divisions 1 and 2 under Managers Justin Miller and Lee Ashby both ended up mid-table in their leagues. During the season a lot of players, were unavailable at times and this, coupled with injuries, suspensions and holidays in particular, the first team suffered the most.

Ben Carter was the leading goal-scorer for the first team netting 21 times while Shane Hibbert topped the Reserves totalling 30 goals.

At the Annual Presentation held at the Red House Club on Friday 6 May the following awards were made by Chairman Alan Eastwood and Manager Justin Miller.

Clubman/Clubwoman award - MARCUS HALL

Chairman's award - NICK WEBS

Training award - PAUL HUNT

Sporting & Good Conduct award - JOE DORY

Supporter's Player of the season - BEN CARTER

First team Payers' Player of the season - STEVE DAVIES

First team Player of the season - BEN CARTER

Reserve team Manager Lee Ashby has moved on to manage Coleshill In the North Berks league next season. He and his Reserve team player did not attend the Presentation night and so his two awards for Player of the season and Players' Player will be awarded at their own function.

Purton FC would like to thank all their supporters for attending their games In 2015/6 and hope for your support again in 2016/7. A big thank-you to all our sponsors of matches, programme adverts and donations, and to Mr Keith Trowbridge of First City Homecare and Ashgrove House Nursing Home, Purton, our main club sponsor.

A great thanks to Colin Richards who has decided to call it a day as the club's Groundsman after excellent service looking after the Red House pitch.

Manager Justin Miller along with his assistant Paul Hunt confirmed they would continue to manage the first team next season.

The club is now looking for a manager for the Reserves next season and a new Hon. Treasurer, Hon Sec. and groundsman. Anyone who might be interested can contact, Alan Eastwood on 729844 or email to alan.eastwood83@ntworld.com. Or attend at the Purton FC AGM which will take place at the Red House Club on Saturday 4 June starting at 12.30 pm.

ALAN EASTWOOD



The summer league season has just got under way and in the early matches the Mixed A have beaten last year's champions, Swindon, by 5 sets to 3 to get off to a great start.

On Saturday 7th May the club took part in the Open Day for Village Clubs. The usual Saturday morning sessions took place for the junior members followed by a 16U match against Wootton Bassett so visitors to the club were able to watch the youngsters being put through their paces. Refreshments were on offer and many

visitors took advantage of this before sitting at the tables outside the pavilion to take in some tennis. Fortunately, the match finished just before the heavens opened! Interest in joining the club was shown by some of the visitors so we are hoping that we gain a few new members!

In the match Tom Kendall won his first ever singles' match in a tight 3-setter – well done Tom! Oli lost his match to a strong opponent and then the boys paired up to play the deciding doubles which, unfortunately, went to the Wootton Bassett pair by 6-4 6-2.

In July the club will be hosting a GBTW (Great British Tennis Weekend) event to which everyone is invited to come along to the club to participate. Details of the date and schedule to follow next month.

NICOLA GARDNER

Purton Cricket Club purton.play-cricket.com

In view of recent incidents involving dogs and a member of the public the following notice has been displayed in order to minimise the danger of potential accidents:-



'It would be appreciated if, during the cricket season, all dogs are kept on a lead whilst owners are walking the footpath by the Purton House fence side of the cricket field. We respectfully ask visitors to the cricket field to observe this request.'

Many residents will remember Pat Hussey, who lived in The Hyde area of the village, who has recently passed away. Cricketers of the 1960's and 1970's will remember him as a strong, fast and enthusiastic bowler.

With some 40 home matches to be played we are looking for people to help with providing and serving teas. If anyone is interested or who needs further information please contact me.

The season has started well and both senior and junior teams look very smart in a newly designed playing kit.

Matches in June

4 th	2 nd XI v Burbage and Easton Royal	18 th	1 st XI v Devizes
5 th	U11 v Biddestone	19 th	U15 v Corsham
11 th	2 nd XI v Trowbridge	25 th	2 nd XI v Westbury
12 th	Wiltshire U14 v Oxfordshire	26 th	U15 v Malmesbury
13 th	U15 v Wootton Bassett (T20)		

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Purton cricket 180 years ago.

Purton 138 (E H Budd 51, Codrington 24*) and 39 (E H Budd 18)

Lansdown 147 (Bruce 35, Daubeney 36) and 32 for 2 (Walmesley 13*)

E H Budd took 6 wickets in the match.

JOE GARDNER

To advertise in Purton Magazine telephone 01793 770648
or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton Bowls Club



If you missed it then you also missed the opportunity to see all the clubs in Purton in one place. The sun shone on a great day all round, as we all got together and presented our own clubs and had the chance to catch up with people we hadn't seen for a long time.

Our bowls green was filled with activities for children to try, obstacle courses, light bowls for small hands and targets to aim at. The rest of the green was occupied by people trying bowls for the first time and a great time was had by all.

We have a list of people who showed interest and they have been invited along to have a proper roll-up on 22 May.

We have planned to have a 'Fun Day' on 12 June to celebrate the Queen's official birthday, and the plan is to have a Street Party-themed bowls match involving all the members and anybody else who wants to join in. Of course your party dress must include flat shoes ... so no high heels chaps!

This will coincide with the Age Concern cream tea celebration from 2 to 6 pm, which will be the other side of the Red House. So it should be a good day.

We have started our season off well with some nice wins including a 14-0 victory over Westlecot which is a bonus. Let us just hope that the weather allows us to have a full season as already one match had to be cancelled because of the flooded rink.

Best of luck to our members involved in local, county and national games this year.

PETER BERRY

Church Floodlighting

If you would like the church floodlit, for a special date, occasion, memorial, please contact Libbie: 771018. The cost is £17 for one evening and it would be helpful if the date is booked at least a couple of weeks before the chosen night.



An announcement can also be put in this magazine for no extra charge.

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 2 May | The church was floodlit in memory of Ron Dibling on his birthday. Always in our hearts and thoughts.
Love Jenny and all the family. |
| 28 May | St Mary's was floodlit in memory of Mum, Olive Crippen , who passed away 40 years ago.
Love from all the family |
| 29 May | St Mary's Church was floodlit in loving memory of Alex Meers on the 10 th anniversary of his death.
Deeply missed and still very much alive in our memories, from all his family at Purton House |
| 28 June | The church will be floodlit to remember Dominic Tovey on his birthday.
Dearly loved and always missed.
Love Mum, Dad and Leah. |

The church lights, unfortunately failed to work on 29 March to remember the 5th anniversary of Dominic's tragic accident.

Christian Aid Week

Thank you so much to everyone who was involved with the many activities in the village for Christian Aid Week.



The children had a whole School Assembly on the theme of 'worms' and how they can improve the lives of poor families in Bangladesh, who live in very humble dwellings in the shars, which are regularly destroyed by rising water levels.

There were dozens of Quiz forms returned this year and some of you were exceptionally skilled at deciphering the clues.

There was a marvellous turn out of more than 40 people for Breakfast in the Church on 15 May. And just as many at the Curry Night at the Maharajah ... thank you very much to Khalique and his wonderful team, who worked so hard to make it such a success.

As for the Cakes/Plants/Raffle and a box of frogs ... another whacky fundraising event which all helped to swell the coffers for Christian Aid.

And the week was rounded up by a thought provoking Service in the Methodist Church where we were reminded of how much our fundraising and prayerful efforts are needed, to support the work of Christian Aid.

Throughout the week the little red envelopes were delivered and collected up across the village ... and especial thanks go to the dozens of volunteers who took on this task, especially the Guides who delivered hundreds for us. If any of our readers wish to hand in an envelope that hasn't been collected please contact Libbie: 771018.

Another busy Christian Aid Week: another HUGE thank you to Purton. Final results of funds raised this year will be published in the next magazine.

Frogs ... frogs and more frogs for Christian Aid!

In the May magazine I wrote that there would be 'a box of frogs' for sale at the Cakes and Plants sale for Christian Aid.

No sooner had this been written and sent out than the phone started ringing ... 'Would you like two more frogs to sell for Christian Aid ... they are brass.' 'How about a glass frog? ...' 'What do you mean ... frogs!

I started with a few frogs from a collection handed over to us for Christian Aid and, by the time of the sale, on 21 May, I had been offered many more by enthusiastic Christian Aid well-wishers and supporters.

Thank you all so much ... you know who you are.

I must be careful what I mention in the July magazine, as I may get inundated all over again!

Thank you.

LIBBIE

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Purton Stoke, Bentham, Hayes Knoll, Braydon and Cross Lanes*.

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.