

# Purton *Magazine*

**Purton Artists Society 2016 Exhibition**  
**Purton Village Hall - November 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>**



*Autumn's Magic*  
by Christine Rawlings, member of Purton Artists

**November 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
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
Health and Wellbeing Champion	Ellen Blacker	07557 922020
<b>Schools and Play Groups:</b>		
Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Playclose Playgroup	Sarah Grigg	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

November is usually a busy month in and around Purton and this year it's no different. Helped by the calendar this year, the annual Scouts' Firework and Bonfire Spectacular will indeed be on 5 November in Lydiard Park, see page 24.

Then the following weekend is the annual Purton Artists Society exhibition in the village hall, as shown on the front cover. It is always a great show and often uncovers many wonderful talents hidden sometimes quietly within our community – the quality of the work on display is quite awe-inspiring to those without such abilities.

On Sunday 13 November, the annual Remembrance Service will be held at the Cenotaph and, as has now become the custom, it is hoped that the High Street will be closed for approximately one hour. Further details are on page 38.

November also often brings colder temperatures and thoughts of keeping warm. On page 9 this month we include an article from the "Warm and Safe Wiltshire Advice Service" which details ways to help that those who struggle with the costs of heating their homes. For eligible residents, a Warm Home Discount of a rebate on fuel bills can be made available.

Living in a cold home can be bad for your health and often exacerbates existing health issues. In addition, Scottish and Southern Energy Network (SSEN) are offering a free Priority Services Register. That is a list of vulnerable people at risk in a power cut, including those who rely on medical equipment that needs to be powered by electricity. SSEN would then prioritise those homes listed in the event of a power cut and provide advance warning of any power outages.

As usual, reports about different happenings in the village during the last month are included in this issue of your magazine. For example, we learn on page 10 that no less than 705 people received their 'flu vaccinations on a single day – that's more than a dozen coach loads of usually older folk – and all gently received and each caringly vaccinated within 10 minutes at the Health Centre. That's quite an achievement.

There is, however, one event scheduled for November for which we apparently will now have to wait a little longer. It seems that the Purton Parish Plan is not yet ready for public consultation because some errors have been made in the area designation process but we expect more news next month.

**40**

Scarecrows made their public appearances for this year's trail  
- see page 32

**40**

Rick Dixon's Great War Project has reached Part 40  
on page 22

**40**

Watt light bulbs (both bayonet and screw) entertained After 8  
- see page 42

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*Purton*  
Magazine

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

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# Purton Parish Council News



## Budgeting 2018/19

Purton Parish Council will be considering budgets for 2017/2018 during October/November for submission to Wiltshire Council. Please contact the Clerk if you feel the Council should consider any additional items that we do not currently manage or service.

## Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Day Road Closure - Sunday 13 November 2016 - as usual the section of The High Street, Purton between Purton Vets at number 77 and The Peak will be closed to traffic for approximately an hour from 2.15 to 3.15 pm to allow the people of Purton to pay their respects and remember those who lost their lives in conflict. Road access will be closed to that part of the High Street, and to College Road and Hooks Hill.

## Neighbourhood Plan

For more information on our emerging Neighbourhood Plan check out our website [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-Plan.aspx](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Neighbourhood-Plan.aspx)

## Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council has the option to co-opt a Councillor to fill one 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](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk).

## November Meeting Dates – all are Mondays

- 7<sup>th</sup> Finance Budgeting meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> Finance budgeting meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> Village Centre and Play Close Charity meeting

## Planning

*Permission Granted - Approved with conditions*

- N15/03650/106 *49 The Hyde:* Discharge of Legal Agreement in Respect of N07/03067/COU.
- N16/03945/VAR *Ridgeway Farm, Common Platt:* Variation of Condition 2 of 14/10200/REM relating to Approved Plans.
- N16/04861/FUL *49 Reids Piece:* two-storey side extension.
- N16/04915/FUL *Windrush House, 16 Upper Pavenhill:* erection of single storey extension, erection of single storey rear extension, replacement windows, lintels and cil, insertion of two roof lights on west elevation, erection of detached garage with attached workshop.
- N16/01556/FUL *Bridge Paddock, Braydon Road, Leigh:* 2 additional gypsy pitches, each pitch consisting of 1 permanent pitch and 1 pitch for a touring caravan (nomadic use only)
- N16/05182/FUL *The Old Manse, High Street:* 2no. two-storey side extension, single storey extension to front elevation and boundary walls.

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- N16/05037/FUL *Blue Cedars, Paven Close*: single storey rear extension.  
N16/05297/CLE *Dairy House, Widham*: Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use as mixed residential and the servicing and repairs of taxis. – Approved.
- N16/05495/FUL *48 Mustang Way*: rear conservatory.  
N16/06324/RNW *Davenport Bridge*: replacement of life expired bridge - under Part 18 Class A to Schedule 2 of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015, Requiring the Local Planning Authority's Prior Approval. – Prior Approval Granted.
- N16/05987/FUL *4 Cricklade Road*: two-storey rear extension and loft conversion.  
N16/01569/FUL *Folly Down Farm, Packhorse*: proposed annex to side elevation.  
N16/04590/FUL *31 Witts Lane*: erection of garage (retrospective).  
N16/06095/FUL *12 Highridge Close*: replacement garage.  
N16/06482/FUL *Upper Dugdemore Farm, Hayes Knoll*: re-build of partially collapsed barn.
- N16/06487/FUL *Forest View, 24 Upper Pavenhill*: Single storey side extension to garage to rehouse ground source heat pump.
- N16/06845//FUL *Stable View Cottage, 10 Church Path*: single storey extension and erection of detached garage.

#### *Refused Applications*

- N16/05188/CLP *90 Mustang Way*: Certificate of Lawfulness relating to proposed single storey rear extension.
- N16/05375/FUL *Land at New Road*: proposed 6 dwellings and associated access road, car parking & recreational areas.
- N16/05842/FUL *Row Farm, 19 Hoggs Lane*: retention of barn.
- N16/06839/FUL *6 Locks Lane*: detached triple garage with office/store above (part retrospective)

#### **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](mailto:paul.dempsey@live.co.uk)) or the Clerk on [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk)

#### **Wiltshire Council APPMobile reporting** - download our My Wiltshire app

To make life even easier, Wiltshire Council have an app so you can report things like **potholes, dog mess, graffiti, litter and street lighting** on the go using your smartphone. The MyWiltshire app is available to download at both the App Store (for iPhones and iPads) and from Google Play™ (for Android phones) or from Windows store (for windows phones). You can attach information such as photos or videos and pinpoint the location of your report using the mapping software on your phone.

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## **Purton Household Waste Recycling Centre**

Many of you will have noticed that in recent weeks the 'tip' has been opening at 9 am rather than the advertised 10 am. After the opening hours were cut, the operator, Hills, decided to open an hour earlier to help reduce the queues and keep the access road clear. Please note that from 1 November, and throughout the winter months, the recycling centre will open at 10 am and close at 4 pm as advertised.

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

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

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

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

### **Facebook, Twitter and Website**

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

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

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

## **A message from Purton Library**

*To all Purton Library Customers,*

We would like to thank you for your patience over the last couple of months.

Between 2 August and 12 September we experienced a loss of network connection at the library and during this time we were unable to update the library system with any returns or borrowings.

The majority of customers will now find their accounts are showing the correct books.

We apologise to those customers who received overdue notices, in spite of returning their books on time. We appreciate that for those unaware of the problems in the library this could have been a distressing experience.

The Library is manned by a fantastic group of volunteers. It is free to join and welcomes all members of the community to borrow books, DVDs, Audio books and offers internet access, printing and online services - such as free e-books. We are open Mondays 2-5, Tuesdays 2-7, Wednesdays 10-5, and Fridays 2-5.

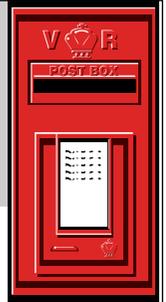
*PAM WINTER, Library Assistant Volunteer Support, Purton Library*

## **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.

# 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.*



## ■ DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE GEORGE

When I read the Editorial in the September magazine I thought "that's wrong" but assumed someone would correct it in the October magazine. That didn't happen, so I had to put pen to paper to put it right! The defibrillator at the top end of the village was paid for by Purton Carnival at the request of Scarecrow Trail organisers. It was one of a number of donations for the greater good of the community.

We continue to raise money for the village with the help of the support of the village.

*Mary Nettleton, Purton Carnival committee member*

*[Ed. We apologise for any confusion caused in the September magazine. The Scarecrow Trust did purchase the first defibrillator outside the Village Hall.]*

## ■ SUE'S MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

This is to say thank you to everybody who supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning at Sue and Tony Richardson's on Friday 30 September. Thank you to all those of you who made and donated cakes and items for our "bring and buy stall" and raffle. Also to all of you who came along and helped create a very pleasant atmosphere in our house, to buy and be part of an extremely worthwhile fund-raising event.

The total amount raised came to £346.  
Thanks again

*Tony & Sue Richardson*

## ■ MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Thank you to all our supporters in Purton who joined us in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall on 30 September for the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

It was good to see you all and together we raised £663.45 from raffles, coffees and donations etc. We also sold £77.74 in Christmas cards making the grand total raised £741.19.

With many thanks,

*Vilma Munro*

## ■ HELP WITH MOVE

I would like to say a big thank-you to everyone that has helped me to move into my new home at Norbury Court.

A great big thank-you goes to Worsley, Price, Freemantle, Smith & Graham Removals. Also Price Livestock Removals, Worsley Decorating & Handyman Services and to Smith Gardening Services. Thank you also to everyone who has provided meals for me, carried items down here, sent flowers, cards and given me a shoulder to cry on when I needed it.

All my family and friends that don't live in Purton have been amazed by the kindness and support I have been given.

Dave would have been proud of you all, so thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Love and best wishes to you all,

*Bernice*

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## You don't have to struggle this winter

Having to choose between things like heating your home and putting food on the table is something many people take for granted, but sadly this is something that the Warm and Safe Wiltshire Advice Service come across regularly. We want to help residents across Wiltshire to be warmer, safer and healthier in their homes this winter. If you're at all worried, get in touch with Warm and Safe Wiltshire to see how we can help.

Rachel Kent, Public Health Specialist explains "far too often, I come across residents who are struggling to make ends meet and will often save some money by not switching on the heating or letting other bills build up. The Warm and Safe Wiltshire advice service is determined to give people the help and support they need to ensure food is on the table and they're not worried about having the heating on when it's cold. There are some really great services available at the moment which could really help with keeping on top of bills and ensuring your home is warm, safe and comfortable this winter."

### **Find out about:**

The Warm Home Discount is £140 rebate on your electricity or gas bill and is offered to people with low incomes, in receipt of benefits, elderly or disabled or young children. The eligibility criteria vary between supplier so check your eligibility with Warm and Safe Wiltshire and don't delay as the discount is provided on a first come first served basis.

Would you be at risk if there was a power cut? Perhaps you use electricity for medical equipment or you're not a steady on your feet as you once were. If this is the case, Scottish and Southern Energy Network (SSEN) offer a free Priority Services Register that will ensure that your home is prioritised in the event of a power cut. SSEN will also let you know about planned interruptions, advice on how to be prepared for a power cut, what to do if one happens and, if necessary, provide a cold weather crisis pack.

You can sign up to PSR on our website: [www.warmandsafewiltshire.org.uk/psr](http://www.warmandsafewiltshire.org.uk/psr)

Living in a cold home can be bad for your health. Consistently low temperatures in your home may exacerbate existing health issues and make it harder for you to recover from illnesses. Insulation and heating improvements are one of the best ways of making your home warmer as well as lowering your energy bills. In some cases, there is funding available to help you pay for the work.

Warm and Safe Wiltshire also can help with understanding your heating system and energy bills, switching energy suppliers and a comprehensive home fire safety check where eligible. The service can also advise on possible benefit entitlement and available grants. Energy advice can be given through home visits as well as over the phone.

If you're worried about keeping your home warm and paying your bills this winter, contact Warm and Safe Wiltshire on 0300 003 4575 or email [warmandsafe@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:warmandsafe@wiltshire.gov.uk).

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## Harriet & Jay

**10 September 2016**

Well, what can we say ... yet another fabulous day had by all celebrating the Blessing of Harriet and Jay on Saturday 10 September. A little more planning than usual and sometimes a little difficulty due to the time difference between our little Purton village and the very far away Wavell Heights in sunny Brisbane, Australia.

We had flights missed for guests attending from Greece, suits being pressed with 5 minutes to spare - thank you "Lee's" in Wootton Bassett - two guests going crook but still thankfully able to attend on the day, and two poorly church organists to whom we send our best wishes to Frank and David. However, the rain couldn't dampen the magical day!

Harriet looked stunning, Jay looked so handsome, the bridesmaids and groomsmen scrubbed up well too – a truly wonderful day.

We would just like to thank so many people ... Ian Tweedie-Smith, Rosie and Nicky Hoare, the third organist for stepping in at the very last hour, Rick for the double lot of printing, Libbie for the beautiful church flowers, all the folks who lent us garden games, Purple Orchid for the wedding flowers, Becky for the decorations at Cricklade Hotel, Steve the singer, Steve for the car, two fantastic photographers, the bell ringers and thanks especially to the choir at St Mary's - we would never have made the "You'll Never Walk Alone" sound so good without you. Thank you also to all the staff at Cricklade Hotel who worked so hard and so late.

The Australians loved every minute of their stay and not forgetting you, Ali G for your organising skills at Harriet's hen do and for that unbelievable speech and to Mum Helen for last minute alterations! To Buffy's driver who dried out the top of the bus for our travels when the rain stopped only for it to get wet again from the overhanging trees – what a laugh we had at that.

But thank you to all the well-wishers who gave the happy couple Euros for the honeymoon, Australian dollars and English money as gifts. After all, it's difficult to take back a toaster or set of kitchen knives back to their home in Australia.

So that's about it from us ... thank you, thank you to all.

*LYNNE & MICHAEL WORTH plus  
HARRIET & JAY MCCULLOCH too.*

## Purton Surgery Influenza Vaccinations

On Saturday 8 October a total of 705 patients received their vaccination. Waiting times never exceeded 10 minutes and many patients were able to receive their vaccination straight after checking in. Members of G4P assisted Practice staff to ensure everything went smoothly.

The G4P raffle, with a prize of a Christmas Hamper, raised over £340 for G4P funds and the lucky winner was Terry Sumpter who is seen in the photo collecting his prize from Kai Howard, Practice Manager.

*SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary G4P*



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## Purton & District Age Concern



At the end of November, we will be decorating Silver Threads Hall and the Village Hall. Mick Looker and his friends will be putting the Christmas tree and lights on the Institute building and the first of our two Christmas parties will take place at the Silver Threads Hall – see Future Events for details of all of these.

Also at the end of November our street wardens will be delivering your Christmas vouchers and newsletters. The vouchers can be spent between 1 - 31 December. The committee would like to thank the street wardens in advance for the time and effort they put into the voucher deliveries on their “patches” your support is appreciated by all in Age Concern. If you think you are eligible for a Christmas Voucher please contact your street warden, if you don't know who your street warden is please contact Louise on 772558.

### FUTURE EVENTS

**Outing to Whitehall Garden centre** – This is on Wednesday 23 November; the coach will leave Purton at 10 am and the cost is £5. Food is not included but can be purchased at the garden centre. There will be plenty of time to see the beautiful Christmas displays and do some Christmas shopping. Please book your place with your street warden before Monday 14 November. If you haven't already done so, this will be the final chance to use your £5 travel voucher.

**Christmas Party** – On Saturday 26 November from 3 pm to 5 pm at the Silver Threads Hall, we will be holding a Christmas party for our less able clients and their carers. Wheelchair users are very welcome. The cost is £2. Entertainment this year will be provided by Tony M. Please contact your street warden to book your place by Wednesday 16 November. We look forward to welcoming you to this lovely festive afternoon. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

**Our main Christmas party** this year is on Saturday 3 December from 5 pm to 8.30 pm at the Village Hall. The cost is £5.00. Tony M will be providing the entertainment, after the interval the Age Concern 'choir' will lead the carol singing. Please contact your street warden to book your place before Wednesday 23 November. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

**Our Christmas Market** will be held on Saturday 10 December from 9 am to 12 noon outside the Pavenhill shops. There will be sausage tasting, cakes, bric-a-brac, books, mistletoe and other festive items; also it's your last chance to buy our Christmas raffle tickets. *Donations of cakes, bric-a-brac, books & festive items will be much appreciated.* Thank you.

**Carols under the tree** will be at 7 pm on Christmas Eve under the Christmas tree outside the Institute Building. Mark Blackwell and his musicians will provide the music, so come along and join in the carol singing. Mince pies and punch will be served during the interval. This is our way of thanking everyone in the village for supporting us throughout the year.

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## PAST EVENTS

**October mystery tour** - We called this outing the Autumn Surprise as we decided to have a pub lunch for a change. From the feedback I've received so far, people really enjoyed the 2-course meal and wish to return to this pub again next year. Watch this space!

**3B's x 2** – This event is always very popular and was fully booked again this time. Thank you to all who attended, you all seemed to enjoy the evening judging by the amount of chattering and laughter we could hear in the kitchen. Thank you to Brenda and John Lilley for organising the bingo and everyone who helped out on the night. It was another successful evening. The next 3B's event will be on Friday 7 April 2017!

## INFORMATION.

**Fire Service & Bobby Van** – If you need a smoke alarm fitting or checking please contact the Fire Service on 0800 038 2323. If you need the Bobby Van please call them on 01225 794652.

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

**Minibuses** – Please contact Hazel Woodbridge 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](mailto:andywhitepacmb@gmail.com) (New volunteers are always welcome.)

**The Friendship Club** is run by the Silver Threads committee and meets monthly in the Silver Threads Hall. Please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339 for more information. The next meeting will be on Friday 4 November from 2 pm to 4 pm and costs 50p which includes tea/coffee/biscuits. If you need transport, please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place on the minibus.

**Silver Threads Table Top Sale** – Age Concern have booked a table at this event being held on Saturday 12 November from 10 am to 2 pm. Tea/coffee/biscuits will be served from 10 am and lunch from 12 pm. Please book the minibus by contacting Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

LOUISE TIDMAN

## Cricklade Country Market

Locally made and grown; Pickles and preserves, Pies, cookies and cakes, original presents and cards, Seasonal plants, fruit and vegetables. Everything is handmade, home cooked or home grown by us just for you.



Find us at "The Club at Cricklade" on Friday 25 November, 9 am - 11 am.

Coffee, tea and cakes available too.

Christmas orders may be made at this market for collection in December.

The Christmas market will be held on 16 DECEMBER.

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## St Mary's CE Primary School, Purton

The start of Term 1 has been very busy with lots of exciting activities for the children to participate in, including visits by Pirate Ron and Jungle Jonathan! In October the Year 6's had a trip planned to Cotswold Wildlife Park and Year 3's will be visiting Avebury.

The school celebrated Roald Dahl's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with our very own 'Big Friendly Read' where older pupils shared stories with the younger pupils. Each class designed their own Dream Jar, and these are currently on display in the school library. In addition, the School Bookshop kindly donated a Roald Dahl themed gift to every class.



Year 5 had a wonderful day out at Braeside Education Centre on Monday 19 September. They followed in the footsteps of explorers like Bear Grylls, and learned about survival in the wild, how to build shelters and how to make and light fires - all in very wet conditions! They had a super time getting wet and muddy, and were rewarded with delicious toasted marshmallows, bread on sticks and even some excellent venison and vegetable stew, all cooked over open fires!



Our Gardening Club would like to announce that we have earned the Level 2 R.H.S. School Gardening Award! The Club has enjoyed an excellent growing season with children being able to harvest and take home produce including: corn, potatoes, beans, carrots and a variety of herbs. We would like to thank all the parent/grandparent helpers who have donated time, plants and materials to help make this club work.

St Mary's are also proud to announce that they have been awarded the Silver Games Mark by the Sainsbury's School Games Board. Thank you to all parents for supporting all the team events, sports days and festivals that took place last year. Next year - GOLD!

We celebrated Harvest Festival with a lovely service in St Mary's Church with Reverend Ian Tweedie-Smith. This year all donated food items were given to the Swindon Food Bank and Purton Luncheon Club.

Please note that the Primary School Admissions application process for September 2017 is now underway. Applications can be made on line via [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) or by obtaining a paper copy from the School Admissions Team in County Hall, Trowbridge. Deadline for all applications is 15 January 2017.

Should anyone wish to visit the school prior to submitting their application, you are warmly welcome. Visits can be arranged through the school office by phoning us on (01793) 770239 or emailing [admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk).

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](http://www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk)

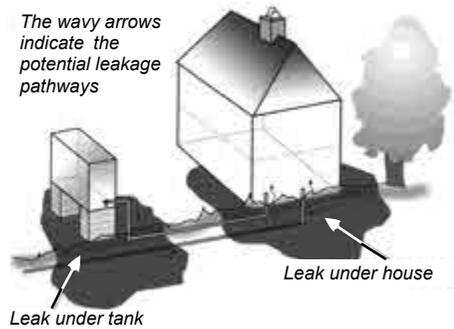
*Mrs NAOMI CLARKE, Head Teacher*

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## Don't let your oil storage cost you and the environment

Many people who rely on oil fired heating will be filling up their tanks at this time of year and it is especially important that in doing so they do not get more than they bargained for.

Unfortunately, oil storage tanks and pipe work of all types does not last forever and will on rare occasions fail leading to a significant loss of oil. Quite often this occurs at the time fresh oil is added due to a combination of a fragile aged tank structure and the weight of additional oil.



To reduce the likelihood of this, tanks and pipe work should be visually inspected regularly. If you are unsure of their condition they can be tested by an oil heating specialist in order to avoid failure and an oil spill.

Whilst oil spills should be covered by buildings/home insurance they are time consuming and can lead to a loss of the use of a person's home while works are undertaken to treat affected areas which can include the ground, watercourses and indoor air. The drawing above illustrates how lost oil can spread and affect the environment and potentially people through oil vapour into a building.

Where an oil leak is suspected the short term health effects of oil vapour entering a building such as sore eyes and throat can be avoided through immediate, thorough ventilation of the building in question. Acting swiftly to contact insurers should enable an oil spill to be dealt with quickly as any delay in time inevitably allows the extent of oil lost to spread. Your drinking water supplier must also be notified where a leak is suspected as drinking water may be affected and associated pipe work require replacement with a protected supply pipe.

Public Protection can visit premises to assess whether any indoor oil vapour impact is apparent as part of the initial stages of dealing with an oil spill; after which insurers and their consultants should lead on clean up and reinstatement.

If you have any queries please contact the Environmental Protection team, Wiltshire Council at: [publicprotectionwest@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:publicprotectionwest@wiltshire.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01225 770411.

## Purton Guide Dogs

I took £59.91 in Trading and Tombola on the Stall at the Old Town Autumn Fair at Christ Church on 17 September. Mr & Mrs Rex Goodings of Minety had a party to celebrate their Golden Wedding, and invited friends and relations to make donations to Guide Dogs instead of buying them presents, and raised £225 in total.

This month I will be having a stall at the Table Top Sale in the Silver Threads Hall on 12 November, and at the Christ Church Christmas Market on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Many thanks for your continued support.

*BRIAN DAVIES, for the Purton Support Group*





## Celebrating our Sports Awards

This year Bradon Forest School's annual event, celebrating students' sporting achievements from current Year 8 to Year 11, over the last year,



took place on Thursday 6 October 2016 during Women in Sports Week. Students were awarded for their outstanding achievements and development in over a dozen sports ranging from Dance to Rugby. Speeches were made by the school's Sports Ambassadors, Tommy Elbrow and Caitlyn O'Neil to open the evening event.

A keen sports woman, Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Julie Dickson, presented the sports awards. Mrs Dickson has competed in National Fencing Championships in the past and played hockey for Swindon until recent years. Mrs Dickson said, "I am so pleased to be able to celebrate the achievement of our students in sport. I really appreciate how hard they have worked and particularly appreciate the discipline needed to compete at a National or International level."

National Standards Awards were given to students for their achievements in competing in National or International Tournaments and topically this year the awards all went to girls. Ella Billingham, Kyra Jones, Lucy Tucker and Isobel Webb received the Dance award. Hannah Peachey picked up the football award and the gymnastics award was given to Hannah Dagg, Jessica Lomas, Joanna Rosowska and Taylor Toyn.

Leadership Awards were given to individuals that had helped with running and organising many of the sporting events and fixtures particularly with partner Primary Schools. Sports Students of the Year for 2015/2016 were awarded to Year 7 to 10 students; Riley Saunders, Madge Hutchinson, Tobias Lango, Jasmine Gregory, Harrison Mace, Jasmine Payne, Louis Brown and Phoebe Skelton.

Mr Andy Hartley, Head of PE, said, "I am proud to be able to celebrate the outstanding sports success of our dedicated students. We often compete against specialist sports schools and colleges, and the fact we can hold our own is a credit to the passion of both our staff and our students. We are very excited about our new Sports Hall that will be ready very soon and are looking forward to using it for training and matches over the coming year."

## Bradon Forest's Global Citizens visit St Sampson's

St Sampson's Church of England Primary School pupils in Year 5 and 6 were pleased to welcome back ex-pupils Lauren Enright and Sam Thorne on Thursday 6 October 2016, only 10 weeks after they had left St Sampson's for Secondary School. Lauren and Sam accompanied other students along with Assistant Headteacher, Mr Gren Heathcote and Head of Year 7, Mr Kieran Johnson from

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Bradon Forest Secondary School to give the St Sampson's pupils an assembly on 'Global Citizenship'.

The assembly included Holly Chapman from Year 11 talking about her recent trip to Iceland and Luke Webster, also a Year 11 student, explaining Bradon Forest's links with India and his experiences from visiting the country. St Sampson's pupils must have been most inspired however by Carla Renshaw, a Year 10 student who shaved her hair to raise funds for a World Challenge Expedition to Morocco next summer. Carla and twelve other students from Bradon Forest School are hoping to raise the £1,750 fee for each for the trip with independent and team fundraisers, without relying on hand outs from their parents.

### **World Challenge went to Iceland**

Twelve Year 10 students embarked on a trip of a lifetime to Iceland at the end of the summer term with *World Challenge*. The students had to raise a large proportion of the cost for this amazing trip. They did so through a variety of fundraising events, and part time jobs. The reward was the opportunity to work through the stunning scenery of Iceland via a 50-



mile trip along the Laugavegur trail. This route is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world's top 20 hikes by National Geographic. It offers the pure wilderness experience of Iceland, with volcanic landscapes that inspired J.R.R. Tolkien before he penned *The Hobbit* and *Lord of the Rings*, there are steaming volcanic vents, expanses of lichen-covered volcanic rocks, glaciers, beautiful lakes, waterfalls and river crossings. The students were self-sufficient during their expedition, erecting their own tents and cooking their food on Trangias. The trip was then spectacularly rounded off with a few hours in Blue Lagoon, one of the wonders of the world.

## **Purton Food Festival**

Purton Evening WI are hosting Purton's 4<sup>th</sup> Food Festival on Saturday 5 November at Purton Village Hall from 12 midday until 4 pm.

As usual we will be welcoming an array of local food suppliers and some very talented crafts people as well as produce from our WI ladies and Pips community cafe. With Christmas not so very far away this is your chance to get some menu and present ideas. We will have some activities for children including a puppet show at 2 pm.

We will be serving tea and coffee and warming homemade soups and yummy cakes and we will also have a licensed bar.

We still have a couple of spaces so if you are a local food supplier or crafts person tables are available for £10. Please ring Helen on 01793 770648 or email: [mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonquarry.fsnet.co.uk)

Admission is £1. Children under 16 free if accompanied by an adult.

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## Red House History

*We are concluding the article published in 'Reflections' by John Scott., written between 1972 and 1974 and published by his daughters in 1996.*

### **Part 2. Buying Red House**

Having obtained an architect's and surveyor's report on the property, which had not yet been advertised for sale, I approached several businessmen and farmers with a view as to how much they might donate if we went ahead with our proposals. Having obtained a good response, I had a fair idea of how much we could raise in cash terms, but it was certainly not enough to reach the asking price of £8,500 which really was not an unreasonable price.

I had known Miss Russell from the early 1920s and used to deliver eggs, butter and cream to her. She was a benevolent lady when she lived in the village, allowing the villagers to use the three existing grass tennis courts at Red House. She also owned the very first beautiful Sunbeam car that I had ever seen. This old car was in one of the two garages at Red House, though unused for many years, until gypsies took it for scrap!

It was suggested that I journey to Bournemouth to meet the dear lady, together with her agent. I arrived early in order to have a little private discussion. She was by now well into her eighties and had a habit of allowing her top set of teeth to drop at the end of each sentence, but she certainly had all her faculties. Messrs. Fox's representative joined us and we began to talk business. He said the price could not be lowered. But Miss Russell was certainly interested in the project which we had in mind.

After a long discussion I was asked how much we could afford to pay for the property. My reply was that the most we could possibly raise was £5,000 and stressed, of course, that it would be a wonderful War Memorial. At this Fox's answer was 'out of the question' but Miss Russell pulled herself upright in her chair, adjusted her top set more firmly, and said, "If the Purtonians agree with your committee's proposals, John, I will agree". Turning to her agent, who was by now dancing around like an apoplectic sparrow, she continued, "The price will be £4,975 and the £25 extra will be my donation if the sale goes forward.

What a generous old lady she was. I wonder how many users of this splendid centre ever appreciate how it was obtained. I thanked her, kissed her good-bye, and left to report to my committee. They were amazed at my success but lots of work lay ahead.

### **Part 3. Raising the funds**

The villagers were summoned to a Public Meeting which was to be held at Purton Institute (this building having been given to the Village many years before by Squire 'Jimmy' Sadler). The meeting, which was the largest I can ever remember, was chaired by Captain Ward of Red Lodge. There was space at the Red House for all activities but I was convinced that we could not buy and run the Centre unless we could obtain a licensed bar. We had a lot of Methodist opposition in the village, who did not like the idea of a bar.

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Having done my homework, I had persuaded our worthy Colonel to donate £1,000 (£500 of which was to be a gift, the other £500 to be repaid at a later date). Other sums were promised if we went ahead; one of £100, two of £50 each, and eighteen of £25 each and lots of £10 and £5

I believe that the whole village were in favour of going ahead but a lot of argument went on over the bar. I was not prepared to divulge how much money we could raise until almost the end of the meeting and suffered a long time in silence, which is most unusual for me!

Eventually, the meeting voted in favour of applying for a bar licence. The chairman then added that if I could produce 19 people who would donate £25 each, he would become number 20. I quickly obtained the 19, and then told the meeting how much had already been promised.

Two weeks later Fred Leach and I sat in the Institute for twelve evenings and the villagers simply showered their donations upon us. There was a great patriotic spirit around at this time and people were very generous.

Purton was one of the first villages to ask for grant aid and to proceed with such a scheme. This I learnt from none other than the Duke of Edinburgh himself when he attended a meeting at Trowbridge shortly after, to which I was invited. He was the Patron of the National Playing Fields Association and was fully conversant with our proposals.

The property was purchased on behalf of the Parish of Purton and vested in Trustees for the benefit of all persons resident in the Parish. The Centre was to be a perpetual tribute to those who laid down their lives in the 1939-1945 War and would provide facilities for the benefit of the inhabitants without distinction of religion, political views or sex. The Membership was open to all Parishioners of Purton, Braydon, Purton Stoke, Lydiard Millicent and Lydiard Tregoze on payment of an Annual Subscription, subject to revision annually. Management was to be by a committee representing a wide range of village interests. I wonder how many of these early rules have been strictly adhered to?

The house itself could provide for a caretaker's flat, a convenient bar, billiards and table tennis rooms downstairs, with considerable space upstairs for large and small meetings. There were three existing grass tennis courts and plans were drawn up to make a bowling green in the gardens with a further three hard tennis courts at a later date. The outbuildings lent themselves to making into a skittle alley, and there was space to erect a new Village Hall. The adjoining land would provide a children's playground and a full sized Soccer Pitch, but considerable levelling had to be done as there was a fall of 18 feet from South West to North East corners.

I managed to get Lord Justice Lawrence and my old Sports Master F.N.S. Creek to officiate in the Grand Opening Ceremony.

Though I left the Village in 1951, I remained as President of the Football Club and the Purton Tennis Club for many years, both based at the Red House.

#### **Part 4. Relationship with the Parish Council**

When we were trying to buy the Red House and set up the Centre as a War

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Memorial the Parish Council of the day did not wish to co-operate. Perhaps they thought the Red House would not be self-supporting. However, they were invited to appoint two members to Management Committee, which they did.

Perhaps the attitude of the Parish Council may be explained by some knowledge of funds destined to come their way. In 1927 Sarah Hanna Maria Proud (widow of a London barrister but who was before marriage Miss Sarah Beak, of the Purton Manor House) had made a will, leaving the sum of £28,500 to Purton Parish Council to buy her former home and grounds, at one time 237 acres, 'as a recreation ground for the Villagers of Purton'. Did the Council know of this?

Mrs Proud did not die until much later, after we had bought the Red House. The will was contested in the High Court, as it was home made, but proved valid. Poor Miss Beak's request could never be carried out as, by the time she died, there were only 13 acres of her old estate and the Manor House left, which proved quite impossible to buy.

The Parish Council invested the money for some time. There was space and plans for a Village Hall at the Red House but the Council decided to use their bequest to build one next to the old Institute, in my view a great mistake.

It was not until about 1959 that the Parish Council took a more active responsibility for the Red House, which at the time of writing [*Ed. 1974*] is thriving.

## Wessex Male Choir Annual Christmas Concert 2016

The Choir's annual Christmas Concert will take place at Holy Rood Church, Groundwell Road, Swindon SN1 2LU on Friday 9 December.

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

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

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

Tickets are £15 per adult (free for under 16-years, free though a ticket is still required to ensure a seat). Tickets are available from 01285 869955, [tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk](mailto:tickets@wessexmalechoir.co.uk) or, in Purton, from Rick on 01793 772954.



Please bring a cushion with you for comfort.

For further information visit [www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk](http://www.wessexmalechoir.co.uk) which has further information on the choir.

New members are always welcome at our rehearsals at Abbey Mead on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 pm.

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## Purton Diary - November 2016

1	Tu	eve	First meeting for new Duke of Edinburgh's participants at Enterprise Centre, RWB - see page 31
2	W	10.00am	"Storytime" at library for pre-school children
3	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
4	F	2.00pm	to 4pm: Silver Threads Friendship Club
5	Sa	12 noon	to 4pm: Purton Food Festival, Village Hall. 2pm: Puppet show
		5.00pm	to 9pm: Bonfire Night Party, Purton House Farm shop
		5.30pm	Purton & Lydiard Scouts Bonfire Night at Lydiard Park, Hook Street entrance. Bonfire lit 6pm. See page 31
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6	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	All Soul's Service at St Mary's Church
8	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		10.00am	Purton & District Probus at The Red House: <i>The Mistress of Charles II</i>
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: Carole Glead - <i>Name that tune</i>
9	W	2.00pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church - Martin Pitman - <i>The Leprosy Mission</i>
11	F	9.30am	Age Concern minibus to Cirencester
		10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
		6.30pm	to 8.30pm: Purton Artists Exhibition preview at Village Hall
12	Sa	10.00am	to 2pm: Table top sale at Silver Threads Hall with morning coffee and lunches
		10.00am	to 4pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall
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13	Su		<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>
		8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.00am	to 4pm: Purton Artists Exhibition at Village Hall
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		2.15pm	to 3.15pm: High Street closed for Remembrance Service
		2.30pm	<b>Royal British Legion Remembrance Service</b> at War Memorial
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's School
14	M	7.00pm	Purton Parish Council meeting at Village Hall - press and public welcome – see page 6 for other committees
15	Tu	7.45pm	Royal British Legion at The Red House
		8.00pm	After 8: "Fireworks" led by Helen at Sandra's
16	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI at the Village Hall: Caroline Franklin – <i>Verse to verse</i>
18	F	8.00pm	<i>onwards</i> : Music Night at Red House with AutoBband

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20	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at the Methodist Church
		10.30am	Youth service at St Mary's Church
21	M	7.30pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at the Methodist Church
22	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus at The Red House: <i>Signatures Tunes</i>
		2.00pm	Silver Threads Club: <i>Musical Companions</i>
		2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
23	W	10.00am	Age Concern Christmas shopping outing to Whitehall Garden Centre
24	Th	7.30pm	Historical Society at Village Hall: Andy Binks - <i>Swindon Railway Works</i>
25	F	9.00am	<i>to 11am:</i> Cricklade Country Market at 'The Club at Cricklade'
		7.30pm	Carnival Quiz Night at the Royal George
26	Sa	12 noon	St Mary's Christmas Market at the Village Hall
		3.00pm	<i>to 5pm:</i> Age Concern Christmas Party at Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Race Night at Village Hall (World Challenge)

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27	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
		4.00pm	Messy Church at Ridgeway Farm School

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### **December**

3	Sa	5.00pm	<i>to 8.30pm:</i> Age Concern Christmas Party at the Village Hall.
4	Su	2.00pm	<i>to 4pm:</i> Christmas Bazaar at Village Hall (U-5's Playgroup)
10	Sa	9.00am	<i>to 12 noon:</i> Age Concern Christmas market outside Pavenhill shops

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### **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 (term time)
	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 (term time)
F	10.00am	<i>to 11.30am:</i> Tea, Coffee & Cake at The Cedars

### **Moon Phases**

 7 November    
  14 November    
  21 November    
  29 November

If your Club or Organization's Events are not included in the Diary Pages, contact:  
 Purton Magazine c/o In Touch Services, tel: 772954 or [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

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# Great War Project

## Part 40: November 1916

**Francis John Burgess**, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment and son of John and Mary Burgess, of High Street, Purton, died of wounds sustained on 7 July 1916 at the Leipzig Salient during the Battle of the Somme. He had a severe gunshot wound to the head and died, some 20 weeks later, aged 25 on 28 November 1916 in Bradford hospital. Francis was buried in St Mary's Church graveyard on 2 December. 4 Purton soldiers at home on leave carried the coffin at his funeral, Cpl E Ovens, L/Cpl B Woolford, Private F Lewis and Private F West. He was buried in a family plot so the grave is not marked by a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone, but his details are recorded on the plot surround.

### **Purton men mobilised in November 1916**

*To France:*

Valentine W Oakley Brown, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dragoon Guards (Prince of Wales' Own).

*To Salonika (Greece):*

William Charles Griffen, 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion Hampshire Regiment, formerly with Berkshire Regiment.

### **The Somme & Verdun**

The Battle of the Somme continued with fighting on the Ancre Heights, concluding when British forces took Beaumont Hamel on 13 November. 2 days later a British pilot, William George Barker, flying very low over the Ancre River, spotted German troops assembling for a counter-attack. He alerted artillery to fire on the target and the German infantry force of 4,000 men was broken up. Barker was awarded the Military Cross. On 18 November the British Expeditionary Force commander General Douglas Haig called off the battle, which had run for 4½ months, with over 1 million killed or wounded.

On 1 November, French forces recaptured Fort Vaux at Verdun.

### **Allied Strategy**

On 15 November, the allies a conference held in Paris to discuss developments including the relations between Governments and Staffs, policy and strategy and war aims in Greece and Poland.

### **At Sea**

2 British hospital ships were lost in November. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, HMHS Britannic, which had been designed as the third Olympic-class ocean liner for White Star Line, sister ship to the Titanic, sank in the Aegean Sea off the island of Kea after hitting a mine, with the loss of 30 lives. Britannic was the largest ship lost during the entire war (48,158 tons). 2 days later, the British hospital ship "Braemar Castle" also hit a mine in the Aegean Sea and was beached.

Two German commerce raiders "Seeadler" (Sea Eagle) and "Moewe" set out from Kiel in Germany during the month.

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On 26 November, a second German naval raid was made on the port of Lowestoft in Norfolk. The same day, the French battleship "Suffren" was sunk by submarine in the Bay of Biscay. The torpedo exploded in an ammunition magazine and Suffren sank within seconds, taking her entire crew of 648 with her.

On 29 November, Admiral Sir David Beatty was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Fleet, replacing Admiral Sir John Jellicoe.

### **The Air War**

On the night of 27/28 November during German Zeppelin raids, British aeroplanes destroyed airship L34 off Hartlepool and L21 off Yarmouth. But the Germans started new tactics with the first daylight aeroplane raid on London on 28 November.

### **Austria**

On 21 November, Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria died after contracting pneumonia, aged 86. He was succeeded by his son Archduke Karl.

### **Eastern & Balkan Fronts**

Rumania continued its losses in the face of Austro-German forces, culminating with the occupation of the Rumanian capital, Bucharest, on 23 November.

Greece was being pulled further into the war as the Entente governments demanded the expulsion of Central Powers embassy staffs from Athens (19 November) and the surrender of Greek military material to the Allies. Venizelos' Provisional Greek Government in Salonika declared war on Germany and Bulgaria on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Allied forces landed at Piraeus, the port of Athens, on 30 November.

### **Russia**

Between April and June 1916, Pavel Milyukov, a deputy in the Russian parliament (Duma) and leader of the moderate Kadet party, went to allied and neutral countries as part of a Russian parliamentary delegation. In July-September 1916, he went abroad privately, following up rumours about talks by the Russian government seeking a separate peace with Germany and Austria. Milyukov studied European newspapers and held meetings with Russian emigrés in Switzerland. The information he obtained was unreliable, but pointed towards his opinion.

On 1 November, Milyukov made a speech in the Duma known historically as "Stupidity or Treason?" He hinted at treasonable acts by Alexandra Fyedorovna, empress consort of Tsar Nicholas II, and Prime Minister Boris V. Shtyurmer. He told the government, "We will fight you ... by all legal means, until you leave."

On 7 November, Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolayevich warned the Tsar of a potential uprising. This led to pressure resulting in the resignation of Shtyurmer and his government on 24 November. It also led to the proposal by Mikhail Lvovich Mandelshtam in January 1917 to declare the State Duma as a Constituent Assembly.

The first steps towards the Russian Revolution had been taken.

*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.

## Duke of Edinburgh's Award – New Participants Wanted

A new Duke of Edinburgh's Open Award Centre opened earlier this year in Royal Wootton Bassett providing young people in North Wiltshire the support and back-up they need to undertake their own DofE Award.

If you are not familiar with the scheme, the DofE is all about going the extra mile – gaining new skills, pushing yourself physically, helping others and exploring new territories. You choose the activities that motivate you and go on your own personal journey. At the same time, you'll gather friendships, experiences and memories that will last a lifetime.

Many young people find achieving a DofE Award life-changing. A fun adventure and major challenge with three progressive Award levels (Bronze, Silver and Gold) and a wide range of activities offer endless possibilities. Millions of young people in the UK have already taken part in the world's leading youth achievement award, pushing personal boundaries, gaining new skills and enhancing their CVs and university applications. We know from other participants that the DofE helps you stand out from the crowd when you apply for college, university or jobs.

We meet on Tuesday evenings in term time at the Enterprise Centre in Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 7HH and the first meeting for new participants will be on Tuesday 1 November 2016.

If you are aged 13\* - 24 and would like to know more about the DofE, please e-mail your details to [royalwoottonbassett.OAC@gmail.com](mailto:royalwoottonbassett.OAC@gmail.com) or telephone 07548 100252.

**RICHARD HARRIS**

*\*You must be in Year 9 at school.*

### Website Links

We are grateful to Nicola Gardner for pointing out an out-of-date link on our magazine website and we have updated it.

We have a page of links accessed via the left hand panel on [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk) for websites of Purton clubs and charities. Please have a look at it and see if your entry is up to date. If not email us at [mail@purtonmagzine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagzine.co.uk).

Also if you would like to have a link, contact us at the same address.



**Swindon and North Wiltshire Scout**  
**FIREWORK & BONFIRE SPECTACULAR**  
**SAT 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**at LYDIARD PARK**

**£8 Adult**  
**£4 Children**

- ✧ Gates open 5.30pm
- ✧ Bonfire lit 6pm
- ✧ Live Music
- ✧ Entertainment

Please leave your own fireworks and sparklers at home!

[plscouts.org.uk](http://plscouts.org.uk)  
phone: 534500



## Past Events

**The Golden Age of Coaching:** The Society welcomed back Martin Way who always gives a very informative and humorous presentation. Martin started his presentation with the early stagecoaches which had wooden wheels and travelled on roads that were in very bad condition making progress very slow. We learnt about Turnpike Trusts which were introduced in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and through the 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A group of people invested in a Trust, with a view to improving road conditions and recouping their investment by charges being made at Turnpikes. Purton had its own Turnpike and toll charges can still be seen on the house in Station Road opposite Collin's lane. Martin told us about the Royal Mail coaches that travelled the country and had an excellent record for efficiency and punctuality. Transport systems changed when the canals and railways were introduced and the 'golden age of coaching' was over. Martin's talk was backed up with an array of artefacts which included wonderful model coaches that he had made himself. Thank you to Martin for a very entertaining evening.

## Tuesday 27 September – outing to Chelsea Hospital

A group of members and guests boarded the coach for the journey to London to visit the Royal Hospital in Chelsea.

Many of the buildings, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, date from 1692 are listed and of historic interest. The Site covers a wide area and includes an Infirmary for Pensioners needing extra nursing/medical care. Following lunch, two Chelsea pensioners arrived to take us on a tour. In addition to the history of the hospital we learnt about life as it is lived today by the current pensioners. The church and the great dining hall were very impressive and both are steeped in history. Our guides in their distinctive scarlet tunics kept us well entertained for 2 hours. Following the tour, it was time to visit the shop, museum and for most of us the tea room before departing to return to Purton. Our grateful thanks go to Helen Dixon who again organised the outing with her usual efficiency. Thank you Helen for all the hard work involved.

## Future Events

### Thursday 24 November - 7.30 pm at Purton Village Hall

#### Swindon Railway Works – Andy Binks

Andy's talk will be about his life and times in Swindon Railway Works and will include many photographs not previously published. He will share his memories and stories and we are sure this will include fun and humour. He will also have copies of a book on the 'Works' produced by himself and his good friend Peter Timms, which can be purchased at a discount price.

### Friday 2 December at 7.30 pm

#### Annual Social at Silver Threads Hall, Purton

Musical entertainment including Carols will be provided by the popular Wootton Bassett choral group "Bakers' Dozen". There will be a buffet supper, raffle and lucky ticket draw. We have made one change this year in that guests are asked to bring their own drinks. We will, however, be supplying different styles and sizes of

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glasses. We hope that this will give guests more opportunity to have the 'drink of their choice'. We can also cater for 'special dietary' requirements if requested. Guests are warmly welcomed to join us on this festive occasion.

Tickets for the Social will cost £12.00 each and are available from PHS monthly meetings; Jim Mosley, Purton tel 01793 778395; Purton museum (open Wednesday 2 to 5 pm and Saturday 10 am to 12.30 pm); DG'z Creative Hair Design, The Parade, Purton tel 01793 770340.

**Thursday 26 January 2017 - 7.30 pm at Purton Village Hall**  
**The River at War – Bill King**

*New Members and visitors always welcome*

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

Tel: 01793 770117

## Purton Magazine 10 Years Ago ...

With the European Union referendum vote still causing concern and even consternation across the country, it is interesting to find this in the November 2006 issue of Purton Magazine.

- 24 words in Pythagoras' Theorem
- 66 words in The Lord's Prayer
- 67 words in Archimedes' Principle
- 179 words in the Ten Commandments
- 286 words in the Gettysburg Address
- 26,253 words in the then new European Union rules on the sale of cabbages.

There was also an article 10 years ago describing how Purton was about to be represented in Europe at the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. It takes place every evening at the famous memorial to the fallen of the First World War. Paul Booy was to give the Oration as leader of the visiting group and two wreaths were to be laid.

Elsewhere in the November 2006 Purton Magazine we learnt that a couple of Eric's had organised a most successful Purton Bowls Club tour to Torquay. It was a huge success with a good hotel, good food, fine weather and all four matches were won – what more could anyone ask for?

Finally, in an article from Minety Junior Rugby, there was a description of what might be described as a virtuous circle. It read "*there is a chain of thought that tells us that exercise and practice increases our confidence. When we are confident we can better express ourselves which help to make us successful. Success makes us feel good about ourselves and brings with it enjoyment and fun. When we are enjoying what we are doing and having fun it leads us to want to learn and practice more.*" And so the development cycle goes on.

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

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## Purton & District Probus Club



At our meeting on 13 September, **Captain Cyril Mannion**, a retired Dan-Air and British Airways pilot, recalled the famous first non-stop flight of the Atlantic by Alcock and Brown. Inspired by the statue of the two flyers at Heathrow, Cyril was intrigued by the circumstances of their achievement and suggested that in June, 1919, it would have been as sensational as Neil Armstrong's landing on the moon fifty years later. John Alcock was born in 1892 at Firwood, Manchester and gained his pilot's licence in November 1912. He was a regular competitor in aircraft competitions and became a military pilot during World War 1. He was captured by the Turks when his engines failed over the Gulf of Xeros. Arthur Whitton Brown was born in Glasgow in 1886 to American parents who shortly afterwards moved to Manchester. Brown began his career as an Engineer with Westinghouse. As a navigator he too became a POW, being shot down over Germany. After the two men were repatriated, Brown continued to hone his aerial navigational skills.

In April 1913, Lord Northcliffe (Daily Mail) had offered a prize of £10,000 to "the aviator who shall first cross the Atlantic in an aeroplane in flight from any point in the USA, Canada or Newfoundland and any point in Great Britain or Ireland in 72 continuous hours". Though suspended during the war, the competition was reopened in 1918. Several teams competed and when Alcock and Brown arrived in St. John's, Newfoundland, the Handley Page team were almost ready. The Vickers team quickly assembled their plane and at around 1.45 pm on 14 June, while Handley Page were still doing tests, the Vickers plane took off from Lester's Field. The aircraft was a Vickers Vimy with extra fuel tanks and powered by two Rolls Royce Eagle 360 hp engines. Now their difficulties began. The overloaded aircraft only barely cleared the tops of the trees. At 5 pm they flew into thick fog making navigation almost impossible. Twenty minutes later the generator failed depriving them of radio contact, intercom and heating. They flew on through ever changing weather, fog, rain, snow, ice and cloud, changing altitude in attempts to navigate by sun or stars. Alcock twice lost control in a spin and only pulled out when they could smell the salt of the sea. On one occasion Brown had to climb onto the wing to clear ice from the carburettors. They made landfall in County Galway at 8.40 am on 15 June 1919, not far from their intended landing place after less than 16 hours flying time, but put down in very soft ground which tilted the plane onto its nose causing damage and making further flying impossible.

Travelling on by car and train to London they delivered mail-bags taken aboard at St John's proving the authenticity of the flight and the first transatlantic airmail delivery. The flyers were lauded nationwide and received the £10,000 prize from Winston Churchill. Shortly, they were called to Buckingham Palace to each receive a knighthood from King George V.

Our speaker, Captain Mannion gave a very detailed and exciting, hour by hour account of the crossing itself, which demanded all the expertise of both the pilot and the navigator.

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>, our speaker was Martin **Collisson** with "The Life of Riley", not

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a musical act, but the history of a very successful family of early manufacturers of competitive motor cars. William Riley, whose ancestors owned an Irish textile business, acquired the Bonnick Cycle Company of Coventry in 1890, early in the pedal-cycle craze that swept Britain.

In 1896, he relaunched it as the Riley Cycle Company and later incorporated Sturmev Archer. William Riley had five sons; Victor, Allan, Percy, Stanley and Cecil. Percy left School at 14 to dabble in automobiles. At 16 years of age, unknown to his father, he built his first motorcar. It is attested that the engine featured mechanically operated cylinder valves, whereas other engines depended on the suction of the down going piston to open the valves.

In 1900, Riley sold a single three-wheeled automobile, and in 1902 Victor, Percy and Allan pooled resources and borrowed from their mother to establish the separate Riley Engine Company in Coventry. Initially they produced engines for "Riley" motorcycles and "Singer", but by 1905 they produced their first proper motorcar, the Vee Twin Tourer. William, senior, now came on board, specializing in producing detachable wire wheels which were supplied to a wide range of car-makers.

In early 1913, Percy was joined by Victor, Stanley and Allan in "Riley (Coventry) Limited" to focus on manufacturing entire automobiles. The first new model, the 17/30 was introduced at the London Motor Show that year.

Interrupted by WW1, the company produced aeroplane engines and became a key supplier to Britain's war effort. After the war the companies grew rapidly through the 1920s and 30s producing 4-, 6-, and 8-cylinder engines in a variety of different body choices. Percy continued to spearhead engine design and in 1933 a Riley Nine Brooklands with a 1.1 litre engine took 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Le Mans 24-hour race ahead of two Aston Martins with 1.5L engines. 1934 brought even greater success with Riley cars achieving 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> positions, thereby winning the Team Prize.

By 1936, competition and disagreements saw the decline of the Riley family businesses which in 1939 were absorbed into Morris Motors and subsequently into BMC. However, "Percy Riley Motors" carried on as high-volume suppliers of components and engines, and Mike Hawthorn was still racing a Riley Sprite with some success after WW2.

Martin, our speaker, is the proud owner of two rebuilt Riley vintage cars, a 1935 12/4 Lynx and a 1933 14/6 Lynx, both of which he rebuilt himself. The concluding portion of his talk was an account of the difficulties he experienced in tracking down genuine components and recreating those that are no longer to be found. It was illustrated by pictures of the various stages and of the skilled artisan work necessary for a quality finish. Martin assured us that Vintage Cars are an expensive hobby, but that he gets great satisfaction from taking them to rallies and meeting other enthusiasts.

The Probus Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10 am in the Red House lounge. Visitors and prospective new members welcome. Programme: 8 November - The Mistress of Charles II; 22 November - Signature Tunes.

*BOB STEVENS*

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## We Record ...

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 ...



### Weddings at St Mary's Church:

17 September Keith Brian Ellis and Emma Jane Hudson  
24 September Reginald Colin David Rawlings and Donna Marie Godwin  
1 October Matthew John Sawyer and Kimberley Dawn Whittington

### In Memoriam:

28 November 1916 Francis John Burgess, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment, died aged 25 of wounds sustained in July 1916. Buried in a family plot at St Mary's Church



## Harvest Festival

Once again St Mary's looked glorious for the Harvest Festival celebrations. Many people gave flowers or contributed to the cost of floral arrangements. We are grateful to all those who participated this year ... it was an amazing effort.



We shall be putting poppies in Church for Remembrance Sunday on 13 November and then decorating the Church for Christmas in December.

If any Purton people would like to come and join in these activities, they would be very welcome. We need all the help, enthusiasm and encouragement we can get!

*Libbie Sheppard, 771018*

## Prayer for Purton

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

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

## Church Floodlighting

- 27 September St Mary's was floodlit for **Ruth Mills** on what would have been her 79<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thinking of her so much.  
Jim, Sarah, family and friends
- 19 October St Mary's was floodlit, remembering our special **Daniel** (Climance) on his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
If love could have saved you, you would live for ever.  
Love from all his family.
- 5 November The church will be floodlit **Laura Mumford** on her birthday.  
Greatly missed by all the family
- 16 November St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Trev** (Trevor Bird) who left us November 2003. Miss you. Love you always.  
Jean, Amanda and Paul. XXX
- 26/27 November St Mary's will be floodlit over the weekend in memory of **Elizabeth Ward MBE** on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of her passing.  
From everyone at Red Lodge Estate
- 28 November St Mary's will be floodlit in memory and in celebration of the 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday of **Mary Wightman**.  
Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark and Ben; Daughters in law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
- 28 November St Mary's also will be floodlit to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of **Sidney Ball**, sometime estate agent, also local historian.



*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.*

## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

House to house collections continue until 12 November 2016 and Remembrance Sunday is 13 November this year.

*SHIRLEY LAWRENCE, Poppy Appeal Organiser*



## Have your Purton Magazine delivered FREE

Instead of remembering to buy your Magazine every month you can have it delivered free to your door. For a £6 annual subscription we will deliver FREE within our area. Postal deliveries cost £16 per year. You can join our scheme at any time during the year with the price adjusted pro rata. For further information contact Sandra Horsnall on 01793 770157.

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## Purton Rainbows, Brownies, Guides & Rangers

All units are now back in full swing for the autumn term.

2<sup>nd</sup> Purton Brownies have started work on the Senior Section Centenary Challenge, a lot of the challenges involving "100". They made "100" from a variety of things including a hundred paperclips, pegs, sweets and coins. For another part of the challenge each six used an Argos catalogue to choose electrical items for their "home". None of the Leaders are going to visit the six who didn't choose a kettle! Their "Swiss" evening included a quiz on the Guiding World Centre "Our Chalet", and chocolate tasting - very popular!

1<sup>st</sup> Purton Brownies have been working as a unit to help their nine new members settle in and prepare for making their promise. They have played getting to know you games, made owls to remind them of the owl in the Brownie Story and been challenged to do a good turn every day during the week.

In the Guide unit, Young Leader Kirstie led an evening of initiative games as part of the service clause of her Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Guides worked in their Patrols to earn points (which resulted in prizes!) to build a craft to protect a water balloon being dropped from height. All survived!

Guides have also been working on *Go For It! Five Senses*, each week being devoted to a different sense. For 'taste' Guides established the different areas of taste buds on their tongue, tried exotic fruits and compared different colas and chocolates. For 'touch' they had to guess objects hidden in shaving foam and play a feely Kim's Game. For 'sight', Guides had to navigate an obstacle course blindfolded while being guided by another member of their Patrol; they also played charades and made sandwiches blindfolded. Next month, find out what they got up to for hearing and smell!

For more information about the units in Purton, either for girls joining or for volunteering, please contact District Commissioner Rachel Mead by phone on 07729 462054 or by email at [braydondc@wncounty.org.uk](mailto:braydondc@wncounty.org.uk). You can also register interest at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested).

Find us on Facebook:

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



## Carnival News: Still to come in 2016:

**November** Quiz Night at the Royal George Friday 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. Enter on the night; teams of up to 4; £10 per team.

**December** Bingo at the Silver Threads Hall on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm

£10.00 for bingo including Flyer Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies

Santa comes to Purton (FREE Event) from 6pm on Thursday 14 December (Top end of the village) and Friday 15 December (Bottom end of the village). Please see posters, Facebook and Website for more info ... Also pick up your FREE 2017 Purton Planner.

**Date for your diary:** Barn Dance (Live Band) on 1 April 2017, More details soon.

KEVIN LAW, *Carnival Chairman*



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## Scarecrow Trail

The 2016 Purton Scarecrow Trail was a great success. The scarecrow makers put lots of hard work and imagination into their creations. We had 40 scarecrow entries with hundreds of people touring the village following the trail, making a profit of nearly £500. This money will be added to our existing funds raised to cover maintenance costs for the two community access cardiac defibrillators.

This year we ran a “mini” trail for younger children which we thought was a real success and will plan to do again next time.

The Swindon Evening Advertiser covered the event with an article and photographs.

We would like to say a big thank-you to all those who supported us by offering prizes: The Bell at Purton Stoke; Hair by Val, Hiscocks Butchers, Purton House Organic Farm Shop, The Royal George, Paula Jane’s Nails, Toomers Garden Centre, Laser Quest & Kidzabout.

Once again we would like to thank Mel and Eddie at The Royal George for their help with “admin” tasks.

Nobody managed to get all 40 answers but two entrants did get 39 correct, so we drew the winner from a hat. As we had had more prizes generously donated than we had anticipated, we also had three lucky runners up who we randomly drew from those who scored 38.

ALI D

### **Best Scarecrow makers:**

1. Wardell family (Singing in the Rain)
2. Alison Instone (The Wizard of Oz)

### **Main scarecrow trail quiz:**

1. (Joint) Angela Smith
1. (Joint) Tina Burbidge
3. (Joint) Paul Rypniewski
3. (Joint) Caitlin McClay
3. (Joint) Summerfield family

### **Children’s Scarecrow Trail Quiz:**

1. Matilda Ashdown
2. Alfie Fryer
3. Nathan & Sophie Law
4. Louise Russell
5. Kirsty Damiral

The scarecrow photographs along with the answers can be seen on the Purton Scarecrow Trail Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail](http://www.facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail).

We are planning to hold the next Scarecrow Trail in 2018: keep an eye out for articles in this magazine well in advance.

The answers for the 2016 quiz are as follows:

- |                        |                       |                      |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Phantom of the Opera | 6 Book of Mormon      | 11 Prince of Tennis  |
| 2 Matilda              | 7 Shrek               | 12 Thriller          |
| 3 We will rock you     | 8 Starlight Express   | 13 Seussical         |
| 4 Oliver               | 9 Fiddler on the Roof | 14 Willy Wonka & The |
| 5 Kinky Boots          | 10 Oklahoma           | Chocolate Factory    |

15	Fings aint wot they used t'be	23	The Beautiful Game	32	Wizard of Oz
16	Evita	24	Dr Doolittle	33	The King and I
17	Wicked	25	The Student Prince	34	Sound of Music
18	Pirates of Penzance	26	Paint your wagon	35	Gigi
19	Into the Woods	27	Cats	36	The Pyjama Game
20	Kiss of the Spider Woman	28	Lady and the Tramp	37	Made in Dagenham
21	South Pacific	29	Priscilla Queen of the desert	38	Singing in the Rain
22	Grease	30	Hairspray	39	Calamity Jane
		31	The Lion King	40	Bugsy Malone

## Shoebox News

### Operation Christmas Child

I don't really know what to say. (Well that's a first I bet you are saying!) £1801.00 was raised on and during the week of the Shoebox Fund Raising Day. That is incredible. Just saying thank you doesn't seem enough. But we are able this year to do something that has been beyond us until now. With the extra money, we have purchased 160 solar powered calculators for the older boys and girls. We know that they are needed for their education, but have never been able to consider the idea until now. What an achievement. My plea for marbles has been a success. So the 100 older boys will get a bag of marbles in a handmade drawstring bag. Younger children are not allowed to have them.

It has been like Christmas most days in recent weeks, with bags of 'goodies' being left at my house. If I didn't get to see you and thank you, my apologies. I was probably out 'Shoe-boxing'.

My appreciation goes to so many of you who donate in so many different ways. There are those of you who are experienced in what you do and those of us who do things we didn't know we could. But, I must thank Colin, without him, I couldn't do what I do. When he was turning our home around for the Fund Raising Day, I heard him say that actually moving house would be easier. This was our 7<sup>th</sup> year. When Colin was moving furniture and I was 'knee deep in flour', we said never again. How could we not do it again after a result like we got?

So, 400+ boxes will go from Purton to the warehouse in Westbury, sometime in early November. I will know where the boxes go, but not until early December.

I have been asked, what are you going to do now? Start on next year's boxes, of course. Thank you one and all and a Happy Christmas.

*SYLVIA FREEMANTLE, Co-ordinator*



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

OFFERED: Set of mats for a Mercedes A class to fit models between 2005-2012. As new. Phone Bob 771282.

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

# PURTON PLACARD

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

**CRICKLADE FIREWORKS DISPLAY**  
**GRAND 50TH**  
**ANNIVERSARY DISPLAY**  
Friday 4th November 2016  
at THE CRICKET FIELD Abingdon Court Lane  
Guy Competition at 7.15      Fireworks 7.30  
*Fairground Organ*      *Refreshments*  
TICKETS Family £10, Adults £4.00, Children or OAP's £3.00

## Purton Artists Society 2016 Exhibition

Purton Village Hall

**Preview evening:**

Fri 11 Nov 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

**Main Exhibition:**

Sat 12 November: 10 am - 4 pm

Sun 13 November: 10 am - 4 pm

For more information

[www.purtonartistsociety.co.uk](http://www.purtonartistsociety.co.uk)

PURTON AGE  
CONCERN

### Outing to Whitehall Garden Centre

Wednesday 23 November  
Coach leaves the village  
at 10 am, Cost £5  
(food not included)  
Christmas displays and  
Christmas shopping!

## All Souls' Service



6th November 2016, 6.00pm  
St Mary's Church, Purton  
All are welcome to come to  
remember and give thanks  
to God for loved ones who  
have died

## Race Night

In Aid of Callum's  
World Challenge  
Purton Village Hall  
Saturday 26 November  
at 7.30 pm  
(First Race 8 pm)  
Contact Sherry 771866  
or 07909 893937  
For information  
or Tickets £6

PURTON AGE CONCERN

### Christmas Party

Saturday 26 November  
3 pm to 5 pm  
at Silver Threads Hall  
Cost £2.00

**For the less able and their carers**

Wheelchair users most welcome.  
Book your place  
with your street warden  
before Wednesday 16 November.

PURTON AGE CONCERN

### Christmas Market

Saturday 10 December  
9 am to 12 noon  
Outside Pavenhill Shops  
Lots of Christmas bargains!

## Purton Food Festival

on Saturday 5 November  
at Purton Village Hall  
12 noon to 4 pm  
Puppet Show at 2 pm  
Admission £1  
(under 16s free)  
Stalls available @ £10  
Ring Helen  
01793 770648

Sing 4/4 Community Choir present  
their popular annual

### **Christmas Concert**

8 pm on Thursday 8 December  
Purton Village Hall.

Tickets at £8.50 - including light refreshments  
on sale from 1 November from Choir members,  
or from Pat Hughes (01793 772382)

Further details later.

Enquiries: Mary New (01793 770630)

*Concert proceeds  
will be donated to local charities.*

### **PURTON AGE CONCERN**

#### **Christmas Party**

Saturday 3 December

5 pm - 8.30 pm

at the Village Hall

Cost £5.00

Start your Christmas  
celebrations at our party!  
Book your place with your  
street warden before  
Wednesday 23 November.

St Mary's Church

### **CHRISTMAS MARKET**

Saturday 26 November 12 noon to 2.30 pm  
in the Village Hall

Come and have your lunch! ...

Lunches served – Hot meat baps

Many attractions and stalls, including:

Home-made produce

Books, Cakes and many more stalls.

Activities for children

St Mary's School Choir will be singing.

Mince pies, teas & coffees

### **Music Night**

The Red House

Friday 18 November

from 8 pm

AutoBband

Plus other musical guests

Everybody Welcome

### **Table Top Sale**

at Silver Threads Hall

10 am to 2 pm

Sat. 12 November

Proceeds to Silver Threads  
with soup & sweet lunch - £5  
morning coffee - £1

**Royal Wootton Bassett**

**Choral Society**

### **Christmas concert**

Monday 12 December

At the Methodist Church, Royal

Wootton Bassett

Music by Vaughan Williams, Bach,

John Rutter, John Tavener,

and traditional carols.

Starts 7.30pm retiring collection

Refreshments

## **PURTON CARNIVAL**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Purton Club.



09:00 to 11:00 hrs.

Ticket only event: £2.50 per child.

Includes breakfast & presents.

Tickets will be available from mid-November, a  
further announcement on where you can buy  
tickets will follow.

# PURTON PLACARD

## - plus -

Purton Twinning Association

### **Christmas Time Quiz**

Friday 16 December at 7.30

The Silver Threads Hall

£6 per person

to include Ploughman's Supper.

Maximum of 6 per team

Licenced Bar

Purton Under 5s' Community  
Playgroup

### **Christmas Bazaar**

Purton Village Hall

Sunday 4 December

2 - 4 pm

Stalls, games, crafts  
and meet Father Christmas.

## Wiltshire Sight Treasurer Wanted

Wiltshire Sight is an innovative, progressive local charity based in Devizes supporting people living with sight loss in Wiltshire and Swindon. They assist more than 2,500 people of all ages, as well as their families and carers.



The charity's current Treasurer is at the end of his term of office, this means they require a new volunteer to join the Board of Trustees and support them in the coming years.

Chief Executive, Leanne Hubbard commented: "He has been invaluable during a transitional period for Wiltshire Sight and the team wish him all the best for the future."

They are looking for someone with a strong grasp of charity accounting or who has experience of managing multiple complex budgets. An understanding of managing an investment portfolio and accounting software (xero) would also be beneficial.

### Commitment and Duties:

- Actively commit to the charity for, initially, a period of three years;
- Attend around six board meetings a year and take part in other events;
- Chair quarterly Finance Resources Sub Committee (FRSC) meetings;
- Advise and guide the management team and Board of Trustees on financial matters;
- Liaise with the auditors.

In return, you will have the opportunity to use your experience to help the charity make a real difference to the lives of people living with sight loss in Wiltshire and Swindon. Full training and support will be offered to the successful applicant. Applications from people whose lives are affected by sight loss are encouraged. Informal discussions with Chief Executive, Leanne Hubbard are welcome. Expressions of interest and CVs should be emailed to [lhubbard@wiltshiresight.org](mailto:lhubbard@wiltshiresight.org)

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



It is inevitable that the subject matter of some WI meetings sound more appealing than others, as it is all a matter of personal interest and taste. So as I wandered down to the village hall for our September meeting to listen to somebody talking about wills I have to confess I wasn't feeling that excited, as after all we had written our wills years ago. Well I was in for a surprise as, for starters, our speaker was not how I expected a solicitor to be – he was definitely under 40, not wearing a tie and his hair was below the collar!

After listening for a few minutes I realised that our wills may need revamping due to various changes in legislation. Those of us who had set up General Powers of Attorney could not afford to sit on our laurels as rule changes could mean that we would need to consider Lasting Powers of Attorney, but not just for property and affairs but also for health and welfare. As a result of this very informative and interesting evening we shall certainly be visiting our solicitor for a free consultation to review our wills etc.

Our next meeting is on 16 November, when we shall be welcoming Caroline Franklin who will take a light hearted look at a woman looking forward to Christmas through readings and poetry. I guess by November we will have to admit that Christmas is not so far away and by listening to our speaker and chatting with friends it will act as a welcome distraction from shopping, pressie lists and menu planning!

As usual we look forward to welcoming members and visitors alike to Purton Village Hall on Wednesday 16 November at 7.30 pm. See you there.

*HELEN DIXON, 01793 770648*

## Health & Wellbeing Champion

Hello! November already – where has the year gone? With winter clearly on the horizon, our thoughts turn to colder weather and how to keep warm. Many health problems are triggered or worsened by cold weather: dry skin and cold hands and feet are annoying, aching joints, colds and sore throats are almost expected, but serious, life threatening conditions such as asthma, norovirus and heart attacks are also exacerbated by the cold weather. The advice, of course, is to wrap up warmly and keep the heating going at home, which can be expensive. There is much that can be done to help with the costs of heating – switching supplier for electricity and gas or joining an oil purchasing consortium. Prevention is better than cure, so could your home use better insulation? For those who are really struggling with costs, small grants are available. Get in touch if I can help with any of the above.

As ever, I am around for general help and support on a wide variety of issues including transport, mobility and safety around the home and reducing the feeling of loneliness. Give me a call on 07557 922020 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

*ELLEN BLACKER, Health & Wellbeing Champion*

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## The Royal British Legion Purton Branch

The Purton Branch members would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Purton and the surrounding area for their generosity over the years towards the Poppy Appeal. The support of everyone is very much appreciated.



The financial year to the end of September 2016 was very successful, resulting in a total for the Branch of £8,747.47, which is almost the same as last year, also a great fundraising year, so thank you all very much.

We are fortunate in having Shirley and Mike Lawrence as Poppy Appeal Organisers, and all the many other wonderful people who give their time to help collect for the Poppy Appeal. To all of them we extend our grateful thanks. In addition, we would also like to thank all the customers at ASDA, who gave so generously.

**The Remembrance Service** will be held on Sunday 13 November at 2.30 pm at the Cenotaph. Regardless of weather, it will be held outside, so come dressed accordingly. In the event of inclement weather, for those who don't wish to stand outside, the Silver Threads Hall will be available and a speaker will relay the service indoors.

We hope that, as has now become custom, the road will be closed for approximately one hour, and diversions put in place. The Police will not be on traffic duty and this will be carried out by volunteers. Please be patient and understanding as this task is difficult enough without impatient drivers adding to the problem.

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

This year and in the future, the Legion will be placing wooden crosses in the Field of Remembrance only for those whose lives were lost as a result of conflict. But of course, anyone can place a cross in the Field of Remembrance for someone to whom they wish to pay their respects. This has been done because of increasing numbers and to avoid offence to the loved ones of people we miss. We hope you will understand. Thank you for your continued support.

*COLIN PEARSON, Honorary Secretary*

## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

The September meeting of the Purton Gardeners' Guild was the Annual Mini Show, where most members brought exhibits, ranging from flowers and vegetables, to scones and chutney. This was a real fun evening where everyone judges the exhibits (but not their own!). The cakes and jams can be tasted and there was not much left at the end. There were prizes for each class and an overall prize for the best exhibit and the most points won in the show. These were both won by Mary Read, who really excels with her flowers. It was a very good evening and hilarious at times. The committee worked extra hard to put it on as four of our members were on holiday.

Our November meeting is the famous American Supper, not for those on a diet! - with a short demonstration on making Christmas decorations by Pat Smith.

*JILL HERBERT*



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## The Cricklade Band

Again this year the band has had nothing but fine weather and very warm welcomes on our four- bandstand tour. However, the weather in Weston-super-Mare, while very sunny indeed, was also very cold in the shade - and where's the bandstand, in the shade of course! We had a new venue in Bath this year, Royal Victoria Park, on one of the hottest Sunday afternoons of the Summer saw hundreds and hundreds of people doing absolutely nothing but lazing around enjoying the music - how do we know, they told us, with certainty, that this was 'the best band of the year'. Our tour was one venue short - the council cut-backs in Cheltenham meant that they are only booking Gloucestershire bands - if the people of Bath are to be believed it sounds like Cheltenham's Montpellier bandstand was one band short of a picnic this year! Pictures of most of these events can hopefully be seen (if we can negotiate the vagaries of 1&1 to update it) on the band's website at [www.thecrickladeband.co.uk](http://www.thecrickladeband.co.uk) -if it's easier, please follow us on Facebook.

The BandAcademy band has also been out and about again this year, it's important for our trainees to cut their performance teeth and they entertained audiences at St Sampson's School fete, Cricklade Festival, Hullavington School fete, their own 'School's Out' concert, Oak & Furrows open day, and a concert at Purton Village Hall in support of Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Learning to play a musical instrument and play as part of a group has been overwhelmingly shown to improve skills of self-esteem, confidence, literacy, numeracy, focus, concentration, team-work and social skills in our youngsters. It's not just the province of the young though, there are a number of, shall we say, 'more mature' students in BandAcademy and now progressing to the Performance Band who have discovered, or rediscovered, their musical abilities and who find the whole thing fulfilling, very sociable and, when the initial shyness quickly disappears 'quite a laugh'.

Through Band Academy in Cricklade we make music-making accessible, achievable and affordable. At less than £1 per week you can have an instrument, tuition and coaching from the word go and all the support you need to play your part in music-making.

Among the good news is some sad news, and thanks. At the end of May, the band lost one of its most loyal musicians - Mike Yorke - Mike had been battling ill health with immense fortitude for some time. Mike's wish was for donations in his memory to benefit the band. May we sincerely thank those who contributed. In addition to a new trophy, the 'Above and Beyond' award, we are also in the process of equipping another two of our tuba players with Sousaphones to lighten their very heavy load, especially on carnival marches. We think Mike would have heartily approved.

The Club at Cricklade is 'home' to the band, we're there on Monday and Thursday evenings. Why not come along, have a chat and see where you could fit in and become involved. You could be someone who wants to learn to play or someone who's already playing but looking for a more modern outlook.

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We've recently welcomed Nicola, our first saxophone player, to the band. We're actively looking for some more saxophone players to join Nicola. We would also like to meet a permanent creative keyboard player so that we could relieve Steve of his current multi-tasking role! You might have read elsewhere about the band's Crew - the lifters, shifters, tea-makers and fund-raisers who are every bit members of the band but without playing instruments - give it a go, you'll be pleased you did. We're especially on the look-out for a budding, or retired, stage technician!

### **And those all-important diary dates**

The band funds all it does in a not-for-profit sort of way - so, to help pay our way, please turn up at the Autumn Table-Top Sale on Saturday 19 November. It's going to be at The Club at Cricklade from 11 am to 1 pm - a really friendly event too!

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

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

Another date for the diary too; we have our Christmas Present at the The Club at Cricklade on Sunday 18 December at 7.30 pm - watch out for the posters and make sure of your tickets!

*PAUL HEWER*

## **Get a Life**

It's several years since I lost my wife;  
In that time I have a different life.  
At times it's been dark and hard to bear  
But I have come to terms, she is not there.  
All the things we did, just little things,  
Shopping, walking, trips out, the memory brings.  
People say, 'I know how you feel',  
Experience of it makes it all real.  
People mean well, I know, and I thank them for saying -  
When it happens to them they *will* know the feeling.  
Life does move on, it has to;  
I have found the best thing to do  
Keep busy, do things, don't sit all day brooding.  
Go out, get involved, do something exciting,  
Do voluntary work, sport, rediscover old pastimes.  
It may be hard to start with, hard sometimes,  
But I have found being occupied is interesting  
And life is better, and still worth living.

*Barry*

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## Purton Football Club



It is sad for me to report on the recent death of a former Purton player, manager and committee member, Bob Heuser, who has sadly left us. Bob was at the club when I first arrived as a player in 1972 and played many games in midfield in our Saturday and Sunday sides. Purton FC offer all his family and relations the Club's deepest sympathy ... we will miss him.

The club has also lost the services of young full back Keiran Diaz Benitez who, along with first team coach Paul 'Oggy' Hunt, has joined Cirencester Town's staff in the Southern League. So Manager Justin Miller is looking for another coach to take on board.

With 9 games played Justin Miller and his first team lie in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the table on 9 October with 14 points with Matt Bennett the leading scorer. In the Wilts Senior cup, the team will meet Royal Wootton Bassett Town (away) in October. News on this in next month's issue.

The Reserves under a new management team of Pete Temple & Daniel Allen have only played 4 games to date in Hellenic Div 2 West having drawn 2 and lost 2 with Ryan Welland their leading goal scorer.

It has been evident this season that attendances have dropped somewhat. This is a sad fact as, over the last ten years, support has been really great. The club would appreciate more support - so why not come along watch a game and have a pint in the Red House club afterwards!

*ALAN EASTWOOD, Chairman/Hon Sec*

## Purton Tennis Club



The Junior Boys took part in a round robin tournament to decide the annual singles champion recently. Considering that this was the first competitive experience for most of the boys the standard of play was very encouraging. After the first two rounds of matches Callum Wickens and Jack Kendall remained unbeaten, having beaten brothers Miles and Raif Gunton, so their match became 'winner takes all'. Callum went into a 3-1 lead but Jack battled back to draw level at 3-3. There then followed 4 incredibly long games with both players producing some good play before Callum took the match by 6 games to 4 to become champion. Congratulations to Callum, and well done to Jack, Raif and Miles.

In the Senior Boys event Oli Madsen took the first set very quickly but then, despite how the score line looks, the match became much closer with Tom Kendall finding a bit of form. Oli took the title with a 6-0 6-1 victory.

*NICOLA GARDNER*

## Lost Purse

A turquoise coloured purse was lost in the Purton area (perhaps as far as the Lydiards) on Sunday 9 October. It had identifying items in it with Helen Dixon's name on them. If found, please contact In Touch Services on 01793 772954 or email [mail@intouchpurton.co.uk](mailto:mail@intouchpurton.co.uk) and we will arrange collection. Thank you.

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## After 8



In September thirteen of us assembled at Lorraine's house each clutching four pieces of paper. On those bits of paper were topics which were then placed in a box - hence the title of the evening's activity of 'Topic in a Box'.

We took it in turns to select one topic at random and then had to talk about it for one minute, thankfully without having to consider repetition, hesitation or deviation all of which there were plenty! Topics ranged from such diverse subjects as Hair Rollers to My First Day at School. In between we covered twenty-five topics, more examples being Rabbits, Potatoes, Five a Day, Pinafores, Mirrors and Men!

Many of the subjects covered promoted further discussion. We discovered through the subject Reading (as in books or the place) that the town of that name had a museum with a replica of the Bayeux Tapestry with one minor alteration in that the Victorian ladies who had crafted it had chosen to put pants on an otherwise naked man! Grammar Schools caused quite a heated reaction and that of Light Bulbs resulted in frustration at the loss of good old understandable bayonet and screw 40, 60 or 100 watt bulbs to new peculiar shaped substitutes which are meant to last forever, but don't!

However, pride of place has to go to Adverts when it was learned that many local tradesmen who advertise in this wonderful magazine no longer need to advertise elsewhere due to its success in promoting their businesses!

The next meeting is on 15 November, appropriately entitled 'Fireworks' at Sandra's house.

*CHRISTINE GILL*

Purton  
Magazine