

Purton. Magazine

February 2019



As we head towards spring and the days begin to lengthen, there's a wide variety of events taking place in the village during February, and there really is something for everyone!

Photo: Pixabay

50p

Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	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, bethaney23@icloud.com	
Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Age Concern 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 Vets	771869
Health & Wellbeing Champion	Ellen Blacker	07557 922020
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872
<i>(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm) www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/</i>		
Schools & Playgroups		
Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	950159
Pear Drops Pre-School (formerly Under 5s')	Sarah Grigg	978536
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239
Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary www.stmaryspurton.org.uk		
<i>For information about services, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine.</i>		
Vicar: Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith	email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk	
	Tel: 770077, 773031 (emergencies only)	
Curate: Revd Judith Wells	email: judithwells36@googlemail.com	
	Tel: 770627	
Wardens	Sandra Horsnall:	Jane Smith:
	770157	772422
Administrator: Rosie Harris	administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 773035	
Methodist Churches <i>For information about services in Purton, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine. Braydon: Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship</i>		
Minister: Revd David Perkins	Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 8LT	
Catholic Church - Church of the Sacred Heart, High St, Royal Wootton Bassett		
www.thesacredheartparish.co.uk		
Priest: Revd Father Lucas Rodrigues	Tel: 852366	
<i>Services: Holy Mass Sunday 11.00am. Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am. Fri 7.00pm</i>		
Catholic Church - St Mary's Church, High St, Cricklade		
Priest: Father Michael Robertson	Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church	
<i>Services: Holy Days 7.0pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.</i>		

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Purton. Magazine

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INTouch
Design & Print

From the Editors

This issue of your magazine has numerous examples of local generosity and initiative which all contribute to the caring in our community. Staff at One Stop have been at it again in their fancy dress outfits for their very successful Christmas fundraiser as can be seen on page 41. After three days of baking and preparing, it took just five hours to sell all the home made cakes, cheese scones and mince pies while sweets were offered to children. The net result of the day was that £700 was raised and shared around the community bringing their total for the year to an amazing £2,450 – and all for our community.

Purton Methodist church also staged a successful coffee morning and Chedworth Silver Band concert in December that raised £1,269 towards their new PA system. But on page 31 you will see that the generosity was not only financial as the whole weekend was also full of good atmosphere, fun and rapport.

More generosity is reported on page 15 by the Purton and Green Gable Surgery PPG as enough money has been raised for a Dermatoscope. Their next fund raising is for a Doppler machine for the surgery which will substantially reduce the 50 minutes usually taken to measure blood flows through legs and ankles helping all those with a risk of developing deep vein thrombosis.

Then there is the huge commitment and generosity of everyone involved with PADS who have devoted lots of time to practicing and then performing 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in the village hall between 31st January and 2nd February – more details are on page 46. There is also a plea on page 47 from the review of Charlotte's Web by E B White that spiders should be given the utmost respect.

Finally, the generosity of all minibus volunteers is celebrated on page 21 and at the bottom of this page. You will see that the Purton Age Concern minibuses achieved a magnificent 633 missions (journeys really) last year bringing to mind that memorable British film from 1964, 633 Squadron. Although not a true story, it was inspired by the exploits of British and Commonwealth air crews. Perhaps now when we see a minibus in action, we ought to hum the Ron Goodwin music that the film made so famous, although making aeroplane swoops with outstretched arms on the pavement might be going a bit far!

28

Propane cylinders used for the first non-stop hot air balloon circumnavigation – see page 55

633

Separate journeys were made by the two Purton Age Concern Minibuses in 2018 – see page 21

32,600

Squares knitted in Purton along with many other items for South African charities – see page 30



Purton: a Dementia Friendly Community

We are holding the next three sessions at Pips Community Café, Station Road, at 11am.

The perfect opportunity to show you care by attending the 45 minute information session and maybe have a cuppa and piece of cake or lunch!

Tuesday 15 January 2019 , Wednesday 27 February 2019, Thursday 21 March 2019.

One of the aims of the “Making Purton a Dementia Friendly Community” is to get 80% of the volunteers at Pips to take up this challenge so we can be proud in saying that they support the cause and are one of only two businesses in Purton (Purton Farm Shop being number one) who are supporting us in our quest. “Pips Café - a Dementia Friendly Café” does have a certain ring about it.

Meet Your Councillors

A number of Parish Councillors will be available for a chat over a coffee at PIPS Community Café on Saturday 9th February at 10am and Friday 12th July at 2pm. If you have any concerns that are within the remit of the Parish Council then please come and meet the Councillors and use the amazing community facilities on offer at the Café.

What comes under Purton Parish Council's remit?

We are often asked what are the remits of Purton Parish Council and have decided that each month (commencing in March) we will post a question raised by a resident and answer from the Parish Council. This information will also be posted on our website for those who prefer to view online. So if you have a question please send it to the Clerk at deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call our offices on 01793 771066.

Purton Youth Club For School Years 4-7

Don't forget to bring your young children along to the Youth Club held on Wednesdays in the Village Hall from 6.15pm to 7.45pm for Purton resident children only.

For more details please contact the Youth Leader Jude Deaman, Telephone: 01242 224 509; Mobile: 07787821798 Website: www.communitymas.co.uk. A facebook page has also been set up under Purton Youth Club.

Councillors 2018-19

Chairman of Council/Charities	Ray Thomas	01793 951520
Finance & General Purposes		
Vice Chair of Council/Chair of Burials	Neil Hooper	01793 771066
Councillor	Helen Hicks	01793 778207
Councillor	Geoff Greenaway	01793 771140

Councillor	Kevin Law	07768 456989
Councillor	Sue Matthews	01793 771091
Chair of Play Areas	Vicky McKerrow	01793 778190
Councillor	Julie Ann Hurwood	01793 771066
Chair of Staff Sub	Paul Grigg	01793 771066
Councillor	Sue Relfe	01793 771066
Councillor	Elizabeth Wilson	01793 771854
Councillor	Emily Seabrook	01793 771066
Councillor	Grant Seabrook	01793 771066
Councillor	Jim Reid	01793 771066

Februarys Meetings

Commencing at 7pm in the Village hall – members of the public welcome to attend.

Monday 4 February 2019	Finance Meeting commencing at 7.30pm
Monday 11 February 2019	Council meeting
Monday 25 February 2019	Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity

Memorial stones

We now have three memorial tribute stones in place at the front entrance to the cemetery. If you are interested in a memorial stone to honour a loved one who was a resident in Purton at time of death, please contact the Clerk on 771066 or email deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Planning - Approved with Conditions

- 18-09333-FUL Plain Farm, Lydiard Plain. Construction of portal framed cattle building.
- 18-10091-FUL 37 The Hyde. Single storey rear extension.
- 18-10839-TCA 3B High Street. Re-pollard 3 lime trees to 6 metres, 20% reduction to group of 6 Yew trees..
- 18-06993-FUL Barkimber Kennels, 7 Packhorse. Variation of planning permission N12-03529-FUL to allow ancillary retail sales to include ice cream, soft drinks, pre-packed cakes and small homemade ceramic items.
- 18-07714-CLE Folly Down Farm, Packhorse Lane. Certificate of lawfulness for use of land as storage, B1 and B8 use.
- 18-08611-FUL Elm Grove Saddlery, Station Road. Change of use from retail unit to 2 no. residential units.

Refused Applications

- 18-09018-CLE Lower Farm, Mobile Home. Stoke Common Lane. Purton Stoke. The existing mobile home based at Lower farm being used as residential accommodation.

Charities

Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity has engaged a professional body to assess the viability of this charity going forward due to its decreased usage and costs

Community Speed Watch

The trained volunteers have been regularly carrying out speed watch sessions at the determined sites and have recently been questioned regarding the speed limit throughout the main road in Purton (Station Road/High Street). Please be advised that although there are stickers on lamp posts, wheelie bins, e.t.c. stating 20mph, the statutory speed limit is in fact 30 mph.

Community Speed Watch (CSW) is a locally driven initiative where active members of the community join together with the support of the Police to monitor the speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices. Vehicles exceeding the speed limit are referred to the Police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce their speeds.

Speeding continues to be a concern for many communities. Volunteers receive appropriate training and are supported by Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) staff.

If you are interested in knowing more and how you can be a part of this community initiative please either contact Paul Grigg on paul.grigg@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or Deborah Lawrence on deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call the office on 01793 771066.

How to contact the Parish Council

Telephone number: 01793 771066

Email address: deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Council's letter box: The letter box can be found 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 will see you interact with the Parish Council. Events, road closures, meet the staff, "did you know", photographs and much more. If you have an event in the Parish that you would like us to promote on any of our media platforms please contact the Clerk on deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 771066. Find us on: Facebook – Purton Parish Council Twitter - @PurtonPC

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

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Blacklands, Red Gables Close, Highridge Close, The Masons, and from Ridgeway Farm; Upper Mill, Ray Close and The Buffer*

Wiltshire Council News

The long Christmas break is now well behind us. However, spare a thought for all those local government employees who remained on duty over Christmas to make sure that we all were looked after and able to get around our county. The care services were on duty ready to help the vulnerable and there were all sorts of highways and other officers on call to deal with issues such as highways, flooding or fallen trees. There is an efficient out of hours' service available on the usual telephone number for Wiltshire Council and all calls are directed to a central call service where they are filtered - and if a service is required it is tasked. This is a vast improvement on the services of yesteryear where we relied on reaching duty staff on telephones with no filter. The new system is efficient, works and residents are even able to get fallen trees cleared overnight from minor roads if the situation warrants urgent action. The message is that if you need a Council service out of normal working hours it is well worth calling and trying to get what you want.

A new year in local government brings new challenges and either optimism or pessimism, depending on whether the glass is half full or half empty! By the time you read this it is hoped that the major political decisions of a generation over Brexit will be finalised (or not!). Whatever the outcome there will be a knock on effect on local government whether it is in higher (or lower) costs of commodities, less European labour available, or simply the ongoing saga of less funding available from central government. Naturally those who manage our finances in County Hall will get on and balance a multimillion pound budget and do more with less. So whether it is Brexit indecision or lack of funding for local government, the New Year may well not bring many changes at all!

Finally let us not forget the Town and Parish Councils who are all setting their precept (or local parish council taxes) at the moment. These smaller councils are able to increase their charges and many are making relatively small overall increases in order to take on very important local services such as toilets (in Purton the parish council has been maintaining the public toilets for many years) and grass cutting which Wiltshire Council can no longer afford to deliver. These small things are often the ones that matter to locals and the more locally these services are run, it's generally the better they are run. I regularly send out monthly reports to residents on email and if you would like to receive these and other updates and information then please do not hesitate to contact me: jacqui.lay@wiltshire.gov.uk

Purton Profferings

Unwanted items available free can be recycled here with a two-line classified advertisement; contact details are on page 4.

- Free to a good home: travel cot, for collection from 23 Norbury Court, Tel: 771210.

PPG Fundraising

Many thanks to all who helped raise funds for the Dermatoscope, including a donation from Purton & District Age Concern. The hamper raffle at the 'Flu Clinic on 17 November raised £580 and we have now raised sufficient funds for the Dermatoscope. Our next fundraising is for a Doppler machine ... an explanation ...

Patients who suffer from leg ulcers have a risk of developing deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and therefore have to have regular checks for this.

The procedure that is undertaken is called a Doppler assessment. The nurse uses the Doppler to check the blood flow through legs and ankles. This procedure is very long with a pre-measurement resting time of up to 20 minutes, and a further 30 minutes to complete the assessment.

A new Doppler machine has been released which allows the measurement to be done in minutes and we are looking to raise funds for the practice to purchase one of these; they cost around £3,000. Not only will this benefit patients needing this assessment, but it will also free up valuable appointment time for other patients.

Table Top sales in waiting room

We are holding these regularly. If you have items you would like to donate then please hand them to one of the receptionists. We are grateful for all donations of good, saleable quality.

Books in Purton Surgery Waiting room

Thank you to all who buy these books and also to those who donate them, the money raised goes to the PPG. Please remember to hand donated books to one of the receptionists as the surgery staff manage the rotation of books and also that it is not a case of bringing one and taking one – they are 50p each. This year the sale of books has raised over £300, which we are using to purchase a projector. We have been recommended (and seen demonstrated) a modern mini-projector. We normally borrow a projector for our Information evenings but can avoid this by having our own. In addition, it will also be used for Doctor training.

Brighter Futures at GWH

You may have already heard the good news that the fundraising by Brighter Futures for Radiotherapy equipment in GWH, which we supported with our Cheese and Wine Evening in October, has reached its target of £2.9million!

Patients needing treatment post-discharge from hospital

Please could post-discharge patients needing stitches removed, etc book the appointment for this early as there is otherwise increased pressure on the nurses to fit this in around other pre-booked appointments. Nurse and blood test appointments can be booked a month in advance, whereas appointments for

doctors are available to be booked from Thursday each week for the following week (i.e. starting the following Monday).

Next Information Evening - Sepsis

Our next information evening will be on Thursday 14 March, from 7.30-9pm in Purton Surgery when the subject will be Sepsis. Tickets (free) will be available from the Surgery from 1 February 2019.

Quiz Evening with a Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 29 March, Silver Threads Hall, Purton

We will be holding a Quiz evening with a Fish and Chip Supper (bring your own drinks and glasses) on Friday 29 March, 7pm for 7.30pm in Silver Threads Hall, Purton. Teams of six, tickets at £9 each will be available from the beginning of February. Reserve the date.

Green Gable Surgery – if you aren't already aware, please note that this is a branch surgery to Purton Surgery.

*Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities
Sheila Fowler, Secretary, Purton PPG*

Health & Wellbeing Champion

Sometimes the name of a month brings an immediate thought to mind. When I mentioned to 'im indoors that I was writing for the February magazines I was, frankly, surprised when he said "February – Valentine's Day!" Should I prepare for an extravagant gesture this year? I guess when we think of Valentines Day we think of flowers, chocolates and cards with cute pictures on them. In actual fact, it's about caring and sharing. With this in mind, 'im indoors isn't so very off the wall when he suggested writing about this for the magazine. We all have neighbours. Sometimes they are close and others can be across a couple of fields. The question is:

Would you notice if the bins weren't put out? When did you last see them?

What did you say? What is their name? Would you give them a lift? Would you water their plants when they're away?

It's about knowing someone to say hello to and maybe to have a cup of tea with, knowing that someone is looking out for you and, most of all, including everyone, especially those people who can sometimes find life a bit tricky. Go on, it's easy to simply say "Hello". It's only a word, but could mean the world to someone who is feeling lonely.

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
Tel: 07557 922020 or Email: ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk*

Purton & District Age Concern



We have received some lovely Christmas cards, thank you cards and letters for your Christmas vouchers. We are grateful to all who take the time to write to us, your kind words are much appreciated by all the committee.

Just to update you about the fridge-freezer that was available to any pensioner in our area last month; it's now gone to a good home. Thank you to all concerned for helping to move the fridge-freezer and dispose of the old one, the new owner is very grateful.

We have been informed this month of two services that are available in our area. The Wiltshire Home Library Service will bring library books to the homes of pensioners who due to illness or disability are unable to access their local library. For more information please contact the Access & Volunteer manager on 01225 713706.

Also, for anyone who may be interested boosting income, saving money, cutting their bills and a benefits check, a copy of the free Moneywise Guide can be ordered by calling freephone 0800 8566766 and quoting the code "Free Guide 108".

At our next committee meeting we will be discussing destinations for outings in 2019 and also new fundraising ideas. If anyone has any suggestions please can they contact Peter on 778119. Thank you to the people who have already given us their suggestions, they will be included in our discussion.

Finally, I have some news of my own to report. Purton Age Concern are looking for a new secretary. I have resigned from the charity as my husband and I are moving back to our roots in the Midlands. I will be sad to leave Purton as I have thoroughly enjoyed the 11 years I have been here. Purton Age Concern has been a big part of my life during my time in the village. I have met many wonderful people and made many friends. I will miss so many people once I've gone, but life moves on and I'm off to face new challenges. I would like to thank all the volunteers within Age Concern for the support they give to pensioners in our community. There are far too many special people to mention here, but you know who you and you really do make a difference to the village community. If anyone is interested in becoming the new secretary please contact Peter Berry on 778119. It's an interesting and varied role, I can thoroughly recommend it.

Future Events

Minibus Shopping Trips - Hazel is organising a shopping trip to Tetbury on Friday 8 February and another to Cirencester on Friday 22 February, both trips will leave the village at 9am. For more details and to book your place on the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

Jumble Sale - Our next jumble sale is on Saturday 9 February in the Village Hall. Jumble can be left at the hall between 12pm-1pm and the sale starts at 2pm.

Refreshments will be available. Come along and bag a bargain to two!

3Bs Evening - This is on Friday 5th April at 7.30pm in the Silver Threads Hall. The cost is £7 and includes a two course supper. Please bring your own alcoholic drinks and glasses. Bingo tickets will be available to buy separately on the night. Admission tickets sell out fast and remember there is no entry on the night without an admission ticket, so if you would like to attend please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339. Please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place on the minibus if you need transport.

Past Events

Christmas Vouchers - 953 vouchers have been distributed. Our treasurer Andrew Capewell has paid out £8,399.27. All businesses have now been reimbursed for the vouchers they accepted. We are grateful to Andrew for sorting this out so efficiently.

Christmas cards and calendars - The calendars and Christmas cards sold out. The combined profit was £825.50

Christmas raffle - We sold all the Christmas raffle tickets and made a profit of £1,026.00. We are very grateful to all who donated raffle prizes and everyone who sold and purchased raffle tickets. Your support is much appreciated.

Carol singing at the Red House - This was a huge success again this year, with so many people coming along to join in the carol singing. Our grateful thanks go to Neil and the team at the Red House for hosting the event, to Mark Blackwell and his musicians for providing the music, to Mick Looker and his friends for providing the floodlights and snow machine, to Sheila and Tony for providing the mulled wine and to everyone who helped out on the evening. What a lovely start to the Christmas festivities!

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 01380 861155.

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

Minibuses - 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 (New volunteers are always welcome)

Tai chi - Tai chi sessions are held each Thursday at 2pm in the Millennium Hall. There are places available so if you would like to give it a try, just turn up at the Millennium Hall. The first session is free, then the cost is £4 per session.

Friendship Club - The Friendship Club is run by the Silver Threads committee and meets monthly in the Silver Threads Hall from 2pm-4pm. Please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339 for more information. The next meeting will be on Friday 8th February. Transport is available. To book your place on the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

Louise Tidman

Purton and District Age Concern Mini Buses – Clocking up the miles in 2018

At the end of each year I do a summary of the journeys that our two mini buses have been on during the last twelve months, and the figures make interesting reading, as each one of those journeys have been undertaken by our 28 entirely voluntary people living in this village, 15 of whom are drivers. In total six hundred and thirty-three (633) separate journeys were made supporting residents in the village of retirement age, several of whom are well into their nineties.

The journeys have included 82 surgery appointments, although this number was 38 less than last year so I hope that this is a good omen as far as health is concerned. There were 103 days of Luncheon Club which involves the transport of up to 18 people a day twice a week, each of whom receive door to door service (with a smile). Additionally, there are a further 157 occasions when transport is provided regularly for Coffee and Chat, Methodist Ladies, the Knitting Group, shopping trips twice a month, coffee mornings and lots more. It all goes to prove what most of us already know that this really is a very special village. This year two crews took a record 24 people to and from the Age Concern Christmas party in the village hall.

If you need to book an appointment and need transport, please call me on 770862. It would be very much appreciated if you can possibly avoid between 11 and 2p.m on Tuesdays and Thursdays as we are covering Lunch Club, however we realise this is not always possible, but we will always do our very best to meet your appointment.

We are now getting very short of both drivers and shotguns so If you think that you might be able to give time to the mini buses whether as a driver (you just need a normal car licence) or shotgun then please give me a call and have a chat, even if you can only help occasionally you would be made most welcome.

Hazel Woodbridge BEM, Mini Bus Co-ordinator 01793 770862

Riding Shotgun

Are you an able-bodied adult willing to take an occasional ride on the Wednesday Lydiard Millicent Lunch Club wagon? There's no horse, no open-topped wagon, no Stetson, no gun, and nobody to shoot!

There is a brand-new Purton Age Concern 8-seater van, a proficient driver, a group of lunch club members who need collecting from their homes and safely returning

after a superb, reasonably priced two course lunch. You have the satisfaction of keeping them safe; at least that is consistent with riding shotgun in the Wild West! The van leaves the Parish Hall around 11am to collect members, lunch is at 12noon and members requiring transport are returned around 2pm to finish your duty about 2.30pm. The current rota is once every third week and we would like another volunteer to join in.

If 'Riding Shotgun' might be for you please enquire to: Julian Wright on 01793770986.

Purton Open Gardens, July 2019

This event has been raising money for charities and providing a local community event for over 20 years now, thanks to the generosity of Purton gardeners. The more gardens that take part the better an event it is. Do you think you might be able to join us? If you are not comfortable with people coming into your garden perhaps you would like to take part by inviting people to view your garden from the road. Possibly a group of you in your street would be interested? Gardens do not need to be up to Gardener's World standards! There are so many different garden styles and terrains in Purton, it is wonderful to be able to share what people have created. We all have weeds/areas of the garden that need a little TLC- it's about sharing what you have made or are planning, and what you enjoy in your garden. It is not a competition.

Money is raised through the sale of programmes. Two main charities supported in 2017 were 'Brighter Futures,' and 'Jubilee Gardens'. Other suggestions for local causes this year are welcome. Some gardeners also like to raise money for their favourite charities through the sale of cakes, plants etc.

The proposed weekend is 6th/7th July. If you cannot take part on both days, then you can choose to open your garden for the Saturday or Sunday only. There is a meeting at The Red House on Wednesday February 6th at 7.30 if you would like more information.

Call Diana and Adam Meares 770046 or Nick Yerbury 770552

Cricklade Country Market

Friday 22 February 22, 2-4pm at The Jenner Hall Cricklade
Locally handmade, home cooked or home grown produce straight from us to you.



This is a local market supplying local things.... with a tea room too! Come and see what we have to offer. There is no charge to look!

Future Market date: 29 March

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

Purton & District Luncheon Club

Have you any free time to spare? Would you like to Volunteer at our Luncheon Club? Once a month or fortnightly? We work on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 10.00am to 1.30pm. We provide lunches for the elderly. The lunches are held at the Silver Threads Hall, High Street. We are looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen and if you enjoy cooking and would like to cook for us that would be fantastic. It's a chance to help in the Community, and make new friends.

If you are interested please give me a ring, Pat Suddaby on 01793 771331

Why Volunteer?

It's not for the money

It's not for the fame

It's not for any personal gain

It's just for the love of fellow man

It's just to lend a helping hand

It's just to give a tithe of self

That's something you can't buy with wealth

It's not for medals won with pride

It's not for that feeling deep inside

Your reward is found down in your heart

It's a feeling that you've been a part

Of helping others far and near

That makes you become a volunteer!

unknown

Christian Aid

Purton is a remarkable little village. I am proud to live here. We have recently received a letter of thanks from Christian Aid UK. I would like to share it with you all as Purton has been so involved and generous throughout the year.

"Thank you to Purton for the contribution of £6398.94 towards Christian Aid Week 2018. Your hard work and support is hugely appreciated. Please pass on our thanks to everyone involved."

"Thank you a thousand times thank you" from Vilia, living in Haiti. Vilia was provided with a house after an earthquake destroyed her home. During a subsequent hurricane Vilia's home was the only one built strong enough to survive and she offered shelter to 54 others who otherwise might not have survived the storm. This is what Christian Aid can do with the money we raise throughout the year.

Libbie, Mary and the Christian Aid Team: 771018

Church Floodlighting



- Jan 14 St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Val Davies** on the 10th anniversary of her death. Forever in our hearts. Brian, Rebecca and family.
- Jan 17 St Mary's was floodlit in loving memory of **Mary Woolford** on what would have been her 96th birthday. Dearly loved and missed by her family.
- Jan 26 St Mary's was floodlit in loving memory of **Dolly Woolford**, our Darling Mum and Nannie and Great Nannie. Dave and Brian, Paul, Katie, Christopher, Lisa, Adam and all their families and to celebrate what would have been her 100th birthday.
- Jan 28 St Mary's was floodlit in remembrance of **Susan Morley** on her birthday. Lovingly remembered by her family and friends.
- Feb 20 The Church will be floodlit in memory of **Monica Kinnett** whose 71st birthday it would have been today. Love from Pete and family.

If you would like the Church floodlit for a special date, occasion, or memorial, please contact Libbie on 771018. The cost is £20 for one evening and it would be helpful if the date is booked at least a month before the chosen night. A short announcement can also be published in this magazine at no extra cost.

PURTON WAR MEMORIAL AND VILLAGE CENTRE

Community Hall
Recreation Ground

Small Function Room
(available October to March)

For further information and bookings:
Telephone 772646

12/19



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03/19

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10/19

Ten Years Ago...

As the February 2009 Magazine was being put together, Purton was experiencing extremely cold weather. Many articles referred to it, but the most eye-catching was the one including a photograph of a police car on its roof on icy Manor Hill. For those who no longer recall the incident, it can be found on the Magazine website; www.purtonmagazine.co.uk, and the photograph from the archive is printed below.

The most positive reaction to the freezing temperatures came from the Guide Dogs. It was pointed out that dogs don't mind what the weather is like, so why couldn't we be the same? For the Tennis Club it was even bleaker as they had been contending not only with ice but fog as well.

On a more serious note, this column has been watching for the effects on Purton of the financial crash the previous September. A local counselling charity highlighted the move into recession with the associated difficulties surrounding redundancy and its consequences. It was also offering training for others to become counsellors. It is still active today.

Happily, there are always a few lighter moments to be found... A notice for the Cricklade Country Christmas Market to be held on 27 February. Are our neighbours behind the times?... An announcement of an annual tennis tournament on 14 February, "a most enjoyable event with often surprising results". Well, what do they expect on St. Valentine's Day?... And a commendation to the Purton Peartree Pealers who managed a recital for charity in eight different pubs in one evening without touching a drop. Eight pubs, cold weather, probably very wise.

Finally to St. Mary's choir which, because of a power cut, had to pump the organ by hand at the Christingle Service then at the Carol Service sang a solo "all together".



Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



There were farewells at Christmas with Kaitlyn and Sophie organising their own leaving party for 2nd Purton Brownies and Eva doing likewise for 1st Purton Brownies. Fun and games included pin the carrot on the snowman, picking up Maltesers with a straw, icing biscuits, the chocolate game and throwing bouncy balls at a target.

We are lucky to have great Young Leaders in our units, (young people who are developing their leadership skills by volunteering). The Young Leaders with 2nd Purton Brownies each organised a Christmas craft for the unit: candy canes from pipe cleaners and beads by Maddy and bouncy snowmen from card by Finley. Over the years, several of Purton's Young Leaders have gone on to become adult leaders, building on the foundations and experience of their time as Young Leaders, and for this we are very grateful. Some have progressed from being Rainbows, Brownies and Guides themselves, whilst others have joined us as Young Leaders not having been members previously. It's never too late to join Girlguiding!

The Purton guiding units have strong links with the local community and serving the community is an element of our promise. 2nd Purton Brownies Ruby, Evie and Evie visited the Luncheon Club in the new year to give members teapot cards the Brownies had made, along with gifts of tea bags and biscuits. The two Brownie units, the Guides and Rangers are also looking forward to going along to the PADS pantomime. Maybe we'll see you there.

We had such a lovely surprise from within the community when we received an unexpected donation from a fundraising event held at One Stop shortly before Christmas. Thank you so much, both to those who organised the event and to those who supported it, for thinking of us. The money has been split between our six units (two Rainbow units, two Brownie units, Guide and Ranger units) and will be put to good use. With our new activity programme and the accompanying new resources we all need, the donation is particularly timely.

The girls in 2nd Purton Brownies started the spring term by deciding which of the new 'skills builder' badges they want to do. Watch this space for more news on that. The Guides and 1st Purton Brownies kicked off the term with unit activities from the new theme 'Express Myself'.

The Brownies made up stories, all participating as a ball was rolled to them to add a line to the story – their imaginations ran riot! The Guides were given card, lolly sticks, straws and sticky tape with the remit to plan silhouette stories which could be acted out using the puppets they made. They had just a bedsheet for a screen and an LED lantern as their light source. Stories of love and friendship, extreme spins on fairy tale classics, and a story about an excitable set of party goers. A great exercise in teamwork provoking much hilarity and not so quiet theatre!

2nd Purton Rainbows also have great imaginations which became obvious in their

first activity of the term as they drew BIG! Drawings featured lots of Rainbows, hot tubs, swimming pools and even a zoo.

For more information about guiding locally, please contact district commissioner Janet Abbott by phone on 07454 384763 or by email at braydondc@wncounty.org.uk. More volunteers to join our team are always welcome. Register interest in joining at www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/.

Find us on Facebook too: www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision

St Mary's Primary School

Happy New Year from everyone at St Mary's. The children have settled into Term 3 and are busy working on their new topics.

Staff News: We said goodbye to Mrs Heath, Teaching Assistant, who has moved to America to start a new adventure with her family and we welcome Mrs Ashdown, to the team.

In 2019, the school will be supporting CLIC Sargent, the UK's leading cancer charity for children and their families. A big part of this will be fundraising with Mr Payne, our Deputy Head, as he raises money for this life-changing charity by running The London Marathon in April.

I would be delighted to show you around our school should you be considering St Mary's. We do not hold open events, as we prefer to show parents/carers around individually. We warmly welcome visits should you wish, prior to submitting the application. Visits can be arranged through the school office admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk or by phoning us on (01793) 770239.

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

Mrs Naomi Clarke, Head Teacher

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

As there was no meeting in December my report this month is a brief affair and just takes the form of a reminder that Jenny Tidman from Malmesbury Garden Centre will be paying us a return visit, on Tuesday 26 February, to present a talk entitled 'Spring planting for Summer Flowering'.

The competition will be 'A Vase of Snowdrops'. Our meeting will be held as usual in Silver Threads Hall at 7.30pm. If you have an interest in garden related topics why not come and join us? We are a friendly group and are always happy to welcome new members and visitors.

Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)



Purton Cricket Club

With the club approaching its two hundredth anniversary, it seems appropriate to be grateful to all those who have served the club since its founding in 1820; from looking after the ground, the machinery and the surrounding hedges and trees, to the numerous ladies (and a few gentlemen), who have provided teas and refreshments for the cricketers. Many visitors remarked that Purton was well known for its good pitches and tasty teas.

At times when the membership cannot cover all that needs to be done we have been most fortunate that Chris Compton lives in the village. He has, over many years, helped us out when difficult mechanical problems have surfaced. He always comes up with a solution which saves us time and money and, at times, we have asked him to help at very short notice. Several years ago on a Saturday afternoon just before the start of play the roller stopped working in the middle of the match pitch! A phone call from the team captain was relayed to Chris. He responded immediately to the extent that he drove to the ground, solved the problem and we were able to move the roller from the playing area and as an added bonus the match started on time. Thanks Chris for your many kindnesses and services to Purton Cricket Club.

From the Archives

July 23rd 1979 Mike Canter Faces England Fast Bowler, Purton v Gloucester Extras
Purton batted first and made 154 for 8 of which Mike scored 49 facing a very fast young bowler, David Lawrence, who was to progress to play for Gloucestershire and England in the future. David took 3 for 20 from 7 overs. The Gloucester batsmen soon passed Purton's total scoring 156 for 1. Mike was dismissed by David Lawrence but not before he had hit eight boundaries.

Purton's team:- John Tweed, John Fowler, Jack Woolford, Andy Lawrence, Malcolm Morrison, John Miles, Mike Canter, Clive Maggs, Paul Ferris, Mark Gardner and Neil Miles.

Joe Gardner 770681

Knit-a-Square (KAS) & Mama Ntombi Community Projects (MNCP)

Many of you know I am leaving Purton soon to return to my roots in the Midlands so this is my final update regarding the two charities we have supported in South Africa over the past four and a half years.

During the time the project was running we sent 32,600 squares, 1,964 hats, 2,334 pairs of hand warmers, gloves and mittens, 2,318 toys, 944 jumpers and cardigans, 787 scarves, and 4,688 items of stationery, books, pens, pencils and other educational items along with masses of second hand good quality clothes. This is an astounding total, we certainly have been busy!

The funds left in the kitty have been divided between the two charities. I have been able to send both charities £400 each to help them continue their excellent work with the children. Bernice Seviour is auditing the final accounts as I type this. Thanks Bernice.

I would also like to thank everyone who supported the project, especially the army of knitters and crocheters and all the people who have donated money to get our goods shipped to the two children's charities in South Africa. Our handmade goods have made a huge difference to the lives of many hundreds of orphaned and vulnerable children. Thank you.

Louise Tidman

Purton Methodist Church

On Saturday 2nd March from 10.00am-12 noon we invite you to come along to our church for tea and coffee to see for yourselves what improvements we have made as the work is now complete. We also plan to have a Thanksgiving Service at some time in the near future.

It was a great start to December for us, with our Christmas Coffee Morning on the 1st, followed by the United Service with St Mary's Church and the concert given by Chedworth Silver Band on the 2nd. We made £1,269 from the two fundraising events which will go towards our new PA system. But, it's not always about money, is it? That weekend to us was about a good atmosphere, fun, rapport and generosity. I have no idea how many people were at the Coffee Morning but to me it seemed a lot when I could not get from one room to another in my own house!! The Coffee Morning had a Christmas theme. There were 71 people at our United Service with St Mary's Church and 81 at the Concert.

The United Service, on the first Sunday of Advent, at which we especially remembered United Junior Church and the work undertaken by the churches amongst young people in the area, was led by Rev David Perkins. During the service certificates and rainbow badges were presented to children from United Junior Church who had supported Methodist Mission Work. At the concert, Chedworth Silver Band entertained us with Christmas music and included participation from the audience in the singing of many carols. So we hope this set you up to feel enthusiastic for the days that led up to the 25th and, in the midst of the commercialisation of it all, helped in remembering what Christmas is really all about – the celebration of the birth of Jesus. From all the members of Purton Methodist Church a happy new year and many thanks for your support over the past eighteen months.

Lent Lunches – a note for your diary

We will be having our usual four Lent Lunches this year starting on March 6th (Ash Wednesday) through to March 27th. Although two of our long-standing organisers have stood down, lunches will continue at the same time and with exactly the same format as previous years.

We have a team of ladies who help in various ways, but if there is anyone who would like to be involved we are always pleased to get extra helpers. There will be posters out in the village nearer the time, but for any further information please phone Sylvia on 770686.

Sylvia Freemantle

Purton Village Diary - February 2019

1	F	7.30pm	PADS perform "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Village Hall, see p58. Tickets go on sale for Purton Stoke Charity Ball, taking place at 'Greenacres', Purton Stoke on Saturday 7 September 2019, see Lindsey or Sarah for details.
		8.00pm	Rock and Roll Bingo at the Red House Club
2	Sa	2.00pm	Jumble Sale at the Silver Threads Hall
		2.30pm	and 7.30pm PADS perform "Jack and the Beanstalk" at the Village Hall
		8.00pm	Echo play live at the Red House Club
3	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
6	W	7.30pm	Purton Open Gardens meeting at The Red House
7	Th	10.30am	Communion at The Vicarage
8	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus to Tetbury
		2.00pm	Friendship Club at the Silver Threads Hall
		8.00pm	Race Night at the Red House Club
9	Sa	10.00am	Parish Councillors informal chat with the community, coffee and cake at Pips Community Cafe
		2.00pm	Purton Age Concern Jumble Sale at the Village Hall
10	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's Primary School
12	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus Club meet at the Red House lounge for a talk entitled 'Hear today, gone tomorrow'
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Talk by Ray Rowland at the Silver Threads Hall
13	W	2.30pm	Purton Methodist Women's Fellowship meet at the Methodist Church for a talk entitled 'The work of Action for Children' by Shelagh Hillier
14	Th	11.00am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
16	Sa	10.00am	Pips Community Cafe Seed Swap
17	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's Church and Remembering Anne and Francis Young, formerly of The Pear Tree
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
18	M	2.00pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women meet at the Methodist Church for a talk entitled 'Therapeutic work in Gardening' with Alan Holland
20	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening W.I. meet at the Village Hall for a talk on 'Living with someone who is losing their hearing as they get older' by Libbie Sheppard
22	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus to Cirencester
		2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
23	Sa	8.00pm	Retro play live at the Red House Club

24	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at Ridgeway Farm Primary School
26	Tu	10.00am	Purton & Dirstict Probus Club meet in the Red House lounge for a talk entitled 'Your Country Calls'
		2.00pm	Ashgrove Choir perform at the Silver Threads Hall
		7.30pm	Gardeners' Guild meet at the Silver Threads Hall for a talk on 'Spring planting for Summer Flowering'
27	W	11.00am	Dementia Friend Training session at Pips Community Cafe
28	Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society met at Purton Village Hall for a talk on 'A school boy in the 1930s' by Peter Jinks

Every week

M	7.00pm	to 8.00pm	Purton Village Voices choir practice at the Red House Skittle Alley (term time)
Tu	9.00am		to 11am: Purton Toddler Group at the Village Hall (term time)
	12 noon		Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall for over 60s
	7.30pm		Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am		to 12 noon: Coffee and chat at Silver Threads Hall
	2.00pm		to 5.00pm: Purton Museum open, free of charge (Apr-Nov)
	6.15pm		Purton Youth Club for school years 4-7 at Purton Village Hall
Th	12 noon		Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall for over 60s
	2.00pm		to 3pm: Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
	2.20pm		Pram Service for pre-school children at Purton Methodist Church (term time)
F	10.00am		to 11.30am: Tea, coffee and cake at The Cedars
Sa	10.00am		to 12.30pm: Purton Museum open, free of charge (Apr-Nov)

Every month

1st Wednesday	10.00am	Story Time at Purton Library for pre-school children
2nd & 4th Tuesday		Purton Probus at Red House lounge
2nd Wednesday	(except Aug) 2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church
3rd Monday		St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Purton Methodist Church
3rd Tuesday		Royal British Legion meet at the Red House
3rd Wednesday	2.15pm	Rhyme Time at Purton Library for babies, toddlers and their carers

March

Sa 2	10.00am	Purton Methodist Church open to the community for tea and coffee and a look at our improvement work
Th 14	7.30pm	Purton Surgery Information evening on Sepsis; free tickets available from the surgery from 1 Feb
F 29	7.00pm	Purton Surgery Patient Participation Group quiz night with fish and chip supper at the Silver Threads Hall

If your Club or Organisation's events are not included in the Diary pages, contact Purton Magazine c/o In Touch Design & Print, 2 College Road, Purton, Tel: 772954 or email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk



Carol Service 2018

Students, parents, carers and staff as well as members of the Purton Village Voices Choir and other villagers attended the annual Bradon Forest School Carol Service at St Mary's Church in December. Readings were made by various students and Mrs Dickson, Acting Headteacher. St Mary's Vicar, Revd. Ian Tweedie-Smith, led the service.

There was a variety of musical entertainment both vocal and instrumental. Highlights were the school choir joining the Purton Village Voices choir to sing Angel's Lullaby, Katie Terrett, Head Girl, singing a beautiful solo and our keen guitarist, Aaron Notley-Jones, who played two pieces. There is a short recording of Aaron playing available on the school website.



Autumn Term Fundraising Day

At Bradon Forest each house takes a turn at organising a Charity Day. Battlewell were the first house this academic year and have set the bar high raising over £750 through their efforts on the day and in the lead up with other initiatives.

Lots of different activities took place at lunchtime – Wack A Mole, Sponge the Teacher (thank you Mrs Wiltshire, Mr Duncan and student Jess Donnelly), a sweet grabber machine, teddy bear raffle, guess the number of sweets in a jar, a chocolate raffle, treasure hunt, an eat the most crackers competition and cake sales but the highlight was the 'I'm a Celebrity Head of Year Get Me Out of Here' competition organised by Miss Mazelin. All the tutor groups paid to vote for which Head of House they wanted to undertake the Bush Tucker Trial. Mrs Wiltshire (Head of Battlewell) 'won' the honour and had to eat the delights of ox tongue, cold liver, heart and kidney and brawn (pig's brain in jelly)!

Prior to the day students organised sales of bottle top men, candy cane and secret Santa deliveries. All the money will be donated to Cancer Research UK.

Mrs Wiltshire said, "This was my first House fund raising event since joining Bradon Forest in September. I really enjoyed working with the students to make the event so successful. Thank you to everyone who took part in part in the event."

Winter Poetry Competition

English teacher, Mrs Clark, ran a winter poetry competition last term. She received a lot of fantastic entries. Well done to Nicole O'Leary from 8B2 for her winning entry of Woodland Frost:



The sun waking from its slumber with the larks.
It peeks through the white flaky trees
to find billons and billons of fragile microscopic snowflakes
laying gently together hugging the earth as it's freezing cold blanket.
Crisp leaves as the trees in a freeze solid as the artic winds that blow
A floor so cold as the woodlands ash,
home to the animals that dash
And dive through the forest floor covered with glistening snow.



Blood Brothers

Year 10 Drama GCSE students took to the Bradon Forest Theatre stage last month to showcase extracts from Willy Russell's musical Blood Brothers. It was a fun filled evening where pupils displayed their hard work and dedication over the autumn term showing their growing talents mixed with comedy, singing and tear-jerking drama. A great evening was had by all.

A quote from a parent, "Wow what a performance! Loved the show, the kids did so well. Now I really want to see the full musical. I will definitely be here for the next show, they were great!"

Year 11 interviews

Year 11 students were suited and booted one Friday in December for their mock interviews. Prior to the interviews students had to prepare their CVs. The interviewers gave us feedback on the CVs and how the students had performed in their interviews.



Thanks to these employers for supporting this important event for our Year 11 students: Historic England, Reed, Arval, Cartus, the Army, New College, Cirencester College, Swindon College, Malmesbury School, Siemens, St James's Place, Swindon Radio and Great Western Hospital.



Animal Farm Challenge

English teacher, Mrs Clark, challenged her Year 9 English class to a 'surprise me homework' for their studies of Animal Farm. Mrs Clark received various pieces of work including a song, short films, paintings, sketches and even a model farm! Well done Year 9.

Purton Post Bag



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, these details may be withheld from publication if requested.

Generous gesture

I would like to thank the very kind bearded young man who insisted on buying the birthday card I went to purchase in One Stop, when I realised I'd left my purse at home. It saved an old lady a long walk, I do hope he reads this.

Gill Herbert

Fancy a brew?

We are a group of loyal Purton FC supporters and we are aware that a request has been put forward to re-open the tea bar at the Red House on match days only. The Parish Council has turned this request down which is a real pity when you compare hospitality available at other venues in our league.

We would like the Parish Council to reconsider as we are now in the fourth month of the season with no tea bar, and there's been no sign of it re-opening. We're sure the village would support this request.

Loyal Purton FC Supporters

Thank you generous Purtonians

During November several of us in Purton took on the RunVember challenge...to run or walk or cycle a

particular distance each day (that we chose ourselves) and, during the month we also committed to filling a huge box with items suitable for rough sleepers. Thanks to generous Purtonians I not only filled my box but also six bin sacks full of bedding, coats, jumpers etc. Thank you once again Purton for being so caring and generous.

Libbie Sheppard

In memory of Martin Richell

Martin was a popular and talented Dart player in the Purton and District Darts League, and in the Swindon area, and he was made secretary in September 2014 for the league. A position he held until his passing. Purton Dart committee and members would like to express their gratitude for everything Martin has done for the league and our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Bem Herbert, President

Tony Costello

Thelma and family would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of condolence on Tony's passing, it was so much appreciated. We sent £337.50 to the British Heart Foundation from donations. Our grateful thanks to all at Purton Surgery for so much care.



Christmas lights help fill Age Concern coffers

We would like to thank all those who donated money to our Christmas lights display. £102 was collected which has been forwarded to Purton Age Concern for their second minibus appeal. We hope you enjoyed our display.

Sue and Barry, Vasterne Close



To all of the team at One Stop, Purton

I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your donation of £250 to the 1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group which I received on the 21st December 2018.

It was so kind of the staff at the One Stop to think of the local Scout group when distributing the monies from your fundraising event.

The 1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group currently has 58 young people aged from 6 to 14 years from Purton and the surrounding areas participating in the programmes offered by Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. This donation will help the Group Leaders continue to support these children in learning skills for life in our community by trying new and traditional scouting activities.

*Lucy Normington, Group Treasurer,
1st Purton and Lydiard Scout Group*



We Record ...

18 December 2018 Celebration of the Life of Pauline Ward (96)

On Sunday 17 February during 10.30am morning service at St Mary's Church, we'll be remembering Francis and Anne Young and the contribution they made to the life of Purton while they were living and working at the Pear Tree. All are welcome to come and light a candle in their memory.

Revd Judith Wells



In Memoriam:

4 February 1919 Esaw Hawcutt, 186th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery contracted Peripheral Vascular Disease and was invalided to UK. He died, aged 27, at Cambuslang War Hospital, Glasgow of trench fever and meningitis. He is buried in Milton-Under-Wychwood (SS Simon and Jude) Churchyard.

16 February 1919 Frederick Staley, 1/4th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, attached to the 75th Division in Palestine where he received head wounds. Frederick died, aged 23, in the 1st London General Hospital of those wounds. He was buried in Purton Churchyard on 22 February 1919 under a CWGC headstone and is remembered on the Purton War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.



The other side of the gate

It's now been just over a month since we started milking once a day. It seems the cows got used to it far quicker than I did - I still get a mental alarm trigger that I need to start preparing for evening milking! I'm happy to report no loss in yield and the low yielders (most of them) have increased slightly. I liken it to trying to have a wee when you don't need one... you need the signal to the brain to say open the floodgates! The cows giving 2-5 litres just weren't getting that release signal. We have nearly halved our parlour feed usage (about 5 tonnes at £260 per tonne for December, saving about £1000 - £1200 I reckon). I've had the latest silage analysed as we have some low urea results from the milk tests. We're short of crude

protein in the silage so I may have to up the cake usage and/or maybe get a higher protein parlour cake. We're currently on 21% crude protein. My next load will be due in about 2 weeks' time so we may go to 24% crude protein. Milking is taking slightly longer in the morning (2.5 hours plus 30 minutes cleaning), but with no evening milking we're saving running the vacuum motor for 2.5 hours a day too, plus saving water and chemicals for washing through, teat dip, cloth washing and labour. I still don't seem to have enough time to finish jobs, but as Sarah says, "If you stopped talking to every customer you see, you'd have a few more hours in the day." Unfortunately I can't help it, it's genetic. I am predisposed to talk. It used to drive my father insane. I'm passionate about what we do here and I'm interested to find out why people want to buy from us. I learn new and interesting facts and love to hear what effect our milk is having on people's lives. That's my kick and I'm addicted to it. I'm not a great lover of Christmas – it's not Christmas itself that I can't handle, it's the disruption it causes and the lack of other businesses being able to get things done. It's only two days yet we need to plan our activities over those two days so far in advance! Luckily, this year we had no emergencies and we actually had Christmas Day with loads of help. Laura milked the cows and Rally did the yards. I did go out and tinker about, but it was nice to have the time off. Sarah did a fantastic dinner and Laura and Rally joined us.

We're well into January now and the cows are still enjoying being out, as am I. We've never had them out so late because usually by mid-December the ground is getting too cut up. This year the gateways and around the yard are muddy, but the fields remain very dry. I try to keep them out as long as possible for numerous reasons but the main one being that the sheds they sleep in are too small and the cows aren't comfortable (some can get stuck as they are so big) and it bothers me immensely when they're not comfortable! I can hear them from the bedroom struggling to stand and before we made alterations, I would regularly get up to pull them out. I sleep with one ear open!

This year will see new cow housing and I plan to get them in for the winter at the start of December. The new sheds will be open plan so they can lie down and stand up without hindrance. I'm looking forward to closing that ear!

We're also going to a two block calving system. The reasons we're doing this system instead of our current all year round calving are numerous: it will allow us to concentrate our efforts in predetermined periods designed to make our lives and the lives of the cows easier and maybe, possibly, hopefully, afford us the opportunity to have some time off. I don't think two days off a year is healthy!

The first period for the cows to be served will be from November through to January. This will mean we have calves being born from September to October (6-8 weeks before the planned winter housing date) and these will be our beef bred calves. We hope, weather permitting, they can be born outside in the fields which is cleaner and safer for the cows. These calves will go to market, which will mean we go into winter with no calves on the farm. The shed space will be for cows only and the workload with bedding will be less. If we get it right then most of the cows will be pregnant before they come in for the winter which will mean the cows will be settled. A bulling cow will ride other cows before being ridden herself and this can make a straw bed very dirty, very quickly. We will need to separate those cows out to make sure they don't trample any cows lying down.

The second service period will be between May and August to be calving 9 months later – March to May. These will be dairy replacements (heifer calves) and if we get any bulls we might keep them to grow on for beef. We have an ever-increasing demand for our beef so it makes sense to keep these dairy breeds (Brown Swiss, Fleckvieh, Jersey) as they have little value at market as calves. These calves will be born in the spring so they will stay with their mothers on a calf at foot basis. We will probably separate the calves at night so we can have all the milk in the morning and they can have it in the day. Growth rates are brilliant under this system and you get a much stronger calf that is less susceptible to illness. So that's the plan. I think it will take us a bit of time to get used to it and we've a few alterations to make to get there. Hopefully by spring 2020 it'll be fully implemented. I have just bought activity meters for the cows, which will accurately tell us when the cows are bulling and when the best time is to serve them (to the hour!). This should improve conception

rates and allow us to maintain a tight calving pattern. It's being installed as we speak so I'll let you know how we get on with it.

January has seen our first Fleckvieh calf. Bluey, named as she is a British Blue cross cow that has blue/grey hair, is a very proud mother to Vanessa (Fleckvieh - pronounced Fleck V and shortened to V being short itself for Vanessa - impressed!!). V is a very strong calf that looks more like a Hereford. The breed is dual purpose (beef and dairy) which means they're sturdy (what you girls would call big boned). We're looking forward to watching her grow and her genetics should mean she's A2 too.

We also welcomed another Brown Swiss heifer into the herd. Priscilla is a pretty heifer that came from the same farm as Tammy and some of the other Brown Swiss. We had her DNA tested to make sure she was A2/A2 (fully A2)

milk producing. A2 milk can be digested by everyone, whereas A1 milk can give a few people the same symptoms as lactose intolerance i.e. feeling bloated. She joins Lilac, Toffee, Starch and Fudge. The plan is to get above 80% A2/A2 producing cows in the herd.

As the ground is so dry (believe me when I say we need water and a lot of it before the spring!), I am planning to start the field work as soon as possible. The weather might turn wet and I don't want to miss getting the silage ground chain harrowed like we did last year! Restrop has had a good covering of manure and some is still in clumps. If we smash it up now and pull out the dead thatch in the bottom (although after last year we have more bear patches where the grass died!), it's got time to be dragged down by the worms and deposited at root level. A few more frosts and some rain will help break it down too. It will also be interesting to see what effect the compost we applied has had. The one field by the road is a pleasant dark green so it looks like that might be working in well. I will take soil samples to see. I'm going to be employing techniques over the next few years to improve the soil quality over the whole farm and I'll explain more about that in the coming months. I've a lot to learn, but it's satisfying to be making a difference already.



Jonathan Cook

One Stop Christmas Fundraiser

One again the team at One Stop donned fancy dress to host another successful fundraiser on 15 December.

Father Christmas offered sweets to children, while his elves sold homemade cakes, cheese scones, mince pies and raffle tickets. Staff baked for three days in preparation for the event and there was an array of lovely produce for sale. Thanks must go to the lovely ladies who kindly donated some wonderful homemade items. It took just five hours to completely sell out; what a fantastic result!

£633 was raised on the day. Added to the £37 donated at the till point collection buckets, we were able to give £700 to the community.

Theresa and Pearl delivered a few surprises the following week!

St Mary's Primary School received £200 to go towards new playground equipment.

While Purton and Lydiard Scout Group and Purton Rainbows, Brownies and Guides each received £250 for new equipment.

The element of surprise is a great factor when giving this money in our community and all our recipients were certainly surprised!

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our customers, not only in supporting us on the day, but also for the amount of



raffle prizes donated to us. We even had some lovely knitted items given to us to sell. Everything was much appreciated, thank you all.

This final fundraiser of the year brought our total for the year to £2,450, which considering our target was £700, made us pretty pleased with ourselves. Of course we have a little fun along the way and we hope customers enjoy their visit, especially on fundraiser days.

Our aim at One Stop is to go the extra mile for our customers, not only give them good service, but also to support the community. With your help we hope that this will continue for a long time into the future.

Pearl Lait

The Great War Project

Part 67: Elections and Civil Wars

Britain & Ireland

The Representation of the People Act (1918) was signed into law in February 1918. Its provisions allowed all men over 21 years old the vote. Although women were allowed to vote for the first time, it only included women over 30 years old and who held £5 of property or had husbands who did. It made residency in a specific constituency the basis of the right to vote there – but men who had residence in more than one could register to vote in each. In November 1918, the Parliament (Qualification of Women) Act 1918 was passed, allowing women to be elected into the House of Commons.

Immediately after the Armistice, a General Election was called for the whole of the United Kingdom to be held on 14 December 1918. Because of the delay in collecting votes from men serving overseas, the actual count was held on 28 December. In Britain it resulted in a landslide victory for Lloyd George's coalition government which had replaced Asquith's government in December 1916.

The only woman to be elected to parliament was the Sinn Féin candidate for Dublin St Patrick's, Constance Markievicz. However, she chose not to take her seat at Westminster in line with the abstentionist policy of Sinn Féin. (The first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons was Nancy Astor on 1 December 1919, following a by-election in Plymouth Sutton after her husband resigned the seat.)

The election result was a totally different matter in Ireland. The Irish Parliamentary Party was defeated and retained only 6 out of 105 Irish seats. The overwhelming winner of the election was the nationalist Sinn Féin party with 70% of the seats. Their MPs demanded not only the Home Rule enacted in 1914 (and delayed by the war) but full independence. Sinn Féin set up their own parliament, the Dáil Éireann, and declared Ireland an independent republic. The north of Ireland was still in favour of the union with Great Britain and so Britain passed a Fourth Home Rule Bill in 1920. This was to create two new parliaments, one in Northern Ireland and the other in the South. The Northern Ireland parliament was established in 1921 for the 6 Unionist counties of Ulster.

Meanwhile, the Irish Republican Army (IRA) fought a guerrilla war (Irish War of Independence or Anglo-Irish War) from 1919 to 1921 against the British security forces in Ireland. The conflict started when two members of the armed British police force, the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC), were shot dead on 21 January 1919 in Tipperary by members of the IRA. In September 1919, the British government outlawed the Dáil and Sinn Féin and the conflict intensified with the IRA ambushing

RIC and British Army patrols, attacking their barracks and forcing isolated barracks to be abandoned. The British increased the strength of the RIC with British recruits, the "Black and Tans". Their poor discipline and reprisals against civilians made their presence deeply resented.

A ceasefire was agreed on 11 July 1921 which led to the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 6 December 1921 which ended British rule in the south of Ireland. The south became a self-governing Dominion a year later and was named the Irish Free State. In June 1922, disagreement between republican factions over the political settlement led to an 11-month-long Irish Civil War.

The Russian Civil War

After Imperial Russia collapsed in 1917, power was seized by the Bolshevik party under Vladimir Lenin. With the severe terms of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Germany had taken control of many of the countries formerly in the western part of the Russian Empire including Finland, the Baltic states, White Russia (Belarus) and Ukraine. While the Great War continued, it was in the interests of the Allied Powers to try to get Russia back into the war against Germany. The Allies encouraged monarchist groups and landed armies in Russia towards that cause. The grouping was known as the Whites as opposed to the Bolshevik Reds.

While the Reds controlled Petrograd, Moscow and the land between, the allies landed forces to help the Whites at Murmansk and Archangel in the far north and Vladivostok on the Pacific coast in the east. Britain had also landed armies in Georgia and Azerbaijan in the southern Caucasus to prevent Germany and its Turkish allies from accessing the large oil reserves in the region. A Czech army captured and interned in Siberia had taken over the area, turning the tables on their captors and controlled the centre of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Admiral Alexander Kolchak, the former Lord High Admiral of Russia, had set up a provisional counter-revolutionary government in Ufa, some 700 miles east of Moscow. His government was recognised by the disparate White groups, the Czechs and the Allies. It was funded by gold raided by the Czech Legion from Russia's gold reserves at Kazan which was used to pay for the advances made by the Whites.

Having taken Perm, Kolchak's forces moved forward in April 1919 to Tsaritsyn on the River Volga. With the British advancing from the north, Kolchak was in a position to advance towards Moscow. A coordinated attack by both forces against the Bolsheviks might have been successful but never happened. The Whites lost what might have been their best opportunity to defeat the Bolsheviks. Instead, the Red Army secured Tsaritsyn and began to push the Whites back eastwards. With the Great War won in the west, Britain and the other Allies had little incentive to stay in Russia and withdrew all forces shortly afterwards.

Leon Trotsky, the Communist Military Commissar in the civil war, was willing to accept any help he could get including using ex-tsarist officers to give the inexperienced Red Army the military guidance they lacked. Although Red Army morale was high,

Trotsky knew that it could all evaporate with their first major defeat, so advance was essential. If a commander in Trotsky's army succeeded he was promoted, but if he failed and survived, he paid the price. The Red Army didn't lack recruits: Lenin had ordered that food supplies went first to the soldiers and those behind in the cities would only get what was left.

The Whites on the other hand were an uncoordinated grouping that seldom agreed with one another and, despite Kolchak's lead, had no sole commander at army level. They were also renowned for their ill-treatment of the people in the areas they controlled. With the Whites having no support from the land, nor from the Allies, the Red Army drove Kolchak and his forces back to Siberia. He surrendered to the Communists and died in their custody. White forces in the south of Russia were evacuated from the Crimea from November 1920 on.

The Polish-Ukrainian War of 1920-21 challenged Bolshevik plans in the west. Trotsky's Red Army, freed from problems with the Whites, attacked Poland in support of the Ukraine, broke through the Polish lines and advanced on Warsaw. While the Poles counter-attacked, Lenin decided to cut his losses and signed the Treaty of Riga on 18 March 1921. 10 million Ukrainians and Belarussians ended up under Polish rule. The Russian civil war carried on against groups in the east and south until 25 October 1922, but it was the Treaty of Riga that secured the borders and therefore the future of the Soviet Union government under Lenin.

Rick Dixon

The book of this series, *Purton in the Great War*, is now available – price £15. If you would like to buy a copy, please contact Rick Dixon on 01793 759123 or email rickdixonmail@gmail.com. Profits will go to Combat Stress.

Latest news from Pips Community Café

Seed Swap

We are holding a seed swap in Pips on Saturday 16th February between 10am and 12.30pm. If you have any half packets of seeds or self saved seeds bring them along and see what you can swap them for. If you haven't got any seeds come along anyway and for a small donation to Pips you can get some (assuming that there is a surplus). No charge to swap seeds, but why not stay for a drink and snack?

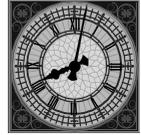
Our opening hours for January will be: 9am-4.30pm Tuesday to Friday and 10am to 2.00pm on Saturday.

Contact us: marnyetteleton@hotmail.co.uk, 01793 772298

The Pips Team



After 8



In December we enjoyed our annual pre-Christmas get-together. Wearing our Christmas jumpers and bright clothing, we all converged at Cathy's house carrying edible goodies for our 'bring and share' supper.

However before sampling these delights we enjoyed singing a variety of carols, very ably accompanied on the piano by Barbara. There was a little straining to get to some of the high notes but all-in-all we managed very well, breaking in parts for some – although there was friendly rivalry as to which part was best!

Santa's sack followed – a kind of reverse secret Santa where everyone brought an anonymous parcel containing an unwanted gift that they had received the previous year. With some trepidation the sack was passed around but the results were very well received – a scarf, scented candles, mugs, a cup and saucer, a torch on a stick (so you could look into dark corners!), an umbrella and a purse and gloves to name just a few.

Then it was supper time when we thoroughly enjoyed the wide array of delicious food and drink.

Our grand finale was a compilation of Christmas music, a duet on the piano played by Barbara and Marion. They had obviously been practicing hard, as it was splendid!

Our next meeting in the New Year is at Barbara's where we will scratch our brain's over a quiz led by Helen.

Christine Gill

Purton FC

Sadly, in December all the bad weather meant that the club had no matches at all, all fixtures falling victim to waterlogged grounds, both at home and away. Currently the team lie in mid table after getting back to play on the 5th of January when they shared the points in a 1-1 draw at the Red House with local rivals Cricklade Town, with Jack Duckers netting our goal and Luke Kuckynski saving a penalty for us. Three difficult matches now follow against good sides.

The club have signed up a couple more players and another that was with the club last season and has now returned, hopefully to improve co-managers Neil Lee and Liam Lewis.

Sadly we were knocked out of the Wilts Senior Cup by Westbury United First XI (who compete two divisions above us) in our tie played on their ground. With half the season now completed the management team are pushing the team to gain more consistency in their play, if they do that then they will certainly improve their league placing. Thanks to all the locals supporting the team, your attendance at games is really appreciated by everyone at the club.

Alan Eastwood, President/Hon sec/Press & programmes

PADS presents

Directed by
Caroline Nadin
& Lynda Wright



Jack

and
the

BEANSTALK

by Damon Traylor
David Lowery &
Steve Clark

31st January

1st & 2nd February

at

Parton Village Hall

Curtains up 7.30pm

Motinee 2.30pm (2nd February)

Tickets

Adults £8

Concessions £6

Children £5

Tickets from:

Flawless Floors

Parton Library

770140 - 771890 - 771442





A Book I will Always Remember

Have you read a book that you will always remember, either recently or many years ago, serious or funny, fact or fiction? Each month we are publishing a review of a book that has meant a lot to a particular reader, especially the reason why it was so memorable. Purton Magazine readers are encouraged to send in a personal review of their favourite book; it need not be very

long. As usual, the copy deadline is the 10th of the preceding month and our contact details are on Page 4.

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

One of the many lovely things about having children of your own is that it presents you with the opportunity to read, once again, cherished books from your own childhood. Books that make a lasting impression and that, as you re-read them, bring back memories created by experiencing the story for the very first time. One such book, for me, is *Charlotte's Web*.

A beautiful story of friendship, trust, bravery and unfaltering loyalty. The easy, descriptive text evokes images of the surroundings in an old barn and revealing the characters of the animals; the sheep, geese, Templeton the rat, of course Wilbur the pig and his heroic and clever best friend Charlotte the spider, and the relationship between them.

There is so much that I love captured in this book; the seasons, the countryside, the special bond between humans, animals and even the smallest of creatures, bravery, courage and the ability to find friends where you might least expect it.

Charlotte's brilliance is demonstrated through her skill, courage, kindness and understanding of the circle of life, and all that involves, and the opportunity and newness that change often brings.

My children and I love the dialogue between the lamb and Wilbur where, in summary, conversation centres around whether anything can be less than nothing "if there were something that were less than nothing, then nothing would not be nothing", it reflects the type of conversations we frequently have in our house.

The message of this wonderful story, that I hope stays with my children, is that friendship is one of the most important and satisfying things in life and that spiders should be given the utmost respect – with the amount of cobwebs on our ceilings this is certainly the case in our home!

Jeni Burchell

Purton Evening W.I.

I am sat here yet again on deadline day at 8.30pm writing this article. Why oh why do I always do this... ah yes that's because I work full-time and I'm a wife and mother.

That said, I always make time once a month for our WI meeting as it's time for me to enjoy something different, learn something new and meet likeminded people.

We are going through a period of change and are actively looking for new members to join our WI. This will ensure that we keep going long into the future. We are now up and running again on Facebook so please do give us a like and see what we have been up to.

By the time this article has gone to print I am hopeful that I will have finished the new look website as well. The website address will be www.purtoneveningwi.com Why not check it out? I would love your feedback, good or bad.

So, it's February and we are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 15th February at Silver Thread Hall (7.30pm, tickets £6.50 available on the door) with the infamous Len as our quiz master. Cheese, wine and puddings available. We really do hope you can join us for a fun evening. I wish you all the luck in the world, I am so rubbish at quizzes, so I will be helping rather than trying to answer questions!

Want to know more about us? Look us up on Facebook, take a look at our website above or email us at purtoneveningwi@hotmail.com. Looking forward to meeting you soon.

Lynn Mayneord



Our village magazine is distributed to households and local retailers within Purton and surrounding communities. To promote your business in a display advertisement please email: advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk or call 01793 772954. Community and not-for-profit organisations can publicise their events free of charge.

2019 Annual rates to advertise in 12 consecutive issues: Eighth of a page £100, Quarter page £200, Half page £400. 10% discount for prompt payment, rates for fewer issues also available.

We welcome submissions for publication in the next edition from the local community and from readers further afield. Copy deadline is the 10th of each month. Please email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

If you would like to become a Purton Magazine subscriber, please contact Sandra Horsnall, distribution co-ordinator, tel: 01793 770157 or email: distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton Historical Society

Thursday 28 February 2019 at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall – CHANGE OF SUBJECT

Due to changes in the personal circumstances of Stephen Wells, he is unfortunately no longer available to talk on 'The Life and Crimes of Jack the Ripper'. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this cancellation.

We have now arranged for Peter Jinks, a very well liked and respected local speaker, to present a talk on 'A School Boy in the 1930s'. Peter will relate his own experiences supported by an assortment of memorabilia, including models, postcards, cigarette cards etc.

Thursday 28th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Purton Village Hall

AGM followed by Lincoln Cathedral: from Birth to Death and Beyond - Kate Maddison

Proposed Spring Lecture 2019

The Society has discussed the possibility of organising a short course of lectures in conjunction with the Workers' Education Association.

It has been arranged for a 'free of charge taster lecture' to be held on Wednesday 20th March 2019. The proposed subject is Pevsner* Buildings of England and Purton Local Area.

*The Pevsner Architectural Guides are a series of guidebooks about the architecture of Great Britain and Ireland. Begun in the 1940s by the art historian Sir Nikolaus Pevsner, the 46 volumes of the original Buildings of England series were published between 1951 and 1974.

The meeting will commence at 7.30pm in the Silver Threads Hall. Full details of how to register for the lecture will be given in the March magazine. Further details can be obtained from Mrs Marion Hobbs. New Members and visitors always welcome

Janet & Tony Neate, E mail: tjneate57@gmail.com, Telephone: 01793 770117

Museum Winter closure and grand re-opening

The Museum is now closed for the winter months. The Grand Opening will be on Saturday 6th April 2019 when new displays will be on show.

PHS Annual outing

Outing to Gloucester Cathedral and Boat Trip on Saturday 22 June 2019. Details to follow

Mrs Marion Hobbs Tel: 01793 770185, email: roy.marion@btinternet.com

We welcome submissions for publication in the next edition of *Purton Magazine* from the local community and from readers further afield. Copy deadline is the 10th of each month. Please email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton Placard

PURTON SILVER THREADS

Jumble Sale

Saturday 2 February, 2.00pm
at the Silver Threads Hall

PURTON SURGERY PPG

Information Evening on Sepsis

Thursday 14 March, from 7.30-9pm
at Purton Surgery. Free tickets will be
available from the Surgery from
1st February 2019.

Quiz Evening with Fish and Chip Supper

Friday 29 March, 7pm for 7.30pm start,
Silver Threads Hall, Purton

Bring your own drinks and glasses.
Teams of six, tickets at £9 each will be
available from the beginning of February.

World
Challenge

NIBBLES AND
LICENSED
BAR!



CASH PRIZE!
AND
RAFFLE

QUIZ NIGHT RETURNS!

PURTON VILLAGE HALL, FRIDAY 22ND MARCH
7.30PM START (DOORS OPEN 7PM)

£2 PER PERSON UP TO 6 IN A TEAM

BEN AND SAMANTHA'S WORLD CHALLENGE
TO TANZANIA

PLEASE CONTACT:

LORRAINE HOWSE: 07729 906916

RACHEL WOODS: 07585 323141

PURTON BABY &
TODDLER GROUP

Ladies' Cheese & Wine Evening

#morewinethancheese

Friday 15 February at 7.30pm 'til late
at Purton Village Hall. Breeze will be
playing and there will be a raffle with
great prizes! All funds raised support
the village toddler group. For tickets
please contact Alice Hart 07814 007681
or Dawn Pursall 07793 472103, also
available from Purton Parish Council.

PURTON METHODIST CHURCH

Invite you for coffee, tea and biscuits

on Saturday 2 March
10.00am - 12 noon
to see our refurbishment project which is now complete.

Bradon Forest School



Spring Open Morning

Friday 8 March 2019

9.15am—10.30am

Families with children in Years 4, 5 and 6 are invited to see our school during the working day. Book your FREE tickets on:

tinyurl.com/BradonForest2019



bradonforest.org.uk

PIPS COMMUNITY CAFE

Seed Swap

Saturday 16 February 10am-12pm

Swap half packets of seeds or self-saved seeds. If you haven't got any seeds come along, for a small donation to Pips you can buy some. No charge to swap seeds, but why not stay for a drink and snack?

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Jumble Sale

Saturday 9 February, 2.00pm
at Purton Village Hall. Bargains galore!

Groups are invited to submit forthcoming events in, for, and on behalf of the community Email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton and District Probus Club



The Annual President's Lunch was held on 4th December at the Wiltshire Hotel, Golf & Leisure Complex, Royal Wootton Bassett. The Guest of Honour was Mr John Parker, the President of the RWB Probus Club. Fifty-three members and their guests attended. Hector McLean our President, welcomed everyone and congratulated the club on 30 years of continuous activity since its inauguration in 1988, as The Church Hill Probus Club. (When we moved to The Red House Club in 1999, we became The Purton & District Probus Club.) He thanked the committee members individually for their input during an encouraging past year, in particular, Trevor Domm for his work as General Secretary and Brian Gill for a full programme of speakers. Hector closed with a couple of amusing Glaswegian jokes and expressed his pleasure in looking forward to some interesting meetings in the coming year. Trevor, with the help of Anne Marie arranged a very festive lunch with crackers, coffee and mince pies. Everyone enjoyed an excellent social occasion.

Our speaker on the 11th of December was the retired aero-engineer Mel James from Tetbury. His subject was the Breitling Orbiter 3; the story of the first non-stop circumnavigation of the Earth by a hot air balloon. Whilst engaged in organising BA/MoD aspects of the annual Air Tattoo at Fairford, Mel was approached by Kevin Schneider, a member of the Breitling family, (founders of the Swiss Watch Company), to look into the possibility of an aerial display team to promote the Breitling Company. However, another project at Breitling was more in keeping with Mel's career and experience in reliability engineering. He was offered the chance to join the Research and Development team working with Bertrand Piccard and Brian Jones, the Project Manager, on the Balloon Programme. Mel joined the team shortly before the launch of Breitling Orbiter 2 (28th January 1998), which, although it took the distance record, did not go all the way around, being forced down in Burma. All attempts to circumnavigate the World in a balloon have to be made when the jet-streams, at altitudes between 30,000 & 50,000 feet, are at their fastest which can be 100 – 130 mph. The next opportunity would be early in 1999.

The Breitling Orbiter 3 was a 55metre high hot air balloon of nylon fabric, enclosing, toward the top, a closed spheroidal cell of helium filled to 47% of its total capacity to allow expansion. Above was a smaller cell to assist control of altitude with a fan mounted between the two cells and powered by solar panels. The fan could be used to cool the helium cell whenever solar radiation threatened overheating. The pressurised carbon-fibre capsule suspended below, 17 ft long and 10 ft in diameter, was accessed at the top, had a forward window and a pressurised waste disposal unit. When pressurised at altitude, air within the capsule had to be continually scrubbed to eliminate CO₂. Six propane fuel burners warmed the helium at night while a system of insulation and vents reduced the effect of solar heating during the day. The propane gas was contained in 28 cylinders, mounted in two rows along either side of the gondola. As the fuel was used up, the cylinders would be jettisoned.

Solar power was supplemented by light-weight lead-acid and solid batteries.

By mid-1998, Andy Elson, Dr Piccard's co-pilot in Orbiter 2 had defected to join the Cable & Wireless Balloon, competing for the same record. Elson & Colin Prescott Launched on 17th February 1999. Piccard needed a co-pilot who could fix things in flight. Brian Jones would have to take crash courses in navigation & meteorology. Piccard and Jones launched from Chateau d'Oex, Switzerland, at dawn, 1st March, two weeks after Cable & Wireless. Slow winds carried them southwest to Mauritania, where the jet stream began to carry them east. Over Libya they descended to 10,000ft to knock ice from the Gondola and clean the observation window. Over the Yemen they had to divert south to avoid trouble. On March 4th the BBC reported that Andy Elson's Balloon had ditched just west of Japan. Andy had backed the wrong horse. After good progress across India, Orbiter 3 took 9 days to cross China, following an exclusively permitted route just south of the 26th parallel. Alan Noble, an executive of Cameron Balloons, supervising from Ground Control in Geneva, then indicated that in 3 days, a high, fast-moving jet stream across the longer southerly route of the Pacific, which had not yet appeared, would be the best option. The forecast was accurate. The jet stream carried them over the Pacific, Mexico and the Atlantic. After 19 days, 21 Hours and 47 minutes, they crossed the finishing line over the Western Sahara, accomplishing an average speed of 59.5 mph for the total journey. They decided that, being over bandit country, they would try to make it to Egypt. Early the following morning, after some trouble in re-lighting the burners, they regained control and put down safely in Egypt with all fuel tanks showing 'empty'. Mel's talk covered the diverse technical & engineering requirements, the training & logistics, as well as the international co-operation and meteorological expertise required for this unique adventure. Mel was obviously proud to have played an important part in it, and held our attention throughout.

Purton and District Probus meet in the Red House lounge at 10am, every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Programme for February 2019: 12th Hear Today Gone Tomorrow, 26th Your country calls. Visitors and prospective new members welcome.

Bob Stevens

A Plastic Ocean

As part of the Waste Free Feb campaign launched by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, there will be a free film screening of A Plastic Ocean, we would love for you to join us and become inspired to live with less plastic waste on Wednesday 6th February at 6 for a 7pm start at the Methodist Church Hall, Royal Wootton Bassett. Warm food will be available on the evening and local stalls will be on hand to showcase their greener living products.

Keep up your New Year's resolution and sign up for the Mad March Hare!



Looking for your first challenge of 2019? Look no further, entry is open for this year's Mad March Hare in aid of Breast Cancer NOW. Sign Up and keep training to take part in the fun event in West Swindon which welcomes people of all ages and abilities to get out and enjoy taking exercise. Come on your own or bring your family or friends or your dog to walk, jog or run the 5km or 10km circular route of West Swindon and Lydiard Park.

The Mad March Hare will take place on Sunday 24th March 2019, starting and finishing at Lydiard Park Academy.

Esther Newman, part of the Mad March Team said "the event which is in its 12th year has raised over £100,000 so far and we hope to make 2019 another successful year. The event is one of a kind, it appeals to all ranges and abilities and ages and we are very proud to be part of so many personal journeys as they take on either the 5k or 10k for charity. Without the support of the Swindon community we would not be in our 12th year and we want to thank each and every person who has ever taken part and we hope you will join us again this year to make it our best year yet!"

To take part or volunteer at the event please log on to www.madmarchhare.org.uk/, email at info@madmarchhare.org.uk or call 0845 6808064.

Follow us on Twitter (@MadMarchHareSWN) or Facebook www.facebook.com/madmarchhareswindonbreakthroughbreastcancer

To raise money to run the event the annual curry night will be held on Monday 4th February at 7pm! The team invite you to join them to enjoy a delicious 2 course buffet at Lالبagh Indian Cuisine for just £15 per person. This is a popular social event with many diners coming back time and time again. There will of course be a fundraising raffle and great prizes. Please get in touch if you cannot come along but would like to donate a prize for our raffle, that would also be great! The Lالبagh restaurant is located at 171 Rodbourne Road, Swindon and anyone interested can book online at www.madmarchhare.org.uk or contact Info@madmarchhare.org.uk, telephone: 0845 6808064 or Info@lالبaghswindon.co.uk, telephone: 01793 535577.

Prospect Hospice

The memory tree

Remember those who hold a special place in your heart this Valentine's.

The Prospect Hospice Memory Tree, situated within their private Remembrance Garden in Wroughton, provides individuals with an opportunity to create a memorial tribute for a loved one. Each copper or stainless steel leaf hanging on the Memory Tree is engraved with a name, making it a poignant and lasting way to remember.

The Memory Tree leaves are available to anyone who would like to create that

special tribute to their loved one, even if you have not previously been directly involved with Prospect Hospice. The contribution you make for your leaf will help Prospect Hospice to support and care for people affected by a life limiting illness, across our community.

To find out more about the Memory Tree and how you can order a leaf please visit Prospect Hospice Remembrance Garden, contact 01793 816111 or email dataadmin@prospect-hospice.net.

Prospect Hospice Spring Run 5k and 10k

Sunday 17th March 2019, Stanton Country Park, Swindon. Registration: £15 Suggested sponsorship: £100. Our brand new 10km and 5km routes will cover woodland, farmland and rough track - a great event for regular runners and those looking to up their distance or try off-road running. To register visit: www.prospect-hospice.net/product/spring-run/

Make a brew, make a difference!

Bake a cake and put the kettle on! Invite your family, friends, colleagues, neighbours or the general public for a cuppa and a slice of cake in return for a donation, and help support the care and services we provide. Something as simple as a brew and a slice of cake could raise enough to pay for 24 hours of care for a patient on our In-Patient Unit. So, go on, make a brew, make a difference! www.prospect-hospice.net/makeabrew or call 01793 816161.

The Feel Good-a-thon!

Start the New Year with a fresh challenge to make you feel good! If you're thinking of trying something new, want to give something up or just want to spend some quality time with friends and family; Prospect Hospice wants to hear from you. Our Feel Good-a-thon is our annual fundraiser to encourage people to do something that makes them feel good, and raise some money to help our patients feel as good as they can.

There are so many different ways you can get involved, if you wish to take on a Feel Good-a-thon challenge or would like more information then please contact us on fundraisingandevents@prospect-hospice.net or call us on 01793 816161.

Could you become one of our box collectors?

We are currently looking for volunteers to become box collectors in the Covingham, Brinkworth, Wootton Bassett, Lydiard, Old Town, Penhill and Highworth areas. Our collectors are an important part of our volunteering team, collecting household boxes within their neighbourhoods. Household boxes are an easy way for people in our community to donate to the hospice, and box collectors enable us to continue to raise funds in this way. If you are able to help, or would like some more information on this role, please contact Alex on 01793 816163, or email alexandracooper@prospect-hospice.net. Thank you for your continued support of our work.

Hollie Ricketts, Community Fundraiser
