

Purton. Magazine

November 2017



Villagers gather for the dedication of Purton War Memorial in 1920. The 2017 Service of Remembrance takes place at the same venue on Sunday 12 November at 2.30pm.

Image: Bob Lloyd/Purton Museum.

50p

Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Sugery	770207
Dental Sugery	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
Purton Age Concern	Louise Tidman	772558
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

Schools & Playgroups

Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	07759 583566
Pear Drops Pre-School	Sarah Grigg	978536
<i>(formerly Under 5s')</i>		
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239

Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

For information about services, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine.

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 *For information about services in Purton, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine. Braydon: Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship*

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

Parish Priest: Tel: 852366

Revd Father Lucas Rodrigues

Parish Deacon: Revd Terry Aspell Tel: 325681

Services: Holy Mass Sunday 11.00am. Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am. Fri 7.00pm

Catholic Church - St Mary's Church, High St, Cricklade

Priest: Father Michael Robertson Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church

Services: Holy Days 7.0pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.

Contents

10 Years Ago	45	Knit-a-square	39
A Book I will always Remember.....	50	Lifting the roof on St Mary's.....	32
Advertiser Index.....	66	Lydiards Link	35
After 8	30	Mad March Hare.....	33
Age Concern.....	12	Methodist Church	39
Age Concern Minibus	16	Parish Council News	6
Amateur Dramatics (PADS).....	32	Patient Participation Group.....	20
Appeal for woodland.....	28	Prayer for Purton	45
Bradon Forest School.....	40	Probus Club.....	58
Chedworth Silver Band concert.....	57	Profferings	28
Church floodlighting.....	44	Purton Artists Exhibition.....	51
Crib Festival.....	66	Purton Contacts.....	3
Cricklade Band	24	Purton Horticultural Show.....	23
Cricklade Country Market.....	66	Purton & District Luncheon Club	45
Cricklade Revealed	66	Purton Placard.....	48
Defibrillator Awareness session.....	24	Purton Postbag (letters).....	46
Diary Pages	36	Royal British Legion.....	19
Food Festival	27	RWB Arts Festival.....	39
Gardeners' Guild	62	Scout Christmas Post.....	44
Girl Guiding in Purton	65	Shoebox News	39
Great War Project.....	52	St Mary's Primary School	29
Guide Dogs.....	38	Tennis Club.....	47
Harvest Festival.....	23	Views from Purton walks	38
Health & Wellbeing Champion.....	20	We Record.....	33
Historical Society.....	34	Wiltshire Sight.....	27

Purton. Magazine

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INTouch
Design & Print

From the Editors

Our plan is that copies of this November issue will, as usual, be available for distribution over the last weekend of the previous month. With that in mind, readers may either be preparing for – or have just experienced – an extra hour in bed as the clocks go back this weekend.

Some see the Autumnal changing of the clocks as the final nail in the coffin of summery pretences, even if we have been enjoying the acceptably mild weather recently. As we stumble into November, the usual array of local events and activities come round again for our enjoyment.

The first is the always well-organised Scouts Firework and Bonfire Specular on Saturday 4th November is Lydiard Park. It has become a mammoth undertaking over so many successful years, yet each year the increasing crowds are sensitively managed and marshalled by perhaps 100 and more Scout Leaders and helpers. It really is a spectacular way to start the winter period and more details can be found on page 7.

Just as regularly, the Purton Artists' annual Exhibition is staged in the Village Hall over the following weekend, from Friday 10 to Sunday 12 and more details are on page 51. The exhibition never seems to disappoint with amazing displays of craft and creativity from such a wide variety of different people in the village. It is rather exciting to see such levels of originality that can lie silently within our community.

Into those – and other – regular Autumnal community events is a very special talk being given in St. Mary's church about lifting the church roof, well part of it at least! On Thursday 9 November at 7.30, Dr Jonathan Foyle will be giving an illustrated talk, describing medieval symbolism and building behind the architecture of our Grade 1 listed church. He is uniquely qualified in this subject having written books about the architecture of many major church buildings including Canterbury and Lincoln cathedrals. Although tickets are free, the event has been organised to help raise funds towards the cost of repairing the Chancel roof and refreshments will be available – see page 32 for further details.

In closing, it seems impossible not to mention Christmas in any November editorial. On page 44 you will find that the Swindon Scout Christmas Card Delivery Service area includes Highworth and Royal Wootton Bassett for a 30p stamp which compares with the cheapest 56p Post Office stamp.

30+
Years of the Purton
Artists' Exhibition
– see page 51

44th
Edition of the Purton
Historical Society
Bulletin – see page 35

51%
Of the sun's heat is
absorbed by land and
sea – see page 58

Purton Parish Council News



Become a Dementia Friend and make Purton a Dementia Friendly Community

Purton Parish Council is working with various agencies including the Purton Doctors Surgery, Alzheimer's Society and the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board to bring awareness and support to Dementia sufferers and their carers in the local Community. We will be holding several dates for Dementia Friends Session and the next two are:

Monday 6 November 2017 at 12 noon and Wednesday 22 November at 4.00pm or 7.00pm at the Village Hall Purton. 40 minutes of your time to make a huge impact on other peoples lives.

Councillor Surgery

Saturday 2 December 2017, 10am - 12 noon at Purton Village Hall, Station Road – Councillors will be available to talk to residents regarding issues that matter. Come along have a coffee and slice of cake and meet your Councillors.

Website Queries

Have you registered to receive notification from our website on areas of interest? Are you receiving them ? If not there maybe an issue with your details. Contact us direct to gain more information and keep-in-touch.

Remembrance Sunday road closure

Please be advised that the road will be closed on Sunday 12th November 2017 from 2.15 to 3.45 from the High Street (opposite the Library) to the junction with the Peak and College Road. This will allow the annual procession and remembrance service to commence. Thank you in advance for your patience and co-operation in this matter.

Footpaths

What better way to remember a loved one than donating a gate in their memory for inclusion in one of the many designated footpaths around the village. For more information contact the Parish Council offices, or email admin@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk.

St Mary's Churchyard

As part of ongoing maintenance the Church and Parish Council are reviewing the maintenance schedule for the trees within the Churchyard. If you have a grave that you regularly attend and feel that neighbouring trees or shrubbery is causing issue please contact the Parish Council so we can include your comments in the proposed works.

Churchyard Volunteers

Do you have some spare time ? Would you like to work with the Church wardens in ensuring the basic upkeep of the Churchyard ? For more information please contact Paul Dempsey on paul.dempsey@live.co.uk or the Clerk.

Cemetery Memorial Testing

Please be advised that under the Local Authorities Cemeteries Order 1977 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Purton Parish Council will be testing memorials for safety in Purton Cemetery week commencing Monday 29th January 2018 for one week. There will be no interruptions to normal access or service. Any questions or queries during this period please speak to the Clerk.

Charities

Don't forget now that Christmas is around the corner, you can support the Village Hall charity by registering as below – every penny counts.

We have set up a “GIVEASYOULIVE” site for the Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity which once subscribed allows donations to be generated through online shopping. No fees, no charges, free to register. Please take a look, share the link between family and friends and lets raise some pennies. <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/>

Welcome a Councillor

Purton Parish Council is pleased to welcome a newly co-opted Councillor, Mrs Julie Ann Hurwood effective from Monday 9th October 2017. We still have 3 vacancies if anyone wishes to join the Council.

Councillors 2017-18

Chairman of Council/Staff Sub/ Ray Thomas 01793 951520

Finance & General Purposes/Charities

Vice Chair of Council	Elizabeth Wilson	01793 771854
Chair of Planning	Geoff Greenaway	01793 771140
Councillor	Scott Harflett	07920 260222
Councillor	Helen Hicks	01793 778207
Chair of Burials	Neil Hooper	01793 771066
Councillor	Kevin Law	07768 456989
Councillor	Sue Matthews	01793 771091
Chair of Play Areas	Vicky McKerrow	01793 778190
Councillor	Matt Rogers	01793 771066
Councillor	Jamie Hurwood	01793 771066
Councillor	Julie Ann Hurwood	01793 771066

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 etc 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 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 the 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 chezneymb@hotmail.com or Debbie Lawrence on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk or call the office on 01793 771066.

Planning - Considered by Wiltshire Council

Granted Applications, approved with conditions:

17/06101/VAR 3 Witts Lane. Variation of condition 11 of 15/12096/FUL relating to sustainable development.

17/06678/FUL Brewery Cottage, New Road. Rear and Front extensions. .

17/07346/FUL Willow Barn, Bagbury Lane. Proposed single storey to family room and bed room with associated works.

Fieldview Cottage, 39A Witts Lane. Proposed rear single storey extension.

17/08142/TCA College Farm House, High Street. 2 Metre crown reduction to 3 Beech Trees (T1, T2, & T3) No Objection.

17/07291/FUL Hurstead Farm, Cricklade Road. Retrospective extension of existing agricultural livestock housing.

Refused Applications

17/06939/CLE Land adj. to 3 Hayes Knoll. Purton Stoke. Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of two buildings and outside area for the storage of building materials and equipment.

How to contact the Parish Council

Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.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 away 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 the above media sites please contact the Clerk on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk or call 771066. Find us on Facebook - Purton Parish Council, Twitter - @PurtonPC

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

Purton & District Age Concern



I will start this month's report with a request from Tony Price. If anyone has borrowed one of our Age Concern wheelchairs and it is no longer required please can you contact Tony on 770696 to arrange its return, thank you.

Our 2018 Calendars are proving popular. The calendars contain 13 photos taken by local people of scenes around the village and all the dates for Age Concern monthly outings, events and fundraising functions for next year. Have you guessed where all the photos were taken? If not, don't worry, all will be revealed in next month's magazine. The Calendars cost £5.00 each and are available at Andrew Hiscock Family Butchers, Shear Success hairdresser, Hair by Val and the Red House or by contacting Louise on 772558 or Tony on 770696.

We are now also selling packs of Christmas cards using two of the photos from our calendar. The photos are Ringsbury Camp in Winter (Feb) and St Mary's Church (Dec). Each pack of cards costs £3.50 and contains 10 cards and envelopes. Please contact Louise on 772558 or Tony on 770696 if you would like to purchase a pack or two. Artworking Ltd have made a lovely job of printing the cards.

Some of you may have seen our new bench on Station Road. We are very grateful to Brian Wheeler for his assistance installing the bench and to Tony for the time he spent staining the bench ready for installation.

I'm sorry to tell you we recently heard we have lost another good supporter of Purton Age Concern, Vi Kemble. Vi was one of our original street wardens in Dogridge many years ago. She was always very efficient and supported us at many of our functions. We offer her family our deepest sympathy.

During November and December we will be selling our Christmas raffle tickets. If you would like to purchase raffle tickets please contact your street warden as they will have tickets to sell or telephone Louise on 772558 or Tony on 770696. Donations of prizes for the Christmas raffle draw will be much appreciated. Thank you.

At the end of November we will be decorating Silver Threads Hall and the Village Hall. Mick, our chairman and his friends will be putting the Christmas tree and lights on the Institute building and the first of our two Christmas parties will take place at the Silver Threads Hall. Also, our street wardens will be delivering your Christmas vouchers and newsletters. The vouchers can be spent between 1st - 31 December 2017. Next month I will include a list of outlets where your vouchers can be spent.

The committee would like to thank all street wardens in advance for the time and effort they put into delivering vouchers to all pensioners in our area. If you think you may be eligible to receive a Christmas Voucher please contact Louise on 772558.

In December we will be holding our main Christmas party at the Village Hall and Christmas market stall outside the Pavenhill shops.

Our final event of 2017 will be Carols under the Christmas tree at 7pm on Christmas Eve, mince pies and punch will be served during the interval. This is our way of thanking everyone in the village for supporting us throughout the year.

Finally, tickets for our Burn's Night Celebration at the Village Hall on Saturday 20th January 2018 are now on sale.

For full details of all these events please read the future events section.

Future Events

Minibus outings on 2nd and 4th Fridays in November - On Friday 10 November one of our minibuses will be going to Marlborough for the morning, leaving the village at 9.00am and returning at about 12.30pm. On Friday 24th October the minibus will go to Cirencester, again leaving the village at 9am, returning at about 12.30pm. For more information and to book your place please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

Christmas Raffle - Tickets will be on sale in November and December for our annual Christmas raffle. We usually have between 40-50 prizes, including a large hamper as first prize, bottles of wine and spirits, chocolates, festive items and much more. Tickets cost 20p each, or £1.00 for a book of 5 tickets and will be available from your street wardens or by contacting Louise on 772558 or Tony on 770696. The draw will take place on Tuesday 12 December at 7.30pm in the Silver Threads Hall during our committee meeting. Winners will be informed as soon as possible after the draw.

Christmas Party - On Saturday 25 November from 3pm-5pm at the Silver Threads Hall we will be holding our smaller Christmas party. The cost is £3.00. Wheelchair users are very welcome and there is no charge for carers. Entertainment this year will be provided by Paul on his ukulele. Please contact your street warden to book your place by Wednesday 15 November. We look forward to welcoming you to this lovely festive afternoon. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

Christmas Party - Our main Christmas party this year is on Saturday 2 December from 5pm-8.30pm at the Village Hall. The cost is £6.00. Due to popular demand Tony M will be providing the entertainment again this year. Please contact your street warden to book your place before Wednesday 22nd November. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

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

Carols under the tree on Christmas Eve - This will take place on Monday 24 December at 7pm under the Christmas tree outside the Institute Building. Mark

Blackwell and his musicians will provide the music, so come along and join in the carol singing. Mince pies and punch will be served during the interval. Grateful thanks go to Sheila for supplying the punch again this year.

Burns Night Celebration 2018 - This will take place on Saturday 20th January 2018 at the Village Hall, doors open at 6.30pm. The evening includes a three course meal, dancing with a live band and caller and drinks available at the bar. The cost is £20 per person, tickets are available from Jenny Barnes on 770339. Tickets started selling in October so if you don't want to be disappointed please contact Jenny as soon as possible.

Past Events

September Mystery Tour - Numbers were a little lower than usual for this outing but those that went along enjoyed an excellent meal with delicious food, plenty of cakes and cups of tea. A very pleasant afternoon outing.

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.

Tai Chi - Would you like to improve your balance and posture and reduce your risk of falls? Are you age 50+? If you have answered yes to these questions why not join the Tai chi class held at 2pm on Thursday afternoons at the Millennium Hall in Purton. The group is run by Steve Rouse, a qualified Tai chi instructor. We practice a gentle form of Tai chi called Qigong which is ideal for people with balance problems, some of the moves can be done while sitting down. The cost is £3 per session.

If you would like further information please contact Louise on 772558 or come along on at 2pm on a Thursday afternoon to meet the friendly group of participants.

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

Minibuses - Please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 if you would like to book the minibus. If you are thinking of volunteering as a driver or "shotgun" (driver's assistant) on the minibuses please contact Andy White the minibus secretary on 771656 or email him at andywhitepacmb@gmail.com (New volunteers are always welcome.)

Friendship Club - The Friendship Club is run by the Silver Threads committee and meets monthly in the Silver Threads Hall. Please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339 for more information. The next meeting will be on Friday 3rd November from 2pm-4pm and costs 50p which includes tea/coffee/biscuits. If you need transport please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place on the minibus.

Fit Steps FAB Dance Class - If you like Ballroom and Latin dancing and want to get fit why not try the Fit Steps dance classes held on Fridays from 4.30pm-5.30pm in the Village Hall. All ages are welcome and a dance partner is not required. For more information please contact Joanne Edwards on 01793 325341 or just turn up at the Village Hall at 4.30pm on Fridays.

LOUISE TIDMAN

Mrs. Hazel Woodbridge - minibus co-ordinator

We all know what a good service our minibuses give to the elderly of our village and a little bit beyond, like the Lydiard Lunch Club each Wednesday. All the trips do not just happen, they have got to be co-ordinated together with a driver and a shotgun. We are so lucky to have a person who puts all this together very pleasantly and efficiently, often stepping into the breach herself when all other efforts fail as well as having her regular trips which she fits in. We have all known what a great asset Hazel is to Purton and District Age Concern and, of course, to the village, since becoming the co-ordinator of our minibuses. I can honestly say that, since Hazel has taken on this position we have never received one complaint, which is really something to celebrate when you consider both buses are out most days.

Hazel's work has been noticed in many areas because on the 11 October at Devizes Town Hall she will have received the Wiltshire award for Community Minibus Volunteer – an award which she certainly deserves for the excellent service she runs and all the hard work she puts in. So very many congratulations Hazel - we are all very proud of you. I know you Hazel and you would be the first to say that you could not do this so efficiently without the team you have around you, but it all has to be put together and put into place. Purton Age Concern is very fortunate to have you as such an important part of our organisation and we all say WELL DONE. The late John Blackwell had great respect for you in the way you organise it all.

TONY PRICE

Purton Age Concern minibuses

It is our intention to try and replace our blue minibus which is now fifteen years old. It is a proven service which is down to all our volunteers who operate this excellent service which is greatly appreciated. We are starting a fund for the new bus and we will be writing to various charities, businesses – well virtually anywhere where we think we might stand a chance of getting a donation and, of course, we are always open to donations if anyone feels they would like to help - in fact I have already been given £20 by a couple I met at the Pavenhill shops who had seen a mention of it in a previous magazine. The donations we have had in lieu of flowers for John Blackwell are to be put towards the new minibus at the express wish of the family and this total stands at £630. I have a sneaky feeling we might put John Blackwell's name along the front of a new bus when we get one.

TONY PRICE.

The Royal British Legion Purton Branch

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

The financial year to the end of September 2017 was very successful, resulting in a total for the Branch of £9301.33p which is almost £600 better than last year, which was also a good year, so thank you all very much.

We are fortunate in having Shirley and Mike Lawrence as Poppy Appeal Organisers, and all the many other wonderful people who give their time to help to collect for the Poppy Appeal. To all of them we extend our grateful thanks.

In addition we would also like to thank all the customers of ASDA who gave so generously.

Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 12 November at 2.30pm at the Cenotaph.

Regardless of the weather it will be held outside, so come dressed accordingly but, in the event of inclement weather, for those who don't wish to stand outside, the Silver Threads Hall will be available and a speaker will relay the service indoors.

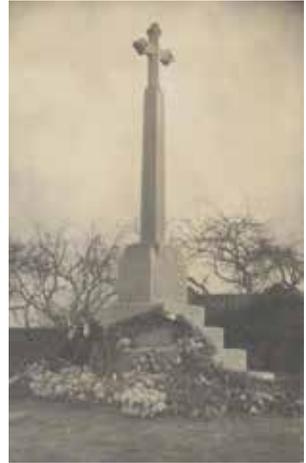
We hope that, as now has become the custom, the road will be closed for approximately one hour, and diversions put in place, but the police will not be on traffic duty and this will be carried out by volunteers, so please have a little patience and understanding as the task is quite difficult enough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

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

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

COLIN PEARSON, Honorary Secretary

Photo: Purton War Memorial, 1920. Bob LLOYD/Purton Museum



Next Information Evening - Monday 30 October 7.30 - 9pm

Would you accept an organ from someone if you needed it? To quote Malcolm Watters, South Central Regional Lead for Organ Donation 'Nearly 500 people across the country sadly died last year while waiting for a transplant. At GWH there were nine organ donors in 2014/15 but this dropped to just four between April 2015 and March 2016. The organs from the four deceased donors helped nine patients on the transplant waiting list. Signing the Organ Donor Register is only half the solution as a major obstacle is gaining consent of a person's family after their death. Many families have refused consent for donation even though their relative carried a donor card. It is important for a donor to sit down and discuss their decision and feelings with those closest to them.'

Our next Information Evening will be on the subject of Organ Donation. This is a subject which some find difficult to think about while others are so grateful that it exists. Our speakers are Dr Mark Yeates, Anaesthetic Consultant and Clinical Lead for Organ Donation and Allison Salmon, Specialist Nurse Organ Donation and it should be an interesting and informative evening. As usual tickets will be needed for this, though there is no cost. Tickets are available from Purton Surgery.

Possible changes to NHS Prescribing Guidelines

There is currently an NHS consultation on whether some items should continue to be routinely prescribed. These include medicines without good evidence for efficacy, medicines which are potentially dangerous when misused by patients and also medicines where there are cheaper, but still highly effective alternatives. Some of these medications are easily available over the counter at relatively low cost to the patient, e.g. paracetamol. This is being led by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) across the country.

Vintage Tea Party, Saturday 27 January 2018

We will be holding another Vintage Tea Party on Saturday 27 January 2018 when Breeze will once again be playing for us. Reserve the date!

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary, Purton PPG

Health & Wellbeing Champion

Just a quick word to remind you all that 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 Horticultural Show

At our October we welcomed Mike Lawrence and Lindsey Hall to the committee. I am sure they will both be a great asset to next year's show.

The show will be on Saturday 18th August 2018 in the Village Hall. We will again be running The Potato Challenge. A community challenge for young people and other groups, from the village, and surrounding areas also. This year we would like to extend our invitation to local residential and care homes. These will be going out late January 2018. If your group would like to be included, then please forward me your details by phone or email.

Our next meeting is at the end of January, when we will discuss the 2018 Schedule. If anyone has ideas for new/different categories they would like to be included, then again please contact me.

Extra help is always welcome, not only on the committee, but show day as well. If this is something you feel you may be able to offer, we would love to hear from you.

Cup winners for the 2017 show are listed below. It would be lovely to have even more new challengers for next year. So start planning now.

Most points in the Vegetable Section	David Herbert
Most points in the Flower Section	Maureen & Arthur Griffin
Most points in the Arts and Craft Section	Nick Belson
Most points in the Onion Classes	David Herbert
Most points in the Industrial Section	Carol Airey
Most points in the Floral Art	Maureen & Arthur Griffin
Best Flower in Show	Alan Titcombe
Best Industrial in Show	Carol Airey
Best Vegetable in Show	Liam Herbert
Most points in all Classes	Maureen & Arthur Griffin
Showstopper Cake	Carol Airey
Banksian Medal	David Herbert

LORNA ROBINSON-WARDLE, secretary
Tel: 01793 778013 or 3rwardles@gmail.com

Harvest Festival

Thank you to all in the village who offered us flowers, fruit and vegetables to decorate St Mary's for Harvest.

The Church looked lovely and many people contributed their time, their money or their flowers to make it a very happy and grateful celebration. We were glad to be able to share these wonderful gifts around the village, later in the month, by making little flower posies for those who needed a small token of love and care .

We shall be putting poppies in church for Remembrance Sunday which is 12 November. So if you would like to come and join us please let me know.

Libbie 771018

Defibrillator Awareness Session

The defibrillator awareness session on 4 October went well at The Royal George. We call it “awareness” rather than “training” because using this equipment in an emergency is straight forward and our trainer for the evening, Jonathon Poulton, reminded us how to do this. He also gave us excellent tips about basic resuscitation if someone has collapsed.

As a reminder, there are public access defibrillators at the Royal George pub in Pavenhill and outside the entrance to Purton Village Hall. Here are a few tips about emergencies and using a defib:

- If someone has collapsed call 999 or 112 to ask the emergency services for help. (Even if you have no service shown on your phone, 999 or 112 will get you onto an emergency network).
- The ambulance services will send an ambulance to help you but they also know where your nearest defibrillator is located and will tell you the address.
- The operator will ask you some simple questions and advise you or someone with you to get the defibrillator if they think it is needed.
- They will tell you the code to open the defibrillator box and will make sure an ambulance is on its way.
- The emergency operator will talk you through what to do next but the defibrillator itself also talks to you and some have a screen with pictures to show you what to do.
- Using a defibrillator is not dangerous to you or anyone that you are trying to help and **USING IT MIGHT SAVE THEIR LIFE.**

We shall run another awareness session in the future and anyone is welcome to come along to see what it's all about.

ALI DAVIES

What's On with The Cricklade Band...

The band funds all it does in a not-for-profit sort of way – so, to help pay our way, please visit us at the Autumn Table-Top Sale on Saturday 11 November, it's going to be at Cricklade Town Hall, the main hall, with plenty of space, from 11am to 1pm – a really friendly event and terrific tea and cake too!

If you're a Table-Top seller, please give Val a call on 01793 750516 to book your table at just £6. Setting up is from 10am.

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

Another date for the diary too... we have our Christmas Present at Cricklade Town Hall on Sunday 17 December at 7.30pm – watch out for the posters and make sure of your tickets!

Wiltshire Sight Supporting people with Dementia

Wiltshire Sight are working to support those with Alzhiemers and Dementia, providing services to individuals living with both conditions. There are over 100,000 people in the UK who have Dementia and are visually impaired. Wiltshire Sight are identifying this with their Looking Out For Sight training which educates care home staff about sight loss and by working together with Alzheimer's Support to assist people living with both of these challenges.

The charity is providing information, advice and support at their centre in Devizes as well as out in the community. They are highlighting how low vision aids such as talking clocks and colour contrast items can benefit those living with sight loss and Dementia. A recent example of this was Mr B who visited the centre looking for information and resources to support his mother who was living with Dementia. A Sight Adviser then suggested a dual display clock which has a colour contrast large print screen for those with sight loss and a speech function that will say "It is Sunday afternoon" for people with Dementia. Mr B was delighted with the support he received and felt more informed about the links between dementia and sight loss.

CEO at Wiltshire Sight, Leanne Hubbard said: "We are excited to be working with Alzhiemer's Support to support those living with both sight loss and Dementia. It is often overlooked that the two conditions are frequently linked and this needs to be addressed. Much of the equipment we suggest for visually impaired people would also be beneficial for those with Alzhiemer's or Dementia so we need to spread the word!"

You can call Wiltshire Sight on 01380 723682 for more information or you can visit their centre in Devizes.

Purton Food Festival

The Purton Food Festival is on Saturday, November 4th at Purton Village Hall between 12pm and 4pm. Admission is £1 and accompanied children under 16 free.

We look forward to welcoming an array of local food suppliers and crafts people. Delicious homemade soups and yummy homemade cakes will be available as well as tea, coffee etc. You may be able to tick a few items off that Christmas list as well as meeting up with friends for a cuppa.

All profits this year will be shared between Purton Evening WI and PIPS Community Cafe. PIPS very much hope to be able to announce an opening date for this long awaited and much needed community cafe. It will be a tremendous asset for the residents and businesses of Purton, Purton Stoke and the surrounding area and we hope that it will attract passing trade as well. If you would like to become a cafe volunteer or a home baker (cost of ingredients will be reimbursed) please get in touch with Mary Nettleton on 01793 772298 or email: marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk

HELEN - 01793 759123

Appeal for Local Woodland

I am looking for someone who has parcel of woodland in the local area that I could manage for them whilst running a small community business for local children and community groups.

I am a firm believer in the Earth Education Philosophy which is the Head, Hands and Heart approach to a deepening of understanding and knowledge of the natural environment. The philosophy is to understand that everyone should learn about their environment but without actually having hands on experiences they will not gain a deeper understanding and respect for what they are learning about. A deepening respect for our surroundings means empathy with the environment and the people who work within it.

To this end I would like to set up a Forest school/ earth education woodland area to encourage our local children and community groups to better engage with their natural environment through sensitive use.

My plan is to manage and organise the woodland where children and their families, individuals, children and different community groups such as toddlers, scouts and guides can come and experience the woodland throughout the year- come rain or shine.

I would ideally like to work in a broad leaved woodland for the variety of interest that they can give over the seasons and it to be large enough for the children to feel like they are able to explore. Having said this any type of woodland would be very much appreciated!

A little about myself: I had the luck to being born in Pembrokeshire and a family with one branch firmly rooted in the countryside and one rooted in the sea. I had grandparents who took me out to explore and who gave me my deep love of the natural environment.

I am a primary school teacher who has more recently moved into countryside management. This has enabled me to combine my teaching skills with working in the natural environment. I have worked for various organization including the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust where I managed their eco centre and reserve and organised their environmental education and the ranger services within Swindon council.

Contact Linda 07948 343615

Purton Profferings

Light aircraft periodicals: 2003 - 2005

Black & Decker Hedge trimmer (needs attention) Phone 01793 772350

Mamas & Papas pushchair. Bought new and used occasionally for grandchild. Would be useful for secondary use as folds up quite small. Complete with rain cover. 01793 771248

St Mary's Primary School

We welcome everyone back to the start of a new academic year at St Mary's after the summer break. It is lovely to be back in school and to see the children settling in so well to their new classes.

Staff News

We welcome several new members to the teaching staff this year; Mr Biddle, Class 12 Teacher, Miss Bragg, Class 8 Teacher and Mrs Roberts, job share, Class 10 Teacher. We hope they all enjoy their time with us.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to Miss Fedczyna, who is leaving us to return to Australia with her fiancée. We thank her for all her efforts at St Mary's over recent months, and wish her all the best in the future.

Governor News

We have appointed Mrs Wright as a Co-Opted Governor and Mrs Stevens has been re-elected as a support staff governor.

Fundraising

As you will have seen in the national news recently, many islands in the Caribbean were affected by hurricane Irma. As a school, we wanted to do something to help, especially because one of our St Mary's families has been personally affected. Miss Richardson, a Year 4 Teacher, has family who live on



Anguilla, a British territory that has been totally devastated by the hurricane.

We therefore held an impromptu cake sale, with all proceeds going to the Red Cross. We are hoping that our efforts can help the local children rebuild their primary school in the challenging months ahead.

Harvest Festival - Monday 2 October

We were inundated with food and produce in this year's harvest collection, so thanks must go to our parents, carers and children who have all been so generous! With all the wonderful parental helpers, we calculated that there were over 400 of us who gathered in the church to deliver our harvest gifts, sing hymns and join in with Reverend Ian's sermon. We hope our donated food will spread

on the front of the building records that the old Cottage Hospital was built in 1873 by the 5th Earl of Bathurst. It was refurbished in 1919 and by 1940 was part of a much bigger complex with a mortuary, an extra wing and other out buildings, which no longer exist. Fortunately for the volunteers, the Museum buildings and air raid shelter have been given a reprieve by the Cotswold District Council but they receive no funding from them and have to pay rent and other costs.

The Museum consists of two rooms with exhibitions documenting wartime life in the Cotswolds. All of the items have been donated by local people or someone with a local connection. For instance; the beautiful wedding dress made from parachute silk had been given by someone, now living in Germany. For most of us, it was a trip down memory lane, as we viewed the utility furniture, old food tins (including National Dried Milk), lovingly crafted home made toys (made by the father of one of the volunteers from scrap) and even a small toy made by a grateful German prisoner of war for the child of a farmer. There were posters telling us about the need for The Daily P.E.Lesson. All of the exhibits have a story to tell and Bill knew most of them. He told us about the unfinished fox fur coat, which needed six pelts but the farmer only ever caught five foxes, so this potential war time luxury was never completed. Then there was the tea bag which was a survivor of Operation Manna – a humanitarian food drop, carried out by Lancaster bombers to relieve the famine in German occupied Holland. It was lovely to see these tangible links to the recent past and to see how ingenious people were in the absence of many manufactured items.

Then, on to the Air Raid Shelter which is behind the hospital. This is unique in Cirencester. It was built for the patients and staff in 1940, when night time German bombing raids began to pose a real threat. There was a canvas slide from the rear wing of the hospital for evacuation. Eighty people could take shelter, using triple bunks and chairs. No bombs were dropped on Cirencester but there were 246 air raid warnings. Bill explained that Cirencester was on the main bombing route to the Midlands. The planes followed the railway line to Cirencester and then on up to the Midlands.

The interior of the air raid shelter was a treasure trove of items with personal stories. There is the bicycle which a visitor identified as the Senior Medical Officer's bike. Bill told us a delightful true story about this eccentric but well respected Irish Doctor. This was just one of many amazing stories, proving to us that 'fact is often stranger than fiction'.

After the war, the shelter became a dirty linen store, amongst other things and thirty years ago was destined for demolition. Luckily Bill and his friends stepped in to save it. We all felt very grateful that The Living Memory Historical Association were guardians of these wonderful artefacts, giving us a real connection with the past. The exhibitions are open every Saturday from 1st Sat in May to 1st Sat in October. Admission is free. It is well worth a visit to view the items and hear the stories.

MARY HODGES

Lifting the Roof on St Mary's

A reminder that on 9 November 2017 at 7.30pm Dr Jonathan Foyle is coming to Purton for a fundraising evening for the repair of the Chancel roof. The title of his talk, to be given at St Mary's Church Purton, will describe the meaning behind medieval symbolism and building.

Jonathan is an award winning presenter of history programmes on television. His programmes include Climbing Great Buildings, Henry VIII: Patron or Plunderer, People's Palaces: Civic Architecture in the North and Hidden House Histories. He has even appeared on the One Show!

Jonathan is uniquely qualified to teach us about the architecture of St Mary's as the author of books on church architecture: Lincoln Cathedral: The Biography of a Great Building and Architecture of Canterbury Cathedral.

If history is not really your thing, just come to be entertained. The University of Cambridge International Summer Schools describe his talks as follows: 'Excellent preparation, command of subject, fun, good use of media, very professional, good pace and extremely interesting content.'

Free tickets are available for this event on at www.eventbrite.co.uk. Just search for Dr J Foyle once you're logged in. Tickets will also be available on the door.

This event has been organised to help raise funds towards the £18,000 target that the PCC of St Mary's must find towards the repair of the Chancel roof and we look forward to your generous support through a retiring collection. The balance of the £140,000 cost of the repair is coming from grants and the Church Commissioners.

The evening will include projected images of the bells of St Mary's as they are rung and also refreshments. Please remember that parking is limited at St Mary's so if you come by car please park carefully.

DAVE NETTLETON, St Mary's Purton

Purton Amateur Dramatic Society

Well the Pantomime has been cast and rehearsals should now be underway! Put the dates in your diary – 8th, 9th, 10th February at the Village Hall. Tickets on sale from January.

We have a Murder Night available if anyone wants to book us and should have performed twice in October with a couple already booked for next year.

LINDSEY HALL 771890

We Record ...

Funeral at St Mary's Church

12 September 2017 Kenneth Horace Hellier Bletso (95)

Funeral at Kingsdown Crematorium

19 September 2017 Jean Howse (78)

In Memoriam:

30 November 1917 Frederick Nelson Daniels (born in Braydon) , 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards, killed in action, aged 19, at Gouzeaucourt. Frederick has no known grave, but is remembered on the Cambrai Memorial at Louverval and in the Memorial book in St Mary's church.

4 November 1917 Geoffrey Charlton Paine Rumming (born in Purton), Royal Naval Air Service, died aged 29 of wounds received at Gallipoli in 1915. Geoffrey was buried in Calne's Curzon Street Cemetery and is remembered on the War Memorial in Calne.

7 November 1917 George Hicks (born in Purton), 303rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery, killed in action at Jerusalem, aged 30. George has no known grave, but is remembered on the Jerusalem Memorial and on the War Memorial in Cricklade.



Let Mad March Hare Help You Prepare

It's the time of year when we see lots of happy posts of friends running the new half marathon in Swindon or maybe Bristol, Chippenham or Cricklade half marathons? Have you thought to yourself "I could never do that"?



Well, now is the time to start planning so you can achieve this too! The Mad March Hare is perfectly timed for getting the New Year off the starting blocks and the 5 and 10k routes are ideal to get that first 'milestone' under your belt on the journey to achieving a half marathon later in the year. It is a fun and friendly event which also raises funds for Breast Cancer Now. Fancy dress is not essential but don't be surprised to see a wide array of characters and funky outfits hopping along the courses on the day!

The 2018 event will take place on Sunday 25 March, starting and finishing at Lydiard Park Academy in West Swindon. Registration opens on 1 November so why not set your half marathon goal now and bounce over to the website to register! For more information and online registration, visit www.madmarchhare.org.uk.

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



Monthly Meetings

Thursday, 23 November 2017 at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall
Martin Collison – Agincourt

The talk covers the lead up to the battle starting with the Hundred Years War between France and England. It includes the early life of Henry V and his claim to the throne of France, the invasion preparations, siege of Harfleur, the march to Calais and the battle itself. The arms and armour, chivalry and heralds, together with key players, provide a good insight into medieval life and warfare. The talk concludes with the legacy of the battle and its effect on English and French relationships.

Friday, 1 December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Silver Threads Hall
Annual Christmas Social

The ticket price for the annual Christmas Social will remain at £12.00 and represents excellent value. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Whitehorse Folk Group. There will be a buffet supper, raffle and lucky ticket draw. Guests are asked to bring their own drinks. We will, however, be supplying different style and size glasses. We think this gives guests more opportunity to have the 'drink of their choice'. We can also cater for 'special dietary' requirements if requested. Guests are warmly welcomed to join us on this festive occasion.

Tickets for the Social will cost £12.00 each and are available from:

PHS monthly meetings

Jim Mosley, Purton Telephone: 01793 778395

The Purton museum (open Wednesday 2.00 to 5.00 pm and Saturday 10.00 am 12.30pm)

Flawless Floors UK 115 Pavenhill, Telephone 771720

Thursday 25 January 2018 at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall
From Enclosures to Captain Swing - Mr Paul Booy.

Further details in December magazine

Future Dates

Purton Museum The last day the museum opens, prior to the winter break, is Wednesday 29 November 2017.

Saturday 25 November 2017 - St Mary's Christmas Market

Visit our stall at St Mary's Church Christmas Market in Purton Village Hall, when the society publications will be on sale.

New Members and visitors always welcome

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

The Purton Historical Society Bulletin

I should like to extend a special word of thanks to all those people who have purchased a copy of the Purton Historical Society Bulletin issue number 43. We have had a reprint and there are still a few copies left, but don't delay if you want to buy one. We wouldn't want you to be disappointed! Our thoughts are turning to issue 44 so let us know if you have any articles, ideas or subjects you would like included or researched.

JEAN BELT

The first meeting of Autumn was held in the Parish Hall, where an enthusiastic audience heard news that we will be entertained by a folk group at the Xmas social on the 1st December.

Latest copies of our Bulletin are on sale (£2.00)-ask Jean Belt for a copy. A new Information Board ,is now in place on the Ringsbury Camp footpath.

The main talk of the evening was by John Fell, a retired post worker and welder who demonstrated the post service introduced as the "Kings Mail" Royal Mail started in 1840, with a series of post boxes - in use to the present day.(It then took a team of 8 horses travelling at 8mph to get 5 miles to carry the mail in the winter!) Now a postman is still liable to dismissal if he doesnt collect the post on time.

We all examined the 7 boxes on display through 6 reigns when few people travelled and writing letters was popular because of the telephone and computers the mail has reduced drastically and the postman now mostly delivers parcels and advertisements. We also heard that Post Boxes in the Channel Islands are black and there is no English monarch on the front of Scottish boxes.

A fascinating talk by an enthusiast (who has 77 boxes at home), he also answered questions after. Talk and refreshments were served and there was a warm vote of thanks

A good evening for about 50 people with a common interest in local social history. Looking forward to our next talk on the "Wool Trade & Shepherding" 26th October, 7.30pm in Parish Hall-Hope to see you there.

Jill Watts, teddington1940@gmail.com

The Lydiards Link

Our 14th AGM will take place on 30 November at 2.30pm, at the Jubilee Club House in the Recreation Field, off Chestnut Springs, Lydiard Millicent.

Ellen Blacker, the area Health & Welfare Champion, has agreed to be our speaker, and will remind us all of the many ways in which she can guide local people to seek extra help. Refreshments will be provided, and we should be pleased to see some old and new faces. We will let you know what we do for those in the three Lydiards and Purton parishes, who need our help to get them where they have to go.

TOM PEPPERALL, Chairman, The Lydiard Link Scheme

Purton Village Diary - November 2017

1	W	7.30pm	Mad March Hare Quiz Night at Swindon Town Football Club
		7.30pm	Purton Historical Society Autumn Course at Silver Threads Hall
2	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
3	F	2.00pm	Friendship Club at The Silver Threads Hall
		7.15pm	Cricklade Grand Fireworks Display at Thames Lane
4	Sa	12 noon	Purton Food Festival at Purton Village Hall
		12 noon	Wroughton Beer & Cider Festival at Ellendune Community Centre
		5.30pm	Purton & Lydiard Scouts fireworks and bonfire at Lydiard Park
		7.30pm	RWB Arts Festival Autumn Concert at St Bartholomew's Church
5	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	All Souls Service at St Mary's Church
6	M	12 noon	Dementia Friends session at Purton Village Hall
7	Tu	2.00pm	Co-Op Choir entertain at the Silver Threads Hall
8	W	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society Autumn Course at Silver Threads Hall
9	Th	7.30pm	'Lifting the roof on St Mary's' a presentation by Dr Jonathan Foyle at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
10	F	9.00am	Age Concern Minibus to Marlborough
		6.00pm	<i>until 9.00pm</i> Purton Artists Exhibition at Purton Village Hall. Also Sat 10.00am-4.00pm & Sun 10.00am-4.30pm
11	Sa	10.00am	Table top sale and coffee morning at Silver Threads Hall
		11.00am	Cricklade Band table top sale at Cricklade Town Hall
		7.30pm	RWB Choral Society Christmas Concert at RWB Methodist Church
12	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church
		2.15pm	Purton High Street closed between The Peak and College Road for Remembrance Service at the War Memorial
		2.30pm	Remembrance Service at Purton War Memorial
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's Primary School
14	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		8.00pm	After 8 discuss canals, led by Sandra at Lorraine's
15	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Historical Society Autumn Course at Silver Threads Hall
17	F	8.00pm	Fundraising Race Night at Purton Village Hall
18	Sa	10.00am	Coffee morning at Purton Methodist Church
		7.30pm	Chedworth Silver Band play at Purton Village Hall
19	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's Church

20 M	7.30pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women host Bill King who talks about 'Women in Air Force Blue' at Purton Methodist Church
21 T	2.00pm	Ashgrove Choir perform at The Silver Threads Hall
22 W	4.00pm	<i>and 7.00pm</i> , Dementia Friends Session at Purton Village Hall
	7.30pm	Whist Drive for Wiltshire Air Ambulance at Silver Threads Hall
23 Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society talk "Agincourt" from Martin Collison
24 F	9.00am	Age Concern Minibus to Cirencester
	2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
		Bradon Forest School Promises Auction and Gala Performance
25 Sa	12 noon	St Mary's Church Christmas Market at Purton Village Hall
		Swindon Scouts Christmas Post stamps go on sale from Shear Success, Toomers, Cycle Care, Flawless Floors and from Church Christmas Market
	3.00pm	Purton Age Concern Christmas Party at Silver Threads Hall

26 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
	3.00pm	Purton Village Voices & Wiltshire Saxophone Choir at St Mary's Church
	4.00pm	Messy Church at Ridgeway Farm
28 Tu	7.30pm	Purton and District Gardener's Guild American Supper with entertainment from 'Merry Folk' at Silver Threads Hall
29 W	2.00pm	Purton Museum open before closing for the winter
30 Th	2.30pm	Lydiards Link AGM at Jubilee Club House, Recreation Field, Chestnut Springs, Lydiard Millicent

Every week

Tu	9.00am	<i>to 11am</i> : 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	<i>to 12 noon</i> : Coffee and chat at Silver Threads Hall
	2.00pm	<i>to 5.00pm</i> : Purton Museum open, free of charge
	6.30pm	Rock Solid at Purton Methodist Church
Th	9.00am	<i>to 11am</i> : Purton Toddler Group at the Village Hall (term time)
	12 noon	Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall for over 60s
	2.00pm	<i>to 3pm</i> : Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
	2.20pm	Pram Service for pre-school children at Purton Methodist Church (term time)
F	10.00am	<i>to 11.30am</i> : Tea, coffee and cake at The Cedars
Sa	10.00am	<i>to 12.30pm</i> : Purton Museum open, free of charge

Moon Phases

● 27 October ○ 4 November ● 10 November ● 18 November

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 or email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton Village Diary continued...

December

- F 1 12 noon to 4.00pm & Sat 9.00am-10.00am bring your nativity scene to St Mary's Church for Advent Sunday Crib Festival and blessing
- 7.30pm Purton Historical Society Christmas Social at Silver Threads Hall
- Sa 2 5.00pm Purton Age Concern Christmas Party at Purton Village Hall
- F 8 3.30pm St Mary's Primary School PTA Christmas Fayre
- Sa 9 9.00am Purton Age Concern Christmas Market outside Pavenhill Shops

Purton Guide Dogs

Sponsored Puppy 'PURDIE'

I have recently received an email from Alan Fletcher, who until earlier this year was the Chairman of the 'Swindon Guide Dogs' Branch. It was to say that he has been asked to co-ordinate a 'Meet and Greet' venue, for us all to see the Puppy we have sponsored, having reached the fund raising target of £5000, thanks to our many supporters both large and small, and the staunch work of the committee and helpers. I now have to find some dates when the committee are free, and which are available for booking in The Silver Threads Hall, then Alan will have to liaise with Guide Dogs and the Puppy Walker to see which one will be the most suitable. In the event of the chosen date falling in November, I will put posters up around the village with all the details on.

The Cricklade Band gave us a super Concert on the 14th of September, unfortunately for whatever reason a lot of people were not able to come and enjoy it, with the result the funds were down a bit, but thanks to some sponsorship and donations, including the Trading Goods and Tombola we made £181.90, and those of us able to be there had a very enjoyable evening. With many thanks for your continued support.

BRIAN DAVIES, for Purton Guide Dogs Support Group

DISCLAIMER

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

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

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

RWB Arts Festival Autumn Concert

7.30pm Saturday 4th November 2017 at St.Bartholomew's Church is the RWBAF Autumn Concert "With a Song a My Heart". The programme brings together people and groups who have taken part in recent Festivals and perform locally. WBlets will do a medley from "Joseph". Special guest are Matilda Wale and Harry Apps.

Harry is currently studying for A-Levels at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, where he is the lead male singer of the famous Swing Band. He is the three-time Junior Vocal Champion of the Swindon Music Festival, including 2017. He has appeared in many productions, concerts and festivals throughout the region. Roles include the Will Riley (lead) in the MJ-UK Production of 'The Clockmaker's Daughter' (2015), The Scarecrow in StageSmart's Production of 'The Wizard Of Oz' (2016), and this year, Jack in Theatre Ink's Production of 'Into The Woods' and Hanschen in Barn Youth Theatre's Production of 'Spring Awakening'.

Tilly Wale has been singing with Janice Thompson from the age of 3, and first met Harry in the JTPTrust Junior classes – she still has fond memories of singing a 'Truly Scrumptious' duet with him! Tilly has had local success in Wootton Bassett Festival and Swindon Music Festival as well as national success in the Catherine Lambert UK Junior Recital Prize and the Two Moors Young Musicians Platform. She is a member of the National Youth Choir. Tilly is a guest soloist with Swindon Male Voice Choir and Thamesdown Ladies Choir. She is currently studying A Levels at New College, Swindon.

Alexander Harris is currently studying A-Level Music, Geography, Economics and Mathematical Studies at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy. His passion lies in music, travelling to London every Saturday to attend the Royal College of Music Junior Department, studying French Horn and Conducting, as well as playing in several ensembles. Alexander is also preparing for the ARSM Performance Diploma on Piano.

His first conducting experience was as a member of the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain in 2015, conducting Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No. 4 and the finale of Elgar's Symphony No. 1 on a residency with the organisation's Main Orchestra. Since 2016, he has conducted rehearsals of Gershwin and Brahms with the RCMJD Sinfonia, Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 in concert with the London Schools Symphony Orchestra at Mendelssohn-Haus in Leipzig, Germany, and the finale of the RWB Choral Society's 2017 Summer Concert. He looks forward to conducting Zadok the Priest tonight, and anticipates a long and happy relationship with the Choral Society as an accompanist/guest conductor!

The finale will be "Zadok the Priest" led by RWB Choral Society. If you or someone you know would like to sing Zadok with us, please contact John Davies 01793 852749 or email jandjdavies12@gmail.com

Views from Purton Walks – re-launch!



A big ‘Thank you’ to everyone who has bought packs of the ‘Views from Purton Walks’ notelets earlier in the year – this has helped to raise a very generous £200 for St Mary’s Church so far.

We are now planning a re-launch with three new pack designs at the beginning of November. These will use the more popular views from the earlier packs plus five new views – these are all prints from original watercolours. As many people have told us that they would like more variety in a pack, each of the new packs will have six different

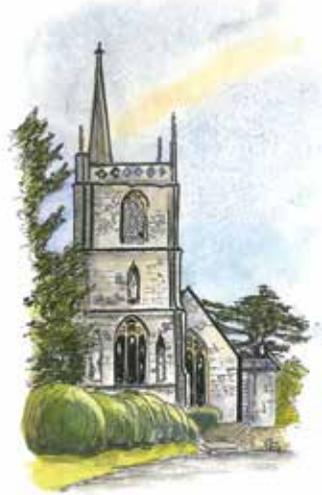
views. All still for £6 a pack – what a good Christmas present!

These new packs will be on view for the first time at Purton Food Festival on Saturday 4th November, and then shortly afterwards at the four previous outlets – Hair by Val, Flawless Floors, The Pear Tree and the Organic Farm Shop. One of these pack designs has been put together specifically for Purton Stoke which will be available from The Bell.

We are also putting the original watercolours into mounts, ready to go into standard size frames, and they will be available at the Purton Artists’ Exhibition (which runs from Friday 10th November until Sunday 12th.

All profits will go to St Mary’s Church.

CHRISTINE GILL AND PAUL DEMPSEY



Purton Methodist Church

Since the beginning of May we have been very fortunate in raising just under £15,000 towards the first phase of our refurbishments. This has enabled us to buy 60 new chairs, have the main church area and staging carpeted, certain fascia boards replaced, new protection grills for windows facing the play area made and replaced, all outside painting completed.. The second phase will be to raise funds to upgrade our 3 toilet areas and to have new flooring throughout rear area and kitchen. Our fund raising will continue of course. We had planned to have a Coffee Morning on November 18th at 35 High Street, but have decided to change that to the Methodist Church, from 10am to 12 Noon for anyone who would like to join us and see for themselves what we have done. Our 'sell out' concert in September with Geoff Walters and Encore was a huge success, raising £564. By the time you read this we will have had a Jumble Sale at the Silver Threads Hall. Our church has a small membership so thank you to all those who have supported us and given us the opportunity to improve on the upkeep of it. Please drop in for a coffee on the 18th if you can.

Shoebox News

Our Fund Raising day on the 7th October raised £1437.10p. What a wonderful result. Thanks to so many of you who helped make this such a success. As you know by now, this money is towards the cost of the transportation of the filled boxes. By the time you read this, our 400 boxes will have been filled and ready for collection during the first two weeks of November.

SYLVIA FREEMANTLE, co-ordinator

Knit-A-Square & Mama Ntombi's Community Projects (MNCP)

A shipment of 8 boxes of our goods set sail for South Africa on Friday 6th October, the items should arrive at their destination by the beginning of December, just in time for distribution to the children at Christmas.

Knit-a-Square is run entirely by volunteers and receives no government funding in South Africa. The charity relies on donations from around the world to enable the volunteers to carry out distributions of knitted items to orphans and vulnerable children. The moderators of the Knit-a-Square website have produced a calendar for 2018 to raise funds towards future distributions. The calendars cost £7.00 each, all profit (£3.14 per calendar) will go direct to Knit-a-Square. Please contact me on 772558 if you would like to purchase a calendar or visit www.knit-a-square.com and click on the forum tab for more details.

Don't forget we are fundraising towards our future shipment costs at the Silver Threads Hall Table Top sale from 10-12 on Saturday 11 November. Hope to see you there. Thank you for your continuing support.

LOUISE TIDMAN



Students Like to Study at the Seaside

Mrs Cole, Head of Humanities, reports:



Year 11 Geography students had the opportunity to try out and practise their fieldwork skills on our fieldtrip to Swanage in Dorset. Seventy five students took part and we had a productive two days working on different fieldwork methods.

We were investigating the natural processes at work in Swanage Bay, as well as the impact of tourism on the area. Students were also challenged to find out how Swanage Bay is being managed and whether or not sea defences are economically justified in the area.

The students worked really well on the different tasks and staff were really pleased with all their efforts. We enjoyed an overnight stay in Swanage Youth Hostel, which was exciting for the students. We are now working on the skills we use in Geography to present, analyse, conclude and evaluate our findings. All these skills are assessed in the final examinations next summer.

We hope the experience was memorable and will enable all our students a better understanding of the different fieldwork techniques Geographers use to investigate different questions.

Well done to all for a thoroughly enjoyable trip!

Dover Rovers as Students Explore History

On Thursday 28 and Friday 29 September 2017, Year 11 Historians visited Dover Castle on a two day residential trip aimed at exploring how the iconic castle has changed over time.

It was a jam-packed trip but Miss Mazelin, Head of History, and the team fitted everything in! The remains of Dover castle are fantastic and allowed the students to see how the site originated from a small lighthouse, through to the medieval castle developed by Henry II, onto the addition of garrison tunnels in the Napoleonic era that were then used as the hub for planning and executing Operation Dynamo (the Dunkirk evacuation).



Students explored the Keep, the command posts, the wartime tunnels and saw where the regional seat of government would be in the event of an attack in the 1960's. A visit to the nearby Battle of Britain

memorial allowed students to reflect on the efforts made by individuals in the past so that they can enjoy freedom today.

Bradon Forest students support Bridlewood pupils



Students from Bradon Forest visited Bridlewood Primary School last week to help support their Doing it for Dan fundraising races. Doing it for Dan was set up in memory of 11 year old Daniel Climance, a Bridlewood pupil, who was tragically killed in Purton in 2015. Students from Bradon Forest, including several ex-Bridlewood pupils, supported the pupils whilst they ran and cheered on other classes as they came back onto the field.

Mr Johnson, who is Head of Year 7 and has responsibility for primary transition, said 'We were delighted to be asked by Bridlewood to support this event again this year. Our students encouraged everyone and several pupils ran more than one race!'

Doing it for Dan encourages children and young adults to engage and participate in sport and leisure activities. It awards grants to individuals and organisations in Wiltshire and its surrounding areas.

The Bradon Forest Equestrian Team are very excited to announce the arrival of their new saddle pads, personalised and branding the Bradon logo! The team have already been competing under the school's name, but now they can show their team colours in style.

Thank you to Team Manager, Mrs Glynn, for arranging these. We can't wait to see them in action!

World Challenge 2017 - Morocco

Mr Heathcote, Assistant Headteacher, reports:

"Fourteen of our current year 11 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Morocco in July 2017, having successfully managed to raise the money for this World Challenge expedition.

The trip included trekking in the Atlas Mountains, a project in a Berber village school and cultural experiences in the world famous city of Marrakech. Throughout the expedition the students took on leadership roles and were responsible for the itinerary, transport, budget and food arrangements.





The voluntary stage was based in the Berber village of Gliz nestled into the hillside of the Oussertek Valley, with a population of 200. Students undertook a variety of tasks at the village primary school called Ecole Imzour. Ecole Imzour has suffered water damage due to flooding and some of the classrooms have very damp conditions. The school also lacks adequate heating, which results in pupils having to wear big jackets, gloves

and hats in class during winter. Unfortunately only a small percentage of pupils continue on to secondary education, 10% to be precise, and no females from this community have ever continued on to university.

The students excavated a 30m long deep trench around the school and filled it with concrete they had mixed with cement and sand they had carried. They constructed walls around the school with stones they had collected from the hillside. They also renovated the gardens around the school in order to strengthen the soil and cleared up the current area of land used as a rubbish area. With money left from the budget they paid for heaters in classrooms and a boiler in the teacher's living quarters. These tasks were all done in the 30°C + plus heat of the Moroccan summer.

The challengers also had the positive experience of staying with a Berber family during the project phase, learning about local customs and cuisine, including Berber Tea and Tagines.

This was followed by a 4 day trek through the stunning high Atlas Mountains. The students dealt fantastically with the challenging terrain, steep slopes and high temperatures. They reached a height of 3300m after an early morning start. During this phase of the expedition the students were staying in tents and carrying day sacks with their essential items and safety kit.

To finish the trip the students had the opportunity to spend a day in the amazing city of Marrakech with its world heritage sites. The opportunity to haggle in the souks was a once in a lifetime opportunity and the students embraced the opportunity with both hands, some



developing skills for a future career in business clearly. Unfortunately the trip was over all too quickly and we returned to Bradon Forest during the summer holidays with many stories to tell, photos to show, souvenirs to share and blisters to heal.

Church Floodlighting



- Oct 19 St Mary's was lit in memory of our very special **Daniel Climance** on his 14th birthday. Loved and missed more than words can say. All our love from Dad, Mum no.2 and Robbie
- Nov 5 St Mary's will be floodlit for **All Soul's Day** Service, when all those who have left us will be remembered. If you would like a loved one to be mentioned in the evening service please contact the clergy.
- Nov 12 St Mary's will be floodlit for **Harry Wall** on what would have been the 4th anniversary of his death. Always in our hearts. Sadly missed and loved by all his family. (and apologies again to Deborah and her family for failing to light the church as requested last month.)
- Nov 16 St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Trev (Trevor Bird)** who left us on Nov 16 2003. Lovingly remembered always. Jean, Amanda, Paul. XXX
- Nov 28 St Mary's will be floodlit in memory and in celebration of the 103rd birthday of **Mary Wightman**. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark and Ben, Daughters-in-law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
- Nov 30 The Church will be floodlit to celebrate the Diamond wedding anniversary of **Janice and Trevor Maxfield**. Love from all the family. (and congratulations from all at St. Mary's too!)

If you would like the Church floodlit for a special date, occasion, or memorial, please contact Libbie on 771018. The cost is £18 for one evening and it would be helpful if the date is booked at least a couple of weeks before the chosen night. A short announcement can also be published in this magazine at no extra cost.

Scouts Christmas Post

1st Purton and Lydiard Scouts participate in the Swindon Scout Christmas Card Delivery Service. Stamps cost 30p each for delivery in the Swindon area (including Highworth and Royal Wootton Bassett).

Stamps are for sale from Shear Success Hairdressing, Toomers (Stone Lane), Cycle Care, and Flawless Floors. Stamps will also be available at St Mary's Church Christmas Fayre at the Village Hall on 25th November.

Special Scout Post Collection boxes will be in place from 24th November, with the last collection on 12th December at 4:00pm.

Ten Years Ago...

10 years ago Purton Magazine was anticipating the final of the Rugby World Cup being held in France where England were to play against the eventual winners, South Africa. However, the main talking point was that the England rugby team had described themselves as a group of 'grumpy old men.' For a short while it gave encouragement to a few more in our community that success is not always age related.

A quick search of the internet back then revealed that the concept of Grumpy Old Men had been around for a few years. Apparently, apart from an "Official Handbook" there was also a book entitled "Secret Diary@a daily chronicle of the life for the terminally irritable." Indeed there was even a political party, registered in March 2003 on the Electoral Commission's web site called "The Grumpy Old Men." With the recent round of party conferences, there have evidently still been a few grumpy old men in other political parties these days.

With a week still a long time in politics, the similarity of seasons from November 2007 can be safely assumed still to be current 10 years later. An article from Ps and Qs highlighted how we could help wild animals living in our gardens to survive long hard winters. Piles of logs, rocks, stones and even a loose pile of leaves are ideal habitats for garden wildlife, whether or not of the hibernating type.

Special attention was – and is – encouraged for birds who need food and water on a regular basis. Should any severe weather be experienced it was – and is – suggested that dishes of clean water are accompanied by high-energy, high fat foods so that flocks of local feathered friends can best be maintained for next summer. More details can be found on line.

Purton & District Luncheon Club

Have you any free time to spare. Would you like to Volunteer at our Luncheon Club? Once a week or fortnightly. We work on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. 10.00am to 13.00hrs. We provide lunches for the elderly. The lunches are held at the Silver Threads Hall. High Street. Purton.

It's a chance to help in the Community, and make new friends.

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

Prayer for Purton

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

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.



THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC!

Could I congratulate the Red House Social Club for the two excellent Sunday afternoon band concerts they put on free of charge to anybody who wanted to come. The first one was by the Wroughton Silver Band and this one was outside. It was lovely, what more could you want; sitting in nice surroundings with a cup of tea or something stronger, listening to music. The second was a mixed band where the musicians came from far and wide to play for the love of music. When I tell you some of the places they came from Wootton Bassett, Wantage, Chedworth, Coventry, Oxford and Gloucester you'll be amazed - and let's not forget the locals. Listening to them you would have thought they played together every week. There was only one slight hiccup – when they were playing one piece they all suddenly stopped. They had not realised that the soloists for that particular piece were held up on the motorway through an accident. They were coming up - from the Rhondda valley! This concert was held inside because of the weather and was just as enjoyable.

The man behind the concerts is Keith Bailey, a great bandsman himself who, through health problems has had

to take a back seat – for how long I ask myself. Many thanks, Keith and I believe you have more concerts planned for next year, starting Easter Sunday. I am sure many people will be looking forward to them as I am. Let's not forget the committee of the Red House Club for all their hard work in turning the fortunes of the Club around to be a living memorial to the gentlemen who gave their lives. This is what the village bought the Purton War Memorial and Village Centre for.

Tony Price



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Many thanks to our friends from Purton who joined us at the Words Biggest Coffee Morning in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall on Sept.29th. Together we raised £684-11. Thank you for your support.

Vilma Munro



DEMENTIA AWARENESS TRAINING

Thank you SO much to Sue Giles for leading us in a very clear, straightforward one-hour Dementia Awareness training session in the Village Hall last month. I really appreciated her clarity, her knowledge and her experience.

She gave us so many ideas on how to improve the situation for the person with Dementia and for their families and carers. Thank you Sue. I recommend this course to everyone in the village.

Libbie Sheppard



PURTON OPEN GARDENS 2017

The Staff, students and board of directors of Jubilee Gardens would

like to thank all those Purton residents who opened their gardens and all those who paid money to visit them. This resulted in Jubilee Gardens as a beneficiary receiving a wonderful donation of £700.00. This money will help us to continue our work with local learning disabled adults. Donations such as this are increasingly vital to us in these times of continuing austerity.

*BRUCE PORTER, PRINCIPAL,
Jubilee Gardens Project*

Purton Tennis Club

Winter League will now have started and our coaching programmes are back on after the summer break. I have no results at the time of writing this.

The annual Junior Singles Tournament was held on 9 September after being rearranged due to the weather. Thanks to Nicola and Teresa for running this; nine boys competed and Senior boys winner was Luke Mitchell, Junior boys winner being Jack Kendall. Well done to all who competed.

We will be holding social tennis on a Tuesday evening or Sunday morning – weather permitting. Come along if you fancy playing. Follow us on facebook and twitter or for information: www.purtontennisclub.com

LINDSEY HALL, Chairman

Purton Tennis Club



Purton Placard

Coffee Morning

to see our improvements at
Purton Methodist Church
Saturday 18 November
10am - 12 Noon
Tea/Coffee £1
Cake stall, bric-a-brac

Cricklade Grand Firework Display

Friday 3 November 2017, Thames Lane.
Cricklade
Guy competition 7.15pm
Fireworks 7.30pm

Advanced tickets can be purchased from:
C & R Family Grocers (Cricklade High St),
The Cricklade Leisure Centre,
Cricklade Town Council Offices.

Advance tickets: Family: £12, Adult £5,
Children & Senior Citizens £3

Gate cost on the night: Adults £8, Children &
Senior Citizens £5

Lucky ticket winner £50
Amusements & Refreshments.

Purton Food Festival

Saturday 4 November at Purton
Village Hall, 12 noon - 4pm

Admission £1,
accompanied children
under 16, free

Local food suppliers,
crafts, home made soup
and cakes.

Chedworth Silver Band

Perform on Saturday 18
November 7.30pm. at Purton
Village Hall.

Raffle and light refreshments.

Tickets available in advance
from Doreen Freegard
(770178) or on the door, £6
per person.

All proceeds to Help for
Heroes and Combat Stress.

St. Mary's Church Purton
present

Purton Village Voices and the Wiltshire Saxophone Choir

Sunday 26 November, 3pm

Free entry with all proceeds
to the Chancel roof
repair fund.

Refreshments
available.

All Soul's Service at St Mary's Church

Sunday 5 November
6.00pm

A chance to remember
and give thanks for
loved ones who have
passed away.

St Mary's Church

***Lifting the Roof on St Mary's:
medieval meaning
and construction***

Presentation by the award-winning
TV historian Dr Jonathan Foyle

Thursday 9 November, 7.30 pm

Refreshments. Free tickets
available at www.eventbrite.com
or on the door.

Please park considerately

St Mary's Church
Christmas Market

On Saturday 25 November in the Village
Hall, 12 noon - 2.30pm

Come and have your lunch!!

Lunches served – Hot meat baps
Many attractions and stalls, including:
Home-made produce, Books, Cakes and
many more stalls, Activities for children,
Mince pies, teas and coffees
St Mary's School Choir will be singing

Purton Age Concern

Christmas Party

Saturday 25 November 3pm - 5pm
at Silver Threads Hall, cost £3

Wheelchair users most welcome.

Book your place with your street warden by
Wednesday 15 November.

Christmas Party

Saturday 2 December 5pm - 8.30pm
at the Village Hall, cost £6.00

Start your Christmas celebrations at our party!
Book your place with your street warden by

Wednesday 22 November.

Christmas Market

Saturday 9 December 9am - 12noon
Outside Pavenhill Shops

Lots of Christmas bargains and the last chance to
buy one of our Christmas raffle tickets!

Wiltshire Air Ambulance

Whist Drive

Wednesday 22 November 7.30pm.
at Silver Threads Hall, Purton.

Tickets £2 on the door.

All Proceeds to
Wiltshire Air Ambulance
Raffle & Refreshments

Race Night

17 November, 8pm, Purton
Village Hall. Licenced bar
& raffle.

Tickets £1.50 in advance
from Nicki Brice

07851 768331 or

Helen Griffin 07710 764868
& on the night.

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



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; 450-500 words. As usual, the copy deadline is the 10th of the preceding month and our contact details are on Page 4.

Greater London Plan of 1944 by Patrick Abercrombie

This is a story about a book which I did remember after many years. In the 1950's I was sent to a Surrey prep school where eventually I rose to the dizzy heights of Head Librarian. It wasn't much of a library; as I recall most of the stock consisted of novels by G.A. Henty, Saki and Rider Haggard. Even then they were very old hat, particularly in comparison with the works of Ian Fleming which I took up only a couple of years later. But there was one which stood out: Patrick Abercrombie's Greater London Plan of 1944.

First of all, it was BIG! A book befitting the chief. There was an awful lot of detailed text but what riveted me was the maps, fold-outs four times the already-large page size showing such items as population, industry or communications, how they had changed and how he suggested they change in future. I would go home, or even sit in the back of class, and construct my own imaginary maps then, as a development, build rail and bus timetables for them. (It was only much later that I discovered that my great-grandfather prepared railway timetables professionally.)

Then I moved on to boarding school and left Abercrombie behind. Among other unpleasant things, I was put in the German class. After two or three weeks the master took me to one side and very kindly said I wasn't ever going to learn anything, packing me off to the Geography class. Here the first task was to draw an imaginary Ordnance Survey map. With all my practice, this was not difficult and the upshot was that the new master considered it so good that he kept it in his desk for at least the remainder of my school career!

Over the intervening years, I have accumulated a large number of (real printed) maps and latterly started collecting old atlases and timetables. Then one day I remembered where it all started so I searched for my old friend. A copy is now next to me on my desk. The maps may not be cartographic masterpieces but they are gaudy, absolutely designed to catch the eye of our dull administrators as they did for me sixty years ago.

This time round, I have read some of the text. Abercrombie was an internationally respected visionary (becoming Sir Patrick in the year after publication) yet many

of his proposals were not acted upon. One was to electrify the Great Western Main Line at least as far out as Didcot. Well, at least that is happening if only 75 years late!

PETER SHARP

Purton Artists Exhibition

Do come and support this year's art exhibition which will take place in the Village Hall from 10th to 12th of November. Friday from 6 - 9pm, Saturday from 10am - 4pm and Sunday from 10am - 4.30pm.

Purton has held an art exhibition for over 30 years. We aim to present a variety of styles and mediums to suit every taste. If anyone is interested in having a craft table please contact Barbara Gosden on 01793 770182. Refreshments are available.

URGENTLY NEEDED is space to store the trailer containing our display stands between exhibitions. It is 6' x 4' with a fitted cover. Please consider any empty garages or other accessible space either inside or outside, as the future of Purton Artists exhibitions and also those of Lydiard Art Group who also use the stands, hangs in the balance as without storage, we will be unable to keep them. Please contact Christine Gill, 01793 771563 if you can help.

CHRISTINE GILL, Purton Artists

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Funeral Plans 

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The Great War Project

Part 52: November 1917

The following men with Purton connections were mobilised in November 1917.

To France:

William James Haines, Tank Corps, to action at Cambrai.

To Italy:

Edward John Woolford, 1/4th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment. Transferred with the battalion from training in France to Italy.

Royal Navy:

Harold Raleigh Molden, to HMS Dido, 10th Destroyer flotilla at Harwich.

Western Front – Passchendaele & Cambrai

On 6 November, Canadian forces took Passchendaele village. It was strategically important with a ridge at a height of 60 m (200 ft) and a railway supplies junction, so taking Passchendaele effectively completed the objectives of the 3rd Battle of Ypres which was officially concluded on 10 November.

3rd Ypres was fought between 31 July and 10 November 1917 with involvement of British and Empire forces including English, Welsh, Scottish, Irish, Canadian, Belgian, New Zealand, Australian and Indian troops under the command of Field Marshal Douglas Haig. During October and November, incredibly heavy rainfall meant a significant number of those killed or wounded were the result of the weather as much as of enemy action.

Shell craters and continuous rain created a battlefield with the consistency of porridge. Shell holes filled with water, bodies and other debris, and everything became coated with slime. Contaminated water supplies led to dehydration and sickness amongst troops on both sides. Guns sank into the earth and troops drowned in the soft mud as they tried to charge the line.

After 16 weeks of fighting in conditions which varied from rain, mud, and slime, to hot and dry weather with clouds of dust, the initial objective of Passchendaele Ridge had been gained at a cost of 270,000 Allied lives, including 17,000 officers. German casualties were just as appalling, with 217,000 German soldiers lost. The village of Passchendaele itself was totally destroyed.

Cambrai, 50 miles south of Ypres, was an important supply point for the German Hindenburg Line. The British attacked German lines between 20 November and 7 December in order to capture the town and the nearby Bourlon Ridge. The 1st Battle of Cambrai saw the first use of large numbers of tanks in battle. However, after British successes on the first day, mechanical failures, German artillery and infantry defences showed the Mark IV tank had weaknesses. On the second day, only about half of the tanks were still operational and British advances ground

to a halt. The Germans quickly reinforced their defences on Bourlon Ridge and made a counter strike on the 30th recapturing much of the ground lost on the 20th.

About 44,000 men were lost on each side. Disproportionately many of the British Empire losses were in the Newfoundland battalions.

Frederick Nelson Daniels was born in 1898, son of Joseph and Hannah Daniels of West Lodge, Braydon, Purton. Frederick had enlisted with the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards (2nd CG) and was in action with them at Cambrai, while the Battalion was assigned to the 1st Guards Brigade. On 30 November, 2nd CG moved forward as the German counter-attack at Cambrai started. 2nd and 3rd CG attacked Gouzeaucourt from the south, and 1st CG from the north. They met heavy machine gun fire from the village, but the objective was secured within an hour. However, Frederick was killed in action, aged 19, along with 82 Coldstream Guardsmen and officers. Frederick has no known grave, but is remembered on the Cambrai Memorial at Louveral and in the Memorial book in St Mary's Church. A memorial plaque for Frederick was mounted in Braydon Church but later moved to St Mary's.

Outstanding Service



Geoffrey Charlton Paine Ruming (pictured) was born in Purton on 2 December 1888, the son of William and Mary Nellie Ruming. By 1915 he was an assistant and runner for a miller in Calne, when he enlisted with the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS), initially as an engineer. He was later transferred to armoured cars as Petty Officer Mechanic and served at Gallipoli. He was severely wounded in the head and discharged from the RNAS in October 1915.

Geoffrey felt fit for duty again and re-enlisted in March 1916, just short of 29 years old, with the Machine Gun Corps (MGC) as the Armoured Car sections had been disbanded in the meantime. After training in Ayrshire and Grantham, Geoffrey was discharged on medical grounds suffering from epilepsy, and no longer physically fit for War Service. On discharge his address was given as Quemerford, Wiltshire, where he had returned to his father's mill.

Geoffrey died on 4 November 1917 having never really recovered from the effects of his wounds and was buried in Curzon Street Cemetery, Calne. He is also remembered on the War Memorial in Calne.

Geoffrey was posthumously awarded the French Medaille Militaire, by a warrant dated in Paris in April 1918.

Italy

Following the disastrous defeat of the Italian army at Caporetto in October, reinforcements of French troops arrived in Italy on 3 November and British troops the next day. General Cadorna was replaced as Italian Commander by General Diaz.

While the French and British troops were still being mobilised, Austro-German forces reached the River Piave just north of Venice, on 11 November, after advancing from Caporetto.

Egypt, Palestine & Mesopotamia

On 1 November, the British XXI Corps of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force (EEF) began the 3rd Battle of Gaza with the Desert Mounted Corps moving towards Hebron and Jerusalem. The British XX Corps and Desert Mounted Corps attacked Ottoman defences on the Gaza to Beersheba road allowing XXI Corps to occupy Gaza after the Ottoman garrison withdrew.

On 7 November, the Battle of Jerusalem began with the EEF attacking Ottoman forces in the Judaeian Hills. George Hicks was born in Purton in 1887 and enlisted with the 303rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery. George was killed in action on 7 November 1917 during the assault on Jerusalem. He has no known grave, but is remembered on the Jerusalem Memorial along with 3,300 Commonwealth servicemen from operations in Egypt or Palestine. George is also remembered on the War Memorial in Cricklade.

The EEF attacked retreating Turkish forces on 16 November during the Battle of Mughar Ridge, taking 50 miles (80 km) of Palestine territory. Tel-Aviv and Jaffa were occupied by British forces on the 16th. Following these actions, the ANZAC Desert Mounted Corps won the Battle of Ayun Kara against Ottoman forces bolstered by German rear-guards.

Russia – The “October Revolution”

On 5 November, Estonian Bolsheviks seized power in Tallinn, taking over the Autonomous Governorate of Estonia. This prompted the Russian Provisional Government (RPG) to attempt to close 3 Bolshevik printing presses. In response, troops of the Petrograd Soviet seized RPG buildings (6 November) and arrested members of the RPG. On 7 November (25 October under the Julian calendar) they bombarded and stormed the RPG headquarters at the Winter Palace in Petrograd. In this coup, Lenin made himself Premier, deposing Kerensky, and Trotsky became Foreign Minister. Kerensky's forces attempted a counter-coup on 13 November but were defeated by the Bolsheviks. Kerensky fled from Petrograd on the 15th. Lenin issued decrees abolishing private property ownership and all ranks, titles and privileges from tsarist days.

Finland declared itself independent of Russia on 15 November, the Ukraine on the 20th and Estonia on the 28th.

The new Soviet government immediately set about holding talks with Germany and Austria-Hungary (at Brest-Litovsk) to end the war.

In response to the October Revolution, Persia (modern Iran) which had been providing armaments to Russia, refused to support the Allied Forces from that point.

War at Sea

On 7 November, two United States Navy destroyers captured a German submarine U-58 off the south-west coast of Ireland. This was the first combat action in which U.S. ships took a submarine. U-58 was then scuttled.

Israel

On 2 November, the British Foreign Secretary Arthur Balfour published a Declaration proclaiming British support a Zionist national home for the Jewish people in Palestine, which was to be removed from Ottoman control at the end of the war. The letter read, "His Majesty's [George V] government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

Suffragism in the USA

On 6 November, New York State adopted a constitutional amendment giving women the right to vote in state elections. Then on the 10th, 41 suffragettes of the Silent Sentinels were arrested in front of White House, Washington DC, where they had been holding a long-term protest in favour of votes for women. On the night of 14-15 November, the "Night of Terror", 33 of the Silent Sentinels imprisoned at Occoquan Workhouse, Virginia, were assaulted and tortured by their guards.

Other News

Georges Clemenceau became prime minister of France on 16 November.

The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals was founded in the United Kingdom on 17 November.

RICK DIXON

Invictus Games

Did you see the brave men and women; wounded, limbless and with various invisible disabilities, gallantly getting on with their lives the best they can and competing in the Invictus Games? They had their families there to cheer them on and were helped through difficult post-combat times by many organisations and charities.

There are many more former service men and women who need our help to overcome all kinds of issues, from loss of sight to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. On Saturday 18th November Chedworth Silver Band will be performing at Purton Village Hall to raise money for Help for Heroes and Combat Stress, please come along if you can. More details in the Placard.

DOREEN FREEGARD, TEL: 770178

Purton and District Probus Club



On Tuesday the 12, Ken Ingamells, whose career covered 40 years with the Meteorological Office, addressed our meeting on Global Warming. Ken has made it his mission, in retirement, to present the facts concerning Global Warming, to the public at large. He tells us that the industrial activities upon which our modern civilization depends, have raised atmospheric carbon dioxide levels from 280 parts per million to 400 parts per million in the last 150 years. A group of independent scientific experts from countries all over the world under the auspices of the United Nations have concluded that there is better than a 95 % probability that human - produced greenhouse gases, such as CO₂, methane, nitrous oxide and CFC's (man-made synthetic gases, now banned), have caused much of the observed increase in Earth's temperature over the past 50 years.

The Sun is the energy source of life on earth, both in its evolution and in the continuation of life. Irradiation from the Sun, both light & heat cause the global warming necessary to sustain that life, but atmospheric conditions have to be maintained to ensure that the global temperature stays within the limits that can promote such life. Of the light arriving from the Sun, it is estimated that 51% of the heat is absorbed by land and sea surfaces, 30% is reflected, as long-wave radiation back into space by the atmosphere, the ozone layer, clouds (water vapour) and the Albedo/whiteness effect of ice and snow, while 19% is absorbed by the heating of the atmosphere. The increased density of the greenhouse gases mentioned above has the ability to alter this precarious balance. CFCs have been identified as the cause of holes in the ozone layer and the polar ice sheets are already warming and shrinking, threatening both rising sea levels, less Albedo reflection of the radiation and, if permafrost is melted, the release of methane, from the rotting vegetation, to add to the atmosphere. The burning of fossil fuels and deforestation are the culprits which have intensified the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Diesel, burned as a fuel produces nitrogen dioxide. Sewage and livestock manure gives off nitrous oxide which has a high global warming potential 300 times that of CO₂ but occurs presently in much smaller amounts. All of these gases contribute to the Greenhouse Effect which is overheating the lower atmosphere of our planet. Scientific studies have shown that, aside from the random impact of meteors, the variability of solar activity has been the primary cause of climate changes. Fluctuations in Earth's orbit around the sun, the tilt of the earth's axis and "Earth Wobbles", throughout millions of years, have occurred in cycles. Miriam Katz of the Rensselaer Institute, NY, states "There is a saying among scientists in the field of palaeontology, that the past is a window on the future". For the past two decades, Miriam has been gathering information on Foraminifera. These miniscule fossils, no bigger than grains of sand, have been laid down as sediment on the sea bed over millions of years. Being undisturbed by the movements of the Tectonic Plates, they are reliable indicators of global

conditions at specific times throughout the ages. Sample cores, drilled into the seabed sediment and cores from the deep arctic ice, give the information. By identifying the predominant isotopes of carbon in these microscopic seashells, together with similar analysis of isotopes of oxygen in the trapped air of ancient icefields, models of the evolving ice ages and warming periods have been developed to cover the past 250 million years. We should now be in a cooling period. Instead, the average global temperature is rising. The disbelief in society, that there is anything to worry about, may stem from the fact that most of the past 10,000 years have been warmer by up to 3 Celsius degrees than the present. Our speaker gave us the facts, and not everyone is convinced, including Donald Trump, but perhaps we could all benefit from a cleaner healthier atmosphere.

P.S. A current article in “Nature Geoscience” indicates that the rate of global warming is much slower than that predicted 10 years ago.

On Tuesday 24, Osteopath Jolyon Livingstone, who has operated his clinic in Cricklade for 25 years, gave a talk entitled “The Spine”. Jolyon qualified in 1977, after five years training at The European School of Osteopathy in Maidstone Kent. He began by explaining that, as in all alternative medicine, osteopaths operate privately, (and sometimes as the last resort), outside of the main core of the medical profession. We are body–mechanics who apply the equivalent of WD40 to loosen things up by hands–on manipulation of the ligaments and soft tissue around the body joints, but particularly the spine. Osteopathy is a distinct approach to healthcare based on a well-established system of clinical diagnosis. Osteopaths focus on the structure of the body, using safe, natural, manual treatment, which offers a caring approach to the individual needs of each patient. Jolyon reports that he has treated patients of all ages, from a babe in arms to octogenarians plus. His most memorable words of gratitude were from a lady of 91 years, who said that the treatment made her feel 89 again!

The commonest complaint is aches and pains in the lower back caused by bad posture or sitting for over-long periods; a modern phenomenon associated with computers. Damage can also be caused by the cumulative effect of repetitive movement or lifting while not adopting a favourable posture. Osteopaths always ask questions before treatment, to better understand the cause and nature of the problem. The core at the centre of the spinal column consists of a bundle of nerves, like an electric cable which carries instructions to all parts of the body. Any misalignment, strain or excessive stress between the joints, particularly of the vertebrae can give rise to unbearable pain. Predominantly gentle manipulation techniques are used to correct joint and tissue imbalances, allowing restoration of harmony within the patient’s whole body. Osteopaths treat the person, not just the disorder. The objective is long-term health. Our speaker concluded his talk with an amusing story from a young lady whose back-trouble was inadvertently cured by accidentally touching an electric fence.

She swore by it, but Jolyon does not recommend it. I, myself have benefitted from the treatment of osteopaths including Jolyon, on and off for almost fifty years; I am grateful.

The Purton Probus Club meet in the Red House lounge every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10am. Visitors and new members welcome. November Programme: 14th The Falklands. 28th My Journey to the Weakest Link.

BOB STEVENS

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild

The annual 'Mini-Show' was the focus of our September meeting and, as in previous years, members came up trumps entering an amazing assortment of vegetables, fruits and flowers gathered from their gardens and allotments.



The voting process required those present to vote for their favourite in each of the 24 classes, and as ever, members needed little encouragement for the task, paying particular attention when sampling the variety of delicious cakes entered in the domestic category, including Victoria sponge cakes, ginger cakes and cheese scones.

Voting over, the committee began the count whilst members happily chatted over tea and biscuits. First, second and third prizes were awarded in each of the 4 categories:

'Flowers': 1st Maureen Griffin, Joint 2nd Mary Read, Jill Herbert, 3rd Marlene Slee.

'Vegetables': 1st Mary Read, 2nd Steve Goodall, 3rd Howard Ockwell.

'Fruit': 1st Mary Jones, Equal 2nd Mary Read, Peter Berry, Moira White.

'Domestic': 1st Moira White, 2nd Mary Read, Equal 3rd Janice Simpkins, Marlene Slee, Jill Herbert.

Congratulations to Mary Read who received the cup for the 'Overall Winner' having received the most points from all 23 classes. It finally came to the presentation of the cup for the final class, 'Best in Show', chosen by members from all the exhibits entered. Congratulations to Sue Berry who was the worthy winner with her stunning display of Calla Lilies. Congratulations to all our winners and to all those who exhibited for without you we would not have a show.

Our last meeting of 2017 will be the 'American Supper' on Tuesday 28 November at 7.30pm in Silver Threads Hall. This is a popular social evening and this year we will be entertained by a group of singers and musicians called Merry Folk'. So don't miss it and remember to bring a plate of goodies to share.

As there is no meeting in December our 2018 program will begin at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 23 January with the AGM followed by a talk to be confirmed. More information about the 2018 program will be in the December issue of the magazine so watch this space.

MARGARET GOODALL, Secretary, 770906

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



Lots of welcomes this month: welcome to the new members of the Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units who have started or are continuing their guiding journey. Welcome also to Pat ('Hedgehog') and Sarah who have joined the Purton Guide unit leadership team. Pat is an experienced Guide Leader and Sarah, who began as a parent helper and liked what she saw, has started on the Adult Leadership Qualification.

1st Purton Rainbows are doing lots of autumnal crafts which also fall neatly into badge work. Thank you to the parents who are stepping up to be a helper each week as the unit would not function without them.

For 2nd Purton Brownies, the theme for the term is food. They went out picking blackberries which were frozen and used to make blackberry and apple crumbles and pies the following week. The Brownies have spent an evening visiting Quarry farm where they fed the pigs and calves, saw the cows being milked and tasted raw milk which is unpasteurised and sold direct from the farm - most of them loved it! Thank you Jonny and Sarah. Another evening was spent looking at fruit; all the Brownies tasted something they hadn't eaten before, and they made fruit kebabs. The next week it was vegetables when each six made a batch of vegetable soup, taking some home for their families to try too.

Whilst not solely concentrating on food there are parallels between the 1st and 2nd Purton Brownies' programme. 1st Purton made vegetable soup one week too as well as vegetable animals. Combining science and food another evening they made ice cream: milk and flavouring, plastic bags, ice cubes, salt and lots of vigorous shaking. These activities have fitted into the kitchen section of the Cupboard Technology challenge whereby the Brownies complete challenges linked to each room/area of a house. For the music room, they made gymnastics ribbons and put together routines using them.

With seven new Guides and two new Leaders, the Guide unit kicked off the term with getting to know each other activities. This included telling two truths and a lie about themselves as well as human bingo. Amelia, Ellieannah, Gemma, Harriet, Jessica, Keira, Lydia, Mia and Tayla-Rae also made their Promise on an evening dedicated to understanding the Promise itself. Using newspapers, Guides found stories and photographs that reflected the elements of the Promise and discussed what it meant to them.

To celebrate 'Talk Like a Pirate Day', the Guides made a junk model ship, made a pirate hat and decorated biscuits. They enjoyed playing the 'Port and Starboard' game too. They also wanted to learn First Aid this term so have been working on the associated interest badge. They've understood the need to assess an emergency situation and make it safe for everybody before trying to help as well as how to make an emergency call and what details need to be relayed. In small groups, the Guides practised different scenarios, including making slings, using bandages and putting people into the recovery position.

If you're interested in volunteering with any of our units, particularly Rainbows or Brownies, we'd love to hear from you. For more information about guiding locally, please contact District Commissioner Rachel Mead by phone on 07729 462054 or by email at braydondc@wncounty.org.uk. You can also register interest in joining (girls or volunteers) at www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/

Crib Festival 2017

Please remember to bring your family Christmas Crib/Nativity scene to St Mary's if you would like to join in the Advent Sunday Festival and Blessing.

We need the cribs to be brought to church on Friday 1 December between 12 noon - 4.30pm or Saturday morning 2 Dec 9 - 10am. All the cribs will then be on show to everyone in Purton, over the weekend, 10 - 4.30pm

And on Sunday evening, at 6pm there will be a special Evensong service, with candles, handbells and singing, when the cribs will be blessed, before families can take them back to decorate their homes.

*More details: Libbie 771018 or libbie@sheppard.org
or Jane janersmith1@gmail.com*

Cricklade Country Market

Our next market: Friday 24 November 2-4pm at The Jenner Hall Cricklade.



Please place any Christmas orders at this market.

All our produce is locally handmade, home cooked or home grown so come and find delicious pies and cakes, scones and cookies, jams and pickles and all manner of original gifts. Pop along for a delicious afternoon tea or come in for after school refreshments too!

Christmas market date: 15 December

Please call Nikki on 01793 751845 or Moira on 01793 771656 to place an order or for further information about the market.

Cricklade Revealed Extra

Index Book Three by Marion Parsons

Available this month, this new book in the Extra series contains WW2 military and evacuee memories, and a General Wartime Index to cover Parts 4-7 of the main Cricklade Revealed books. As usual, copies of this new book can be bought at Cricklade Town Council Office, Déjà Vu, or Cricklade Museum at £3.60 each. A set of the ten main books, or a complete set of all 13 books (to date) are also available at the reduced price of £3 each, but only by contacting Marion on 01793 750542, or by e-mail at mfparsons071@btinternet.com

Profits from the sale of all of the books will be donated to Cricklade Open Door.