

# Purton. Magazine

November 2018



An unknown soldier from the Wiltshire Regiment, killed during the Great War and buried at Tyne Cott. On 11 November Purton will commemorate the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day. See Page 14 Photo: Janet Saunders

50p

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## Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2-5pm; Tuesdays 2-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-5pm; Fridays 2-5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum	Curator: Beth Farnham, bethaney23@icloud.com	
Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Age Concern Minibus	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Brenda Cook	770431
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, <i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Health & Wellbeing Champion	Ellen Blacker	07557 922020
<b>Schools &amp; Playgroups</b>		
Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	07759 583566
Pear Drops Pre-School (formerly Under 5s')	Sarah Grigg	978536
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239
<b>Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary</b> <a href="http://www.stmaryspurton.org.uk">www.stmaryspurton.org.uk</a>		
<i>For information about services, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine.</i>		
Vicar: Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith	email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 770077, 773031 (emergencies only)	
Curate: Revd Judith Wells	email: judithwells36@googlemail.com Tel: 770627	
Wardens	Sandra Horsnall: 770157	Jane Smith: 772422
Administrator: Rosie Harris	administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 773035	
<b>Methodist Churches</b> <i>For information about services in Purton, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine. Braydon: Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship</i>		
Minister: Revd David Perkins	Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 8LT	
<b>Catholic Church - Church of the Sacred Heart, High St, Royal Wootton Bassett</b>		
<a href="http://www.thesacredheartparish.co.uk">www.thesacredheartparish.co.uk</a>		
Parish Priest:	Tel: 852366	
Revd Father Lucas Rodrigues		
Parish Deacon: Revd Terry Aspell	Tel: 325681	
<i>Services: Holy Mass Sunday 11.00am. Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am. Fri 7.00pm</i>		
<b>Catholic Church - St Mary's Church, High St, Cricklade</b>		
Priest: Father Michael Robertson	Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church	
<i>Services: Holy Days 7.0pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.</i>		

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# Purton. Magazine

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**INTouch**  
Design & Print

## From the Editors

The “war to end all wars” phrase was first used by H G Wells who clearly hoped that the sheer destructiveness of 1914/1918 conflict would persuade mankind to abandon war as a means of solving political disputes. Sadly, 100 years later we know otherwise.

Armistice events will be taking place all over the country including Pages of the Sea which is part of 14-18NOW, the UK’s official arts programme to mark the centenary. The film producer and mastermind of the London Olympics opening ceremony, Danny Boyle, has announced a nationwide beachside event that he is describing as an “informal gesture of remembrance.”

Members of the public are invited to assemble at nearly 30 beaches around the UK on Sunday 11 November. Large scale portraits of a casualty from the First World War will be drawn into the sand at low tide at each location and then washed away when the tide comes in. The public will be also asked to join in by creating silhouettes of people in the sand to remember the millions of lives lost or changed forever by the conflict.

Apparently, the thought behind the concept is that beaches are truly public spaces and seem perfect places to gather and say a final goodbye and thank you for the many sacrifices that were made. There will also be an online gallery of images from the Imperial War Museum to help those people unable to get to the beaches.

This issue of Purton Magazine contains several articles about events to commemorate the centenary in our village. In addition, part 64 of Rick Dixon’s Great War Project on page 58 also details much of the build up to the Armistice, especially from the perspective of those from Purton who went to war on our behalf. Then, on page 14 there are details of the annual Remembrance Service held at the Cenotaph in the High Street at 2.30. There will also be a short service at 11.00 at the Cenotaph in order to join the two minute silence with the rest of the country.

As if to remind us that Christmas is not far away (sorry to mention it) readers will also find in this issue, details of many parties, markets, shopping trips, raffle tickets, a social evening, a quiz, a show, a coffee morning, a Christmas single release and a Christmas Fayre as well as carols on Christmas Eve.

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Scenes around Purton are featured in the Age Concern 2019 calendars – see page 15

60

Scarecrows were created for the Trail last month attracting hundreds of visitors – see page 36

2762

Patients were cared for by the Prospect Hospice in Wroughton last year – see page 44

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## **Important Information Regarding a Road Closure**

Sunday 11th November from 2pm to 3.45pm the road between the College Road and The Peak will be closed for the Remembrance Service being held at the Cenotaph. Please bear with us during this temporary road closure period.

## **Thank You**

Purton Parish Council would like to thank the unsung heroes of our village who support the Council in their quest to keep tradition alive and our community together. John Lilley and his family have given countless hours of their time, with others, to keep the Cenotaph looking respectable and a fitting tribute to those who have fallen. We would like to thank them for their support and wish them well in their retirement from this voluntary post.

## **Don't Forget - New Youth Club For School Years 4-7**

Purton Parish Council is working with Community Mentoring Support (CMAS) to trial a youth club provision in Purton. The sessions are every Wednesday in the Village Hall from 6.15pm to 7.45pm for Purton resident children only.

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

## **Councillors 2018-19**

Chairman of Council/Charities	Ray Thomas	01793 951520
Finance & General Purposes		
Vice Chair of Council/Chair of Burials	Neil Hooper	01793 771066
Councillor	Scott Harflett	07920 260222
Councillor	Helen Hicks	01793 778207
Councillor	Geoff Greenaway	01793 771140
Councillor	Kevin Law	07768 456989
Councillor	Sue Matthews	01793 771091
Chair of Play Areas	Vicky McKerrow	01793 778190
Councillor	Jamie Hurwood	01793 771066
Councillor	Julie Ann Hurwood	01793 771066
Chair of Staff Sub	Paul Grigg	01793 771066
Councillor	Sue Relfe	01793 771066
Councillor	Elizabeth Wilson	01793 771854
Councillor	Emily Seabrook	01793 771066
Councillor	Grant Seabrook	01793 771066

## **Become A Dementia Friend**

Do you belong to a Community Group or business in Purton?

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Can we come to one of your meetings or premises and run a Dementia Friends Session? Say YES, make a difference and allow us to show that as a community we care. Make Purton Proud, say yes to 45 minutes of your time to make a difference to those suffering and caring. Alternatively come to one of our Dementia Friends sessions on the following dates:

DATES: 14th November at 10am in the Village hall and 7th December at 10am and 7pm in the in the Village Hall.

### **Councillor Surgery**

Do you have concerns or questions regarding Purton that the Parish Council can advise or help with? Come along and have an informal chat on Saturday 3rd December 2018 from 10am to 12 noon at the Village Hall, Purton.

### **November Meetings**

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

Monday 5th November Finance and General Purposes meeting

Monday 12th November Council meeting

Monday 26th November Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity

### **Memory Stones**

We now have three memorial tribute stones in place at the front entrance to the cemetery. If you are interested in a memorial stone to honour a loved one who was a resident in Purton, please contact the Clerk on 771066 or email [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk).

### **Planning - Determined Applications, approved with conditions**

18/06610/FUL Lower Pavenhill. New entrance to site and hard standing.

18/06076/FUL 31 Cob Hill. Change the external material of property.

18/06789/FUL Beechley Fields, Beechley Fields Arabians Ravenroost. Change of use from the keeping, stabling and breeding of horses for commercial purposes to a mixed use comprising the keeping, stabling and breeding of horses for commercial purposes, and the keeping breeding of dogs for commercial purposes, together with the erection of 4 no. dog exercise pens, and the construction of a permanent equine workers dwelling.

18/06326/VAR Land At Ridgeway Farm, Land Off Purton Road. The Buffer. Variation of condition 4 of planning permissions N/10/04575/OUT and 14/05859/REM to allow a change of the conservation kerbs around planters to 150mm kerbs.

18/06954/FUL 2 Newths Close. Proposed garage & hobbies room.

18/05850/FUL 6 Bentham Lane, Bentham. Erection of an ancillary granny annexe.

18/06946/FUL Hurstead Farm, Cricklade Road. Extension of agricultural livestock building.

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## **Refused Application**

18/06759/FUL Folly Down Farm, Packhorse. Proposed isolation stables and hay barn.

## **Footpaths Of Purton**

We would like to say thank you to the people who have already sponsored kissing gates in the village in memory of a loved one. If anyone would like to consider sponsoring a kissing gate please contact the office direct.

We are very fortunate in Purton to have a dedicated team of volunteers without whose support we would not be able to offer the footpath access that we currently enjoy.

## **Charities - Business Opportunity**

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity has a business opportunity arising from 10th September 2018.

The Kiosk (currently known as Laura's Kitchen) will be coming up for lease and if you are interested please contact the charities secretary for more information on 01793 771824 or email [charities@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:charities@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk)

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 let's raise some pennies. [www.giveasyoulive.com/](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/)

## **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 speed.

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](mailto:chezneymb@hotmail.com) or Deborah Lawrence on [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or call the office on 01793 771066.

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## **How to contact the Parish Council**

Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) Website: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://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 [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) or call 771066. Find us at: Facebook: Purton Parish Council, Twitter: @PurtonPC

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

## *Community/Charity Sector event*

### **The Governments Civil Society Strategy and what it means to Voluntary and Community Sector - 21 November 2-5pm, Salisbury Guildhall.**

Key Note speakers from Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, Office of Civil Society and NCVO ( National Council for Voluntary Services). Other speaker to be announced.

The first Government Civil Society Strategy in 15 years sets out a vision to create stronger communities. The strategy proposes significant reforms across the public and private sectors to build a fairer society. People, communities and charitable organisations will be at the centre of decision-making.

So how might this strategy influence and shape the work of the VCS? Find out more about the strategy here: [www.gov.uk/government/news/government-outlines-vision-to-empower-and-invest-in-society](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-outlines-vision-to-empower-and-invest-in-society)

If you would like to reserve your space at this event please email [info@wessexcommunityaction.org.uk](mailto:info@wessexcommunityaction.org.uk) ref: Civil Society Strategy Event. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first booked basis.

## *Purton Profferings*

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

- Free: Avalon 4'6" book headboard, Avalon 3'11" glass-fronted bookcase/cupboard. Contact Doreen Freegard 770178

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## The Royal British Legion-Purton Branch

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

The financial year to the end of September 2018 was very successful, resulting in a total for the Branch of £10432.11 which is £1100 more 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 Organizers, 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.

### **100th Anniversary Remembrance Service**

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 11th 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 the service will be relayed indoors.

We hope that, as now has become the custom, the road will be closed for approximately one and a half hours, 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 people 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.

We will also be holding a short service in the morning at 11.00am at the Cenotaph in order to join with the rest of the country in holding a two minute silence to commemorate the centenary of the Armistice on the 11.11.1918. This will include the "Last Post" and "Reveille", please come and join us.

*Thank you very much, Colin Pearson, Honorary Secretary*

House to house collections for the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal will take place in Purton from 27 October until 10 November. Please support the 2018 Poppy Appeal.

*Shirley and Michael Lawrence, Poppy Appeal Organisers*

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## Purton & District Age Concern



We were all saddened by the recent loss of Brenda Lilley. But what an inspiration she was to us all, the way she handled her illness and carried on helping people for as long as she could.

That was the type of person she was, always thinking of others. Brenda was involved with Purton Age Concern in many ways for about 40 years. Tony will be writing more about Brenda in next month's magazine. To John, all his family and friends, our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time.

At our October committee meeting we agreed to increase the weekly fee for our Tai chi classes to £4.00 a session. The classes have been running for over 6 years and this is the first time we have increased the fee. At £4 per hour they are still great value for money. The classes are held from 2-3pm on Thursday afternoons in the Millennium Hall. Please contact Steve Rouse the Tai chi instructor on 07956359924 or email him at [wroughtonbodybalance@gmail.com](mailto:wroughtonbodybalance@gmail.com) for more information.

We have closed our easyfundraising account. The account was opened as a way for people to donate to Purton Age Concern when shopping online but it hasn't proved popular so after 12 months we've decided to close the account. Our cause has now been deactivated and our supporters have been transferred to the main easyfundraising cause. If these supporters want to choose another cause to receive their donations, they can do this by going into their account settings on their easyfundraising account. Thank you to the 3-4 people who signed up as our supporters. We haven't received any money as donations to Purton Age Concern were less than the minimum £15.00 required for payment to be transferred to us.

Our 2019 Calendars and cards selling well. The calendars contain 34 photos and the cards have 5 photos, all taken by local people of scenes around the village. The calendars contain all the dates for Purton Age Concern monthly outings, events and fundraising functions during 2019 and cost £6.00 each. The cards are £4 for a pack of 10 cards, two of each of the five different designs. They are available at Andrew Hiscock Family Butchers, Val the hairdresser or by phoning Louise on 772558 or Tony on 770696. We are very grateful to Artworking Ltd who have made a lovely job of printing the calendars and cards and to Andrew Hiscock and Val the hairdresser for selling them on our behalf.

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, Peter on 778119 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 holding our Christmas party at Silver Threads Hall for disabled pensioners and their carers. Also, our street wardens will be delivering the Christmas vouchers and newsletters. The vouchers can be spent

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between 1st - 31st December 2018. Next month, in my report I will include a list of local 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 pensioners in our area. If you think you may be eligible to receive a Christmas Voucher please contact Louise on 772558 for more details.

In December we will be holding our main Christmas party at the Village Hall and Christmas market outside the Pavenhill shops. Hope to see you there!

We are very grateful to Neil and the team at The Red House for hosting our final event of 2018 - Carols at 7pm on Christmas Eve, with music provided by Mark Blackwell and his band of musicians. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served during the interval. This is our way of thanking everyone in the village for supporting us throughout the year.

Tickets for our Burn's Night Celebration at the Village Hall on Saturday 19 January 2019 are now on sale. Full details of all these events are in the future events section below.

### **Future Events**

**Minibus outings in November** - On Friday 30 November one of our minibuses will be going to Cirencester leaving the village at 9.00am and 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 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, Peter on 778119 or Tony on 770696. The draw will take place on Tuesday 11 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 at Silver Threads hall** - On Saturday 24 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 to attend 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 Saturday 17 November. We look forward to welcoming you to this lovely festive afternoon. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

**Christmas Shopping trip** - This trip is on Wednesday 28 November to Highfield Garden World at Whitminster. Besides a wide range of plants, garden furniture and other gardening equipment there is a food hall, home and giftware department, Pavers shoes, Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Peacocks. There will be a wide range of Christmas items on sale throughout the garden centre and their restaurant serves

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good food. The cost is £8 for pensioners in our area and £10 for non-pensioners and for those outside our area. Please book your place as usual with your street warden by Monday 19th November.

**Christmas Party at the Village Hall** - Our main Christmas party this year is on Saturday 1 December from 5pm-8.30pm at the Village Hall. The cost is £6.00. The entertainment will be provided by the Merry Folks and the Village Voices Choir. Please contact your street warden to book your place before Saturday 24th November. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

**Christmas Market** - Our Christmas market will be held on Saturday 8th 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 on Christmas Eve** - This will take place on Monday 24 December at 7pm at The Red House. Mark Blackwell and his musicians will provide the music, so come along and join in the carol singing. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served during the interval. We are very grateful to Neil and the team at The Red House for hosting this event.

**Burns Night Celebration 2019** - This will take place on Saturday 19th January 2019 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. Tickets are available from Jenny Barnes on 770339. This is a very popular event so if you don't want to be disappointed please contact Jenny as soon as possible as tickets are selling fast.

### **Past Events**

**September Mystery Tour** - Numbers were lower than usual for this outing but those that went along enjoyed an excellent afternoon tea with delicious food, plenty of cakes and cups of tea; some people even went home with a doggy bag!

**October Mystery Tour** - We had a lovely drive via Chippenham, Calne, Marlborough, Savernake Forest to the Bell Inn at Weyhill for a carvery lunch, which was delicious, with a choice of three meats and plenty of roast potatoes and vegetables. Some people even had room for a dessert! The journey home was via Andover, Newbury, Lambourn, Shrivenham and Highworth. A lovely day was had by all who attended.

**3Bs x 2 Evening** - This took place on Friday 5 October and was a complete sell out once again. It really is a popular event! Silver Threads Hall was buzzing with chatter and laughter as all the seats filled up. Our grateful thanks go to Maria and her team in the kitchen who provided another delicious meal of baked potatoes, bangers and beans followed by a choice of desserts, to John Lilley who called the bingo for us and to everyone who donated raffle prizes and supported us on the night.

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## **Information**

**Fire Service and Bobby Van** - If you need a smoke alarm fitting or checking please contact the Fire Service on 0800 038 2323. If you need the Bobby Van please call them on 01380 861155.

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

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

**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 2 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.

*Louise Tidman*

## *What Is A Defibrillator?*

This piece of life-saving equipment (also known as an Automated External Defibrillator or AED) can be used if someone collapses due to a heart attack and needs their heart restarting. Defibrillators are now found in many locations as they are easy and safe to use and can really make a difference.

In such an emergency, current advice is to call 999, ask for an ambulance and also ask where your nearest defibrillator is located. The controller will tell you where to go to collect the defibrillator and give you the code to open the box where it is stored. At the same time, an ambulance will be despatched to ensure that Paramedics are on their way to help with the emergency. When you use the defibrillator, it talks you through exactly what to do and it only operates if the person who has collapsed needs their heart restarting. Defibrillators are safe to use and you might well save someone's life. In 2019 we hope to run a session in the village about how to use a defibrillator.

Look out for more information in the village magazine and on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail](http://www.facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail) and more Information about defibrillators generally on [www.communityheartbeat.org.uk](http://www.communityheartbeat.org.uk)

*Ali Davies*

## *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*

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## Lucy Webb 1922-2018

Lucy was born in Pavenhill in April 1922, to Phil and Art Slade, who worked as many Purton men did, at the GWR works in Swindon. Lucy had one brother, Sam.

My Dad, Ted Wicks, was Lucy's uncle, but being born just six months after him, they grew up more like brother and sister. Because of this, we Greenhill kids called her Aunt Lucy out of respect. There was nothing Lucy loved more than visiting Granny Wicks at the cottage in Greenhill, and she freely told me she loved Granny so much and how she helped nurse her in old age.

Lucy attended Purton School until she was 14, then she went to work in service for Mr and Mrs Huck at Purton Stoke. She worked hard and spoke of Christmas days that were split between work and hurried visits home, riding her bike back to Purton for a few hours with her family, before returning for supper duties.

She went on to work at Garrards, taking the train with her friend Lil Simpkins (Frost), they had some great laughs together.

Lucy met the love of her life, Ron Webb, while he was in Purton playing football. She caught his eye and there was no looking back. Ron made frequent visits to Purton, football or not, and they were married in 1940. Ron joined the Marines soon after and was posted overseas. He was captured in Crete and made a prisoner of war for four years.

Lucy was by then working in Lyneham, again with Lil, who helped keep her spirits up while Lucy struggled with the knowledge that her Ron was imprisoned so far away. One icy evening, while riding their bikes back home, Lil suddenly went quiet behind her, Lucy looked back to see Lil climbing out of the ditch! She'd hit a patch of ice and come off, although a bit shaken, Lil and Lucy continued their journey, no doubt laughing as they rode.

Ron was released in 1945 and a year later he and Lucy celebrated the birth of Jenny. Lucy often spoke of that day; Dr Crossley delivered Jenny after a difficult labour at her mother and father's home at 102 Pavenhill. Lucy, Ron and Jenny lived happily at 112 Pavenhill until sadly Art died whilst riding his motorbike to work. The family then moved in with her mother Phil at 102. The arrangement worked out very well, as Phil looked after Jenny while Lucy worked for Ecko in Malmesbury, who made electrical goods. Weekends were spent watching Ron play football and cricket, at which Lucy said he was very good at.

Lucy made a change of career and trained as a Registered Mental Nurse, and started work at North View where she worked nights. There was no nonsense when Lucy was on duty and she worked there until she retired. She visited some of the ladies who moved from North View to a Bungalow in Pavenhill; Mertyl and Ada and was always known a Nurse Webb.

In the early 1960s Lucy joined the Red Cross, along with Jessie Newman, and became a mentor to many young people, sharing her nursing skills. Lucy was often

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seen in attendance at local events, including Purton Carnival, in the early days with Jessie and later with Annie Cuss – as well as various young people she took under her wing.

When the family was given the chance to buy 92 Pavenhill, a lovely bungalow, Phil sold her house to help with the cost and they all moved. Life was good; the family enjoyed their new home, made complete with their much-loved corgi. Speaking to Derek Bryant the other day, he told me that his parents were neighbours for 40 years.

In May 1971 new life brought new joy, when Jenny and her first husband, Peter, gave Lucy and Ron a beautiful granddaughter, Sacha. Sadly Ron became ill and despite Lucy's devoted nursing, passed away in November. He never met Helen, their youngest granddaughter, who was born in 1974. They were a big part in Lucy's life and she was always on hand to help with their care.

When Lucy's mother Phil died in 1991, she lived alone. Lucy filled her time with helping others. She often went to help the elderly and infirm to bathe and never shied away from a bed bath! As well as becoming a Street Warden for Purton Age Concern, she volunteered at the Accident and Emergency department at Princess Margaret's Hospital, where her nursing skills were much appreciated and she always had a good rapport with the doctors. Lucy attended Silver Threads as her mother had before her, and was usually found in the kitchen making the teas, or helping her friend Brenda Cook with the money. Lucy continued attending Silver Threads until last year, when after a couple of funny turns, she decided she was better off staying at home.

Lucy loved hunting, and went as often as she could. It was here that she struck up a friendship with Tony Matthews, who drove Lucy's little red Metro to watch the Vale of White Horse hunt. More recently her hunting trips stopped, but Tony's wife Susan maintained the friendship, visiting at least once a week. They were always on hand if she was in need of help.

Sacha and Helen have grown into lovely young women. Lucy was very proud of them both and lit up when she talked about them. She often talked of Sacha and her husband Stuart, the cats they call their babies, the antics they got up to and how hard Sacha worked. She talked about Helen and her husband Paul, and that she too was a hard worker and Helen's two lovely sons, Kieran and Michael, now both in their teens. She talked of their progress and how she loved their visits and the special cuddles she got from all of them.

Lucy was always saying how good Jenny and Tim, her son-in-law, were to her. She had no worries, which gave her great peace of mind. They did as much as she would allow them to. Jenny made sure her mum was always stocked up with shopping. If she could find Lucy a bargain, she was always very pleased.

Tim kept the garden in hand, growing vegetables so Lucy could help herself. A few years ago Lucy went out to pull some carrots and fell face first on to the ground. She

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broke her nose and her neck, but wasn't fazed and took it in her stride, continuing to live on her own. She was a very independent and determined lady.

I visited as often as I could. As I walked towards the door I could hear her say "It's my Pearlie, Pearlie Wicks!". We shared lots of conversations about her love of holidaying in Blanes, Spain, where she visited several times with her mother Phil, Olive Bunce and later with her friend Dora Miles. They travelled most of the way by coach – quite a journey!

She told me of friendships with the Durnford family in years gone by and I was surprised when she told me she'd stayed up late to watch her favourite film – Rambo! At the end of every visit she insisted I marked the calendar; she always knew how long it was between visits.

My memories of those visits are of love and laughter.

Lucy was always good to us Greenhill kids and to me in particular. When I was in my teens there was a dance in Purton and I couldn't get a lift home. But there was always a bed for me at Lucy's so I could go. She also did all the catering for mine and Jamie's wedding. We were really lucky, it was a perfect reception. Only last week I used the huge saucepan she had used to cook the potatoes on that day, to cook my Christmas puddings. I won't find it hard to remember Aunt Lucy, but certainly once a year when the pan comes out, she'll be with me.

With Jenny and son-in-law Tim's help, Lucy lived at 92 Pavenhill until she became ill in July this year. She spent a few days in hospital, followed by a short stay at Bassett House, then moved to Abbey House, where she satyed until she passed away on 11 September, at the wonderful age of 96. Reunited with her darling Ron.

*Pearl Lait*

## The passing of Anne Young

Anne Young, formerly of the Pear Tree, Purton passed away on the 24 September 2018, aged 65 years. Beloved mother to Edward and Alix and mother in law to Tim and Olivia. Adored grangran to Charlie. A memorial service was held at St Mary's Church, Purton on Friday 26 October at 2.30pm. Donations welcome for Maggie's Cancer Centres c/o Hillier Funeral Service, 170 Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts SN1 3DF. Enquiries: 01793 522797.

*Published in the Swindon Advertiser on 2 October 2018*

## Guide Dogs

I have done two stalls with Swindon Branch at the B&Q Stores, on the 22nd of September at the 'Northern Orbital Centre' and at Greenbridge on the 6th of October, and raised just over £100. Due to difficulties the 'Band Concert' has had to be postponed until the spring, I will give further details early in the new year when I have them. Many thanks for your continued support.

*Brian Davies. On behalf of Purton Support Group.*

## **Table Top sale in the waiting room**

Taking place on Monday 5 November in the waiting room at Purton Surgery, selling bric-a-brac items at a small cost or donation. We already have some items for this, including soft toys and would welcome more. If you have items you would like to donate then please hand them to one of the receptionists.

Money raised will be used to help the surgery purchase a Dermatoscope which is a piece of equipment used for examining the appearance of the skin, ordinary skin as well as moles, to diagnose skin problems. Although dermoscopy can be helpful in all forms of skin diagnosis, it is particularly helpful for the diagnosis of skin cancer. This will ensure patients are referred appropriately to hospital, if required.

## **‘Flu Vaccinations**

These will be on Saturday 13 October for eligible under 65s and on Saturday 17 November for over 65s. Some patients have considered having the vaccination at a pharmacy, however please be aware that because the surgery had to order their ‘flu vaccine supplies last December if you have the vaccination elsewhere then this causes the vaccine at the surgery to be wasted.

## **Repeat prescription services**

Recently some patients may have received a letter in the post from a company called Pharmacy2U offering a repeat prescription delivery service. The letter lists your local surgeries but there are no links between your surgery and this service. Please also be assured that Pharmacy2U has no access to your medical records.

If you register with this company you will have to communicate your repeat prescription requirements to them directly, they will contact the surgery who will send the prescription to them electronically. Once they have received this, your medicines will be dispensed and sent to you in the post from their base in Leeds. Pharmacy2U say that you should allow seven days from your request to the delivery of your medicines. The vagaries of the postal system could, of course, add to this time particularly in the run up to Christmas and at Bank Holidays. You would also need to be available to receive the parcel. Patients should also know that once a prescription has been despatched from the surgery to this company it cannot be re-issued.

Whilst this service could be useful for those who are not very mobile, the current system operated by the surgery, which electronically sends your prescription to your chosen local pharmacy, is efficient and requires less notice and turnaround and if you aren’t able to get out then many pharmacies offer a delivery service.

Of course, every patient has the right to have their prescriptions dispensed at the pharmacy of their choice.

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

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# Ten Years Ago...

The November 2008 issue came in with a something new – a full-colour drawing by an eight-year-old from St. Mary’s School. The editorial explained that, unfortunately at the time, colour could be used only occasionally. The cover was not only used to “showcase” – awful word – the annual exhibition of the Purton Artists Society but also drew attention to a small controversy with the Society claiming that their regular contributions to the Magazine’s cover “seem to have gone unnoticed”. The editorial refuted this; a rare example of disagreement in our pages, and hopefully the matter was put to rest.

An important event had been held on 12th October in (plain) Wootton Bassett. This was a military thank you from all three armed services for the respect shown by the people of the town for the fallen each time a cortège passed through from Lyneham. But this day was one of celebration with bands on parade and a fly-past, closing with a service of reflection. And yet, and yet, this month we will be looking back a hundred years.

In the random statistics notes at the bottom of the editorial were recorded 590 injuries at fireworks parties. Only careful reading of the later article revealed that this was a national figure and not that for Purton! The article was full of good advice, from avoiding launching fireworks near thatched roofs to keeping your cat safe indoors.

The article extended to two pages so cannot be repeated in detail here but the contribution from After Eight demands to be quoted at length, so: “Eleven cheerful ladies soon became grumpy old women when talk turned to Electricity Boards and British Gas; if it wasn’t their treatment of us it was their telephone systems. Oh for the joy when you reached a human being and you hoped you could understand the accent”. No further comment required, I think.

Not surprisingly, Christmas shopping crept in with a list of ethical websites. At the end, for “some of us who have everything” was suggested the option of “Send a Cow”, without explaining what that meant. In fact, an internet search reveals a worthwhile charity. Have a look!

## *Purton Artists 2018 Exhibition*

Do come along and support this year’s art exhibition which will take place in the Village Hall from 9th to 11th November. Friday from 6-9pm, Saturday 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.

As well as original paintings and photography available to buy, there will be craft items also for sale. Refreshments will be available all weekend.

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## Armistice 100

Regular readers will know that Rick Dixon started his amazing series “Purton and a Great War” all the way back in July 2013, and he has now produced a book of the series. His aim has been to highlight the effects the Great War had on our village and all those Purtonians who fought, often in far flung places that many of us have never even heard about.

Month by month we have been able to track the build up and development of “the war to end all wars” from our own, local perspective with the names of those mobilised and of those who gave the final sacrifice, usually with details of where they have been remembered.

This month we are at last able to remember the Armistice which was signed in a special train at Compiègne Forest with hostilities on the Western Front ceasing, most memorably at 11.00am on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. Now, at precisely the same moment 100 years later, bells will ring out in unison from churches and cathedrals in villages, towns and cities across the country. Big Ben will also strike at 11am to mark the centenary.

This poem, by Agnes Lee, carries the date as its title and may help us to imagine what it might have been like exactly one hundred years ago.

### **November 11, 1918**

Suddenly bells and flags!  
Suddenly—door to door—  
Tidings! Can we believe,  
We, who were used to war?  
Yet we have dreamed her face,  
Knowing her light must be,  
Knowing that she must come.  
Look—she comes, it is she!  
Tattered her raiment floats,  
Blood is upon her wings.  
Ah, but her eyes are clear!  
Ah, but her glad heart sings!  
Soon where the shrapnel fell  
Petals shall wake and stir.  
Look—she is here, she lives!  
Beauty has died for her.

*Agnes Lee*

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



Paul Wilkins - a Purton man - gave a fascinating illustrated talk called "The House" about the workhouses of Stratton, Highworth and Purton in the 19th Century, and the lives of the unemployed, homeless, sick and pensioners who were the inmates. Care of the poor in England had always been the duty of the church, but with the dissolution of the Monasteries by Henry VIII in 1536, it became the job of a Poor Law Commission-financed by local parishes (with no funds!) who built Workhouses or Unions. They provided work (hence the term workhouse) and shelter for sick, homeless young and old who entered voluntarily, but were separated-men from women, young children from parents, aged couples, on entry.

They wore a uniform of striped clothing, a cap and were given boots - not new! The food was of the meanest quality, bread, thin gruel, tea and cheese. They slept in dormitories, had basic schooling, isolation wards for the sick and enclosed exercise yards. Work was compulsory-picking oakum (splitting heavy ropes with a spike) and crushing bones to make fertiliser dust. Carrying heavy stones or beating with canes were common punishments for not working. For those who died, the workhouse could only offer an unmarked paupers grave. Purton had its own Workhouse-still in the village-built in 1837-in union with Cricklade & R.Wootton Bassett (They were very expensive to build & run). They generally fell into disuse after World War I. They were replaced by "outside relief"-by the National Assistance Act 1948 (for the Unemployed) The National Health Service 1948 and the Education Acts. For which we are all truly grateful! In spite of the sadness of the subject we had a spirited question time and refreshments were enjoyed by all. Our next talk will be "The Greatest Knight of All" to be given by Martin Collinson- 22nd October-7.30pm-Village Hall. Come along for an interesting evening - all welcome

### **Future Meetings**

**Thursday 22 November 2018 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall - John Dymond SNAP – The rise and demise of a Downland Community**

In the 1850s the ancient hamlet of Snap was thriving and growing. With its neighbouring settlement of Woodsend, it shared a new school, a new church and an expanded Methodist chapel. But in not much more than 60 years, the last inhabitant had left and the settlement had been abandoned to nature. How had it come to this disastrous end, and what was the extraordinary consequence of a national newspaper reporting its demise? John Dymond, curator of the volunteer-led Aldbourne Heritage Centre, will tell its story.

**Friday 7 December 2018 at 7.30 pm in Purton Silver Threads Hall - Annual Christmas Social Evening**

Our annual social is always a fun, relaxed evening with a festive spirit. This year the entertainment will be provided by the popular Swindon group 'Merrifolk' who

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play many instruments and entertain with a variety of music. There will be a buffet supper, raffle and lucky ticket winner. We ask people to bring their own drinks which gives greater personal choice. We do supply a variety of glasses. Tickets are available now at monthly meetings, from Purton museum and Mrs Marion Hobbs – email [roy.marion@btinternet.com](mailto:roy.marion@btinternet.com) telephone 01793 770185. They are very good value at £12.50 each.

### **The New Year**

Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall – Dr Nick Humpris - Chedworth Roman Villa

Thursday 28th February 2019 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall – Stephen Wells - The Life and Crimes of Jack the Ripper

New Members and visitors always welcome.

*Janet & Tony Neate, E mail: [tjneate57@gmail.com](mailto:tjneate57@gmail.com) Tel: 01793 770117*

*“The Flawed Genius of Jan Smuts”- new DVDs. Excellent Christmas present for history buffs. Contact: [parker.jacky@googlegmail.com](mailto:parker.jacky@googlegmail.com) or Purton History Society*

## Purton Museum

Our new Exhibition ‘Purton in The Great War’ opened on Saturday 6 October 2018. The opening was very successful with over 40 visitors. This included visits from Jacqui Lay, our local Councillor, and James Gray, the local Member of Parliament.

We would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work in compiling the exhibition and also all the people that donated or loaned artefacts etc. The exhibition certainly generated a lot of interest and compliments from our visitors.

The exhibition continues until Saturday 24 November 2018. After this the displays will be dismantled and artefacts returned to their owners. The Museum will then be closed until the spring.

Purton Museum is open until 24 November on Wednesdays from 2-5pm and Saturdays 10am-12.30pm

*Beth Farnham, Museum Curator*

## Cricklade Country Market

Our next market: Friday November 30th, 2-4pm At The Jenner Hall Cricklade



Locally handmade, home cooked or home grown produce straight from us to you! Join in the Christmas Raffle. Orders for Christmas will be taken at this market. Pop along for a delicious afternoon tea or come in for after school refreshments too!

Future MARKET DATE: December 21st (the Christmas market)

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

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## Purton Methodist Church

About 18 months ago we started a long needed refurbishment programme and over the past months we have put articles in this magazine about our progress. At the beginning of October we held a Fundraising Day to improve our loop system which raised £1,087.67.

Final events for this year will be a Christmas Coffee Morning at 35 High Street on 1 December from 10.00 a.m. until 12 noon, the £1 entrance fee will include tea, coffee and mince pies. There will be a Christmas Table Sale (instead of a bric-a-brac stall), Christmas Tombola, Christmas Raffle and a cakes stall. The following evening, Sunday 2nd December, in the Village Hall Chedworth Silver Band will once again provide an evening of entertainment. Their previous concert earlier in the year was very well supported and several people asked for their return. Tickets for this concert on 2nd December will be available from the beginning of November.

The support we have received from so many has been, without doubt, amazing. It has given us the chance to achieve what we hoped to do much sooner than anticipated. We are a small congregation so our resources are limited. Many small Methodist Churches have closed but we are very much hoping to move forward and with the support we have received it has given us the confidence we needed to do this. On behalf of the Methodist Church, thank you again for your support. The Coffee Mornings – with Bakewell tarts!!!! – will continue next year, along with, maybe, some new ideas.

*Any queries please contact Sylvia Freemantle (tel: 770686)*

## Purton Methodist Church Women's Fellowship

The new season of the Methodist Women's Fellowship began in style in September with a birthday party to celebrate the special birthdays of three of our members. 29 of us sat down to a tea of ham, salmon, cheese and tomato, egg sandwiches, sausage rolls, crisps and home-made tray bakes, tea, coffee and cold drinks. During the course of the afternoon the birthday cake, made and iced by one of our members, was formally cut, to the traditional rendering of "Happy Birthday", and distributed. A presentation was also made to Linda Tinson who has been the leader of Methodist Women's Fellowship for 20 years. The afternoon began and concluded with informal musical entertainment from our special guest, Sharon Lloyd, a singing teacher and a member of Kentwood Choir, followed by a sing-song in which we all participated. Our November gathering will take place on Wednesday 14th November at 2.30 p.m. at Purton Methodist Church. Paul Evans will be entertaining us with light-hearted poems and monologues. We look forward to seeing any ladies who would like to join with us. The Age Concern minibus is usually available.

*If you would like further information please contact Linda Tinson (tel: 771282)*

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# 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.

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## **Macmillan Cancer Support**

Thank you very much to our supporters from Purton who we welcomed to the Macmillan Coffee morning in Lydiard Millicent Parish Hall. I am pleased to report we raised £658.97. Hope to see you next year.

*Vilma Munro*

## **The late Lucy Webb**

We would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of support, cards and condolences, and for attending the service for Mum on 3rd October. It was greatly appreciated.

*Jenny, Tim and family*

## **90th Birthday Bash**

I would like to thank all my guests for coming to my 90th birthday bash on Sunday 7th October, and particularly my two daughters Gill and Angie for organizing it. Together we raised just over £200 for the Prospect Hospice in lieu of presents.

*Frank Strange*

## **Café opening is something to celebrate**

Huge congratulations to the Pips team on the opening of the Pips Community Café. This long awaited project is now up and running and is proving to be a great success. It's great that Purton can provide such enthusiasm and volunteering spirit to benefit us all.

This has very much been a team effort, but thanks must go to Purton Club for sharing their premises and special credit to Mary and David Nettleton who have spearheaded it all.

*Christine Gill*

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## Age UK Wiltshire

Age UK Wiltshire have developed a survey with the help of Healthwatch Swindon – the purpose of the survey is get a better understanding of people's experiences in later life locally. Having a good understanding of people's experiences will enable Age UK Wiltshire to design and develop the right type of services and support. The more people who complete the survey, the better our understanding will be. We are extremely grateful to anyone who can take 5 minutes to take part [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AgeUKWiltshire](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AgeUKWiltshire)

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## Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



All units welcomed new members at the start of term. Some are brand new to Girlguiding whilst others have progressed from one age group to the next.

Guides had an evening of patrol games to welcome their new members, encouraging teamwork and getting to know each other, mixed with a healthy dose of competitiveness. It's amazing how much fun can be had with 100 plastic cups, sheets of paper and a timer.

1st Purton Rainbows have also been getting to know each other as part of the "All about me" roundabout badge. This involved celebrating their differences; whether blonde or brown hair, blue or green eyes or with or without glasses, we are all the same inside even if we are different on the outside. Another meeting was spent looking at hair and nails; the Rainbows learnt how germs spread by putting glitter on one Rainbow's hand and watching as it spread between them all if they didn't wash their hands.

The two Brownie units have been doing autumn activities from the nature-based resource Rustle Bustle and Squeak. 2nd Purton made bat pencil holders, looked at different animal tracks and made owl mobiles. They also made "spotter" sheets to which they added pictures of animals, birds, butterflies or insects and wrote a few facts about each. 1st Purton Brownies made chocolate spider cakes and went on an urban safari with challenges to complete en route.

Still on the autumn theme, the units attended the harvest service at St Mary's Church. The Guides had prepared by baking and decorating over 100 gingerbread biscuits. Some of the girls showed great flair and artistic talent as they created works of art. More great smells came from the Millennium Hall kitchen the following week when 1st Purton Brownies made flapjack, a session led by Maxine, one of the Brownie parents.

We love being able to draw on our members' skills or skills from friends and family to offer new experiences. Izzy, a 2nd Purton Brownie, has a black belt in Taekwondo. Along with two of her instructors from Aspire Martial Arts she gave the other Brownies in her unit a demonstration. The Brownies enjoyed the taster session which saw them all take part.

Guides also welcomed a visitor, although on a more serious subject, which brought home to the girls the importance of valuing and caring for all generations in our community. Sue Giles, a Dementia Friend Champion, visited the unit and gave a compassionate and heartfelt talk about what dementia is, how it affects those with the condition and what we can do to support to enable sufferers to live an active life and remain well. The Guides enjoyed Sue's fantastic role play, with them all being her grandchildren and helping her 'remember'. It was a truly interactive and thought-provoking evening. All of the Guides are now Dementia Friends, pledging to

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wear their badges with pride and put into action being more dementia aware and consider how they can build a dementia-friendly community.

Girlguiding in Purton is very much part of the community. The Brownies and Guides must have particularly green fingers as they did very well with the potato challenge at the village Flower, Arts, Craft and Produce Show. Guides picked up on the current rock-painting craze around Swindon and spent one evening painting rocks which they then hid around Purton - we hope you might have discovered some on your walks around the village. The Guides also visited the WI for an evening learning all about life for women during the Second World War. The girls learnt about how to create wholesome meals from rations, they helped to make butter from cream and did some tasting including carrot jam, which was a hit! Hearing people's memories and looking at their memorabilia, including a George Medal which belonged to one lady's father all made for an inspiring evening.

We are so fortunate in Purton to have such enthusiastic and committed volunteers running our units, who get just as much out of guiding as the girls. It's great when we have the opportunity to celebrate one of our volunteers' achievements and we are delighted that Rachel Mead, leader with 1st Purton Guides, received a Girlguiding South West Region Compass Award recently. This award recognises the dedication of those who give freely of their time on a regular basis to provide good quality guiding to the girls in their unit and local area and to the benefit of the local community. Rachel, pictured here, received the award at celebration event in Salisbury.

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

Find us on Facebook too: [www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision](https://www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision)

## *The Cast of Stage Struck - A Swinging Christmas*

The Cast of Stage Struck are back this December with their latest concert "A Swinging Christmas". It's a show for all the family, full of comedy, dance, song, and a special pirate surprise!

We'll be swinging our way through some Christmas classics, and our soloists will be adding their individual festive flair. There's also a slightly unusual take on a classic tale, as we take you from Rio to the Isle of Wight - with a story of forlorn love on the high seas, and a mad-baking panto dame!!

Tickets are on sale now - priced at £10 for adults and £5 for children. We are also pleased to be supporting local charity, TWIGS, with this event and will be donating 50% of all ticket sales to them. A Swinging Christmas takes place at Immanuel Church, Upham Road, on Saturday 8th December - with performances at 3pm and 7.30pm.

*Contact us at the following: 07596 151051 email: [thecastofstagestruck@gmail.com](mailto:thecastofstagestruck@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/thecastofstagestruck/](https://facebook.com/thecastofstagestruck/) [www.thecastofstagestruck.com](http://www.thecastofstagestruck.com)*

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## Scarecrow Trail Results

The 2018 Purton Scarecrow Trail was a great success. The scarecrow makers put lots of hard work and imagination into their creations. We had 60 scarecrow entries with hundreds of people touring the village following the trail, making a profit of over £700. This money will be added to our existing funds to cover maintenance costs for the two community access cardiac defibrillators. Once again, we ran a “mini” trail for younger children, which was a real success and will plan to do this again next time. The Swindon Advertiser covered the event with two articles and photographs.

We would like to say a big thank you to all those who supported us by offering prizes: Hiscocks Butchers, The Bell at Purton Stoke, David Lloyd Club (Swindon), Hair by Val, Purton House Organic Farm Shop, Toomers Garden Centre, Laser Quest & Kidzabout. Congratulations to all those who entered the quiz. The prizes were awarded as follows:

### **Best Scarecrow makers:**

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs Booy (King Midas)               | The Maharaja - £20 Voucher         |
| 2. Lindsey Hall (King Kong)            | Voucher from Hairdressing by Val   |
| 3. Jenni Birchell (Prince of darkness) | Purton House Veg box & box of eggs |

### **Main scarecrow trail:**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. F. Griffiths | The Bell at Purton Stoke - meal voucher |
| 2. Chivers      | David Lloyd - weekend family pass       |
| 3. E. Rushen    | Hiscocks Butchers - £10 voucher         |
| 4. Rachel Woods | Toomers garden centre - rose plant      |

### **Children's scarecrow trail:**

- |             |                |                                  |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 10+         | Mia Airey      | Laser Quest £25 gift certificate |
| 6-10        | Layla Rice     | TenPin bowling - 4 free games    |
| 5 and under | Grace Drummond | Kidzabout 2 free entry vouchers  |

### **Judges Choice**

The Togher family (Killer Queen)                      Cricklade Club £20 breakfast voucher

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

We are planning to hold the next Scarecrow Trail in 2020: keep an eye out for articles in this magazine well in advance.

### **The answers for the 2018 quiz are as follows:**

<b>No</b>	<b>Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Kings, Queens, Princes and Princesses</b>
1	Queen Mary I (aka Bloody Mary)	31	King Canute
2	Princess and the pea	32	The Half Blood Prince
3	King Edgar the peaceful	33	Princess and the frog
4	Queen of the South	34	Prince

5	“Killer Queen” by Queen	35	King of Siam
6	Princess Poppy	36	The Queen Bee
7	King Henry IV (4th)	37	King Edward I (1st)
8	Princess Jasmine	38	King Kong
9	King Julian (Film: Madagascar)	39	King Midas
10	Old King Cole	40	Princess Grace of Monaco
11	Burger King	41	Prince Andrew
12	Dairy Queen	42	Nat King Cole
13	Queen	43	Prince of Wales
14	King George III (3rd)	44	King Edward VIII (8th)
15	Queen of clubs	45	Prince of Darkness
16	Princess Zelda	46	Princess Daisy
17	Billie Jean King	47	King Prawn Biryani
18	King Louie	48	The African Queen
19	King Arthur	49	King Henry VIII (8th)
20	King George	50	King of hearts
21	Witch Queen of New Orleans	51	Princess Fiona
22	Queen Elsa	52	The Black Prince
23	Prince Charming	53	Aerial, princess of the sea
24	Snow Queen	54	Richard I (1st) the Lionheart
25	Queen of Hearts	55	King Alfred the Great
26	Clive King	56	The King of Rock and Roll (Elvis)
27	Queen Victoria and Prince Albert	57	Princess bride
28	Prince Harry	58	The Scorpion King
29	Dancing Queen	59	The Lion King
30	All the King’s horses	60	King of Clubs

**The answers for the children’s trail were:**

1	Cinderella	8	Mufasa
2	Evil Queen/Maleficent	9	Beast/Prince Adam
3	Queen Elsa	10	Prince Charming
4	Belle	11	Snow White
5	Ariel	12	Eric
6	Tiana	13	Pocohontas
7	King Louie	14	Queen of Hearts

*Ali Davies*

## We Record ...



### **Baptisms at St Mary's Church**

- 23 September 2018 Luna Rose Thomson  
23 September 2018 Jacob Alexander John Cogland

### **Funerals at St Mary's Church**

- 19 September 2018 Carol Ann Holland (73)  
02 October 2018 Patrick 'Paddy' Charles Flynn (92)  
03 October 2018 Lucy Gladys Webb (96)

### **In Memoriam:**

- 1 November 1918 *Edward John Woolford*, 5th (Service) Battalion, 1/4th Royal Berkshire Regiment, died aged 26 of wounds received at Monte Catz in the Vittorio Veneto campaign. He is buried in Barenthal Military Cemetery, Italy and remembered on the Purton War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.
- 8 November 1918 *Joseph John Woolford*, "A" Battery, 312th Brigade Royal Field Artillery, died aged 19 of wounds received at the Battle of the Sambre. He is remembered on the Purton War Memorial, the Memorials in St Mary's Church and on Swindon's Roll of Honour.
- 25 November 1918 *Charles William Parsons*, 10th (Service) Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers, died of pneumonia, aged 22. He is buried in St André Communal Cemetery, Nord, France and is remembered on the Purton Parish War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.
- 26 November 1918 *Elijah Cook*, 2/8th (Territorial Force) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment, died aged 18 in a railway accident. He is buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais and is remembered on the Purton War Memorial (P. Cook) and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.

## Friends' love of running turns into support for charity

Preparation for the 2019 Mad March Hare is already well underway and new volunteers and friends for 30 years, Esther Newman and Denise Glover, are raring to go and inspire others to get fit and help raise money for charity in the process.



The pair of friends met at school in 1987 and, having completed various long distance walking events, decided to take up jogging for fun and fitness. They joined Swindon Harriers in 2011, where they made new friends and now this group

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of friends run together, with their dogs, discovering new routes around Swindon, from Coate Water to Lydiard Park and take it in turns to plan the routes.

Esther added 'we joined the running club to make new friends and it was a great experience. I started running when I was hurtling towards 40 as I wanted to challenge myself. I would encourage anyone wanting to improve their fitness to join one of the many free groups around Swindon; you don't need to be super fit and runners are always really supportive of new members and of the fact that we are all different shapes, sizes and running ability. For me being part of a group means that on the drizzly evenings when I wouldn't go



out on my own, I don't want to miss the opportunity to catch up with my friends. We call it running therapy, where we can run and get rid of our stress from the day. Running can be for anyone of any age group, it doesn't matter how fast you go, its getting up off the sofa and doing something you wouldn't have done before that counts. Since we formed our group of friends we have completed many events but the Mad March Hare has always been a favourite of mine as it's one of the few events where I can run with my dogs and people run with their little ones for fun too. March is also a beautiful time of year for running; close enough to Christmas so if I have had an unhealthy month I can prepare myself in February for the route. We started doing the Mad March Hare a few years ago by competing in the 5K but now we are brave enough for the 10K.'

Denise added 'Mad March Hare raises money for Breast Cancer Now, which is also a poignant charity as one of our friends in our running club was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2012 and has been clear for 5 years. Sonja's life was turned upside down by her diagnosis but luckily she survived but many friends she met through treatment did not. We wanted to help this wonderful charity to raise money for research so more women survive after diagnosis.'

The Mad March Hare is a popular annual event, which starts and finishes at Lydiard Park Academy. Now in its 12th year, it sees walkers, joggers and runners of all ages and abilities complete the 5 and 10k circuits around West Swindon. The next event takes place on 24th March 2019.

Registration opens on 1 November, which is the same date as the annual Mad March Hare Quiz Night at Swindon Town Football Club from 7pm. Tickets for the event, which include a ploughman's supper, cost £6.50 per person with teams of 6-8. There is a prize for the winning team and a great raffle.

Visit [www.madmarchhare.org.uk](http://www.madmarchhare.org.uk) for tickets or to register or find out more information about Mad March Hare 2019. Follow us on Twitter (@MadMarchHareSWN) or Facebook ([www.facebook.com/madmarchhareswindonbreakthroughbreastcancer](http://www.facebook.com/madmarchhareswindonbreakthroughbreastcancer))

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## Purton Village Diary - November 2018

1	Th	10.30am	Communion at The Vicarage
2	F	2.00pm	Friendship club at the Silver Threads Hall
3	Sa	5.30pm	Purton & Lydiard Scout Group Firework and Bonfire Spectacular at Lydiard Park
		8.30pm	Bandantree play at the Red House Club Halloween Costume Party
<hr/>			
4	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 Soul's Service at St Mary's Church with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith and Canon Michael Johnson
5	M	All day	Table top sale at Purton Surgery
		6.00pm	Free village bonfire on the fields behind Bradon Forest School, access on foot via the old Youth Club building, Reids Piece
		7.30pm	Cricklade Firework Display, Thames Lane
6	Tu	2.00pm	Christmas Gifts at the Silver Threads Hall, all welcome
7	W	7.30pm	Purton Tennis Club AGM at the Red House
8	Th	11.00am	Songs of Praise at the Cedars
9	F	6.00pm	Purton Artists Exhibition opens at Purton Village Hall
10	Sa	10.00am	Table top sale and coffee morning at Silver Threads Hall
		10.00am	until 4.30pm Purton Artists Exhibition at Purton Village Hall
<hr/>			
11	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.00am	until 4.30pm Purton Artists Exhibition at Purton Village Hall
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion and Act of Remembrance at 11.00am, St Mary's Church
		2.30pm	Remembrance Service at Purton War Memorial
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's School
13	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus meet at the Red House Lounge
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
14	W	10.00am	Dementia Friends Training session at Purton Village Hall
		2.30pm	Methodist Women's Fellowship welcome Paul Evans who will talk about Poems and monologues at Purton Methodist Church
16	F	7.30pm	World Challenge Race Night at Purton Village Hall
		8.30pm	S Hit 5 play a Children in Need fundraiser at the Red House
17	Sa		'Flu vaccination clinic at Purton Surgery for over 65s
<hr/>			
18	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Morning Service at St Mary's for all ages
19	M	2.00pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women meet at Purton Methodist Church for a talk on "A Loose Canon" by Meg Atkinson.
20	Tu	2.00pm	Paul plays his ukulele at the Silver Threads Hall
		8.00pm	After 8 meet at Lorraine's

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21	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI meet at Purton Village Hall for a birthday celebration, they will be joined for a talk from Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club
22	Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society meet at Purton Village Hall
24	Sa	10.00am	Last Chance to see 'Purton and the Great War' Exhibition at Purton Museum
		12.00pm	St Mary's Christmas Market at Purton Village Hall
		3.00pm	Purton Age Concern Christmas Party at Silver Threads Hall
		8.30pm	The Petty Thieves play at the Red House Club

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25	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	Wiltshire Saxophone Choir and Purton Village Voices Concert at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at Ridgeway Farm School
27	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus Club meet at the Red House Lounge
		7.30pm	Purton & District Gardeners' Guild American Supper at Silver Threads Hall
28	W	10.00am	Purton Age Concern Christmas Shopping trip to Highfield Garden World
		7.30pm	Whist Drive in aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance at the Silver Threads Hall
30	F	2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
		9.00am	Age Concern Minibus to Cirencester

### **Every week**

M	7.00pm	to 8.00pm	Purton Village Voices choir practice at the Red House Skittle Alley (term time)
Tu	9.00am	to 11am:	Purton Toddler Group at the Village Hall (term time)
	12 noon		Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall for over 60s
	7.30pm		Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	to 12 noon:	Coffee and chat at Silver Threads Hall
	2.00pm	to 5.00pm:	Purton Museum open, free of charge (Apr-Nov)
	6.30pm		Rock Solid at Purton Methodist Church
	12 noon		Luncheon Club at Silver Threads Hall for over 60s
	2.00pm	to 3pm:	Age Concern T'ai Chi at Millennium Hall
	2.20pm		Pram Service for pre-school children at Purton Methodist Church (term time)
	6.15pm		Purton Youth Club for school years 4-7 at Purton Village Hall
F	10.00am	to 11.30am:	Tea, coffee and cake at The Cedars
Sa	10.00am	to 12.30pm:	Purton Museum open, free of charge (Apr-Nov)

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## Every month

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

## December

1	Sa	10.00am	til 12noon Christmas Coffee Morning at 35 High Street
		5.00pm	Age Concern Christmas Party at Purton Village Hall
2	Su	7.30pm	Chedworth Silver Band at the Village Hall.
7	F	10.00am	and 7.00pm Dementia Friends Training session at Purton Village Hall
		3.30pm	St Mary's School PTA Christmas Fayre in school hall
		7.30pm	Purton Historical Society Annual Christmas Social at Silver Threads Hall
8	Sa	9.00am	til 12noon Age Concern Christmas Market outside Pavenhill shops
21	F	7.30pm	Purton Twinning Association Christmas Quiz at Silver Threads Hall
24	Sa	7.00pm	Age Concern Carols at the Red House, all welcome.

## Moon Phases

☉ 16 October      ○ 24 October      ☾ 31 October      ● 7 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, Tel: 772954 or email: [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

## S-Hit 5 at the Red House

For those of you that don't know us, S-Hit 5 are Purton's very own (self-styled) boy band. For those of you who do know us, you'll know that the term "boy band" has to be taken very loosely. We last gigged in mid December 2016, nearly 2 years ago. Unfortunately a slight touch of ill health reared its ugly head and we had to take an enforced break. But now we're back! That may not be such good news for all you music lovers but nevertheless we're still coming back and we're still rocking.

We'll be playing on Friday November 16th at The Red House, Purton. That date is Children in Need night and the committee at the Red House are using the night as a fund raiser for Children in Need.

Please come down and support us, we'll do our best to get you up dancing, or at least tapping your feet and singing along. Of course, more importantly, you'll be supporting a very needy and well deserving charity at the same time. If you like watching all the entertainment on the telly on that night, well just hit the record button and come and join us at The Red House. Oh and make sure you put your dancing boots on!

*Tony Richardson (S-Hit 5)*

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## Your green magazine

Have you enjoyed reading your magazine but hate waste? Here's a few simple tips on how to make use of your Purton Magazine and help the environment at the same time.

### **Pass it on...**

Why not give your Magazine to family or friends and get them involved in all the fabulous community events taking place right here in our village.

### **Ready shreddy go!**

Remove the staples and shred your magazine to use as pet bedding or as packaging for fragile items. Oak & Furrows Wildlife Rescue Centre (Blakehill Nature Reserve, Malmesbury Road, Leigh, Cricklade SN6 6RH (SN6 6RA for sat nav) are often in need of bedding for their patients, give them a call: 01793 751412 or email: info@oandf.co.uk

### **A cheesy idea?**

Sprinkle some baking powder onto the magazine pages and scrunch into balls before stuffing them into your trainers over night. The balls will absorb odours and moisture and you'll have super fresh feet the next day.

### **Grease is the word...**

Don't ruin a cloth getting the worst of the burnt bits off the inside of your oven, scrunch up some paper and give it a scrub before using your usual cleaning products.

### **Not just for mugs...**

Make tight pinwheels from strips of your magazines and glue them together to make coasters and trivets.

### **Fly the flag!**

Having a party and need some quick and cheap decorations? Look no further than your colourful magazine covers! Cut them into triangles, punch holes in two corners and thread with ribbon or string and make Purton Magazine bunting!

### **Give seeds the right start**

Make seed pots from your newspaper pages (sadly Purton Magazine pages are sealed to stop the print coming off and so it's not suitable for this). A great way to get your seeds germinating and the whole pot can be planted in the ground or into bigger pots and hanging baskets once the plants are ready to go outside.

[www.edenproject.com/learn/for-everyone/make-your-own-newspaper-seed-pots](http://www.edenproject.com/learn/for-everyone/make-your-own-newspaper-seed-pots)

And if none of the above appeal to you, please ensure your used magazine goes in your black recycling box for Wiltshire Council to recycle it.

Purton Magazine is designed and edited here in Purton. It's printed by Hulbert & Woodall Print Limited, Royal Wootton Bassett, using FSC accredited paper and non-toxic vegetable-based inks.

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## Prospect Hospice

### **Prospect Hospice asks for just £5 every month to fund a new nurse**

Prospect Hospice is asking 500 new supporters to pledge £5 each month to fund a new nurse to help deliver its many services for local people with life-limiting illnesses.

The Wroughton-based charity, which offers services across Swindon, Marlborough and north east Wiltshire, last year cared for 2,762 patients at the hospice, in the community and through its team based at the Great Western Hospital. With an anticipated growing demand for its services in the years ahead, the charity wants to bolster its workforce with more nurses.

“When people talk about the care that their loved ones have received through Prospect Hospice, invariably it’s the nurses from the team that they remember first,” says Sheryl Crouch, head of fundraising. “For many, they are the face of the hospice, and the bond that’s forged with them for patients and families is strong and long-lasting. With our current campaign, we are asking that people commit to make a donation of £5 every month towards our care. Just a small commitment like that can enable us to bring more of our nursing care to hundreds of patients and families who need our help each year.”

Nurses are integral to the delivery of the care that Prospect Hospice provides for people with life-limiting illnesses and work in a variety of different ways for the charity. For people who are admitted to the hospice’s inpatient unit in Wroughton, for pain management, symptom control, respite care and end-of-life care, the nursing team there ensure that there’s a familiar and friendly face close by at all times. The community-based clinical nurse specialist is often the first person from Prospect Hospice that a patient will meet following a referral, supporting patients in their own homes and designing a programme of care and support based on their diagnosis, and liaising with other health and social care professionals who can bring their own skills and expertise. The hospice also has a team based at the Great Western Hospital, aiding the team there in supporting people who haven’t previously been referred to the hospice’s services. Additionally, the nurse-led Prospect@Home team are there for patients whose preference is to be cared for in their own homes, during their illness and until the end of their lives.

Rob Drury-Dryden, whose late wife Sophie was cared for by Prospect Hospice at the end of her life ten years ago, has put his support behind the charity’s appeal to fund new nurses through a monthly commitment. “Our experience of Prospect Hospice was fantastic,” says Rob. “They gave the most fantastic gift of a dignified death. Having loved ones able to die in a calm and dignified way is a huge gift – and that’s what Prospect Hospice offers.” To sponsor a Prospect Hospice nurse, visit [www.prospect-hospice.net/sponsoranurse](http://www.prospect-hospice.net/sponsoranurse)

### **Get Festive for Prospect this December!**

If you want to get in the festive mood and support your local hospice, Prospect has

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a variety of Christmas themed fundraising activities available. You could pick up some early gifts at their Marlborough Christmas Fair on the 24th November, which will be opened by their Santa Run held on the same day with the runners arriving at the Town Hall doors, or dig out your festive knitwear for Christmas Jumper Day on the 14th December. Take it a little easier by cutting out all that Christmas card writing with their Easy Christmas Card, or have your presents expertly wrapped at their charity gift wrapping station located in the Brunel Shopping Centre, Swindon. To find out more about any of their Christmas events and activities please visit [www.prospect-hospice.net/festive](http://www.prospect-hospice.net/festive) or call the fundraising team on 01793 816161.

### ***Festive beauty and craft event in aid of Prospect Hospice!***

Local beautician Sabrina Williams is organising another Beauty and Craft Fair to raise funds for Prospect Hospice. It's a fantastic opportunity for local businesses and traders to come together and do something good for a great cause.

The event in June raised a fantastic £1,007.97 for the hospice and so she is back again on Saturday 24 November with her festive fair! The event will see a whole host of stalls offering pamper treatments such as manicures, massages and facials, and crafts including candles, organic products and a variety of knitted items. There will also be teas, coffee, cake and sandwiches available on the day, as well as a crèche run by a qualified childminder. So if you're looking for a chance to treat yourself, then come down to St Joseph's School on Ocotal Way in Swindon on Saturday 24th November, midday - 5pm.

### ***Prospect Rocks***

Prospect Hospice is joining the rock painting craze! In late October the hospice hid around 30 rocks across Swindon and Marlborough that were designed with the Prospect logo and a text donation code. They are now challenging the community to go out and find the rocks, take a photo, donate £3 to your local hospice and re-hide the rock in an area of your choice. Happy hunting.

*Hollie Ricketts, Community Fundraiser*

## *What's on with The Cricklade Band?*

The band continues to fund 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 3 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 not just terrific tea and cake but bacon or grilled halloumi rolls too! If you're a Table-Top seller, get in quick and 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, brunch rolls, 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 23 December at 7.30pm – watch out for the posters and make sure you secure your tickets!



## **Bradon Forest goes to Dover!**



Earlier in the new term Year 11 historians visited Dover Castle as part of their GCSE studies looking at the 'History Around Us' unit. The castle provides students with a hands-on experience of how a historical site has shaped the landscape over 2000 years. Students were keen to learn how the site has developed from the Roman Empire into the Medieval era and right through to the Cold War.

First on the list was the Roman lighthouse or 'Pharos' which stood tall and proud (with a little decay) and once used to dominate the Eastern hill of the site to guide Roman galleys on their journey to

the British Isles in the 1st Century AD. Following this, students had a grand time marching up and down the stairs of the Great Stone Keep, built by the formidable Henry II in the 12th Century and one of Britain's finest examples of splendour and political power to this day. After a little light lunch (a little too light for Mr Kershaw who had an unfortunate incident with a Dover seagull as it deftly pinched his succulent Chicken Breast sandwich that he had purchased that morning) the students embarked on a further study of the site which took in the development of tunnels which were originally built to garrison soldiers during the Napoleonic war. Other uses of the tunnels have included a WWI command post and an 'Evacuation from Dunkirk' exhibition. The final place of special interest was the Dover Castle gift shop which proved very popular with students, whose purchases ranged from bouncy balls, English Heritage pencils and fetching English Heritage bandanas.

All in all, the students were a delight to guide around the castle and many have come back with very positive comments about the sheer grandeur of the site and what it has to offer. Students praised the inspirational direction and snippets of information offered by the excellent staff; Miss Mazelin, Mrs Loxton, Mr Kershaw and Mrs Stevens.

## **Visit to the Design Museum, London**

The Design and Technology faculty took 41 Year 10s to visit the Design Museum in Kensington earlier this term. The aim of the trip was to inspire students by giving them insights into the world of Design and Technology and to witness first hand some of the UK's most iconic products.

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Students spent part of the day observing famous and creative designs from history up to the present day. From the paperclip to 3D printed chairs students witnessed first-hand how these were made and why they were successful. In the afternoon students attended a Workshop taken by a Designer from the museum which focused on how to make products function as well as look cool. The trip gave students a valuable insight into the world of Product Design which will help them through their GCSE courses.



This is what some of the students had to say about the visit:

“The Design Museum was great fun. There were a variety of designs and prototypes which will help inspire me in product design” (Jessica Donnelly)

“The Design Museum was an interesting building. I was inspired by the architecture as well as the thought provoking products that were on show. Overall it was a very worthwhile trip” (Lewis Newman)

### ***Huge Harvest Haul!***



Our first Inter-House competition of the new academic year was the number of donations for our Harvest Festival. It was a mammoth task to count them all with just short of 1300 items being donated. It was very close between the Battlewell and Peartree

houses with Peartree coming out on top in the end. These were donated to the Swindon Food Bank who weighed them all – 567 kg in all! They really appreciated such a big haul. Thank you to everyone who donated and we hope they will help lots of local families.

### ***Brass and Woodwind Roadshow comes to Bradon Forest***

Mrs Fry, Head of the Music Department at Bradon Forest, reports:

I invited the Swindon Music Service to Bradon Forest to show our new Year 7 students a wide range of brass and woodwind musical instruments. Instruments

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on show included a flute, clarinet, tenor and alto saxophones, euphonium and trumpet. The musicians told the students about the history and development of the instruments and performed a number of pop songs as well as music from film and TV. A favourite was 'This is Me' from 'The Greatest Showman'.



Students can learn to play a musical instrument or have singing lessons whilst at Bradon Forest. More details are on the website [www.bradonforest.org.uk/Parent-Information/Extra-Curricular/](http://www.bradonforest.org.uk/Parent-Information/Extra-Curricular/)

### **Athelstan Trust Strategy Day**



Bradon Forest School hosted a Strategy Day on Wednesday October 10 for the Athelstan Trust with board members and senior leaders from all three schools in the multi academy trust – Bradon Forest School, Malmesbury School and the Dean Academy. Delegates were entertained with musical performances from students, shown around the school by senior prefects as well as taking part in a number of activities to formulate the future strategy of the Trust. <https://theathelstantrust.org/>

### *After 8*

Our September meeting was meant to be an evening of board games but we eventually played two rather dated but enjoyable games that didn't require a board at all, one was called Outburst and the other Chronology. There were two advantages to this as we didn't have to rearrange the furniture to accommodate the boards and because they were, shall we say, of a certain vintage we knew many of the answers! Much fun and laughter ensued but next month we must be better behaved as it is our planning meeting for next year - where has the time gone?



*Helen Dixon*

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## St Mary's Primary School

We have been making the most of the warm weather to enjoy the outdoors at school. With the aid of our handyman, Mr Stokes, we have added some useful features to the Key Stage One outside area. A decked performance area, some fencing and three sheds for storing outdoor learning resources have all been constructed.

### **Gardening Club**

The gardening club were asked to come down and help spruce up the Millennium Garden in The Peak, so on Monday 8th October, a working party led by Mr Cooper and Mr Biddle



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joined Mrs Meares and Dr Yerbury to help with some colourful planting. The Men's Shed, an organisation from Royal Wootton Bassett, made the wooden planters especially for us to be able to do the planting and the children thoroughly enjoyed helping out.

### **Trip to Bowood**

The Year 1 and Year 2 children enjoyed a trip to Bowood on Wednesday 10th October. Their topic this term is Land Ahoy and the children were able to experience a thrilling visit to the Pirate Ship at Bowood to enhance their learning experiences about pirates! The children thoroughly enjoyed their trip and were all very well behaved for the teachers and helpers.



### **Harvest Festival - Monday 8 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! The whole school gathered in the church to deliver our harvest gifts, sing hymns and join in with the harvest celebrations. We hope our donated food will spread as much enjoyment and sustenance as possible for the Purton Senior Citizen Lunch Club and Swindon Food Bank, who we regularly support.

Date for your Diary: Friday 7th December - PTA Christmas Fayre from 3.30pm til 5pm at school. Please do come along with friends and family to support this event if you can.

Please note that the Primary School Admissions application process for Sept 2019 is now underway. Applications can be made on line via [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk) or by obtaining a paper copy from the School Admissions Team in County Hall Trowbridge. Deadline for all applications is 15 January 2019.

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

For more information about our wonderful school and all the exciting learning opportunities that take place, visit our school website: [www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk)

*Mrs Naomi Clarke, Head Teacher*

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## Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



The annual 'Mini-Show' was the focus of our September meeting and as members began to set out their exhibits it became obvious that this year's heatwave had impacted on crop yields resulting in a significant reduction in the number of entries in the various vegetable classes. Once again it was cakes that took centre stage with lemon drizzle, the nation's new favourite cake apparently, replacing ginger cake in the domestic category this year.

The voting process required those present to vote for their favourite in each of the 23 classes, and as ever, members needed little encouragement for the task, making short work of sampling Maureen Griffin's Victoria sandwich despite it being the only entry in its class and therefore an outright winner!!

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, 2nd Moira White, 3rd Marjorie Shailes

'Vegetables': 1st Howard Ockwell, 2nd Steve Goodall, 3rd Kath Fuller

'Fruit': 1st Moira White, Joint 2nd Josie Young, Kath Fuller

'Domestic': 1st Maureen Griffin, 2nd Moira White, Joint 3rd Mary Handy, Margaret Goodall, Marlene Slee

Congratulations to our chair, Moira White, 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 from all the exhibits entered. Congratulations to Thelma Venn who was the worthy winner with her stunning flower arrangement.

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

Our last meeting of 2018 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 entertainment will be provided courtesy of 'The Village Voices'. So don't miss it and remember to bring a plate of goodies to share.

As there is no meeting in December our 2019 program will begin with the AGM on Tuesday, 22 January at 7.30pm in Silver Threads Hall. This will be followed by a film portraying a year in the life of a bee to be presented by the very entertaining Mike Benson from the Swindon & District Beekeeping Association, who many of you will remember from our June meeting. More about the 2019 program will be in the December issue of the magazine so watch this space.

*Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)*

## Church Floodlighting



- Oct 2 St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Roger Lawrence** on what would have been his 84th birthday. Loved and remembered always. Vivien and Janet.
- Nov 4 St Mary's will be floodlit for All Souls Day, when all those who have left us will be remembered. Please contact the Clergy if you would like a love one mentioned in the service.
- Nov 11 St. Mary's will be floodlit for Armistice Day.
- Nov 14 The Church will be floodlit in loving memory of **Monica Kinnett** who passed away 13 years today. Loved and remembered always. Pete and family.
- Nov 16 St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Trev, (Trevor Bird)**, who left us on Nov 16 2003. Lovingly remembered by Jean, Amanda and Paul. xxx
- Nov 28 The Church will be floodlit in memory and celebration of **Mary Wightman's** birthday. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark, Ben, Daughters-in-law, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.

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

## Purton Millennium Garden



Many thanks to The Shed, Wootton Bassett, for the planters their volunteers made for the Millennium Garden. In October St Mary's School Gardening Club did a fantastic job planting up these containers with plants provided by Purton Open Gardens. Thanks to Nick Yerbury for the wonderful compost!

Please go and see their handiwork and 'rest a while' at the garden which is on the High Street, opposite the War Memorial. This piece of land was given to the village in 2000 and is currently maintained by a tiny band of volunteers. If you'd like to become involved in supporting this green space in the heart of Purton, please contact Purton Open Gardens 770046.

## Scout Post 2018

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) and are in sale from the 1st November.

**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 24 November. Special Scout Post Collection boxes will be in place from 23rd November, with the last collection on 11th December at 4:00pm.

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## Purton Tennis Club



Winter League will have started by the time you read this – we have three teams entered this year.

Our AGM is on Wednesday 7th November, 7.30pm at The Red House followed by a curry – please feel free to join us.

You may have noticed our fencing "gangs" working on the cemetery courts replacing the fencing with the help of a Wiltshire Council Grant. Well done to members and friends, it was a much-needed task.

Coaching is going well for children and adults alike; we now have a Cardio session on a Thursday – 6.30pm to 7.30pm – which is a great workout. Contact Ben on 07954 350579 if you want to come along.

As always, check our website and Facebook for what is going on.

## Hello from The Cedars Care Home

### **Cakes, bakes and bunting.**

Residents have made bunting and stars from plastic bags which are beautifully decorating our activity area. We have also enjoyed a Cheese and Wine afternoon, which prompted lots of chat and camaraderie, as did our Macmillan coffee morning when we had icing everywhere while decorating fairy cakes. The highlight of course was eating our wonderfully decorated cakes with cups of tea & coffee!

### **Activities can be trial and error but always fun!**

A few new activities have been tried recently, one was glass painting which proved interesting and rewarding as we now have them on display. The other activity which we weren't too sure about was getting the residents involved in parachute games. We activity coordinators along with various residents had a great workout running through the lifted parachute. It was exhausting but great fun and done with an impromptu sing-along as we lifted the parachute.

### **More Trips and outings**

With the Ridgeway in Royal Wootton Bassett we enjoyed a joint trip to Noah's Ark. We had wonderful day of sunshine and saw many animals out enjoying the weather too. Hopefully our fundraising bazaar last month will have raised some extra funds for us to add extra special bits to our various trips and entertainment that we have booked for November and December.

If you have activity ideas to share, would like to join us as a volunteer or just to come and see what we do, we would love to hear from you.

*Our Full time Activities Coordinator is Christina Deriu EMAIL: C.Deriu@OSJCT.CO.UK or Jane Pitcher j.pitcher@osjct.co.uk, or pop in for further details.THANK YOU SO MUCH.*

Lindsey Hall



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## *The other side of the gate*

We are lucky to be free of TB in the herd. Currently we have to undergo a yearly test. It's a horrible week leading up to the test and an even worse one waiting for the results! I'm sure Sarah will agree there is a dark cloud that hangs over us until we get the all clear. I remember my father being rather short tempered during the week of the test and it seems I may have inherited that trait too!

The point of the test is to identify animals that have come into contact with the *Mycobacterium bovis* (*M. bovis*). The diseases can take a long time to show any chronic symptoms, but they can be infectious before this, so removing these animals before the disease develops potentially stops infection of other members of the herd. The test indicates the immune response to *M. bovis* tuberculin in comparison to avian tuberculin. Cattle that are infected (or show a heightened sensitivity) to *M. bovis* will exhibit a greater reaction.

The test is carried out by a vet over two days. Two sites are clipped on the cow's neck to mark where the injection areas are.

Day one - injection of avian and bovine tuberculin

Day two - reading of the test 72 (+/- four) hours later

### **Day one**

The ear tag number of the animal to be tested is checked with the list of animals the vet brings (I've spoken before about the national database of all bovines - British Cattle Movement Service). The two injection sites are marked on the animal's neck, usually by clipping the hair away with clippers or curved scissors and the skin thickness at each site is measured using callipers and the measurements are recorded against the animal. Avian tuberculin is then injected into the skin of the upper site and bovine tuberculin into the skin of the lower site.

### **Day two**

The animal's ear tag number is confirmed against the testing record from day one. Each injection site is visually inspected and felt with the fingers for any reactions, usually seen as swelling. Where there is any detectable reaction at either site, both sites are re-measured with callipers and the measurements and type of reaction are then recorded. Interpretation of the skin test can be carried out at 'standard' or 'severe'. As we haven't had a TB breakdown we are measured on the standard interpretation.

The size and nature of any reactions at the avian and bovine injection sites are measured and compared. Depending on the degree of reaction to the skin test and the interpretation of the test, the animal is classified as:

'clear' (negative result)

'fail' (reactor or positive result)

'inconclusive reactor' (IR) – the animal shows a reaction to bovine tuberculin



greater than the avian, but not strong enough to be classified as a reactor. IRs must be isolated and re-tested after 60 days. Animals that have an inconclusive result at two consecutive skin tests are considered reactors.

If a reactor is found then she is tagged and removed from the herd as soon as possible. The carcasses are inspected for lesions and if none are found then swabs are taken from the lungs and cultured to confirm the diagnosis. This also means that no bovines can enter or leave the herd. It really does mess the business up and we cross everything for each test we have!

On another note, those that walk our fields behind Bradon Forest School will have seen that we've taken our third cut of silage. It was a very disappointing yield this time, but the quality is good. Overall it's been a poor grass growing season, but we are spreading manure as I write and we're hoping for a much better yield next year.

Also in these fields behind the school, we're still in the process of clearing the scrub and reclaiming the land back from the hedges! Jim, one of our neighbours to the fields, has kindly been clearing the overhanging branches and briars. We're very impressed with what he's achieved in such a short amount of time. Thank you, Jim. The amount we have to burn is incredible, so with 'that' time of year fast approaching, we thought we'd burn it on Bonfire Night and invite the village to join us! This will be a free event and there will be no fireworks.

Please feel free to turn up at 6pm. We plan to have Quarry Farm burgers and sausages available. If anyone wants to build a 'Guy' to put on top, then they're more than welcome! The bonfire will be on the field behind the sports fields at the back of Bradon Forest School, access is via the Youth Club on foot only.

On 21 September, Vanilla surprised us with a beautiful bull calf. He's magnificent. She unfortunately had milk fever, but a quick dose of calcium and glucose put her right and she was back on her feet in less than 30 minutes.

This time of year, the mornings can be magical. Alex has taken some wonderful photos this last month.

*Jonathan Cook*

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## Pips is open at last!

The tables were laid and scrumptious cakes were on show, not to mention a selection of tasty homemade soups and our small, but eager, team of volunteers were keen to test out their newly acquired skills on the high tech coffee machine! After the years of planning and hard work our long awaited community café was about to open but would anybody come?



We needn't have worried because as soon as the doors were opened on Saturday October 6th people arrived in their droves. We were so busy we were unable to keep count but we believe that some 150 people sampled our coffee, fruit teas, paninis, sandwiches and an array of other goodies (not forgetting those lovely cakes which were sold out before we closed) on our menu.

We were delighted to see so many who had been instrumental in getting Pips off the ground - those who had given us grants, donated their professional skills, wielded a paint brush, baked a cake, the list is endless. Our MP James Gray also popped in. A big thank you to all of you who supported us at the opening and we look forward to you visiting us over the coming weeks and months. If you are out on your own, with a friend or a group you will always be welcome. If you think there maybe quite a few of you, please let us know so that we can reserve tables for you.

Last, but not least, many thanks to our volunteers who were totally exhausted by the time we closed! We would welcome anybody who is able to spare a few hours a month to join us because as the proverb goes 'many hands make light work' and we can open on more days. One of our volunteers today was a little wary of the challenge but soon got into the swing of it and although a bit tired at the end of her shift, had met new people and thoroughly enjoyed herself. If you would like to join our team of volunteers or home bakers please email or ring Mary: [marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk), 01793 772298

**Our opening hours for November will be:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 9am-2pm. During November all hot drinks will be half price between 9am and 10am. Please note that the café will be closed on Saturday 24th November as our core team of volunteers are involved with other village events on that day.



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# The Great War Project

Part 64: November 1918

## **Western Front**

Following Cambrai, the British First Army advanced on Valenciennes on the way to Mons. The battle lasted two days and Valenciennes was captured on 3 November.

On 4 November, British forces attacked at the River Sambre, in Picardy. Joseph John Woolford was the son of Arthur John and Clara Frances A Woolford of 1 Stanley Cottages, Pavenhill, and serving with "A" Battery, 312th Brigade Royal Field Artillery. Joseph died, aged 19, on 8 November 1918 of wounds received at the Sambre. The North Wilts Herald reported he had been in France for only a short time. He is buried in Maubeuge-Centre Cemetery and is remembered on the Purton War Memorial, the Memorials in St Mary's Church and Swindon's Roll of Honour.

Also at the Sambre, the celebrated war poet Wilfred Owen, serving with the 2nd Battalion, Manchester Regiment, was killed in action on 4 November, during the crossing of the Sambre-Oise Canal.

Further Allied advances quickly followed, together with a general German retreat along the Meuse from 5 November. The same day Marshal Foch was placed in supreme strategic command of all forces operating against Germany. French forces recaptured Rethel and Mezières; United States forces captured Sedan; and Belgian troops reoccupied Ghent on 9 November. The British captured Maubeuge and Canadian forces retook Mons in Belgium on the morning of 11 November.

## **Armistice in the West**

On 3 November, the Allied governments agreed to German proposals for an armistice based on acceptance of President Wilson's "14 Points" of January 1918.

With the military setbacks in the previous months and hunger and shortages back home, sailors in the German High Seas Fleet, based at Kiel, mutinied on 3 November. Soldiers and workers throughout northern Germany began to establish revolutionary councils on the Russian soviet model.

On the 5th, Wilson sent a final Note to the German Government indicating the Allies' acceptance of the armistice proposals. The German delegation arrived at Compiègne Forest in France, on 8 November. They were handed the armistice terms on board Ferdinand Foch's railway carriage headquarters.

While the final terms were being discussed, the German army withdrew its support for the Kaiser on 8 November. Revolution broke out in Berlin and on 9 November the Chancellor, Prince Maximilian, announced the Kaiser's decision to abdicate. Prince Maximilian became Regent while Friedrich Ebert of the Social Democratic



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in October's Courtrai offensive.

The last German troops left Belgium on 26 November but as they were withdrawing munitions and equipment, two German ammunition trains exploded in Hamont, Belgium on 21 November, killing 1,750.

The war may have been over but Purton men and their families were still seeing the consequences of war. Charles William Parsons was the son of Charles and Mary Anne Parsons, of Bentham Lane, Purton, though when he enlisted he was living in Wool, Dorset. He was serving with the 10th (Service) Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers when he died of pneumonia, aged 22, on 25 November 1918. He is buried in St André Communal Cemetery, Nord, France and is remembered on the Purton Parish War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.

Elijah Cook was the son of Thomas and Ellen Cook of Pavenhill, Purton. He was serving with the 2/8th (Territorial Force) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment with the 182nd Brigade. After the war ended, his Brigade was moved by train from Cambrai on 24 November for rest and retraining. As the journey continued on 26 November, the railway engine left the line, coaches violently collided and one of them was crushed. Elijah, aged 18, and 4 others were killed and six more were seriously injured. All 5 were originally buried in Cramont village near the crash site, but later the bodies were moved to Terlincthun British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, on the cliffs overlooking the English Channel. Elijah is remembered on the Purton War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.

There were several inconsistencies in his records: he is recorded on the War Memorial as P. Cook, as Percy in the Memorial Book, and G. Cook on his headstone. Bob Lloyd brought these inconsistencies to the attention of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission who will replace or amend his headstone. These and other inconsistencies are covered in detail in Bob's book.

Following the 11 November Armistice, Russia cancelled the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk on 13 November.

### ***Austro-Hungary***

On 1 November, an independent government of Hungary was formed in Budapest now that Hungary was no longer part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Unaware that the Austrian fleet had been handed over to the Yugo-Slav National Council on 31 October, next day two men of the Italian Navy planted mines on the side of a battleship, the former SMS Viribus Unitis, now renamed the Jugoslavija. They were discovered and taken prisoner. They informed the new captain that the explosives were set to go off at 6.30a.m. and the ship was evacuated. When the explosion did not happen when the time came, the captain returned to the ship with many sailors, believing that the Italians had lied. The mines exploded at 6.44a.m. sinking the Jugoslavija and killing between 300 and 400 of her crew. The ship under the name Viribus Unitis was the same ship that had carried the body of

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the assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand from Bosnia to Trieste in June 1914.

Slovene leaders took over the administration of the Duchy of Carniola (modern-day Slovenia) from Austria-Hungary on 2 November.

Edward John Woolford was the son of Daniel and Charlotte Woolford of 4 Cricklade Road, Purton and was serving in Italy with the 5th (Service) Battalion, 1/4th Royal Berkshire Regiment where they were fighting in the Vittorio Veneto campaign (commenced 24 October). On 1 November 1918, the Battalion received orders to attack Monte Catz at 02:00 and Monte Mosoiagh at 05:30. At 14.00 Battalion HQ was established on Monte Catz and companies were engaged in consolidating positions. 12 men had been killed in action that day or died of wounds. Edward, aged 26, was one of those who died of wounds on 1 November. He is buried in Barenthal Military Cemetery, Italy and remembered on the Purton War Memorial and the Memorials in St Mary's Church.

The Battle of Vittorio Veneto continued until 3 November. The Italian victory ended the war on that front and brought about the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Italians captured over 5,000 artillery pieces and more than 350,000 Austro-Hungarian troops. On the same day, Austria-Hungary signed an armistice with Italy at Villa Giusti near Padua and Italian troops occupied Trieste.

Hostilities between Austria-Hungary and the Allies ceased on 4 November under the terms of the 3 November armistice. Over the next few days, Italian naval forces occupied Antivari in Montenegro and Fiume (Rijeka).

Emperor Charles I of Austria abdicated on 12 November and the German-Austrian Republic (essentially the modern Austria) was proclaimed. The Hungarian Democratic Republic was declared on the 16th.

The Yugo-Slav National Council protested at the Italian occupation of Fiume on 17 November. Next day, Italy reinforced its garrison. United States troops entered Fiume on the 26th.

### **The War at Sea**

On 2 November, SS Surada and SS Murcia were the last British merchant vessels to be sunk by submarine in the Mediterranean. In the last major naval engagement of the war, the British battleship HMS Britannia was sunk by a German submarine off Cape Trafalgar on 9 November with 50 men killed.

In accordance with the Armistice agreement at Compiègne, the German light cruiser SMS Königsberg entered the Firth of Forth on 15 November carrying naval delegates to arrange surrender of the German fleet. The first contingent of German submarines assembled off Harwich on 20 November and next day the German High Seas Fleet arrived in the Firth of Forth. 5 battlecruisers, 9 battleships, 7 cruisers, 49 destroyers and 176 submarines were surrendered to the British Grand Fleet. Between 25 and 27 November, they were moved under escort to Scapa Flow, Orkney for internment.

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On the 26th, an Allied fleet took control of the remainder of the Russian Black Sea Fleet from Germany. That Fleet had been surrendered to Germany in 1917.

### ***Africa***

On 1 November a German force in East Africa under Colonel von Lettow-Vorbeck entered Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), attacked Fife, and captured Kasama by the 9th. On 13 November, the German force reached the Chambezi River where they received the news of the armistice. Hostilities in East Africa ceased on 14 November and a formal German surrender was signed on the 25th at Abercorn, Northern Rhodesia, (now Mbala, Zambia).

### ***Ottoman Empire***

On 12 November, the British and French Governments made a joint declaration of regarding the future of Syria and Mesopotamia.

An Allied fleet passed through the Dardanelles that same day and arrived on the 13th in Constantinople, which was placed under Allied Occupation. This was reinforced by the arrival of French troops on the 21st.

The British military government of Palestine began on 23 November.

### ***Serbia and Yugoslavia***

On 1 November, Serbian forces recaptured their capital, Belgrade, from Austrian forces and on the 6th King Peter re-entered the city from exile. A joint Yugo-Slav and Serbian government was formed on 7 November to control foreign and military affairs.

The Yugo-Slav National Council voted on 23 November for the formation of a common state to include Serbia and Montenegro together with the newly liberated territories.

### ***Rumania***

Allied forces crossed the Danube at Ruschuk on 10 November and entered Rumania. King Carol I announced that Rumania had taken up arms again on the side of the Allies. (Following the Russian exit from the war in 1917, Rumania had been occupied by the Austro-Hungarian Empire.)

On the 21st, the Greek, Serbian and Rumanian Governments announced their decision to strengthen the union between the three countries by all available means. These three had been in alliance during the 2nd Balkan War of 1913.

On 30 November, the Rumanian Government was re-established at Bucharest.

### ***The New Republics***

Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Czechoslovakia all formed new governments during November. But many of these new countries were born in a state of turmoil.

On 1 November, Ukraine declared war on Poland in dispute over territories in Galicia. The Polish-Ukrainian War continued until July 1919 with a Polish victory but

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with 25,000 casualties between them. Between 21 and 23 November, Polish forces, swelled by volunteers and freed criminals organised a 3-day pogrom at Lwów in Galicia, massacring at least 320 Ukrainian Christians and Jews.

In Estonia, the Russian Red Army invaded on 28 November, starting the Estonian War of Independence and capturing Narva. The Commune of the Working People of Estonia was established as a Soviet puppet state in Narva on the 29th. The war lasted until February 1920, ending with an Estonian victory and an independent Estonian State.

### **Other News**

The 1918 influenza epidemic spread from New Zealand to Western Samoa on 7 November on board the freighter SS Talune, killing 7,542 on the island by the end of the year (about 20% of the population).

*Rick Dixon*

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

### Purton Evening W.I.

W.I's not for me I hear you cry, it's all Jam and Jerusalem, I'm too young.



Well I've got news for you. Whilst Purton Evening WI has a very traditional style meeting compared to the new WIs popping up around Swindon, I can honestly say that I found them to be a very friendly group of village ladies who made me feel very welcome and part of the group.

I joined the village WI at the start of the year after moving into the village just before Christmas. Having been a WI member for three years and wanted to get involved in something within the village so I could get to know people, WI was my natural choice.

We have had some really interesting speakers on a huge variety of subjects, all of which I have found fascinating and I have learnt things that, without the WI, I wouldn't have known.

The WI is so much more than people think. I had a great weekend in July camping with 499 other like minded ladies in Walesby Forest. I listened to inspiring talks, learnt new crafts, had a go at tomahawk throwing and realised how rubbish I am at quizzes! I'm looking forward to more amazing adventures next year.

I'm younger than 50 and I love what the WI has to offer, it truly is for women of all ages. Looking for something new? Then why not come along and see us for yourselves! We meet on the 3rd Wednesday in the village hall.

For further information please contact Barbara 01793 770818 or Janet 01793 772146.

*Lynn Mayneord*



## A Book I will Always Remember

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

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

### *Birds without Wings by Louis de Bernières*

I first came across Louis de Bernières in a book called *The War of Don Emmanuel's Nether Parts* which was very amusing and had won him the Commonwealth Writers Prize for a First Book in 1991. I was captivated by his writing and read several more, all very good books, until finding *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* which also won a Commonwealth Prize but, with its captivating story, catapulted the book into film. In *Birds Without Wings*, however, I feel he has come of age with this work, playing the role of philosopher as well as storyteller.

The story is set in the late Ottoman Empire, in a village in the middle of nowhere in southern Anatolia (modern day Turkey). It is a timeless period with a population cut off from world events and so, at the start of the novel, the date is not given, though it becomes obvious later. The story centres around two boys of the village who are best friends, Nicos and Abdul. The boys' games are pretending to be birds as they flap their arms and run around the village. Eventually Iskander, the village potter and father of Nicos, makes each boy a pottery whistle that blows a bird call sound. Nicos prefers the one that makes the sound of the mehmecik (blackbird) and Abdul adopts the one that calls like a karatavuk (robin). From that time on, the boys adopt the names Mehmetcik and Karatavuk as their own.

Iskander and his family including Nicos/Mehmecik are of Greek extraction, being of the ancient population predating the Ottoman conquest of the Byzantine Empire. Abdul/Karatavuk is from a Turkish family. The boys' games take them to different parts of the village, equally split between the Turks, Greeks and Armenians who all get on well together. We see into the homes and traditions of the three communities in birth, marriage and death and how they cope together. Other insights show how the difficulties of distance, and bandits outside the village, mean that a shopping trip to Smyrna becomes an armed caravan expedition taking several weeks.

Eventually the outside world begins to intrude and we see the onset of the First World War. Karatavuk is conscripted into the Ottoman army and serves under Mustafa Kemal (later known as Atatürk). Greeks are not allowed into the army and Mehmetcik is forced into a labour battalion, later to desert and become an outlaw.

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The village had been stripped of its young men in the war due to army and labour service and the deportation of the Armenian population. Decline was all around.

The next phase is the continuing rise of Mustafa Kemal as the end of the War becomes the Turkish War of Independence, or the Great Idea as seen from the Greek side. The ultimate success of Kemal results in the rounding up of all the Greeks in the village, as everywhere else in the region, and their forced march to Smyrna. As they await ships for their deportation to Greece, the Greek and Armenian quarters of Smyrna are burned down. Some survive and reminisce from their Greek exile ... but this exile is referred to early in the book, so I'm not really spoiling the ending.

But as Iskander the potter said to the two boys when he gave them their whistles, "Men are birds without wings... birds are men without sorrow."

*Rick Dixon*

## Get Wiltshire Walking

Get Wiltshire Walking is Wiltshire Council's project offering free weekly led walks across the county. Originally set up in 2011 the project now boasts a comprehensive schedule of 33 graded weekly walks delivered in 18 different locations. The walks offer the county's residents an unmissable opportunity not only to increase their physical activity but to learn more about their local area and the county in general whilst meeting new friends and enjoying some great social opportunities.

The walks are completely free of charge and once registered onto the project walkers are at liberty to attend any of the scheduled walks. To find out more about the walks and see the schedule in full please visit: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/getwiltshirewalking](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/getwiltshirewalking)

## Purton Amateur Dramatic Society

Well our Murder Evenings have finished for now – we helped raise over £1000 for Harry Brookes and his trip to Tanzania! - and will re-start in the spring.

Now that the nights are setting in, we will be rehearsing "Jack and the Beanstalk" ready for February. If anyone still wants to join in, we always are on the look-out for more Villagers and back-stage crew.



Tickets will be on sale in January. Follow us on Facebook or call me for more details.

*Kate Bath 771442*

# Purton Placard

ST MARY'S CHURCH

## **Christmas Market**

Saturday 24 November from 12-2.30pm at Purton Village Hall

Lunches served - hot meat baps, locally grown and homemade produce, children's activities, St Mary's School choir, mince pies, teas & coffees.

PURTON AGE CONCERN

## **Christmas Party**

Saturday 24 November, 3pm-5pm at Silver Threads Hall. Cost £3.00

Wheelchair users welcome. Book your place with your street warden by Saturday 17 November.

## **Christmas Shopping Trip**

To Highfields Garden World, Whitminster 28 November, leaving Purton at 10am. Cost £8 (food not included). Book your place with your street warden by Monday 19 November.

## **Christmas Party**

Saturday 1 December 5pm-8.30pm, at the Village Hall. Cost £6.00. Book your place with your street warden by Saturday 24 November.

## **Christmas Market**

Saturday 8 December 9am-12noon, outside Pavenhill Shops. last chance to buy one of our Christmas raffle tickets.!

PURTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

## **Annual Christmas time Quiz**

Friday 21 December 2018, Silver Threads Hall, 7.30pm for 8pm start. Teams of up to six. £6.50 per person to include ploughman's supper. Licenced Bar & Raffle.

Entries to Len & Barbara Page 770160  
Email: lc.page@virgin.net

## **PURTON SILVER THREADS Coffee Morning & table top sale**

Saturday 10 November,  
10am-12pm at Silver  
Threads Hall

**THE CAST OF STAGE STRUCK**  
Present...  
**A Swinging Christmas**  
Saturday 8th December 2018

At:  
Immanuel Church,  
Upham Road, Swindon,  
SN3 1DH

3pm and 7.30pm

Tickets:  
Adult - £10  
Child - £5

A fun, family Christmas Show full of festive spirit, with a **Pirate Panto** surprise!!

Email: thecastofstagestruck@gmail.com  
Telephone: 07596 151 051

TCOSS are proud to support TWIGS and will be donating 50% of all ticket sales to this wonderful charity

PURTON TENNIS CLUB

## **Cardio-Tennis**

Wed & Thurs Evenings.

A fun way to get fit.

Contact: benlangleyPTC@

outlook.com

Tel: 07954 350579

**St. Marys C.E. Primary School**  
**P.L.A. Christmas Fayre**  
 PLEASE COME ALONG TO OUR  
 CHRISTMAS FAYRE ON:  
**FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2018**  
**3.30PM – 5.30PM**

**Craft stalls**  
handmade crafts  
by the children

**Raffle**  
Lots of lovely  
prizes

**Chocolate tombola**

**Refreshments**  
Including , tea, coffee and  
mince pies

**Bottle tombola**

World  
Challenge



Samantha  
Howse and  
Ben Woods

## Race Night

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Purton Village Hall

First race 7:30

Licensed Bar and Hot supper

Adults: £5

Under 12's: £3

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY**

Contact Lorraine: 07729 906 916

Or Rachel: 07585 323 141

PURTON METHODIST CHURCH  
present

### **Chedworth Silver Band**

Sunday 2 December, 7.30pm,  
at the Village Hall. Tickets £5,  
include light refreshments,  
and are available from Sylvia  
Freemantle 770686

### **Whist Drive**

Wednesday 28 November,  
7.30pm. Silver Threads Hall.  
Tickets £2 on the door. Raffle  
& Refreshments  
All Proceeds to Wiltshire Air  
Ambulance

### **Cricklade Firework Display**

Monday 5th November,  
7.30pm, Thames Lane,  
Cricklade. Advanced  
tickets from  
Cricklade Leisure  
Centre, C+R Grocers,  
High St, Cricklade  
Town Council office.  
Family: (2 adults/2  
children) £15.00,  
Adults: £6.00,  
Children/seniors £3.50  
Entry on the night:  
Adults £8.00  
Children/seniors £5.00  
Refreshments available.  
On-site Disabled  
parking only.

### **Christmas Coffee Morning**

Saturday 1 December, 10am-  
12pm at 35 High Street, Purton  
Christmas Table Sale, Tombola,  
Raffle, Cakes Stall. Entrance  
£1 for Tea/Coffee/Mince Pies.  
Proceeds towards Methodist  
Church refurbishments.

### **Free Purton Village Bonfire**

(no fireworks) On the fields behind  
Bradon Forest School on Monday  
5th November, fire will be lit at 6pm.  
All welcome including well-behaved  
pets. Quarry Farm burgers and hot  
dogs available to buy.  
Access on foot only via the old Youth  
Club building.  
Jon Cook: 07453 348560

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

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## Purton and District Probus Club



At the meeting of the Probus Club on September 11th, Dr Gillian White gave an illustrated talk entitled Henry VIII and the Field of the Cloth of Gold. For two and a half weeks in June 1520, a meeting between Henry VIII and Francis I of France occurred near Calais that was to become known as the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

The Hundred Years War was finally in the past and this lavish gathering was intended to seal a military alliance between England and France. Two years previously, through the work of Cardinal Wolsey, the Treaty of London had been signed as a non-aggression pact between the major European Powers. The two young kings hoped to come together in opposition to the threat of Spain.

The glamour and extravagance of the gathering in Calais gives us a picture of two young Renaissance Princes and their efforts to impress their subjects and their enemies. The meeting was a great opportunity to display the grandeur and wealth of their respective courts. It is best illustrated by a large painting, by an unknown artist, which hangs in Hampton Court Palace, although the painting dates from 25 years after the event. "Cloth of Gold" was an expensive fabric woven with silk and gold thread, affordable only by kings and noblemen. A tremendous amount of this material was used for clothes, horse drapery and on the tents and pavilions of both kings who sought to outdo one another; hence the name of the event.

There were about 4000 persons on each side; courtiers, horsemen, foot soldiers, servants and supporters, together with 2000 horses, all requiring accommodation and feeding facilities including a large number of ovens. Henry had installed at Guisnes a temporary palace of brick, timber and canvas which covered an area of 11000 Square feet, and included two wine fountains. Francis set up his pavilions at Ardres. Jousting, tilting, archery and wrestling were contested, followed by banquets and dancing. A well-appointed chapel was set up and a Mass held, which both kings attended. Henry was accompanied to this grand gilded occasion by queen Catherine of Aragon and Mary Tudor, his sister; while Francis brought queen Claude of France, who was pregnant with her fifth child, and his mother-in-law, Louise of Savoy. The catering menu gives an idea of the investment necessary for such a magnificent event as the Field of the Cloth of Gold. 2200 sheep were consumed over the two and a half weeks together with 500 cod, 5500 sole, 700 conger eels, 2400 quail, 78 stork and 400 pigeons, to name but a few items. It is estimated that it cost Henry the equivalent of a third of his annual budget and Francis about one eighth of his.

Gillian, our speaker gave us a very detailed and colourful account of this great historical event. Unfortunately, the pact itself did not gel and before leaving Calais, Henry met with the 20 year old King Charles V of Spain who had, that same year, become emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. Francis I favoured alliance with the Ottoman Turks, which put him in direct conflict with the Holy Roman Empire. Henry, shortly afterwards, threw in his lot with Charles and once more England was at war with France.

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On 25th September, David Williams, now retired from the Ministry of Defence Police, addressed us with "Confessions of a Police Dog Handler". The MoD Police Constabulary is a civilian organisation, which came to its present form by the amalgamation of the Police Services of the Air Force, the Army and the Admiralty in 1971. It is responsible for the defence of 55 military locations around the United Kingdom. David joined the MOD Police in 1974 and took up a post in the far West of South Wales. His first task, as a patrolling officer, was that of guarding a large naval ammunition store on the coast of Ceredigion. Six months into the job, he was asked if he would like to become a dog handler. From September '74 until May '75 he trained, at Melton Mowbray to handle a security dog. Whilst taking his turn as a run-away criminal, he got bitten; par for the course, said Dave! Allocated 'Abbas', a veteran dog at the training school, he suffered some ribbing from the instructors, but realised the dog had been trained to be awkward. When recovered from a lock-up compound after breakfast, Abbas would cavort about and refuse its lead, until it had been fed a number of biscuits. The quickest and only way to secure its lead, which no-one had explained, was to back the dog-carrying van up to the gate of the compound. Dave's first personal dog was a young dog that wanted to attack every other dog, but his second dog, 'Storm' was much more successful and in 1980 won the UK Championships. An amusing story, one of many which Dave experienced during his time with security dogs, occurred at the Corsham Married Quarters. While on watch in the early hours of the morning, a suspicious character was seen taking a devious route through the camp. Dave challenged him and asked his business. The man refused to give a straight answer. When Dave set the dog to guard him and threatened to go for the MPs, the man admitted to having an illicit affair with a lady on the camp. Dave could not resist having some fun and said "if you can reach that hole in the fence before I release the dog, you'll have got away with it", needless to say the poor chap ran for his life.

The greatest moment in Dave's career came when he successfully applied to retrain with a searchdog to detect explosives, arms and drugs. 'Buddy' was not an easy dog; it had a habit of disturbing other dogs, but together they did excellent detection work at political conference venues, celebration routes and locations for VIP appearances. During a search of Wootton Bassett, prior to a repatriation, Buddy raised the alarm to investigate a parked car, but it turned out to be the recently used shotgun and cartridges of a game-shooter. A slightly embarrassing memory was the time that Dave and Buddy searched HMS Victory for a pending Royal Visit. The dog had not been exercised properly and pooped on the poop deck. Dave apologised profusely, but the officer was not perturbed and called a poor rating to clean up the deck. The 'Confessions of a Dog Handler' contained many other amusing incidents and gave Probus an interesting morning.

The Purton Probus Club meets in The Red House lounge every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10am. Visitors and new members welcome. November programme: 13th Yesterday's Runways, 27th, Love on the Nile.

*Bob Stevens*

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## Purton Cricket Club

Season one hundred and ninety-eight in the club's history will be remembered by the batsmen for hard pitches and fast outfields and by the bowlers for little reward for their efforts.

The 1st XI came seventh in the West of England Premier League Wiltshire Division with our overseas player, Yasser Cook, the best performing batsman in the league with 776 runs at an average of 70.55. The 2nd XI came fifth in Division Five of the Wiltshire League but were in the running for promotion right until the last game of the season. The junior teams all did well with the U15 taking the honours by winning their division. The U13 team came third and the U11 team finished sixth.

It was a season for breaking records and on 2nd September the highest known score was recorded by a Purton player when Jack Goodwin, in an under 15 match, scored 175 not out. In the same match the highest known second wicket partnership in Purton's history was recorded when Jack and Callum Flay, 120 not out, added 312 before they ran out of overs.

A successful end of season buffet at the Marriot Hotel was attended by 105 people and the following awards were made:

1st Team Most Runs	Elijah Samuel (410 runs)
1st Team Most Wickets	Aaron Lee (20 wickets)
2nd Team Most Runs	Dave Allen (450 runs)
2nd Team Most Wickets	Joe Dunn (31 wickets)
Midweek A Most Runs	Elijah Samuel (273 runs)
Midweek A Most Wickets	Pat Whittaker (21 wickets)
Midweek B Most Runs	Robin Davison (229 runs)
Midweek B Most Wickets	Dan Hunt (10 wickets)
Young Player of the Year	Jack Goodwin
Most Improved Player	Neil Little
Clubman	Fraser Conway

Work at the ground over the autumn and winter will include scarifying and reseeding the square, renewing some fences and thinning out trees which have become entangled.

The club has made very good progress this year and we have several talented young players. A good grounding in techniques is essential and this is provided by dedicated coaches. The success of the club's work is illustrated by news of Adam and Craig Miles both of whom started at Purton. Craig, after six years at Gloucestershire has now moved to Warwickshire where he has signed a three year contract and Adam, in New Zealand, has accepted an important role at the Otago Cricket Association where he is responsible for nurturing the region's talented cricketers.

Next season will be the one hundred and ninety ninth year since the club was founded in 1820 and in some fourteen months we will start celebrating two hundred years of cricket in Purton.

*Joe Gardner*

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## Purton Bowls Club



Our Club finals were played at the beginning of September and the winners were: Grandmothers' Cup: Jane Herbert; Over 60's cup: Maggs Biddiscombe; Andy Rudden Trophy: Maggs Biddiscombe and Anthony Turner; Mixed Two Wood: Alison Fail; Mixed Pairs: Alison Fail and John Williams; Club Triples: Graham Culley, Norene Richardson and Andy Davie; Novice: Lynn Thatcher; Handicap: Graham Clinch; Ladies Pairs: Judy Preddy, Alison Fail; Men's Pairs: Dave Hall, Ray Sowden; Ladies Two Wood: Julie Jones; Man's Two Wood: Graham Price; Ladies Singles: Sue Crouch; Men's Singles: Ray Sowden. Congratulations to all the winners and good luck to all those going on to the Champion of Champions rounds next year.

After the Finals Weekend there was a Bowls Tour for four days to Weston-Super-Mare and Phil Reddan, who organised the trip, sent this report: After 12 months of planning we eventually set off, but with only 30 bowlers it was difficult to cover all of the four matches, but cover them we did. We then proceeded to win all of them by quite reasonable margins. Many thanks to everyone who participated. The hotel was superb, the food was excellent, the staff were all friendly and eager to please. Such a pity that more members were not able to go. Also as Judy Preddy broke her pelvis, I am sure we all wish her well.

Next year we are going to Queens Hotel Paignton. We went there in 2016 and everyone had such a good time that we are going back, depending on numbers; if we get less than 40 it will start to get more expensive. So please get your name down as soon as possible, ring Phil and book now.

The green is now closed for the winter, giving our ground staff the time they need to prepare for next season. If anybody can help please contact Graham Price for details.

*Peter Berry*

## Purton Football Club

Following a poor start to the season with just a single win in five matches the team has turned things around with a draw and 4 wins in their last 5! A draw 4-4 at Corsham Town Reserves was followed by a 3-1 win over Marlborough Town, a 2-1 win over Royal Wootton Bassett Dev., a 3-0 win over Devizes Town Reserves and a 2-0 win over Pewsey Vale FC Dev. a credit to the management team and all the players who have donned the Purton Shirts.

Now with a third of the season completed the club will be hoping to push on and improve on their current league placing of 7th. Sadly the club have lost the services of the tea bar but coffee and tea can be served in The Red House club if required on match days - hopefully we will see the tea bar open again sometime.

Sadly attendances have dropped off this season, mainly due to our poor start. Perhaps now the team is recovering we will see more spectators on the banking at the ground. For those who do attend, many thanks, the players do appreciate it.

*Alan Eastwood, President/Hon sec*