

Purton. Magazine

August 2019



A peacefully meditating dog was just one of the many interesting sights to greet visitors during Purton Open Gardens weekend. See page 44.

50p

Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2-5pm; Tuesdays 2-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-5pm; Fridays 2-5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum	Curator: Beth Farnham, bethaney23@icloud.com	
Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Age Concern Minibus	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Brenda Cook	770431
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, <i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872
<i>(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm) www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/</i>		
Schools & Playgroups		
Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	950159
Pear Drops Pre-School (formerly Under 5s')	Sarah Grigg	978536
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239
Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary www.stmaryspurton.org.uk		
<i>For information about services, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine.</i>		
Vicar: Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith	email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 770077, 773031 (emergencies only)	
Curate: Revd Judith Wells	email: judithwells36@googlemail.com Tel: 770627	
Wardens	Sandra Horsnall: 770157	Jane Smith: 772422
Administrator: Rosie Harris	administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 773035	
Methodist Churches <i>For information about services in Purton, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine. Braydon: Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship</i>		
Minister: Revd David Perkins	Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 8LT	
Catholic Church - Church of the Sacred Heart, High St, Royal Wootton Bassett www.thesacredheartparish.co.uk		
Priest: Revd Father Lucas Rodrigues Tel: 852366		
<i>Services: Holy Mass Sunday 11.00am. Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am. Fri 7.00pm</i>		
Catholic Church - St Mary's Church, High St, Cricklade		
Priest: Father Michael Robertson Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church		
<i>Services: Holy Days 7.00pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.</i>		

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Purton. Magazine

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Copy & advertising deadline: 10th of each month, please to: Purton Magazine,
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Also online at www.purtonmagazine.co.uk © 2004-2019

INTouch
Design & Print

From the Editors

So, England are the only country in the world to have won the men's football, rugby, and now cricket world cups. In each respective final it was very much a last minute achievement with extra time goals in 1996, the extra time dropped goal in 2003 and now that truly amazing result at Lord's – fittingly the global headquarters of our national summer game.

What other team game could contrive a situation where even the “super over” tie breaker was tied? It is simply beyond imagination, especially when the Gods decide to include deflected overthrows and a catch carried over the boundary. Throughout it all the dignity of the stunned New Zealand team was an excellent example that all petulant performers should follow.

It is hoped that the success of the national team re-invigorates the playing of cricket at the grass roots level and the roots of the grass on our own village cricket ground have been lovingly tended by local volunteers for so many years. Anyone wanting to get involved with the game has the perfect opportunity of contributing to Purton cricket club. It is the oldest club in Wiltshire, among the oldest 20 in the country and next year celebrates its bicentenary. While future issues of Purton Magazine will contain more information, details of recent results and future fixtures can be found on page 42. Also 200 years ago in May 1819, Princess Alexandrina Victoria was born even though the Victorian age was still a long way off. However, this month we are pleased to start another series of articles from Rick Dixon. On page 60 you will find ‘An Era of Change’, part I of Purton in the time of Victoria.

The second instalment of Memories of a Happy Childhood in Purton Stoke is on page 56 and has many fascinating direct extracts from Joan Rowland's diaries in the 1930s. Her little details paint vivid pictures and many of the family names will surely be remembered.

Another series that we have been running for over 2½ years is ‘A Book I will Always Remember’ and we are delighted to learn that it continues to find favour with readers, this month from After 8 on page 51. We are always looking for more “Remembered Book” stories to maintain the series although on page 34 this month, an engineer's imagination might assist in understanding the difficulties of placing wet spaghetti.

£3

For a pack of 12
postcards of Andy Le
Poidevin's Magazine
covers – see page 55

400

Purton Open Gardens
programmes sold during
the weekend of 6/7 July
– see page 44

£4929

Sent to Christian Aid
this year, from a variety
of village fundraising
activities – see page 35



Purton: A Dementia Friendly Community

To date our Dementia Champion has carried out 33 Dementia Friends Sessions. Our unsung hero, Sue Giles.

Help Us Help You...

We would like to hear from anyone in the village either caring for or living with dementia to work with us on ways to become all inclusive.

Change to Village Hall Car Parking and Use

Working with the Co-op we are now delighted to announce that they are anticipating commencement of works on the 12th August. The Charity and Council have negotiated the use of 5 parking bays and the use of our outside meeting room./toilets in exchange for a financial payment which will go towards vital repairs/work on the Village Hall. The public toilets will still be accessible to residents, however you cannot park along side this area.

IMPORTANT : From 12th August, the strip of parking spaces to the side of the village hall will not be usable by anyone bar the Parish Council and the Co-op. (for references these spaces are as you enter the car park on the right).

Please bear with and support the Co-op during this busy period of works and do not park in these spaces as it will halt work if they have nowhere to park their vehicles and access the site. There is no overnight parking allowed on this site so please adhere to the current regulation and the changes imposed during this period (no definite timescales given at this time but a minimum of 6 months is anticipated).

Parish Walk

The Annual Parish Walk this year will be on Sunday 1st September. Meet at the layby by the vets to leave at 2 o'clock. It will be approximate 3 miles and is stile free (but not suitable for pushchairs etc). The route is roughly half of the stile free circular walk around the village developed by The Footpath Team and a continuance of last year's walk. It will take in Mud Lane to Ringsbury Camp and Upper Pavenhill, returning on our newest footpath to the top of Hoggs Lane. Here's hoping for fine weather on the day.

Free Children's Activities

Free summer holiday sports coaching for children aged 5-11 will take place again this year at the Millennium Hall on four consecutive Thursdays from 1st August. There's no need to book, just complete a consent form when you arrive. See advert in the placard.

Community Engagement

Residents question: What are the Burial Options in Purton?

We currently have one Open Cemetery known as Purton Cemetery located on

Church Street. This has a mix of full interment and cremated remain interments, plus a limited area for scattering of ashes, all of which has to be booked through the Offices.

Q. My husband has recently passed and was cremated, however I want a full interment and be together? What can we do?

A. As your late husband was a resident of Purton, you can purchase a full grave space and have his ashes interred either into the wall of the grave or under the headstone space. When the time comes that you require the space for yourself, the grave digger will move the ashes below ground in order that you can be buried together. This ensures that your late husband has his space and you also have your choice in burial without leaving his ashes in storage.

What if I then move away?

As the owner of the grave, regardless if you move away, you have the right to return, pending space with payment of the appropriate fees at the time.

If I change my mind and don't want to be buried in that space but also cremated can I ?

Yes of course, although historically full burial spaces are for full interments, we can sell a burial space at the time of interment for either full or ashes interments. You can not reopen a space for full interments if you use the space for more than two ashes as we cannot disturb them as they will be interred into the main body of the grave space.

Can I inter my mother into the space rather than myself if I own it?

Provided the space was already used; no non residents grave purchased allowed; you can inter anyone after the first interment pending space, however, fees vary for residents and non residents.

Why can't non residents go into the Cemetery at time of death?

Purton Cemetery has limited space and allowing non residents into the cemetery (if not already owned) will use valuable space for those who may have lived all their lives in Purton. However, the new burial ground which has been purchased, will be considered with alternative options due to size and availability of burials. Although this project is years away we are looking at planning options and will eventually as a Council consider who can be buried and may open up a greater availability to surrounding parishes.

Please always speak to the Clerk of the Council, Deborah Lawrence with any queries, as there maybe options available. deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call on 01793 771066

Countryside Public Footpaths

Purton is fortunate to have 161 countryside footpaths which are the responsibility of Wiltshire Council and the land owner to remain open and accessible. We do not have the "Right to Roam" in this country therefore all our footpaths require

all users to stay on the designated route. A full map of all footpaths is available at the Parish Council offices (fee pending size), viewable at the Library or Doctors Surgery or on Wiltshire Councils website as follows: <http://wiltscouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=43d5a86a545046b2b59fd7dd49d89d22>

Purton Parish Council have an amazing group of volunteers who work with the Parish and Wiltshire Council to maintain and keep as many footpaths as they can open and accessible, however there are times when this has to be dealt with by Wiltshire Council Officers alone due to land owner issues. If you have any concerns please contact our office and we will do our best to advise and resolve matters.

Highways Maintenance

A new gully service has been introduced to provide assistance with the gully emptying in parishes and villages within Wiltshire. This will enable smaller villages/ parishes who are not visited regularly by the main contractor to have the opportunity of a gully clearance service.

The tanker will operate on a rota basis around the whole of the county meaning that once a request is received they will endeavour to visit our area within a six week period. Please send your request of gully's requiring clearance near your property, or within Purton via the offices with the exact location so we can add to the list.

Donations - Working with the Community

Purton Parish Council are permitted under Section 137 (1) Local Government Act 1972 to provide donations to groups/causes for new projects within Purton and the surrounding areas, that will be of benefit to all or part of the community (not individuals). This coming financial year 2019/20 the Council have increased their budget to incorporate a larger fund for such groups. A form is available from our website, our offices or via email. For more information please do not hesitate to speak to the Clerk. Donations are considered twice yearly in February and July. www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Financial-Details.aspx

Any application to be considered must be with the Council by Tuesday 28th May latest for discussion at the Council meeting to be held on Monday 3rd June 2019. Applications are available on our website or from the Council offices. <https://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Financial-Details.aspx>

Grants have been awarded in (June 2019):

Swindon Dial a Ride, Purton Toddlers and Wiltshire Council Fun In the Sun

Purton Youth Club for School Years 4-7

Don't forget to bring your young children along to the Youth Club held on a 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. A Facebook page has also been set up under Purton Youth Club.

Councillors 2019-20

Chairman of Council/Charities Finance & General Purposes	Ray Thomas	01793 951520
Vice Chair of Council/Chair of Burials	Neil Hooper	01793 771066
Councillor	Helen Hicks	01793 778207
Councillor	Geoff Greenaway	01793 771140
Councillor	Kevin Law	07768 456989
Councillor	Sue Matthews	01793 771091
Councillor	Vicky McKerrow	01793 778190
Councillor	Julie Ann Hurwood	01793 771066
Chair of Staff Sub	Paul Grigg	01793 771066
Chair of Recreation	Sue Relfe	01793 771066
Councillor	Emily Seabrook	01793 771066
Councillor	Grant Seabrook	01793 771066
Councillor	Jim Reid	01793 771066
Councillor	Gavin James	01793 771066

Council do not meet in August

Public Convenience

For information the Public Toilets located to the side of the Village Hall are open 6am to 6pm Monday to Sunday.

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 at time of death, please contact the Clerk on 771066 or email deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Planning Permission Granted - approved with conditions

- 18/12141/FUL Dairy Farm, Stoke Common Lane. Purton Stoke. Single storey rear extension, internal renovations and alterations.
- 19/00412/LBC Dairy farm, Stoke Common Lane, Purton Stoke. Single storey rear extension, internal renovations and alterations.
- 19/03641/FUL 17 Reids Piece, Purton. Rear two storey extension, single storey roof to side and other alterations.
- 18/08621/FUL Quarry farm, 50 The Hyde. Purton. A small shed structure to sell farm produce (retrospective).
- 19/03204/FUL Deva House, Witts Lane. Purton. Double storey side extension and first floor rear extension.
- 19/03337/FUL Woodside Farm, Braydon. Erection of replacement porch.
- 19/03949/FUL 45 The Hyde, Purton. Single storey rear extension and change of colour of existing rear porch windows and doors.

-
- 19/04566/TCA Land at Red House Social Club, Church Street. Purton. SN5 4DT
Work to trees in a conservation area.
- 19/04443/CLE The Barn, Purkini Farm. Stoke Common Lane. Purton Stoke. SN5
4LL. Certificate of lawfulness for retention of existing agricultural
building.
- 19/04498/FUL 39 Witts Lane. Purton. SN5 4ES. Proposed side extension.

Refused Applications

- 19/03620/FUL 4 New Road. Purton. Proposed dwelling and garage with annex
over.
- 19/03621/FUL 4 New Road. Purton. Proposed garage and annex above for the
enjoyment of relatives and friends on a temporary basis.
- 19/04565/CLP 47 Station Road. Purton. Certificate of lawfulness for proposed
rear extension and detached garage

Charities - Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity Update

The Charity's business plan is under development, and since the report as recommended the Trust has reviewed and simplified the charging structure for the hall introducing a discounted rate for Purton residents in the hope residents will be encouraged to use the facility more. Attracting a new stream of business to the hall is allowing small animal shows – early days but hopeful. A price comparison with other halls has been carried out and the charging structure is favourable considering there is no exact like for like facility within the surrounding area. Introducing an on-line booking system has been explored but discounted at this stage due to the expense to install. Council is constantly scrutinizing costs for running the hall.

Donations are always gratefully received, and the Charity is a benefactor from donation sites 'Amazon Smile' and 'Give as you Live' if anyone local residents would like to sign up.

The recommendation regarding online promotion has been taken on board and the Charity is now reaching a wider customer base resulting in increased usage and income. We will have a more accurate appraisal of income at the end of this financial year.

Fundraising for the charity kicks off on the 19th July'19 when the Trust hosts its first fundraising event since the report in the form of a 'Pop' Quiz which hopefully residents and regular hirers will support and book a table! We are also looking into bringing Cinema to Purton Village hall engaging with all ages in the community.

Currently Council is in negotiations with the Co-op regarding a proposed reciprocal arrangement with the Charity which should realise funds for decorating the hall improving its appeal to potential customers a further recommendation.

A radical and challenging recommendation in the report is Council relinquishing its Trusteeship of the Charity and seeking out a new and independent body of

Trustees. Although this is an avenue explored which failed in the past the Trustee has agreed to revisit the challenge working closely under the guidance of the Charity Commission and Council's legal advisors.

Please be assured Council acting as Trustee for the Charity is committed to act in the best interest of the Charity.

Purton Parish Council opened up a community space to Educational outdoor learning on Monday 1st July... 8 children from Peardrops Child Care came along with their support workers and enjoyed an hour of fun.

Seed collecting, bug catching, watering of plants, seed planting, games, garden crown making to name just a few of the activities that took place.

This space is free for educational use by community groups, booking direct with the Parish Council.

for more information please contact Deborah Lawrence on 01793 771066 or email deborah.lawrence@putonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Charities

Do you shop with Amazon? Please sign in to Amazon Smile to create much-needed income for the Village Hall. When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk, Amazon will donate to Purton Institute and Village Hall, support us every time you shop!

Please support your local charity. www.facebook.com/PurtonVillageHall/

Business Opportunity

Fancy being your own boss? Running your own small local business? The Kiosk at the Village Centre, is available for lease. If you are interested please contact the charities secretary for more information on 01793 771824 or email teresa.hartshorn@purtonparishcouncil.gov.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/

Community Speed Watch

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

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

Speeding continues to be a concern for many communities. Volunteers receive appropriate training and are supported by the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) staff. If you are interested in knowing more and how you can be a part of this community initiative please either contact Paul Grigg on paul.grigg@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or Deborah Lawrence on deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or call the office on 01793 771066.

How to contact the Parish Council

Tel: 01793 771066, Email: deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

Facebook, Twitter and Website

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

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

Breast Cancer Now fundraiser

Following on from the success of our first Mamma Mia night, we are so excited to be inviting ABBA fans to Mamma Mia - Here We Go Again.

As well as a 'welcome drink' guests can expect to sing and dance the night away to the sing-a-long version of the movie and enjoy a yummy-scrummy Greek Supper, all included in the ticket price of £15.

There will be a bar, raffle and ABBA quiz set in the beautiful space of Christ Church, Old Town.

Come and join in the fun - We'd love to see you in Retro 70's dress, if you wish!

If you and your friends are 'Dancing Queens', send us your 'Money, Money, Money' and be 'Super Troupers' raising funds for BREAST CANCER NOW, the UK's largest breast cancer research charity – dedicated to funding research into this devastating disease. See placard for details.

*Thank you for your support, Eunice Salmon
on behalf of the supporters of Breast Cancer Now in Swindon.*

Purton & District Age Concern



Don't forget, for our tech-savvy residents visit our dedicated website www.purtonageconcern.com to find all the details you need about our contacts, events, news and links to other websites in the area. We also have a Facebook and Twitter account (for those of you who actually know what this means) which can be found at Facebook: @purtonageconcern and Twitter: @Purton_AC

Please visit our social media sites and let us know what you think.

We have been asked to communicate that unfortunately the Brass Band afternoons scheduled for 21 July & 18 August have had to be cancelled due to unavailability of players. However, 15 September will go ahead as planned and they are hoping to have a really good band, so look out for details. Starts at 3pm until 5pm. As you know Purton & District Age Concern do not organise these events but we like promote the Brass Band afternoons at the Red House each month as all the proceeds are kindly donated to the Age Concern Minibus Fund.

We still have various articles in the form of wheelchairs, some walkers and zimmer frames that are stored in Tony's garage so if you think you might need these at any time then ring Tony Price on 770696.

Each month we will mention Bradies, now known as Phoenix, as they will continue to cover the Purton area. You need to ring 01249 890794 to book with them. Remember if we don't use it, we lose it!

Future Events

Day out at Weston-Super-Mare - On Wednesday 7th August leaving the village at 10am for a full day. Price is £15 for pensioners & children and £17 for non-pensioners or people who live outside the village (corrected from last issue - apologies).

Mystery Tour with Pub Lunch - On Wednesday 4th September leaving the village around 10am. If we don't get lost and manage to find the pub, it will be a good day out! £15 for pensioners and £17 for non-pensioners or people who live outside the village.

Jumble Sale at the Village Hall - On Saturday 7th September. Always a popular event with lots of bargains, and new outfits for everybody.

Minibus Shopping Trips - Hazel is organising a shopping trip on the 9th August and will have her normal trip to Cirencester on the 23rd August which will leave the village at 9am. For more details and to book your place on the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

3Bs Evening - On 4th October we are having another 3B's evening, so if you would like to attend please contact Peter on 778119 for tickets (payment in advance). Please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place on the minibus if you need transport.

Information

Swindon West, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service - offer a dedicated and free service for safe and well visits and fitting smoke alarms on a more proactive approach in the Purton area. Visits can be booked through their website www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/ or by calling 0800 038 2323

Bobby Van - If you need the Bobby Van to replace batteries or the smoke alarms if they are not working properly please call them on 01380 861155.

Luncheon Club - This is held at the Silver Threads Hall. Please give Pat Suddaby a call on 771331 for information. At the moment there is a waiting list for places, which is a testament to how good this service is.

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

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

Latest News

Yes, it's that time of the year when we need all you budding photographers to send in your quality photographs for the Purton Calendar. We want to feature all the seasons of the year, especially winter time as not that many photographs are taken then. The photos need to be at the highest resolution your camera can manage in either portrait or landscape format. If you need me to let you know if the quality is good enough then email them to peterberry@uwclub.net and I will have a look at them.

Also, we would like to know whether you would prefer the same design as last year or whether a new design is necessary, did it work well for you or did you find it awkward to use? Please let us know.



Don't forget the minibus service we offer residents living in the Purton Age Concern catchment area. Surgery runs, coffee mornings, day trips or general get-togethers, for those aged 60 and over that have disability or mobility issues. Both minibuses have hydraulic lifts and wheelchair security. Call Hazel to book your place 01793 770862.

Peter Berry

Moira Hayward

I was asked if I would write a tribute to Moira for the magazine as, when I did my piece for *Age Concern*, she always enjoyed reading it, so I thought she must be easily pleased and I could do a little piece, hoping that I can do Moira justice. She was such an elegant lady, always nicely turned out as one would say. I cannot remember ever seeing her in trousers, always a skirt or dress. Perhaps I am a bit old fashioned but I believe it shows respect to people you are with or going to see and I felt Moira would feel like that with her beliefs when she went to Church. It's a bit like men and ties today, but still fashions change.

It's funny, until I got to know Moira I was a bit in awe of her. Was it the fact that she went to a private school, her straight to the point attitude, or the fact that she worked for solicitors that made me feel like that? But, my word, when I got to know her, I certainly got a different impression. She was kind, thoughtful, humorous and a nice person to have a conversation with as many, many other people would have realised when stopping to have a chat to her when she was out tending her front garden. Mind, this was two fold – she got to know all that was going on in the village as well. Some of the plants must have been moved several times as an excuse to get out the front, still it always looked very nice. It was just the same the other side of the house on the patio overlooking the Cotswolds and I understand the plants out there got moved about too! You could see for miles, looking across Cirencester and beyond. I believe Moira and Sylvia would often have their breakfast out there, weather permitting of course.

I have put the cart before the horse so as to speak. Moira was born in London – her dad worked for the Post Office and was transferred to Swindon. They had a ready made home at the High Street with Moira's granny and grampy, Mr. and Mrs. Telling. Moira was able to live in this house for the rest of her life, thanks to Sylvia and Colin. Did Mr. and Mrs. Hayward have visions of what was to come with the 1939/45 war as Moira was three years old when they left London? George, Moira's father had been in the first world war and had conditions that affected his later life.

Moira started school at St. Mary's where it was all ages under the same roof until you left school at fourteen. Miss Woodward would have been her first teacher, followed by Miss Liddell – they were the infant teachers – before moving on to Standard One. Who remembers the third of a pint of milk we used to get? It was only in the infants then with ice on it in the winter and going sour in the summer. Moira left Purton School when she was eleven to go to a private school in Bath Road, Swindon, which was Miss Marsh's green and mauve private school where they specialised in business studies. This stood Moira in good stead as, on leaving school, she trained to be a telephonist at the GPO. Did her father pull any strings here I wonder? She worked as a telephonist for Lemons, the solicitors, and then moved on to another solicitors, Townsends, as a receptionist/telephonist for many years.

She left Townsends to look after her mother Madge who was an invalid and eventually lost both legs. I always had great admiration for Moira giving up work to look after her mum, especially the caring way she did it. I know when we purchased our first minibus for Age Concern, we went to Weston along with our usual coaches, but left at 3.00pm to come home via Chew Magna. I drove the bus then and Moira and her mum were regulars on this outing. We used to stop for an icecream at Chew Magna when big arguments broke out when everyone wanted to pay, especially Madge and Moira.

Moira loved children and when the Root family moved into the Beeches in the mid 1950s they could not have had better neighbours than Moira and her family. They all struck up a good relationship with one another which continued right through Moira's life, especially with Eileen with whom she took lots of holidays both here and abroad. One of the things they remember most is going down Church Path to feed the ducks at the Weir Pond (wouldn't it be nice if it was restored to how it was in those days). Another memory the Roots have is of the rather posh teas they used to have when Moira and her family used to visit, with sandwiches cut into triangles and cakes on a proper cake stand. A special ability of Moira's was making sand castles – they were something to be admired when they were all away together, so you can tell they were all one big happy family. Moira was someone really special to the Roots and they all loved her as a member of their family. It shows what a lovely, caring person she was and really good fun as well.

Moira was very much involved in village life, mainly with St. Mary's Church where she was treasurer on the PCC for twenty years. She was on the cleaning rota although she did say that the lady she followed was very thorough so all she had to do the next week was a bit of polishing. Did she know where the broom cupboard was? What about the Christingle services – she was involved with the organising of these and the making of the Christingles for thirty five years. Then there was the magazine along with Roy Blake. The work involved in that doesn't bear thinking about, especially with contributors like me. When Moira was working at the Cedars she did quite a bit of her magazine work in the day time on the Council phone. They only had one line and this made it very awkward for anyone wanting to get through but Moira would feel justified as it was for the magazine – that was Moira. Then, of course, there was the Mothers' Union, St. Mary's Fellowship and the Methodist Ladies Fellowship to name a few more and, of course, her favourite charity the Children's Society. What about the night she casually went to a Liberal Party meeting and came out as secretary! Still she had great support as Alan Webb, my old mate, was Chairman and around that time Ron Banks was the Liberal candidate. I think it was the nearest the Liberals came to having an MP here – they were at the count until four in the morning it was so close but they were disappointed. The Liberals always used to have my vote – when I was about fourteen the Conservatives had a fete at Purton House and Chris May got my dad to let me go there and turn the handle to make the icecream. You put the cream in the middle with ice in the

outside one and you kept turning the handle until it made icecream. I did this all the afternoon and I did not even get a lick of icecream – my principles are strong!

I think it is a lovely story how Moira and Sylvia became such friends. In 1987 the Cedars had been rebuilt and Moira was the Care Officer in their Day Care and Sylvia was clerk. Moira's mum would go to the Cedars for respite occasionally. Their friendship grew and they became firm friends. One day after Moira's mum had passed away she confided in Colin and Sylvia that she was afraid she would have to sell the house because of the upkeep etc. Knowing that the house was Moira's grandfather's, then her mum and dad's and now hers it certainly got Colin thinking. Sylvia and Colin would call in and see Moira and Colin would be looking round the house outside to see if the guttering was ok and there were no tiles off the roof etc. or so he said. Some time later, much to Sylvia's shock, Colin produced a set of drawings with the idea for them to sell their house in Restrop View and alter Moira's house to accommodate Colin and Sylvia's family. Sylvia and Moira could not quite get their heads around the plan so Colin produced a scale model of the proposed changes. Everyone thought it was a good idea and that is what you see today. I used to wonder how Colin put up with two ladies around but, mind, they did have their separate apartemnts and Colin has his music – he plays the banjo, but he did say he got everything in stereo! It all worked out well except in the kitchen – never good having two ladies in a kitchen. Eventually Moira solved the problem – she stopped cooking and Sylvia provided the food for all of them.

Some people thought Moira was a bit of a scatterbrain – I am not so sure – perhaps a crafty scatterbrain! Like the time Moira and Sylvia went shopping. Colin had been made redundant and Sylvia was being careful with the money and felt she should not buy anything new. Well she did and felt guilty when she got home and asked Moira to keep the outfit in her wardrobe until times improved. Moira was having her leaving party at the Cedars and you can imagine Sylvia's surprise when Moira turned up in the two piece she had bought with everyone telling her how nice she looked. When asked where she had got it from her answer was 'I found it in the back of my wardrobe' and you can guess the rest. They did come to a compromise and Sylvia had the top of the two piece and Moira the botom. It was similar with lipsticks – Sylvia asked Moira if she had seen her lipstick and Moira would say "Not that I know of" but she would have some of it on.

One of Moira's loves was her cats which she fussed over and they were always in tip top condition. I would have been worried living on the main road like that but they survived and lived long lives. Another of her pleasures was going to garden centres, buying plants and then finding a space to plant them. She loved her poppies in the front garden and her last words to Val Prior were ' don't let her dig my poppies up'. I would presume one of her greatest loves was St. Mary's and when pews were mentioned it was like waving a red rag to a bull. She always vowed they would not move them while she was alive – well you have a free hand now but you should beware – she will be looking down on you in disgust along with a lot of others like

me. You might wonder why I am putting my thoughts into this tribute to Moira, well Sheila would come home after seeing Moira whose first words would be "Has Tony heard what they are doing at St. Mary's?" I'm glad Moira never saw the July issue of the magazine although she agreed as I do that it would be nice to do some improvements such as toilets, better heating, better lighting and a proper place to serve refreshments

What a lovely tribute Moira's funeral was to her. I know she had discussed and planned it with Sylvia and Colin and they carried out her wishes to the last detail. I would like to compliment Colin and Sylvia for keeping Moira where she wanted to be at 35 High St., the home she loved until she passed away. They would be the first to admit they could not have done it without the help they received from friends, the surgery and Prospect and I know the Rev. Judith Wells and the Rev. David Perkins were a great comfort to them all.

I have written this piece on holiday in Llandudno and when we are here it is always a must to go to a male voice choir concert. This year was no different but talk about being choked half way through the programme when they sang The Rose, the song Sylvia sang so beautifully at Moira's funeral at her request.

Moira - thanks for being you and as far as I am concerned you were still an elegant lady, even if it was someone else's two piece or lipstick - it just shows you both had good taste.

Tony Price

Memorial at the Red House

The stone that was viewed in May and kindly purchased by a local resident has now been transported back to Purton. We have all been to view it along with a member of the Parish Council Trustees, and we are all very happy with it. All the information that the Trustees have requested about the stone, has been submitted for them to agree at the next trustees meeting, before we can commence any works.

On Friday 21st June we held our first fundraising event; a Music Quiz held at the Red House Club, this was very well attended with a total of 20 teams. We raised a total of £343, so thanks to Richard and Jos for organising, The Red House Club for hosting and everybody who came along to support.

We have now got all the quotes in to carry out the necessary work and we will now be applying for some grant funding, where we hope to be successful. Also look out for future events we will be holding over the coming months and hope you will be able to come along and support us again.

If you feel you would like to make a donation towards the cost of this project please contact Tony Price on 770696, Sue Giles on 771661 or Helen Griffin on 771645 or email griffinhs@yahoo.co.uk

Helen Griffin

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG



Purton Open Gardens weekend of 6/7 July

What a lovely weekend this was – thank you to all who visited our PPG table. We took a total of £152.50 which will go towards the automated door for Purton Surgery to help those with pushchairs and children and also those with disabilities and wheelchairs. (The cost is anticipated to be around £6000.)

Thanks are due to Christine Rawlings for co-ordinating and to Peter and Sue Berry for hosting in their garden.

Talk on Bowel Cancer – Wednesday 16 October

The next Information Evening will be on Wednesday 16 October when we have speakers from GWH to talk on Bowel Cancer. Usual time and venue – 7.30-9pm, Purton Surgery. Tickets (free) will be available from 2 September.

Table top sales

Thank you to all who support our Table Top sales in Purton surgery waiting room – £660 has been raised since starting this. If you wish to purchase any item from the Table please give your money to the Receptionists.

'Flu Clinic

As in previous years we will have raffle tickets for a hamper during the 'Flu clinic, dates of which are still to be finalised.

As always, your support for our work to both inform and support patients and the practice is much appreciated. If you know of anyone who would like to be included in our email list (all sent bcc) then please ask them to contact via groupforpatients@gmail.com

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

We Record ...

Funeral at St Mary's Church

28 June 2019 Moira Hayward (83)

Funerals at North Wiltshire Crematorium

20 June 2019 Robert Victor Stevens (86)

1 July 2019 John Stump (84)

4 July 2019 Sylvia Mary Glass (89)

5 July 2019 Ronald Leslie Wall (74)



Ten Years Ago...

The August 2009 edition of Purton Magazine, in keeping with the season and the weather, looked far and wide. In the natural world the county wildlife trust was sponsoring a survey of our orchards – anything above five trees. Although it was believed that there had been a steep decline nationally in their numbers since the 1950's, no one actually knew the quantity or extent in Wiltshire. An informative website was set up. Unfortunately, it doesn't appear to have changed in the succeeding ten years, so we don't know what was found.

Reports of trips and visits had come flooding in. The Historical Society had been to Winchester, starting at the cathedral. "The hour-long tour was very informative" but in my recent experience that is nowhere long enough! After lunch there was a tour round Winchester College; the comment this time was that "I can only suggest that you take this fascinating peek". I must do so; my father was educated there and I have never been inside.

There were two reports of trips to France. One, to Laon, by Betsy-Anne and Toby who turned out to be vintage cars, complaining about having to climb French hills and having "things" on their headlights. Betsy-Anne broke down but eventually they were both glad to get back to Purton, no longer on the wrong side of the road.

The second trip was by the Twinning Association to Héric, where they entered a team into the local fancy-dress 24-hour tandem race. They came 35th out of 80 competitors, despite the temptations of numerous bars en route. "This was a very creditable performance and could be seen in the same context as Britain's cycling success in the Beijing Olympic Games". Ten years on we can see that it was also the foundation for Britain's quasi-domination of the Tour de France. The report of the cultural aspect of the visit was saved for the more august journal of the Historical Society.

The newly appointed Curator of Purton Museum declared that "the first three months are the hardest". What an optimist!

Purton Profferings

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

- I seem to be in possession of a 3m x 3m gazebo structure... but it is minus its fabric cover. I have the poles and the feet but no fabric to go with it. Has anyone got the fabric top for a gazebo but no poles? Maybe we could get together! Alternatively has anyone got a gazebo they no longer want or need, that I could borrow. Please contact Libbie 771018.

Latest news from Pips Community Café

Purton Open Gardens proved to be a huge success, village wide, over the weekend of 6th and 7th July.

Pips was open for extended hours on Saturday 6th.

The café team stopped counting customers after 52....

We received lots of positive feedback so proof if proof were needed that Pips is becoming a useful, successful and integral part of village life – just what we have been aiming for.

Are you in a hurry?? Do you only have a certain amount of time for your lunch break? Never fear - you can call the PIPS team to place your order. It will be ready and waiting when you are ready to collect. Call 07498 526872.

Our new summer menu is still proving to be very popular. Quiches of the week have included Salmon and watercress, Stilton and Broccoli, Roasted vegetable and that old favourite Quiche Lorraine.

We are keen to involve everyone in the salad of the week choices too – let us know what you fancy and we will try to accommodate your suggestions.

All suggestions and comments via the facebook page or even better pop in and let us know.

Salads - either the quiche of the week, ham, cheese or tuna mayo with full plate of mixed salad including coleslaw and potato salad £3.50

Ploughman's - cheddar, brie, stilton or ham with salad garnish, pickled onions, chutney and baguette £3.00

Ice cream sundae – 3 scoops of ice cream with choc or strawberry sauce and sprinkles £2.00

Don't forget the other menu favourites too, home-made soups, Paninis, and jacket potatoes and of course the delicious cakes and biscuits.

The "Talking Table" – just pop in and chat to whoever is sitting there – what a lovely way to make new friends - Every day from 10am.

August is holiday time so we are still challenged by volunteer availability. Remember - Please do let us know if you can spare even a few hours per week or month. It's good fun, full training is given on the easy to use equipment and it's a really good opportunity to meet your fellow villagers. Why don't you pop in and see for yourself? Contact details are at the end of the newsletter.

Summer Holidays

Summer holidays are upon us and we are wondering how Pips can be used by our young people. As a café we cannot run activities as we are busy running the café! But we have an amazing space that is crying out to be used. Do you have any ideas of things you could do? This could be as a one off or a regular event.



We've had an offer to show people how to make friendship bracelets. Hopefully board games will happen with Tru (but she may need to change the day because work keeps getting in the way!) We have some card making stuff that someone could use to run a workshop if you have the necessary skills. I'm sure there are lots of other things so please let us know if you have any suggestions. Of course, don't forget the regular craft activities that welcome everyone.

Clubs and Activities

Tuesday

- Talking Table 10am
- Knitting group - alternate Tuesdays (4th June & 18th June) 10am to midday
- After school chess and board games club - until 5:30pm

Wednesday

- Talking Table 10am
- Hand sewing, patchwork, quilting - 1 to 3pm
- Book Club – 1st Wednesday of the month

Thursday

- Talking Table 10am
- Art - 1.30 to 3.30pm – see this space next month for images of some of the lovely art work produced by this group.

Friday

- Talking Table 10am
- Crochet Group - from 10am to midday

All are run by members of the village (not Pips), have no membership fee, are quite small groups and would love new members. So why not come along?! Or if you want to start a group let us know and we'll try and accommodate you.

In good weather well behaved dogs and their owners are welcome to sit at the tables outside the front of Purton club or on our bench in the car park.

Remember if you don't fancy the walk you can always hop on the 53 bus at the top of the village, pop in see us then get the next bus back.

Contact us: marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk 01793 772298 or look for updates on the PIPS facebook page - facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe or call 07498 526872 to place an order.

The Pips team

Our opening hours for August will be:

Tuesday 10am - 5.30pm, Wednesday & Thursday 9am - 4.30pm, Friday 9am - 4.30pm, Saturday 10am - 2pm. Last order 30 mins before closing.

Purton Evening W.I.

In June we had a fantastic talk by the very talented Claire Walsh who gave us a very interesting talk and demonstration on Indian Block Printing. You don't know what you missed.



Here at Purton Evening WI we are looking for new members. As women we are always busy working, the children needing running around, housework, shopping, the list goes on. Being good to yourself is really important for our health and wellbeing. Then why have you not joined the WI? We meet once a month for a couple of hours. Get away from it all, have some fun, learn something new and chill out. Come on your own or with a group of friends. A very warm welcome is waiting for you.

I'm writing this just a week before our July meeting which is a talk on Fraud awareness and scams by Coventry Building society. These affect us all so I'm hoping I learn things to look out for.

So what's coming up for us in the next 3 months?

- August - Songs from the Shows with Chris Butler. Why not come and sing your heart out. Increase to endorphins and put you in a great mood.
- September - The Police. Not the pop band but the local constabulary.
- October - The Medic Biker

Learn what it's like to travel the roads by bike delivering vital life saving equipment. We might even throw in a bit of first aid too.

Look us up on facebook and give us a like or go to www.purtoneveningwi.com for more details. We look forward to welcoming you very soon.

Lynn Mayneord, President

Summer Activity Days

This year Purton Churches Together are running Activity Days at St Mary's School Hall from Monday 12th - Wednesday 14th August (10am - 3pm). Activities will include crafts, sports, story-telling, a farm visit and other fun activities for children (School Years 2-6); there is something for everyone! It is a great way to keep your children busy in the summer. It will be great to see as many of you as possible. Registration forms are available from the school or can be collected and filled in on the day. For more information (and to offer help as volunteers); contact Marie Dempsey 01793 770826 email: marie.dempsey@live.co.uk

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

Purton Annual Flower Show-Arts-Craft-Produce

Saturday 31st August 2019 at the Village Hall

Not long now to Show day, Schedules are still available so that you can plan all your entries.

Don't forget this is an Open show, so visiting friends and relatives can take part, you do not have to reside in Purton to enter.

The Children's classes this year are creative in lots of ways. For children 6 years and under, they can make a face on a paper plate with any materials they choose, or bake some yummy jam tarts, try not to eat them all, as we would like you to enter 3 of them in the show!

The 7 to 11 year olds are being asked to put their handwriting skills to the test, with a decorated Thank you letter, or alternatively they can create a 'Bug Hotel'. Class 61 is for all ages A flower arrangement in a jam jar. Make sure you've eaten the jam before you use it! We would love to see some more children entering the classes in the other sections, they are free to enter for the under 16s, so have a go, or show us what you have grown. We have specific entry forms for Children, so if you are a large group, please contact me and request some.

We can't wait to see our group challenge. How many recycled Scarecrows will turn up? And will there be any Giant Cabbages?

Finally may I request the help of all you home bakers out there. We are only a small committee, with limited time on show week & some have few culinary expertise. We would welcome any offers of home baked cakes/cookies etc. to sell on the refreshment stall. If you are able to bake something for us, please do get in touch. All proceeds are in aid of The Royal British Legion.

We look forward to seeing and welcoming you all to the Village Hall on Saturday 31st August. For any further information please contact me.

Lorna Robinson-Wardle, Secretary. Tel: 01793 778013 or 3rwardles@gmail.com

Church Floodlighting

Aug 21

St Mary's is floodlit as we are thinking about our friend and colleague **Jean Cook**, who passed away 2 years ago today.

Love from your One Stop family



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



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,

A Book I will Always Remember

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

Vulcan 607 by Rowland White

An extraordinary story of British improvisation that made possible the longest ever distance bombing raid carried out by an Air Force anywhere in the world.

It is easy to forget that Margaret Thatcher had a torrid time as Prime Minister. By 1982 the “Wets” were actively conspiring against her, the economy was suffering from double-digit inflation and she was well-behind in the polls with the new Social Democrats a genuine threat to both the Conservatives and Labour.

That she survived and became the much-heralded leader that has become her legacy owes much to the victory in the Falkland Islands and the dramatic change in national mood that followed.

On April 2nd she faced humiliation as the Argentinian government launched “Operation Goa” and successfully took Port Stanley, capital of an insignificant group of islands in the Southern Atlantic.

The war brought out the best in Thatcher and Vulcan 607 captures perfectly what happened in the mad scramble to re-conquer the islands.

By 1982 the Vulcan bombers were due for the scrapheap. The decommissioning of the bombers had been scheduled as their role had become obsolete – Polaris submarines being a more effective deterrent. First flown in 1952 they were designed to counter the threat from Russia and had an airborne range of roughly 4,000 miles, about the same as a Second World War Lancaster bomber. The nearest airfield available was the Ascension Islands – an 8,000 mile round trip.

My interest in this book came after my wife, who was resident in Rio at the time, told me she remembers perfectly the thunderous noise of a Vulcan bomber diverting into Rio having aborted from one of the Falklands missions through lack of fuel. It shook the windows violently as it flew across the bay to land at the city’s main airport, Galeo although the resultant diplomatic wrangle is another story.

Rowland White describes in detail the technical challenges faced by aging, ill-equipped planes, the ingenuity and skill displayed by RAF technicians and pilots as, in an incredibly tight schedule they adapted to a role that had never been contemplated. Of course there is a huge element of luck – finding refuelling valves in a museum in

Canada, a vital component serving as an ashtray in an engineer's mess, recovering bomb-rack parts from a scrapyard in Newark and using cork from a Home-Brew kit as essential parts in a radar-jamming device. Even locating sufficient bombs was difficult.

By 1982 Vulcan pilots had not practiced mid-air refueling for twenty years, a process which, according to one Vulcan pilot, was as easy as "sticking wet spaghetti up a cat's arse". I shall tell you no more; find out for yourself what actually happened and how the RAF managed to bomb the runway at Port Stanley. For me the book is a superbly-written insight into what could have been a total disaster, indeed the wisdom and effectiveness of the whole operation Black Buck has been called into question but, at the time, it brought a lifting of public spirit that was vital to a successful propagation of the war.

Paul Ballard

Christian Aid Week 2019

Thanks to the generosity of people throughout Purton, we have been able to send off over £4929 to Christian Aid this year... an astonishing amount of money which works out at over £1 per person in the village.



We are grateful to you all, especially to those who gave their time, their money, their skills and their positivity to support the events during Christian Aid Week.

- The school had a cake stall which raised over £113
- The Quiz made over £500
- The Breakfast raised another £350 +
- The Curry Night at the Maharajah another £300
- The sale of baby items at Pips brought in another £109
- And the Plants and Cakes sale made over £693

On top of all of that over £2600 was collected in the red envelopes popped through every door. Thank you Purton, We are SO grateful

Libbie, Mary and Purton's Christian Aid team

DISCLAIMER

Contributions to Purton Magazine are welcome for consideration, the contributor's name and address must be supplied (but may be withheld on request). Copyright issues must be cleared for publication in this magazine - especially those recognisable in photographs. Opinions expressed in the Magazine are solely those of the respective contributors. Contributions are to be written concisely and we reserve the right to edit contributions and advertisements. Advertising is accepted in good faith and does not imply the Magazine's endorsement of the product or service.

St Mary's Primary School

As we approach the end of another busy academic year here at St Mary's we will be saying farewell to our Year 6 children. They have just returned from their Residential to Bude where they spent a wonderful action-packed week experiencing new challenges.



The children participated in activities such as canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling, and cycling and learnt about teamwork, communication, fear and achievement. They all learned new skills, discovered new talents and returned with a real sense of achievement. We wish them all the best of luck as they start the next phase of their education.

In contrast, we also look forward to welcoming our new Foundation children to St Mary's. Lots of induction sessions have already taken place and we hope they are excited to be joining us!

Staff News:

There has been a change of plan for Mrs Campbell and we are delighted to report that she will be staying with us a while longer. We are also pleased to announce that following Mrs Lawrence's departure, Mrs Ashdown and Mrs Ward will be sharing reception/admin duties in September.

PTA Events

Thank you to all parents who helped with our PTA Summer Fayre. We raised approximately £1300 which was a fantastic amount. The Family Barn Dance proved very successful too, with some wonderful costumes and lots of dancing to Blazing Saddles! The money we have made from these events will ensure that there are some exciting visits and events that can be funded next year for the children.

Cluster Athletics Day

An outstanding performance by all the children at the Cluster Athletics day on Weds 3 July at the County Ground, resulted in two individual special recognition medals and GOLD medals for the KS1 and KS2 teams – the first time we have ever won both! The standard of sportsmanship was superb and Mrs Lambe, Mrs Imeson and Mr Cooper were extremely proud of the children who took part.



Gold Sports Mark

We are extremely proud to announce that we have been awarded the School Games Association's 'Gold Sports Mark'! This is only achieved by demonstrating a high level of commitment to sport and physical education and is the result of a great deal of hard work by children and staff.

Prayer Day

On Wednesday 3 July, the Collective Worship Representatives set up a prayer room. The visiting classes came up with some thought-provoking ideas, as they created windmill prayers about climate change; prayers for friends and friendships on petals; and a friendship heart.



We wish all children a relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing them in September refreshed and ready for another academic year of learning.

We do still have spaces in Reception for Sept 2019, (and in most other year groups) so if you are interested in your child joining us here at St Mary's, please do get in touch. Visits can be arranged through the school office admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk or by phoning us on (01793) 770239.

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

Mrs Naomi Clarke, Head Teacher

Bradon Forest School

Primary Music Visits



Bradon Forest was invited to visit some of our feeder primary schools to perform and share our love of music with younger children earlier this week. Mrs Fry, Head of Music at Bradon Forest, chose six of our talented students to play their individual instruments, sing and perform several songs together. Our students talked to the pupils about how they got started learning their instruments and singing and how much they enjoy performing.

Year 8 Bradon Cook Off Challenge



Food Technology teacher, Mr Parkes, set Year 8 students the challenge of a Cook Off competition at GCSE standard.

Students had to enter by application, evidencing dishes they had cooked at home plus describing the three courses they would make if selected for the final. Mr Parkes then selected nine students to compete in the day long challenge which took place on Tuesday 2 July 2019.

There was such a wide variety of cooking and points were awarded for not only taste, but also difficulty of execution and of course, presentation. Dishes included; paneer curry, tai soft biscuits, soups, salads, cheesecakes, profiteroles, spring rolls, strawberry tart and vegan curry to name just a few!

Mr Parkes very much enjoyed his role as Gregg Wallace for the afternoon and was joined by Mrs Wiltshire and Ms Davison as helpful tasters. Mr Parkes said: *“Congratulations to everyone who took part. I was blown away by the standard and every entry would have achieved at least a 5 at GCSE - which is outstanding for Year 8 students! I am incredibly proud of the group of finalists.”*

There could be only one winner though. Well, actually, after much deliberation, there were two! Congratulations to Tia O’Keeffe (Ringsbury) and Amelia Kitchen (Battlewell) for their stand out dishes.

Tia whipped up salmon mousse with home made bread rolls followed by vegan curry and profiteroles. Amelia made breaded mushroom balls with fresh tomato sauce followed by chicken in chunky mushroom sauce and chocolate brownies.

Lunchtime Music Gig

On Thursday 20 June, the Music Department hosted a lunchtime gig to entertain the school. BTEC students together with the staff band played a number of songs under the playground canopy.



Purton Village Diary - August 2019

1	Th	10.00am	Free sports for 5-11 year olds at the Millennium Hall
		10.30am	Communion at the Vicarage
3	Sa	12.30pm	Purton Cricket Club 1st XI v Westbury
4	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
7	W	10.00am	Age Concern trip to Weston-super-Mare
8	Th	10.00am	Free sports for 5-11 year olds at the Millennium Hall
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at the Cedars
9	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus trip
		2.00pm	Friendship Club at Silver Threads Hall
10	Sa	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club 2nd XI v Hinton Charterhouse
11	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Purton Cricket Club Under 11s v Malmesbury
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
12	M		Parking restrictions come into force at the village hall as work commences on the old Best One shop
		10.00am	until 14th Purton Churches activity days at St Mary's Primary School
13	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus meet at the Red House lounge for a talk on 'Marlborough by gaslight'
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Talk from Maureen Griffin 'How times have changed' at Silver Threads Hall
15	Th	10.00am	Free sports for 5-11 year olds at the Millennium Hall
17	Sa	12.30pm	Purton Cricket Club 1st XI v Swindon
18	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Communion at St Mary's Church
		11.30am	Purton Cricket Club Under 11s v Swindon
		3.00pm	Brass band play at the Red house in aid of Purton Age Concern
21	W	2.00pm	Jumble sale at Silver Threads Hall
		2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
22	Th	10.00am	Free sports for 5-11 year olds at the Millennium Hall
23	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus to Cirencester
		5.00pm	until 11.00pm, Red Fest starts at the Red House; live music, food and beer, cider & gin festival

24 Sa	12noon 1.00pm	until late, Red Fest continues at the Red House Purton Cricket Club 2nd XI v Spye Park
25 Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am 12noon	Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Communion at St Mary's Church until 7.00pm Red Fest continues at the Red House
27 Tu	10.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	Purton Probus meet at the Red House lounge for a talk on 'Fracking and shale gas' Dorcan Choir entertain at Silver Threads Hall Purton Gardeners' Guild meet at the Silver Threads Hall for a talk on 'Seed-saving techniques'
30 F	2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
31 Sa		Purton Flower, Arts, Crafts and Produce Show at Purton Village Hall

Every week

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

Every month

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

September

- 1 Su 12.30pm Purton Cricket Club 1st XI v Calne
2.00pm Annual Parish Walk from the High Street layby
- 4 W 10.00am Age Concern Mystery Tour with pub lunch
- 7 Sa 7.00pm Purton Stoke Charity Ball
- 9 M 7.00pm The first of four monthly Purton Historical Society art appreciation courses at Silver Threads Hall

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

Moon Phases

- 3rd Quarter: 25 July ● New moon: 1 Aug ● 1st Quarter: 7 Aug
○ Full moon: 15 Aug ● 3rd Quarter: 23 Aug

Purton Cricket Club

The senior section of the club has not won many games rectly but Elijah Samuel had batted extremely well scoring a century and a 65. The junior section is doing well and a thrilling under 13 game against Burbage saw the team's last pair add 18 runs to win the game by a wicket. We recently hosted the Wiltshire under 13 team match against Hampshire and the results of good coaching were most evident. Several junior players are well able to field their own senior teams. Well done!

Matches at Purton during August:

- 3rd 1st XI v Westbury 12.30pm
10th 2nd XI v Hinton Charterhouse 1.00pm
11th Under 11 v Malmesbury 10.30am
17th 1st XI v Swindon 12.30pm
18th Under 11 v Swindon 11.30am
24th 2nd XI v Spye Park 1.00pm
1st Sept 1st XI v Calne 12.30pm

From the archives

On 31 August 1895 Purton Perseverance played Gorse Hill Perseverance in a cricket match. Does anyone have any information about the players in the match? Purton's team was; H King, W Lewis, C Shailles, J Cook, W Shirley, W Woolford, N Kenneth, G Painter, J Walker, R Woolford and F Woodward.

In the 2003 Magazine, the club congratulated Adam Miles on playing for Wiltshire U13 team and for scoring a century for Purton U13 XI against Chippenham. Adam now holds a high position in New Zealand Cricket, coaching potential inetrnationals. As I said in 2003, well done Adam!

Joe Gardner 770681

Purton Carnival



Purton Carnival's committee is very pleased with the Hog Fest on the 1st June and would like to thank everyone who was there.

We had 4 amazing bands Chesterfield Supper Club, Auto B Band, Inbetween Days and Operation 77 who entertained us all evening. As great as the bands are their sound would not have been so easily heard if it was not for the Sound engineer Steve from AFS. Our food was supplied by the White Horse Box.

As with everything we would be unable to do these events without our helpers, so a special thank you to Katy and Lynn who ran the Gin Bar; Ali, Sara and Barry who cooked and served the Hog; Mary, Pat and Treena who served the Tin Bar as well as Michael and Ben who ran out picking up rubbish, setting out chairs and fetching and carrying all that was required.

Security and First aid was provided by PJM Services who thankfully had very little to do besides a cut hand. Others who need a thank you are Bramleys, Little lees face painting, Reid's Fair, Micks Icecream's, big van world, Halls bakery, Rapid Hire Toilets, Boels for generators and lighting, Marquee Vision, Hills for the bins and Artworking for the banners. The Redhouse and Purton's council also need a mention for letting us use the field.

So much goes into making these events and we are always grateful for the help and support, we are thrilled it was such a great day and all of you turned up to enjoy, we are hoping to be able to another next year and we will start planning very soon, If you are able to assist on the day or want to help with the planning please get in contact, we generally meet once a month to confirm what needs doing for our next events.

We are hoping to continue putting on events to entertain you, if you have any ideas or requests for what we can do please let us know, you can contact us through the Facebook page, email tru.gough@gmail.com, or call / text 07715618920.

We have Quizzes and Bingo planned for the rest of 2019, these will be advertised on the Facebook page, posters on noticeboards around the village and hopefully in the Swindon Advertiser, we will be holding our annual AGM at the Silver Threads on Sunday 18th August so please do come along to hear how we have done, and to give your opinions.

Purton Carnival Committee

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Witts Lane, Jewels Ash, Waite Meads Close, Pear Tree Close (and from Moulden View) Mustang Way*

Purton Open Gardens

What a fantastic, sunny weekend. People reporting back sounded thoroughly delighted, and utterly exhausted!

Many thanks to all those who made it possible. Thank you to those who opened their wonderful gardens, and the people who helped to run stalls and sell refreshments. Thank you Pips for extending opening hours. Special



thanks to Pram Service children and Cubs for making the village so pretty with their planting/weeding. We're grateful to people who helped spread the word; and not least, THANK YOU, wonderful visitors who were so generous in contributing to the various good causes. Final figures are not in yet, but programme sales raised approximately £2000, (400 programmes,) and the total for all the separate garden charity stalls and refreshments is approximately £2,350+. A wonderful result, and a lovely couple of days.

Diana and Adam Meares



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**For further details without any obligation simply ring:
Chris or Justyn on 01793 814888**

10/19

Purton Tennis Club

With the school summer holidays ahead of us – this is an ideal time to buy a ‘family membership’ so the whole family can play tennis together as much as they want. Michelle Hay is our membership secretary and will be happy to help you – email her for more details: thehays16@gmail.com

In July we all enjoyed cheering on our favourite players at Wimbledon, and some of our members were lucky enough to have ring side seats for the big matches. And talking of matches, we at Purton, continue to play in the Swindon & District League – which sometimes means we have the added bonus of playing tennis in some of the beautiful villages in the surrounding areas.

Purton’s Courts, by the Red House have a lovely setting too and are in very good condition. This is due to our continued investment in the playing surfaces and the hard work of our maintenance team. With this in mind, we are having a fund raising Race Night at the Red House on Saturday 5th October. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy a fun night with us, and ahead of the night, ‘horses’ will be on sale, so if you fancy having a little flutter, please get in touch!

Our junior tournament takes place on Saturday 7th September. All the juniors who have been attending the Saturday morning session run by Nicola and Teresa will be invited to take part. We wish them luck.

If you are interested in joining the Tennis Club, to play socially or to play in matches, please get in touch: www.purtontennisclub.com we will be pleased to hear from you.

Janet Saunders, Secretary (01793 772146) www.purtontennisclub.com

Forthcoming events for the All Saints Church Lydiard Millicent Roof Appeal

Murder Mystery Evening – ‘The Munich Mystery’

The Murder Mystery Play ‘The Munich Mystery’ is written by Len Page. It is set against the background of the 1938 Munich Crisis. This was provoked by German demands that Czechoslovakia allowed the German speaking parts of its country to be absorbed into Germany. The first half will set the scene; ‘The lounge of The Old Manor Hotel outside Heston Aerodrome, West London, 30th September 1938, early evening’, when the murder will be committed.

A hot supper will be served during the interval. A licenced bar will be provided and only alcohol purchased on the premises can be consumed.

The second half consists of questions which will give clues to the murderer. Teams will put their findings in writing and the winner will be judged by PADS.

Lydiard Millicent, Parish Hall, 28th September 7.30pm start. Tickets £10 from; Lynda 770986 or Tina 771989. Please get your tickets early in order to help with the catering.

Purton Post Bag



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

Thank you from the Stump family

We would like to thank everyone who sent such lovely messages and cards following the passing of John, It helped us feel that we were not facing this journey on our own.

During his illness we had a lot of help and we would like to thank the following for all their care and kindness - Purton Surgery, Dr Leggett and all the team, everyone at Lloyd's chemist And finally The District Nurses for all their care - thank you.

We cannot thank the Prospect Hospice enough, who cared not only for Dad so well but with kindness and dignity but all the family as well.

I miss John so much after 63 years of marriage it comes very hard, he was such a wonderful Husband, Dad and Grampy but living in this great village where the people make it such a wonderful community it will make it just a little easier.

Thank you, Rose, Valerie and Kevin

Dear Dog walkers using Hoggs Lane

You may think you are being good by picking up your dog's mess but stuffing it

into our blue cardboard recycling bin is plain anti-social. So PLEASE STOP IT. We have to clean out your dog's waste and then clean out the wheelie bin for the cardboard recycling people to do their job cleanly.

*Hoggs Lane Resident
(name and address supplied)*

On a more positive note...

It is so good to hear positive comments about the effort that Purtonians have made to clear up the dog mess situation in the village. Thank you so much to so many who have worked hard to reduce the mess, the squalor and the danger involved. As a Purtonian who likes to walk and jog around the village, I am grateful to you all and it is very much appreciated.

Libbie Sheppard

Much missed Moira

I just want to say thank you to those of you in this wonderful village who gave their support, love and kindness to Moira, Colin and myself during recent months, but especially in the last few weeks of Moira's life. Also, to Colin and myself afterwards. Purton has always been a caring village but it's not until you experience it as an individual, that you

realise how much. As you know, Moira had no family as such, but she had 190 friends at her funeral. That says it all. It was a wonderful farewell, I couldn't have asked for anything better.

How I miss her, but I know it will be OK because of the many, many friends I have in Purton and beyond. My heartfelt thanks to you all.

Sylvia Freemantle

Red House news

The Red House, held its 2019 AGM, on 12 June 2019, a little later than planned due to unforeseen circumstances. The well-attended meeting received a short report from the acting chair Allan Coole. The report started by thanking a number of outgoing committee members Sue Williams, Zita Tuck and Nick Webb but most notably Terry Crumbie, who has served for over 30 years.

Allan went on to say that he had also been able to welcome three new or returning members, Neil Saunders (secretary), Jason Harrison and Rich Griffin.

Although it was not spoken about at the meeting it has subsequently been agreed that Richard, will take over as chair; we of course wish him well in his endeavours to continue the upward curve of the Red House, in its desire to become the centre of the village and much more than just a successful entertainment centre.

Allan was able to report that membership and turnover was up in comparison to the previous year and this year had again started strongly.

Although the Red House accounts show a small loss (£400) over the 2018 year, this follows a number of large repairs and improvements costing between £3k to £5k. We have also invested in a great deal of live entertainment for your enjoyment.

Some of the improvements will be visible, such as the painting of tables, new curtains and now the decoration of the skittle alley, others such as repairs to the roof, work on the fire doors and in the cellar will not.

The committee old and new are very pleased to see a broadening number of different groups either basing themselves at the Red House or indeed using it on an increasing frequency.

At the time of writing the Red House in partnership with Purton Carnival Committee have just hosted a very successful "Hog roast" that saw both families and individuals party late into the night.

We are currently working on our next "Red Fest" event, this time its based around a beer, Gin and Cider Festival with great food, fantastic Music over the August Bank Holiday 23rd - 25th inclusive.

If you are already a member then thank you for your continued support, if not please check us out on our website www.redhouseclubpurton.co.uk or just come on in, you will be made very welcome.

2019 Committee

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



This month's Rustle, Bustle and Squeak creations by 1st Purton Rainbows were edible snails which smelt amazing and tasted just as good.

The two Brownie units have been celebrating with Heather, Layla, Phoebe, Ruby, Tilly, Lyra, Beatrix, Izzy and Misha all making their Brownie Promise.

1st Purton Brownies have completed First aid Skills builders with activities on how to get help, invisible illnesses and emotional wellbeing. A warm summer evening was ideal for the Brownies' visit to Jubilee Lake where they completed a wide awake trail before enjoying ice lollies kindly provided by Jubilee Lake Tea Room.

2nd Purton Brownies have now completed the Explore Skills builder. They spent an evening at Lydiard Park where they walked the footpaths

discovering how to respect the countryside. They explored how compasses worked and how to make one and have also looked at grid references, map reading and symbols on a map. Our county campsite near Wroughton was the venue for learning how to strike a match safely, then toasting marshmallows: definitely a winner!

Guides have also been out and about. They used the orienteering routes at Lydiard Park and found that some of the posts were quite well hidden. The play area was great for letting off steam afterwards. Water games were the order of the day another week when they were joined by Brownies who will be moving on to Guides in the autumn. Everyone had great fun getting a little soggy and winners received prizes of umbrella hats, rain bonnets and shower caps!

One weekend Purton Guides met up with Guides from Melksham and Minety for a Camp Skills builder activity day at our county guiding centre in East Tytherton. They built fires, made bedding rolls and camp equipment, did some cooking, played games and finished by singing around the campfire. It was a day of opportunity for inventiveness, teamwork and leadership skills to shine through.

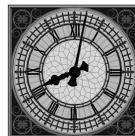
Back at the hall Guide activities have been led by the Polar Bear, Penguin and Puffin patrols. For Painting Under Pressure the Guides worked in their patrols to create masterpieces, but each Guide could use only two brush strokes each – a great test of teamwork and creativity. Galactic Guides provided the opportunity to present ideas for what a 'Jupiteran' Guide unit might look like. Posters, mimes and even an amazing beatboxing rap were testament to their great imaginations. Catch of the Day, was trickier than it first appeared. Using a metal coat hanger, a strong stick, one leg of a pair of tights and tape Guides were asked to make a fishing net and go fishing for rocks, leaves, twigs, etc. The basic idea of a survival skill netted no catches (pun intended), so the hope is that Purton Guides will be near a fish and chip shop when they go on their adventures, otherwise they will be really hungry! These are just a very small selection of the huge number of activities the three patrols managed to pack into their meetings. All three patrols demonstrated great teamwork and

planning skills in delivering the sessions, both valuable transferrable skills for their futures.

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

After 8

Our topic for the June meeting of the After Eight group was “Books and Films we have loved”.



We began by looking at the derivation of the word “book” and discovered it came from the Old English boc, a charter or written document. Boc was probably of Germanic origin from bokiz, meaning “beech”, referring to the beechwood tablets on which runes were inscribed.

One of the earliest printed books in Europe was the Gutenberg Bible, produced in Mainz, Germany, in about 1455. Two copies are held in the British Library, one on paper, the other on vellum, and can be viewed, and compared, on the BL website. Printing with moveable type was however used in China 600 years before Gutenberg began his work.

Our discussion revealed that most of us read and enjoyed books, but that was not so with film, some viewing films monthly, some sporadically, others rarely. One title appealed to both book and film buffs, namely “Girl on the Train”, Paula Hawkins’s first novel written in 2015. In 2016 the film was produced in America, directed by Tate Taylor. However, can you enjoy both versions? Does a book ever translate well to the screen? Is it better to watch the film first or to read the book?

This question also arose; are printed books on the decline, giving way to electronic devices? Here there was a definite answer “No!”, as shown by a significant decrease in the sale of e-readers, although we agreed that there is room for both. The advantages of e-readers being their size, and the facility to store a mini-library.

One member read us her poem, “The Book”, which encapsulates her joy of reading. The following lines are taken from her poem:

A delicious book awaits full of promise
Tumbling into moments of bliss...
Loosing myself for the moment in words
Loving the sound as no one else heard...

We shall be sure to return to this topic more than once in our future programmes. Thank you to the editors of Purton Magazine, and to the contributors, for the fascinating monthly articles under the title “A Book I will Always Remember”.

Mary Smith



On Saturday 22 June — a beautiful day— we set out by coach to Gloucester for an organised tour of the Cathedral, the Docks and a boat trip on the canals. The magnificent cathedral, over 2000 years old, of Norman and Gothic styles, with much stained glass, the wonderful nave and cloisters with fan vaulted ceilings, the lovely central herb garden and the primitive bathing facilities still remaining used by the medieval monks.

Well known lately as a backdrop to the Harry Potter Films and Wolf Hall, it was a centre of pilgrimage to the shrine of Edward II (murdered at nearby Berkeley Castle) and more recently, the monument to Edward Jenner, resident of Gloucestershire, famous for his discovery of a vaccination against smallpox. A great tour with the Cathedral Choir rehearsing in the background for the Three Choirs Festival (with Worcester and Hereford) - the oldest music festival in the world.

After a quick look at the Waterway museum, we went on an organised trip on a steamer the "Boadicea II" on the Sharpness canal system, with a running commentary of the surrounding old warehouses used for storing timber, coal, salt (essential for preserving food before refrigeration) and some now converted to stylish houses and flats, and part of Gloucester University. Our steamer was one of the "small ships" that went to Dunkirk to save British troops in World War 2.

A great day out with plenty of time for refreshments, shopping and sightseeing in the new docks development, our coach trip was excellent (no problems with parking!)

Jill Watts

Museum Visits by St Mary's Primary School

On the afternoon of Tuesday 11th June the children from Year 5, as part of their topic work, visited Purton Museum in order to see artefacts from WWI. The children listened to a welcoming talk answering questions such as 'How old are the artefacts?' 'How many of their lifetimes would that have been?' It was pointed out that the medals that they could handle belonged to Caitlin's (Class 12) great great-grandfather Arthur Wilfred Rushen and that he didn't fight on the Western front but landed in Salonika and the children were asked to find out where this was. The children were also asked 'Where is Gallipoli?' as a number of Purton soldiers were killed there. As two of the artefacts on show belonged to Captain Ward of the Wiltshire Yeomanry another question set for the children was 'What is a yeoman?' The children looked at the Joe Ricketts' WWI display and the board depicting Children at War. They tried on the Pith helmet and were fascinated by the sword. A number of children in Year 5 should now be addressed as Sir as they spent time knighting each other with the sword (it did remain in the scabbard at all times). The x-rays of the arm wounds and the shrapnel that caused them caught the children's interest. The following Tuesday afternoon saw the Year 6 children visiting with the same format followed except it was Lauren's (Class 14) great great grandfather's

medals and as these children were aged 11 with some of them reaching the age of 12 before the end of the year they were asked to see what employment they might have done to aid the war effort as the school leaving age 1914 - 1918 was 12. In all 95 children with their teachers and TAs visited over the two afternoons with a number of children expressing a wish to visit the museum on another occasion.

Liz Rushen

Future Meetings

Following our outing in June and walk around Malmesbury in July, we will have a Summer break and resume our monthly meetings in September as below.

We have also booked, in conjunction with the WEA, a 4 session Art Appreciation course which will take place in the Silver Threads hall on Monday evenings commencing 9th September 2019. Full details below.

The loss of the Titanic and a Wiltshire family – mysteries and myths with Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey Carr.

Thursday 26th September 2019 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall

Over one hundred years since she sank on her maiden voyage, RMS TITANIC continues to intrigue and fascinate us. Yet many of the stories about the ship contain errors and speculation that do not do justice to the ship's design, and few combine the technical aspects with the social history of a family that actually took passage in the ship.

The lecture, 'The Loss of the TITANIC and a Wiltshire Family – Some Mysteries and Myths' formed the highlight of Melksham History Society's 2008-09 programme, and has since been presented to over one hundred organisations in locations from Plymouth to Thurso, and from Gloucester to Reading, where it has been well attended and received. The illustrated talk intertwines the lives of a family from Melksham in Wiltshire with the technical detail of one of the worst shipping disasters in history. It lasts 45 minutes and includes a subsequent question and answer period, as required.

Paul Barnett – Disaster waiting - The Severn Bridge Disaster.

Thursday 24th October 2019 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall

Michael Gamble – Wiltshire through the eyes of a Moonraker.

Thursday 28th November 2019 at 7.30 pm in Purton Village Hall

Christmas Social Evening

Friday 6th December 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Silver Threads Hall

Art Appreciation

Through a selection of various artworks across mediums (painting, sculpture, printmaking, new media), genres (landscape, still life, figurative, social and political) and historical periods, this course will help participants start to develop a critical awareness and appreciation of art through a process of visual analysis and study. The course will introduce and develop a vocabulary of appropriate terminology as well

as distinguish between personal judgement and critical analysis through a process of individual and inter-participant study and discussion. New Members and visitors always welcome

The course runs over four monthly sessions: 09/09/19, 07/10/19, 04/11/19 and 02/12/19, at the Silver Threads Hall. High Street, Purton, Swindon. SN5 4AE

Time: 19.00 - 21.00. Cost: £48.00. Reference: C3530712

Book today: enrolonline.wea.org.uk or call 0300 303 3464

Janet and Tony Neate, Tel: 01793 770117 email: tjneate57@gmail.com

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



Our June speaker was Andrew Tolman who entertained us last year with a talk on Stumperies, a subject he became passionate about whilst working for 10 years as Senior Gardener for HRH the The Prince of Wales at Highgrove. On this occasion we were to hear about another of his passions, 'The Art of Topiary and Ornamental Hedges'.

So what is topiary? We learned that it's the art of training plants into intricate shapes and forms by close clipping and shaping.

Traditional subjects for topiary have usually been evergreens to retain a permanent feature throughout the seasons, as even when covered in snow or frost it can make a dramatic effect. Typically box and yew are used, although other evergreens such as privet, holly and bay are also suitable. It's believed that the Romans introduced Topiary to Britain and when they left it disappeared.

Topiary gardens became very popular again during the reign of the Tudors and Stuarts when knot gardens and clipped ornate shapes were introduced to gardens up and down the country. The knot garden was formed from different coloured box, planted in crisscrossing patterns so that it appeared that the ribbons of hedges had been tied up in knots. Highly-scented herbs were also used as hedging planted in and among the gaps to give a tapestry of colour.

Hedge mazes evolved from knot gardens and were constructed during the 16th century, dwarf box usually being the favoured choice for its robustness. Mazes still feature in a number of private and public gardens today, Hever Castle in Kent, for example. It has an immaculate yew maze and is also renowned for its full size Topiary chess set now over 100 years old, also designed in yew, introduced to the garden by its then owner, W.W. Astor, the American millionaire.

By the 1800's, in Elizabethan times, all large properties would have had huge topiaries based on Italian renaissance gardens that would have simple, large, clipped specimens in and among statues with beautifully ornate, clipped box hedges swirling around them in mirrored patterns or geometric designs. This design of gardening was known as parterre and was designed to best be seen from the upper floors of castles or large houses.

When it comes to clipping, Andrew explained that only good quality tools should be

used. Japanese shears are considered to be some of the best for the purpose, made from the same metal as that used in Samurai swords.

When shearing by hand the blades should be kept wet and so 'clip, clip, clip, dip' (into water) should be the rule of thumb. This makes for a cleaner, sharper cut and less browning on the leaves. Ideally the best time to clip is when there is a dew or light rain. Tools should be disinfected with a Jeyes fluid solution after use to prevent the spread of disease from one garden to another.

Although falling in and out of fashion from time to time Topiary remains popular today and is used in many modern styles. It can be formal, quirky and fun, as Andrew's photos of Topiary chickens, frogs, teapots and even snakes highlighted, proving that there's always room for a clipped masterpiece.

Congratulations to the winners of the monthly competition, '3 Rose'. 1st Moira White, 2nd Margaret Goodall, 3rd Judy Preddy.

Our next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 27th August in Silver Threads Hall when Sally Oates will be entertaining us with a talk entitled 'Seed saving techniques'. The competition will be 'A jam jar of flowers'. If you might be interested in this subject feel free to join us. We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members.

Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)

Andy Le Poidevin Prints

The popularity of the cover of the April issue of Purton Magazine, showing all 12 of Andy Le Poidevin's original watercolour paintings has generated enough interest for production of the A4 and A3 to commence. An A4 card print will be £2 and A3, £4. We have also had interest in the postcards, (£3 for a set of all twelve paintings) and these have received support from Andy's daughter Yvonne Parr, also an artist. The prints and cards will be produced to coincide with the exhibition and retrospective of Andy's work by Purton Artists this October, and will go on sale to the public thereafter, at outlets in the village.

To pre-order a print or set of postcards please email heather@intouchpurton.co.uk and further information about the Purton Artists exhibition will be publicised in forthcoming issues of Purton Magazine.

The Purton Directory

So far I've had six responses to my request for information about local organisations for the new edition of the Purton Directory, so we have delayed publishing this.

If you belong to a local hobby or interest group, sports club, or any other organisations, please let me know using the details below. The Directory will be printed and published on the Purton Magazine website. Details required are: Organisation name and purpose (if relevant), contact names and their position (chair, secretary etc), and contact telephone number, email address, website, Facebook page etc. Thank you.

In Touch Design & Print, 2 College Road, Email: heather@intouchpurton.co.uk Tel: 772954



Memories of a happy childhood in Purton Stoke, Part 2

In last month's magazine we introduced readers to the story of Joan Rowland's life that has kindly been contributed by her son, Raymond. She wrote about her early life in an exercise book that was only found after her death and this month we begin with her earliest recollections. Born in 1928, she wrote:

It was a hard time for our parents, with six children to feed. Money was short. But, we did not starve, as Dad had an allotment by the village school, close to Watkins Corner. We often went round to help Dad with the weeding. Mum would give us a flask of tea and some sandwiches for Dad and for us to have. We also kept chickens and ducks. So, we always had fresh eggs, and if meat was short, we would have a chicken for dinner. Dad would also go rabbiting around the fields, as there were not many houses around us.

We had fun amongst ourselves, making tents out of sacks in the field at the back of our house. There was a pond in the field too, where our ducks would swim. Dad would sometimes loose a chicken or two, as my brothers would throw them into the pond to see if they could swim!

I also went to Sunday School at the chapel in Purton Stoke when I was three, along with my sisters and brothers. They looked after me. We would meet up with the Williams family and the Griffins. There were large families in those days. Further down the road was the Parsons family. They were related to my Dad. There lived Great Uncle Bill Parsons, whose was known to everyone as 'Scoot', because of the way he got onto his bicycle.

I enjoyed the anniversaries, when I was dressed in a lovely silk dress, a straw hat decorated with flowers, and a ribbon hanging down the back. We all had to say a piece of poetry on the day. The chapel was packed with our parents and our friends.

In the summer, it was time for the chapel outing. It was only to Ponds Farm, which was owned by Tommy Ponting. The outing was held on a Saturday. To begin with, we had to go to the Chapel to collect a cup and a plate which had a label on them with our names on it. There we would wait for our Sunday School teacher, line up and then walk with him to Ponds Farm. Here we would play on the swings, which were tied to trees. We would also play in the barns. But, best of all was the boat ride. There was a pond at the back of the farm and we go from there to the pond at the front of the farm, through the stream at the side.

At four o'clock we would go back to the chapel hall where we would have tea. When tea was over, we would return to Ponds Farm for games and races. When the day came to an end, tins of sweets were opened and thrown into the air. We could then pick up as many sweets as we could. But, you had to be quick. Then it was time to go home to bed.

On a Thursday, my mother would take me round to my grandmother's house for an hour, or two. She lived close to The Bell. On the way, we would stop by a gate along Pond's Lane, where there were sheep grazing in the field. There was some wire on the gate and where the sheep had rubbed against the wire, they would leave lots of their wool. Mum would collect it and wash it to make me a Santa Claus beard for Christmas.

When I was five, I started school at Purton Stoke. In those days we had to wear pinafores. In the afternoon, paper was laid on the floor, and we had to go to sleep for an hour. Sometimes, if the sun was shining, we would go into the field adjoining the school, where the teacher would read us a story. I can remember that, if it rained hard, our Mum had to come to the school and get us. This was because Bentham Lane would be knee-deep with water, flooding from a stream, just in front of Tanners Farm. Mum had her Wellingtons on, and brought her bike. She would put me on the saddle, and my sister Bet, on the seat at the back, and walk through the floods.

I can remember my first teacher was Nancy Webber, who was Eric Webber's sister. When the older children went on an outing to Stonehenge, she took us to her father's home on Purton Hill, along by the new houses that were being built at the time. Webber's had a huge lawn and gardens, so we had a picnic there and played games. When we left, we were given sweets to come away with. Some people used to say that the garden was haunted. But, I didn't see any ghosts there! Another teacher was Miss Martin, who set a completion for us. I was one of the winners along with Peggy Hedges, and we received some silk handkerchiefs as prizes.

When I was a little older, we went on a trip to Southampton by coach, to see the third biggest ship in the world, The Berengaria. It was huge with swimming pools and just about everything on it.

When I was seven, we had our school exams. I came first each time. So, I was presented with a big story book, called the Infants Annual by Lord and Lady Hoare, from Bentham House. The next time we had exams, I came first again, and was given a dressed doll at our evening pantomime. In it, I was 'Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary' and I had to get on the stage and sing with a watering can and real flowers which decorated the stage. I remember a boy, David Allan. He was 'Tom, Tom the Piper's Son'. John Scott, a farmer brought a baby pig to the pantomime for his act. But, halfway through his act, the pig ran wild in the Hall. The piglet ran around amongst the people who had come to see the pantomime. Eventually, the piglet was caught, which made everyone laugh loudly.

Every Friday evenings, we would go to the Purton Stoke Reading Room to the socials that were held there. My father was the MC there, and we did games like musical chairs, and musical arms. Also, someone would shout out words like safety pin, hair clip, handkerchief, shoe, sock, etc and the first person to run up to the front would be given a bean. The one who collected the most beans won a prize. In between these games there were dances like the valletta, the Boston Two-step, Barn dances and the Palais Glide. In the interval, my father, and the other men, would pop over to the Bell Inn opposite for a quick pint of beer. My mother would go over to the house next door



to the Bell to see my grandmother. We were given chocolates, sandwiches and a glass of lemonade before the second half of the evening began. When the social evening ended at about half past ten, we walked back home.

Each July, we would go for a day trip to Barry Island. We would leave the house at 4.30am, to walk to Purton Station, so we could catch the 6.30am train. It seemed miles from Bentham Lane to Purton Station. But, we were always really excited about a paddle in the sea, playing on the sand, and also going on the roundabouts.

The Hounds would meet at Bentham House sometimes. The meet would be at eleven o'clock and we were allowed to see them. Down the road from us was Scott's Farm. The Griffin family lived there. The field in front of our house belonged to them, and when the mowing time came, we would run down to the farm and ride on the empty cart. When the cart was filled with grass, we would ride back on the cart to the farm. We made our own fun in those days.

Another thing I remember was dressing my cat, Sandy, in my doll's clothes, and wheeling her up the road. Sandy didn't even attempt to get out of my doll's pram!

The other side of the gate

What a brilliant summer we're having. Our free draining ground dries out so quickly that the grass stops growing, so this intermittent rain is perfect for us. This month we have been pretty busy making hay and silage. We've rented 20 acres from the Wells brothers at Pavenhill. Tristan cut it for me and turned it once, I then turned it again, then I used Brian Scott's rake to put it in to rows for Neil Webb to bale. We made 170 round bales and hopefully it will grow back enough to get another cut later in the year. I also wanted to make some small square bales as they're very convenient to carry around. I took another four acres at Pavenhill and we made 235 bales, baled by Michael Woodward. Small bales are convenient but hard work. I usually have to ask around for help getting them on the trailer and into the barn - I've got some good friends! Wayne Amos and Jenny Kinnett volunteered themselves to help out as I was still busy making hay in the Manor field and Cricklade so had to shoot off on the tractor. They completed the task alone. Wayne is one of the few people I know that can stack bales in a barn. It's a real talent to have a stack that won't collapse (I struggle) so he's a great asset! Jenny just ended up with blisters! The cows continue to march across the fields finishing their third trip across Berkfield. I decided to cut around the far field before they went in to graze it. The grass was long and had headed up so I cut six mower widths around the outside. This will give us a bit more winter feed. The cows complained a little about the length of the grass (they prefer shorter and younger), but that's what I gave them so they had no choice! They eat the tops off first then come back over to take the bottom out. They do tread a lot in but that is okay. The broken grass will protect the ground from drying out so quickly and as it's still

got some solar collectors, it will recover faster too. They're currently on their fourth trip over Jackson's - where they go after that I'm not sure! We often have students or people coming to the farm for work experience. Taffi joined us for two weeks after finishing her first year at veterinary college. She needed dairy experience so a lot of time in the dairy is what she got! When we weren't working she would go and sit in the fields and interact and observe the cows just doing their thing. It's always a pleasure to watch someone learn to interact with our cows. She was very good all round and I now miss our speedy milkings together. We managed another day away from the farm this month. Groundswell is a conference devoted to regenerative agriculture. Held on a farm really close to Luton it was a very early start to get there for 8 am when breakfast was served. There was no processed food; we had options of granola made by Rude Health - if you haven't tried it, you should. Nick Bernard, who started the company, sources all the ingredients from organic farms, local if he can, however some ingredients obviously don't grow in our climate. It is stocked at Purton House, Waitrose and Sainsbury's. It was a two day event packed with many speakers. Allan Savory (look up his TED talks) gave us a stark warning about how the world surface is suffering desertification. He has done amazing work in Zimbabwe and Botswana and turned desert into an oasis just using cattle moved up to eight times a day. The principals are simple and what he's done is to mimic nature. Hundreds of years ago those lands were green and the only difference is that the big herds have been removed. Big herds bunch together and kept tight by predators, these herds would eat the tops of the plants. Dung and urine then move to fresh ground. What's left is trodden plants, fertilised with their droppings. This land would then not be revisited for six months. Grass grew back, thicker and greener and after time, he'd put more animals on to increase the speed of regeneration. This talk is available on YouTube. If you can watch it, do. 'Groundswell 2019. Allan Savory - A Common Sense Resolution to Restore our Environment'. It was a fascinating day, we learnt lots and made some very good contacts, as well as eating some beautiful wagyu burgers. We have some interesting customers and none more so than Ian Vout. He's a Personal Performance Coach from London, now living in Wiltshire, and has helped many athletes get the best performance from their bodies. He has also helped individuals to lose weight and generally feel better. He comes to us for our grass fed milk and meat as he understands the value of the nutrients we produce - endorsement indeed! I was fascinated one day after hearing him relay a story of an overweight man. This chap had employed numerous personal trainers that all made him pound the streets and nothing happened, no weight loss at all. Ian took his bloods and had them analysed to see what was going on beneath the surface. I don't know the technical details, but after Ian told him to stop exercising and stop eating a certain food as his body was inflamed, he lost 3lbs in the first week! I'm a little heavier than I should be and I know a lot of it is sugar, so I said to him that we should do a complete blood analysis on us. Bloods have been taken and next month I will let you know the results.

Jonathan Cook

Purton in the time of Victoria

Part I: An Era of Change

It is the 24th of May 2019 as I am writing. And two hundred years ago, on 24 May 1819, Princess Victoria of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld and her husband, Prince Edward, Duke of Kent and Strathearn, were proud to announce the birth of their first and only child, Princess Alexandrina Victoria. King George III was still on the throne but, owing to his illness, his eldest son, George, had the position of Prince Regent. The king's illness has been diagnosed as porphyria in many references. It results from high levels of red and purple pigments (hence the name) produced by the body, which enter the blood but are usually controlled by the liver and a blood substance called haem. High levels of porphyrin can cause acute attacks of physical pain or damage to your skin - sometimes both [Ref 1]. Of at least eight types of porphyria, some of the worst cases may have inspired tales of werewolves and vampires [Ref 2]. Even today, managing the disease can be challenging. Blood-letting was the magic cure for everything in George III's day, but for porphyria might have been the only worthwhile use of an otherwise worthless and energy sapping procedure.

The year following her birth saw the deaths of the young princess's father and of the King. The Prince Regent ascended the throne as King George IV.

All this led to my thinking what amazing changes have occurred in the 83 years that followed. Purton itself changed remarkably, perhaps more than in any other era than our own. So has the world in general: we have just collected our cat, Hugo, from a specialist vet in Chipping Norton where he had been treated with radioactive Iodine-131 for an overactive thyroid problem. It wasn't until 1895 that Wilhelm Roentgen discovered X-rays and Henri Becquerel confirmed uranium radiation the year after. In 1898, Pierre and Marie Curie unravelled the source of radiation from inside the uranium element and found new elements including polonium (named after Poland, her country of birth), and thorium. However, they still hadn't worked out the structure of the atom and the principles of radioactive decay of the uranium nucleus.

Hugo would have been too radioactive to have come back home immediately; the half-life of Iodine-131 is 8 days. For his radiation to be down to the background radiation level of the rest of the planet would take 24 days. During his incarceration at the vet's cattery, we had rung every few days to check on progress. They kindly emailed me two photos. Now, the telephone wasn't invented until about 1854 by Antonio Meucci, (who called it a teletrofono), and then only commercialised by Alexander Graham Bell after 1877. Photography was made practical by Henry Fox Talbot in around 1841 but we would have to wait until the 21st century to be able to transmit the photograph by internet email.

Of course, in 1819, the cat would have been untreatable but a sketch of the cat could have been sent via a man on a horse.

I am writing this on a computer, but even the typewriter wasn't commercially available before the mid-1880s. Instead I would have used a quill pen as the steel nib wasn't around until about 1822, when John Mitchell set up a factory in Birmingham to make them.

All of these advances would have been considered magic in 1819.

This same week, I have voted, as I hope you all will have done (one way or another) in the European Elections. In 1819, Britain had only just finished the Napoleonic Wars with France which culminated in the Battle of Waterloo (1815). Getting into, let alone out of Europe, would have been unthinkable unless you had a squadron of horse artillery, and it's unlikely that many who might be reading this would have had a vote to cast if by chance there had been an election.

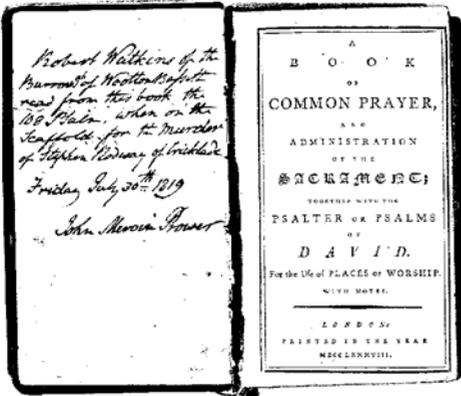
On my way home from the polling station, I popped into the local supermarket in Cricklade and picked up a box of teabags. I certainly wouldn't have been able to afford to do that in 1819. Tea from China was a luxury item for the rich only, and kept in locked caddies so the maid couldn't get at it. Britain introduced tea growing into India in 1836 and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in 1867. There was great competition to get the leaves back to Britain as fast as possible and ever faster sailing ships were built, such as the Cutty Sark launched in 1869. The Suez Canal was opened the same year and advances in technology meant that steam ships stole the trade on the shorter and quicker route. Even so, water to make the tea would be boiled on an open hearth as electricity wasn't commercially available anywhere until about 1870, and some parts of Purton, such as The Hyde, had to wait until the 1950s!

It was fortunate that the supermarket is easy walking distance from home. The roads in 1819 were either dreadful or expensive... or both. Toll roads had been established in the 1700s connecting towns and larger villages and the pike house on Station Road in Purton, opposite the end of Collins Lane, remains as a relic of the system where you would have paid to use the section of road controlled and supposedly maintained by the Turnpike Trust company. The roads within Purton itself were maintained by the Vestry, an early form of local government run by the Church and leading landowners. The work of the Vestry was funded by a local tax or tithe but labour for the maintenance of the road was conscripted from local people.

Whatever the state of the roads, they weren't safe either. On the evening of 7 May 1819, the body of a Cricklade coal merchant, Stephen Rodway, was found shot through the chest. He had been returning home from business in Wootton Bassett on the toll-road between Purton and Purton Stoke. He had been robbed of all his money except for a few halfpennies. Robert Watkins, an unemployed labourer from Wootton Bassett was arrested for the crime and sentenced at the Summer Assizes at Salisbury. On Friday 30 July 1819, Watkins was taken from gaol in Salisbury to a place called Moore-Stones near Purton Stoke where a gallows had been erected

since it was the custom of the time for executions to be public and performed at the scene of the crime.

Although he was repeatedly called upon to confess his guilt, he refused to do so. Even at the gallows he remained composed and at his own request read aloud the 108th Psalm from a prayer book: 'O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.' The crowd that watched the hanging was estimated at between ten and fifteen thousand. Almost at the time that he was hanged, a violent thunderstorm broke overhead and continued for half an hour.



The prayer book is on display at Purton Museum and bears an inscription inside the front cover. Ever since that time, Moore-Stones has been known as Watkins' Corner. Public hangings, however popular, were stopped by law in 1868 and confined to prisons. The death penalty for murder was last conducted in 1964 before full abolition in 1965, (1973 in Northern Ireland).

In this series of perhaps 12 monthly parts, I hope to cover the transition that Purton and Britain made during the lifetime of Princess Alexandrina Victoria. I shall keep vaguely to a timeline, but the story involves topics rather than precise decades and these ideas will be my guide. I am not a royal biographer, nor a historian of empire, but all these themes are interwoven into the fabric of the nation's history.

Rick Dixon

1. www.britishlivertrust.org.uk/liver-information/liver-conditions/porphyria
2. www.scientificamerican.com paraphrased by me. For their full article, see www.scientificamerican.com/article/born-to-the-purple-the-st

Cricklade Country Market

Friday August 30th 2-4pm at The Jenner Hall Cricklade

Everything we sell is locally handmade, home cooked or home grown.

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

Future market date: September 27th

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





Beneath the Wool

This past month has been very busy on the farm with silage and hay making all being done this month. The silage for the sheep this year was made on the common down Witts Lane, this was done which made some nice silage but also helped some horse owners out where the grass had got too long for their horses. The hay we made for the sheep was made in two different places with about 2 acres made at Rogers Farm where the sheep didn't get onto the grass early enough, so the grass had gone beyond them. This was made into small bales also known as conventional bales. From these 2 acres there were 70 bales which will be kept for lambing time as it was very nice hay.

The second piece of hay was actually made into haylage which is a cross between silage and hay and is dryer than silage but not as dry as hay which means it needs to be wrapped. This piece of hay was made on some rented land at College Farm opposite the vets and this is where the sheep will be moved to when the grass has grown enough. We cut this grass on the 29th of June and baled it on the 1st July and after Neil Webb had baled it we had 50 bales for the sheep over the winter.

As well as all the silage and haymaking the sheep have been moved around Rogers Farm and the lambs are growing very well although some more rain would be useful to get the grass growing again. I am very impressed with the growth of the lambs this year and am anticipating that some of the ram lambs will be ready for slaughter towards the end of August.

Michael Woodward, Rogers Farm, Purton



Hello from The Cedars Care Home

Bring me Sunshine, in your smile

Our activities continue to grow, much like our beautiful garden! We are expanding our arts & craft sessions by introducing pastels, stencils and modelling with air-dry clay which we will be displaying of course. We are also introducing word games, poetry and artefacts to stimulate discussion and memories. If you're reading this and thinking "I used to love doing that." Or "that sounds interesting," then why not volunteer to come in and join us? See below for details.

Give me sunshine all the while!

Yes! Summer has arrived and we've had some lovely times in our garden, which I must say does look great. A bit of Pam Ayres with ice lollies, pots of tea and plenty of chat is always enjoyed by residents.

In this world where we live, there should be more happiness



Our canal trip was indeed a tranquil meander along the waterways and although we had intermittent rain the residents said they thoroughly enjoyed the day. Especially for one resident who got to steer the boat and sit up on deck for most of the day! These boats are totally kitted out to cater for all disabilities, so it was a very relaxing activity for us coordinators too. Although I had forgotten what hard work locks can be! We're going again this month with other residents who were unable to join us on our first trip.

As I write this, we are getting ready for our annual trip to Weston-Super-Mare. It's the second week of Wimbledon and with the weather being kind we are all about sun, sea and tennis now. The sun hats are out, the sun cream is on and we are set for a Summer of fun. A Cheese and wine party, and a summer BBQ (Friday 23rd Aug) with a Country & Western theme are just a few things being planned. If you know any Country & Western singers or bands, please do let us know.

Life's too short to be spent having anything but fun!

Finally, our open day in June was very successful. We had families whose loved ones are affected by this disease who said they gained more insight into the condition after talking with our Dementia specialist. Q Ceramic Studio attended our day and was much enjoyed by those watching as well as those taking part. However, the star of the show was a beautiful Pets as Therapy (PAT) dog, a chocolate coloured Labrador

called Pepper. He was particularly special with residents who have little sight and hearing. The joy and smiles on their faces was priceless and the unconditional attention from Pepper was such a joy to watch. We are in the process of planning regular visits, but these dogs are specially trained and in great demand. Nevertheless, we had some carers who are dog owners and were able to get information about who to train their dogs to become PAT dogs. So, all in all I think we can say our open day achieved its purpose in sharing knowledge, awareness and fun!

So from us at Cedars we say, enjoy your summer and...

Be light-hearted, all day long,

Keep me singing, happy songs,

Let your arms be as warm as the sun from up above,

Bring me fun, bring me sunshine, bring me love.

Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you.

Our Full time Activities Co-ordinator 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.

Purton Farm Shop

You may have heard – THE WURZELS are coming to Purton! We have booked them for Saturday 3rd August as part of our Festival on the Farm. So get that straw between your teeth and start practising the Wurzel Stomp! What better way to spend a weekend than with good food, good music and good company?

The three-day Festival on the Farm is Swindon's only small, funky, cool festival on an organic farm. It's small cos we like it that way, but that's not to say we don't have amazing bands, great food and great beer. Located next to our farm shop it's a great place for the family to spend the weekend. Apart from the great music there will be kids fun rides, face painting, henna tattoos and all the other festival paraphernalia. Camping is available for the duration of the festival.

We specialise in promoting local talent and also on the bill this year are Get Carter, Ska-Bucks, The Arkansaw Jukebox Collective, The Dirty Smooth, The Strays, Superseed, The Skandals, Marc Hopkins as Robbie Williams, Pink tribute, Sarah C Ryan, The Berries, Pink Mac, Buswell and Friends, Karen Carpenter tribute plus many more!

This year we are reducing single use plastic! Pints will be served in washable mugs and there will be plenty of outlets for refreshing tap water to keep you cool!

Day tickets available, concessions for teens (accompanied by adults) and kids under 13 go free! (You must book tickets though so we can track numbers) Available on line at www.festivalonthefarm.co.uk or in the Farm Shop.

*Kate Robinson, Email: purtonfarmshop@gmail.com, Tel. 01793 771556,
Mob 07703 696229, www.purtonhouseorganics.co.uk*

Purton Placard



PURTON CHURCHES TOGETHER

SUMMER ACTIVITY DAYS!

12TH-14TH AUGUST 10AM-3PM
FOR YEARS 2-6
ST MARYS SCHOOL HALL



REGISTRATION FORMS FROM SCHOOL OR ON THE DAY. SUGGESTED DONATION £5 A DAY PER CHILD. WEAR OLD CLOTHES, BRING A PACKED LUNCH & 50P FOR TUCK. ALL LEADER DBS CHECKED FOR FUTURE INFORMATION. MARIE.DEMPSEY@LIVE.CO.UK



PURTON AGE CONCERN

**Coach Trip to
Weston-Super-Mare**

Wednesday 7th August, 10am

Mystery Tour with Pub Lunch

Wednesday 4th September, 10am

Jumble Sale at the Village Hall

Saturday 7th September



PURTON SILVER THREADS

Jumble Sale

Saturday 21 August, 2pm

MAMMA MIA NIGHT

Saturday 7th September 7.15pm

Tickets £15

Venue – Christ Church, Old Town

Greek supper

Complimentary drink on arrival

Bar available - Raffle

Watch the movie – sing and dance-a-long

Retro 70's dress encouraged

Supporting 'Breast Cancer Now'

Tickets available from

eunice.salmon@btinternet.com



MAMMA MIA!
— HERE WE GO AGAIN —

JULY 20



Purton Stoke Charity Ball

Saturday 7th September, 7pm for
7.30pm

at "Greenacres" Purton Stoke
Black Tie, 18 yrs and over only

Champagne Reception. Three course
dinner, Live band and disco, Licensed
bar

Tickets £65 each or
tables of up to 10

Available from Lindsey 07811 294108
or lindseyhall642@gmail.com

Bookings now being taken

Carriages at 1.00am. Coach running
from Purton and home again

In aid of Mind & Prospect Hospice



Fun in the Sun

Free summer holiday multi-sports coaching for
children aged 5-11 years old

Millennium Hall, Purton, SN5 4DT

Thursday 1 August, 8 August, 15 August, 22 August

10am – 11.30am

No need to book, just complete a consent form on arrival.
A great way to meet new friends, have fun and stay active!

For more information please contact:

Karlene Jarmeh, sports development officer, Wiltshire Council
Email: sportsdevelopment@wiltshire.gov.uk or tel: 01722 434437
Website: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/secure-fun-in-the-sun

 @SportWiltshire  @ActiveWiltshire



INNOV
SPORTZ



Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

Purton Artists invite you to a demonstration
of soft pastel by

Graham Cox

on Sunday 28th July, at 2pm
In the Silver Threads Hall, High Street, Purton

This will be followed by a chance to chat with
bring-and-share tea. Beverages will be provided
and all attendees are asked to bring a small plate
of tea-time delights!

Cost: £3 for members, £5 for non-members

Groups are invited to
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Purton and District Probus Club



Our speaker on the 11th June was Peter Jinks, our most senior member, a veteran who flew with the Fleet Air Arm during World War II. The subject of Peter's talk was "Escort Carriers", the RN Ships which escorted essential supply convoys to give air-cover against enemy attack.

Peter's role in the war, as a Telegraphist Air Gunner, was to fly as part of a 3 man crew in the Fairey Swordfish, a string and canvass aeroplane, but ideal for carrier work and able to deliver a torpedo or depth charges. In November 1941 he was mustered into 834 Naval Air Squadron which, at the time, had no aeroplanes, but with 4 aircrews and a maintenance team, were destined for an airfield in Jamaica to await their first Aircraft Carrier. On arrival they found 4 Swordfish aeroplanes and set about getting them into operational condition. HMS Archer, an Escort Carrier, was on its way to Jamaica from Virginia in the USA.

In these early years of the war, submarines were the greatest threat to British shipping and the success of the Swordfish, from HMS Ark Royal, which crippled the Bismarck (26th May 1941) and led to its eventual sinking, indicated that Air Power at sea could be the answer to defending allied convoys. Escort carriers at this time had to be makeshift, converted cruisers and liners which were not originally built for the purpose. HMS Archer, converted in the US from a cargo ship (ex-SS Mormacland), had a lightweight wooden flight deck raised on a truss-work superstructure which covered 70% of the ship's length. Beneath the aft end of the flight deck was a small enclosed hangar for storing the aircraft with a lift to raise them to the flight deck. Navigation was done from a small auxiliary bridge, lower than, but at the forward end of the flight deck. The funnel was replaced by tubes to either side of the flight deck, but at full speed, the tubes exhausted too much black smoke for comfortable operations.

HMS Archer, after a collision, had to return to Charleston for repairs. Eventually in February 1942, the 834 Squadron were ordered to fly the 4 Swordfish to join the ship in Charleston. Delayed by foul weather, they enjoyed three days in Miami, and later, arriving in Charleston, the ship was still not quite ready.

Archer's first operation was to provide air cover for a small, fast convoy to South-Africa via Freetown, Sierra Leone. A six pounder gun, fore and aft, were its major armaments, while some Oerlikon cannons, along the catwalks either side, provided anti-aircraft defence. Patrols were flown, carrying depth charges, at dawn and dusk, on the lookout for submarines. In a 12 day voyage all 4 pilots had suffered a crash landing and 'T.A.G. Jinks' was lucky to escape without injury when the arrester wires had not been set up and the Swordfish upended itself in the final crash-barrier. On their approach to Cape Town in bad weather & high seas the ship rolled so badly that an aircraft broke loose and was smashed. Worse was to come. On returning to Freetown, a depth charge accidentally exploded killing 7 deckhands. Peter had already

survived 5 deck-landing crashes on that voyage, two of which were complete write-offs. From Freetown HMS Archer returned to New York for more updating. Stationed at Floyd Bennet airfield on Long Island, 834 squadron settled down to enjoy American Hospitality.

Operation Torch, the invasion of North Africa, took HMS Archer back to the war with 35 USAF Curtis P40 Warhawks secured on the flight deck. Off Casablanca, 32 of them were catapulted from the ship. Having no arrester hooks, they were committed to reaching a 'terra firma' allied landing field.

Archer returned to Liverpool for further attention, and after leave and a spell of patrolling and retraining with Radar etc. Peter joined HMS Hunter, a 2nd generation escort carrier with an all-through hangar and two lifts. The ship carried 12 Swordfish and 12 Seafires. It sailed with three other carriers, Attacker, Battler and Stalker, accompanied by HMS Ramilles, an old battleship for cover. In spite of having to return to port due to trouble caused by a heavy storm, the ship reached Gibraltar and the Swordfish flew off to the airfield. On the return of the Ships from the Allied Landings in Italy, Peter's team were ordered to fly aboard HMS Battler, destined to cover the Aden to Bombay convoys, while the other carriers would return to the UK. The 12 Swordfish took off and 20 minutes later sighted the Battler turning into the wind to receive them. When landing-on, the Gunner, flying in the rear cockpit of Swordfish, can only see the wake of the ship, but to Peter everything seemed normal until the aircraft, having hooked the first arrester wire was ordered by the Batman to go around again. It stretched the wire to its full extent, stalled and went over the stern of the ship. As the aeroplane sank it threatened to take to take the dinghy with it, but Peter in his 'Mae West' had a penknife ready and managed to cut the entangled rope. All three were saved and TAG Jinks joined the Goldfish Club, exclusive to those airmen who have crashed in the ocean, (Crash No 6).

The last Flight from Battler was the most alarming. On 15th December 1943, while flying a 2 ½ hour anti-submarine patrol, the Observer totally miscalculated the new position of the ship by unwittingly reversing his bearings. After a circling a few times the pilot decided on a box search, i.e., flying the 4 points of the compass in turn, in ever widening boxes. The ship was not sighted. Low on fuel, they radioed Battler of their Predicament. Calculating that they had not cleared the horn of Africa, the pilot headed in that direction. After about an hour they were obliged to switch to the reserve fuel tank. Peter said at a time like this, lots of thoughts go through your head including Sharks!! Suddenly they spotted land. Dumping the Depth Charges, they made a gliding approach and stalled nose-up into sand dunes, wrecking the undercarriage, (Crash no 7). They had put down on the Island of Socotra, sparsely inhabited, but luckily having a detachment group of the Royal Dutch Navy stationed there. Hoping for a flight in a Dutch Catalina, they were disappointed. They had to wade out to a trawler, which took them back to Aden.

Peter now travelled by frigate, HMS Trent, escorting a convoy to Bombay. Here he caught up with his flying boots and a new Swordfish. Sometime later, the new crew flew the plane, a 10Hr/ 2day flight, to Colombo in Ceylon to await the return of Battler. The ship was diverted elsewhere and Peter, after D Day in Europe, boarded the troopship Duchess of Bedford to return to the UK. The morning's talk was that of a unique and too-often dangerous experience, illustrating the extreme lengths and risks which had to be taken in order to win the war. Printed here is only a small percentage of Peter's story!

On Monday 17th June, a small group of 9, members and friends, joined Highworth Probus Club for a 4/5 day visit to the Trouville Hotel @ Sandown, I.O.W. Our thanks go to Les and His Committee for an enjoyable outing. The group reported better weather than we had on the mainland.

On the 25th, Dorothy Treasure of the Wiltshire Buildings Record organisation addressed the meeting with "How Old is your House", delving into the eclectic array of historic buildings in the county, particularly the smaller ones. The buildings of the towns and villages of Wiltshire are inextricably influenced by the materials which derive from the underlying geology of the area; Cotswold stone and roof tiles in the North West, Bath stone in the Avon Vale, Chalk on the Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain, Greensand rock in the vales of Pewsey and Warminster, Clay for brick-making and Flint at the foot of the downland escarpments. The above gives rise to a great variety of different building styles and characteristics. The W.B.R. Organisation seeks to record a history of interesting examples of these buildings, particularly when they are undergoing alteration or extension. The talk was illustrated by pictures of typical building styles in the many different locations around the county.

On 27th of June, a small group of members and friends joined the Highworth club for an outing to Brooklands and the RHS Garden at Wisley. The men chose the racing circuit with its' Aircraft & Car Museums, while most of the ladies opted for the Garden Centre. Everyone enjoyed a great day, thanks once again to Les and Elizabeth.

Purton Probus Club meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10am in the Red House Lounge. New members welcome. August Programme: 1 3th Marlborough by Gaslight. 27th Fracking and Shale Gas.

Bob Stevens

Rotary in Wiltshire raises £42,000 to provide new classroom

Wiltshire's Rotary Clubs are delighted to announce they have provided a new mobile classroom to Life Education Centre (Wiltshire). Eleven clubs from across the county raised £12,000 and successfully applied for a grant of £30,000 from worldwide Rotary Foundation to purchase the new unit.



The arrival of the new classroom was celebrated at a reception on 26th June at Cumberwell Park Golf Club, Bradford on Avon. It was attended by some 60 guests including Deputy Lieutenant of Wiltshire Nicky Alberry, the High Sheriff of Wiltshire David Scott and the Chairman of Wiltshire Council Cllr. James Sheppard.

Life Education provides children aged 4 to 11 with the knowledge and skills needed to make the right decisions in life. The programme includes education on health, relationships and wellbeing. LEC works in association with the CORAM charity, schools and parents to deliver a series of sessions linked to the National Curriculum using a specially designed high-tech mobile classroom and highly trained educators. The mobile and its specialist educators are essential in giving the children an exciting experience. This enables difficult topics such as managing risks from exposure to drugs and alcohol, the internet and personal relationships in a sensitive and protective environment.



Volunteers from the Rotary Clubs of Royal Wootton Bassett & District, Bradford on Avon and Salisbury have been responsible for managing the Wiltshire Life Education 'Keeping Children Safe' programme and for towing and installing the classroom in Wiltshire primary schools for over 20 years. This academic year alone, LEC (Wiltshire) will support nearly 12,000 children in around 80 Wiltshire Schools.

Phil Tanner, President of Royal Wootton Bassett & District Rotary Club, commented "The way the Rotary Clubs in Wiltshire have rallied round to raise the money demonstrates the strong commitment of Rotary to support its local communities. I would like to thank all the clubs who donated to this appeal. This will benefit children across Wiltshire for many years to come."

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