

# Purton. Magazine

August 2017



Year 6 pupils from St Mary's Primary School enjoyed some new challenges on their residential trip to Bude. See page 64 for details.

50p

---

## Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Sugery	770207
Dental Sugery	Church Street	770532
	Philip Cooke	771022
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Mondays 2-5pm; Tuesdays 2-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-5pm; Fridays 2-5pm)</i>		
Luncheon Club	Pat Suddaby	771331
<i>(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12 noon, Silver Threads Hall)</i>		
Museum	Curator: Beth Farnham, bethaney23@icloud.com	
Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Purton Age Concern	Louise Tidman	772558
Age Concern Minibus	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Brenda Cook	770431
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, <i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Health & Wellbeing Champion	Ellen Blacker	07557 922020

### **Schools & Playgroups**

Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	07759 583566
Pear Drops Pre-School	Sarah Grigg	771723
<i>(formerly Under 5s')</i>		
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239

### **Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary** [www.stmaryspurton.org.uk](http://www.stmaryspurton.org.uk)

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

Vicar: Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith	email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk	
	Tel: 770077, 773031 (emergencies only)	
Curate: Revd Judith Wells	email: judithwells36@googlemail.com	
	Tel: 770627	

Wardens	Sandra Horsnall:	Jane Smith:
	770157	772422

Administrator: Rosie Harris administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk Tel: 773035

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

Minister: Revd David Perkins Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw,  
Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 8LT

### **Catholic Church - Church of the Sacred Heart, High St, Royal Wootton Bassett**

[www.thesacredheartparish.uk](http://www.thesacredheartparish.uk)

Parish Priest: Tel: 852366

Revd Father Lucas Rodrigues

Parish Deacon: Revd Terry Aspell Tel: 325681

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

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

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

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

---

---

## Contents

10 Years Ago .....	47	Open Gardens .....	47
A Book I will always Remember.....	52	Parish Council News .....	6
Advertiser Index.....	70	Patient Participation Group.....	46
After 8 .....	48	Pear Drops Pre-School.....	34
Age Concern.....	13	Pips Community Café.....	38
Age Concern Minibus .....	18	Prayer for Purton .....	63
Amateur Dramatics (PADS).....	18	Probus Club.....	60
Bradon Forest School.....	40	Purton and the Great War .....	56
Bowls Club.....	37	Purton Artists Society .....	31
Christian Aid Curry Night .....	31	Purton Carnival.....	29
Christ Church Plumbing.....	51	Purton Contacts.....	3
Church floodlighting.....	56	Purton Churches activity days.....	30
Cricket Club .....	53	Purton Evening Women's Institute...	49
Cricklade Band .....	59	Purton Horticultural Show.....	10
Cricklade Country Market.....	38	Purton Placard.....	50
Diary Pages .....	36	Purton Postbag (letters).....	48
Football Club .....	39	Shoebox news .....	33
Girl Guiding in Purton .....	67	Sing 4/4 Community Choir.....	35
Guide Dogs.....	47	St Mary's Primary School .....	64
Great War Project.....	54	Tennis Club.....	39
Health & Wellbeing Champion.....	32	Tributes to Henry Fimmers .....	25
Heritage Open Days .....	34	Tribute to John Cotton .....	21
Historical Society.....	44	We Record.....	49
Minety Rugby Club .....	39		

---

# Purton. Magazine

### **Purton Magazine committee:**

Avril Ainscough, Barbara Compton, John Creasey,  
Sheila Fowler, Sandra Horsnall, Francis Sheppard,  
Liz Stephenson.

**Designed by:** Heather Ponting-Bather, In Touch Design & Print

**Advertising enquiries:** Liz Stephenson

Email: [advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

**Copy & advertising deadline:** 10th of each month, please to: Purton Magazine, c/o In Touch Design & Print, 2 College Road, Purton SN5 4AR  
Tel: 01793 772954 email: [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

**Distribution & Delivery enquiries:** Sandra Horsnall 01793 770157

Email: [distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

Other enquiries and comments for the committee to:  
The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

Also on line at [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk) © 2004-2017

**INTouch**  
Design & Print

## From the Editors

Last month, the horrendous fire at Grenfell Tower and the positive response from the local community in West London reminded us how fortunate we are to live in Purton with our regular and remarkable community spirit. Yet again, this issue of your magazine is full of articles that demonstrate the caring nature in our community.

This is the time of year when schools round up the achievements from the last educational year while making preparations for the new school year in September. On page 64 we learn that almost 230 Year 6 pupils were welcomed to Bradon Forest school to meet their new tutors and sampled a wide range of lessons. Also at Bradon Forest is their brand new, state-of-the-art Sports Hall that was officially opened on Monday 26 June by the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, Mrs Sarah Rose Troughton together with ex-Bradon Forest students and local sports heroes – more details are on page 40.

The provision for pre-school children in Purton is also changing from September with Playclose Pre-school joining forces with the Under Fives as a single business under a new name – Pear Drops Pre-School – and yet still operating across both existing sites. The details on page 34 will make exciting reading for parents with very young children in the village.

Details of how our community cares for family, friends and neighbours at the other end of the age range often only become fully apparent from their obituaries. This month we are pleased to publish loving tributes and humorous recollections about two gentlemen of the village who died recently.

Some of the stories bring back memories of those days when health and safety consciousness was less well developed, such as fitting eight people into an Austin 7 car with four in the back and four in the front with the steering, pedals and gear changing duties assigned to whoever could reach – certainly not to be recommended these days. What certainly is recommended these days is the neighbourly caring exhibited in Restrop View that included keeping an eye out whenever he ventured outdoors and even over the fence in later years.

Both gentlemen were highly skilled with their hands – one turned a washing machine into a lawn mower while the other re-created a wheel barrow (although some additional strength is required to move this unique piece of German engineering) among many other engineering achievements for the cricket club.

---

11	26	159*
Rainbows can fit in the back of a Police van – see page 67	Bones in each foot (plus thousands of sweat glands) – see page 49	Scored by John Little as Purton CC's 2nds reach 314 for 5 – see page 53

---

---

# Purton Parish Council News



## Councillor Surgery

Purton Parish Council wishes to engage with the local community on a one to one basis and is offering the residents of Purton the opportunity to meet and discuss issues of importance and under their remit.

Dates for community engagement with councillors are set as:

Saturday 2 September OR Saturday 2nd December at 10am at Purton Village Hall. Refreshments will be available. Come along and talk to our Councillors and Officers.

## New Councillor

The Parish Council are pleased to announce the co-option a new Councillor Mr Matthew Rogers. I am sure he will soon settle into the new role and if anyone else wishes to take up the challenge of working for the community as a Councillor, we still have five vacancies. Please contact the Clerk for more info.

## Neighbourhood Plan

Following the informal consultation at the beginning of this year, various changes have been made and the Plan is now ready for its formal consultation in accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. All changes and reasons are listed in a separate document entitled, Second Statement of Consultation.

This consultation runs from Monday 3 July 2017 until 17:00 on Monday 14 August 2017.

Documents are available for view and comment on our website

## Councillors 2017-18

Chairman of Council/Staff Sub/ Finance & General Purposes/Charities	Ray Thomas	01793 951520
Vice Chair of Council	Elizabeth Wilson	01793 771854
Chair of Planning	Geoff Greenaway	01793 771140
Councillor	Scott Harflett	07920 260222
Councillor	Helen Hicks	01793 778207
Chair of Burials	Neil Hooper	01793 771066
Councillor	Kevin Law	07768 456989
Councillor	Sue Matthews	01793 771091
Chair of Play Areas	Vicky McKerrow	01793 778190
Councillor (as from 10th July 2017)	Matt Rogers	01793 771066

---

## Charity News

Projects are being considered to replace the flat roof on the foyer to the Village Hall and associated decorating and maintenance works. Play Close is currently awaiting works to the far stone walling which has become loose.

## Community Speed Watch

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

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

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

If you are interested in knowing more and how you can be a part of this community initiative please either contact Paul Grigg on [chezneymb@hotmail.com](mailto:chezneymb@hotmail.com) or Debbie Lawrence on [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk) or call the office on 01793 771066. Council does not hold meetings during August.

## Hedging and Trees

The Parish Council are being constantly called regarding inaccessible or dangerous walk ways throughout Purton where householders do not keep their boundaries clear of the paths or roads.

Please ensure that all boundaries are kept in line with the property edge and do not encroach on the public highways. Failure to do so will result in action taken by Wiltshire Council, which could incur unwanted costs by the residents. Please help our local community by keeping the pathways and roads accessible at all times.

## Planning - permission granted with conditions

17/03460/FUL	Crowhurst, Paven Close Proposed front & rear dormers to form loft conversion.
17/01716/FUL	Land Adjacent Mandrea, The Hyde Erection of a self build detached dwelling; double garage and associated works.
17/02711/FUL	3 Jewels Ash Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extension.
16/10143/FUL	North View House, Willis Way Erection of 11 dwellings and associated works.

---

17/04007/FUL	Hallidays, 24 High Street Single storey extension.
17/04598/LBC	Hallidays, 24 High Street Single storey extension.
17/04189/PNTEL	Adopted Highway Pavement adjacent to Roundabout Junction of Restrop Road, Pavenhill and High Street Telecommunication base station consisting of 12.5m high street pole with 3 integral antennas, 2 external 300m transmission dishes and 2 associated ground based equipment cabinet. Prior Approval Granted

### **Appealed Applications**

APP/Y3940/D/17/3173588 – 9 Hoggs Lane

APP/Y3940/W/17/3166533 – Land at Pavenhill

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

Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk)  
Website [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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

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

Just one click away will see you interact with the Parish Council. Events, road closures, meet the staff, “did you know” photographs and much more. If you have an event in the Parish that you would like us to promote on any of the above media sites please contact the Clerk on [clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk) or call 771066. Find us at: Facebook – Purton Parish Council Twitter - @PurtonPC  
On our website you can join up to receive regular updates which will keep you informed of matters happening in and around the village such as planning information and road closures etc.

Please have a look at the site [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and sign up today.

## **Purton Horticultural Show**

As I write this last entry before our Show on 19th August. The schedules have now been distributed. They are available from:-Andrew Hiscock's Butchers, Toomers Garden Centre, Hair by Val and Jodie, Purton Farm Shop, The Royal George and all Committee members: Mr David Herbert, Mr Graham Price, Dr John Belt, Chris Rumming, Lorna Robinson-Wardle and Pat Hughes.

For all you budding florists or Chelsea/Hampton Court enthusiasts check out our schedule. We have 27 different classes for you to enter your blooms or decorative flower art. There is something for everyone.

We look forward to welcoming all our exhibitors new and old to this years show.

*LORNA ROBINSON-WARDLE, secretary*  
*Tel: 01793 778013 or [3rwardles@gmail.com](mailto:3rwardles@gmail.com)*

---

## Purton & District Age Concern



*The following tributes are from Tony Price;*

We have lost two people from our village who I always thought had the greatest respect for Purton and District Age Concern.

These two gentlemen are John Cotton of Ringsbury Close and Henry Fimmers of Restrop View.

John was a lovely man, full of fun with a good sense of humour, and I would think his first love, apart from Marion, his wife and his family, was the Swindon Male Voice Choir – he was a member for many years. In days gone by the choir gave concerts at St. Mary's Church in aid of Purton and District Age Concern. I expect there was a lot of banter between Marion and John as Marion was in Thamesdown Ladies Choir. When the Male Voice Choir started touring abroad, which they did a lot of, there was fundraising to do and where better to have a cheese and wine evening than at Marion's and John's home in Ringsbury Close. From all reports this was always an enjoyable evening and one of the features was that, at about ten o'clock, they would say 'How about a few chips?' and Marion would put the chip pan on. They were not late nights as, at 11.0 pm. John would go and put his pyjamas on and walk round with a placard with GOODNIGHT on it in large letters. The guests took the hint and went home – you can see what I mean about his sense of humour! Let's not forget that Marion was a shotgun on our minibuses as well. I have just learnt that Marion has lost her brother to whom she was very close so our thoughts and prayers are with Marion and Steven at this very sad time and we thank them for allowing us to share donations in lieu of flowers in John's memory.

Henry was one of those people who made you feel that no matter what the job was he would be able to sort it out and, when he did a job, it was always well done, like all the work he did on the cottage in Clardon Lane where he and Betty lived and brought up their three girls. Eventually they moved to Restrop View and, of course, there was all the work Henry did there to make it into a lovely convenient home with many features to make life a little easier shall we say – although he wasn't one to sit around, always pottering about. He was always helping others and this seemed a favourite hobby of his. Betty and Henry were both of the same mind – we older ones in Age Concern can remember all the lovely articles Betty knitted for us when we started having our market stalls at Pavenhill shops and Henry was not left out as he always came along with various items he had made for us to sell. I expect there are many people around who have a bird table or a nesting box he made. I know I have.

The steam machine that stands in the corner of the Village Hall car park was used at Hills in the brick works and helped produce millions of bricks – and I do mean millions. Henry not only operated the machine but maintained it was well as I believe he was their maintenance man. Before the machine came to Purton it was working in a laundry in Bournemouth – they certainly knew how

---

to make things in those days. I believe Henry painted it once or twice as well as taking care of it. It's a bit of Purton history and it was quite fitting that Victor Hill, a director of Hills, and Henry were present when it was installed. Henry was a lovely man and we will always remember his support of our organisation. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and we thank them for donations in lieu of flowers coming to us.

*TONY PRICE*

Over 100 photographs were submitted for our 2018 calendar. During our July committee meeting we drew up a shortlist of 19 photographs, in August we will pick the 12 photos to go into the calendar. We are grateful to everyone who submitted photos, it has been a difficult decision choosing which ones we want for the calendar. Hopefully, you will agree with our choices when the calendar is produced. We are hoping to have the calendars on sale by September.

We recently purchased a new 6 x 3 metre gazebo. It was used for the first time at our annual coffee morning. It's a great addition to our stock of gazebos and will be used at our future outdoor events.

Some of you will have noticed the Age Concern bench on Station Road has been removed following a recent incident, where the bench was demolished. A new bench has been purchased and will be fitted very soon.

### **Future Events**

**Day Trip to Weston-super-Mare** - On Wednesday 2 August we will have our annual village outing for all ages to Weston. The coach will leave Purton at 9am and return from Weston at 4pm. The cost is £14 for children and OAP's and £15.50 for others. (food is not included). Come along and join us for a fun day out! To book your place, please contact your street warden before Monday 24th July.

**Jumble Sale** - We will be holding a Jumble Sale at the Village Hall on Saturday 2nd September at 2pm. Jumble can be left at the Village Hall between 12pm and 1pm and the sale starts at 2pm, so put the date in you diary and come along and see if you can bag yourself a bargain or two!

**Mystery Tour** - Our next mystery tour is Wednesday 6th September with a 2pm start. Cost including tea is £13.50 for village pensioners and £15.00 for non-pensioners and people from outside our area. Please contact your street warden to book your place before Monday 28th August.

### **Past Events**

**Trip to Gloucester Docks** - This was the second year running we have been to Gloucester Docks and it proved to be popular again this time. Some people went on a boat trip, others visited the cathedral or went shopping and all seemed to enjoy the outing.

**Queen's Sapphire Jubilee Celebration at the Red House** - The weather was very kind to us and lots of people came out to support us. The BBQ and cream

---

teas went down a treat and everyone seemed to have a good time. Our grateful thanks go to Neil and all at the Red House for allowing us to hold the event there. Thanks also go to Zita for baking the delicious scones, to Robert Collis for providing the BBQ equipment, to everyone who donated raffle prizes, to the youngsters who did the face painting and finally to everyone who helped on the day and all who came along to support us.

**Coffee Morning in Bentham** - What a wonderful morning we had, the weather was glorious, we couldn't have asked for a better day. It was a very busy morning due to the large amount of people who came along to support us, including the Purton walking group who popped in for coffee and biscuits during their walk. Our grateful thanks go to Jacqui & Dick Scott for hosting our coffee morning at their home again this year. Thanks also to everyone who baked cakes, donated raffle prizes, tombola prizes, books and items for the bric-a-brac stall. Special thanks go to Joan Frost for selling her lovely plants and donating the money to us and to Margaret Carter who baked all the delicious biscuits we had with our coffee and to everyone who worked so hard on the day. We made a total of £820.35 during the coffee morning then Maureen and Arthur sold a few leftover bric-a-brac items the following day at their home which was taking part in the Open Gardens weekend, so the final total raised was £830.05, which is amazing!! Our annual coffee mornings in Purton Stoke started years ago at the home of Joyce and Phil Bryant, they have always been such great supporters of Age Concern so it was wonderful to see them again at this year's coffee morning.

### **Information**

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

**Minibuses** - Please contact Hazel Woodbridge our minibus co-ordinator on 770862 if you would like to book the minibus.

If you are thinking of volunteering as a driver or "shotgun" (driver's assistant) on the minibuses please contact Andy White the minibus secretary on 771656 or email him at [andywhitepacmb@gmail.com](mailto:andywhitepacmb@gmail.com) (New volunteers are always welcome.)

**Tai chi** - We hold Tai chi sessions each Thursday at 2pm in the Millennium Hall. There are places available so if you would like to give it a go please contact Louise Tidman on 772558.

**Friendship Club** - The Friendship Club is run by the Silver Threads committee and meets monthly in the Silver Threads Hall, it is open to all village pensioners. Please contact Jenny Barnes on 770339 for more information. The next meeting will take place on Friday 11th August from 2pm-4pm and costs 50p which includes tea/coffee/biscuits. The minibus is available for anyone who needs transport, please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place on the minibus.

*LOUISE TIDMAN*

---

## Purton and District Age Concern Mini Bus

We currently have seats available for the Lorna Doone Day Centre at Royal Wootton Bassett on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Depending where we need to collect from it would normally be between 8.30 and 9.00am and pick up again from the Centre at 3p.m. Our buses are equipped with a lift for wheel chairs.

To find out more about the Day Centre you need to call Nikki on 01793 848232 and to book the Mini Bus please call me on 770862.

We are currently considering the replacement of our older blue bus, which will cost in the region of £30-£40,000 if anyone would like to make a donation towards the Mini Bus Fund it would be most gratefully received.

The mini buses are kept quite busy, and all the drivers and shotguns are voluntary, if you think you may be able to help either as a driver or shotgun then please make contact to find out more. It does not have to be a regular commitment as many of our trips are 'specials' like the coffee mornings and bingo.

*HAZEL WOODBRIDGE, Minibus Co-ordinator*

## Purton Amateur Dramatic Society



Well, I think those of you who came to the play "Journey's End" will agree with me that it was a superb performance by our younger members. We have had nothing but praise for this so well done to Director Bradley Williams and his cast. Thanks also to Bob and Michelle Lloyd for the WWI display.

Our next production is "The Lights are Warm and Coloured" by William Norfolk.

This will be on Friday/Saturday 29th/30th September so put the date in your diaries. Posters with details will be around the village in September.

We have a couple of Murder Nights coming up at different venues and our latest "Murder" is available for booking if you want to host one.

We will be holding auditions on 3rd & 5th October for our next Pantomime, "Wind in the Willows".

In the meantime, thank you to everyone who supports us.

*LINDSEY HALL 771890*

---

---

## A Tribute to John Cotton

John Cotton was born on the 19 April 1933 near Ventnor, on the Isle of Wight, to Ruby and Bill Cotton.

It was a quiet childhood- growing up in a sleepy seaside town –learning to swim the traditional Ventnor way by being thrown off the end of the pier. The peace was soon to be shattered by a bloke called Herman Goering who regularly sent his Luftwaffe over to bomb the radar station which was situated on St Boniface Down above the town. There were some advantages to this- for if there was a near miss on a sweet shop, the all clear siren would bring out the local boys in swarms before the shattered windows could be boarded over.

With the war over and the barbed wire and barricades removed from the esplanade, roller hockey resumed. Dad said that as he wasn't much good at it, he would always get put in goal. We could always identify him by his scarred knees.

Dad's interest in choral singing started when he and younger brother Colin, sang in the church choir. They both left after a while and joined the Methodist choir, not for religious reasons, but because they paid more.

On leaving school Dad went to work for the Post Office as a delivery boy, where he stayed until the King invited him to do his National Service with the R.A.F. Dad did tours in the south of France, UK and Cyprus before returning to Lyneham where he signed back on for a number of years. During one of his spells in Wiltshire, he met a redhead from the Rhondda called Marian, whose family had moved to Swindon with her father's job. More choral influence here -father Dai, was a founding member/treasurer of the Treorchy Male Voice Choir.

There was always a plentiful supply of tea and welsh cakes for Dad and his RAF mates and being in the MT section, they would often turn up in coaches, cranes, lorries or Sam's Austin 7- which could carry 8 – four in the back –four in the front, with the steering, pedals and gear changing duties assigned to whoever could reach.

Mum and Dad were married in the Wesleyan Chapel in Faringdon Road that would become the railway museum – Dad liked to point out that there was a tank engine where mum once stood.

In due course, I came along, and once a deposit was saved up, we moved out of my grandparent's house to Witts lane in Purton.

By the mid sixties, Dad came out of the RAF and worked in the civilian section at the airbase, refuelling aircraft and operating cranes. He was at the base when the first of the iconic Hercules arrived.

By this time we had moved to the other end of the village to a small estate that was being developed, and Dad set to task turning the building site into a garden. No mean feat on a large corner plot – no plant hire in those days – in was all done by hand with a pick and shovel.

---

And over the next couple of years we had a vegetable garden and an expanse of lawn, on which later, he put a putting course on. It's also where he taught me to ride my mum's moped.

Cutting this amount of grass with a push mower was a challenge and would take hours - the purchase of a petrol mower was out of the question, when an idea presented itself. Mum's old mangle topped washing machine had sprung a leak one too many times, so the bottom of the tub was cut off – the motor left in situ, and pushchair wheels were attached, as was a four bladed fan to the spindle.

The power switch was flicked and what happened next resembled the film footage you see of early powered flight attempts. The mower gained some altitude before the plug was pulled. A flat sharpened bar replaced the fan and the washer mower did a number of years good service.

This was one of many research and development or modifications ideas Dad would come up with over the years. They would be either worthy of a letter to the Patents Office or plunge the house into darkness. His habit of doubling up the wiring in a plug earned him the whining disapproval of Jinks our Jack Russell on one occasion – the record player he was working on, had been wired up to a single bar electric fire, which had been stowed away next to the dogs basket for the summer, and was smouldering away nicely. Dad was into upcycling long before the trend it is today – kitchen dressers were turned into glass cabinets – sledges, bookcases and coffee tables were made to a high standard. I did wonder, as a child, why my mate's dads never had black thumbs nails though.

By the seventies, Dad had left Lyneham, and was working for the local council in the Environmental Health Department. The humorous experiences he had working with great characters and dealing with the British public are too numerous to go into here. It was a job he enjoyed, and he stayed there until he retired.

Mum and Dad have had good neighbours over the years, and some became good friends – with days out and holidays shared abroad. Sadly, many are no longer with us.

Dad enjoyed a number of hobbies over the years, he was an able yachtsman, and we enjoyed many a happy summers day at the Cotswold lakes in our boat. It's a skill you never loose. Whilst on holiday, the hotel had small catamarans for guests to use, and he was proud to inform me on his return, of after an hour or so clipping up and down the bay, he brought the cat up on the beach, dropping the sail, and stepping out in one fluid motion and nonchalantly strolled up the crowded beach. He was not one for showing off, but he loved it when a plan came together.

He played at the local badminton club back in the day, but really enjoyed a game of golf. He judged his performance, not by his score card, but by the number of balls he didn't loose.

Swindon Male Voice Choir played a large part in dad's life for over thirty years; there were concerts in village halls, churches, and huge arenas, and tours, both in the UK and abroad. But it was the friendship and camaraderie he enjoyed more

---

than anything. And I know it saddened him when ill health forced him to step down. Dad let me follow my dreams, and go to sea, even though that meant accepting reverse charge phone calls from Tokyo at 4 in the morning because I got the time difference wrong, or me calling from Southampton docks to say that my motor bike had broken down, can you come and get it, Dad ? - I'm sailing for New York in an hour. When a work colleague said to him - "See on the news that the QE2 is caught up in a major hurricane, - aren't you worried about your boy? Dad's reply was – He looked alright when I took him a cup of tea this morning.

It is hard to encapsulate the life of one's father in a few pages, and anecdotes by the dozen have been popping into my head these last couple of weeks.

Many of you will have your own fond memories of Dad. Whether it be his subtle way of drawing an evening to close - walking round in his dressing gown, winding up an alarm clock - I know what will be remembered about him will be his sense of humour and willingness to help out.

A thoroughly decent bloke. - A true gent. Bon Voyage Dad, we all miss you.

*STEVE COTTON*

## Tributes to Henry Fimmers

Henry or Heinz Fimmers was born in Flittard, Germany on 11 October 1925. He had one brother, Paul and parents, Heinrich and Katherina.

When war was declared, Henry was 16 years old and had to do his duty. He travelled from Germany with the Tanks all around Europe. When they got to Greece, they made their way back to Berlin, where they were about to be captured by the Russians. Henry was lucky enough to escape the Russians, and chose to be captured by the Americans. He was held in Germany, then handed over to the English to be brought back as a Prisoner of War at Baydon.

Henry got out and about from the camp and worked on local farms. However, meal times had to be taken back at camp, which wasted time. So the family he was working with agreed to feed the prisoners, to gain more hour's work. Of course the family he worked for eventually became his in-laws. Betty had come home from London to help her Mum when she was ill, and when Henry and Betty saw each other, it was love at first sight.

At the end of the war Henry had to return to Germany for a month, but having already met Betty, he made the decision to come back to England. Henry and Betty were married and Henry worked on a farm near Ashbury. The couple lived in a cottage at Kingston Winslow, where Elizabeth and Judith were born and life was good. Betty and Henry saw a property for sale in Purton and without knowing much about it, invested. This was in Clardon Lane and was in fact three properties, a detached house and two semi-detached cottages – with tenants!



---

Henry could turn his hand to anything and worked hard. He renovated the cottages into one family home and extended and improved the other house. He worked the third of an acre garden, growing fruit and vegetables and keeping chickens and pigs. By this time Charlotte had arrived and the girls all have such lovely memories of Clardon lane. The swing in the garden, the sandpit, the fields, hay making and buttercups and all the beauty that came with it.

After finishing at Plessey on the night shift, Henry became maintenance Engineer for Hills at the brickyard in New Road, Purton. Henry would often spend weekends helping others with repairs and would do so as much as he could. That was his nature.

Having three girls was not easy, both Judith and Elizabeth can still recall him hurdling three fences to get his beloved car when they were playing in it and Judith accidentally let off the handbrake!

The Christmas tree was always put up at night in secret, and the excitement of seeing the twinkling lights through the door in the morning was wonderful. At Easter there was always an egg hunt and in the summer cousins would arrive and stay. There was cricket in the field, cycling in the lane, roller skating – it was ideal for children, and for the Jack Russell – Miss Jinx.

Purton Carnival was a busy time for Henry, Betty was involved with Guides and Brownies, and for several years Henry built the floats. The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe and I Saw a Mouse in Old Amsterdam. He built a windmill and Elizabeth had to stand inside turning the handle to make the sails turn all the way through the procession. He built the Gypsy Moth for Judith to be Sir Francis Chichester. It was a winning float, not before the mast took down all the telephone lines, as the Hill's lorry descended down Clardon Lane.

Henry and the family would go to Germany to visit his parents and family most years. It was a grueling journey in an Austin 1100! Two days of driving with the night ferry in between. When Henry and the girls arrived at the family home, there were always jobs for Henry to do; building, decorating etc, it was no holiday for him. However, there was often the local shooting festival where Henry would be mobbed by old school friends, he was well-loved and admired. Of course there were always family recipes being brought back; potato salad, fritters, strawberry punch and Christmas biscuits.

Betty and Henry always kept in touch with his fellow PoW, Walter Kaiser, who also settled in Purton with his family and the two families remain close to this day.

Betty and Henry moved to Restrop View in 1968 and Henry had already laid the lawn before the bungalow was completed. Betty was still working at the dental factory and Henry had moved on at this time to Metal Box, working shifts. By now he had two teenagers and an eleven year old to keep quiet during the day while he slept and you would often hear him shout 'turn it down!' as the Small Faces, the Beatles or Cat Stevens blared out.

---

Eventually the girls all left home with Elizabeth teaching in London, and Judith and Charlotte married and lived not too far away. So then the next chapter of Henry and Betty's life began: Grandchildren.

Helen, Anna, Katie, Michael, Louis and Laura came along. Most Saturdays the families would gather for lunch and Henry was in his element. Now retired, Henry could enjoy his time at home. He bought a band saw and all the children loved being in the shed with their Grampy. They made Christmas decorations, name boards, they had sack races and egg and spoon races. They played in the water butt and had endless hours of fun in the garden.

At Easter there was always the traditional egg hunt in the garden, where they found eggs and ornaments. At Halloween the children were terrified as Henry lowered a life-size witch from the chimney of the bungalow, another year Henry whitened his face and wore a long black coat and top hat and appeared through the back gate. It was never boring with Nanny and Grampy. Betty helped the children to make cakes and taught them to knit and sew. Often the children's school projects were about Nanny and Grampy, especially as Grampy was German! Someone even made Henry a set of wooden teeth, fascinated that his were false!

Henry was probably one of the first to decorate his garden for Christmas, he made a Rudolph, a sleigh and Santa's workshop was always there filled with toys. He used to have children come and light up the garden by pressing a device made from a corkscrew and block, the children never knew that it was actually Henry in the garage switching on the lights at the right time!

Betty and Henry have also been blessed with Great Grandchildren; Spencer and Ella, who of course, they adored. Sadly Henry only ever saw a photo of the newest addition, Arthur.

They both enjoyed attending Gardeners' Guild, the Historical Society and they supported Age Concern. Henry was always producing bird boxes and Betty knitted to raise funds for lots of local causes.

Henry and Betty had wonderful neighbors in Restrop View over the years, and made lovely friendships. The current neighbours were such a great support to Henry during the last few years.

When Betty passed away in 2013, Henry was lost. He managed for a while but when dementia set in, it was safest for him to go into the Cedars in Purton. Here, he was cared for by the lovely staff and enjoyed his time there, especially the food! Sadly, his health deteriorated and after a spell in hospital a few weeks ago, the infections got the better of him.

We know he is where he should be now, back with Betty and all the families. We will miss him so much, but have such wonderful memories of a loving father, wonderful grandfather and great-grandfather. God bless you.

*ELIZABETH, JUDITH AND CHARLOTTE*

---

Our own engineer – there are so many examples of Henry fixing what we were unable to fix. We often called upon Henry to mend mowers, wheel barrows and so many other items. We would deliver these to Henry and he would say “leave it with me” and low and behold it would always be fixed.

We have so many things that Henry fixed over the years and they are still in use today. One example of his fine engineering skills is the wheel barrow that Henry donated many years ago, is still going strong but only if you are strong enough to push it. Henry saved the Club so much time and money but he would never accept payment, all we could do was buy him some new engine oil.

We did in fact repay Henry in some small way, to show our appreciation, in 2000 he was made a Vice President to celebrate what he had done for the Club. Henry will never be forgotten.

*DAVID BISSETT, Club President*

A tribute to our dear Henry from all his friends and neighbours in Restrop View.

Both Henry and his dear late wife Betty, were true friends and fantastic neighbours, to everyone in our close. Henry was our “Mr Fix-it,” if it was broken and unfixable to us, we would go to see Henry for his help and he would always say “leave it with me I will have a go.” Low and behold it would appear back on your door step truly fixed! Albeit a few pounds heavier due to true German engineering!! He could fix anything particularly garden tools, machinery and any metal items.

Being their next-door neighbours we had a wonderful friendship over the forty years we were “together” and we miss both Henry and dear Betty so much.

Punctuality – This was one of their laws, if in their later days and Henry could not drive we loved helping. So at least 1 hour before our due departure time we would move our car on to Henry’s drive to show we were ready and had not forgotten, not before being reminded by Henry the night before. Hence, we called it ‘Henry’s Law.’

In later days Henry became very frustrated with the bus to Luncheon Club, who had asked everyone to be ready from 11am. The bus would arrive between 11am-12pm so Henry was ready at 10am, his 1 hour before. ‘Henry’s Law’ operated every week in all winds and weathers. Often Paul Burton, or I would ask him to go indoors to wait and try to convince him that the bus would be there. Henry would go back indoors, sometimes, but low and behold he was back out again 10 minutes later. ‘Henry’s Law’ was only Henry not wanting to let anyone down, bless him, always thinking of others before himself.

Neighbourly – Roy and Marion Hobbs, were given a band-saw by Henry so that they could cut up the numerous parts of trees that Marion brought back from her walks. Henry was concerned about Roy using the saw so he taught him how to use it but very often the blades would come off! Henry would of course re-fix it. I remember saying to Henry, has it gone “KAPUT” he would say, “yes, I’m worried about Roy using it, I haven’t fully trained him!” A true example of Henry being the helpful, caring neighbour and friend.

---

In later life – Henry became very frustrated that he was unable to help people as much as he would have liked but still remained a very respected friend to everyone. However, we did have some very interesting times in helping Henry, in what were in a lot of ways sad times, but we were all as his neighbours so glad to help a man who had helped all of us so much.

Interesting moments – in helping to look after Henry we developed “Henry Watch,” Henry’s gate had to be locked for his safety and welfare, Paul and Jean Burton who lived opposite, were on look-out for the outside light to go on and if it came on Henry was out and about. They would call us as direct neighbours and I would then see how and where he was and encouraged him to go back indoors. If by chance we missed him and Henry had turned left, Martin and Angela Webb were also on look-out around the corner along with Ron and Iris Hiscock and would often take Henry in and let me know to help him back home. We all were glad to be able to pay Henry back in some ways to keep him safe and still in Restrop View and as he always did, Henry would say to all of us “thank you.”

On a few occasions, Henry would come around for a visit even bearing in mind the gate was still locked. We would greet him and ask him how he got here and he would reply “out of the door of course.” It soon became apparent, Henry had climbed over his hedge and wire fence, thankfully not hurting himself, and mastered his escape! It was not a chore to look out for Henry, it was an honour for us all to be able to do it.

Henry was our ‘superstar,’ a ‘Gentleman’ and a true ‘man of his time’ and we were all honoured to be his friends.

*DAVE & GILL WOOLFORD*

## Purton Carnival



Thank you to all who came and those who helped at this year’s carnival, we hope you enjoyed yourself?

As many of you know this was my last carnival but I’m hoping next year might be your first. We need volunteers to keep the tradition of carnival in Purton going.

Please come to the AGM/Open meeting on Sunday 20th August 7.30pm at the Silver Threads Hall. Ask questions and see if you can help in anyway? Keep with a similar format or a complete change

The Carnival has always been about bring the village together & entertainment for the village, if you make some money along the way even better

Even if you can’t help but you have an idea, please come along and share it

This is YOUR village and it can be as good as YOU want to make it. I would love to see the Carnival continue I’ve done it for 20 years I would really hope someone else will take it on. I hope to see lots of you on the 20th August.

*KEVIN LAW, Purton Carnival Chairman (Retiring)*

---

## Purton Churches Fun Activity Days

Each year the churches in Purton provide activity fun days for children in school years 2-6.

This year the theme is Happy “Summer” Christmas and the Fun Days are Monday 7th August through to Wednesday 9th August and are held at St Mary’s Primary School from 10am to 3pm.

Can you help?

We would love to hear from you if you would like to help us in providing quality fun filled days.

Volunteering your time at one or more of the sessions allows us to provide additional supervised led activities.

We would love to hear from you if you would like to share a hobby, a special talent or are you a keen enthusiast

Each year we like to provide new activities and challenges that the children can take part in. In the past, these have included taekwondo, science projects and sculpting.

We follow procedures given by the Diocese of Bristol and the Church of England for safeguarding & child protection. So, there will be a registration form you will need to fill in and strict safeguarding guidelines that you must follow. Adults will be supervised by people who have been DBS checked and safeguarding trained through the church and you will not be able to be alone with a child at any point throughout the Activity Days.

*Please contact Kathryn Bartlett Tel: 778059, 07811583286  
kathryn.m.bartlett@btinternet.com*

### **Purton Churches Fun Activity Days – Frequently asked questions**

**When & where?** Monday 7th-9th August 2017 10am – 3pm at St Mary’s School Hall, College Road, Purton.

**Who is it for?** Children who are in school years 2-6 (7-11 years), who live in Purton, attend school, Cubs or Brownies in Purton or who have a qualifying connection to Purton.

**What activities are there?** There is a large selection of activities including Crafts, Cooking, Science, Sport, Games, Visits and much more!.

**How much does it cost?** This is a free event but donations are welcome, as there isn’t any external funding. We are a non-profit organisation and every penny donated goes towards resources and activities. Volunteers give their time freely and are not paid. We hope that those able to make donations will do so, this will increase the number of activities available and minimise the risk of running at a loss.

**How do I book my child on to the activity days?** Give your application forms into the school office or turn up on the day with a completed registration form

---

---

(copies will be available on the day), this will save on administration time and allow more time for activities.

**How can I volunteer?** You can volunteer by phoning or emailing the contacts on the registration form. There are forms to fill out and strict guidelines to follow concerning child protection and nobody will be allowed to be alone with any child/children. All volunteers will be closely supervised and monitored by adults who are DBS checked with the church.

**What do I need on the day?** You stay with your child for registration so we can ensure we have enough adults available to confirm a place. Bring your child for a 10am start, doors opening at 9.45pm. You need to queue to register your child so please be patient. You will need to pick up your child promptly at 3.00pm from the St Mary's School hall.

Your child will be unable to stay without a fully completed and signed registration form, as we need to be able to contact you in an emergency.

**What will my child need?** Registration forms, Suitable play clothes that can get dirty and suitable shoes. Some activities will take place outside. Any essential prescribed medicines e.g., Inhalers, a packed lunch and drink. We would ask that you make the lead volunteers aware of any food allergies or intolerances. Money for the tuck shop - 50p per day

## Christain Aid Curry Night At The Maharajah

Although quieter than previous years the annual Christian Aid curry night was still very enjoyable as we shared delicious food prepared by Khalique and his team at the Maharajah.

Including the takings from the raffle we made £328 this year! So many thanks to all of you who came along to support, donated prizes or bought tickets for the raffle.

Special thanks to Khalique and all of the staff at the Maharajah without whom the event would not be possible. We really do appreciate the time and effort they put in to make this event a success each year.

*KATE ROBINSON AND WENDY JOHNSON*

## Purton Artists' Society

It has been a busy few months for the society, we have said a sad 'au revior' to hard working and dedicated members from the committee Tracey, Chris and Brian which left us with vacancies for membership secretary, treasurer and chair. We have been fortunate that other members stepped forward to fill these roles so the society can keep going. We thank Tracey, Chris and Brian for their hard work and dedication to the society.

We are pleased to confirm that we will be having our exhibition on the 10th-12th November this year in the village hall, we currently have space for new members, please see our website <http://www.purtonartistsociety.co.uk> for further details if you are interested.

---

# Health & Wellbeing Champion

Please contact me if you think I can help or support you.

Summer is here! As I write this, the skies are grey and it's really quite chilly! Yet only a couple of weeks back we were experiencing the highest temperatures and longest dry spell ever recorded in June. I thought to share some NHS advice with coping in the extreme hot weather.....just in case.

Why is a heatwave a problem?

## **The main risks posed by a heatwave are:**

- dehydration (not having enough water)
- overheating, which can make symptoms worse for people who already have problems with their heart or breathing
- heat exhaustion and heatstroke

## **Who is most at risk?**

A heatwave can affect anyone, but the most vulnerable people are:

- older people, especially those over 75
- babies and young children
- people with a serious chronic condition, especially heart or breathing problems
- people with mobility problems – for example, people with Parkinson's disease or who have had a stroke
- people with serious mental health problems
- people on certain medications, including those that affect sweating and temperature control
- people who misuse alcohol or drugs
- people who are physically active – for example, labourers or those doing sports

## **Tips for coping in hot weather**

Shut windows and pull down the shades when it is hotter outside. You can open the windows for ventilation when it is cooler.

Avoid the heat: stay out of the sun and don't go out between 11am and 3pm (the hottest part of the day) if you're vulnerable to the effects of heat.

Keep rooms cool by using shades or reflective material outside the windows. If this isn't possible, use light-coloured curtains and keep them closed (metallic blinds and dark curtains can make the room hotter).

Have cool baths or showers, and splash yourself with cool water.

Drink cold drinks regularly, such as water and diluted fruit juice. Avoid excess alcohol, caffeine (tea, coffee and cola) or drinks high in sugar.

Listen to alerts on the radio, TV and social media about keeping cool.

Plan ahead to make sure you have enough supplies, such as food, water and any medications you need.

Identify the coolest room in the house so you know where to go to keep cool.

---

Wear loose, cool clothing, and a hat and sunglasses if you go outdoors. Check up on friends, relatives and neighbours who may be less able to look after themselves.

If you're worried about yourself or a vulnerable neighbour, friend or relative, you can contact the local environmental health office at your local authority.

How do I know if someone needs help?

**Seek help from a GP or contact NHS 111 if someone is feeling unwell and shows symptoms of:**

- breathlessness
- chest pain
- confusion
- intense thirst
- weakness
- dizziness
- cramps which get worse or don't go away

Get the person somewhere cool to rest. Give them plenty of fluids to drink.

*ELLEN BLACKER, Health & Wellbeing Champion Tel: 07557 922020 OR  
Email: ellen.blacker@wiltshire.gov.uk*

## Shoebox News

Our Fund Raising Day this year is on October 6th at the Silver Threads Hall, NOT at our home in the High Street. As much as we enjoy having events at our house, this has become too big for us to handle and this is the reason for the move. Everything about the day will stay exactly the same. More about that in September.

I recently heard from the Operation Christmas Child supervisor for the South West of England, who informs me that the new rules and regulations no longer allow us to check and seal our own boxes here in Purton. Also, the suggested donation to send a box has increased from £3 to £5 (OUCH!!). Personally I am not happy about these changes. I have assured OCC that they will get the 400 boxes, as planned for this year, but will not be able to send £5 per box. I have always been so pleased with the support of the village, but this would be asking too much. As with so many situations these days, rules and regulations etc., take away the pleasure, fun and challenges.

I have for a while now, wondered how much longer I could continue at such a high level of commitment to the Shoebox Project. So I now know that after 8 years, December this year will be the time for me to stand down. Many of us who support this are involved with Knit-a-Square. So my thoughts are that maybe we could if we want to, transfer our efforts into that. We would still be providing for those in need, but this time, all age groups. If anyone has any thought or comments please contact me on 01793/770686 or email [sylviamoira@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sylviamoira@yahoo.co.uk)

*SYLVIA FREEMANTLE, co-ordinator*

---

---

## Purton's pre-school provision

September is going to be a brand new start for the pre-schools in Purton! For the first time we will be working together as one big team,



across the 2 sites, to provide pre-school provision for 2 to 4 year olds. I took on Playclose Pre-school from Dawn Phillips in September last year and was pleased to be asked to take on Under Fives from this September, as Fionna Griffiths retires. It will mean the charity will be dissolved and the pre-schools will operate as one business. Joining up at the Carnival on 1st July for a walking parade of 'Pre-school Patrol' based on the popular cartoon 'Paw Patrol', gave us a lovely preview of how nice it will be to join up and give opportunities for children and parents to meet up even when they usually attend different sites. We are very keen to continue and to extend the strong community relationships so please do get in touch if there is something you think we can work on together. We appreciate the support of the community, as the pre-schools would not be able to run without the generous donations of toys, books and craft materials.

We will continue to build our relationship with St Mary's school, linking up to share training, expertise and resources. We are planning to start using the on-line learning journey system that the Foundation Stage use at school, so that the Early Years Learning and Development journey is more seamless for children, parents and practitioners.

The site on the school grounds, previously known as Under 5's, will be called Peardrops Pre-school. Sessions will be for 3+ year olds from Monday to Thursday 8am to 3pm (including a breakfast club) and Fridays 8am-1pm.

The site above the Methodist Church will be Peardrops at Playclose Pre-school and will run sessions for 2 to 4 year olds from Monday to Thursday 9am to 3.30pm and a 'small steps' session on Friday from 9am-11am for the under 3's only.

Currently we have spaces available at both sites (although are full on a Monday morning at Playclose), and are very happy for children to either mix sessions across 2 sites, or just use one. We are accepting 3 and 4 year old funding, 2 year old funding, and the new 30 hour offer for working parents – for more information and to see if you qualify please see [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

Please contact me if you would like more information or a registration pack.

*SARAH JANE GRIGG Tel: 07908 208141 [playcloseplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:playcloseplaygroup@gmail.com)*

## Heritage Open Days

Heritage Open Days is England's largest festival of history and culture, bringing together over 2,500 organisations, 5,000 events and 40,000 volunteers. Every year for four days in September, places across the country throw open their doors to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – and it's all FREE

---

The Merchant's House is taking part again this year and will be open for FREE on Sunday 10 September 11am to 4pm.

### **Cipher to Cyber**

Join William Egerton, Cyber Strategist for a tale of codes and conspiracies, on Friday 15 September 2017 at St Peter's Church, Marlborough.

The ancient Chinese hid their silk secrets; the ancient Greeks, Romans and Arabs were all keeping their intentions secret, from enemies, competitors - and each other. As technology evolved, codes and ciphers have become more complex - from Enigma, Colossus and James Bond to Wikileaks and Edward Snowden. Huge amounts are now spent on keeping secrets - as well as finding out what is going on. Hear the history - and find out how to stay safe online today.

At St Peter's Church, Marlborough, 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £15 each for non members, £12 each for members of the Merchant's House. Tickets available from the Merchant's House Trust office or shop, 132 High Street, Marlborough SN8 1HN. Tel: 01672 511 491. Email: [victoriae@merchantshouse.trust.co.uk](mailto:victoriae@merchantshouse.trust.co.uk)

### **Sing 4/4 Community Choir**

The Choir held its Summer Concert at St. Sampson's Church on Saturday 17 June and were again honoured by singing to another 'full house'. The soloists for the evening, Danielle Marsh and Ian Barker, gave delightful renditions of songs from the musical theatre. The programme contained a selection of the best melodies from four of the most popular musicals, Oklahoma, Carousel, Phantom of the Opera and Les Miserables. The weather was beautifully warm and the audience was able to enjoy refreshments and wine outside in the wonderful evening air (in loco delicioso, indeed).

The quality of performance shows through as never before and is the result of lots of very hard work by Musical Director, Mary New, and the entire membership who have embraced the ethos of striving for perfection in all aspects of choir activities promoting improvement in all things regarding the Choir.

On a sad note, this was the final appearance of tenor soloist Ian Barker who now takes up a prestigious post with responsibility for the Boys Choir at Kings College, Cambridge. It was also the final appearance of Christine Williams who has been our accompanist since we were formed back in 2010 – increased work-load and new responsibility as a carer have forced her to re-assess her commitment to outside interests. We wish both of these people the very best of fortune as they pursue their new roles.

From the proceeds of our concert, we have been able to make donations to Brighter Futures and St Sampson's Roof Fund.

Whilst the Choir has a dedicated core of singers, we always welcome new voices, (dare we say, especially men!). We rehearse, during term-time, at the Jenner Hall, 7.30pm till 9.30pm.

---

## Purton Village Diary - August 2017

1	Tu	2.00pm	Bingo at Silver Threads Hall with Brenda and John
2	W	9.00am	Purton Age Concern annual village outing to Weston-super-Mare
3	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
5	Sa	7.30pm	Zing play at the Red House Club
<hr/>			
6	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Purton and the Great War Walk and Talk at St Mary's Church with Bob LLOYD
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
7	M	10.00am	<i>until 9th</i> Purton churches summer activity days at St Mary's School
8	Tu	11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
10	Th	10.00am	Songs of Praise at the Cedars
11	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus to Cirencester for all areas of the village
		2.00pm	Silver Threads friendship club at Silver Threads Hall
<hr/>			
13	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		5.00pm	Brass band perform outside at the Red House Club
15	Tu	2.00pm	Dorcan Choir perform at Silver Threads Hall
16	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
19	Sa	9.00am	<i>(entries, 2.00pm viewing)</i> Royal British Legion Purton Branch Horticultural Show at Purton Village Hall
<hr/>			
20	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
22	Tu	2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
		8.00pm	After 8 outdoor games at Diana's
25	F	9.00am	Age Concern minibus to Cirencester for all areas of the village
		2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
<hr/>			
27	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
29	Tu	2.00pm	Name that tune with Carole Glead at Silver Threads Hall

---

### September

2	W	2.00pm	Age Concern Jumble Sale at Purton Village Hall
6	W	2.00pm	Age Concern Mystery Tour with tea included

---

- 
- 10 Su 11.00am The Merchant's House, Marlborough open for free as part of the Heritage Open Days festival
- 15 F 7.00pm Cipher to Cyber – a tale of codes and conspiracies, a talk at St Peter's Church Marlborough.

### Every week

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

### Moon Phases

☾ 30 July      ○ 7 August      ☽ 15 August      ● 21 August

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

### Purton Bowls Club



The weather has been really good this far (first week of July) and we are hoping that this hot spell continues, but it is very easy for the bowls green to suffer in dry periods so we are fortunate that our ground staff (a group of members) look after the green so well. Everybody, from all the clubs we play against, that have played on it this year have commented on how good it looks and plays, so well done to our dedicated team.

The men have been doing quite well in the league matches but we lost 12-2 to Highworth and 14-0 to Westlecot, on the other hand we beat Haydon Wick 10-4, Town Gardens 8-6, Cricklade 14-0 and Shrivenham 12-2 so we are quite pleased with the overall results.

The ladies are currently in first position in the Evening league and mid table in the Afternoon triples, but there are so many other games, both local and national that I will report more next month.

We also get involved in friendly fixtures at the weekend, usually only one of the days, and they are a lot of fun with good company. I always like to mention our training evening, every Friday at 6pm. Do come along and have a go if you have the time.

*PETER BERRY*

---

## Pips Community Café news



As many of you who came to see us at the Village Open Day in May will know, it's been a bit of a bumpy few months for the community café project. Having been severely let down by our builder we have decided to finish the project without him. Over two days at the beginning of July a group of us laid a screed floor in the kitchen and made a hard standing for the bin. Now the floor is down we can start on fitting out the kitchen. Many thanks to Paul Dempsey (whose knees may never be the same again!), Michael Harris, Mike Tedstone and Richard Harris. And of course Dave Nettleton who worked like a Trojan as always! We WILL be opening this cafe and we just apologise for the delay!

Despite the frustrating delays to the project the Pips team would like to acknowledge and express their appreciation for a number of grants we have received from the following organisations:

**Landfill Communities Fund Grant** Purton Community Café thanks The Hills Group Ltd for their grant of £10,000 towards the construction of a new kitchen and toilet for the new Café Pips. The money has been made available through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) which is administered for Hills by Community First, the Rural Community Council for Wiltshire.

**Wiltshire Area Board Grants** Thanks to the Wiltshire Council Area Board for their two grants each of £5,000 towards the construction and equipping of the new kitchen and toilet for the café Pips.

Purton Community Café thanks Purton Parish Council, Purton Carnival and Purton Open Gardens for their grants towards the construction of the new kitchen and toilet for the café Pips.

**Donations of Skills** Purton Community Café thanks Mike Ferne of MJF CAD Solutions for design work and John Butcher of Butcher Electrical Services Technology for electrical work for the building of the new kitchen and toilet for the café Pips.

*The Pips Community Café team*

## Cricklade Country Market



Our next market: Friday 25 August, 2-4pm at The Jenner Hall Cricklade

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

MARKET DATES: September 29th

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

---

---

## Purton FC

July saw Purton's new management team of Neil Lee and Liam Lewis signing on players and their side playing games in the Jim Newman Cup at Clanfield and the Faringdon Memorial Cup at Faringdon, plus several friendly games played away. The new management team will see their side competing in the Wiltshire Senior league after being demoted from the Hellenic League Div 1 West due to failing FA rulings on ground criteria.

Terry Crumbie has taken over as the new club Chairman replacing myself after many years and reducing my input somewhat. Terry has also taken on the Hon Treasurer's duties while I will continue as the Club's President, Hon Secretary, Press and Programme Officer. The Club has a new Vice President who is also the Club's Youth Officer, Andrew Cowan.

Purton FC would like to thank all those who have sponsored the club for the forthcoming season by sponsoring a game, a donation or a programme advert in the match-day programme. Anyone else who would like to sponsor the club can contact myself by calling 729844 or email me: [alan.eastwood83@ntlworld.com](mailto:alan.eastwood83@ntlworld.com) and would be most welcome.

Look forward to seeing your support at our games this coming league season that commences on Saturday the 12th of August – (Come on you Reds!!!)

*ALAN EASTWOOD, President/Hon. Secretary*

## Purton Tennis Club

By the time you read this, Wimbledon will be over and we hope that Andy Murray did us proud again!



If you feel inspired, please come along and have a go. We have social evenings Friday nights and Sunday mornings, with Junior sessions on a Saturday morning. Failing that, please contact our coaches to see what they have to offer. The Summer camps will be under way but I am sure they will still be taking anyone who wants to come along. Our teams continue to do well as I write and hopefully will be finishing their matches and bringing home the silverware! Full results next month. Follow us on facebook and twitter or for information: [www.purtontennisclub.com](http://www.purtontennisclub.com)

*LINDSEY HALL, Chairman*

## Minety RFC -Welcoming children for 2017/18 season!

Minety Rugby Club is seeking new children aged 5 to 12 years to join the club, no prior experience of rugby necessary. The season starts on Sunday 3 September 2017, 10am, at Minety Playing Fields. Sessions last 1-1.5 hours. No need to register, just turn up and if your son or daughter likes it, you can register anytime that day or thereafter. For more information visit [www.pitchero.com/clubs/minetyjuniorrugbyclub/](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/minetyjuniorrugbyclub/) or contact Peter McAllister, Tel: 01666 860281 or Email: [peterjmcallister@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peterjmcallister@yahoo.co.uk).



---

## Bradon Forest School



The brand new state of the art Sports Hall at Bradon Forest School was officially opened on Monday 26 June. Wiltshire Lord Lieutenant, Mrs Sarah Rose Troughton together with local sports heroes and ex-Bradon Forest students, Laura Halford and Grant Turner conducted the ceremony and unveiled the plaque.



Ex-Bradon Forest Head Girl, Laura, is a British Champion gymnast and has represented Wales in the Commonwealth Games. Grant, who also attended Bradon Forest, won relay silver in swimming at the 2010 Commonwealth Games and represented Team GB at London 2012 Olympics. Other attendees at the event included James Gray, the MP for North Wiltshire, local community users of the sports hall, staff from the Athelstan Multi Academy Trust which Bradon Forest

is part of, headteachers and pupils from local primary schools.

Grant Turner said 'Opportunity is a word that is banded around a lot but I am really grateful for the opportunities that Bradon Forest offered me. Without their support I wouldn't have enjoyed the successes that I did. The students of today and for many years to come will be able to enjoy the sporting opportunities now available to them through this amazing facility.'

Bradon Forest received almost £1 million funding to build the new sports hall from section 106 monies predominantly from the Ridgeway Farm development and a smaller proportion from the Tadpole Garden Village development. The 970 square metre building houses a full size basketball court ideal for the school's prize-winning basketball teams and enables the school to host basketball competitions with other schools. The upstairs viewing gallery acts as a multi-purpose area for table tennis, meetings and community events. Bradon Forest has a long history of basketball and other sporting success. In 2017 alone Year 9 and Year 11 boys and Year 8 and Year 9 girls' basketball teams were Swindon Champions, Year 9 and Year 10 boys and the girls' Under 14 teams were football Swindon School Champions. In netball the Year 7 girls were Swindon School's Champion's and the Year 9 girls team indoor netball champions. Also under 13's Swindon Schools Team Tennis Tournament champions!

Mr Matthews, one of the basketball coaches said 'We are very excited to be able to host Swindon School Tournaments. It will make a huge difference not to have to play every match away'.

---

Dr Andrew Morrison, Headteacher at Bradon Forest, said 'The new Sports Hall is another great asset for Bradon Forest. We are very lucky to already have lovely large playing fields, a gym, sports pavilion, tennis and netball courts, and a general purpose hall. The Sports Hall facility will extend the sporting opportunities available to our students alongside the huge range of other activities the school has to offer'.

Anyone interested in hiring the sports hall or viewing gallery should contact the school for more information

### **Success at the Swindon Schools' Tennis Tournament**



Students represented Bradon Forest at the Swindon Schools Tennis Championships on Monday 12 June, hosted by Churchfields Academy.

The boys U13 team won the competition, only losing 1.5 games in total!

The girls and boys U13 teams were then eligible to compete in the Wiltshire and Swindon School Games at Marlborough College on Wednesday July 5. They performed strongly despite the heat and against very strong opposition.

The Bradon Forest Year 8 Touch Rugby team had great wins against Lydiard Park Academy and Royal Wootton Bassett Academy. They finished 7th but a great squad performance was seen as they were total beginners to the game!

### **Super Science with Year 7**

Year 7 Science students at Bradon Forest School have been using the hot weather to their advantage. Mrs Fraser's class have been building their own Bottle Rockets and trying to make them fly higher than the other teams'.

Upon completion of the rocket build, students used a bicycle pump to fill the bottle with air. When the pressure is too great for the cork to contain, the cork is pushed out. The bottle flies off, leaving a trail of water behind it and probably soaking the person pumping too - perfect in this heat!





Mrs Fraser said: "This is a great experiment for demonstrating two of Isaac Newton's laws:

1. Every action has an equal and opposite reaction. The water moves one way and the bottle goes the opposite way.
2. The same amount of force can accelerate a heavy object slowly

or a light object more quickly. The water is much heavier than the empty plastic bottle. That, and the students love it!"

### **Bradon Forest students organise PE competition**

Bradon Forest students from Year 7 organised a PE competition for Year 3 pupils from St Mary's Primary School in Purton in June. They organised the event as part of the Sky Sports and Youth Sports Trust initiative.

Bradon Forest PE teacher, Mr Burton-Towell, told us Jamie Barrow, Britain's fastest snowboarder and Sky Sports Ambassador, spent a day with the Bradon Forest students last term. The students agreed to organise a sporting event for St Mary's pupils as part of the goal setting work they did with Jamie. They worked hard to plan and prepare the competition they delivered. On the day they were very supportive and encouraging of the pupils that took part.

This is what some of the children from St Mary's had to say about the competition:

I liked the part where you had to hit a target in tennis, the netball will help me my training for the netball team and I enjoyed how the students led the lesson and decided what we were doing instead of the adults.

Ms Farr, Year 3 teacher at St Mary's reported:

*It was clear the students had put a lot of thought into the session, providing a well-planned, fast paced, clearly explained and fun lesson. The pupils from St Mary's children thoroughly enjoyed the session, and are very keen to come again!*

Students Lily and Finley from Bradon Forest said it was nice to see the pupils communicating and working together as a team and I enjoyed seeing the children having a good time.

### **Stage Combat Workshop**

On Tuesday 28 June, Year 10 Drama students experienced a professional Stage Combat workshop, led by Dominic Waldron, our in-house professional actor and director.

Miss Noone said, "This is such a fantastic opportunity for the students. They are able to learn some exciting new skills that they'll be eager to put in to practice as they start the new GCSE. The response has been great to watch, the whole group were really enthused!"



The group learnt basic combat techniques such as hair pulling, face slapping, strangulation, upper cuts, dragging across the floor, ear and nose pulling plus the theory of punching. They also got to grips with the official terminology so could be at home on any set of Eastenders!

Thank you to Dominic for imparting his knowledge on the group. Dominic has previously led this workshop in Kingston Grammar School, St Mary's School in Calne and Burford Boarding School. Knowing that these skills are used on the professional stage created a real buzz among the students.

### Art Competition



The Art Department have recently run a competition for budding Year 7 artists.

Congratulations to winning entrants Eamon Jimenez (artwork, right) and Sofia Adu (artwork, left), for their amazing drawings. Both students have been awarded some artistic goodies from Mr Martch-Harry and Mrs Holmes.



### Sewing Bee

Students were set a challenge to redesign a standard pillow case and turn it into a creative textiles product of their choice. Out of the wonderful selection of designs entered, ten students were chosen to compete in the final. During a focused six hours in the textiles workshop we saw a fantastic display of skill, from heat transfer printing to pom pom making. We saw outcomes such as bags, an apron, a bodice and even a tactical vest! It was great to see such a variety of creative outcomes.

Talented technology students from Year 10 judged the entries and after a tough fifteen minutes of studying the outcomes and much head scratching declared Manaka Oh, Year 7, the winner and Harry Ritchings, Year 7, the runner up. We are very proud of all the students that entered and displayed such fantastic skill and perseverance.





---

### Key Stage 3 Mini EPQ projects

A few months ago More Able students in Key Stage 3 were invited to undertake a mini EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) in their own time. The students' choice of topic was free. Subjects covered included electric guitars, Bosnia-Herzegovina, sailing, basketball and a stuntman's journey. Ms Hunter, Assistant Headteacher responsible for mentoring the More Able students said 'The EPQ is a qualification which students take in sixth form. Extended projects can help students

to develop and demonstrate a range of valuable skills through pursuing their interests and investigating topics in more depth. Our students haven't completed a full project but what they have produced will set them up well for doing the real EPQ later in their academic careers.

### Induction Days for Year 6 pupils joining Bradon Forest in September

We were delighted to welcome almost 230 Year 6 pupils to Bradon Forest on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 July. The pupils met their new tutors and sampled a wide range of lessons. The Year 10 peer mentors looked after their tutors groups exceptionally well over the two days. The ice lollies at the end of the Friday were most welcome by pupils, students, parents and staff alike!

### Purton Historical Society



#### Walk around Royal Wootton Bassett

On Wednesday 5 July approximately 20 members and guests assembled at the Lime Kiln Business Centre for a guided walk around Royal Wootton Bassett. The Wootton Bassett Town Crier, Owen Collier was our host for the evening and he provided us with a wealth of historical information during the walk. From the Lime Kiln, which was originally a farm house dating from the reign of James I, we progressed down the High Street towards the Town Hall. Following this we proceeded through the grounds of St Bartholomew's Church and then explored the picturesque area with many cottages and lovely open views at the back of the church.

Owen was dressed in his full 'Town Crier' regalia and arrived complete with hand bell. Prior to the advent of the Police Force and Royal Mail, part of the Town Crier's duties would be to act as Policemen and Postman.

Owen was so knowledgeable that the following is just a short selection from the information we received. The 60 lime trees, 30 on each side of the High Street, were planted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. The High Street contained a Cinema (where Iceland is situated now), a pub theatre at what is now the Red Lion, a bacon factory and a pond in the

---

centre of the road. Apparently a ducking stool was kept in the Crown which was wheeled out to the pond – the last unfortunate lady, named Peggy Lawrence, was ducked in the pond in 1793 for what was almost certainly a minor offence or a perceived misdemeanor. Cattle pens would be erected in the High Street for markets and the street would be cleaned once a year and the manure sold.

Owen pointed out many architectural features on the historic buildings and numerous pubs that line the High Street. The Town Hall dates from 1690 and was renovated in 1889. It originally housed the local lockup which Owen said became very busy and cramped on numerous occasions. Stocks and a whipping post are in the Museum which is now situated in the Town Hall. An early fire engine is situated under the Town Hall. Nearby is the town's new war memorial which was unveiled in 2004 – a simple pedestal topped by a bronze of hands holding up a globe. The town previously had war memorials in the form of a garden in the cemetery and the memorial hall on Tinker's Field.



In Wood Street at the back of the church, we viewed Priory Cottage, a Grade II listed building which is said to be on the site of the small hospital of St. John, founded in 1266 and dissolved prior to 1500. We completed our walk in front of the 5 Bells Inn which is a lovely thatched building and is a very popular real ale free house.

Our thanks go to Owen for a very entertaining and informative evening. We were pleased to donate over £40.00 to the Royal Wootton Bassett Mayor's appeal.

### **Future meetings**

Thursday, 28 September 2017 at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall, John Fell – Post Boxes and the Royal Mail – Further details will be available in the September magazine.

Thursday, 26 October 2017 at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall, Martin Way – Cotswold Wool Trade and Shepherding

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

Friday, 1 December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Silver Threads Hall, Annual Christmas Social with entertainment by 'The Ukey D'Ukes' Ukulele Band

New Members and visitors always welcome

*TONY & JANET NEATE, e mail: [tjneate57@gmail.com](mailto:tjneate57@gmail.com)  
tel: 01793 770117*

---

## Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

*News from Kai Howard, Practice Manager at Purton Surgery*



Purton Surgery is a GP Training Practice Surgery and following a recent inspection visit from the GP trainee re-approval team, I am pleased to announce that we were rated as EXCELLENT!

Comments included:

‘Trainees would thoroughly recommend as a placement. Very good supervision. Supportive team.’

‘Well organised practice’

‘Innovative ways of working (using visiting paramedics)’

‘An excellent teaching video by Dr Gomara’

In addition the surgery supports carers and has just achieved ‘GOLD’ accreditation award for Carers! This is the highest level. Well done to all involved in achieving this, in particular Jess, who is our Carers Lead.

**Next Information Evening – Monday 30 October 7.30 – 9pm**

Our next Information Evening will be on the subject of Organ Donation. This is a subject which some find difficult to think about while others are so grateful that it exists. I recently attended a meeting on the subject at GWH, the presentation was excellent, it was very informative and covered this difficult subject with sensitivity.

We have therefore decided to invite the GWH Organ Donation Team to speak to us at our next Information Evening on Monday 30 October. As usual tickets will be needed for this, though there is no cost. Tickets should be available from Purton Surgery from mid-September.

Serving patients in Purton, Cricklade & surrounding communities

*SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary, Purton PPG*

### **Flu Vaccination 2017**

#### **Saturday 14 October, Purton Surgery**

The Department of Health has recommended that we offer vaccination against Influenza to all our patients over the age of 65 and also to patients who suffer from a ‘high risk’ condition, regardless of their age.

This includes: diabetes, chronic heart disease, chronic renal failure, COPD, have undergone a splenectomy, severe asthma (taking inhaled steroid – not seasonal), carers & pregnant ladies.

Call or pop in to make your appointment from Tuesday 5 September 2017

Only eligible patients may receive the vaccine.

---

# Ten Years Ago...

The August 2007 issue of Purton Magazine seemed to be full of anniversaries and it seems that several historic events have happened in years ending in a 7 such as Scouting starting in 1907 as did the first school opened by the Italian educator Maria Montessori and there are now many thousands of schools bearing her name around the world.

A local example was that to celebrate 20 years of the Rainbows in Purton, one of their challenges was to think of 20 different pizza toppings 10 years ago but will the latest group be thinking of 30 toppings this year?

On a less savoury note, a Dog Control Order made by the then District Council came into effect on 4th June 2007 and the roundabout at the Pavenhill shops is now 10 years old.

But mainly – and quite correctly for a community magazine, the pages 10 years ago also contained notices of notable wedding anniversaries in the village. That brought to mind a quotation by the English Victorian novelist and poet Dinah Craik (also known by her maiden name, Miss Mulock) that might give some clues to successful marriages. “Oh the comfort, the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe with a person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words, but pouring them all out just as they are, chaff and grain together, certain that a faithful hand will take and sift them, keep what is worth keeping and with a breath of kindness blow the rest away.” That still sounds appropriate these days, doesn't it?

*We are upgrading the Purton Magazine website at the moment and not all past issues are currently available, if you would like to receive a copy of a previous issue as a PDF please email [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)*

## Purton Open Gardens

What a superb weekend weather-wise. The sales of tickets was very good with many local people visiting and a good number from further afield, and the weather assisted sales of refreshments for a variety of charities. Thank you to everyone who contributed by spending money on tickets and refreshments and by participating in opening their garden. There is a lot of work that goes in to staging this event.

*NICK YERBURY*

## Purton Guide Dogs

I was supposed to have a Stall at the Carnival Fete, but unfortunately the clutch packed up on my car while I was on my way home from Abingdon the night before, and it had to be transported to the garage in Cricklade. The next venue was on the 22nd of July helping Swindon Branch on a Stall at 'The Stratton Festival' which I will report on in next months magazine. Many thanks for your continued support.

*BRIAN DAVIES, for Purton Guide Dogs Support Group*

---

# 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.

---



## JOHN COTTON

Marian, Cheryl and Steve Cotton would like to say thank you to friends and neighbours for all the cards, flowers and messages of sympathy received following the recent sad loss of John.

*Steve Cotton*



## HENRY FIMMERS

We'd like to say many thanks for all the cards and flowers and messages they received for their father, Henry Fimmers, who passed away in June. Also, many many thanks to the Cedars for the wonderful care he received.

*Elizabeth, Judith and Charlotte*

---

## After 8

We met at Sandra's house for our June meeting, which was a "Themed Quiz". It was decided we would work as a whole team and not as individuals. So that Avril could participate (as she was leading the evening), her husband Dave very kindly agreed to organise it for us.



Everyone was given a couple of envelopes. Each envelope contained a question and a sealed answer. We then took it in turns to open one of our envelopes and read out the question.

The very first question was - How Halimah Yacob might carry her baby? Not knowing the topic of the quiz, it provoked plenty of thought and discussion, but in the end we decided to move onto the second question and come back to the first later. Our second question was - Irish revolutionaries after manufactured Island? We managed to quickly solve this as the answer is - Madeira (IRA after made). Another question was - 100 mph plus 99? The answer being - tonic.

After deciding the theme must be 'drinks', we solved most of the questions, but those that we didn't were quite obscure. For those that are interested, the answer to the first question is - Singapore Sling. Halimah Yacob being a Singaporean politician.

Our meeting in August will be "Outdoor games" led by Diana at her home on Tuesday 22 August.

---

---

## Purton Evening W.I.



Our June meeting took place in the Village Hall on a very hot evening, but it was lovely to see so many ladies wearing pretty summer dresses.

The speaker for the evening was Ellie Dickinson who talked about shoes and foot care. Ellie has a shoe shop in Hungerford specializing in shoes for people with difficult feet (which is just about everyone!). There are 26 bones in each foot, with 250,000 sweat glands, producing ½ an egg cup of moisture each day! Ellie explained how the foot works and how shoes have developed over the years as well as giving tips on how to make your shoes more comfortable.

This was a very interesting talk, given by a lady who was very knowledgeable and passionate about her subject and it was well received by the members.

Our competition for the evening was 'Who's Shoes?' We all brought in a pair of shoes – anything from walking boots to dancing shoes; these were laid out on the stage for members to identify their owners – very difficult but good fun.

Our August meeting will be on Wednesday 16th at 7.30pm and the subject will be 'Your Holiday Destination'. We will have a speaker from Cannon Travel at Royal Wootton Bassett, and we can dream of all those lovely places that we would like to visit. This sounds really interesting evening, so if you would like to come along and join us, we would be very pleased to see you.

During the last month, Ladies from Purton Evening WI have been out enjoying themselves at 'a ladies lunch' with musical entertainment, they have been playing Skittles and Whist and Rummikub as well as visiting the Milestones Old World Museum near Basingstoke; and Barbara our President represented us at the Federation's AGM in Liverpool, which she found interesting, entertaining and inspiring –so there is a lot going on!

Hope to see you in August

*For any further information call: Barbara 01793 770818 or Janet 01793 772146*

### We Record ...

#### *Anniversary congratulations*

17 August 2017

**Reg and Madeline Herbert**

Congratulations Mum and Dad on your 60th Wedding Anniversary, love from all the family.



#### *In Memoriam*

15 August 1917

**Thomas Richard Bartlett**, 11th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry, died of tetanus, aged 39, following wounds received in action. He is buried in Ste. Marie Cemetery, Le Havre and remembered on the Purton War Memorials.

# Purton Placard

PURTON CHURCHES  
TOGETHER

## **Summer Activity Days**

St Mary's School,  
College Road, Purton  
Mon 7 to Wed 9 August

ST MARY'S CHURCH, PURTON

## **Harvest Barn Dance**

Saturday 7 October 2017, 7pm,  
Purton Village Hall

All very welcome. Bring and  
Share Supper, Licensed Bar  
Adults £6, under 14s, £3

Tel: Sandra 770157 or  
Jane 772422

## **Purton Horticultural Show**

In aid of The Royal British Legion  
Saturday 19 August,  
Purton Village Hall

Exhibits 9-11am, viewing from  
2pm including refreshments.

Prize Giving, Raffle and Auction  
from 5pm

PURTON AGE CONCERN

## **Outing to Weston-super-Mare**

for all ages on Wednesday 2 August  
Coach leaves at 9am, returning from Weston  
at 4pm. Cost £14 for children/OAPs, £15.50  
for others (food not included). Book your  
place with your street warden. Come and  
join us for a fun day out!

## **Jumble Sale**

Saturday 2 September at the Village Hall  
Jumble can be left at the Village Hall  
between 12 noon & 1pm. Sale starts at 2pm  
Lots of bargains!

## **Mystery Tour**

Wednesday 6th September  
Coach leaves at 2pm  
Cost £13.50 for village pensioners  
(tea included) Use your £5 voucher and join  
us for the afternoon!

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

Email:  
[mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

---

## Plumbing the depths of church history

When Wiltshire plumber, Shaun Higgins won the tender this year for the job to replace the full heating system in Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon, he wasn't prepared for the surprise of discovering a plaque mounted next to the old heating apparatus stating that it had been supplied and fixed by Bays & Co, Wood Street, Swindon in November 1906!

Edward Bays Ltd is a long-established firm based in Highworth, Wiltshire but were originally Bay & Co of Wood Street, Swindon. Managing Director, Shaun has worked at Edward Bays since he was 18 and his father, now Manager, started as an apprentice in 1970 at the age of 14.



Shaun said: "I couldn't believe it. You hear of so many firms going out of business, but here you have a plumbing company fitting a heating system for Christ Church in 1906 and then coming back to update it 111 years later."

Not wanting to let this historic occasion pass unnoticed, Shaun arranged for another plaque to be mounted alongside the first one stating:



"Edward Bays Ltd proudly supplied and installed this heating system 2017". The Vicar of Christ Church, the Revd Simon Stevenette said: "We are all hoping that this new system will last for another 111 years!"

*CHRIS ROBERTS MBE*





## A Book I will Always Remember

*Have you read a book that you will always remember, either recently or many years ago, serious or funny, fact or fiction? Each month we are publishing a review of a book that has meant a lot to a particular reader, especially the reason why it was so memorable. Purton Magazine readers are encouraged to send in a personal*

*review of their favourite book; it need not be very long; 450-500 words. As usual, the copy deadline is the 10th of the preceding month and our contact details are on Page 4.*

## Giles Cartoons By Carl Giles

When I was asked to write about “a book I will always remember” I went into a blind panic! What should I choose?! Most of what I read I would define as rubbish to try to send me back to sleep when I wake at 3am! I’ve just joined a book club, so I considered writing about one of those that we’ve read, as some of them have been pretty good. But that seemed a bit impersonal really, as none REALLY come into the category “I will always remember”.

So, time to talk to the wise one in the house, Dave, about it. “What about a book from your childhood?” he said. I don’t remember any books I read as a child, although I’m told that I read avidly. “What about a book you read with Mark (my son)?”, but that felt like Mark’s book, not mine!

Then he said “What about Giles?” Bingo! Perfect (albeit a bit of a cheat as it’s a series of books rather than just one!)

My older brother Jerry collected Giles annuals and as I lived near Camden Lock Market, and had far too much time on my hands, I was his London agent for trying to complete his collection. Occasionally I would find a “special” one – just about nurses, armed forces etc – rather than the annual ones and Jerry was always over the moon then. When he died I inherited the collection and completed it.

So, what are these books?! I’m sure that most people will know, but for those that don’t I will do my best to do them justice. They are a series of weekly cartoons drawn by Carl Giles that originally appeared in the Daily and Sunday Express. The first one appeared on October 3rd (a very good day!) 1943. The first annual collection was published in 1946 and Giles always chose which of them to include.

The themes of the cartoons were always topical, amusing and usually very British. They often featured the Giles Family which was ruled by the matriarch, Grandma, or the schoolmaster, Chalkie. Each cartoon has SO much in it. There are all sorts of details that you don’t see on the first look, but when you study them they suck you in and amaze you with their content. I’m not really into history in a big way, but by looking at the old annuals I enjoy finding out about some of the happenings and social issues of the past.

---

---

I wanted to choose one to illustrate his style, so chose the one closest to my birth date. It is of a library/reading room in a boy's prep school and the writing underneath says "... and so, dear Father, in view of the Chancellor's call for stringent economy I fear it would be incompatible with his request for me to advance you a small loan until Friday, even at the tempting offer of 7% interest. Your affectionate son..." The shield on the wall had ~~ACHEIVE~~ crossed out and ~~ACHIEVE~~ written, a boy sticking his tongue out to seal the envelope, a cigarette resting on the edge of the desk, one boy typing rather than writing. There's probably more that I still haven't seen!

So, apologies if I've cheated by choosing more than one book and by writing about why I chose Giles more than about Giles books themselves, but they are actually very difficult to sum up. So, may I suggest that you get one and have a look, and hopefully you will then understand why I am so taken with them.

Thank you Jery for introducing me to them!

MARY NETTLETON

## Purton Cricket Club

As I write this we are exactly half way through the season; each of the senior elevens having played nine of their eighteen scheduled matches. Both teams occupy seventh place in their respective leagues. The first eleven look slightly the more secure having won half of their games while the second eleven have won only three. Both sides won their matches at the week-end with the second eleven scoring a remarkable 314 - 5 at Purton against Blunsdon. John Little stole the headlines with a personal score of 159 not out. Our team with the best record, at the moment however, is our under 11s who have won all their games so far. Jos Flay scored an undefeated 50 against Marlborough on July 2nd.

Sadly, our attempts to run a third men's team on a Saturday have failed. We still have high hopes of achieving a third eleven that might play its home games at Lydiard Millicent. This year we just had to admit that at present we do not have the required workforce, and probably not enough players week in and week out, to run a league side.

This column gives me the opportunity to thank all those people who kindly donated to the Club this year. Subscriptions and match fees will never come close to covering our expenses; fund raising is always a priority. Before listing our main fixtures for August, a reminder that the Cricket Field is a wonderful spot on a Summer Saturday afternoon!

Sat. Aug. 5th. 2nd. XI v. Bathford

Sat. Aug. 12th. 2nd. XI v. Melksham

Sun. Aug. 13th. Wilts. U-13 Girls v. Worcestershire

Sat. Aug 19th. 1st. XI v. Warminster

Sat. Aug. 26th. 2nd. XI v. Wootton Bassett III

Sun. Aug. 27th. U-11 v. Marlborough

DAVID BISSET

---

# The Great War Project

## Part 49: August 1917

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

### **To France:**

Victor Rowland Lovelock, 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

### **Royal Navy**

Ernest R. Holder, Royal Navy (transferred from Devonport RN Barracks to HMS Cornwall)

Edward Selby received a letter of exemption for conscription as he was already working at the Purton Remount Depot at Manor Hill.

### **Western Front**

The British offensive of the 3rd Battle of Ypres continued with successful actions at Pilckem Ridge and the Ypres Canal at Boesinghe, but indecisive results at Langemarck. The Canadian Corps fought the Battle of Hill 70 (15-18 August) capturing the hill and establishing a defensive position which prevented the Germans from sending further forces towards Ypres. Hill 70 saw the first use of Mustard Gas by the German Army. However one might view a "successful action", the total casualties in this first month of the 3rd Battle of Ypres were perhaps 78,500 killed or wounded on the Allied side and 79,000 on the German side. French forces began the 2nd offensive battle at Verdun, capturing Mort-Homme and Cote 304.

Thomas Richard Bartlett had enlisted with the Wiltshire Regiment, but had transferred to the 11th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. The 11th Battalion moved to France in May 1916 having carried out Garrison Service since its formation in January 1917. They were placed into the 59th (2nd North Midland) Division which had been reduced by heavy losses during the German spring offensive. The Division was used in rear defence construction until sufficiently trained to be used in the front lines in late July. Thomas was wounded in action and subsequently died of tetanus on 15 August 1917, aged 39, at the No.2 General Hospital in Le Havre.

Thomas is buried in Ste. Marie Cemetery, Le Havre and is remembered on the Purton War Memorial, and on the Memorial Board and Memorial Book, both in St Mary's Church.

### **USA**

The Green Corn Rebellion, an uprising by several hundred farmers against conscription, took place in central Oklahoma during August. On the 5th, the entire US National Guard was taken into national service, and became subject to presidential rather than state control.

---

## **Canada**

The Military Service Act was passed in the Canadian House of Commons on 29 August, giving the Government of Canada the right to conscript men into the army.

## **Russia**

General Kornilov succeeded General Brusilov as Russian Commander-in-Chief on 2 August. On the 3rd, Czernowitz (Bukovina) was retaken by Austrian and German forces.

In an inflammatory article, on 4 August, the Bolshevik revolutionary newspaper, Pravda, called for the killing of all capitalists, priests and officers.

Alexander Fyodorovich Kerensky, of the Revolutionary Socialist Party, was appointed Prime Minister of Russia on 6 August.

## **Germany**

Mutiny broke out in the German fleet at Wilhelmshaven on 2 August. 400 sailors marched into town demanding an end to the war and refusing to continue fighting. The demonstration was quickly brought under control by the army. Some sailors returned to their ships without violence but 75 of were arrested and imprisoned. The ringleaders were subsequently executed after trial.

## **Romania**

On 22 July, Romanian forces with Russian assistance commenced an offensive against the Austro-Hungarian 1st Army at Mărășești and the Siret river. After initial success, a German and Austrian counter-offensive in August initially halted the Romanians. Then between 6 August and 3 September, the Romanian army fought their most significant battle of the 1917 campaign. The Romanian 1st Army, together with Russian forces, managed to halt the German advance and forced the German attack towards the north west. From 16 August, the Romanian army took over command of the battle from the Russians and completely held the German advance. This was the last major battle between Germany and Romania during the Great War. Although most of Romania was still occupied by the Central Powers, the Battle of Mărășești kept the north-eastern region of the country free from occupation. Over the campaign, Romania lost over 27,000 men, including 610 officers, while Germany and Austria-Hungary lost over 47,000.

## **War in the Air**

On 2 August, Squadron Commander E.H. Dunning landed his aircraft on HMS Furious in Scapa Flow, Orkney. However, he was killed 5 days later during another landing on the ship.

The German airship L23 was shot down by British aircraft over North Sea on 21 August and, on the 22nd, Germany launched a daylight aeroplane raid on England which would prove to be the last such raid of the war.

---

## Other News

On 1 August, Pope Benedict XV sent a Note to belligerent Governments appealing for peace. This may have fallen on deaf ears since the Republic of China and Liberia declared war on Germany and Austria-Hungary during August, and Italy declared war on the Ottoman Empire.

On 10 August, the Labour Party decided to send a representative to a consultative conference in Stockholm. The British Government refused to issue passports for the Conference.

On the 18th, the British, French, and Italian Governments concluded provisional arrangements regarding to future policy in former territories of the Ottoman Empire. A Ministry of Reconstruction was formed in Great Britain on the 21st.

On 18 August, the Great Thessaloniki Fire (Greece) destroyed 32% of the city, leaving 70,000 people homeless.

RICK DIXON

## Purton and the Great War

Walk & Talk at St Mary's Church, Sunday 6th August 1600 - 1800 hrs.

The walk will cover all the memorials and War graves at St Mary's for the Great War period, adding many facts to the Village Great War story.

After walking around the Church and Churchyard there is a further additional walk to the Remount Depot Memorial at The Pear Tree Hotel for a brief talk about that site.

Come dressed for the elements, rain or shine the walk will take place. Churchyards can be hazardous environments, please wear suitable footwear and respect the surroundings at all times.

BOB LLOYD

### Church Floodlighting

July 15 St Mary's was floodlit in loving memory of **Mary Alice Jane**, who passed away this day a year ago. Missed every day and always in the thoughts of her 'canny bairns'. Mel, Geoff, Ellie, Baz and Max: Phil, Sarah, Alex, Charlotte and Frankie.

July 30 St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Albert Parkinson** on the occasion of his birthday. Dearly loved and so sadly missed Husband, Dad and Grandad.



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

---

## Summer News From The Cricklade Band

When you get to read this, all the band 'family' will be on their well-deserved Summer break. At the same time as relocating to our new home at Cricklade Town Hall we've also been busy making music at more events than usual in 2017 – the band's 130th year!

Hopefully, all the relocating will have been completed by this time too! We had to find a new space for the master music library, not only that but when we made our emergency exit from the Club we found that all six filing cabinets had rusted through from being located on a damp floor. This meant a successful application, and thanks to the Area Board of Wiltshire Council, for a funding award to replace the cabinets and obtaining a new storage racking system.

To continue with the funding theme, not only has the local community been very generous with their support but we have also attracted the interest of what we like to call 'corporate supporters'. You'll soon begin to see supporters like the Red Lion Charity Fund, McFarlane Sales & Lettings, Wiltshire Council and Chelworth Industrial Estate being featured in our signage. We are so grateful for their interest and assistance. There are other corporate supporters in the pipeline too – if you feel able to join them please do get in touch.

Of course, we all like to think that everyone in Purton reads Purton Magazine. It's taken us a bit by surprise though that some people have never seen or heard the band nearby. A bit of a weird theme developed from people's comments to us at Cricklade Festival and at Cricklade Rugby Club 25th Anniversary Ball. Typical of these comments was 'we thought you'd be an old-fashioned marches and waltzes brass band, but you're not, you're so different, you play proper entertaining music, we really enjoyed listening'.

Having read that last bit, and you'd like to play some 'proper entertaining music', just get in touch! We're particularly on the look-out for a permanent keyboard player at the moment. Another trombone to join Mike would be good and Nicola's so keen to expand her saxophone section too – yep, that's right, saxophones too!

BandAcademy continues enthusiastically with our student youngsters and young-at-hearts taking part in several community events of their own and also joining the Performance Band in concerts. We've welcomed five new starters in the last couple of months. If you would like to learn to play an instrument, or pick up where you left off in an earlier life, then we would be pleased to see you. Just get in touch, call in and say hello.

If you'd like to be involved with all that the band does and is, then have a look at us on Facebook for all the information you might need and drop in and have a chat.

---

## Purton and District Probus Club



On 13 June Bob Burnett, from Tetbury, gave a talk entitled "Convoy HX 84; the story of one of many convoys that made the hazardous crossing of the Atlantic during WWII.

The Year was 1940 and by 28 October, when the convoy of 37 ships set sail from Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Battle of Britain was almost won. However, France, Belgium, Norway and the Netherlands were already under German Occupation. Britain stood alone and its survival would depend on its seamanship; merchant shipping to bring food, oil, aircraft and armaments, Royal Navy ships to escort them safely across the Atlantic. As there were not enough RN Ships to fight the war and act as escorts, Armed Merchant Cruisers were requisitioned.

These 10-20 thousand ton ships, affectionately known as 'Adequately Made Coffins', were armed with any available 6" guns, some from WW1, which were no match against a German battleship.

HMS Jervis Bay was a typical AMC assigned to escort Convoy HX84. When their convoy encountered the Admiral Scheer about 1400 Km s-southwest of Reykjavik, the Captain of the Jervis Bay, Edward Fegen, ordered the convoy to scatter into the dusk and set his own ship on a course towards the German battleship to draw its fire. Jervis Bay was hopelessly outgunned and outranged by the 11" guns of the German, but it attacked with all guns firing, hoping to delay any attack on the convoy and give it time to escape.

Although the German's shells ravaged the Jervis Bay, wounding the captain and killing many, Fegen and the surviving crew fought on until she eventually sank with the loss of 186 lives. The sacrifice of Jervis bay bought enough time for the convoy to scatter. Further time was bought by the freighter SS Beaverford, which engaged the Admiral Sheer for over 4 hours. Sixty-eight survivors of the Jervis Bay were picked up by the neutral Swedish ship Stureholm, although three later died of their injuries. In the end, the German Battle Cruiser was only able to sink five of the 37 ships. The San Demetrio, a gasoline tanker, was severely damaged and set on fire. Her crew took to the two life boats, 26 persons in one boat were rescued and returned to Newfoundland, but 16 sailors in the second boat, after drifting for two days, encountered their original ship, climbed aboard, put out the fire, jury rigged the steering and sailed her on to the Clyde with most of the aviation fuel still intact. The toll would doubtless have been higher were it not for Jervis Bay's valiant charge, in recognition of which Captain Fegen was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross. Any Shipping loss at this critical time of the war was a severe and regrettable matter, but the arrival of the 32 ships of Convoy HX84 with desperately needed supplies, would have been, at the time, applauded as a great success, thanks to the dedication and self-sacrifice of the men of the Royal Navy. Our Speaker delivered a blow by blow account of the conflict.

---

Our talk on the 27 June was by Ned Barham from Langley Burrell, the title – “Casablanca”. Ned began by expressing his belief that the most important influence, on life in the last century, was the ever evolving Projection of the Moving Image: from black and white silent comedy, through Talkies, colour films such as Westerns & Blockbusters, television, and more recently, digital receiving and recordings. Hollywood, on the western seaboard of America with its good light, reliable weather and attracting an international variety of Actors and Extras, became the ideal location for making films.

Warner Brothers had established their Studios there as early as 1918. In 1938 Murray Burnett and Joan Allison had together written a stage play – “Everybody comes to Rick’s”. It was inspired by a visit to Europe to help their relatives to smuggle money out of Nazi-occupied Austria. The play was not produced on stage but the copyright was sold to Warner Brothers for \$ 20,000 to become a film. Although “Casablanca” was an ‘A’ list film, with established stars and first-class script writers, no-one involved with the production, expected it to anything out of the ordinary. It was just another Hollywood film. However, it had its premiere on November 26 1942, two and a half weeks after the Allied invasion of North Africa “Operation Torch”. Many of its’ actors had had personal knowledge of the difficult situations portrayed in the film, and some had even experienced the Anschluss in Austria, Poland or Eastern Europe. Only Humphrey Bogart (Rick Blaine), Dooley Wilson (Play it Sam), and Joy Page (the young newly-wed), were American. Ingrid Bergman (Ilsa Lund) was Swedish. Paul Henreid (Victor Lazlo) was Austrian. Conrad Veidt (Major Heinrich Strasser) was a strongly anti-Nazi German. Peter Lorre (Ugarte) was an Austro-Hungarian American. S Z Sakall (Carl) was Hungarian. Madelaine Lebeau (Yvonne, everybody’s girl) was French. Leonid Kinskey (Sascha, Rick’s drinking friend) was Russian. Claude Rains (Captain Louis Renault) and Sydney Greenstreet (Signor Ferrari) were English and considered in Hollywood to be the British Raj.

At the time there were a number of films with a North – African theme; Morocco, Algiers, Beau Geste and then Casablanca. President Roosevelt was encouraging a policy of “Social Message” films, which may explain the moral stubbornness of Bogart’s character - Rick Blaine. “Casablanca” is remembered as a sort of milestone in film development. Perhaps its success is due to some of the memorable quotes which almost everyone can recall: - “Of all the gin joints, in all the towns in all the world, she walks into mine”. “The problems of three little people don’t amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world”. Captain Renault - “Major Strasser has been shot. Round up the usual suspects”. Our Speaker’s analysis and enthusiasm for his subject made for an entertaining morning.

**BOB STEVENS**

## 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 and Pear Tree Close*

---



## St Mary's Primary School

As we near the end of Term 6 all the children seem very settled and they are looking forward to working in their new classes in September as they move up the school. We also look forward to welcoming our new Reception children, many of whom have already visited the school in preparation for the transition to Primary Education.

Our Yr 6 pupils have returned from their Residential in Bude having spent a wonderful action packed week experiencing new challenges. The children participated in activities such as canoeing, rock climbing and abseiling, and learnt about team-work, communication, fear and achievement. They all learned new skills and discovered new talents and despite being somewhat weary, they all returned with a real sense of achievement. Thanks to all the staff who attended and to all the children who were a credit to St Mary's and themselves.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported Sports Day last month. The weather was very kind to us and the children enjoyed participating in all the different sporting challenges on offer. Special thanks to Mrs Lambe for organising the whole day and to Mrs John and her KS2 Dance group who performed for us in the opening ceremony of both sessions.

On a sporting theme, St Mary's is very proud to have achieved the Gold Mark Award from the Sainsbury's School Games Council. This is an OfSted recognised award. To achieve this award St Mary's has to ensure that there are opportunities for all pupils to take part in both competitive and non-competitive sport, provide 'learn to lead' opportunities, utilise sports coaches, have an active Sports Council, maintain links to local community sports and leisure providers, and encourage previously non-active pupils to engage in extracurricular sport throughout the 2016-2017 academic year.

---

St Mary's were treated to an awesome display of control, coordination and strength on the 27 June by five times World Champion Ben Savage in his free style mountain bike display. Ben has been training for over twenty years and is passionate about introducing children to mountain biking as a sport.

### **Staff News:**

We say farewell and thank you to Ms Helen Wilson, Miss Amy McDonald and Mrs Sarah Clark who are all going on new adventures next year. We will certainly miss them all and wish them the very best for the future.

We welcome Mr Sam Biddle, Miss Kirsty Bragg and Mrs Linda Roberts to the teaching team in September.

We wish all children a relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing them on Monday 4 September 2017 refreshed and ready for another academic year of learning.

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

For more information about our wonderful school and all the exciting learning opportunities that take place, visit our school website:

<http://www.st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk>

*MRS NAOMI CLARKE, Head Teacher*

## **Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers**

2nd Purton Rainbows have been preparing for their whole unit promise ceremony at the end of the summer term with several crafts and games. On a particularly hot day they made fruit kebabs which the girls all enjoyed while they chatted about their plans for next term. As part of a road safety challenge badge the Rainbows have been working on they had a PCSO visit and had great fun seeing if all 11 of them could fit into the back of the police van – they could!

1st Purton Brownies have continued with their nature theme. They went pond dipping (and got quite competitive about which group could catch the most newts!), they've grown cress and salad leaves, completed tree surveys, made collages out of natural materials, completed an animal footprints quiz, tested their sense of smell with things found in nature, made hedgehogs and snakes and raced snails (not real ones). For each five challenges they complete, they gain a caterpillar body part so their caterpillars are steadily growing.

2nd Purton Brownies invited the older Rainbows from the three local units to come and see what Brownies is like. They had a very noisy evening playing games and making Promise flowers so that the Rainbows know what the Brownie Promise is when the time comes. On a very hot Monday the unit had a quiz in the village. Each group had a pack of 24 cards with pictures



---

of things they had to find, eg a hanging basket, and take a photograph of it - some were very handy with a camera! They also held a Promise ceremony for Tallulah, Ella, Sarah, Izzy and Amelia, with Thea, Rachael and Scarlett doing their Hostess badge - a busy evening! One evening was spent at Lydiard Park, with four outdoor activities and games - again another hot, sunny evening.

For Fathers' Day, the Guides invited their Dads to play skittles at the Red House. They were stiff competition and very competitive but the Guides won! The Guides have also visited the farm at Crowdy's School. They groomed the ponies, fed the alpacas, cuddled the guinea pigs and also sat in the chinchilla cages. It really was a great evening. Rain stopped play on an evening when soap games were planned but indoor games were just as much fun.

Guides also joined with the Rangers to celebrate Kirstie's 18th birthday. Since she was 14, Kirstie has been a Young Leader at Guides. A great role model to the Guides, Kirstie has also completed her Adult Leadership Qualification which was a wonderful present to receive at the party, along with some gifts for her new University kitchen.

Eight Guides have also been to Strategy, a multi-activity challenge hike over a weekend consisting of 30 bases of varying difficulty and complexity set around the beautiful Cirencester Park. The Guides had their stamina, physical and mental prowess and guiding skills tested. This was the first time that Purton Guides had been to this event, but came a respectable 108th and 175th out of 268 teams taking part.

The Guides also joined with units from Cricklade, Melksham and Neston to enjoy a day of camping challenges at our very own County campsite Chilton Farm. 48 Guides learnt skills to prepare them for summer camp, including making a bedding roll, putting up a tent, making lunch and wooding.

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

Here's a report from Kirstie Ambrose, one of our Young Leaders, who organised an event for our Rainbow units:

On Saturday 8 July, Rainbow units from Purton and Lydiard Millicent joined together to celebrate 30 years of Rainbows. The girls did multiple activities which were based on the 4 elements of their promise, (Look, Learn, Laugh, Love) and an extra element Celebration. Activities included making a tea cup using biscuits and marshmallows, finding the lost balloon for Rainbow mascot Olivia's birthday party and making party accessories - the girls' favourite activity was the tea cups as it involved lots of icing and eating! Moreover, the girls enjoyed playing parachute games and singing songs. The girls and Leaders really enjoyed making new friends and celebrating 30 years of Rainbows.

---

# Index to Advertisers

*Please mention Purton Magazine when contacting advertisers*

---

Active Movement Therapy .....	57	Diamond Windows & Doors.....	71	Neil Farr Plumbing & Heating.....	7
ALT Valeting.....	11	DW Dunn Ltd, plumbing & heating.....	19	New Road Garage.....	65
Amherst Contractors.....	57	Ekins & Co Accountancy & Tax .....	58	Nigel B. Butler Ltd accountant.....	8
Andrew Hiscock		Flawless Floors UK.....	71	NWDS Pest Control.....	11
Butchers .....	15	Floral Thoughts.....	58	Paul Thrush Plumbing & Maintenance .....	23
Annie's Dressmaking.....	8	Flowers by Sue.....	16	PC Dr Dan Computing...	66
Aspen Fencing Services	24	George Veterinary Group.....	57	Pear Drops Pre-School..	65
Barkimber Pet Care .....	15	Gogglebox TV/video repair .....	7	Pear Tree at Purton ....back	
Bell Inn, Purton Stoke....	20	Gough Construction.....	61	Peter Newson Electrical Contractors .....	58
BJ Broad, clockmaker....	19	Green Mann		Pilates Lifestyle Coaching .....	12
Booth & Son Welding ....	16	Garden Services.....	7	Purton Baby & Toddler Group.....	8
Brush Strokes .....	12	GW White Carpentry .....	8	Purton Club.....	11
Butcher's Elec Services & Technology .....	2	Haines Fencing & Landscaping .....	66	Purton Dental Practice..	61
CaringHands (Wiltshire)	62	Hair by Val .....	8	Purton Farm Shop .....	15
Carpetch.....	58	Harwood & Partners accountants .....	7	Purton Paws dog walking.....	24
Casa Colina holiday villa	12	Hillier Funeral Service ...	12	Purton Vets.....	16
Catherine Clark		Hypnotherapy Studio .....	58	Purton Village Hall .....	16
Footcare .....	11	In Touch Design & Print.	65	Purton War Memorial & Village Centre Charity....	23
Chelworth Garage .....	23	Jon's Changes PVCu windows etc.....	19	Red House Club .....	61
Chimney Mechanics (Sweep etc) .....	61	KV Accountancy .....	23	Restrop Farm logs ....back	
Chris Pocock Decorating	16	Learning Curve		Rhian Cole pet sitting ....	24
Christine Bellenie care & housekeeping .....	23	Day Nursery.....	71	Royal George .....	15
Church Street Dentist ....	69	Line dance classes .....	24	S A Hiles plumbing.....	24
Classic Windows & Conservatories .....	57	Lockmasters Mobile .....	62	Southern Forestry Logs.	66
Clifford's Building Services.....	61	M.Lawrence Electrician .	11	Starr Pilates .....	20
Compton Welding .....	20	Madam Blunt .....	8	Sun Inn at Lydiard .....	69
Connect 2 .....	69	Maharajah Indian Restaurant .....	back	The Cedars.....back	
Cotswold Tree Surgeons	20	Manor Solutions computer repairs.....	8	Tootsie Care .....	12
Cricklade Sch. of Motoring.....	24	Mark Manning builder.....	7	Unit to rent.....	12
Cyclecare.....	19	Matthew Scott Landscape Services.....	11	Vision Visit optician.....	24
D&M Services washing machines.....	20	Meadowpark Nursery School & Pre-prep .....	2	Wall2Wall Decorating Ltd .....	12
Davey Law, solicitors ....	57	MJF CAD Solutions .....	11	Wessex Construction....	61
David Hodges, plumbing & heating.....	66	Mobility Store.....	62	Whitehill Business Services.....	16
Delicious Delights Catering.....	7			Windowology .....	7

---