

Purton. Magazine

May 2017



Boundary Stone and stile on the border of Purton and Lydiard near The Beeches, by Christine Gill.

Local artists have produced a number of paintings in a series entitled 'Views from Purton Walks'. See page 34 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
Playclose Playgroup	Sarah Grigg	07759 583566
Purton Under 5s'	Fionna Griffiths	771723
Community Playgroup		
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239

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

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

Vicar: Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith	email: vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk	
	Tel: 770077, 773031 (emergencies only)	
Curate: Revd Judith Wells	email: judith@judithwells.wanadoo.co.uk	
	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

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.

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Purton. Magazine

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INTouch
Design & Print

From the Editors

The longer, warmer days are definite enticements to get outdoors if we can. The Purton summer sports clubs are again gearing up for another season and we are pleased to include suitably encouraging contributions from Purton Tennis club on page 52, Purton Cricket club, now entering its 197th season (on page 42) and Purton Bowls club on page 55.

Newcomers to Purton may well be somewhat surprised to find that there are so many thriving clubs and societies operating in the village and maybe many of us take these local activities for granted. However that would be hugely unfair on a small band of volunteers who donate so much of their time and their other resources to keep them going.

Purton Parish Council often operates in tandem with individual clubs, helping to enable the provision of appropriate and up to date facilities and we learn on page 6 that the new Parish Council will become effective from Monday 8th May although four previous Councillors are stepping down. With due respect to the other three, there is one name that has been synonymous with Purton Parish Council for 22 years and more.

Tony Price is very well known to so many in Purton and lots of people use the word 'gentleman' as an initial description. His contributions to the village are many and numerous although his gentlemanly modesty means that he is the first to share any achievements with other Councillors. Yet it is fair to say that he has been the guiding light behind the War Memorial and Village Centre being maintained and well used as a major village facility over many years.

Those who have served on various Councils with Tony also regularly refer to his gentlemanly conduct during meetings, especially on those occasions when the atmosphere gets rather excited and sometimes even confrontational. His knowledge of the village, his memory of past events and especially about so many people in the village have made him the source of experienced and wise counsel for many years.

There can't be many Purtonians who would begrudge Tony more time with Sheila and, or course, more time to potter in his garden in these longer, warmer days.

Thank you Tony for such a substantial contribution to the quality of our village life over so many years. In the words of a previous Council Chair *"True dedication, genuine community service and a job well done."*

5 miles

fun run returns for the
carnival on Sunday 11
June – see page 22

20 May

sees the Family Fun day
take place at the Village
Centre – see page 6

22 years service

given by Tony Price as a
Parish Councillor – see
page 6

Purton Parish Council News



A New Council

Purton Parish Council has had an uncontested nomination of Councillors for May 2017 and the following Councillors will now represent Purton Parish Council effective from Monday 8th May 2017: Geoff Greenaway, Sue Matthews, Helen Hicks, Kevin Law, Vicky McKerrow, Neil Hooper, Scott Harflett, Ray Thomas and Elizabeth Wilson.

We would like to take this opportunity to publically thank the following Councillors for all their hard work and commitment during their service to the Parish Council and residents of Purton. Without their time and commitment many projects, initiatives and services would not have been achieved. Thank you to Mike Fawcett, Chris Mason, Tony Price and John Saunders.

Cemetery Land

As with most Parish and Town Councils, land acquisition for burial provision is difficult to find and we are therefore, asking the Community if they are aware of any pockets of land within Purton which the Council could consider suitable for future burial development land. Please contact the Clerk direct.

Cemetery Regulations

The Burial Committee review the cemetery regulations every six months. The main concerns at our cemetery are health and safety of all users including contractors, workers, visitors and day to day maintenance. A decision to not allow upright solar lights was made at our meeting in March 2017 as when placed in the grassed area around the headstone they stop the maintenance of the grounds with strimmers as they shatter on impact. Any solar light/ornament (provided not glass) which are kept on the base of the headstone will not be removed. Any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact our offices direct.

Community Speed Watch

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

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

If you are interested in knowing more and how you can be a part of this community initiative please either contact Paul Grigg on chezneymb@hotmail.com or Debbie Lawrence on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk or call the office on 01793 771066.

Family Fun Day

Saturday 20 May 2017 from 11am to 4pm – come along to the Village Centre and enjoy our fun day – craft stalls, local groups, fun fair, food and much more. See what Purton has to offer. If you are interested in an outside stall please contact the Clerk on 771066 or email for more information clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Purton Footpaths

Purton is very fortunate to have a team of dedicated volunteers who work with both Purton Parish and Wiltshire Councils to keep as many of the 161 footpaths as they possibly can open. Wiltshire Council has limited funds to maintain these pathways and Purton Parish Council works with the volunteers to provide as much “hands on” and financial support as feasible. If anyone in Purton is thinking of ways to remember a loved one or invest in the village, please consider the sponsoring of a Kissing Gate or Stile on one of our footpaths. Kissing Gates allow some of the footpath walks to be accessible to a wider group of walkers whilst giving a durable solution. If you would like to know more, please contact our offices for more information.

Brockhurst Meadow

The land owner of Brockhurst Meadow has agreed to allow members of the public to view the wild orchids from 17-26 June inclusive. The recommended route is to use footpath number 43 at Lower Pavenhill. Please give consideration to the landowner’s live stock and also stay to the perimeter of the field to ensure no damage to the wild orchids or associated planting. A big thank you to the landowner for this kind offer during this period.

May Meeting Dates

Monday 8 May	Council meeting
Monday 15 May	Planning meeting
Monday 22 May	Village Hall Charity meeting

Planning

Apologies as an error was made in last months publication. The application which has been approved is Restrop Road and not Restrop View as stated. 16/10218/FUL – 17 Restrop Road. Two Storey Side Extension. Approved with Conditions.

Permission Granted

16/12386/Ful – Hillview Stone Lane, Lydiard Millicent.

Creation of new vehicular access in association with new dwelling (revision to 16/09171/FUL)

Approved with Conditions

16/11701/FUL 9 Pavenhill Proposed two storey side extension, single storey front extension and detached garage to rear. Approved with Conditions.

16/09541/FUL 15 Upper Pavenhill Ground floor front extension. Horse riding arena. Approved with conditions

17/00820/TCA 83 High Street Fell 1 Fir Tree. No Objection.

Refused Applications

17/00252/FUL 9 Hoggs Lane First floor extension of annex with link between house and balcony over existing conservatory.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL APP - Mobile Reporting - Download Our My Wiltshire App

To make life even easier, Wiltshire Council have an app so you can report things like potholes, dog mess, graffiti, litter and street lighting on the go using your smartphone. The MyWiltshire app is available to download at both the App Store (for iPhones and iPads) and from Google Play™ (for Android phones) or from Windows store (for windows phones). You can attach information such as photos or videos and pinpoint the location of your report using the mapping software on your phone.

How to contact the Parish Council: Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk

Website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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

Facebook, Twitter and Website

Just one click away will see you interact with the Parish Council. Events, road closures, meet the staff, “did you knows”, photographs and much more. If you have an event in the Parish that you would like us to promote on any of the above media sites please contact the Clerk on clerk@purtonpc.eclipse.co.uk or call 771066.

Find us 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 and sign up today.

Health & Wellbeing Champion

Hello, Just a quick word to remind you all that I am around for general help and support on a wide variety of issues including transport, mobility and safety around the home and reducing the feeling of loneliness. Give me a call on 07557 922020 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

ELLEN BLACKER, Health & Wellbeing Champion

Purton & District Age Concern



Hazel Woodbridge our minibus co-ordinator has asked me to inform you that due to popular demand from May 2017 a minibus will be going to Cirencester on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in each month. Leaving Purton at 9am and returning to Purton at about 12.30pm. The dates for May are Friday 12th and Friday 26th. For more information or to book your place on the minibus please contact Hazel on 770862.

Due to moving house Lucy Lewis has stepped down as street warden for the top end of Pavenhill, Gleed Close and Bunce Court. Lucy has been a wonderful asset to Age Concern and to everyone on her patch during her time as a street warden; she will be missed by all. Lucy, thanks for all your hard work and support, all the committee wish you well in your new home. We would like to welcome Linda Arnold of Gleed Close who has agreed to take over from Lucy. Linda will be introducing herself to all on her patch over the coming weeks. We are very grateful to Linda for joining Age Concern and hope she enjoys being a street warden.

Khalique, Ashish, Wendy Johnson and the team at the Maharajah Restaurant have announced they will be holding another afternoon tea event on Bank Holiday Monday 1 May from 12-4pm. Also, the committee are in the process of organising an Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate the Queens Sapphire Jubilee. The tea party will be held on Sunday 11 June from 2pm-6pm at the Red House. Please read my future events section below for information about events and outing through to July 2017.

Some people used their £5 travel voucher on our April mystery tour. This was a very popular outing, almost 50 people attended and enjoyed a choice of roast dinners and several desserts. We will be having another pub lunch on a mystery tour in the autumn.

Future Events

Afternoon Tea - Khalique, Ashish, Wendy Johnson and the team at the Maharajah Restaurant will be holding an afternoon tea event on Bank Holiday Monday 1 May from 12-4pm. Proceeds from the afternoon will be divided between Purton Age Concern and a Special Needs Hostel in Udaipur, India. Please come along and enjoy all the homemade cakes, Indian sweet delicacies with endless cups of tea or coffee, it's a lovely social way to spend a Bank Holiday afternoon. If you need transport please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

May Mystery Tour – Wednesday 3 May with a 2pm start and tea included. The cost is £13.50 for pensioners and £15.00 for non-pensioners and those from outside our area.

Gloucester Docks Outing – This is on Wednesday 7 June with a 10am start. Food is not included on this trip. The cost is £9 for pensioners and £10.50 for non-pensioners and others from outside our area. This outing is being repeated

due to popular demand. Several people didn't realise they could go on a boat trip from the docks so wish to return this year to do this. Please book your place with your street warden before Monday 22 May.

Queens Sapphire Jubilee Celebration – We will be holding an afternoon tea party at the Red House on Sunday 11th June from 2-6pm at the Red House. All are welcome to attend including children. Our gazebos will be up in case of inclement weather but I'm sure the sun will be out all day! We will provide some chairs and tables, please bring your own fold up chairs, rugs and picnics. There will be a BBQ and cream teas on sale, also a cake stall and raffle. Music, face painting and games will also be provided and the Red House bar will be open all day serving drinks. If you need transport please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862. Last year when we celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday the event was a huge success, hopefully this year will be as good, if not better!

Annual Coffee Morning – This will be on Saturday 8th July from 10am-12pm at the home of Dick & Jackie Scott, Bentham House Farm, Bentham Lane. Admission will be £1 and includes tea/coffee/biscuit. There will be plants for sale, bric-a-brac, tombola, cake stall, and a raffle. We are very grateful to Dick and Jackie for hosting our coffee morning again this year. To book the minibus please contact Hazel Woodbridge on 770862.

Past Events

3 B's Evening – This was held on Friday 7th April and was completely sold out once again! As always it was a fun filled evening. Our grateful thanks go to John and Brenda Lilley for organising the bingo, we really do appreciate their support with this event. Grateful thanks also to Maria and all the helpers in the kitchen for the delicious food. The next 3B's evening will be on Friday 6th October. Tickets will be limited to 70 and sold on a first come first served basis due to demand!

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 01225 794652.

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.

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 New volunteers are always welcome.

The Friendship Club (which is run by Silver Threads, not Age Concern) will meet again on Friday 5th May at the Silver Threads Hall from 2-4pm and costs just 50p. The minibus is available, please phone Hazel Woodbridge on 770862 to book your place.

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

LOUISE TIDMAN

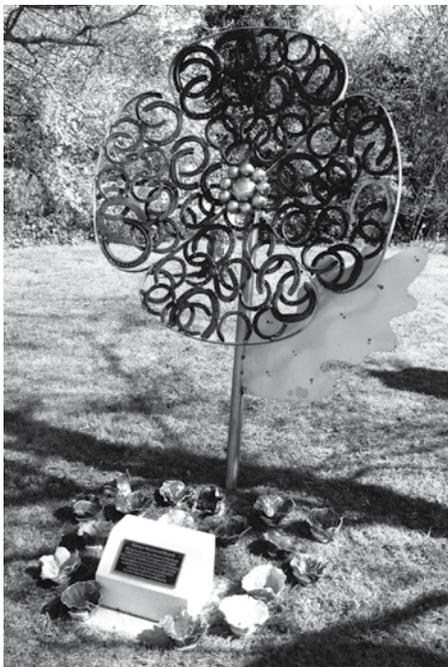
Purton Remount Depot memorial

In 1919 Ethel Richardson recorded in The story of Purton “It was an interesting though pitiful sight to see the horses being trained in happy and peaceful methods for the terrors awaiting them”

On 8 April those animals and civilian workers of the Depot are remembered rightly by the installation of the memorial commissioned by Purton and the Great War that overlooks the fields at Manor Farm that formed part of the Remount Depot that was in use from 1915-18.

A public thank you to everyone who made it happen. The Smith family from Lydiard, Purton Carnival for funding the project and Daren Greenhow for making the memorial. Shoe donations from John Saunders, Mark Sutton, Jon Cook, Anne Young, Les Barrett and the Smith family.

Thanks to everyone who made it down on the 8 April for the unveiling, much appreciated to see the support for what at times has been a trying project.



A special thanks goes to The Youngs at The Pear Tree for allowing the Memorial to be sited in this perfect location overlooking the fields where 100 years ago nearly 200 horses and mules were being broken or at grass.

PURTON REMEMBERS.

*BOB LLOYD,
Researching Purton (Wiltshire)
and The Great War*

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Your Summary Care Record (SCR) and Additional Information (SCRAI)



The NHS has a 4-year programme to link up the main computer systems across the country so that medication, allergies and adverse reactions to medication can be accessed by health professionals if needed. However, with patient agreement it will also be possible to include further helpful information; illnesses, health problems, operations, vaccinations, diagnoses and significant procedures. This is known as Additional Information (SCRAI). This Additional Information can obviously be of great benefit if a patient is needing treatment away from their home area.

Having been assured that this information would only be accessible to qualified health professionals when treating a patient, the PPG has agreed to support the surgery in informing patients about this initiative, hence its inclusion in this Newsletter. You will also see information on this on the screen in Purton Surgery. A form needs to be completed in order to opt into SCRAI. These forms can be collected from and returned to the surgery.

Change of name

G4P is part of a National group of Patient Participation groups (NAPP) and we have decided to rename G4P as Purton PPG (Purton Patient Participation Group).

Future Information Evenings

Are there any topics you would like covered for future Information Evenings? If we receive enough interest in a particular subject then your suggestion could be the next one.

Purton Village Fun Day Saturday 20 May

Do come and visit us at the Village Fun Day in Purton on Saturday 20 May which is being held at the Millennium Hall. We have decided not to hold the Cream Tea on Saturday 10 June.

Missed Appointments

Some appointments are being wasted because patients simply fail to attend. If for any reason you are unable to attend your booked appointment then please cancel it in good time so that another patient can take your place.

Repeat Prescriptions

As a result of increased prescription workload Lloyds Pharmacy now requires five working days from when you drop off your request at the surgery to dispense repeat prescriptions.

Receiving the G4P Newsletter

Purton PPG Newsletters are always sent to our local magazines, however if you would like to receive them earlier then you can do so by email. Simply email on groupforpatients@gmail.com to let us know.

SHEILA FOWLER, Secretary, Purton PPG

News from the Trustees

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

Congratulations to the new regime at the Red House Club for the work they are doing in trying to make it successful. It is so nice to see the older members and new members working so well together. Let's not forget the new steward Neil – we have so much to thank him for – so let's support them so they can see that their hard work is not in vain. The one comment that everyone has been making is what a lovely friendly atmosphere there is now, so let's give them our best wishes for the future. Go and see them all as much as possible!

The football season is over so we look forward to seeing them again next season. The bowlers will all be looking forward to the season ahead. What a lovely way to spend an afternoon bowling in such pleasant surroundings and this is all made possible by the team of green keepers who do it all voluntarily. Thank you. Any new members to the club would be most welcome – they are a nice friendly lot.

The tennis club has been going all the winter now they have their floodlights, playing in various leagues. I believe they have a little break before starting their summer league programme. What is so nice is the encouragement they give to the younger members. We wish them well for the new season.

This is my last report for the Trustees. Could I thank all the clubs for the way we have been able to talk openly with each other and see each other's point of view. It was always a pleasure to meet up with you. Thank you.

Are there others who appreciate the War Memorial and Village Centre like I do and remember how our parents worked so hard fundraising and giving individual donations to make it all possible. What vision they had to provide us with a live memorial. So it's up to us to keep it the way it was intended and remember all the work various people have put in over the years and still do. It was a great decision made by the village for the village. Also let's not forget the man who did the negotiations for us – Mr. John Scott.

The Village Hall

We are very concerned that hirers continually alter the radiator settings individually and it throws the system completely. If you want the temperature higher or lower there is a thermostat on the wall about halfway down on Waitemeads House side of the hall. It is not the best heating system in the world but it doesn't improve with people tampering with it. The Trustees are looking at a complete new system and want to get the best, but something like cost comes into it, so please be patient.

It is the same with the speaker system – this has been tampered with to the extent that we have had to get the installer in to put it right – and this costs money. He has set it now so all you need to do is switch it on and off. Also with your booking form you get a copy of instructions so please, please adhere to these. So let's all keep warm and hear properly!

Cllr. TONY PRICE, Chair of Trustees

Purton Carnival



By the time you read this we would have had the Children's Easter egg hunt. Special thanks to Play Close Pre-school, Purton Under 5s' and 2nd Purton Brownies for decorating the eggs for us.

There are no Carnival events in May, but it might be a good time to start planning your carnival float or walking group for this year's Carnival procession on Saturday 1st July

Looking forward to next Month when carnival events kick off:

- **Saturday 3 June:** Pig Roast with Live music at Playclose play park from 4pm
- **Sunday 11 June:** Carnival Fun Run, Purton Farm Shop
- **Sunday 25 June:** Carnival Golf
- **Tuesday 27 June:** Teddy Bears Picnic, Purton Club Function Room 1.30pm
- **Tuesday 27 June:** Carnival Quiz, Purton Club Function Room 7.30pm
- **Thursday 28 June:** Carnival Bingo, Silver Threads Hall 7.30pm
- **Saturday 1 July:** Carnival Procession and Fete from 12noon

PLEASE NOTE, the following roads will be CLOSED:

Pavenhill, High Street, Top of Station Road, Church Street and Church End from 12noon-2pm. If you are interested in being part of the 2018 carnival committee please get in touch kevin@purtoncarnival.co.uk

KEVIN LAW, Purton Carnival Chairman

Purton Carnival Fun Run 2017

Diaries at the ready runners of Purton and beyond, dust off your trainers as the Carnival Fun Run is back for 2017 and will take place on Sunday 11 June at 1pm. Race HQ will be at Purton Farm Shop, with thanks to Rowie and Kate. This year the race will be organised with the help of Royal Wootton Bassett Hounds Running Club.

The traditional route of Station Road, Witts Lane, Hoggs Lane and the High Street has been adapted slightly to make it a bit more challenging, and to add a cross-country element, which will cover more of our lovely village.

The route will still be 'undulating' (race organisers' speak for hilly and hard work!), with mixed surfaces and will be approximately five miles in length. There will be one hundred race places available for men and women over 16 years, costing £8, with medals for all finishers.

Please keep an eye on local social media posts for online entries, paper entry forms will be available from May at In Touch Design & Print, 2 College Road, Purton.

If there are any local businesses that would like to sponsor the event, from trophies for 1st Male and 1st Female to toilets, or any other costs associated with the event, please get in touch. We will also be looking for volunteers

to help marshal the course and man the water stops, both handing out refreshment to thirsty runners and collecting the empty cups.

All enquiries regarding sponsorship, volunteering or taking part should be sent to heather@intouchpurton.co.uk or call 772954.

HEATHER PONTING-BATHER

Mad March Hare Leaps Past £100k in its 10th Year

Mad March Hare organisers are jumping for joy! 461 runners, walkers and joggers, buggies and pooches turned out on a very sunny Sunday morning in March to take part in the celebratory 10th anniversary event, taking the total money raised to date to over £100,000!

Louise Doughty, who signed up for the event as a milestone to aim for in her 50th year says “It was a bit scary to begin with but when we started running it was fine. I loved the encouragement along the course and the spurring on you get from seasoned runners as they run past you. I would definitely do it again and I think it was the ideal first official race. I am inspired to do more events and have booked in to do another 3”.

9 year-old Tom, who took part for the third time tells this story: “I’ve done the Mad March Hare for three years running now. I do it to help others less fortunate. It’s good to be a part of the fund-raising event. Although it’s fun to get a medal and a goodie bag at the end, it’s the fund-raising for breast cancer that is the most important thing to remember.”

The 2017 event also welcomed its first 3 virtual participants! Claire Bonser, who had completed the 5k course at the 5th Mad March Hare says that she has had to miss out in the intervening years to travel over an hour to visit her Mum for Mothers Day. Then, in 2017, she had a light bulb moment and approached the organising team about taking part virtually: “well, I could run my chosen distance on the same day, at a time convenient to me, submit evidence and gain the medal”. The team agreed! “I completed 10k, submitted my results and 5 years after my journey began, I had completed another Mad March Hare, supporting my local event and the Virtual Mad March Hare was born!” Claire was joined by 2 fellow Shin Splints running group members, Wendy Brown and Karol Richardson, both of whom were keen to take part but had other commitments on the day.

The event couldn’t have happened, of course, without the 50+ volunteers who took on a variety of tasks from marshalling the course to manning the bag drop. First time volunteers, Christine and Paul, enjoyed their morning: “...it was a great event, and we had a most enjoyable morning cheering on friends, and felt very well “looked after” with drinks, snacks & goody bags.” Jill and Gordon who travel every year from Salisbury say “We must also mention how well you did with the goody bags. A real treat with the PG tips tea goodies and lovely T-shirt and those super Costa chocolate brownies. We should be doing a 10K or two to get rid of the extra pounds.”

Christian Aid

Purton has a fantastic reputation for the generosity of the village at all times and especially during Christian Aid Week... and we are so grateful to all who participate in one way or another.

We hope this year will be as successful as ever, with everyone digging deep to fill the little red envelopes which are delivered, by volunteers, to as many homes as possible during the week.

This year we need to help the refugees, especially from Syria and other war torn countries. These people have lost their homes, their families and even their countries. They cannot go back... they cannot go on.

We need to help them to find a new life while their future is being discussed and debated, while they sit in the camps in countries that find it hard to cope with them.

If you would like to be more involved with the fundraising week please contact Libbie or Mary... we have so many tasks that need your support.

Please note the dates of various events:

Sat 13 May: Top Shops: From 8.30am: Cakes, Plants, Bric-a-Brac including plenty of Sunshine for sale.

Sun 14 May: St Mary's Church: 9-10am Christian Aid Breakfast. Why not come and give it a go. It's always great fun! Approx donations from £5 depending on how much you want to eat! Followed by the Christian Aid Service at 10am. Everyone is welcome. Come and find out more about the work of Christian Aid.

Sat 20 May: St Mary's School: 7pm. Fitsteps Fundraising Fun evening: £10 tickets include Fitsteps, Food and mocktails! No experience needed. There will also be a raffle and jewellery for sale.

Tues June 13: Maharajah: Curry Night: 6.30pm and 8pm sittings. £15.

Also **The Quiz** is out! Copies available from Andrew Hiscock, the Butcher and Purton Vets. Hours of frustration and fun for £1.50

Please help us fill those little red envelopes. We find it so difficult to go around all the houses, knocking on doors, but, you know, Christian Aid values every penny you donate.

And the people who receive help from the charity are amazed when they are told that Purton village people in England rattle fundraising tins, sell plants, hand over envelopes and bake cakes so that the lives of refugees they will probably never meet are improved and made a little less uncomfortable. It re-assures them that we really do care. So thank you for reading this and we hope you will enjoy participating in the events of the week in one way or another.

*For more details please contact: LIBBIE: 771018 or 07811 104910
or MARY: 770505*

Purton Historical Society



Thursday 25 May – 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall: Avebury through the Ages – John Farrow

Avebury is regarded as one of the best World Heritage sites to visit in this country. For the last ten years, John has been a volunteer taking tours around the Henge and he is also a volunteer in the Manor House. He will give a history of the site including reference to the stones, the village and the Manor House. He will also explain what a henge is and why Stone Henge is not a henge.

Saturday 10 June - Annual Coach Outing to Croome Court

Further details available from Helen Dixon on 07976 546825 - email: helendixonmail@gmail.com or Society meetings.

Wednesday 5 July – Evening town walk around Royal Wootton Bassett

This walk, led by Owen Collier, follows on from Roger Smith's presentation at the April meeting entitled 'Historic Wootton Bassett'. Full details of times and transport arrangements will be published in future Purton magazines.

Purton Museum

On 1 April 2017, a successful event to mark the re-opening of the museum following the cold winter months was held. A total of 42 people attended to look at the various displays and light refreshments were served. The museum will be open until the beginning of November as follows:

Wednesday afternoon – 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Saturday morning – 10.00am to 12.30pm

The museum holds a wealth of information about the village and many interesting displays. In addition books and leaflets about Purton and surrounding area, published by the Purton Historical Society, are available for purchase – e.g. *Purton's Past*, *Purton Records and Recollections*, *The Workhouses of Purton and the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Union*, *From Marsh Farm to the Moon* (re-Nevil Maskelyne). New Members and visitors always welcome

TONY & JANET NEATE, e-mail: tjneate57@gmail.com, tel: 01793 770117

The AGM of the Society took place on 23rd March in the Village Hall. The Chairperson Marion Hobbs, the Treasurer Jim Mosely and the museum curator Beth Farnham all reported another hard working but successful year. The rest of the committee and members were thanked for their hard work and commitment to the society and all members agreed to stand for another year.

There followed refreshments and discussion of events and publications produced by the society this year. Marion Hobbs then gave an illustrated talk on her early life in Ireland and visits to historical sites in England. The advertised talk on our war memorial by Ernie Paish will take place at a later date, instead Dr. John Belt gave a talk on Ernie himself, now a nonagenarian, and his colourful life in Purton. A thoroughly enjoyable evening which closed approx 9.30pm.

Reopening of Purton Museum-1 April

More than 40 members and public attended the Spring reopening of Purton Museum (above the library and free to visitors - Saturdays and Wednesdays 10am-12.30).

A successful event also to celebrate the return of the Golden Chapter - a beautiful volume celebrating all those who died from Purton in WW1, refurbished and repaired for the society by the Chippenham history centre. Worth a visit by the villagers. A digitised version will be placed in the church later in the year. Refreshments were served and much conversation on the high quality of the museum.

A new addition to commemorate Purtons History was unveiled on Saturday 8 April. A memorial to the site of a remount depot - a place for retraining horses and mules used in WW1 on the battlefields. The meadow opposite the Pear Tree Hotel in Purton was used together with buildings (since removed) and the memorial stands in the grounds of the hotel, a striking modern edifice constructed of metal and horse and mules shoes. Organised by Bob Lloyd, a local historian, it has taken much hard work and was locally financed. The owners of the hotel welcome visitors who wish to view the memorial and plaque. Worth a visit just off the footpath of the Lydiard/Purton road in front of the Pear Tree Hotel

Jill Watts, teddington1940@gmail.com

Purton Historical Society Outing - Croome Court, Saturday 10 June

Our Summer outing this year takes us to Croome Court a graceful neo – Palladian mid 18th century mansion once home to the Earls of Coventry. There was a Jacobean building on the site, but it was the 6th Earl of Coventry, known as a bit of a trend setter, who gave 'Capability' Brown his first commission to not only redesign the whole landscape but to remodel Croome Court in 1751.

Croome was sold in 1948 and saw the fine collections of art and furniture dispersed far and wide. Since then Croome has been home to a school, a Hare Krishna centre and RAF Deffer airbase. The house is now run by the National Trust and they are in the process of returning some of the collections with an innovative, imaginative and creative artistic approach with a 21st century twist!

The church, wonderful parkland and a lake, along with the RAF museum and visitor centre, NT shop and various eateries including a 1940s style canteen means there is something for everyone.

We will travel by coach leaving Purton at 8.45am and returning by 6.30pm approx.

Cost £16 for NT members and £25 for non-NT members to include refreshments and introductory talk on arrival. You do not have to be a member of PHS to join us. A booking form can be downloaded from www.purtonmuseumandhistoricalsociety.com or they will be available at society meetings or ring Helen on 01793 759123 or email: helendixonmail@gmail.com

Stop Press - News on Post Office in Purton

Post Office Ltd have written to me to say that the Post Office branch for Purton has not been appointed to the Co-op therefore can be opened out to whoever wishes to apply for the service. It will be advertised nationally on the 'buy a post office' website - <https://runapostoffice.co.uk/>. More information may be forthcoming as to the time scale and whether the old shop may still be able to apply for the service should renovations re-start up. Meanwhile another outlet in the village has expressed interest.

Jacqui Lay, Wiltshire Councillor Purton & Braydon
tel: 01793 770704 or 07449 978789 email: jacqui.lay@wiltshire.gov.uk

We Record ...

Wedding at St Mary's Church:

18 March Nicholas Stuart Craft and Hannah Maureen Stiles

Thanksgiving for Marriage at St Mary's Church:

2 April Paul and Lucy Carson

Funeral at St Mary's Church:

24 March Paul Ovens (50)

Funeral at Kingsdown Crematorium:

5 April Mary Enid Irene Pearce (95)

Baptisms at St Mary's Church:

26 March Humphrey Philip Roberts

2 April Ashton Louie Carson

8 April Hailie Elizabeth Hunter

9 April Wesley Joe Michael Loveridge



Cricklade Country Market

New Venue and time for Cricklade Country Market. Our next market: Friday 26 May, 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!

Future MARKET DATE: 30 June 30. Look for us too on the field at The Town Festival 18 June. Please call Nikki on 01793 751845 or Moira on 01793 771656 to place an order or for further information about the market.

Purton Evening W.I.



Our March meeting was our AGM, which for some is not always the most appealing event of the year, but nonetheless absolutely essential. It is the opportunity to look back at the last 12 months and recall the triumphs and tribulations of our WI and then look forward to the next year.

We had an excellent turn out and we heard about many of the activities our members get up to aside from our main monthly meeting. Our Entertainers have been out and about displaying their theatrical and musical talents. Our whist and Scrabble groups play on a competitive basis with other WIs as well as having friendlies and the Rummikub folk play on a friendly basis, but you never know we might find a few local WIs who might like to form a league? Our skittles team also had a successful season. Individual members had attended various events across the county and some of us had made our way to Denman, the WI College near Abingdon to improve and learn new cooking skills, and one member will now have her sweet peas growing up an obelisk after attending a willow workshop. There are many day and residential courses on offer from Jane Austen to Jewellery, T'ai Chi to Thai cookery, there really is something for everyone.

Our finances had been looking a little thin but our Food Festival in November and our very successful Pudding Club in February meant that the accounts were looking a lot healthier. The hard work of our treasurer, as well as our other officers and committee members ensure that all runs smoothly so thanks were expressed to them. Some committee members were standing down but fortunately we were delighted to welcome some new blood to the team. Barbara Compton has been elected as our president for another year and we wish Barbara and her team as well as the whole of Purton Evening WI a busy and successful 2017/2018.

After the business part of the evening members read humorous poetry and reflected on their favourite decade and aspects of their working lives – how times have changed!

Our next meeting is on May 17 at Purton Village Hall at 7.30pm when we are going to have a games evening. At one of our recent meetings we decided to play a few games as part of our social time, which usually takes place after we have had our speaker or main activity, and much to the surprise of many of us we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves with a Beetle Drive provoking much laughter and hilarity. Time passed all too swiftly so we decided that we needed a whole evening to participate in silly games!

Please join us. Visitors are always welcome. For more information please visit our website: www.purtonevewi.wordpress.com

Barb tel. 770818

Purton Horticultural Show

With the onset of Spring and the glorious weather we are having at the moment, all be it somewhat a little dry for us green fingered types, now is the time for all you budding photographers to get out your tripods, cameras and iphones or even your box brownies and get snapping. This year's categories for the Show are:

Picture of Purton, Morning Glory, Humour, Plants & Flowers, and Animals.

Not wanting to leave the Children out, this year they have their very own photography class: Any animal or insect. However, they are most welcome to enter the adult section should one of the subjects take their fancy!

For those of you that spend the winter months being creative with different sorts of needles, why not have a go at a knitted toy or garment, a piece of embroidery, cross stitch or tapestry, or even a piece of artwork. Perhaps you've never entered your masterpieces in a competition, so why not take the plunge this year?

And just in case you're not aware – Show day is 19 August.

As ever please contact me for a schedule or further information.

LORNA ROBINSON-WARDLE, SECRETARY
tel: 01793 778013 or 3rwardles@gmail.com

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Purton Village Diary - May 2017

1	M		May Day Bank Holiday
		12 noon	until 4.00pm Purton Age Concern Afternoon Tea at the Maharajah Restaurant
3	W	2.00pm	Purton Age Concern Mystery Tour
4	Th	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church
6	Sa	1.00pm	Refreshments at 31 Ringsbury Close
<hr/>			
7	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Family Service at St Mary's Church
		6.00pm	Evensong at St Mary's Church
9	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus Club at Red House Lounge
		11.00am	Songs of Praise at Ashgrove House
		2.00pm	Songs from the Shows at Silver Threads Hall
10	W		Purton Methodist Women's Fellowship lunch
			Copy deadline for June Purton Magazine
11	Th	10.30am	Songs of Praise at The Cedars
12	F	9.00am	Purton Age Concern Minibus to Cirencester for all areas of the village
13	Sa	7.30pm	St Mary's Church present Chedworth Silver Band with Purton Peartree Peelers handbell ringers
		8.00pm	Connections 60s & 70s music featuring Steve Degutis at Red House Club
<hr/>			
14	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United Service for Christian Aid at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's Primary School
15	M	6.30pm	Bradon Forest Theatre presents 'The Tempest'
16	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus Club at Red House Lounge
17	W	2.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House
		7.30pm	Singing ensemble 'Encore' at Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church
		7.30pm	Purton Evening Women's Institute at Purton Village Hall
18	Th		The Cast of Stage Struck present 'All Sorts & Dolly Mixture' at Swindon Arts Centre
19	F	10am	Royal Wootton Bassett and District Art Society exhibition at Hook Village Hall
20	Sa	11.00am	Purton Village Fun Day at Millennium Hall
<hr/>			
21	Su	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Youth-led family communion at St Mary's Church
		4.00pm	Messy Church at Ridgeway Farm Primary School
23	Tu	2.00pm	Co-op Choir at Silver Threads Hall

23 Tu	2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge
	7.30pm	Purton and District Gardeners' Guild at Silver Threads Hall
	8.00pm	After 8 'Adverts and their influence' led by Eve at Barbara Compton's
25 Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society 'Avebury through the ages' at Purton Village Hall
26 F	9.00am	Purton Age Concern Minibus to Cirencester for all areas of the village
	2.00pm	Cricklade Country Market at Jenner Hall
27 Sa	10.00am	Coffee Morning at Silver Threads Hall
	8.00pm	FA Cup final followed by barabecue and race night at Red House Club, proceeds to Red House Maintenance Fund

28 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 M		Late May Bank Holiday

June

7 W	10.00am	Purton Age Concern outing to Gloucester Docks
10 Sa	8.45am	Purton Historical Society outing to Croome Court
11 Su	1.00pm	Purton Carnival Fun Run, Race HQ Purton Farm Shop
17 Sa	7.00pm	Sing 4/4 Community Choir Summer Concert at St Sampson's Church

Every week

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

Moon Phases

● 3 May ○ 10 May ● 19 May ● 25 May

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

Views from Purton footpaths

It started off as a project to illustrate and update leaflets showing walks in and around the Parish of Purton being promoted by the Parish Council Footpaths Committee.

We responded by donating small pen and wash pictures which turned out sufficiently well for us to consider wider uses for them. So the idea of notelets was born and to sell these with all profits going to St Mary's Church.

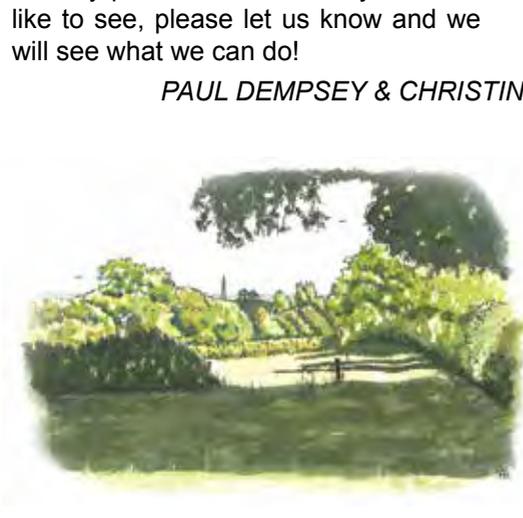
The result is packs of notelets containing a variety of images, from pictures of St Mary's Church and the Library to views across stiles and

meadows – as seen on the front cover of this magazine. There are six cards of two different designs with envelopes in each pack at a cost of just £6 per pack. At the moment there are a total of six different packs – but this is an on-going project and more will be added in the future.

Packs can be obtained at Val's hairdressers, Flawless Floors and The Pear Tree.

We hope that you enjoy these. If there are any particular views that you would like to see, please let us know and we will see what we can do!

PAUL DEMPSEY & CHRISTINE GILL



Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



We welcomed Dr Keith Ferguson, a trained botanist, to our March meeting to entertain us with his talk entitled 'Flowers flamboyant to demure'. His talk, beautifully illustrated with digital images, followed the seasons, and the theme with colourful flowers contrasting with less showy and often less well known but charming counterparts soon developed. Many different spring bulbs, poppies, peonies and other herbaceous perennials through to autumn asters and nerines were featured.

Keith gave particular mention to:

- Galanthus, the demure but ever popular snowdrop, a harbinger of spring. Snowdrops have proved to be huge money spinners with a single bulb costing as much as £10 in some cases. Galanthus plicatus 'Cordelia' with its small, neat, double flowers is a variety of special note.
- Mandragora officinarum (aka Mandrake). It has more folklore attached to it than any other plant. It grows from a thick forked root which is known for resembling a human figure and was once thought to emit a scream when pulled from the ground. Not one for the faint hearted be it flamboyant or demure!
- Dactylorhiza foliosa, the flamboyant Madeiran Orchid that can grow to 30" tall in summer with magenta to purple 6"-15" spikes of large flowers.
- Tulips, in particular 'Spengeri', an elegant and beautiful wild tulip from Western Turkey. With its long shiny green leaves and shapely brownish crimson flowers much loved by flower arrangers it is the last of the tulips to flower.
- Gentiana 'asclepiadea' If we were to leave the meeting with just one plant on our mind Keith believes it should be this one. Tall, upright stems of narrow leaves burst out in late summer with vivid bluebell-like flowers 2" or so across.

Leon Slee proposed the vote of thanks for an entertaining evening, both visually and informatively.

Spring had certainly sprung judging by the wonderful display of entries for our '5 daffodils' competition.

Congratulations to the worthy winners 1st Jo Le Blonde, 2nd Marlene Slee and 3rd Mary Read.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 23 May at 7.30pm in Silver Threads Hall when Jolene Morse of Whitehall Garden Centre will be joining us to present a talk entitled 'Container plants and planting'. The competition will be '3 Tulips'.

We are always happy to welcome new members and visitors. Visitors £3 per meeting.

MARGARET GOODALL, Secretary, 770906

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.



PAUL OVENS

The family of Paul Ovens would like to thank everyone who attended Paul's funeral, sent beautiful cards and lovely messages, and all the generous donations or the Prospect Hospice. A big thank you also goes to Revd Judith Wells for a lovely service.

Helen, Reg & Ann



CEMETERY RULES

On visiting the Cemetery as normal, yet another notice - this time attached to the gate.

The anger I feel is unbelievable, recently on my way home from my Son's, I called in to say hello to my loved ones with my little dog on her lead. It was dusk, the birds were singing and the little lights all around were flickering, it was just magical. Whatever harm are they doing to anyone? (except the burial grave committee).

Even royalty can have flickering lights to help people grieve, why can't we? Surely the cemetery is for everyone in the village? Some plaques and pots were also removed, but NOT everyones, why is that?

There are no little lights on the graves I visit, but soon there will be no silk flowers allowed, who is the instigator of all this? I'm beginning to wish my family

had been buried elsewhere.

The cemetery has always been kept to a high standard, even with pots, plaques and lights. Were they removed because someone didn't like it? Perhaps they don't have loved-ones buried there, but everyone grieves in different ways, and I would dearly over to see the decision to remove the solar lights over-turned. You have hurt so many people in doing this.

Barbara Mills



CEMETERY RULES REPONSE

The Parish Council has a duty of care to ensure the safety of all those that visit the cemetery, which includes those attending the graves, the contractors working and grounds staff. As part of this remit they must ensure that items placed on and around the grave do not impede on maintenance and safety. Standalone upright solar lights which are not included in the base of the headstone cause issue with the strimming of the grass around the base and if hit they shatter causing a real safety concern to those working and tending graves due to loose and shattered materials. If we leave these lights in situ we will be unable to maintain the cemetery to the high standards it currently is, as we would not be able to trim around the headstones.

Any solar light/solar ornament that is

included within the base and not on the grassed area will not be removed provided it is not made of glass (no glass is permitted within the Cemetery).

The Parish Council carries out 6 monthly reviews of their Cemetery Regulations, which are viewable online, or through request at the office, taking into consideration all users of the cemetery. No decision is taken lightly and at all times safety of users is paramount.

With regards to floral tributes, the Parish Council has no objection to silk flowers being placed. Purton Parish Council guidelines, regulations and working practices fall in line with all registered bodies and we are far more understanding of items placed on graves than those of our neighbouring counterparts and suggested regulations by monitoring bodies.

It is not our intention to upset or offend any user of the cemetery with our changes, but changes have to be made to ensure we abide with legislation and more importantly safe guard the users of the area.

Assuring you of our best intentions and safety of all those using our services.

Parish Clark, Purton Parish Council



CRICKLADE CALLING

Well, moving day arrived and the removal men rolled up on time and by the afternoon all our worldly goods and chattels had found their way to our new home at 19, North Wall, Cricklade. As we write this we still have a few boxes to unpack, but it hasn't been all work and no play as we have managed the five-minute walk to The Red Lion!

We had lived in Purton for almost twenty years (the longest either of us has lived

anywhere) which suggests that Purton is a good place to live. We would like to thank our many friends in Purton for the all the cards and good wishes we have received. We are not too far away so we will be frequent visitors to Purton and hope that you will visit us in Cricklade.

Before our move, we held a garage sale and we are delighted to say that we were able to make a donation of £70 to Prospect Hospice. Thanks to all our customers.

Congratulations to Heather at the new In Touch Design & Print. It is good to know I have left my former clients in safe hands.

Helen & Rick Dixon



SILVER THREADS THANKS

Luncheon Club committee and members would like to thank Silver Threads for their generosity in holding a coffee morning in aid of Luncheon Club funds. On April 1st the Silver Threads committee gave a splendid coffee morning with profits going to Luncheon Club. It was warm, sunny and busy, with people coming for a chat with friends, good coffee and the opportunity to buy a selection of delicious home made cakes, bric-a-brac, books and cards from various stalls. Everyone who came enjoyed the morning and the Silver Threads committee worked hard in the kitchen and on the stalls. Thanks to generous support and donations the sum of £360 was raised, a very welcome contribution to our funds. It is so heart-warming to see members of all the clubs supporting the elderly in Purton - Age UK, Silver Threads and Luncheon Club - united in a common purpose.

*DIANA THOMBS,
Chairman of Luncheon Club*

Purton Placard

PURTON AND DISTRICT AGE CONCERN MINI BUS

Outing for those unable to get on the Coach

We are planning few afternoon 'Mystery Trips' over the summer for those who are not able to manage getting on and off the usual Coach Trips. Places will be limited. The trips will be within a 30 mile radius of Purton and we will find a nice tearoom for refreshments (NOT included in the cost). Cost £6 per person. For details and to book contact Hazel Woodbridge Tel: 770862.

GEOFF WALTERS & SINGING ENSEMBLE 'ENCORE' PRESENT

An evening of musical entertainment

17 May at 7.30pm
at Royal Wootton Bassett Methodist Church.
Tickets £6, available from 01666 860794 or 07890929514.
Proceeds in aid of Braydon Methodist Church refurbishment fund.

PURTON SILVER THREADS

Coffee Morning

27 May, 10am
at Silver Threads Hall

YOUNITE OUTREACH PROJECT AND ALICE TAYLOR INVITE YOU

Refreshments at 31 Ringsbury Close, Purton

1-4pm, Saturday 6 May
Cream teas, home-made soup, table-top sale and tombola.
Dogs welcome.

Alice is fundraising for a trip to Kenya to volunteer in schools.

MAKE A DATE FOR THE SING 4/4 COMMUNITY CHOIR

Summer concert

St. Sampson's Church, Cricklade,
Saturday, June 17th at 7.00pm.
Tickets at £7.50 each, including light refreshments, will be available from Choir members,
The Barista, 49A High Street, Cricklade, or from Mary New, on 01793 770630

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Afternoon Tea

Hosted by the Maharajah Restaurant
Monday 1 May, 12-4pm
Come along and enjoy a lovely social afternoon.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
CIRENCESTER AND DISTRICT
invite friends, neighbours and
visitors of all ages to a

Vintage Tea Party

On 25 June from 2-4pm,
in the Abbey Grounds,
Cirencester.

ST MARY'S CHURCH PURTON
PRESENT

Chedworth Silver Band with Purton Peartree Peelers Hand Bell Ringers

13 May, 7.30 pm tickets £7.00
free glass of wine

Proceeds to the roof appeal
Tickets from Church or call Alan
771572 or Brian 771667

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT
& DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

Annual Art Exhibition

Hook Village Hall SN4 8EA
19 May (Preview evening by
invitation only) to 21 May
Exhibition open to the public on
Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 4pm
Admission free,
refreshments available.

THE CAST OF
STAGE STRUCK PRESENT

Allsorts & Dolly Mixture

Featuring a pick-n-mix selection
of music, dance and comedy,
It's at the Arts Centre Theatre
from Thursday 18 to Saturday
20 May. Tickets are priced at £11
[£9 concessions]. Available by
calling on 07596 151051 or email
thecastofstagestruck@gmail.com

Purton Carnival Pig Roast

3 June, 4pm
Play Close play park

Purton Carnival Fun Run

11 June 1pm, Race HQ
Purton Farm Shop

PURTON
CARNIVAL

PURTON AGE CONCERN

Mystery Tour

Wednesday 3rd May
Coach leaves at 2pm
Cost £13.50 (includes tea)
Book your place with your
street warden

Outing to Gloucester Docks

Wednesday 7 June
Coach leaves at 10am, cost £8
(food not included)
Book your place with your street
warden before Monday 22nd May

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

Email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

The Great War Project

Part 46: May 1917

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

To France:

Walter Hunt, 2nd Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry.

John Jefferies, 1st Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers

Western Front

On 2 May, the 3rd Battle of the Scarpe river and the Battle of Bullecourt began with British attacks. These were both parts of the Battle of Arras. Whereas the Scarpe was soon over, Bullecourt lasted until 17 May. Together with the Canadians at Vimy to the northern end of the front, Empire forces made significant advances but couldn't achieve a breakthrough.

Further south, French forces recaptured Craonne on the strategic Chemin-des-Dames ridge on 4 May, but by the 9th the Nivelle Offensive was abandoned. General Nivelle was replaced as Commander-in-Chief of the French Army by General Philippe Pétain on 15 May. Pétain's role as Chief of the General Staff of the French Ministry of War passed to General Foch.

The mutinies in the French army continued and, on the 27th, more than 30,000 French troops refused to go to the trenches at Missy-aux-Bois, near Soissons.

USA

On 10 May, Major-General John J. Pershing was appointed to command the United States Expeditionary Force. He left New York for France on 28 May.

Conscription was introduced with the passing of the Selective Service Act in Congress on the 18th. On 19 May, the US Government announced it would send a Division of the United States Army to France at once.

Russia

On 16 May, Alexander Kerensky of the Socialist Revolutionary Party succeeded Alexander Guchkov as Russian Minister of War, with Mikhail Tereshchenko (no party alliance) taking over as Foreign Minister. A few days later, the Russian Provisional Government issued a declaration that they would not seek a separate peace with Germany and would continue to prosecute the war.

Italy

Italy was still struggling to make progress in its costly offensive in the Isonzo valley in modern-day Slovenia against Austrian defenders. On 12 May, the 10th Battle of the Isonzo began, with the 11th and 12th Battles in the next months, ending in Italian failure by 24 October.

Against this background, a month of civil violence in Milan ended on 23 May after

the Italian army regained control of the city by force from anarchists and anti-war revolutionaries. During this 50 were killed and 800 arrested.

Greece & the Balkans

The Serbian government in exile was transferred from Corfu to Salonika on 20 May.

The Allies were still trying to get Greece to join the war on their side. On 28 May, an Anglo-French conference was held in London to discuss the position of Greece's anti-war King Constantine. Actions considered were deposing Constantine and occupying Athens and the province of Thessaly.

Palestine

On 23 May, a raid on the Beersheba to Hafir-el-Auja railway, by the Desert Column of British Empire troops, destroyed large sections of the railway line linking Beersheba to the main Turkish desert base.

The War at Sea

On 4 May, a flotilla of US destroyers arrived in Queenstown in Ireland (now Cobh) to support convoys of ships between America and Britain. On the 17th, the British Admiralty in conjunction with the Ministry of Shipping set up a committee to draw up plans for merchant ship convoys.

The Allies had been maintaining a naval blockade at the 45-mile wide Strait of Otranto between the heel of Italy and Corfu in order to deny Austrian Empire ships access to the wider Mediterranean. The Otranto Barrage was a fixed barrier, composed of 47 lightly armed naval drifters with anti-submarine nets coupled with minefields and supported by Allied naval patrols. (Naval drifters are boats built like commercial fishing drifters but typically armed with an anti-submarine gun and depth charges.) On 14 May, fourteen British drifters were sunk in the Strait of Otranto when attacked by Austrian naval forces. Allied warships composed of British and Italian ships engaged the Austrian force. By the time they disengaged on 15 May, the Allies had lost 2 destroyers, 14 drifters and 2 supply ships sunk and with damage to a light cruiser and a destroyer. The Austrian navy had 2 light cruisers damaged. This battle was the largest surface action in the Adriatic Sea during the war. It was considered an Austrian victory but had little impact on Austrian access to the wider Mediterranean.

On 26 May, the British hospital ship HMHS Dover Castle was sunk by submarine in the Mediterranean. The initial explosion killed seven boiler stokers, but the crew was able to evacuate the wounded to their destroyer escort HMS Cameleon.

The War in the Air

The 7th saw the first night air raid on London, made by a single aircraft in moonlight.

The first great aeroplane raid over England on the 25th resulted in 290 casualties, more than half of whom were civilians, as German planes bombed Folkestone and other parts of Kent.

Other News

On 13 May, and then at monthly intervals until 13 October, a 10-year-old girl, Lúcia Santos, and her cousins Francisco and Jacinta Marto reported seeing apparitions of the Virgin Mary near Fátima in Portugal. These apparitions became known as Our Lady of Fátima.

RICK DIXON

Calling all amateur photographers!

Purton Age Concern are putting together a wall calendar for 2018 containing photos of the people/places of Purton!

So where do you come in? We would like you to email or post us a photo of Purton which you think best represents the village, maybe one of its many clubs, or the beautiful church, or the views from Pavenhill – whatever you think! The best photos will be picked to go in the calendar which will be for sale from October to raise funds for Purton & District Age Concern. For anyone wishing to submit a photo, send it via email to micklooker@btinternet.com or post to Mick Looker, Chairman, Purton & District Age Concern, 53 Pavenhill, Purton, SN5 4BZ, before 30th June 2017 (all photos will be returned if an address is provided). The Purton & District Age Concern committee will be the judges and their decision is final.

Purton Cricket Club

For many of us, the start of the League fixtures on May 6th. sees the true beginning of the season, although there may have been a number of friendly matches played in April. All senior matches are, these days, played on Saturdays with Sunday cricket almost entirely reserved for youth cricket.

The first pair of games has an old fashioned look about it as we play Trowbridge 1st. & 2nd. XIs. With our two teams playing in entirely different leagues, the possibility of such an arrangement becomes more and more unlikely. Indeed, this season, Trowbridge are the only club where it could happen. In days of yore many fixtures were arranged in pairs, if for nothing else, for ease of management and arrangement.

The two leagues which we compete in are both Wiltshire based. With the Salisbury side South Wilts, probably the strongest side in the county, playing in a league to the south of the county, the furthest the first team has to travel is Warminster. Strangely, the second eleven twice play just over the border: to Buscot Park in Oxfordshire and into Somerset to play Bathford.

Senior fixtures in May at Purton:

Sat. May 6th. 1st XI Trowbridge

Sat. May 13th. 2nd. XI Burbage & Easton Royal 2nd. XI

Sat. May 20th. 1st. XI Calne

Sat. May 27th. 2nd. XI Goatacre 3rd. XI



DAVID BISSET

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers



The Purton units have been out and about this month. Rainbows had a trip to Pets at Home to learn about the responsibility of owning a pet. The Guides and Rangers went bowling at TenPin where Maddy and Janie renewed their promises as Guide and Ranger respectively. 1st Purton Brownies went for a walk in the village, challenged with a list of photographs to take whilst out to accumulate points – there is photographic evidence that you can almost fit six Brownies in a phone box!

The Brownie, Guide and Ranger units went on a trip together too, to watch the Swindon Gang Show at the Wyvern Theatre. Well done to Purton members Maria, Ciara and Becky who took part in what was an excellent show.

As per the usual tradition, 2nd Purton Brownies made the posies for the Mothering Sunday service at St Mary's Church and girls from both Brownie units were delighted to hand them out to the congregation. Mums of Purton Rainbows received glass tea light holders that their daughters had decorated. Guide mums were treated to an evening of pampering which included nail painting, face masks, a foot spa and refreshments.

In the run up to Easter the Rainbows marbled plastic eggs and cards and the Guides made Easter decorations. 2nd Purton Brownies packed a huge amount in for Easter: an Easter bonnet competition, an egg hunt, making Easter baskets and chocolate nests. Thanks must also go to Mrs Lake who helped the girls make glass eggs with fantastic results – do take a look at the pictures on our Division Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GirlguidingNorthWiltsDivision.

Both Brownie units have held fundraising evenings. 2nd Purton's evening was organised by the eldest Brownies when they raised £107.50 for Prickles Hedgehog Rescue from a cake stall, raffle, quiz and some side shows. The 1st Purton Brownies' evening, which had a talent show as its basis along with similar activities to 2nd Purton, made £87.60 for Cancer Research UK.

1st Purton Brownies have now completed the Booms-a-Daisy Challenge. As well as the activities mentioned above, they have learnt the Booms-a-Daisy song and dance popularised in the 1930s, made and flown kites, made edible campfire and took part in a unit photography competition on the subject of Happiness in honour of the International Day of Happiness. Thanks go to Tim Clarke for judging the photograph competition – not an easy task.

Guides have practised their First Aid skills by creating fake wounds and bruises. Some were very lifelike and did cause alarm at home time! The Rangers helped with the authenticity by making fake blood, which was also edible – eww!

Rangers have been creating a scrapbook to document the activities they have been up to, to pass on to those in the Unit after them. We spent an evening decorating biscuits.

The end of a term is often a time for goodbyes as the eldest girls move on, usually to the next age range. Unfortunately 2nd Purton Brownies had to say a premature goodbye to Anna and Kanna. They are moving house, but will be continuing their Brownie adventure. We look forward to hearing what they get up to with Brownies in Ireland and Japan.

For more information about Girlguiding in Purton, please contact District Commissioner Rachel Mead by phone on 07729 462054 or by email at braydondc@wncounty.org.uk You can also register interest in joining at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested.

Church Floodlighting

- April 13: St Mary's was floodlit in memory of **Norman Mills** on his birthday. Always in our hearts and thoughts. Love from Karen, Garry, Amy, Jay, Martin, Harry and Lydia
- 27 April: The church will be floodlit to wish **Akane, Shinichi, Kanna** and **Asuka Kawamura** a safe journey back home to Japan after five years living in Purton. They will be sorely missed by everyone who has been touched by their kindness and friendship during their stay in the UK.
- May 2: The Church will be lit in memory of **Ron Dibling** on his Birthday. Always in our hearts and thoughts. Love Jenny and all of the family.
- May 18: St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Dave Binstead**. Always in our thoughts: forever in our hearts. Greatly missed by Dorn and family.
- May 22: St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Bruce D'Arcy Masters**, who passed away on 22 May 2015. Always in our hearts. Val and family.



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.

Lent Lunches 2017

Thanks to everyone who supported this year's lunches, and a very big thank you to all our helpers and cake makers. The amount raised was £1,000 to be divided between Tear Fund and Send A Cow.

LINDA, VAL, SHEILA AND SYLVIA

Purton and District Probus Club



On the 16th March, Peter Jinks, a longstanding Probus member who once flew late WWII missions with the Fleet Air Arm in a Fairey Swordfish, addressed the meeting on Military Aviation between the Wars. This era, from 1918-1939, was marked by a progressive change from the slow wood-and-fabric biplanes of WW1 to fast, streamlined metal monoplanes, creating a revolution in both commercial and military aviation.

This revolution was made possible by the continuing development of lightweight aero engines of increasing power. After 1918 national economies were cash-strapped, and there was very little incentive by governments to invest in the Aircraft Business. However, during this period civil aviation became widespread and many daring and dramatic competitions took place, eg. In June 1919, Alcock and Brown crossed the Atlantic nonstop in a modified Vickers Vimy to win a £10,000 prize.

Peter illustrated his talk with pictures of the great variety of aeroplanes that were developed at this time, beginning with the Bristol Scout Bullet and the Sopwith Snipe, both of which were powered by Rotary engines. This design of engine, where the engine blocks rotate about a stationary centre, was known to cause some gyroscopic interference in flight. Hence, it was soon replaced by the Radial engine, which although similar in appearance, had static blocks arranged around a rotating crankshaft. Even this design was further advanced by the introduction of in-line engines; eg. The Rolls Royce 'R' and later the Merlin Engine employed in the Supermarine S6B and the Spitfire.

The most famous competition of the 1920's was for the Schneider trophy. In 1922 it was won in Naples by the British Supermarine Sea Lion II, in 1927 in Venice by R J Mitchell's Supermarine S5, and subsequently in 1929 and 1931 at Calshot Spit by the Mitchell/Supermarine S6 (328mph) and S6B (340mph) aircraft, to win the trophy outright.

In 1934, the Italian Macchi MC 72, remarkably like the S6B, but with a Fiat engine and contra-rotating props, set a speed record of 440mph, which for a seaplane still stands today.

By 1930, retractable undercarriages, variable pitch propellers and flaps were in use. About this time Amy Johnson, in a Gipsy Moth, set a new record (19 days) for a solo flight to Darwin and in 1932 recorded the fastest solo flight to Cape Town, South Africa. Another famous aeroplane was the DH88 Comet, which won the London to Melbourne Race of 1934 in 71 hours.

The DH89 Dragon Rapide was a small and dependable 6-8 seat passenger carrier, but the bigger carriers in the UK were the Flying Boats. Used to reach the far waters of the Empire, Short Brothers were building the 'Empire' and the 'Sunderland'. While we concentrated on sea planes, the Americans were developing land based airliners. The Douglas D3 first flew in 1935 and some are still in service today. As the Dakota, it gained a wide market, including use by

KLM. By 1937, alarm bells were ringing. Germany, with Dornier, Heinkel, Junkers and Messerschmitt, were producing aircraft in numbers. When Chamberlain returned from Munich in 1938 only 5 Hurricanes were flying. A year later 500 had been delivered to the RAF, but the Spitfire was late arriving. Only 400 were in service by September 1941, when the Battle of Britain was in full spate, but 2000 were on order. Peter's talk amply illustrated the progress, over 20 years, from the 'Stringbag' and canvas technology of lightweight flying to airliners, bombers and the all-metal fighters necessary in the dogfights of the Second World War.

On 28th of March, Alan Smith, a retired airline pilot and Concorde test pilot recounted his career with a talk – "Concorde Testing". Alan began his career on Tyneside taking his City and Guilds to become a plumber, but in 1948, at the age of 15 years, flying had seemed much more attractive. He joined the local ATC to learn Gliding and, because there were no dual seat gliders, his first flight was solo. At the time, Flying Scholarships of £100 were being offered for 40 hours training to Pilot Officer standard. Alan applied and in 1951, in a Tiger Moth, became the 100th pupil to qualify. He was very proud of a photograph of himself, at 18 years, receiving his Aviators Certificate (No 27000) from Lord Brabazon in London, where he was invited for a celebratory dinner. Graduating into the RAF, he had by 1952 gained his Pilot's Licence (Wings) flying a Harvard, and a little later, with the rank of Master Sergeant, was flying his first Jet – a Gloster Meteor IV. On one occasion as an exercise, in a Meteor VII, he flew to Newcastle, and from 40,000 ft dived at 0.8 Mach over the city and returned with only enough fuel for 1 ½ circuits before landing.

Experience in the RAF continued, including night flying to Cologne using Radar, but in 1957, Duncan Sandys halved Fighter Command and Alan was given the job, as Officer in Charge at Sradishall, to disperse the various aircraft. After 7 years service, in 1959, Alan did not see himself as a Career Officer and rekindled his desire to be an airline pilot.

More than a year of applications and disappointments followed, but he was finally offered a post with Jersey Airlines as 2nd Officer (1Ring) flying DC3s. Rapid promotion to 3 Rings (1962) and he was Captain of a DH Heron, carrying passengers to Gatwick and Manchester. Competition, economic pressures and a strike closed the H.Q. of the Airline in 1967, and Alan was again unemployed. In 1968, he was taken on by BAC at Wisley, where his initial task was the training of pilots to fly the BEA 1-11. He wrote training manuals, programmed the Flight Simulators and trained airline pilots and crews for 40 different countries.

In April 1969, Concorde 002 flew in to Fairford for test flights. Supersonic flight had, at that time, almost no precedents. A high percentage of the testing had to be done in the air. Consequently Concorde 002 had 12 tons of recording equipment on board and being revolutionary, by the time it went into service (1976), it was the most tested aircraft ever to fly. In 1973, BAC closed its' test facilities at Wisley and Alan moved to Fairford to assist in the development of Concorde. Brian Trubshaw was the Chief Test Pilot and although Alan would

be low in the pecking order, it was too exciting an opportunity to miss. The task of a Test Pilot is to define the Aerodynamic Envelope (Graph of velocity V/n load at different altitudes), for the safe flying of the aeroplane This involves taking the aircraft to its' extremes; stalling and regaining control under every flight situation, while staying within the strength capabilities of the aircraft, - a dangerous occupation.

When the figures are known, a safety factor is used to set a smaller Envelope for safe operational flying. Our speaker flew the Concorde on a number of occasions and carried out engine-surge tests during very wet take offs, but at other times he flew a Canberra, ferrying test equipment to different parts of the world for Concorde trials in varying climatic conditions, sometimes at 60,000ft over the Equator. The RR Olympus engines of Concorde do not take air at supersonic speed. They have expansion chambers ahead of the turbines, which are cleverly controlled by hydraulic doors to slow the air flow to a manageable speed. Alan pointed out this and many other unique features of the aircraft. He is very proud to be able to pass on, with enthusiasm, his experience with Concorde and recognises it as a significant icon of British Engineering. It was in service for 27 years.

The Purton Probus Club meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 10am in the Red House lounge. Programme for May: 9th Norway under German Occupation. 16th Romania.

BOB STEVENS

Purton Methodist Church

April has made a great start as on 3rd April we went along to the Passover Supper, this was an evening between St Mary's Church and the Methodist Church. I cannot remember ever going to a Passover Supper before, but what a lovely and interesting evening we had, a lot was learned and also we ate a lot! The whole evening brought us all closer together so a big thank you to all the organisers.

Then on 9th April we welcomed two new members to our church, Rita Webb and Irish Parsons, it was a lovely service conducted by Rev Perkins, although there should have been four members but due to illness two couldn't attend but a warm welcome was given to Rita and Irish. The service was followed by lots of goodies to welcome both ladies.

By the next magazine we should have news concerning the refurbishment of the church, we are looking forward to seeing the exciting plans that will be made and hopefully enhance the church.

Our Wednesday fellowship is on 10th May and takes the format of our annual Fellowship Lunch, which we all look forward to. Wishing you all health and happiness.

ROSE STUMP

25 Years of Shear Success

On the 19 May 1992 the ribbon was cut at the front door of Shear Success, a family Hairdressers in Purton. I worked for a hairdresser in West Swindon for 2 years and I decided at the age of 24, to take the risk and open my own hairdressing salon. Although we opened during the recession we remained excited and hopeful for what the future of the Salon would bring.

I wanted to open a salon that did more than just provide hairdressing services. The aim was to provide a friendly environment that people enjoyed and looked forward to coming into, to have their hair done.

We have many longstanding clients who have been with us from the very first day. Over the years we have built up a large clientele from all over Wiltshire and the Cotswolds. Since opening we have extended and modernised the Salon interior. We have also extended our car park, ensuring all of our clients can park for free and with ease.

I would like to say a special thank you to Lesley who has been with me since the start and also to Belinda who has been with me for the last 20 years. In the last 3 years we have been joined by Molly and Sam, both have become great members of our team. I would like to thank all of the team for their continued hard work.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to our clients and friends for their ongoing support. Without our clients Shear Success would not be celebrating its 25th Anniversary. We are celebrating our 25 years by going away in the sun (hopefully!) and therefore, the Salon will be closed on Friday 19th May and will reopen on Thursday 25th May.

Thank you

JO PLUMB, Owner of Shear Success TEL: 01793 772377

Purton Tennis Club

Well the weather is looking good for tennis as I write this!

Our Summer League should have now started, junior sessions will be well under way, and also our new coaching programme.

The Easter children's camps will be over and probably our first tournament – The Khalique Cup - kindly sponsored by the man himself. Reports next month.

We will be participating in the Village Open Day on 20th May serving refreshments again, so come and have a chat, and watch our junior sessions taking place in the morning. If you want to have a go at tennis please bring suitable footwear – we have spare racquets!

Follow us on facebook and twitter or for information: www.purtontennisclub.com

LINDSEY HALL, Chairman

Purton Bowls Club

By the time you read this we will have started our Bowls season. We have a very busy schedule with Friendlies, Swindon and District League, Wiltshire League and Club Competitions all to fit into the six months that our season lasts. We still need some more players so why not come along to our Friday evening training sessions, where our Club coaches can show you how to play the game and eventually become a team member.

Do come along if you think you would like to play, you will be most welcome. There is no cost involved until you decide to join the Club and only then it is a token payment for the first year. We have plenty of equipment that you can use, so give it a go.

We have teamed up once again with WASP (Wiltshire and Swindon Sports) to hold some fun events at the Village Centre Open Day on the 20th May using our Green for young and old(er) to enjoy trying the game of Bowls.

Some sad news, Barbara Woolford died recently, she had been a keen 'watcher' for the last few years and used to come on the Bowls Tour each year, she was a very active bowler in previous years and reached the finals of the ladies' rinks at Leamington Spa, one of her ambitions being achieved. She and her husband Nelson were founder members of Purton Bowls Club moving from Wootton Bassett Club to join them. Her wit and enthusiasm will be missed by all. Condolences to her two sons and other family members.

PETER BERRY

Volunteer Drivers Required Now

We are seeking volunteers to drive for Lydiard Link, and Purton Age Concern.

The Lydiard Link is expanding to serve also Purton. We are a registered Charity, no.1093200, which takes adults in need to medical services or social occasions, including shopping, within reasonable distances.

We operate with volunteers using their own vehicles, pay a mileage rate of 45p per mile, and include supplementary vehicle insurance for scheme use.

We regret we cannot, as we use private cars, take wheelchair-bound clients.

Our Co-Ordinators Sheila & Avril take calls from clients, and then find a volunteer who can take on the task at the time needed, so that volunteers work only when they have the time available.

Please contact Recruitment Officer John on 770787, if you think you can help.

Age Concern, also a registered Charity, is already well known in Purton, but need additional drivers to help drive their two 8-seater mini-buses.

They normally operate within the village of Purton, transporting groups of villagers aged 60 or over, but do not undertake visits to hospitals.

Please contact Co-Ordinator Hazel on 770862 if you would like to join the team.

Ten Years Ago...

It was reported in the May 2007 edition of Purton Magazine that an anonymous letter had been received but signed only as “Mr Angry of Purton.” It began with the sender declaring that he would not put his name and address “because this letter won’t be popular in your cosy magazine.”

That alone is rather sad because community magazines need to be held to account with constructive criticisms by readers in order to be kept relevant to their wider readership. This magazine welcomes all letters with the proviso (again printed on page 36) that the Editors reserve the right not to publish letters received where space and content dictate. The proper name and address of the correspondent must be supplied but those details may be withheld from being printed if so requested. It is hoped that readers will appreciate that the reason for that policy is to avoid - as far as is possible – publishing scurrilous information and false news.

Broadly, that same policy applies to all other contributions because, without any source details it is not possible for the magazine to check any of the information supplied.

Mr Angry’s letter ten years ago claimed that Purton was a lovely place to live until “the outsiders started arriving [and] taking over.” In sheer economic terms, without “outsiders” the village would be most unlikely to be able to support the range of shops and services that we currently enjoy as there would only be a very few inhabitants remaining.

More importantly however, Purton as a whole benefits immeasurably from all the very many and various contributions to our community made by so many people, whether born in the village or not. Further evidence of that is contained within the pages of this – and every other – edition of Purton Magazine.

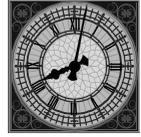
As all past issues from January 2004 (but without advertisements) can be accessed through our on-line archive, please visit www.purtonmagazine.co.uk for further information.

Cricklade Revealed

Yet to read the Cricklade Revealed books? This series of twelve books tell the story through local memories of life in Cricklade and its surrounding area from the 1920s to the 1970s including the war years. Why not visit my stall at the **Cricklade Festival** on Sunday 18 June and try one? They’re only £3.60 each, and you might get hooked!

Sets at the following reduced prices will also be available on the day: Any five for £16, sets of the 10 main books at £30, and sets of all 12 books including the Cricklade Revealed Extra books (with indexes) £36. Proceeds are donated to Cricklade Open Door.

After 8



We gathered at Jacquie's for 'My trip down memory lane'. As a child Jacquie lived in British Guyana and then in Trinidad until she was 12. She began the evening by saying 'After I was born at the age of three I went to ...' which got everyone laughing!!

Four years ago, as part of their Ruby Wedding Anniversary celebrations, Jacquie and her husband David together with their son and his wife went on a trip to Trinidad and Jacquie had put together number of photos from this trip into a powerpoint presentation. This was quite an emotional visit for her, revisiting places she'd lived as a child. Trinidad is not a normal tourist destination - most tourists visit its sister island Tobago.

Trinidad, which lies just under 7 miles off the coast of north eastern Venezuela, is quite a large island, approx 50 x 37 miles. It was under British rule until gaining independence in 1962, but it is still part of the British Commonwealth. The people of Trinidad are of mixed racial origins with a variety of religions with tolerance between the faiths. Carnival is a big event towards the end of January in which most take part.

Jacquie explained that Trinidad is more industrialised than its sister island Tobago which is more scenic, however Trinidad has many interesting places to visit, including Caroni Swamp with a large population of Scarlet Ibis – a good time to visit here is evening when these bright red birds fly to the trees to roost. Trinidad is the birthplace of steel bands, is famous for its cricket and cricketers, and of course is the birthplace of newsreader Trevor Macdonald.

Jacquie visited her old school where the children were fascinated to talk to her and she showed them her school reports. When asked why during one term she had had 45 days' absence and she explained that as her mother hadn't been well following the birth of her much younger sister Jacquie had had to stay at home to care for the new baby. The staff at the school welcomed Jacquie and her family and she showed us a quote posted on a wall saying 'The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today'.

Trinidad is known for its rum. Shark and Bake is a street food which consists of fried pieces of sharkmeat in flatbread with a range of tasty sauces, the equivalent of our fish and chips?

Thanks to Jacquie for this well-illustrated evening which prompted further discussion and questions.

SHEILA

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in *Kibblewhite Close, Proud Close, Reids Piece, The Peak, Willis Way, Long Acre, High Street, College Road and Hooks Hill*



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.

King Solomon's Mines by Sir Henry Rider Haggard

I have always been an avid reader since my first days at Infant School when I quickly realised that there was a world of wonder between the pages of books. Up until the age of 9 or 10 my favourites included the stories of Enid Blyton, the Just William series and Biggles but at that point my father introduced me to the stories of Kipling and Rider Haggard. The African novels of Sir Henry Rider Haggard became a particular favourite and the very first one I read was 'King Solomon's Mines' written in 1885. This rich adventure story captures the mood of the brooding continent of Africa in those now far off colonial days and combines the essential elements of thrills, dangers and buried treasure.

The story starts with the meeting of Alan Quartermain with Sir Henry Curtis and Captain Good during which the tale of a dying man named Jose da Silvestra and a treasure map leading to the diamond mines of Solomon come to light. An expedition is formed, now including Umbopa a Zulu warrior, and the journey on the treasure map begins. After various adventures the trio arrive in the country of Twala, the Chief of the area in which the treasure mountain is located and they become involved in the life of his tribe including tribal warfare. Our band of adventurers also use an eclipse of the Sun to impress their hosts that they have supernatural powers.

In due course Gagool, a female witchdoctor, leads our heroes to the caves in which a king's fortune of diamonds and treasure is located ...but at this point it is only right that I should leave you read the book yourselves and to discover what happened thereafter!!

Haggard's African adventure novels were based on his first hand observations and at the time of first reading I had no idea that some 20 years later Sheila and I would be living and working on that self-same continent in the same area in which this story is based, experiencing similar adventures and experiences and bringing up a young family, two of whom would be born there.

GODFREY FOWLER

Bradon Forest School



A jar a day keeps the pollution away!

That's the motto of the Bradon Forest School Young Enterprise team who won their second trade fair of the year at The Swindon Outlet Centre on Saturday 11th March. The team, Sam Davenport-Banks, Finley Young, Tom Keen, Mia Gaulton, Jasmine Payne, Aaron Alexander and Scarlet Roche, are very focused on preserving the environment and they came up with an idea to re-use glass jars in which to sell really innovative products. Their goods range from lights in a jar, garden in a jar, cookies in a jar, sewing kit in a jar, calm in a jar, snacks in a jar and hot chocolate in a jar.

Their products were hugely successful at the trade fair and the way they presented themselves both to the public and the judges was highly commendable.

For the next phase of the competition, the team will present in a Dragon's Den style arena on 26 April and undergo some close scrutiny from a 'local dragon'. If successful, they can proceed to the County Final which will be held at the Nationwide Head office in Swindon on 11 May. We wish them well.



Hitler on trial



A group of Year 11 students went to the St George's Concert Hall in Bristol this term to take part in a "Hitler on Trial" workshop. They received a 50 minute presentation on likely exam questions and advice about what the examiners are looking for in their answers. A 75 minute trial

then ensued with ten witnesses for the defence and prosecution of Hitler. The students were asked to evaluate from the evidence provided by each witness if Hitler was guilty, not guilty or neither.

History Teacher, Miss Mazelin, said *"The aim of the trial is to help students to develop their understanding of the use of evidence, to promote their understanding of causation, and to develop their ability to analyse historical arguments, rather than to help them memorise factual information."*

We won't spoil the trip for future year groups by telling you what happens at the end!

Primary Pixar Film Awards

We were delighted to welcome back so many pupils who had taken part in our Primary Project Pixar at our Film Awards ceremony in March. The Pixar Primary programme is aimed at Year 5 pupils to give them some insight into life at secondary school. Pupils took part in a number of activities including Producing Props, the Science of Cinema and Get Fit for Film as well as Cooking up a Storm.

Dr Morrison, the Headteacher, said 'Taking part in the project eases Year 5 pupils' future transition to 'big school'. They gain valuable experience interacting with peers from other schools. They have produced some excellent work and also had a lot of fun along the way.'

This is the third year the programme has been run at Bradon Forest with the number of pupils taking part increasing year on year. Pupils from St Mary's took part as well as pupils from schools in Swindon, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett.

Mr Johnson, Head of Year 7 and Transition Leader said 'Thank you to all of the pupils who have attended the Pixar sessions. It was wonderful to see so many of them growing in confidence and developing new skills. I would like to thank parents and carers who have taken the time to bring their children over to the school. Without their efforts, it would be incredibly difficult for the programme to run as smoothly. And finally I would like to thank the staff who have taken the time to organise and deliver the sessions. It has been a great success!'

Dancing in Wonderland

An adaptation of 'Alice in Wonderland' looking at the stresses put upon our young people and their journey to success was performed by Bradon Forest students last month. A variety of dance styles were showcased from Jazz, Contemporary and Tap to Commercial/Hip Hop and puppetry. The students combined their acting skills to take the audience on a journey with Alice through a world of nonsense.

With great stamina, the students performed three shows in the one evening with such high energy and enthusiasm towards their arts form. True dedication and professionalism was shown by all involved.



The poster features a logo on the left with a green horse silhouette in a circle above a stylized green figure with arms raised, all on a blue background with white waves. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout.

SUMMER OPEN EVENTS

Open Evening	Open Morning
Tuesday 27 June 2017	Tuesday 4 July 2017
6pm - 8pm	9.15am - 10.30am
No booking necessary	Book your FREE place here: http://inyurl.com/mesxtms

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