

Purton. Magazine

June 2021



Christian Aid fundraiser and village superhero Sandra Horsnall completes her walking challenge ahead of schedule... with stile!
See page 23.

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Purton Contacts

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Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	Church Street	770532
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

Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Age Concern Minibus	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Lindsey Hall	771890
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, (10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872
<i>(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm) www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/</i>		

Schools & Playgroups

Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	950159
Pear Drops Pre-School (formerly Under 5s')	Sarah Grigg	978536
St Mary's Primary School	Secretary	770239

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

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

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

Wardens Sandra Horsnall: Jane Smith:
770157 772422

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

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

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

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

www.thesacredheartparish.co.uk

Priest: Revd Father Lucas Tel: 852366

Rodrigues

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 7.00pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.

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Visit www.purtonmagazine.co.uk for previous issues of Purton Magazine, and our advertisers' database for local businesses. We welcome submissions for publication in the July issue. Our copy deadline is the 10th June, please email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton. Magazine

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From the Editors

We are very sad to have to report the sudden death of Purton Magazine committee member, John Creasey. From his son David's tribute on page 20, we learn that the family moved into Purton in 1980. Several of John's many contributions to village life may not always have made the headlines. However, for example, many PADS performances would not have benefitted from his keyboard dexterity and he accompanied services on the Methodist church organ as well as supporting the family service music group at St. Mary's church. John also provided invaluable support to the Magazine Treasurer with managing and forecasting the finances.

John readily contributed to numerous village events and activities confirming yet again that communities working together achieve more. This issue of your magazine contains the usual monthly array of local examples that demonstrate just how much is achieved in our community. On page 6 we learn that the Parish Council has been working with St. Mary's primary school children to produce poster sized stickers for waste bins to encourage the picking up of litter and dog waste. More than 50 entries were submitted from which six designs were selected and will be appearing in a combined poster to be placed on all bins.

As the pandemic has created a pause in many local activities, Age Concern asked a long serving committee member, Maureen Griffin, to write about her memories of past Age Concern events over the last 40 years. It is an amazing list on page 11 that not only illustrates just how much can be achieved by working together but also how local events have evolved to match the changing village tastes and circumstances.

The Gardeners' Guide article this month on page 38 includes an extract from our forerunner, the December 1920 issue of Purton Monthly Magazine, about the dedication of our War Memorial. It describes the design process and includes the time-honoured aspect that "a little time was wasted at first through rather protracted discussion of the actual design" even though concluding with "even that is atoned for by the unanimous decision that was finally arrived at." Standing proudly on the bend in the High Street, we can clearly admire the achievement of our community working together over a century ago. A national example of working together is on page 25 with the latest changes in lifting the Government's lockdown arrangements. Let's not give up now.

£6	70+	£3,000
For a pack of 6 notelets featuring paintings of views from walks around Purton – see page 10	Buddling 5 to 11-year-old cricketers have enrolled with Purton cricket club – see page 56	raised by 2021 Christian Aid events around the village at the time of writing – see page 23

Purton Parish Council News



Welcome To A New Council

Purton Parish Council had an uncontested election this year, whereby the following individuals who were nominated for the position of Parish Councillor were automatically approved with 15 seats available and 12 nominated.

Welcome back to the Chairman of Council Ray Thomas, Vice Chairman of Council Neil Hooper and Councillors Geoff Greenaway, Paul Grigg, Shawn Hindon, Gavin James, Matthew Knowles, Kevin Law, Jim Reid, Susan Relfe, Simon Strickland and Charlotte Young.

Full details are on our website: www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/councillors

Donations Available

Calling all Community Groups... Do you have a new project that needs financial support? If your group is of benefit to the people of Purton and financial support is required to start a new project, please contact our offices or complete an application form available on our website. Please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk direct for more information. Applications required by Monday 7th June 2021 to be considered on 21st June 2021. www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Financial-Details.aspx

Council Meetings

All meetings of Council are advertised on our website with agenda details. Meetings commence at 7 p.m. in the Purton Village Hall unless advertised differently.

- Monday 14th June 2021 Council meeting
- Monday 21st June 2021 Staffing Committee (Exclusion of Public)
Finance and General Purposes Meeting
- Monday 28th June 2021 Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

New Employee

Purton Parish Council wish to introduce and welcome their newest recruit, James Poole, Bar Manager at the Purton Red House, Church Street. James will be joining us in preparation to reopen the facility when we are legally and lawfully able. I am sure when we open the doors to all (no membership required), you will give a warm Purton welcome to one of its newest residents.



Thank You St Mary's School

We have been working with children from our primary schools in Purton to produce a poster sized sticker for the waste bins to encourage the picking up of litter and dog waste. The response from St Mary's School was amazing. We have chosen six designs from over 50 entries and will be arranging a combined poster which will

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04/22


PIPS
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Open 10am-4.30pm Tue-Fri
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10am-1.30pm Sat (last orders 1pm)

For the latest information visit our Facebook page [facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/](https://www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/)

Join us at the Purton Club function room, Station Road for; freshly prepared paninis and sandwiches, homemade cakes, hot and cold seasonal dishes, barista-style coffee and a range of hot and cold drinks.

email: marynettleton@hotmail.co.uk
Tel Mary: 01793 772298,
Duty team: 07498 526872

be placed on all bins. Thank you Zara – Year 1, Charlie – Year 6, Sebe, Wyatt, Amy, and James – Year 5. Each Child will receive an individual book token and the school will receive a joint book token to work towards their aim of “50 Best Books.” We will promote the design when finalised. “Communities that work together achieve more”

Cemetery Works

Thank you to the residents who have contacted us regarding the details below. We still do not have any contact for the spaces below. Please, if you are aware of the ownership, share this item so we can arrange repair before our deadline of 12th July whereby all the graves will be sunk into the ground for safety.

The following graves will be considered for this remedial safety action unless contact is made: This remedial safety action will take place 90 days from the date of this notice (12 April 2021), we will sink any graves with no contact from the family after 10 July 2021.

PC/BURIAL/41	ISTED
PC/BURIAL/59	CHUNN
PC/BURIAL/144	EATWELL
PC/BURIAL/167	HEDGES
PC/BURIAL/186	MILLS
PC/BURIAL/187	THEOBALD
PC/BURIAL/182	SELWOOD
PC/BURIAL/236	MILES
PC/BURIAL/306	STUMP
PC/BURIAL/310	DAVIES
PC/BURIAL/319	BUNCE
PC/BURIAL/356	STRANGE
PC/BURIAL/374	MASON
PC/BURIAL/381	SHEPPARD
PC/BURIAL/404	NEWMAN
PC/BURIAL/425	SINCLAIR
PC/S/19	UNITT

If anyone knows the families associated with these graves and can make contact, please do, and request they contact the offices asap on 01793 771066 or email deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

The aim is to ensure the writing is visible but most importantly the headstone is safe.

Approved Planning Applications

21/01031/FUL Hilldrop Farm, Greenhill, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 8EH
Livestock building, for the winter housing of beef cattle. Approved with Conditions.

- 21/01305/FUL 77 High Street, Purton, SN5 4AB. Removal of existing upvc and polycarbonate pitched roof and replace with an insulated flat roof with a single ply membrane covering.
- 20/11071/FUL 33 Cob Hill, Purton. SN5 4FR. Erection of a custom-made garden room to the rear of the property.
- 21/01339/FUL Homelea, 68 Pavenhill, Purton. SN5 4DA. Proposed 2 storey and single storey extension to rear of property. First floor to contain a new master bedroom with en-suite. Ground floor to both parts of extension to contain new kitchen/dining room.

Full Council details can be found on our website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk. Telephone number 01793 771066, email address: deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk We also have Facebook and Twitter accounts

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.

Views from Purton Walks - back by popular demand!

Pack of six notelets for the knockdown price of £6 are going to be available once again. The views are a compilation of a variety of Purton's buildings and views from some of the many footpaths that surround the village, painted by Paul Dempsey and Christine Gill. They will be available from Purton Farm Shop, and Val's hairdressers. All profits go to St Mary's Church Renewal Fund.



Church Floodlighting

St Mary's Church was floodlit on May 2nd in memory of **Norma Charlesworth**, who died a year ago. Loved and greatly missed by John and Sam.



The Church was also lit to celebrate the Church welcoming people again for the first service since the Renewal.

St Mary's Renewal work is nearing completion.

We rejoice that our Church is nearly ready to welcome everyone in again and we are delighted to say that, once again, people can book floodlighting if they wish.

Contact Libbie if you would like the Church floodlit and a tribute published in the magazine. At least one month's notice is needed if possible. The cost will be £20 per evening; and the lights are usually on from dusk to 11 p.m. Please contact Libbie for further details on 771018.

We all have memories of good times, and occasionally we reflect on particular hobbies, pastimes and sporting events that we are missing so much at this juncture. Gradually we are getting our social lives back and seeing loved ones in the flesh for the first time in months.

None of us can predict what the future of any society or club in the village will be, or when and if they will be able to meet. Keeping our fingers crossed could be a new national pastime!

I thought it would make a change to have something nice to read so I have asked one of our longest serving committee members to write down some memories of Purton Age Concern events as she remembers them. Thanks Maureen for putting pen to paper and cheering us up. Here goes:

My memories from Purton Age Concern by Maureen Griffin

I started in Age Concern 44 years ago, 1977, Tony Price was walking down our neighbour's path, he shouted, "just the person I want to see", and would I like to be Street Warden for Highridge Close, and from there on in I was soon on the committee and then treasurer for 23 years.

These are my memories of what we did in those early years: We always had a Christmas Market which we used to hold in the small enclosed front of the Angel pub, later on we moved to the Top Shops at Pavenhill, selling bric-a-brac, books, toys etc. and always a visit from Father Christmas.

We had an Auction Sale each year, Mr Bob Wightman was the auctioneer, later Mr Roderick Wightman took over.

We also ran an Arts & Crafts Fair in the Village Hall, people would hire a table and show and sell their crafts, the late Basil Marchant helped us to organise this.

We used to have an Antiques Fair every year, Jenny Barnes organised this one for us and we always had plenty of willing helpers to do refreshments for these events, we were always busy, but very happy to do it all, lots of fun.

Then came the big one, the Gymkhana. This started in 1976 and ran every year until 1999, we finished partly due to the foot & mouth restrictions that year. Lots of hard work for everyone, we did the Refreshment Tent and the Hot Dog Stall, but we had lots of people to help, too many to mention, but our thanks always went out to them.

The highlight was when Princess Diana visited the show and brought her two boys with her, William and Harry. In the first years we held it at Purton House by the lake and the Dog Show was on the front lawn, later we moved to the field at the Fox. We had carriage driving as well.

We started having a coffee morning at Mr John Bryant's at Purton Stoke, in Bentham Lane. In later years this moved to Mr Dick Scott's garden, always a very popular event enjoyed by all.

We held a Games Evening each year at Red Lodge which was the house owned by Miss Ward; fish and chips were brought in, lots of fun for the committee and friends.

One of our proudest moments was getting our first Mini Bus in 1986. We ran Mystery Tours once a month on a Sunday afternoon, using the Mini Bus as well, always ending at Churchill House for a lovely tea and always entertainment afterwards. An outing to Weston-Super-Mare was also something everyone looked forward to.



Would you believe there are men and women in these pictures?! Nice legs Mr Price!

The Committee joined in the Purton Carnival, the first one we did was Thomas the Tank Engine with real smoke, then came the Purton Prancers, we marched from Neaths Lane and came up over the railway bridge where the real majorettes were waiting to join the procession, they started to clap and then realised it was men dressed up as women and it caused quite a stir when we marched up the village with Tony Price at the front with his baton and little skirt. Another time we dressed up as the Purton Bathing Belles with real ponies and a bathing hut. But the big one was

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when we did *The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe*, and we made a huge pink shoe out of papier mache, complete with furniture and washing line, we were dressed as children and Tony was the Old Woman and the baby was 81 year old Harold Herron! We won the cup at the Malmesbury Carnival that year as well.

We used to have cream teas and held Tea Dances at Bradon Forest School and I remember we had a lovely party for the 25th Anniversary celebrations in 1989 at Churchill House and the RAF at Lyneham made a beautiful cake for us. I've enclosed a photograph of the committee at that time, everyone had a piece of cake and a pot plant.

We always went carol singing at Christmas time, calling at all the pubs in the village, and there were quite a few in those days. Harold Herron rattled the collection box, not many got away, and we also went round the care homes and the flats at Hooks Hill. The year always ended with two Christmas parties.

We still do a lot of these things now and more fresh ideas have also started including Burn's Night and Three B's. We've got lots of memories and photographs, made lots of life-long friends along the way. Let's hope it can all start again when the pandemic is at last under control and we can get back to normal.

Maureen Griffin

Thanks Maureen, can you imagine what Health & Safety would make of a smoking chimney in a train! But we all remember how much fun these events were and all the effort that went into producing the floats and we didn't have to think about compensation claims and risk assessments. Happy days.

2022 Calendar

Where are the photographers in the village? I need you to get busy and take some photographs, time is marching on and I need as many photographs of local landmarks and views for our 2022 Calendar as I can get. These need to be high resolution and at least two megabytes in size. If you intend to send some later in the year please let me know, but we will have to produce the artwork by September, so please don't wait too long.

Please send to me at peterberry@uwclub.net for inclusion.

To everybody, keep well and safe and get the vaccine as soon as it is available to you.

Useful Contacts

If you have a problem or need to speak to anyone about prescriptions, food shopping or any other topic then the contact numbers you should use, after you have talked to your street warden, are Peter Berry from Age Concern on 778119, Heather Ponting-Bather from Purton Outreach on 772954 or Debbie Lawrence, Clerk of the Parish Council, on 771066. Remember that Purton is a very special village and there is always somebody that can help and will help.

If You Need It!

Bobby Van – If you need the Bobby Van for replacement batteries or if the smoke alarms are not working properly then call them on 01380 861155. Please be aware that there might be restrictions in place at this time. If you are self-isolating and letting nobody enter your home then you will need to replace your smoke alarm yourself as they won't leave one on the doorway. If they are called to replace one, then they have to do it. Please be aware.

Phoenix - Each month we will mention Phoenix, previously known as Bradies, as they will continue to cover the Purton area. This is a free transport service on your bus pass. You need to ring 01249 890794 to book with them. Remember if we don't use it, we lose it!

Website - Visit our dedicated website – www.purtonageconcern.com – to find all the details you need about our contacts, events, news and links to other websites in the area. We also have a Facebook and Twitter account which can be found at Facebook: purtonageconcern and Twitter: @Purton_AC. Please visit our social media sites and let us know what you think.

We still have a couple of walkers, also crutches and walking sticks, so if you think you might need any of these at any time then ring me on 778119.

Peter Berry

Purton Silver Threads

As the current Silver Threads committee is both small and consists of elderly people, we feel that with the Covid situation, we are not able to continue with the responsibility for the Silver Threads Hall.

Ideally we would like someone to be involved in, or take over, the management of the Hall to include hiring, booking cleaning, and ensuring Covid measures are in place and are maintained for all hirers.

This could be as a member of the committee or an independent person reporting back to the committee.

If you are interested, please call Lindsey Hall on 771890 for an initial informal chat.

Purton Silver Threads Committee

Purton Age Concern Minibus

As you will all know that for over a year the Minibuses have been parked up due to the Corvid restrictions, but hopefully there may soon be light at the end of the tunnel! The blue bus has just had its first MOT (how the years fly by) and depending on how restrictions are lifted in the next few weeks we hope to be able to start a limited service again. I have received several inquiries over the last few days mainly regarding lifts to the surgery and our regular shopping trips to Cirencester, and I am sure these will be the first to start, but we need to ensure that both passengers and crew are safe.



Please feel free to either telephone 770862 or email me at pac2bookings@gmail.com to get up-to-date information.

Take care and stay safe, Hazel Woodbridge, Minibus Co-ordinator

Services in the Renewed St Mary's Church for June 2021

We look forward to welcoming the Church Family and the Community back into St Mary's Church in the months ahead. We hope to have a grand re-opening service on Sunday 5th September at 10.30am with the Bishop of Bristol, when together we can thank God for His provision for our needs and mourn the grief and loss many have experienced in the past 18 months.

However whilst Covid Restrictions remain, we will aim to do a mixture of online and face to face services for June 2021: Please see the diary pages in the centre of this magazine for more information. Our aims for July services will be published in the July Parish Magazine.

We want to remain Covid secure and so we will aim to have a clear 48 hours between services to reduce the need to have a deep clean between each service. We may be able to have a baptism service on Sunday afternoon on 6th and 20th June (by using different parts of the building from the 8.00 a.m. Communion Service) with very restricted numbers. We also hope to have the building available for Funerals midweek on Wednesdays or Thursdays again so that there is a clear 48 hours between services. At present we do not have the capacity to do the deep cleaning ourselves to enable more events. Hopefully in the weeks ahead restrictions may ease and we may be able to put on more services, and perhaps to open the Church for private prayer after 21st June for at least one time period each week. Please bear with us in this time of change as we seek to provide events and services both to help people to get to know Christ better and to make Christ known to our community. Also please put the 5th September in your diary and plan to come and join us for a celebration to mark the official re-opening of St Mary's Church. To book a place at any of the live services please phone the Church Warden –

06/21

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Sandra Horsnall on 01793 770157. For more information visit our website www.stmaryspurton.org.uk Facebook St. Mary's Church, Purton, Wiltshire or email vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk or phone 01793 770077.

Your Vicar & Friend, Ian Tweedie-Smith

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG



Appointments

The appointment system is being reviewed in line with government guidelines which will mean that in the near future some patients will avoid the triage system and book to see a doctor directly.

200+ Club

Application forms and details for this are available in both the Purton and Green Gable Surgeries, once completed please return with your standing order form or cheque (payable to 'Purton Patient Participation Group') to the surgery. Payments will be collected in early September.

If you wish to receive details via email then please write to groupforpatients@gmail.com. A fact sheet and application form will be sent to you. Please return completed forms to either surgery, whichever is most convenient.

We would like to thank you for all your support. 50% of the monies raised will be distributed with a top prize each month of £100. The other 50% will be used to fund items for the surgery that the NHS does not or no longer provides. So, for a £15 annual flutter you may win £100 but you will help the surgery help you... you win either way.

Sale in Purton Surgery Car Park - Saturday 14 August

Please note the date for this – more details to follow.

Donations for the PPG

Thank you very much to those who have donated to our PPG funds – if you would like to make a donation please make cheques payable to 'Purton Patient Participation Group', with the cheque being taken into the surgery. Please label your envelope 'For the attention of Kai Howard'

Thank you

We're sure you will all join us in thanking all surgery staff for everything they have done and continue to do. We do appreciate it.

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

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

Remembering John Creasey, 1946-2021

John Creasey lived in Purton for over 40 years. He moved to the village in 1980 with his wife, Gwenn, and their sons David and Steve, when John's job relocated to Swindon. For the majority of his time in Purton he lived at Diana Cottage, Collins Lane, and more recently moved to a bungalow in College Road.

John was originally from Ilkeston in Derbyshire, and Gwenn grew up in Northwood, Middlesex. They first met at the University of Southampton in 1966. John, the son of a grocer, was the first in his family to go to university, and graduated with a First Class degree in Mathematics.

For most of his career he worked for the Water Research Centre as an applied mathematician. He was elected as a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications in recognition of his lifetime contribution to research and the profession.

John and Gwenn had a hugely strong and enduring love, which they shared with their sons. They worked hard to renovate Diana

Cottage together; John was skilled at wiring and plumbing, while Gwenn made furniture and decorated the house. John encouraged and supported his sons in developing their interests and talents, from home computing to go-carts, and never complained about the mysterious construction projects at the end of the garden.

John and Gwenn were well known contributors to Purton life, and active members of the Christian community. For many years John played the organ for services at the Methodist Church and organised the family service music group at St. Mary's. He had a long tenure as treasurer of St. Mary's, and was generous with his financial understanding when others needed assistance.

John contributed to a wide range of community events around Purton, and could often be found attempting to tame a badly-tuned piano while supporting singers and instrumentalists at charity functions and festivals. For a number of years he was the accompanist for the Purton Amateur Dramatic Society. He had a talent for transposing and re-working pieces to allow the players to perform at their best.

He had a love of games and puzzles, and a particular talent for cryptic crosswords.



“It was a challenge to find a good picture, as Dad detested being photographed. I think this one captures his personality.”

John could
often be found
attempting to tame
a badly-tuned piano
while supporting
local functions
and festivals

He studied bridge for most of his life, and enjoyed passing on his skills to help others improve. During the pandemic, games with his bridge group moved online, and sessions could take place several times a week.

Outside the village John's interests included classical music concerts and theatre. He regularly attended performances at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham and at the Watermill Theatre near Newbury. He enjoyed travelling for holidays, but sitting on a sandy beach was not his preferred type of activity. Gwenn planned extensive itineraries to include prehistoric monuments, mechanical music museums, and majestic cathedrals. John was, however, rather acerbic about museums of agricultural implements.

He maintained a strong affinity with his Derbyshire roots, and never developed a Wiltshire accent! Throughout his life he followed the progress of Derby County Football Club and Derbyshire County Cricket Club closely, attending matches when he could, and remaining stoically devoted despite the years of increasingly disappointing performances.

John was a loyal friend to many, and maintained relationships over the decades with former colleagues, school and university classmates, and all his friends in Purton. He could be found at hostelrys around the local area with his regular companions, seeking out a good pint to accompany the fine conversation.

John was known for his quiet and courteous manner, and a dry sense of humour. He hated to feel that he might be wasting anyone's time. His fiercely strong intellect and critical analysis of the world made him a wise counsellor when anyone asked for his opinion. He had a belief that life should be led by honesty, decency, morality, justice, and love, and was an inspiration to his sons in how to lead a good life.

After David and Steve had left home, and Gwenn had passed away, he felt alone and isolated in a large family home. In his later years he found love and companionship with Jude, and moved to the heart of the village for closer connections to his friends.

John died suddenly at home on the 8th of May. He is survived by his younger brothers Roger and Pat, his sons David and Steve, and his partner Jude.

Dr David Creasey

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Christian Aid Week 2021



We would like to thank Purtonians of all ages for working so hard for Christian Aid Week.

All the children in the school knew about it and responded to the message about some families in Africa who have to walk six hours a day for water... yes six hours a day to collect water... an awesome thought.

And, at the other end of the age scale, residents and staff from White Lodge provided cakes for our Trail of Cake Tables around the village. A phenomenal £1,500 was raised from cake sales alone. We had seven tables altogether, dotted around the village, and wonderful neighbours, friends and families baked cakes, cookies, breads and scones. Sylvia promised 75 Bakewell Tarts... as Christian Aid is 75 years old this year. In fact she made 130 and sold the lot!

Another table was covered in 75 scones and there was also a table of gluten free cakes. It was a great success even though the weather was changeable.

We also made Cream Teas in a Box this year and there were dozens of people ordering them... for themselves and for others. The grand total of Teas was over 50 boxes.

Khalique and his team at The Maharajah offered a huge discount to anyone mentioning Christian Aid whilst ordering their food during the week, on condition that the discount was then forwarded to Christian Aid. What an amazingly thoughtful and generous offer.

Sandra, Churchwarden of St Mary's Church, agreed to walk 300,000 steps during the month of May. In fact she achieved that milestone by May 16th, halfway through the month... a phenomenal achievement! She was sponsored by many people for which she – and Christian Aid – are very grateful. And throughout the months of April, May and June, Mary Nettleton has been selling plants for Christian Aid and for her other charities, from her garden near the Church. There is still time to buy. Over £200 has been raised from Marion Hobbs' rhubarb crowns alone this year... thank you to Purton gardeners!

As for Libbie's quiz? Results will be announced by the start of June. Thank you SO much to everyone who took part. It has raised over £500 again this year.

Purton should be proud of the huge involvement we have with Christian Aid. We are so lucky here: We have so much... a roof over our head; clean water; warm, safe houses; schools for our children; doctors and hospitals for those who are ill.

We must be grateful for what we have and learn to share with others who are less fortunate.

Our wonderful Sandra Horsnall has COMPLETED her 300,000 steps!! And she did by 16 May! (I had a secret bet with myself that she would do it by the end of Christian Aid Week!)

And she did her walking on top of all her other commitments including being Church Warden etc, etc.

(10,000 steps is approx. 5 miles, so this means Sandra has done an average of 10 miles a day, for the first half of May!)

I was pleased to be able to join her on her walk yesterday afternoon and we walked and talked and collected up more money and envelopes! My new nickname for her is Mrs Sprightly!! I could hardly keep up with her pace!

So she has now decided to give herself a new target of 450,000 steps in May!... though I'm not sure that all her sponsors will increase their sponsorship... but you never know!!

Please note in the photo that she is climbing over the stile whereas she could just as easily have gone round it!

Apparently over 1600 supporters across the country agreed to try the 300,000 steps in May. I wonder if any of the others have already completed the challenge!

As well as welly walking, ploughing through puddles, hiding from hail, crouching under clouds, rescuing rolling sheep and yomping along cheerfully Sandra has also raised several hundreds of pounds. Do add to the sponsorship if you feel you want to. <https://justgiving.com/fundraising/purtonchristianaid2021>

Thank you all: Libbie, Mary and the Christian Aid team: 771018



Time to renew your garden waste collections

Households that pay to receive garden waste collections will soon receive an email or letter inviting them to renew their subscription by 30 June 2021.

Current garden waste subscriptions expire on 30 June 2021 and if you're an existing customer, you now need to renew your garden waste subscription if you wish to continue to receive the service. The cost of having garden waste collected will remain the same at £50 per bin for the year.

New customers can sign up at any time to receive garden waste collections, either online or by calling 0300 456 0103. You don't need to contact us if you do not wish to renew.

Outreach Purton

Despite lockdown restrictions starting to be eased, our team of Outreach volunteers continue to help those in need. I'd like to personally thank Dora's Dairy, Purton Co-Op and all the local heroes who came to the aid of a new local family who moved into Ridgeway Farm and found themselves in a food crisis. After being contacted by Frances Barrone, our Wiltshire Council Local Area Co-ordinator, a plea went out on our Facebook group and within minutes I was inundated with offers of food and delivery to the family. Thank you all so much!

The Prime Minister confirmed the move to Step 3 of the Government's roadmap from 17 May, and the reopening of more businesses, so we can now give more details on how the new stage of restriction lifting affects us here in Purton.

Some limits on seeing friends and family have been lifted, so that indoors the rule of six or two households is now permitted. Restrictions on meeting outdoors are lifted, although gatherings of over 30 people will remain illegal.

In addition to this, most remaining businesses have reopened, including indoor hospitality businesses such as pubs and restaurants; indoor entertainment venues such as cinemas; and hotels and B&Bs.

Indoor hospitality must have new COVID-secure measures in place from 17 May, and businesses can only cater for groups of six people or two households. Venues will not have to serve a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks; nor will there be a curfew, but customers have to order, eat and drink while seated.

Funeral venues are allowed to decide how many mourners they can accommodate, adhering to social distancing rules. Up to 30 people are allowed to attend wakes.

A maximum of 30 people are able to attend weddings and receptions. This limit will also apply to other types of significant life events including bar mitzvahs and christenings.

However, it is vital that we all carry on following the Government guidance until further lifting of restrictions, as this will help to keep the rate of COVID-19 transmission in Wiltshire down and save lives. If we all keep playing our part, we're much more likely to receive better news in June, when we hope we can move to Step 4 on the Government's roadmap.

Detailed summary of changes from 17 May

Hugging People can hug loved ones they don't live with if they think it is safe to do so, but are still advised to keep 1.5 metres away from strangers.

Meeting indoors People can meet indoors in groups of six or two households of any size.

Overnight stays Overnight stays will be allowed.

Groups outdoors Bigger outdoor gatherings will be allowed, with groups of up to 30 people. Social distancing will still need to be in place for these gatherings.

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Pubs, restaurants and cafes indoors Pubs, restaurants and cafes can welcome customers back inside. They will need to offer table service only, with the rule of six people or two households of any size.

Domestic holidays People can go on domestic holidays with friends and family they do not live with, provided they stick to the rule of six or two households.

Foreign travel Foreign travel will be allowed from 17 May, but there will be a traffic light system for international travel, and you must follow the rules when returning to England depending on whether you return from a red, amber or green list country. The current guidelines state that travel to anywhere other than a green list country should only be in special circumstances (i.e. not a holiday) and you will need to isolate for ten days on your return to the UK.

Funerals Funeral attendance will no longer be limited to 30 people, but will be determined by how many people the COVID-secure venue can safely accommodate with social distancing. Up to 30 people can attend a wake.

Weddings, Ceremonies Restrictions for weddings remain the same. Only 30 people are allowed to attend indoor ceremonies and receptions in Covid secure venues.

Big events Indoor events like concerts will be allowed with a capacity limit of 1,000 or 50% - whichever is smaller. Outdoor events will be permitted to welcome up to 4,000 people or operate at 50% capacity. Seated outdoor events will be allowed 10,000 people or 25% capacity.

Cinemas, museums, theatres and children's indoor play areas Visitors will need to follow social distancing rules and wear face masks.

Saunas and steam rooms Will be allowed to reopen.

Indoor group sports and exercise Exercise classes and indoor group sports can resume, but must be organised by a business, public body or charity and the organiser must take reasonable measures to reduce the risk of transmission.

Accommodation Hotels, hostels and B&Bs will reopen from 17 May.

Care homes Rules for care home residents going out and receiving visitors will change, allowing up to five named visitors (two at any one time), provided visitors test negative for COVID-19.

Work for home This advice remains in place

Public transport Social distancing guidance remains the same

Travel Travel safety and plan ahead remains the message

Face masks in school Removed face masks for children and teachers when in class.

*Heather Ponting-Bather, Outreach Purton & Wiltshire Together Community Champion
helpline 772954, (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, at other times in an emergency)*

St Marys Primary School

The community at St Mary's have continued to provide a safe nurturing environment as the pandemic continues where all our children can learn and grow. We have been faced with a host of challenges including introducing one-way systems, ordering mountains of hand sanitiser and adapting to online lessons and meetings. We are looking forward to a time when we can all return to some form of normality and we thank all of our parents and children for their support in allowing St Mary's to continue to thrive.

The Bristol Standard Accreditation Award

We are delighted to celebrate that we have achieved the Bristol Standard accreditation again this year. As a school we are continually reflecting on our practice and the Early Year Foundation Stage annually completes the Bristol Standard accreditation: "The Bristol Standard is recognised nationally as an outstanding self-evaluation framework and the benefits and impact of its approach have been well evidenced. Through team reflection and discussion, the strengths of the setting are celebrated, and future priorities become clear. The Bristol Standard enables practitioners to talk more knowledgeably about what they do, why they do it and the difference it is making for children and families in their care." (www.bristolearlyyears.org.uk/the-bristol-standard/)

This year our successful submission was praised for our adaptation of our original priorities due to Covid-19. The panel stated that our submission was 'easy to navigate and reflects in detail the impact from Covid-19 in a positive way: You have successfully managed to adapt the original priorities and complete these with thorough and clear benefits for the children. It was a pleasure to read about how you had made the most of your outdoor learning opportunities not only in your setting but also with your families, especially during lockdown. We especially loved the photograph of the newt.'

We would like to thank Mr Luke Gough for very kindly giving up his time to install the original threshold stone (saved from the original Victorian school site), into the path by our Reception. We are so pleased that hundreds and thousands of children will continue to put their footprints on this stone, as generations from the local area have done before them, as they enter St Mary's; it may be a new building, but the values we hold are the same as they have always been.

Lollipop Person

We are investigating the possibility of reinstating the lollipop crossing patrol by the Angel pub in Purton with Wiltshire Council. Do you know anyone who would be able to commit to an hour every morning at school start time? Please contact the school office if you would like more information.

Thank you to the Co-Op

We have some excellent new outdoor gym equipment in our playgroup designed to help our children have active, healthy bodies and active, healthy minds. Many thanks to the Co-Op who helped to fund this project for us.



New school identity

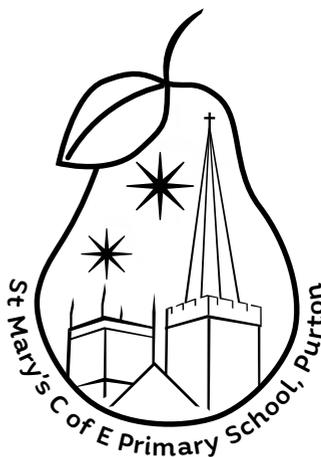
Our ethos at St Mary's has been developed and honed over the last few years. A steering group of children, staff and governors worked together to develop the vision by which we can all live. Taking inspiration from the fact that the famous fifth Astronomer Royal, Nevil Maskelyne (1732-1811), is buried at St Mary's Church, we felt our ethos could build on an astronomical analogy.

This was supported by verses from Daniel 12:3, "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens," and Genesis 26:4, "I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of the sky... and all the nations of the earth will be blessed." These verses underpin our ethos that everyone in our school community is able to 'shine brightly' in all aspects of life, at school and beyond.

More recently, just before the first lockdown, a group of children worked with a graphic designer to develop two logos. The children, their parents, staff and governors were able to vote on their favourite design and we are delighted that this is their choice.

We do have spaces in some year groups, so should you be considering St Mary's for your child, then I would be delighted to hear from you. We are unable to arrange visits in person however, please contact the school office on admin@st-marys-purton.wilts.sch.uk or phone us on (01793) 770239.

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



Mrs Naomi Clarke, Head teacher

Bradon Forest School

Thirty years' service at Bradon Forest

At the end of April we said a sad farewell to Jackie Scott from the office team at Bradon Forest. Jackie will be a familiar face to many families in the village as they, their children (and now even some grandchildren!) attended the school. We all wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Try Engineering Programme

We were delighted to welcome ex-Bradon Forest student, Lewis Palmer, and his colleague, Tom Page, from Bath Rugby into school this month. Lewis and Tom came to deliver a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Most Able initiative being run with Dyson and Bath Rugby Club aimed at encouraging girls to consider careers in STEM industries. In the engineering workshop the students from Year 8 took apart a turbine head, examining each part and how they worked together before reassembling it. During the rugby element of the morning students practiced a range of tag rugby skills.



Bradon Forest PE teacher, Mrs Evans, who organised the event said, “This is an excellent opportunity for our students. There is such a wide range of careers available in STEM. I hope this event will encourage the girls to investigate these opportunities in more depth.”

Lewis and Tom will be returning to school for a further two weeks to further develop the girls' tag rugby skills.



World Book Day Baking Competition

We had lots of fabulous entries to our baking competition. Check them all out on our website: <https://bradonforest.org.uk/2021/03/08/world-book-day-baking-competition-winners-8-3-21/> The winning entries are pictured above.

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Wiltshire Council

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Pips Community Café has re-opened!



We are thrilled to be open again after the most recent lockdown. We advertised for new volunteers and our request was answered, so thank you Purton for coming up trumps again. With a few new faces and some returning volunteers, we now have enough help to open six days a week. So, our opening

hours will be 10am-4.30pm (last orders 4pm) on Tuesday to Friday and 10am-1.30pm (last orders 1.00pm) on Saturday.



Our other big news is that the function room has been redecorated! We made a successful grant application to Purton Parish Council, so took advantage of lockdown to get the work done. The interior design project was undertaken by Heather of In Touch Design and Print with the aim to make the function room bright and fresh with consideration for its dual use. The serving end of the room features a unique wall vinyl design using old maps of the area and a montage of photographs from the Purton Museum archive and some more recent village views. This feature wall was generously funded by the Purton Club and hopefully there will be lots of people and places we all recognise! The space is available to hire for parties and functions with catering provided by Community Award winner, Louisa.

We'd like to thank Purton Parish Council, Heather, Matt Carruthers, Purton Club manager, Nigel Cowley for doing all the painting, Steve Griffiths at Artworking for printing and fitting the wall graphics, Lucy Lewis of Purton Historical Society for allowing access to the museum archives and Clive Rushen for making the fabulous screen room divider.

Why not come down and enjoy meeting up with friends old and new after all the months of isolation? Or, if you are still working from home, why not work from the café instead? Hope to see you soon.

The Pips team

Lockdown Limericks

The covid lockdowns that started last year were an ideal opportunity to challenge ourselves to complete a special task or branch out and try something new, often aided by some new resources on the internet.

Local author and BBC producer Anna Quarendon has always enjoyed dashing off a little limerick from time to time. During the lockdown she challenged herself to write one every day to record many of the everyday details of the pandemic that otherwise could so easily be lost. At the end of last year she produced a book with them all. Now she has generously given Purton Magazine permission to reproduce a selection each month from the same month last year. Here are some from June 2020 providing some interesting reminders.

Short Term 5 June 2020

With Covid19 past its peak
Some schools have been open this week
But if methods are failing
And children start ailing
This term will be right up the creek

Open Wide 9 June 2020

If driven by pain to distraction
This week now brings some satisfaction
For three months denied
You can now “open wide”
For the dentist to make an extraction

Zoo Time 16 June 2020

You can go to the zoo, if you care
To see lion and tiger and bear
A black-eyed racoon
Or a great big baboon
Just so long as they're in the fresh air

Football's Coming Home

18 June 2020

Tho' matches for months were
suspended
The footballing drought has now ended
And lifting the ban
For both players and fans
A decision they all think is splendid

Hair 26 June 2020

If in need of a shampoo and set
You've still got a week to wait yet
But try to hold fire
DIY could be dire

With results you might rather forget

Game, Set and Scratch 29 June 2020

This year C19 has stopped play
No Wimbledon starting today
No choice but to scratch
The whole “game, set and match”
And there's not even rain on the way

A selection of Anna's lockdown limericks from July 2020 will be included in next month's magazine but if you can't wait as long as that, a published collection is now available from the White Horse Bookshop in Marlborough at £8.99.

If any other reader has made a personal record of the lockdown, perhaps as a diary or through regular messages to friends and family, we would be delighted to include some examples next month. Information about other local lockdown achievements would also be gratefully received for future publication. Please contact the magazine (see page 4) if you would like any further details.

Purton Village Diary - June 2021

- 6 Su 8.00am Holy Communion in St Mary's Church
10.30am Family Service on Zoom
- 12 Sa The Queen's official birthday (95)
- 13 Su 10.30am Holy Communion in St Mary's Church also as "An Act of Celebration of Communion" on Zoom
- 20 Su Father's Day
8.00am Holy Communion in St Mary's Church
10.30am New to Church Service on Zoom
- 21 M Summer Solstice
- 27 Su 10.30am Holy Communion in St Mary's Church also as "An Act of Celebration of Communion" on Zoom

The 8.00 a.m. services on 6th & 20th are going to be in church as is the 10.30 on the 13th and 27th, Covid restrictions will apply and face masks worn. These services are by ticket only, contact Ian on 01793 770077 or Sandra Horsnall on 01793 770157 for a ticket.

The rest of the May services will be on Zoom.

How to join in the online Services

To Join the Zoom Meeting – please use this link

<https://zoom.us/j/549593510> (This will be the same link each week)

Meeting ID: 549 593 510 Passcode: 928294

You can use your mobile or landline

EITHER 0203 481 5237 United Kingdom

OR 0203 481 5240 United Kingdom

Then you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID: 549 593 510

followed by # Passcode: 928294 followed by #. Please note that call charges may apply.

Alternatively, click on the link on the church website:

www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

DISCLAIMER

Contributions to Purton Magazine are welcome for consideration, the contributor's name and address must be supplied (but may be withheld on request). Copyright must be agreed for publication in this magazine - especially those recognisable in photographs. Opinions expressed in the Magazine are solely those of the respective contributors. Contributions are to be written concisely and we reserve the right to edit contributions and advertisements. Submissions received after the copy deadline will only be included at the editors' discretion and if space allows. Articles and information relating to the Parish of Purton and relevant to its residents, will be given priority. Advertising is accepted in good faith and does not imply the Magazine's endorsement of the product or service.

Purton Village Diary - when life returns to normal

Every week

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

Every month

- 1st Wednesday 10.00am Story Time at Purton Library for pre-school children
- 2nd Wednesday (except Aug) 2.30pm Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday 10.00am Purton Probus meet in the Red House lounge
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday Purton Silver Threads meet at the Silver Threads Hall, suspended until further notice
- 3rd Monday St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Purton Methodist Church
- 3rd Tuesday Royal British Legion meet at the Red House
- 3rd Wednesday 2.15pm Rhyme Time at Purton Library for babies, toddlers and their carers
- 7.30pm Purton Evening WI meet at the Silver Threads Hall
- 4th Thursday (September to May) Purton Historical Society meet at 7.30pm in Purton Village Hall.

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



Purton Magazine is available to buy at; One Stop, Purton Farm Shop, Dora's Dairy, Shear Success and the Co-op. We deliver to over 800 homes each month through our network of volunteers. To become a distributor, or a Magazine subscriber, contact Sandra Horsnall, tel: 01793 770157 or email: distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton knitters see their creations distributed

Freedom Day in South Africa distribution at Chief Albert Luthuli Charity Day Care Centre

This is the first distribution that the charity has been able to do since November last year. and included all the items we sent in January.

Hopefully by my next report Covid will have vanished so that Alice and her family will be able to travel to Qwaqwa in Free State.

Our latest shipment arrived in Cape Town on 5th May, then it travelled overland to Sasolburg, 1500 miles away and took another two weeks.

In Qwaqwa distributions included Schools, Day Care Centres and Hospitals.

Many thanks to everyone for your support. Bernice, Sue and Jude



Ten Years Ago...

The editorial in Purton Magazine for June 2011 opened by observing that “there were so many celebrations this month that it was hard to know where to start.” There had been a number of street parties to mark the royal wedding and, a few days later, there was a 100th birthday party. Preparations for the carnival were in full swing, to say nothing of the Maskelyne bicentenary.

So perhaps it was not unexpected to find another article headed “Going Wild in Purton.” However, it was not a catalogue of village rituals, but a piece from P’s & Q’s about garden insects. In order to attract bees and butterflies, it named many plants that could be grown. Even wasps and hornets had their use in the ecosystem, though the editor had added a sombre note that there were many advertisers who could eradicate them.

But possibly not so wild was news of the W.I. learning Bollywood dancing. Was there a performance for the rest of us at the carnival?

There were three reports about street parties marking the royal wedding – and perhaps more parties which preferred not to be recorded. An interesting slant was made by the Historical Society which was entranced by “the architecture of the Abbey and its artefacts, the uniforms of the Military and the Church.” No mention of the happiness of the couple but, of course, this was the attitude in past times of arranged marriages.

As the magazine was being prepared, Christian Aid week was in full swing and was a great success. A note in the magazine said that the least likely place to die was in church. So, now that St. Mary’s is open again, by joining in you can not only save your soul but your body as well.

Museums in Wiltshire are re-opening!

As museums across Wiltshire begin to reopen, now is the perfect time to explore their exciting collections.

Museums are looking forward to welcoming the public once again, having made all the necessary arrangements to ensure a safe and enjoyable visit following the latest easing of the national lockdown.

Whatever your interests — from archaeology to planes, trains and automobiles, to modern art and more — you will find something that appeals and inspires in Wiltshire’s museums. Find out what’s happening at Purton Museum on page 43.



Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



Little did I think that the subject of the Gardeners' Guild magazine report for June would take the form of a plea, on behalf of the volunteers who maintain the War Memorial Garden, to any gardeners in the village for any surplus bedding plants you may have after you have completed your own planting schemes for the summer season.

It's sad to have to report that this plea arises from the despicable theft of the hose pipe from its designated position at the War Memorial at Hook's Hill, discovered when the small team of volunteers arrived recently to carry out their regular maintenance of the gardens there.

Needless to say, the hose pipe is paramount to the upkeep of the gardens, particularly during dry periods, allowing plants to thrive and flourish, providing a pleasant and peaceful area for contemplation, and thus ensuring that those who gave their lives are not forgotten.

A small budget, kindly provided by Purton Parish Council, allows for the purchase of plants twice yearly in Spring and Autumn enabling a colourful display throughout the year.

Whilst a replacement hose pipe can be purchased from the budget this will significantly impact on monies available for said planting.

Hence this plea.

If you are able to help, plants can be left with:

Steve at 2 Highridge Close, Tel: 770906

Barry at 36 Vasterne Close, Tel: 771019

Tony at Down View, Hyde Lane Tel: 770769

Alternatively they will be more than happy to collect them.

Thanks to George Young I have a copy of an entry from the Purton Monthly Magazine for December 1920 regarding the proposed timing for the dedication of the War Memorial. Given that last year would have been its centennial year, it makes for interesting reading and so I have included the text as follows:

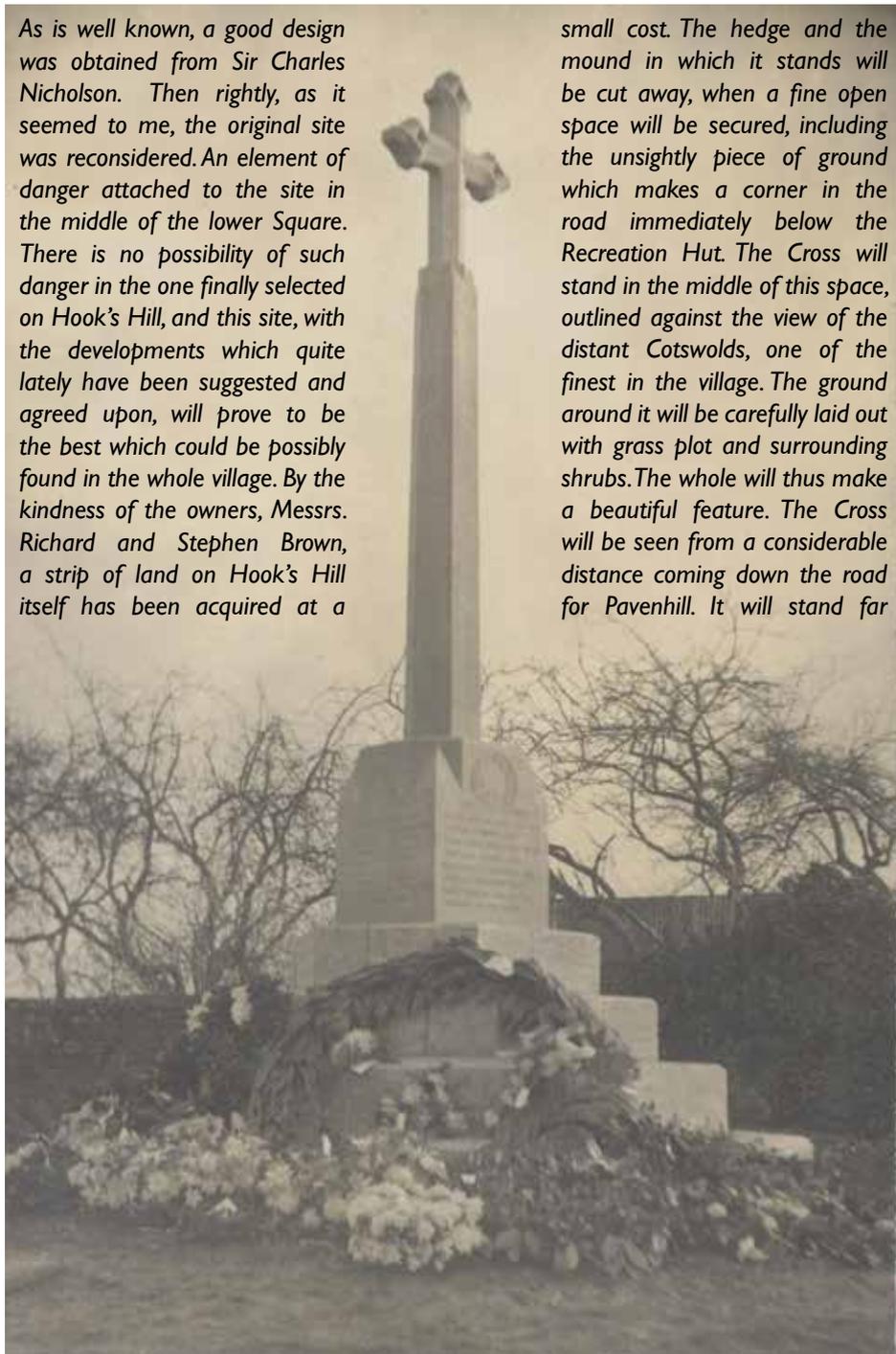
It reads:

'My dear Friends, -

It is expected that the War Memorial will be unveiled and dedicated during this month. Sunday, December 12th, is the suggested day, but there is just a possibility, if the weather turns wet or if a frost should intervene, that the Cross May not be erected by this date, and then a postponement will be unavoidable. I hesitate, therefore, to announce December 12th as a certain date for the ceremony, to which we have been looking forward, overlong as it may seem to some people. A little time was wasted at first through rather protracted discussion of the actual design, but even that is atoned for by the unanimous decision which was finally arrived at.

As is well known, a good design was obtained from Sir Charles Nicholson. Then rightly, as it seemed to me, the original site was reconsidered. An element of danger attached to the site in the middle of the lower Square. There is no possibility of such danger in the one finally selected on Hook's Hill, and this site, with the developments which quite lately have been suggested and agreed upon, will prove to be the best which could be possibly found in the whole village. By the kindness of the owners, Messrs. Richard and Stephen Brown, a strip of land on Hook's Hill itself has been acquired at a

small cost. The hedge and the mound in which it stands will be cut away, when a fine open space will be secured, including the unsightly piece of ground which makes a corner in the road immediately below the Recreation Hut. The Cross will stand in the middle of this space, outlined against the view of the distant Cotswolds, one of the finest in the village. The ground around it will be carefully laid out with grass plot and surrounding shrubs. The whole will thus make a beautiful feature. The Cross will be seen from a considerable distance coming down the road for Pavenhill. It will stand far





enough back from the road to be well seen by passers-by. A rather ugly corner will be transformed, and a fine view will be preserved forever against the possibility of it being obscured by any building erected on this site. The delay is thus again atoned for by what may safely be described as the excellence of the result. The suggestion of this larger scene was only laid before the Committee quite lately. It will mean that the ground cannot be laid out and planted in time for the unveiling of the Memorial. That is of small moment. Such work can be done more perfectly when the Cross is once erected in position and meanwhile it will be more possible to assemble a large number of people in immediate proximity to it for the dedication ceremony. It is true that this entails an additional outlay. But it is not supposable that anyone in Purton would raise an objection to it on such a reason. We are doing that which is to endure for all time. We are raising a memorial to the men of Purton who died for us in the war. If an additional £50 is required nothing further will be needed than the bare announcement of the fact for the sum to be at once forthcoming. A really large sum might be difficult to raise, but an amount comparatively so



inconsiderable will, we are confident, present no difficulties at all. All the arrangements for the dedication ceremony are well in hand. We can but hope that the weather will be sufficiently favourable to allow for the erection of the Cross by the date suggested.'

The unveiling and dedication of the Cross (pictured left) actually took place on 20 December 1920, drawing a large crowd (recorded in the Swindon Advertiser as 1500 strong) of both families affected by the War and onlookers from the surrounding area.

Ethel Richardson recorded in Remembrance Wakes; "Up in the Village stands a fine Cross, surrounded by a well kept plot of grass, planted round with shrubs, which were given by mothers and wives of those who fell. Beneath the foundations lie a bottle, containing a few grains of soil and some grass from Mervyn's grave at Fricourt. She also recorded "when late at night, with the stars brilliantly shining the Cross stands, whitely gleaming in the foreground, it's position felt to be as suitable as it is satisfying."

Happy gardening.

Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)

The Purton Historical Society Bulletin, issue number 44, £3

Bulletin number 44, published last December, has sold quite well considering the precarious situation since then, with a third Covid-19 lockdown imposed by the government. We have a small number left so members and friends can still purchase a copy from Cyclecare, Flawless Floors, Doreen Freegard or me. Bulletins are also on sale in the Museum on Saturday mornings.

I am collecting material for issue 45. Do get in touch if you could write an article recording an experience or event, with or without a Purton connection. Unless we are prepared to share precious, personal memories, part of our rich heritage will be lost and people have such interesting, often amazing and sometimes amusing stories to tell about our rapidly changing world!

Jean Belt, 770331





St Helena Airport

On 22nd April Purton History Society held a Zoom meeting for approximately 30 people, given by Howard Smith, a civil engineer, on the construction of the airport on the island of St. Helena – a small, remote, volcanic island, 1100 miles off the coast of West Africa. A British Protectorate since the 17th Century, and on the trade route bringing spices & tea from India & Africa. Now home to just 4,200 people, the island is 10 miles long and 6 miles wide, its claim to fame being that Napoleon was imprisoned & died there after he escaped from Elba.

Known for its steep volcanic cliffs it has no natural resources apart from a little farming, fishing & locally grown vegetables. Everything else is imported now on the MV St. Helena and formerly, prior to the airport opening, on the RMS St Helena (a small cruise cum cargo ship). It was hoped that an airport would help start a lucrative tourist business, reduce the isolation and improve communications.

Following the award of the construction contract in 2011, there were more than 12 months in detailed planning, preceded by a scientific survey to preserve local flora & fauna, before construction of a runway, a terminal, the control tower and fuel storage facilities could start. Temporary works consisted of building a roll-on roll-off (ro-ro) berth for bringing machinery off the specially purchased ship and a construction camp for 200 workers was built. (Now being used to isolate incomers in case of Covid!) Access roads were needed from the ro-ro berth to the airport site for heavy earth movers, HGVs, drilling rigs and everything else required for the airport construction. Also imported were 4000 tons of explosives as well as 21,000 tons of cement.

After a fantastic civil engineering operation the first flight landed in April 2016, later the commercial air service took off in October 2017. It had cost £300m.

It was illustrated in detail & many questions were asked. We were lucky to have a UK-based person from St Helena with us to add colour to this little known British engineering project. A vote of thanks was given by committee member Tony Neate.

Jill Watts, Purton Historical Society

Summer Events

There are two events already organised during the Summer months.

Friday 25th June 2021 at 7.00pm - Walk a Section of Purton Boundary with Joe Wright

Joe presented talks at our October and November 2020 meetings via Zoom entitled 'A journey around the earliest known documented bounds of Purton Village'. Joe has written the following detail: 'For the walk, I have in mind a flat route of 3 Miles / 5 km, across tarmac, gravel and dirt tracks – no stiles involved. Start and finish at Mouldon Hill Country Park, so there will be plenty of parking. Likely to be a leisurely

90 minutes of easy walking. It will cover a stretch of the Purton boundary that has existed from ancient to modern times, as well as forming part of the early Bradon Boundary'. The walk is limited to a maximum of 20 people and advance booking is required. If you are interested in joining the walk please contact Marion Hobbs Tel: 01793 770185 email: roy.marion@btinternet.com

Saturday 10th July 2021 at 2.00pm - A Visit to St Mary's Church, Lydiard Park, with Paul Gardner

Paul is Chair of St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze Conservation Project and has written the following detail: 'By way of background, you may be aware that St Mary's is one of the finest small churches in the country, further described as a rare example of an English Renaissance Church. There has been over eleven hundred years of continual Christian worship on this site up to and including the present day. St Mary's has an amazing interior of treasures from all the centuries.

In October 2018 the National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded a major heritage grant to St Mary's to restore the historic interiors. The main focus is the conservation of the extensive nationally important medieval wall paintings, identified by the Church of England as one of the 100 art works currently most in need of conservation in their 100 Church Treasures Appeal. The conservation work started in November 2018 continuing through 2019 and into 2020, with completion of the medieval wall paintings and interiors by the end of September 2020.

The tour will also include the opening of the St John Triptych (painted by William Larkin, Royal court portrait painter to James I.)'

The charge for the tour will be £4.00 per person which will be donated to the church funds. Further details of meeting arrangements, etc will be published in future magazines. If you are interested in joining the tour please contact Janet and Tony Neate.

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

Purton Museum News

The Museum re-opened on Saturday 22nd May 2021 from 10.00am-12.30pm Saturday morning opening only will continue throughout the summer and is in accordance with relevant Government Covid-19 guidance. The Purton Cricket Club bi-centenary exhibition, organised by Joe Gardner, will be on display until Saturday 26th June 2021. Following that a new exhibition about Purton Farming and Butchers will be on view.

St Mary's Church, Purton, has kindly donated to the museum a wooden model of the church. It has been on display in St Mary's for many years and has now been transferred to the museum. The following is a brief history of the model:

'The wooden model of St Mary's Church, Purton, was made by a travelling model maker named Lloyd in 1839. The roof lifts off and reflects the interior of the church before the 1872 restoration. The church is filled with box pews and a three-decker

pulpit, which stands almost in the middle of the nave. The Royal Arms is also shown in its former position over the chancel arch. Largely perpendicular in its external appearance, the church is notable for having both a west tower and a crossing tower with a spire.' The Society wishes to thank St Mary's for this important donation; Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Marion Hobbs
 Chairman Tel: 01793 770185 email: roy.marion@btinternet.com
 www.purtonmuseumandhistoricalsociety.com

04/22

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

White Lodge honour staff on International Nurses' Day

Coinciding with the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, International Nurses Day, held on Wednesday 12th May, is a day to celebrate nurses and care staff around the world. Residents and staff at White Lodge care home in Braydon, were happy to get involved by hosting a much deserved presentation to residents who were formally nurses as well as our current nursing team. In honour of Florence Nightingale they also dressed in historic nursing costumes.



In 2021, the World Health Organisation is seeking to highlight the ways in which nurses are adapting and to explore what the future of nursing could look like. This year, more than ever, we are hugely indebted to all our care staff and we are incredibly proud to applaud their extraordinary efforts and commitment on this special day of recognition. International Nurses' Day is a day to give thanks for the dedication of caregivers everywhere, who go above and beyond the call of duty to deliver extraordinary care and support.



Tilly Mwakatuma, a Unit Lead nurse at the home, said: "I have worked at White Lodge for over 10 years and I thoroughly enjoy working with all the residents, I have specialised in dementia care. There are so many opportunities and areas in which you can work within nursing. It has been an enjoyable day and fun wearing the costumes."

Ramona Gherendi, General Manager at the home, said: "At White Lodge, our nurses and staff are hard-working, dedicated and passionate about caring for others and that compassion and commitment has shone through even more over the past year. They continue to work tirelessly and I'm proud of the professionalism and duty of care they uphold. All their efforts are focused on delivering the best possible care



for our residents, so it's nice to take this time to show our appreciation in return. It is also lovely to celebrate our residents who were nurses themselves and thank them for all their hard work during their careers."

Jeanie, who lives at White Lodge said: "I used to be a nurse and I know how tiring the job is, even more so these days – there is so much more to think about now than back in my day. The staff here spend so much time and energy looking after us, it's been lovely to show just how much we appreciate them, they do a smashing job."

We are welcoming new residents into our homes to ensure that we are there for those that need care and support. We're making our homes as safe as possible and will ensure that all new residents and staff are vaccinated before moving in or working in our homes. Please do give us a call on 01666 860381 if you are looking for care or need any further help.

White Lodge Care Home is run by Barchester Healthcare, one of the UK's largest care providers, which is committed to delivering high-quality care across its care homes and hospitals. White Lodge provides nursing, residential and respite care.

For more information please contact Ramona Gherendi, General Manager at White Lodge Care Home on 01666 860381 or email ramona.gherendi@barchester.com

We Record ...

Funerals at North Wilts Crematorium

20 April 2021 Nigel Paul Rawlings (66)

30 April 2021 Anthony Edward Cook (Tony) 5/12/33-15/04/21

Much loved and missed by his family, and especially his wife Ann.



Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Purton Stoke, Bentham, Hayes Knoll, Braydon, Cross Lanes, (and from Ridgeway Farm) Hill, View, Newman's View and Upper Oxhill.*

The other side of the gate

I can't believe how much the weather has influenced our farming lives since I started writing a few years ago! We've had pretty much everything chucked at us with severity. I understand that April was the coldest since 1970 with 7% of its average rainfall. Dry and cold does not make grass grow!

We planted grass seed the first week in April and it's only just started to come through. This grass should have been ready for cutting for silage about now! It's going to be another month if it warms up, but the forecast ahead does not show temperatures above 14°C going forward to the 3rd week of May!

The lack of grass is a national problem. It'll right itself (hopefully) and we'll get a nice long, warm and wet summer and autumn.

One evening during the hideous cold rain I went to put the chickens away. Normally they're pretty good at getting inside the houses ready to be locked safely in for the night. I'm not sure if the cold rain froze their tiny brains but half of them (about 100) were under the house, shivering and looking pathetic. Doesn't sound too bad until you see how slimy a rain-soaked, chicken poo covered area of ground is! So, as I'm not that bendy and the houses are quite low I decided that help was needed. Sarah came to the rescue with her waterproof coat and trousers. She duly crawled underneath and handed them out to me and I put them in the house. Certainly not the most glamorous of jobs and certainly not one we'd want to do too often.



That same evening (heading towards 10.30 p.m. by this point) and with the weather only getting worse, we decided to get Little Deer (she looked like a fawn when she was born) and her twins in for the night. Easy enough task when she's not hidden them in different places. We found one on its own not far from where it was born but the other (completely white so easy to find – you'd think!) was nowhere to be seen. Sarah and I spent the next 2 hours searching all the fields, getting into the ditches and ponds, looking in hedges and generally going around in circles. The mother was very little help so we put her in the shed with her bull calf, we put a coat on him and went back out searching. Sarah was starting to smell bad as the Land Rover got hotter and the chicken poo fumes were making us both a little fractious. On our fourth trip around Jackson's field we had a stroke of luck as Sarah

caught a glimpse of her in the hedge right behind the new fencing. Somehow she'd walked straight through the hedge and was sheltering from the wind and rain on the leeward side. Now, clever as you might think that is of such a small animal, it posed certain problems! Extraction was going to be difficult as we couldn't get through the hedge and Matthew's very fine fencing was between us. I contemplated cutting the wire but that silly thought went away quite quickly. I thought about making a hole big enough for Sarah to crawl in and send her in for a pull extraction. Sarah put a quick



end to that thought too! With not many options left, I took a few staples out and with Sarah lifting the barbed wire I could just get in and grab her hocks. Although a twin and reasonably small she still weighed about 25kgs. Lifting a 25kg, wriggling, wet and disgruntled calf over a wire fence whilst leaning forward and using the wire as your anchor is far from easy. I did manage to get the back legs over the wire and pull her through. With the time heading towards 12.30am, we got her in the boot and drove her back to the barn to her mother and brother. I hosed Sarah down before we went in!

The pigs have had a real treat this month too. We moved them across the road to the tunnels. I think the expression "As happy as pigs in s**t" could not be more apt in this case. They ran and snorted, squeaked, and if they could have jumped they would! They are great fun when they're happy and pig racing is a sport they all love to participate in. It's not so much fun feeding them though as they quite like to get involved in the tipping out of the milk. They're very strong and do not understand that the milk has to go into the trough. We've been chucking loads of toys in with them too. It seems empty barrels make great footballs, tyres are great for flipping and big cardboard boxes are great for ripping apart Terrier style.

We've had a few more calves this last month too. Mostly without incident except for Donna. We've got some jazzy new equipment (called Mocal) that attaches to a cow's tail. It's very clever and will send a text to me, Sarah and Luke saying calving activity detected and a second text an hour later if it continues. It picks up the

movement of the tail. So, at 2 a.m. I get the second text. I got up to go check her to make sure everything was coming the correct way. When a cow is ready to calve her cervix dilates to allow the calf to exit. When I put my arm into Donna I had to do a corkscrew-like movement to get to the calf. This is needed where the calf has somehow taken the uterus with it on a roll – much like twisting a plastic freezer bag up – so it restricts the size of the calving canal by twisting around the cervix. Sarah called the vet and told them Donna had a twisted uterus whilst I went back to bed



to wait for the vet to arrive. This was the following day from the calf hunt so I was taking any sleep I could get.

At 3 a.m. Emily arrived and performed a quick examination to confirm my diagnosis and two courses of action were discussed. The first is to roll the cow whilst someone holds the calf to unwind the twist and the second option is cesarean. We opted for a cesarean as Donna is very boney with a high spine and rolling would have been difficult and stressful for her.

It can be surprisingly quick from the start of the incision to the extraction of the calf. In this case (I know because I videoed the procedure) it only took 5 mins. The calf is fine and Donna is healing very quickly, I'm happy to report. Her calf is from our stock bull so we won't be naming him as he will be beef!

Apart from the cows getting out and running up our road and exploring drives and gardens the following night – yes, they really do push all the buttons sometimes – it's been a quiet month. I'm hopeful by the time you read this the ground will be warm and we will have some grass for the cows and winter forage to bale.

Jonathan Cook





Beneath the Wool

Lambing has officially ended now with the last two lambed and anyone would think that's it, that's the hard work over, but no chance! It seems to take endless time sorting bits out for them all and moving them from field to field. This spring has been a very funny one with the weather. It's been very cold and it certainly had an impact on the lambing, as I had to keep ewes and lambs in for longer so the lambs didn't get cold. It's also had a massive impact on the grass as it never really got growing to the same levels it usually does. What with the cold, the frosts and the lack of rain, it really hasn't helped the fields bulk up with grass before we turn out.

In this past month we have planted a few fruit trees to help create some shade but also hopefully produce some fruit for my own consumption. My hope is this will encourage more wildlife and also help the local bees. The biggest job we've done this month, as people who have been walking will have seen, was putting up a new footpath gate and farm gate and also putting up a new fence to hopefully contain the sheep when they escape from the electric fencing. Thanks to Neil for coming and knocking the posts in and helping put the fence up.

Unfortunately the farm pet sheep, Big Face, sadly died recently. We just found her one evening and we don't know what was wrong with her, but this means we are feeding her lamb as she was only 4 weeks old but hopefully we will have the next 'big face' character in her lamb. She certainly has her mother's features from the soft head wool to the very soft wool on her back. It certainly looks like something nice is going to come out of an unfortunate event.

On a brighter note, six of this year's lambs are pedigree ewes and so they have all been named and I'm hoping to enter them into the Lleyn Sheep Society photo competition as I've got some good pictures of them. The names that they have been given are Katrina, Kerry, Kelly, Katheryn, Kimberly and Karen.

Michael Woodward, Rogers Farm, Purton

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.



Gratitude from St Mary's Church

I feel it's always a good thing to thank people in an organisation for what they've done, isn't it?

St Mary's Church down the road couldn't manage without the people who make it what it is. So, I'd like to say a big thank you to two people who've kept it chugging along for many years.

Vivien Lawrence gave her keys back last Sunday after being a Verger for several decades. She's turned up year in year out with a priest to help people at baptisms, weddings and funerals.

As a local girl she's known who's who and has always greeted folk with a cheery smile. Anxious people who are unfamiliar with the medieval building have instantly been put at ease and shown to their seats if needed. We shall miss her consistent, reliable help at these services.

But did you know that her Father, Percy Griffin and Vivian performed these roles for more than eighty years over lapping at times with each other?

Between them they've served numerous priests and a multitude of people. Remarkable.

Many thanks from all at St Mary's for everything you've done for all the people who've passed through the church doors.

Another person who's part of the church's history is Frank Strange, many thanks for your long service at St Mary's Church too. Frank's been in the choir since 1934.

In case Frank doesn't come back to his seat in the choir after the renewal, I'd like him to know how much he's appreciated for everything he's done for us as choir master.

Thank you Frank, especially for giving me a gentle phone call on a Tuesday before the Choir practice to ask me what the hymns were to be for Sunday and what the choir was to practise that night!

I remember you as a bellringer too; thank you for all you've done in such a dependable manner to call people to worship and sing to God's glory!

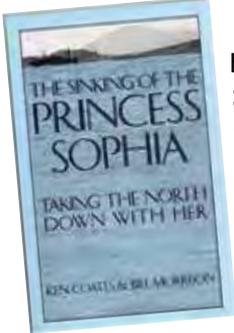
Looking forward to seeing you both soon and once again many thanks for the years of service you've put in so dutifully for St Mary's Church. As always praying for your futures too.

Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith and Rev Judith Wells



Literary connection

I was particularly interested to read the article by Audrey Manfield entitled “I Married the Klondike” see page 44 in the May issue of our Purton Magazine. Audrey recalled a meeting of Purton Historical Society where she had given a short talk on the author of “I Married the Klondike” by Laura Berton and was so fascinated by the accounts of Laura’s life in the Yukon and Dawson City in the early 1900s that some years later she managed to visit Dawson City herself. Audrey also remembered a lady at the meeting who approached her after the talk to say that a relative of hers had



been on the Princess Sophia as it happens that lady was in fact me. The relatives were my great uncles Allan and Walter Barnes who were born in Little Somerford, who lost their lives on the SS

Princess Sophia along with their trusty work horse on October 25th 1918. The citation on the memorial stone featured in the photograph also shows a book entitled “The Sinking of the Princess Sophia” taking the North down with her. I have read the book more than once and would therefore like to suggest it as my book that I will always remember. The inscription on the Barnes memorial stone in Little Somerford cemetery

In loving memory of
John and Mary Barnes
also of their son Alfred
and their two sons Allan and Walter
Who lost their lives on the SS Sophia
John and Mary Barnes née Greenman
were my great grandparents.

Miriam Saunders



Help always on hand

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sent cards and flowers. Help with shopping and walking Lola. During my husband’s illness and after his death.

It really is a great comfort to know that you live in such a kind and thoughtful community.

Alex Ockwell

Purton Profferings

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

- A quantity of B&Q reclaimed 'click together' light oak wood flooring and underlay. The flooring is about five years old and has been stored in a garage. Available free of charge but with no guarantee as to the condition or amount. Recipient to collect from Purton. Telephone 01793 772457.

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12/21

A book I will always remember

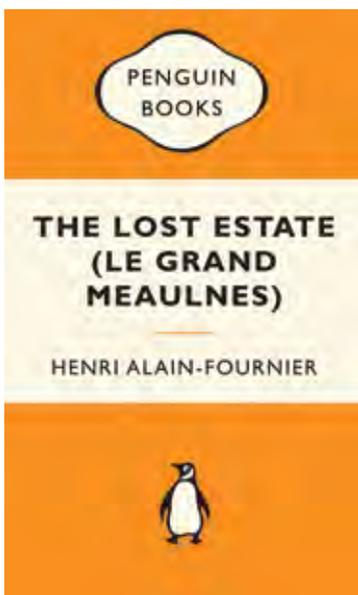
“It is a story of
adolescence, first love
and its loss”

Have you read a book that you will always remember, either recently or many years ago, serious or funny, fact or fiction? Each month we are publishing a review of a book that has meant a lot to a particular reader, especially the reason why it was so memorable. Purton Magazine readers are encouraged to send in a personal review of their favourite book; it need not be very long. As usual, the copy deadline is the 10th of the preceding month and our contact details are on Page 4.

Le Grand Meaulnes by Henri Alan-Fournier

Before telling you the title of my book, I would like to tell you a true story from nearly 70 years ago when I was a boy of about 11 who had been given a crystal set for a present. For those whose memory does not go back that far, a crystal set was an early form of wireless that did not need electricity to operate and was listened to on earphones and only required an aerial and a connection to earth. It was therefore very good for young boys to listen to in bed at night under the blankets.

My crystal set had excellent reception of the Light Programme (an early version of Radio 2) great for comedy programmes and the hit parade of the time and the



Third Programme, the forerunner of Radio 3.

One night I tuned in by chance to a play on the Third Programme and became captivated by a story of a young man who accidentally found himself in a magic kingdom where a fantastic party was taking place.

I was absorbed by the atmosphere of the play and shared the spell binding effect experienced by the

hero. It was reinforced by again finding a repeat of the play some months later. But still I did not know the title of the play.

It was about 15 years later that I saw a film of Le Grand Meaulnes and I realised the title of my lost play.

Le Grand Meaulnes was the first novel

of Alan-Fournier and was published in 1912. It is set initially in a remote and rural part of France and is narrated by Francois Seurel, the son of the village school teacher, who is about 15. Augustin Meaulnes, older and taller than the other pupils (hence Le Grand Meaulnes), comes to the school as a boarder and strikes up a friendship with Francois.

One day, having borrowed a horse and cart, Meaulnes becomes lost in the darkening countryside and stumbles across a “lost domain”, an ancient Château, where a fabulous party is taking place. Meaulnes is encouraged by the other guests to join in with the fancy dressed revels which have a magical mysterious ambience. He meets the son of the estate, Frantz de Galais, who has organised the event to welcome his fiancée. He also meets the sister of Frantz, Yvonne, with whom he falls in love.

The fiancée does not arrive and the party comes to an inconclusive end with all the guests departing, and Meaulnes is given a lift by someone going his way. So, he leaves the magic kingdom but not before promising Yvonne he will return.

The remainder of the book deals with Meaulnes’ attempts to retrace his steps and find Yvonne, but even when he does with the help of Francois, he cannot settle until he has reunited Frantz and his fiancée.

It is a story of adolescence, first love and its loss, and also the loss of romanticism and of rural pre-war France. The loss is given added poignancy by the fact that two years after publication, Alan-Fournier was lost in a battle on the Meuse in the early months of the First World War. His body was not discovered until 1991.

The fact that I came across the story by accident, and only rediscovered it several years later adds another layer of poignancy for me. I have reread the book several times since, falling back under the dream-like spell of the story and my memories of first hearing it under my boyhood bedclothes.

Jack Kerouac and F. Scott Fitzgerald were also fans of the novel, and it is significant that the latter borrowed the title and some of the book’s structure for his famous novel of lost love, *The Great Gatsby*.

Kned Kennedy

Purton Methodist Church

At the end of June we say farewell to Rev David Perkins who has been our Minister since September 2011. His ministry in the church and in the village – with the support of Christine, his wife - has been greatly appreciated and they will be very much missed. We wish them well and pray God’s blessing upon them both as they enter retirement and return to their roots in Wales.

We look forward to welcoming Rev Shirlyn Toppin as our new Minister and Superintendent of the Upper Thames Methodist Circuit at the beginning of September.

Purton Cricket Club



2021 Season Underway

We would like to welcome you all to a new season at Purton Cricket Club. Pre-season has been a whirlwind. Many of the officers of the club have changed and many new initiatives started, all under the restrictions that have made life difficult for all of us. Our new Chairman, Callum Wright, would like to thank everyone involved in the club for all their hard work preparing for the new season. When you visit us, we are sure you'll see the outstanding effort that was put in this winter.

With junior training now started and our adult teams beginning their league season, we are now in full flow. We have had a huge response from parents of budding cricketers with over 70 five to eleven-year-olds enrolled at the club.

At PCC we would like to be more greatly integrated with the community and to that end we hope you will have visited us on the 31st May when we hosted an intra club 6 a-side tournament with BBQ and other fun games. This was a great opportunity for our members and Purton community to participate in a fun day. Spectators are now welcomed back to watch cricket and readers are invited up to the ground. The list of home fixtures for June is below.

To celebrate the club's 200th year, which was last year, we were due to host a bi-centennial match against the MCC. Obviously, that was not possible but the MCC side have agreed to come and play this year instead. Please make a note in your diaries for the 29th of August to come and watch.

Upcoming Home Fixtures in June:

Sat 5 June	PCC 2nd	Lacock	13:00
Mon 7 June	PCC U13	Sherston Magna	18:15
Tue 8 June	Midweek B	Knight Watchmen	18:00
Thu 10 June	Midweek A	Swindon Tigers	18:00
Sat 12 June	PCC 1st	Winsley 2	13:00
Mon 14 June	PCC U15	Swindon	18:15
Wed 15 June	PCC U19	Burbage	13:00
Sat 19 June	PCC 2nd	Biddestone 3	13:00
Sun 20 June	PCC U11	Biddestone	10:30
Tue 22 June	Midweek B	Monahans	18:00
Thu 24 June	Midweek A	Coastal Cobras	18:00
Sat 26 June	PCC 1st	Swindon 2	13:00
Sun 27 June	PCC U13	South Wilts	13:00
Wed 30 June	PCC U19	Swindon	18:00

From the archive: 50 Years Ago

President: A.S. Smith

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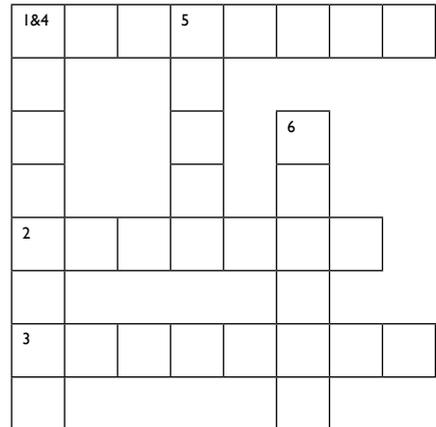
Life Members: H. Barnes, R.W. Crouch, G. Lloyd, R. Hancock, D. Evans, A. Smith, C. Jones, A.G.H. Trantor.

Graham Wright

Mini crossword

Here is the eighth in our little series of mini crosswords that are only designed to be a bit of fun during these days of lockdown. Again there are no prizes but the answers to May's puzzle are 1) villagers 2) sander 3) scanners 4) landscape 5) gardener 6) sports

1. (across) fluid system (8)
2. (across) 1920s (7)
3. (across) parasol (8)
4. (down) forceful (8)
5. (down) car (5)
6. (down) one run (6)



Answers in the July issue and if any reader would like to create their own mini crossword we would be delighted to include it in a future issue of your magazine. Just to keep things consistent for the moment there should only be three words across and three down each with a maximum of 9

letters. As before we have taken many of the words from recent Purton Magazines and especially from the advertisements but, of course, dictionaries provide many more options. We aim for the clues to have a spread of difficulty to attract readers initially with the easier clues.

Shapes of empty boxes within an 11 x 11 box square, perhaps as a table in Word or in Excel software – or simply hand drawn and we will do the rest – contact details are on page 4 and on our website www.purtonmagazine.co.uk

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Purton Tennis Club

Our summer season has now officially started! Our mixed, ladies and men have all played their first few matches, and our club nights and Sunday socials are going well. On top of that our singles ladder has now been launched and the Saturday junior sessions have also started.



All junior members are welcome to join Nicola and the team on a Saturday morning throughout the summer as part of their membership. Nicola has a wealth of experience and will show the juniors how to play tennis; where to stand, how to score and how to strike the ball. There are 2 groups:

10 -11am Age 7-11 years

11am -12 noon Age 11-16 years

If you have a youngster who would like to try tennis for the first time, please call Nicola on 01793 770681 to book a space, we have spare racquets and provide the balls, they will just need a pair of trainers and some comfortable sports clothes to wear – not necessarily white!

Likewise, any adults wishing to try tennis for the first time might be interested in coaching given by Jon Bastin, our club coach. Jon also has a wealth of experience and is LTA registered. He will do individual or group-based coaching and his details are on our web site.

For those who choose to become a member of Purton Tennis Club, you can have unlimited use of the courts. You can also join in club nights, take part in the singles ladder and play in the teams. Our 'A' teams are very competitive and have won many trophies – so that might be something you are interested in.

Due to the restrictions this year, we are offering special rates for all members. If you would like more details, please contact Michelle, the membership secretary: thehays16@gmail.com or check out the website.

For the more casual player, we can also offer pay and play for those who perhaps don't have the time to play on a regular basis and would like to book a court for the hour. Again, if this is something that interests you, then please get in touch. We have 4 excellent courts at The Red House, set in lovely surroundings – so what's not to like? Why not give it a go?

Janet Saunders (secretary) janetcsaunders@gmail.com

Purton Football Club

The Boys Are Back!

Well the old boys to be precise! On July 10th, following on from last year's success, they want to come back. Scott and Arron Crumby are arranging things again and are going to raise money for a memorial bench for Pierce Bolger to be sited within the Village Centre.



I have spoken to Heather and we are going to print a programme with a little write up on each player, just so we can recognise some that may have changed in appearance. If you would like a programme, please order in advance as only a limited number will be printed. I will deliver it to you with the cost being £3 and/or a donation or sponsorship would be most welcome.

My contact details are: terry.crumbie@gmail.com or 01793 770597 with a postal address of 5 The Masons, Purton, SN5 4DJ. Any cheques to be made out to 'Purton Football Club' please. See you on the day and let's have a bit of a laugh at those players who really think they still got it!!

Terry Crumbie, Chairman and Treasurer of Purton FC

News from The Cedars

I'm pickin' up good vibrations

May is proving to be a bit of a wash out, and because of it our garden plans are intermittent. However, as I write this there is hope in the air. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to hugs with those special people we've not been able to hug for so long. So, as we head into the summer months, we and our residents are really looking forward to a more open and inclusive vibe for our activities and visiting sessions.

She's giving me excitations

It's thrilling to be thinking about inviting entertainers and volunteers back into our home in the not-too-distant future. And it would be lovely to hear from anyone who would like to help with our weekly activities. Be that gardening, knitting, painting, playing the piano or playing cards. Maybe you love scrabble or chess or doing crosswords? Whatever pastime you enjoy we would be really excited for you to come and share it with us here. See below on how to get in touch.

Good, good, good, good vibrations

Some really good events happening soon at Cedars, we have Sing for Hope, which is a virtual singing event, and also the OSJCT Trust in Bloom competition. Consequently, we have introduced singing sessions on Tuesday mornings now and hope to be in fine voice for the virtual event during Dementia Action Week. We've also entered a miniature garden and the garden activity section for the Bloom competition. Preparations are a work in progress at the moment and sadly the weather isn't helping our gardening sessions. Although we've had some good chats about gardening over a cuppa while we watch the rain! We've also had lots of ideas and suggestions from staff and residents, so here's to the good vibrations filtering through and hope they continue to pick up.

Can you help with any activities to help stimulate and entertain our residents? Do let



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us know. Just send us contact details and we'll be in touch. Or for more information contact 01793 772036 and ask to speak to Victoria or Jane, our respective emails are v.wallis@osjct.co.uk and j.pitcher@osjct.co.uk.

Thank you and best wishes, Jane, Cedars Activities co-ordinator

Local Rotary Club helps with Covid Vaccination Roll-Out

Many of us will by now have had either one or both of our Covid-19 vaccinations. Those of you who visited the Malmesbury Primary Care Centre on one of the Pfizer mass-vaccination days will have, no doubt, noticed the stewards helping out in the car park. Hopefully you found their efforts helpful. These stewards were co-ordinated by the local Rotary Club of the South Cotswolds.

On each of these days somewhere around 800 people were vaccinated – at a site in no way suitable for that number of people (and their cars) in one day! Each vaccination day needed a crew of at least five outdoor stewards – in all the Rotary Club organised well over 100 steward shifts. This was made more difficult as the Primary Care Centre generally only had a few days' notice of each batch of vaccine and then had to arrange vaccinators and book in recipients in a hurry – and to contact the Rotary Club to ask for car park stewards!

The stewarding resource required was beyond the capabilities of the South Cotswold Rotary Club alone – so the Club was very pleased to have the support of a number of friends and from the nearby Rotary Club of Royal Wootton Bassett and District. In fact one of the friends who became a stalwart steward noted what we were doing when he came for his own vaccination and asked to join us!

Being outdoor stewards we were, of course, subject to the full range of British spring weather, including rain, wind, hail, lightning, occasional sunshine and the coldest April for many a year! However we received many accolades and thanks from those coming for their vaccinations which reinforced the knowledge we were making a significant contribution to the vaccination effort locally.

Show and Tell – Art Appreciation

David Davies will look at how art, in all its different forms, connects to our interests and experiences. David will guide you through appreciating art works and how to develop new art interests including gallery and open studio visits, joining workshops and courses, and starting new creative themes at home and outdoors.

Please feel free to bring along your favourite pieces to show and tell with others.

The session will be broadcast live on Wednesday 26th May at 2pm and will be recorded and booked to view in your own time. Bring along a cuppa, enjoy an afternoon with David on. To book your place, please email sassalisbury5@gmail.com or phone 07484 157768. These talks are free and have very generously been supported by Salisbury Area Board with a Grant and Celebrating Age Wiltshire. They are also supported by Safer and Supportive Salisbury.

£170,000 raised in just 36 hours for Prospect Hospice

A local charity embarked on an ambitious challenge to fund end of life care in the community and smashed their target thanks to the support of generous local people.

Prospect Hospice kicked off its Thanks a Million fundraiser with an online challenge to raise £150,000 in just 36 hours with people donating online in support of their work. It was overwhelming when they hit their target early, raising £20,000 more than they'd set out to achieve.

Irene Watkins, chief executive at Prospect Hospice said: "What can I say other than thanks a million to everyone who has donated over the last couple of days to help support end of life care in this community. "When we embarked on this ambitious project we had no idea what the response would be. It was something new to us but we had confidence that our supporters would be there for us

when we needed them. We knew the support for Prospect Hospice in the area was strong but I've been overwhelmed by the amount of donations we've received in such a short space of this.

"As a charity, we're only able to deliver our specialist care to those who need it thanks to generous donations of local people. Because of those donations, all the care we provide is free of charge to whoever needs it, whenever they need it. Every penny really does make a difference to our patients and I want to thank everyone who has donated as part of this Thanks a Million challenge."

Their Thanks a Million campaign continues throughout the summer so if you would like to support end of life care in your community, you can donate to Prospect Hospice at www.prospect-hospice.net/donate. Alternatively, if you'd like to arrange your own activity or event in support of the charity, contact the team by email (fundraisingandevents@prospect-hospice.net) to see how they can support you.





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