

July 2022

# Purton Magazine



An independent monthly publication of news, views, events and information from and for the Parish of Purton, Wiltshire.

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# Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	Church Street	770532
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Tuesdays 2.00-7.00pm)</i>		
Museum	Marion Hobbs	770185
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, <i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872
<i>(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm)</i>		
<a href="http://www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/">www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/</a>		

## **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	Office	770239

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

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

Vicar: Revd Ian email: [vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk)

Tweedie-Smith Tel: 770077 (773031 emergencies only)

Curate: Revd Judith Wells email: [judithwells36@googlemail.com](mailto:judithwells36@googlemail.com)

Tel: 770627

Warden Sandra Horsnall: 770157

Administrator: Rosie Harris [administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto: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: Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton

Revd Shirlyn Toppin Bassett SN4 8LT

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

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

Priest: Revd Father Tel: 852366

Lucas 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: Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church

Father Michael Robertson

*Services: Holy Days 7.00pm, Sundays 9.30am Mass.*

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# Purton Magazine

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Front cover image: 1950s workers  
at Purton's Kemdent Factory, which  
celebrates it's centenary this year.

Credit: Kemdent

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# From the Editors

July 2022

Volume 44 No.7

1st Published 1975

In your magazine this month there are several reports about and references to “well-being” that seem appropriate as our summer temperatures rise, encouraging us to venture outdoors and enjoy the sunshine.

Those attending the Queen’s Jubilee Vintage Tea Party organised by the Parish Council at the Red House certainly appear to have had a lovely time and must have enjoyed feelings of well-being. We learn on page 6 that crockery and linen tablecloths were loaned, adding to the wonderful display. Traditional sandwiches were provided with cakes, scones with jam and cream as well as “gallons of tea”. It is hard to imagine proper well-being in Britain without lots of tea!

There was a family fun day the day after, enjoyed by hundreds of people, especially on the free bouncy castles for both children and adults. It is said on page 6 that some parents benefitted from tired children at the end of a fun day but surely partaking adults might also have been too tired themselves to have noticed.

Our Nature Correspondent reminds us that time spent in the countryside is very good for our well-being. He mentions summer schools at Marlborough College where tutors and students are

encouraged to display their work at the end of the week. That’s fine and understandable for an art class or a writing course but what about those attending bird watching courses? Those students have nothing to offer after roaming the Wiltshire countryside but they come back thrilled to have seen a pair of stone curlews rise up from a bare field.

Research verifies the link between exposure to nature and the reduction of stress – a point regularly mentioned by presenters of outdoor programmes as they reaffirm the calming and healing effect that nature has on the human soul. With just over 160 footpaths in Purton our ancestors must have recognised the benefits of being outdoors and our volunteer footpath team’s latest update is on page 9.

Our Purton cricket club ancestors back in July 1834 entertained Lansdown cricket club from Bath with a two day match. On page 58 we reproduce some of the report from the Wiltshire and Gloucester Gazette covering the match that, with several literary flourishes describes “*the beauty of the spot with the romantic scenery by which it was surrounded, rich as that now in its sun-lit summer pride*” – and that is still our Purton cricket ground.

---

## 60 People

Enjoyed a Vintage Jubilee Tea Party with sandwiches and ‘gallons’ of tea, see page 6.

## 79 Gallons

Of ‘rich fat ale’ was breached on Purton Cricket Ground for Queen Victoria’s coronation in 1838. See page 59

## 100 Years

Of manufacturing for Kemdent, their Dental Factory opened in Purton in 1941. See page 34

# Purton Parish Council News



## *Queen's Platinum Jubilee Events*

Friday 3rd June 2022 – A huge thank you goes out to all those wonderful residents who supported our Vintage Tea Party by loaning crockery and linen to add to our wonderful display. 60 people enjoyed our event with traditional sandwiches, cakes and of course scones, jam and cream and gallons of tea! A free raffle saw chocolates being enjoyed with a celebratory medal attached. We raised £80 in donations which added to our overall total of £408.40 for two days of events, which will be donated to Dementia UK.

Saturday 4th June 2022 – A free family fun day with only a hint of rain was enjoyed by hundreds of people. Children and adults alike enjoyed the free bouncy castles, and I am sure the parents benefitted from the tired children at the end of the day. All day music provided a welcomed interlude and the free



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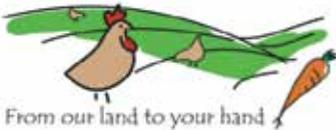
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celebratory cake was handed out to all those who attended. Check out our Community Engagement page on our website for pictures.

The Parish Council would like to thank all those who supported with their attendance and a huge thank you to the staff and councillors who gave their time freely to work these days to ensure the residents had the best possible time.

### ***What does the rest of the year hold?***

Some new dates for your diaries (more details will follow nearer the time):

Community Safety Roadshow, “Focus on Speed and Road Safety” held at Purton Village Hall on Saturday 1st October from 10am to 1pm.

“Light up Purton” Christmas Tree Light Switch on, held at Purton Red House/ Village Centre on Saturday 3rd December (timings to be confirmed).

Children’s Christmas Party with entertainer at the Purton Red House – resident children only due to numbers, more details to follow – Saturday 17th December 2022 from 12 noon

### ***Council Meetings – July 2022***

11th July 2022 Council meeting

25th July 2022 Purton Institute and Village Hall Charity Meeting

Agendas are posted on our notice boards (Purton Village Hall and Pavenhill Shops) and our website [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### ***Purton Youth Club***

Purton Parish Council continues to support and fully fund the running of our very own Youth Club. All Purton resident children are welcome. For more information please call 07715 681950 or email [danielleb@therisetrust.org](mailto:danielleb@therisetrust.org).

The Youth Club meets on Wednesdays at Purton Village Hall from 7.00pm to 8.30pm for young people in Year 7 and above.

### ***Volunteer Footpath Team Update***

The trimming back of growth around stiles etc has continued in the Bentham and Purton Stoke area. This will continue as we work in The Pry and The Fox area next. We have also trimmed overgrown footpaths that have been reported, and will continue with those we know need to have attention.

A new bridge was installed over a wide ditch on FP6 off of Stoke Common Lane and the hanging post to a wooden kissing gate was replaced on FP72 off of Hyde Lane. A second kissing gate on this footpath also needs attention which we hope to do in June. These have been in position since 2001 so have lasted just over 20 years.

### ***Planning Applications***

Planning applications received are discussed by the Council on the second Monday of each month. Purton Parish Council is a consultee only and the final decisions are made by the planning authority, which is Wiltshire Council. Details of applications are posted on our website and on the Wiltshire Council portal, the link for which can also be found on our site. Applications to be considered at our meetings will be posted on our agenda, which can be found on our notice boards and website.

### ***Granted Applications***

- PL/2022/03235 – The Pear Tree, Purton, SN5 4ED. Flat roofed infill to internal courtyard, flat roofed storeroom extension and acoustic wall.

- PL/2022/03437 – 6 Battlewell, Purton, SN5 4BT. Single storey rear extension and porch.
- PL/2022/03354 – 58 Ringsbury Close, Purton, SN5 4DF. Erection of a single storey & two storey extensions and part conversion of garage into habitable space.
- PL/2022/02772 – 2 Upper Pavenhill, Purton, SN5 4DQ. Proposed two storey side extension & loft conversion with dormer.
- PL/2022/03841 – 49 The Hyde, Purton, SN5 4EA. Erection of single dwelling access and parking (Outline application with all matters reserved).
- PL/2022/03819 – 44 Common Platt, Purton, SN5 5LB. Single storey extension to rear and garage to side and rear.
- PL/2022/04085 – 8 Station Road, Purton, SN5 4AH. Proposed two storey extension.
- PL/2022/01220 – 32 Upper Ox Hill, Purton, SN5 4GG. Single storey rear extension.
- PL/2022/02577 – Old Dairy Farm, Bentham Lane, Bentham, Purton, SN5 4HZ. One-and-two-storey extensions to dwelling; and repairs/alterations/remodelling of the former stables and garage outbuildings.
- PL/2021/07871 – Apple Tree Barn, Haxmoor Farm, Cricklade Road, Purton, SN5 4HY. Erection of detached garage/store & change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden.
- PL/2022/02539 – 5 Packhorse, Purton, SN5 4HU. Amendment to previous granted permission PL/2021/04436 to allow 3 projecting rooflights.
- PL/2022/03169 – 4 Common Platt, Purton, SN5 5JY. Variation of condition 1 of PL/2021/06367 relating to change in roof materials.

### ***Permission Granted***

- PL/2022/11209 – Station Yard, New Road, Purton, SN5 4HP. Change of use from a builder's yard (B8) to car sales (Sui Generis).
- PL/2021/11004 – Diana Lodge, 4 Collins Lane, Purton, SN5 4JR. Proposed all-weather walkways, arena, stallion shelters and extension to farm building.
- PL/2022/11004 – Oak Farm, Braydon, SN5 0AG. Proposed dual pitched roof over parking area and single storey porch extension.
- PL/2022/01315 – Old Coach House, Church End, Purton, SN5 4EB. Hipped roof conservatory to rear of dwelling.

### ***Councillor Vacancies***

The Parish Council currently has the option to co-opt five Councillors. If you are interested in this community role, please follow the link below to our website and complete the forms, or contact the offices directly for information to arrange for the information to be sent to you by post or an informal chat with the Clerk.

<https://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/data-transparency-sub/policies-procedures>

### ***Community Surveys***

Thank you to all those who completed an online or hard copy of our surveys. We will be working on the transposing

of information into a format viewable by all in the coming months.

### ***Hall Hire, Charity Buildings***

The Parish Council manages two community hire facilities, the Village Hall and Millennium Hall, for more information please give us a ring or email [lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Full Council details can be found on our website: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Telephone number: 01793 771066

Email address: [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

We also have Facebook and Twitter accounts

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

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## **Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG**



### ***A message regarding appointments from Kai Howard, Practice Manager***

Patients can now book smear appointments online once they have received a letter inviting them to book. These are the only appointments that we can offer to book online currently. This is due to having various clinicians now working for Purton surgery.

We need to ensure that patients are seen by the most appropriate clinician and our reception team needs to ask you a few questions to ensure they book you an appointment with the most suitable team member. For example, if you have a medication query this is dealt with by our practice clinical pharmacists; a wound dressing, diabetic review or blood test will be managed by our practice nurses; a urine infection, earache or chest infection by our prescribing nurse practitioners, etc.

### ***Help for appointments from Purton Age Concern Minibuses***

For those who qualify to use them the Purton Age Concern Minibuses are available for getting to and from appointments at Purton surgery. Cost £2, please phone Hazel Woodbridge 770862.

### ***Table Top sale and books – Purton Surgery Waiting Room***

The tabletop will be up and running in the Purton Surgery Waiting Room from 5 July. From that date there will also be books in the bookcase to purchase (50p each). If you wish to purchase from the table top, please hand your money to the reception team, and please also donate any books by handing them to the reception team.

### ***PPG and the Purton Open Gardens - 9/10 July***

Over the weekend of the Open Gardens the PPG will be selling plants at the

home of Peter and Sue Berry, 44 Witts Lane. Do come and see us – and buy some plants!

### **200 Club draw**

Membership is now open again so do consider joining. The annual cost is £15, standing order preferred. Prizes are won every month; the first prize is £100 and the second is £15. Forms are available from the Surgery, or, for more information on the 200 Club, contact Trish Baker (tel 770371) who is a member of the PPG committee. The June draw was done by Medical



Secretary Linda Fisher and the £100 winner was Melanie Allsop.

### **Surgery car parking**

Please remember to be respectful of others when using both Purton and Green Gable Surgery car parks – only use these car parks if you have an appointment and don't park in a way that could make it difficult for other patients to access.

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](mailto:groupforpatients@gmail.com)

*Sheila Fowler PPG Secretary*

---

## **Purton Silver Threads**

We held our 2021/2022 AGM on the Monday after bank holiday and Pips provided us with a scrumptious tea party! We sang our Silver Threads song, and the National Anthem to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.

We will not be holding Silver Threads in the same format as before Covid as we just do not have enough members to organise events. Instead, it was agreed that on the second Tuesday of each month, commencing July 12th, we would meet at Pips for a cuppa and chat. New members are welcome and we will meet at 2 p.m. No booking is necessary – just turn up and join us and pay for your own tea and cakes!

If you wish to book the minibus please call Hazel on 770862.

*Lindsey Hall, Purton Silver Threads*



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# Purton & District Age Concern

# Purton and District AGE CONCERN

## ***Coffee Morning At Bentham***

Yes, we have our Coffee Morning at Dick & Jackie Scott's house once again on our list of events and we are looking forward to seeing everybody in what is one of the best locations for us. 16th July is the date and the entrance fee is £2.50 per person which includes tea, coffee and a biscuit (come back for more tea and coffee if you want it) and we will be having a plant sale, tombola, bric-a-brac, raffle, cake stall and amazing weather (not sure about that though). Even so it will be a lovely day and has always been one of our best attended functions of the year. It will start at 10 a.m. and finish at noon, so put this one in your diary. The minibuses will be available for people that need them.

## ***Quiz Evening With Fish & Chip Supper***

We have now set a date for this and it will be Friday 29th July at the Village Hall from 7pm and will cost £9 per person. Maximum six people per team. This is another popular event so book early by ringing Laura on 07921 628992. Paying on-line is available now and is the preferred method of payment.

We have decided that as we have two events already in July that we will cancel the Mystery Tour we were planning and so the next coach trip will be the Weston-super-Mare trip on Wednesday August 17th, so please make a note of that and contact me on 778119 or book through your Street Warden. The cost will be £20 each for pensioners or children and £22 each for non-

pensioners and people living outside of the village.

I have to mention three deaths just recently, Sylvia Pratt, who lived in Norbury Court up until two years ago, died at 102 years old in a care home in Swindon. A lot of people would have known her over her life and she attended lunch club for many years. Also very sadly we lost John Lilley who died on June 8th. He was a staunch supporter of Purton Age Concern and helped regularly, possibly best known for his appearance at the 3Bs events as the bingo caller with his array of numbered tee shirts he used to wear. He had been ill for some time and will be sorely missed, having run the 3Bs event we held in April even though he was suffering then. Also Gordon Kirk, who lived in Norbury Court, died in White Lodge on the 10th June, once again a person who supported our group and was driver and shotgun on the minibus for many years and up to recently used the bus to go to Lunch Club. So sad to have to report these deaths but it is important to let everybody know, and also what these people did for the village.

## ***Minibuses***

We now have both minibuses back on the road and we are able to offer lifts to the doctors surgery, so if you ring Hazel on 770862 she will arrange this for you.

## ***Tai Chi***

The Tai-Chi classes have started again at the Millennium Hall on Thursdays 1.30pm to 2.30pm, so come along and

enjoy the benefits of this gentle exercise. New members will have to fill in a health form at the first lesson. Cost is £5.00 per session. Masks will still have to be worn at these sessions.

### **Useful Contacts**

If you have a problem or need to speak to anyone on 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 01225 256867. Please be aware that there might be restrictions in place at this time. If you are self-isolating and not letting anybody 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 – 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](http://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 Facebook and Twitter accounts which can be found at Facebook: [purtonageconcern](https://www.facebook.com/purtonageconcern) and Twitter: [@Purton\\_AC](https://twitter.com/Purton_AC). Please visit our social media sites and let us know what you think.

We still have a couple of wheelchairs for borrowing or 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, Chairman*

---

## **Fitness and Friendship Club**



Never has it been more important to keep mobile and look after our mobility. Here at Wiltshire ageUK we understand that keeping mobile is really important. That is why we are striving to keep our current clubs running and opening new clubs around the county.

### **New members are vital**

The clubs listed below are growing every week and that is wonderful. If you live locally and just want to pop along to see

what we do, then you can. Just turn up on the day, bring a friend along or, if you have a carer who can bring you, then they are very welcome and can attend for free. The more members we have at these clubs the more likely we are to be able to keep them going.

### **Exercises designed for all abilities**

So, if you are not so mobile, you can do them seated, or standing if your mobility allows. You will be guided as to what

is safe for you. And after refreshments, games etc., we send you home relaxed with a Tai Chi session.

### ***Refreshments, chat and games***

Yes, a nice cuppa, biscuits and lots of talking, playing games all to encourage us to mingle and meet new people.

### ***Current clubs in this area***

You can come along to these local clubs or there are more clubs around Wiltshire listed on the website.

Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall,  
Station Road, Royal Wootton Bassett,  
SN4 8EN 14 & 28th July, 2pm – 4pm.

Swindon Central Community Centre,  
Emlyn Square, Swindon, SN1 5BP 5th &  
19th July, 2pm – 4pm.

Chippenham Kingsley Road Community  
Hall, Kingsley Road, Chippenham, SN14  
oAS 6th & 20th July, 2pm – 4pm.

Every session is £5 For more information on our clubs please visit our website ([www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/)) or contact Tracey Jones, our Senior Fitness & Friendship Project Worker, by email to [tracey.jones@ageukwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:tracey.jones@ageukwiltshire.org.uk).

Would you like to train as a volunteer to run one of our clubs? If you like exercise and would like to learn and share the benefits of fitness & Tai Chi, why not email [fitnessandfriendship@ageukwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:fitnessandfriendship@ageukwiltshire.org.uk) with your details and someone will get back to you.

---

## **Purton Annual Flower, Arts, Craft & Produce Show**

### ***Saturday 20th August in the Village Hall***

The months seem to be passing very quickly and there is not long until the show. I hope you have all recovered from the Jubilee celebrations.

You may have lots of photographs taken during the event, and I know there have been numerous sporting occasions recently, and these are ongoing.

I'm sure there will be lots of scope with this year's five Photography Classes: Sport, Yellow, The Farming Year, Just trees, and Modern Life.

The eight Arts and Craft Classes could also have a Jubilee connection:

Picture – any medium, any hard handicraft or a celebration card.

Of course there are the usual Knitting and Crochet classes, and a new class – Make a peg bag.

This year all entries must be received by Wednesday 17th August. We will have two booking-in sessions: Afternoon at Pips Café, and evening at the Village Hall dressing room. They can also be delivered to myself or emailed.

However we will accept children's entries on the day, but only until 10 a.m.

The schedules should be ready for distribution in late June or early July, so please look out for them and if you would like one delivered, my contact details are below.

We will require much needed extra help in order to operate the show safely, particularly stewards for each class section. If you can spare an hour or two on show day, then please get in touch.

*Lorna Robinson-Wardle. Show Secretary*  
*01793 778013 or [3rwardles@gmail.com](mailto:3rwardles@gmail.com)*

12/22

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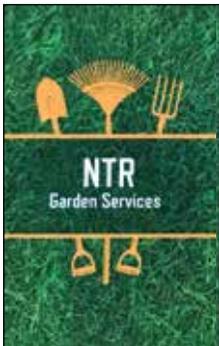
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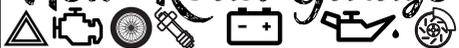



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02/23

# Christian Aid Week 2022



At the moment we are still unable to tell Purton how much was raised during Christian Aid Week. The envelopes are yet to be counted, but as soon as there is a total it will be printed in the next magazine. If you still have an envelope to be collected, or are yet to receive one, please let us know.

In the meantime here are the results of the 2022 Purton Christian Aid Quiz.

The overall winner is Robby Whelan and family from Noss Mayo, Devon.

Congratulations to you all!

Then we had five near perfect entries, each dropping only a ¼ point for a nit-picky spelling (I have to be such a really tough judge!)

Wendy Morton (Lydiard Millicent), Lucy Lewis (Purton), Patrick & Fionna Griffiths (Purton), Jane & John Halstead (Lydiard Millicent) and Peter & Lorraine Goodall (Purton).

Then came Val & Phil Cook (Ripon) and Lynne Duncombe (Purton). After them came Peter Hamilton (London), Val Walker (Purton), Kath Biss (Cardiff) and Mary-Ann and Tim Keyes (Ledbury)

Lots of familiar names... and a few new ones, which is really good to see. I feel absolutely no guilt about causing so much angst with this annual torment of a quiz. It all helps towards our Christian Aid fundraising efforts in Purton and seems to be eagerly anticipated by many!! And it stresses me too, you know, marking such brilliantly clever entries!

Luckily the judge's decision is final...

Thank you again for participating so enthusiastically

Thank you ALL, once again, for your support.

*Libbie (771018) and Mary (770505)*

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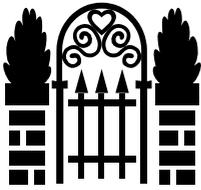
## Wiltshire Sight new support group

Wiltshire Sight is a charity providing free support to people living with sight loss across Wiltshire. There are new monthly sessions from 10.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at Cricklade Town Hall Annexe on the first Monday of every month (excluding Bank Holidays), with the next one on 4 July. Sessions are also held at Royal Wootton Bassett Library on the third Monday of every month, e.g. 18 July. Come and meet your local Sight Loss Advisor for information, advice and

guidance on living with sight loss, remaining independent and getting the most from life. Demonstration and training on a range of useful resources to help with daily living. Refreshments available. Drop-in on the day, or book an appointment in advance by calling us on 01380 723682. We welcome volunteers to help with the groups too! See our website for more information: [www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/wiltshire/](http://www.sightsupportwest.org.uk/wiltshire/)  
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12/22

# The Undelivered Queen's Speech

There has been some speculation over this year's Queen's Speech at the State Opening of Parliament. On Tuesday 10th May Prince Charles was suddenly dispatched to Westminster and hastily presented with a goatskin parchment (or similar) from which to read. The Palace made worthy statements about developing shared ongoing leadership, but what was the real reason?

Some in Purton felt that the Queen might have been getting a little weary of unrealistically optimistic words being put into her mouth and this year she thought she might deliver her own. Locals imagined that she stopped off en route to Highgrove and delivered her own Queen's Speech to an eager audience gathered in a local Purton building that has an even longer historical record than the Palace of Westminster. Those present heard this satirical alternative:

*"Throughout this Parliament the concept of levelling up will be central. My government will introduce laws which they feel capable, along with everyone else, of being able to keep – themselves!*

*Moreover, the division between 'working' and 'non-working' is to be made clear at all levels – even that of the Palace Balcony and on Horse Guards Parade.*

*When my government's ubiquitous minister for levelling up becomes free – I hear plans will be shared with me for moving Buckingham Palace up to the newly constituted City of Doncaster.*

*I am told it will be convenient for the races and as a major junction, will enable the Elizabeth Line TWO to become*

*Crossrail NORTH running to Stoke on Trent in order to visit My Lordships sitting in session there. This politically expedient initiative may well take levelling-up priority over any promised levelling up of sloping-into-the road footpaths in Wiltshire villages.*

*In terms of overall priority, my government is committed to reducing taxation.*

*Fiscally there may now be a so called windfa - er - a tax-on-unexpected-profits for oil drilling. But definitely not on wine production, large suitcase making, fixed penalty notice printing, cake decoration or manufacture of ovens for ready made meals – sorry – deals. My government sees further investment in all these areas as vital for effective working.*

*In spending on Overseas Aid my government will continue to direct its funds to where the need has been shown to be greatest. We will therefore seek to give continued help and support to the people of Ukraine in every way that our strategic interest allows. But there must be reciprocation. Next year my government hopes its 'outstanding support for the Arts' might result in our doing even better in the Eurovision Song Contest!*



'Queen' Jean Belt reading the speech at St Mary's Church

*Northern Ireland has for many years been an unsolvable challenge to successive governments. The present issue centres around trade. My current ministers however feel they have at last found the solution. All trade between mainland Britain and Northern Ireland will now be conducted on a click-and-collect basis. And to aid the people of Northern Ireland, multiple collection points have been set up by my government's new found friends – all across Rwanda.*

*Other expedient measures may be laid before you. Meanwhile throughout this parliament I shall continue to enjoy my regular Wednesday meetings with my Prime Minister. After all, I need to keep my hand in for the Sandringham Christmas 'True or False?' Game!*

*My Lords, Members and readers - Thankyou."*

That was a bit of introductory British Satire delivered at 'The Faith of The Queen Whose Reign We Celebrate' service at St Mary's Church the Sunday before Jubilee.

*Read by Jean Belt*

### ***The Faith of The Queen***

The service then went on to look at some more serious elements of our Queen's thinking, with a play on the frequently voiced question of children 'Do I have to?'

#### ***She Does.***

She does not have to pray each night. She has much else to fill her mind. But she does.

She does not have to go to church every week. She has many reasons not to. But she does.

She does not have to enter quietly by

the side door and sit on an ordinary pew along with the rest. But she usually does.

She does not have to invite a different church minister every weekend of her Balmoral holiday to spend time with her family. But she does.

She does not have to bring the morning sermon into general discussion over Sunday Lunch or until recently let her husband do the honours. But she does.

She does not have to stage a children's party in the Buckingham Palace stables each December, hoping it helps bring the Christmas story alive to young minds. But she does.

She does not have to find out which children have won prizes at the Sandringham Estate Sunday School – then buy and present books to them. But she does.

She does not actually have to mention Jesus in her Christmas Address. There are other ways of treating it. But she always does. And it is invariably the climax of the broadcast.

She does not have to be so hard working, Serving,

Interested in individuals,  
Committed to her role.

But she is.

We do not have to see the King she serves behind the servant Queen

But perhaps we more often should.

*Taken from "The Servant Queen and The King She Serves" – Published 2016 for Her Majesty's 90th Birthday.*

Taken from that morning's sermon – what observers have noted.

"She is simply an exceptional Christian

which in turn makes her an incredible Sovereign... Why is her Faith so significant? She practices what so many others only preach” Andrew Pratt Bishop of Blackburn’s Advisor on interfaith relations.

“She is unquestionably one of the best informed people on world affairs I have ever met. And her interest and knowledge of the Bible and its Message is most impressive. She on one visit asked me to help with one of her Christmas messages and he in turn has helped me with one of my sermons.”

Dr. Billy Graham, De facto chaplain to nine US Presidents and renowned world Christian communicator.

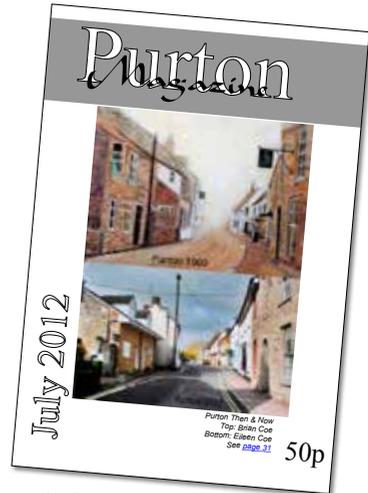
The BBC has recently admitted that it has been largely reflecting a secular version of Britain and needs to do more to hold up a mirror to faith in the UK. The Queen is ahead of the game. She has deliberately decided to fill the gap.” Dr. Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. “Talk about your Faith. It means so much to you.” Prince Philip

*David Martin*

# Ten Years Ago...

Last month’s review of its predecessor in Purton Magazine included the editor’s comment that there were too many things happening for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations to be included. Little did he know; he didn’t include the weather. It poured on the parade but nevertheless a member of the tennis club was able to play while marching along...backwards. Other members were present to collect lost balls. Festivities commenced under a marquee but had to transfer to the village hall. Just as well, because at the end of the evening it was discovered that the marquee had blown over.

On the cover of the July edition are two pictures of the High Street, one from 1900 and the other from 2012 (see above). Although the buildings have changed little since the turn of the 20th Century, it appears that there were two pubs on that stretch, one being The Queen Arms. Is that little change for the better?



Wiltshire

Good Neighbours gave practical advice on how to keep cool in the sun and to avoid heat exhaustion. In view of the weather being enjoyed at the Jubilee, one wonders if it was ever put into use that summer.

Purton WI had a demonstration of three different types of harp. After being lulled by beautiful playing, an announcement was made that the skittles team had won a match. The audience transformed from classical movement lovers to raucous sports fans, later enjoying a hilarious tie-break.



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12/22

## After 8



### **Clarification**

Just to clarify the contribution about Jane Morris: Jane and William did indeed live in Kelmscott House which is in London and which they named after the house they rented, and which Jane later bought, near Lechlade, this being Kelmscott Manor. The Manor is open to visitors and contains some of their furniture etc. Highly recommended for a visit.

*Jeanne Perons*

### **What locals do not know about Purton Railway Station**

After a short delay, due to being unable to find the keys to the front door, the May meeting began.

Our speaker, Barbara Gosden, was introduced by Avril. Her talk was informative and comprehensive on how the line was built and where it ran, from Swindon to Gloucester.

Barbara gave handouts regarding the line, station and the variable depths of the line itself.

There were railway books to look at and people asked numerous questions about the railway line and passengers.

A vote of thanks was given, and an interesting talk ensued between the members present. The meeting closed approximately 9.45 p.m.

The next meeting will be a picnic in the Millennium Garden, so hope for good weather, if not we can always go over the road to Pips.

## Great Western Air Ambulance

My newly rebuilt garden was opened recently to raise funds for the Great Western Air Ambulance. It costs £50,000 to run the helicopter every year, with additional costs for each call out and every child's oxygen mask.

On a sunny, if windy, Saturday morning there were stalls full of cakes, clothes and cards as well as a raffle, a tombola and a guess the weight of a special GWAA cake with a miniature helicopter on top! Over £1,047 was raised and big thanks go to all who supported the cause as more people's lives will now be saved.

*Jude Sullivan*

### **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 Historical Society



## **Future Outing**

**Saturday 9th July 2022 at 2.00 pm.  
Visit to Coleshill Estate –  
a guided walk**

This visit follows on from Liza Dibble's presentation in October 2021 which covered the story of 'Operation Sealion' in September 1940. Preparations were underway in England to train a resistance group who would be ready to defend the country in the event of an invasion. Coleshill House became the General Headquarters. Come and discover this story and find out what remains at Coleshill.

We will meet our guide, Roger Green, in the Visitor Information Centre beside the Carpenters Canteen at 2.00 p.m. The route takes us up the back drive to the Guard House, then continues to the stable yard and the site of Coleshill House. A short walk into the woods reveals the site of the SOE radio assembly. Returning through the park, past the memorial trees, we finish the tour at the replica operational base.

The walk takes under two hours and is approximately half a mile. The cost will be £5.00 per person. An Age Concern minibus is booked for the journey from Purton to Coleshill and return. A limited number of seats are available for pre-booking.

To book a place for the Coleshill visit, the minibus or for further information contact: Marion Hobbs Tel: 01793 770185 email: roy.marion@btinternet.com

Visitors always welcome

*Janet and Tony Neate  
email: tjneate57@gmail.com*

## **Museum News**

Are you a former pupil of St Mary's School? Can you help us identify pupils, teachers and the year in the many class photos we have on display at Purton Museum?

Purton Museum is open on Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and our current exhibition is on Education at St Mary's School.

*Lucy Lewis, Museum Archivist*

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## **Purton Methodist Church**

Purton Methodist Church is a congregation of friendly people who meet together on Sunday mornings to praise God, pray and share fellowship together. Our services begin at 10.30am and are generally led by our Minister, Rev Shirlyn Toppin, or a local preacher from the area. Occasionally we have united services with St Mary's Church and this is usually indicated in this magazine. If you would like to join us at any time you would be very welcome.

## *Prayer for Purton*

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Hillside, Station Road, Willow Brook, Bamford, Shaftesbury, Smiths Court, Widham, Clardon, New Road, (and from Ridgeway Farm) Course Meadow and South View*

# Ask the Professionals

## *Purton Magazine* advertisers answer frequently asked questions about their field of expertise: **Domestic Water Softeners**

With heating costs rising sharply, installing a domestic water softening system could make financial sense. Here are some of the Frequently Asked Questions, answered by industry professionals.

### **Q** *Would it clean off any existing limescale already in my pipes?*

**A** It would not be an instant process but over time soft water will dissolve the scale. It should be an essential appliance for anyone moving into a new home to keep everything looking and running like new. Limescale in appliances such as kettles, shower heads, taps and washing machines is also removed over time, extending their lifetimes.

### **Q** *What about drinking soft water?*

**A** Soft water is very drinkable. There is a tiny amount of sodium in softened water due to the water softening process but to put that into perspective there is more sodium in a glass of milk than in a glass of softened water. Only in very hard water areas such as East Anglia where the water hardness is over 400ppm should you have a separate water mains tap in the house. The only times we advise against drinking softened water is when making up formula for small babies or if you are on a prescribed low sodium diet.

### **Q** *What do Water Softeners cost?*

**A** To ensure that the best softener is recommended, we usually carry out a full technical survey followed by an obligation-free written quotation.

### **Q** *Where can Water Softeners be fitted?*

**A** Generally as close to the mains stop cock as possible although other locations are manageable.

### **Q** *Are there complex controls or timers?*

**A** The softener doesn't need any power, there are no controls or timers as it only uses salt when it needs to.

### **Q** *What are the running costs of a Kinetico Softener?*

**A** The rule of thumb is approximately 4kg (or 1 block) of salt, per person, per month. That's approximately £3.30 per person, per month in salt.

### **Q** *Where can I get salt from?*

**A** Gloucestershire Softeners can supply and deliver salt, or it can be collected from our barn in Ewen.

**Purton Magazine readers can benefit from £100 (inc VAT) off a full supply and installation of a Kinetico Premier Compact Water Softener using the code PURTON22 when enquiring, contact details below. For more information see the back cover of this magazine.**

call **01285 770002** or visit  
**www.gloucestershire-softeners.com**



"Part of DW Dunn Ltd - "Plumbing & Heating"

# Purton Post Bag



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



## **Thank you Purton Parish Council**

A very big thank you is owed to everyone involved with the preparations for the Parish Council Jubilee party held on Friday 3rd June. The organisation was amazing with everyone having a place card with a photograph of the Queen and a crocheted button badge. There was a vase of Red, White and Blue flowers on each table and very enjoyable sandwiches, numerous delicious cakes, plus scones, jam and clotted cream, and members of the Council kept tea and coffee pots filled! A free raffle saw a number of people winning a commemorative medal and chocolates! All in all a wonderful afternoon which ended with the singing of God Save the Queen.

*Thank you all, Edna Bunce*

Thanks go to the Parish Council for organising the Jubilee Tea Party at the Village Hall. I'm sure I speak for everyone who attended when I say what a great time we had.

The food was lovely, the decorations looked great and the people waiting on us were very attentive. So thanks to you all for giving us such a nice time.

*Bernice Seviour*



## **Faraway Family**

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their continuing help and support to our Mum, Bernice Seviour. It's been 6 years since our Dad, David Seviour died. With my health issues, Elena living in America and of course Covid, it's great to know that Mum has so many amazing friends in the village.

*Best Wishes Penni, Elena, Joey, the  
Grandchildren and all the Cornish Clan*

## **Purton Open Gardens 2022 9th & 10th July 10.30am-4pm**

There will be a wide variety of gardens open to visitors. Programmes are £5, children's entry free with programme holders. Programmes will be available from the end of June from various places around the village – look out for posters!

*Thanks, Diana and Adam Meares 770046*

# July Nature Correspondent

## “Well-being”

At the Marlborough Summer School, tutors and their students are encouraged to display their work at the end of each week. Members of my Birdwatch and Music Appreciation Courses have nothing to offer after roaming the Wiltshire countryside or following a Mozart Concerto with a score, but they come back enlightened about a piece of music or thrilled to have seen a pair of Stone Curlews rise up from a bare field - leaving them with a palpable sense of well-being.

It is well known that time spent in the countryside is good for us: presenters of outdoor programmes constantly reassure us about the calming and healing effect that nature has on the human soul. Research has verified a link between exposure to nature and stress reduction: it has restorative properties, increasing energy and improving feelings of vitality and focus. Composers have found ways of tapping into nature for inspiration.

Vivaldi's Four Seasons, Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony and Benjamin Britten's opera Peter Grimes for example: such works are reflections of the composer's contact with the natural world.

Britten walked his dog along the beach at Aldeburgh and came back with a whole passage of the opera in his head, complete with orchestration. Joseph Haydn, musical servant to the super-rich Esterhazy family began his daily ritual with breakfast at eight, sat at the piano, prayed to God for inspiration and made sketches of compositions till mid-morning. A walk until lunchtime followed and he returned to his music later taking sketches he had made in the morning and scoring them. The countryside around Esterhazy Palace, formerly a hunting lodge, must have inspired the great man, composer of the Bird and Lark quartets and symphonies “La Chasse” and “La Poule.” Nature inspired much of his word painting: the sun, the moon and all God's creatures in his oratorio “The Creation”, composed in his mid-sixties.



Marbled White Butterfly

My summer schoolers might hear a Quail bleating or encounter a family of Yellow Wagtails and in recent years Red Kites, Little Egrets and Ravens have been regularly spotted. But July is a quiet time for birds, with song much reduced, parents moulting and bedraggled after the exertions of the breeding season and the duck species “in eclipse plumage”. But then, with the sun out and the downland flowers a riot of colour, we suddenly focus on the butterflies: Skippers, Ringlets, Meadow Browns and the dainty black and white Marbled White fluttering by. For those coming from more urban environments they provide a true “sense of well-being.”

*Robin Nelson,  
Commissioned by  
Tower & Town,  
Marlborough*

# One Stop fundraiser in memory of Ann Richings

Following our fundraiser on 28th May, the team at One Stop are enormously proud to announce that £1,675 is being sent to The Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospital London in memory of our dear friend and colleague Ann

Ritchings, who sadly passed away in February. We were pleased to have the support of Ann's family, who joined us on the day and were grateful for the use of Dominic's gazebo. We couldn't have asked for a better day.

The theme was red, white and blue and although we were very sad as to the reason why we put on this event, we know Ann wouldn't begrudge us a bit of fun. We know she was with us in spirit.

A big thank you must go to our customers and residents of Purton for their support in raising this wonderful amount. Several people generously turned up on the day just to donate to our total. Thanks also must go to Jean and Des Guppy and Deb and Neil Wicks for the loan of your tables, as usual. And to both ladies for your donation to the cake stall. We were also given some items for the tombola and raffle so thank you to everyone who donated. There



were 42 prizes in the raffle, hopefully they have all been claimed when you read this.

The actual amount raised by the raffle, tombola, cake stall and donations was £830 added to £800 already raised by Zita's Grand National sweepstake and all monies from our till point collecting buckets plus £45 donations given to us since the day bring us to the total of £1,675.

Both Zita and myself were baking most of the day before and were extremely tired afterwards, but the wonderful result and some lovely feedback about our cooking far outweighs our tiredness. We do it because we enjoy it.

Thank you all again for your generosity. God bless you Ann.

Pearl Lait, on behalf of Your One Stop Team

Pictured: Ann's family with Pearl, Zita and Zac (Manager) Purton One Stop.

# The Other Side of the Gate

Silaging has started at Restrop. I started by cutting around the outside of the fields first. We do this so that the grass doesn't get driven over too much. Driving over the grass after it's been cut can push it into the ground and contaminate it with soil bacteria as well as making it hard to pick up by the baler.

The cost of making silage is increasing. Neil that does my baling has told me that the cost of the wrap is still increasing, as is diesel. Who knows where it will stop? The reality of the situation is that food costs are increasing, and will continue to increase, whilst the government claws back the money (via fuel tax) they lost through the lockdowns.

Otto, our South Devon bull that we bought last year as a teaser bull (infertile), has fathered his first calf. Yep, he's a bit more fertile than we thought!

The result is a nice healthy bull calf unfortunately from a teenage mother (18 months old) that was supposed to be going for beef! Teenage mothers are not usually able to calve on their own and this was no exception! Tessa, one of our vets, kindly came and performed a C-section.

Since then, we've had another four Devon calves, so now we don't know what's going to be popping out of our cows over the coming months! One good thing with Otto's genes is they seem to calve very easily on their own.

We do have some exciting news and by the time this is published it should be very common knowledge: We're due to sign the lease documents on the kiosk at the Redhouse in the next few days. We're hoping to be open for business from the first week of July. As well as being able to get milk and a limited amount of meat products fresh from our farm, we also will be doing both hot and cold drinks, snacks and burgers.

*Jonathan Cook, Quarry Farm*



# Purton Village Diary - July 2022

3	Su	8.00am	Holy communion at St Mary's Church
		10.30am	United Service at Purton Methodist Church, families and children welcome.
4	M		American Independence Day
9	Sa	10.30am	until 4pm, Purton Open Gardens
		2.00pm	Purton Historical Society visit to Coleshill Estate Wimbledon Women's Final Day
10	Su	10.30am	Holy communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Junior church at St Mary's Church for 3-11 year olds Until 4pm, Purton Open Gardens Wimbledon Men's Final Day
11	M	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall
12	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus meet at Hook Village Hall for a talk on the Titanic
14	Th		Bastille Day, a French national day, celebrating the storming of the Bastille prison in Paris, which signalled the start of the French Revolution.
15	F		St. Swithuns Day, according to legend, if it rains today, it will continue to rain for 40 days and 40 nights.
16	Sa	10.00am	Age Concern Coffee Morning at Bentham, see page 14 for details
17	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Church for all at St Mary's + Pop up crafts and toys for children
18	M	2.00pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women meet at Purton Methodist Church for a talk on Family History with Jenny Pope.
20	W	7.30pm	Purton Evening WI welcome Nicholas Baxter for a talk on Wiltshire - a history through time at Silver Threads Hall
24	Su	10.30am	Holy communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
		2.00pm	Mediaeval graffiti talk and cream tea at St Mary's, see placard
25	M	7.30pm	Purton Institute and village hall charity meeting at the Village Hall
26	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus meet at Hook Village Hall for a talk entitled 'A kick up the Arras for Shakespeare'
		7.30pm	Purton & District Gardeners' Guild meet at Silver Threads Hall
28	Th		until 8th August, Commonwealth Games 2022 take place in Birmingham
29	F	7.00pm	Age Concern quiz evening with fish and chip supper at Purton Village Hall, see page 14 for details
31	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Sunday service at St Mary's Church

# Purton Village Diary

## **Every week**

M	6.30pm	to 7.30pm Purton Village Voices choir practice at the Red House function room (term time)
Tu	9.00am 2.00pm 7.30pm	to 11am Purton Toddler Group at the Village Hall (term time) to 7.00pm Purton Library open Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am  6.15pm 7.00pm	to 12 noon Coffee and Chat at Pips Community Cafe, Silver Threads Hall.  Purton Youth Club for school years 4-7 at Purton Village Hall Purton Youth Club for school years 7+ at Purton Village Hall
Th	1.30pm	to 2.30pm (during term time) Tai Chi at the Millennium Hall
F	3.30pm	to 5.00pm Weekly group for Ukrainian families and their hosts at Royal Wootton Bassett Library
Sa	10.00am	to 12.30pm Purton Museum open, free of charge (Apr-Nov)

## **Every month**

2nd Monday	Purton WI meet at 10am at the Silver Threads Hall (October-March)
3rd Monday	St Mary's Fellowship of Women at Purton Methodist Church
3rd Monday	Royal British Legion meet at the Red House
2nd Tuesday	2.00pm Silver Threads meet at Pips Community Cafe
2nd & 4th Tuesday	10.00am Purton Probus meet at Hook Village Hall.
4th Tuesday	7.30pm Purton and District Gardeners' Guild meet at Silver Threads Hall
2nd Wednesday	(except Aug) 2.30pm Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church - temporarily suspended
3rd Wednesday	2-4pm Purton Charity Knitting group meet at Pips Community Cafe 10.30am-Noon Parkinson's UK Cricklade Cafe at the Cricklade Club 7.30pm Purton Evening WI meet at the Silver Threads Hall (April-September)
4th Thursday	(September to May) Purton Historical Society meet at 7.30pm in Play Close Methodist Church.

The Purton Village Diary is now kept at Pips Community Cafe, add your events and check what's happening in our village.

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

# Kemdent is celebrating 100 years of manufacturing



"BRITISH DENTAL EXHIBITION - LONDON, 1954."

Kemdent is celebrating this year after reaching a milestone achievement of 100 years. The Dental Factory, situated on the outskirts of Purton village, has had a vast and fascinating history. Kemdent is the registered trademark of Associated Dental Products Ltd. – the company was founded in July 1922 by Harold Osborn and was originally located in West Ealing, London, making dental products sold via dental distributors.

Pictured right: At work in the Dental Factory 1958, Miss Whiting, Alice Hedges (Matthews), Jean Waldron, Beryl Young, Mrs Looker, Violet Jones, Barbara Clayton (others unknown).



Pictured below: Staff at the Dental Factory 1943; L Baker, M Hunter, B Young, J Kennett, B Leach, M Seymour, V Jones, M Law, M Parsons, B Bennet, J Huntley. (Both photos from Purton Museum)



Research suggests that during the war Harold had collaborated with the RAF's Farnborough Research Laboratory, where he worked with jet inventor, Air Commodore Sir Frank Whittle, to research the lost wax process, which was crucial in the mass production of jet aircraft.

Mr. & Mrs. Amos J. Cakebread joined in 1928 and introduced a new range of dental wax products, used by dentists and dental technicians.

In December 1940, the factory was severely damaged by a land mine being

dropped on the roof. Mr Osborn's flat had also been damaged at the start of the war. The decision was made to relocate from London and take over the premises that had once been a jam factory, then later a dairy, on Cricklade Road, Purton. Mr & Mrs Osborn and Mr Cakebread and his family all moved to Purton and Kemdent Works opened in April 1941.

In 100 years Kemdent has seen the formation of the health service, survived recessions, the Millenium Bug, Brexit and the Covid pandemic. Throughout its history Kemdent has been at the forefront of product development, innovation and quality.

The manufacturing method and formulation of its modelling waxes are unique and the products are recognised by dental technicians throughout the world as the finest available.

The business is now owned by the Mayoh family and we would like to thank Purton and our staff for all their continued support as we look forward to the next 100 years.

Visit the Kemdent web site [www.kemdent.co.uk](http://www.kemdent.co.uk)



## Hidden Elements

*at St Mary's Church, 24 July*

Join us from 2.00pm to 4.30pm for a talk and workshop at the church on historical graffiti and medieval wall-paintings, with a cream tea to enjoy! Tony Hack from the Wiltshire Medieval Graffiti Survey will explain the study, recording and interpretation of marks and patterns carved and scratched into the walls of historic buildings including churches. After tea, we will explain how to find medieval protection patterns, masons' marks, writing and other shapes with a workshop exploring the interior and exterior of the church. Tony will also demonstrate photographic techniques to enhance images in the medieval wall-paintings, bringing out the details that are hard to see in normal light. Come and find out how people in the past understood their church building and the things they did that seem strange and mysterious to us today. Equipment will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own camera and torch. This Festival of Archaeology 2022 event is a fund-raiser for the church fabric appeal. Limited places so book soon. Tickets cost £7.50, including a cream tea, available from Judith and Sandra on 770627 or 770157.

# Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



Well, at last Gardeners' Guild has had its first guest speaker since February 2020 and, judging by the turnout, it was well overdue and very much welcomed.

We welcomed Marcel Floyd of Floyds Climbers and Clematis, based in Chippenham, who treated us to an entertaining and informative talk on Clematis.

Marcel's interest in Clematis started in his teens and he is now a highly regarded expert on the subject.

Clematis is one of the nation's favourite plants and even fledgling gardeners know of them.

They are divided into three separate groups, based on their flowering time and the age of the flowering wood. Each of these groups has a distinctive pruning time. This is very often the part that makes very many gardeners nervous, but it isn't as hard as it sounds.

## **Group 1**

The first to flower in spring and on the previous year's wood. Trim out any dead wood after flowering.

## **Group 2**

These flower in May/June and then repeat in August/September. Trim out the dead wood in February and dead head after the first flush of flowers.

## **Group 3**

Clematis in this group flower in late summer on growth made the same year and should be cut back hard every February.

Always make sure that your secateurs

are sharp and clean when cutting back and pruning. Marcel says that we get too hung up on when is the right or wrong time to prune.

Many of us will have heard 'If it flowers before June no need to prune', but Clematis, like all plants, wants to grow. If you make a mistake with pruning you may not get flowers for one season, but don't despair, they will nearly always come back.

## ***So how best to plant Clematis?***

If planting in stony ground plant 18" from a wall but lean the plant in. This allows for the rain shadow caused by the wall. Dig a good deep hole and add bonemeal and compost. Give the hole a good watering before planting. The roots love to be in the shade. Place grit around the top of the plant. Water again 5-6 days later.

If planting in clay, put 4/5 handfuls of grit in the hole before adding lots of organic matter and bonemeal. Water after planting and again after 5-6 days.

Feed in the spring with potash and in autumn with bonemeal.

## ***Clematis make good container plants***

Use a big pot at least 18" wide and 18" deep. Place lots of crocks in the bottom and use a John Innes no. 3 mixed with a good amount of grit. Once planted grit over the top. Raise the container off the ground to allow for drainage.

Your plant should be happy in the pot for up to 10 years. Don't forget to water and feed. Tomorite, Seaweed or Comfrey are perfect liquid feeds.

Most people have Clematis growing up over and through obelisks, pergola arches and towers. Many climb over fences, walls or outbuildings. They are also good growing up trees – Silver Birch, Apple and Pear make good bedfellows. There are also scrambling Clematis that tumble through shrubs, and herbaceous varieties that mingle with perennials in their borders.

Of course every plant has pests to contend with. If you notice holes in your flowers, this is likely to be earwigs. Greenfly and blackfly are attracted to ailing or stressed plants.

Slugs and snails, every gardener's nightmare, can be sorted out with beer traps.

Marcel advised that porridge oats can work as slugs and snails really don't like them. I imagine this could get very messy if it rains!!

Should the plant succumb to Clematis wilt, Marcel advised us to chop the plant down. Should it wilt again then repeat the process. It should grow back again.

No matter the size of your garden there is a plant for every taste.

Montanas start the show off with flowers bursting out day after day. Next come the large flowering show offs, with their 'stop you in your tracks' voluptuous flowers. Some are fully doubles and their colour range is phenomenal.

July and August greet Clematis viticella. The flowers are more elegant and daintier in size. These give colour right through to autumn.

The Clematis family is full of all rounders and there is something to fit every taste and fit any situation.

Marcel's nursery has a number of open weeks this year. The dates are as follows: September 12th until September 18th, 10 am until 2 pm on these days.

Showell Nursery, Chippenham SN15 2NU  
[www.floydclimbers.co.uk](http://www.floydclimbers.co.uk)

Hopefully this will encourage people to give Clematis a go. Go on. What are you waiting for?

Thank you to Marcel for an entertaining evening with all his tips and suggestions.

Now I have a Clematis to plant...

Happy Gardening!

*Jo LeBlond (Committee member)*

Gardeners' Guild meet at 7.30 pm every fourth Tuesday of each month in the Silver Threads Hall.

Anyone and everyone is more than welcome to come along.

Our programme for the remainder of the year is as follows:

**28 June 2022 – Andrew Woodall – 'A career in horticulture'**

Andrew is currently Head Gardener at Broughton Grange Gardens near Banbury.

**26 July 2022 – Robert Harvey – 'Creating A Downland Garden'**

Robert is a professional photographer. His talk will trace the development of his Wiltshire garden from a bare field to acceptance in the National Garden Scheme.

**23 August 2022 – Dr Frank Burroughes – ‘A Victorian Head Gardener’**

Life as a gardener’s boy on a large Victorian country estate.

**27 September 2022 – Mini Show**

A chance for members to exhibit the fruits of their labours from their gardens

and allotments, with all manner of goodies on show for our tastings!

**25 October 2022 – Rachel Warmington. Topic to be confirmed**

There will be no meetings in November and December.

*Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)*



## Beneath the Wool

This month we’ve been fairly busy, but it doesn’t really feel like it, as there’s been lots of little niggling jobs. The biggest task was to get the yearling lambs in, put them through the race and to worm them. While we were doing it, we had a good look through them and picked out the best looking ewe lambs to keep for breeding, and decided on which ones will go for meat. For breeding, we’re looking for good sized ewe lambs, good shape and, hopefully, good behaviour. The naughty ones didn’t even get a look in at staying.

One of the other jobs was to get our orphan lamb out on grass and slowly wean her off the milk. Thankfully, that’s now done and she’s in the field with the rest.

We’ve also been taking down all the hurdles from the shed and getting it ready to put the hay in. This will be

our next big job; we are just waiting for the weather. We are making a bit more hay this season, as some of the grass has gone beyond the sheep, so we might have a few bales to sell later in the year. The machinery is getting checked over in preparation, so hopefully it’s all ready to go when we need it.

Recently we have bought a few new (well, to us!) bits of second-hand equipment ready for haymaking which hopefully will make the job that little bit easier... I will report back on how effective it’s been once we have started!

I spoke to Sid recently about the shearing and he’s looking for a date when he’ll be available. The ewes will feel so much better in the summer heat without their big woolly jackets! By next month, there should be a full report on the shearing.

*Michael Woodward, Rogers Farm, Purton*

# Norbury Court Platinum Jubilee celebrations

A good time was had by all on Jubilee Saturday. We even had the Queen and Prince Charles open the party! Lots of food, drink, music and party games were enjoyed by everyone. A great afternoon bringing us all together to celebrate!



# Jubilee Celebrations fit for a Queen

Excitement has been running high at White Lodge Care Home in Braydon where residents and staff have been busy making Jubilee-themed decorations to prepare for their big Jubilee afternoon tea as well as decorating the home for a Jubilee activities programme.

Staff and residents at the home put their heads together and came up with a plan for their celebrations fit for a Queen – inviting family, friends and the local community to join them for a Jubilee celebration afternoon tea in the grounds on Thursday 2nd June. Everyone came together to celebrate our longest reigning monarch and reminisce about what she means to each and every one of us.

The Jubilee afternoon tea in our grounds was a gorgeous day. There was a live brass band performance with some classic tunes from local group Lockdown Brass. The traditional afternoon tea was prepared by White Lodge's Head Chef and his team and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Ramona Gherendi, General Manager at White Lodge said: "We've all had such a brilliant time celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, it has been such fun. Our staff and residents love the Queen and so they were all so excited to take part. It has been a real collaborative process – thinking about how we wanted to celebrate, planning our activities, decorating the home and creating all the party food. It was so lovely to be able to invite our friends and family to come and join us for a proper celebration too."

Resident Mollie Groom said: "The Queen is an amazing lady, everyone wanted to get involved in the celebrations. It is remarkable to think she has been on the throne for 70 years, such an achievement! I remember watching the Coronation on a small black and white TV."



## ***Congratulations Ruth and Fred on 75 years of marriage***

We have four resident couples, between them they have been married over 250 years. One Couple, Ruth and Fred Stanford celebrated the remarkable milestone this week of 75 years of marriage. On 14th June 1947 the couple married at the age of 21. The couple started courting aged 16, but soon after Fred joined the RAF and was away on active service in World War II. They

to make the day personal to them so arranged a number of surprises for the couple. Master Air Crew Brain Kayll and Sargent Isla Cudlipp from RAF Brize Norton came along to meet the couple and had a surprise of their own presented them with a framed picture of the Lancaster Bomber.

Ruth was President of the Royal Wootton Bassett Women's Institute and White Lodge were delighted to welcome current President of Royal Wootton Bassett WI,



married post war in 1947, the same year as the Queen and Prince Phillip. They actually first met at St Luke's Primary School in Guildford where they are photographed in the same class!

The couple have led a very interesting and varied life as Fred stayed in RAF until his retirement aged 65. Fred was the longest serving RAF officer to keep up his flying hours when he retired. Fred flew Lancaster Bombers during the Second World War and piloted 37 types of aircraft during his service. That service in the RAF took the family to the Far East where the couple lived with their young family for many years.

White Lodge really pulled out all the stops to celebrate what is a very rare anniversary. The activities team wanted

Shelia Rummung and member of the WI Beth Carrigan with whom Ruth had a lovely chat. Fred also was a founder of the Royal Wootton Bassett Otters Swimming Club.

Royal Wootton Bassett Mayor, Pat Farrow also attended and to mark the couples work in the town over the years presented them with lapel pins, along with presenting Ruth with flowers. Pat spent the whole afternoon at White Lodge, chatting with residents and their families. White Lodge arranged for the residents to attend the celebration and invited families to join the event as well.

Ruth and Fred's children Christine and Gordon attended, with their other daughter Jenny on video call from overseas. They spoke fondly of their

parents and amazing life, Christine said: “Mum is feisty with a lovely spirit and Dad was a great party goer in his youth. They looked after us well. We had good fun as kids and travelled around the world because of Dad’s work. We lived in Singapore for a few years. They’ve really made the most of their retirement and went on amazing holidays sightseeing around Europe, they’ve had an adventurous life.”

Gordon remembered his father saying about the RAF: “If someone gave you the best toys in the world to play with and paid you to do it, of course you’d sign up.” He added about their marriage, “Mum and Dad were always there for us, with financial or emotional support. They don’t think there’s a big secret to a happy marriage, just care and respect and regard.”

Ruth was asked many times throughout the day about the secret to a long and happy marriage, she commented that it was because her husband went away a lot with the RAF! She went on to say “I have not got a clue! I never thought we would get to this, it’s just one of those things, it seems as though Fred has been around forever.”

White Lodge decorated the gardens with a wedding theme, put together a beautiful display with memories from their wedding day along with family events over the years including their Ruby Wedding party. The home made a stunning cake which was officially cut and the hospitality team made a delicious buffet. The couple were toasted with prosecco by everyone who attended and the celebrations continued with live entertainment from singer, Andy Yapp. Ruth said “This was a lovely day – even better than the wedding! The care home has done wonderfully well, I’m not sure we deserve it all, though I know it’s amazing to have been married for such a long time.”

Margaret and Lucy, the White Lodge activities team planned the day with military precision including requesting the card from the queen. They now have a collection of anniversary cards from the Queen and were invited to Buckingham Palace for their Golden Wedding Anniversary as were all couples married in 1947 to celebrate with the Queen and Prince Phillip. White Lodge are very grateful to the VIPs for their time and to everyone who made the day such a special occasion.

## *We Record...*



### ***Weddings at St Mary’s Church***

13 May 2022 Amy Jane Canavan and Elliot William Draper

4 June 2022 Samantha Jayne Allenden and Joshua Thomas Sherry

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28 May 2022 Claire Thorne and Harvey Dawkins

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always remember*  
**The richness of his style  
makes Cider with Rosie a  
delight to read and in my  
opinion a book hard to  
put down.**

*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 memory 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.*

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# Cider with Rosie

by Laurie Lee

Laurie Lee was born in 1914. In 1917 he moved to tiny Bank Cottage in Slad, Gloucestershire where he spent the next 16 years with his siblings. His autobiographical work is “Cider with Rosie” first published in 1959. I chose to write about this book because I love the prose Lee uses and the book has an overall sense of life with colourful descriptions that are highly evocative of a time when country life was much more self-contained, especially for Slad folk, due to it being in a steep valley in the age before tarmac roads or the motor car.

Many people are familiar with this book and it was my eldest daughter who mentioned it to me in the mid 80s as she was studying it for her GCSE. I hold that book in my hand today as I write this review. It’s a paperback Penguin edition with illustrations and with many of her annotations, which makes it all the more special and instructive.

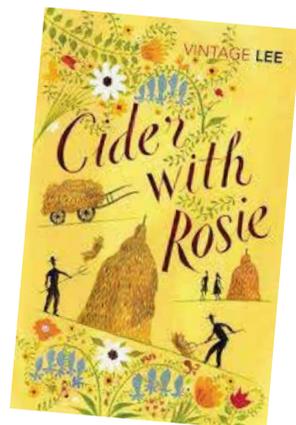
Unlike most autobiographies which are structured chronologically, Lee writes in attractive detail on a series of subjects such as “First Light”, “Grannies in the Wainscot”, “Winter and Summer “, “Village School”, “Mother “.

It’s Lee’s descriptive genius that stands out for me. It evokes a time now long gone but resonates with me, as my father, although born in 1912 in Japan (both my grandparents being English Missionary teachers there), at the age of two came to live for a number of years in a very small Lincolnshire market town (where I enjoyed several school holidays), with country lanes and ways similar to Slad.

Lee’s story begins: “I was set down from the carter’s cart at the age of three; and there with a sense of bewilderment and terror my life in the village began.”

The book is a memoir of times past. The descriptions of his siblings, parents, relations and villagers, and the range

of events cited makes me think of that phrase ‘All human life is here’. There is much light but darkness too. Evocative analysis of the happenings in a close-knit community, a time that is now lost forever. The chapter about Lee’s mother is the longest (not by much) but for me it makes the biggest impression – she was in service, she ran a pub, she married a man (Lee’s father) who left after four years never to return; an extraordinary person. Here’s an extract from this Chapter: “Mother’s father had a way with horses; she had the same with flowers. She could snatch a dry root from a field or hedgerow, dab it into the garden, give it a shake and almost immediately it flowered. One felt she could grow roses from a stick or chair-leg so remarkable was this gift.”



The richness of his style makes *Cider with Rosie* a delight to read and in my opinion a book hard to put down.

The 231 pages of the paperback edition flow effortlessly covering the period 1914 to the early thirties when Laurie Lee, aged 19, left home and walked to London with his violin and embarked to Spain to fight in the Civil War (as he recounted in “As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning”). Indeed it was a TV adaption of that story in the eighties which I captured on video tape enchantingly narrated by Lee himself with his wonderful Gloucestershire accent that will stay with me always and drew me to him and his works as author and poet. For those who have read *Cider with Rosie*, they will recall why the book has that title; those who haven’t read it will, on reading it, understand its significance.

About 20 years before his death Lee returned with his wife to live in Slad. Not to his childhood home, but a cottage nearby.

Laurie Lee died on 2 May 1997 and in their obituary, the *New York Times* mentions that Mr. Lee, although made an MBE in 1954, never was knighted. When asked if this was a disappointment he said humorously of the honour he really craved:

“I dream of having a heart attack at Hatchard’s, an obituary by Ted Hughes, a memorial service at the Garrick and a drinking fountain in Poet’s Corner”.

Lee is buried in the churchyard at Slad. His tombstone reads “He lies in the valley he loved” – I like that.

*Nick Scott*

# Parkinson's UK Cricklade Cafe

People are still finding us, both those newly diagnosed with Parkinson's and others who didn't know we existed. Likewise, the carers who support them are also welcomed to the cafe and they soon find that they are not alone with the role that they have found themselves with.

At the May cafe, 39 people dropped by for that all important coffee, cake and chat, making new friends and finding some happiness.

It is surprising what can be learned from asking questions or sharing knowledge.

We are getting regular visits from charities such as Parkinson's UK, support groups such as Carer Support

Wiltshire and Swindon Carers and soon from Wiltshire Council's Prevention and Wellbeing Team Officer. All have something to give to those requiring help and assistance.

We feel very fortunate that the Cricklade Club allows us to take over the place once a month and their beautiful venue helps attract our regular visitors, some of whom then stay for lunch there.

Thank you for your support, to the PUK Cricklade Cafe and to those who live within your communities who benefit from finding us.

*Vincent and Maggie Mobey  
Sean Devine, PUK Volunteers and  
Cricklade Cafe co-ordinators.*

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## Greening the REME Museum

We are delighted to have received South West Museum Development's Green Grant scheme. This funding, which is provided through Arts Council England, will be essential in developing a new project we have named "Greening the Museum". It will have three key elements: the recreation of a World War Two "Dig for Victory" vegetable garden, the produce of which will be used in Crown's Café; a wildflower garden; and the introduction of bird boxes and insect hotels.

We are currently at the beginning stages of the project: planning the areas for the vegetable garden and wildflower garden. We envisage a "Dig for Victory" garden that resembles a vegetable patch that someone could have grown in their

own back garden in World War II. We plan to build raised beds and when the vegetables are ready to harvest, they will help to make our café extra-locally sourced!

We hope that creating a wildflower garden will encourage insects and go some way in helping to maintain the populations of bees, butterflies and other insects that are crucial to the ecosystem. This is also why we plan to create bird boxes and bug hotels.

One of our insect hotels has already been constructed with help from our neighbours at MOD Lyneham.

If you are a keen gardener and would like to volunteer in any way, we welcome you to get in touch: [enquiries@rememuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@rememuseum.org.uk).

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# Purton Placard

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7.00pm, 29th July Quiz evening with fish and chip supper at Purton Village Hall.



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## **Purton W.I.**

7.30pm, 20th July, 'Wiltshire - a history through time' with Nicholas Baxter at Silver Threads Hall

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

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# Mini crossword

Here is the next in our series of mini crosswords that are only designed to be a bit of fun. Again there are no prizes but the answers to June's puzzle are 1) Elizabethan 2) Jubilee 3) Platinum 4) Monarch 5) Celebration 6) Reign 7) Party 8) Seventy

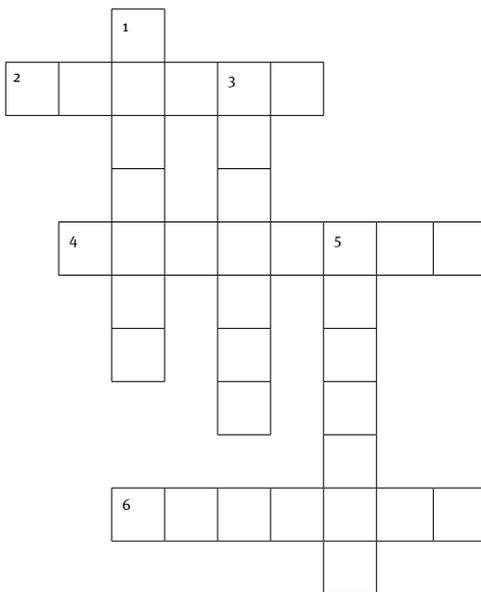
This month there are eight clues and readers will benefit from considering future celebrations.

- 2 across Pasture (6)
- 4 across Dawn chorus, for example (8)
- 6 across Smallest of the corvid family (7)
- 1 down Ambling or rambling (7)
- 3 down Al fresco (7)
- 5 down Wild flowers whose varieties include bee, monkey and lady (7)

This is the next crossword created by Neil and Rob Miles to challenge villagers.

Answers will be in the August 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. As before we try to take 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](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk)



Visit [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk) for previous issues of our village magazine, and our advertisers' database for local businesses. We welcome submissions for publication in the July issue. Our copy deadline is the 10th July, please email: [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

# Purton & District Probus Club



At our meeting on 10th May, Paul Shepherd, a retired RAF Wing Commander, gave a talk about his experience of being second in command in the management of Brize Norton Air-Station. Brize is home to the major proportion of the Air Mobility Force, whose task is to provide rapid global mobility in support of operations and exercises at home & abroad, and UK homeland defence. It also houses aircraft of the Royal Squadron, responsible for VIP and diplomatic transport.

The administration of his department included both ground staff and a contribution to aircraft movements in and out of the airfield. A particular mandate was to improve cooperation between flyers and ground-staff, which resulted in an improved economy in the delivery of spares required by aircraft awaiting repair or stranded abroad. An important activity was ensuring a respectful carriage of casualties arriving from warzones and the prompt onward movement of the injured to appropriate hospitals.

A continuous complexity of scheduling outgoing flights was to be sure that the expected time of arrival would be in daylight, this being essential where remote airfields lacked adequate lighting of the runway. Differing time zones also had to be factored in. Paul's talk covered a whole range of activities carried out by RAF personnel and supported by a large army of civil servants and sub-contractors. The talk enlightened us on aspects of the country's defence which we rarely consider, but are always comforted and pleased to know about.

At the second Probus meeting of May, which took place on the 24th, Alison Hesketh gave an account of her experience as a civil servant in the employment of the Office of National Statistics (ONS). She began by informing us that this government department has nothing to do with market research.

Sometimes attributed to Mark Twain, "Lies, damned lies and statistics," is a popular saying to discredit statisticians, but Alison assured us that collecting and recording honest statistics is essential to everyone's wellbeing; the statistics produced by the ONS concerning our society and the economy, are used by central and local government, businesses and individuals to make decisions and plan the future. To make sure the statistics are reliable and relevant, the need is for information that reflects the whole population. Our speaker's job required her to visit a randomly selected batch of 30 houses and interview the owner/



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principal resident with a series of questions, eg. number of permanent residents, income distribution, health, eating out, entertainment, those working, etc. She sometimes travelled up to 175 miles a day, but now does more by telephone. The ONS employs almost 1,000 people to do this work.

There's none so queer as folk and Alison entertained us with some of her more peculiar encounters; a property with an army of ferrets running loose, a volunteer with two horses, whom she suspected of burying his wealth in the garden, a frightening & threatening character who refused to turn on the lights and some who were slightly insane. She was once required to interview Travellers in their vehicles and on another occasion, while searching for an address, was suspected of being 'up to no good' and reported to the local police who, subsequently, called her in for questioning to explain her activity. The answering of ONS questions is not mandatory but Alison asked that if ever our household is selected for an interview, as good citizens we should cooperate to the full. Only with the help of everyone can statistics be relied upon. It was a very interesting talk.

The Purton and District Probus Club meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. in Hook Village Hall. Programme for July – 12th “Titanic”, 26th “A kick up the Arras for Shakespeare”. New members and visitors are always welcome.

*Bob Stevens*

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## Purton Football Club

While there's not been much activity on the pitch there has been plenty of action off of it!

We are very close to appointing a new management team for the 2022/2023 season but with me having to write this section earlier than normal as I am going abroad for a few days (well, the Isle of Wight actually!) the names and details will become common knowledge before you read this month's issue.

We will have a Purton Ladies FC for the first time integrated into the PFC set up, playing on a Sunday afternoon and the response and support for them has been remarkable and regular updates about them will be from via the football programme or the Purton Magazine. I am sure we all wish them good luck for the season.



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Our annual ex-players charity match is on July 9th with a 3 p.m. kick off and hopefully the village will turn out again to support our players of yesteryear who may be a bit greyer and only slightly heavier but it is always competitive and played in a good spirit. And talking of spirit, I think they have a few of them afterwards as well.

Another date and reminder for you all is the sporting dinner on September 12th with Liverpool legend Bruce Grobelaar. Cost is £25 per person which includes a fish and chip supper and will be sold on a first come first served basis. My contact details are 07855-406662 or [terry.crumbie@gmail.com](mailto:terry.crumbie@gmail.com).

Last minute bit of news is that we are close to having a development/reserve side next season with a majority of players from last year's Purton Youths to hopefully bring them along so they are not lost to the PFC senior side as that has been the problem in the past few seasons.

*Terry Crumbie, Chairman and Treasurer of Purton FC*

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## Purton Tennis Club



The highlight of the British Tennis Calendar is of course, Wimbledon, which is taking place between 27th June and 10th July. 'The Brits' have had a good year on tour, with Joe Salisbury, Cameron Norrie and Emma Raducanu all winning big tournaments, and Harriet Dart and Dan Evans also doing well on the big stage. It will be interesting to see if new names will be on the Wimbledon trophies this year, or will it be a familiar name – after all Rafa Nadal has just won the French Open for a record 14th time in impressive style.

At Purton all our teams are doing well in the Swindon & District League, with our Mixed B, our Men's B and ladies B teams all currently top in their respective divisions. A really great start to the summer season.

On the social side, we have started an in-house singles competition that all our members can take part in. We hope they will enjoy playing singles and enjoy playing against new people.

So, if seeing Wimbledon on the television has inspired you to pick up a racquet then please get in touch. You are very welcome to join in a club taster session on a Tuesday night or a Sunday morning, we play doubles tennis and everybody mixes in. Alternatively, courts can be booked by the hour.

Should you need any further information, please see our website or contact me at the address below.

*Janet Saunders (secretary)*  
[janetcsaunders@gmail.com](mailto:janetcsaunders@gmail.com)



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

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# Purton Cricket Club



May saw the first full month of play this year with all teams across all ages being in action. It is fair to say that our results have been mixed so far. However, the good news is that nearly all the teams have won at least one match so far with the 2nd XI winning three of their four matches.

With 17 games down Purton's victories have just edged our defeats with nine games won so far. One of our biggest wins came in the game involving the 2nd XI who saw off Goatacre by some nine wickets. Unfortunately, they also suffered May's heaviest defeat by nine wickets. The 1st XI overcame both Goatacre 2nds and NALGO. Lydiard Millicent have won one and lost one in the Swindon Midweek league. Their first win was an impressive ten wicket victory over the Knight Watchmen. Purton's midweek team (a combined team with Haydon Wick), has won two of its three matches beating Swindon Tigers and Motorola by four wickets and 43 runs respectively.

In the youth section there have been wins for the Under 11s against Potterne, where we won by three wickets. Our Under 13s have had the biggest win of our season so far, beating Corsham by ten wickets. In their one match so far, the Under 15s lost to Swindon by five wickets.

With much of the season still remaining we are hoping for an even better set of results. And if you are interested in helping out in any way as a player or volunteer, please do get in touch we would love to hear from you. The email address is: [communications.purtoncc@gmail.com](mailto:communications.purtoncc@gmail.com)

## ***From the Archive***

### ***Purton vs Lansdown. Clash of the Titans.***

Back in the 1830s, there were few cricket matches and even fewer of greater importance than those between Purton and Lansdown, near Bath. With Purton boasting the likes of Budd and Pratt, we were a formidable force and so it proved on 4th and 5th July 1834 with Purton winning by two wickets, having exceeded Lansdown's score of 168. Budd did the damage claiming eleven wickets over the two innings. The bowling was tight on both sides with a score of 20 with the bat, being exceeded only four times in the entire match, once by Budd of course.

Interestingly we have the coverage of the match from the Wiltshire and Gloucester Gazette published two days later which gave the result but also described the scene in literary flourishes:

“The weather on both days was exceedingly fine and the beauty of

the spot with the romantic scenery by which it was surrounded, rich as that now in its sun-lit summer pride, enhanced not a little the pleasure of at least 500 people who had assembled to witness the sport.

“At seven o’clock the wickets were drawn, and the attention of the players was transferred to the ladies, who graced the scene in great numbers and whose presence added a charm and zest to the proceedings of the day, which animated all and diffused universal delight.

“Tea was provided by the Club and, the fair guests having partaken thereof, the gay dance was commenced to the music of the Swindon band and many a fairy foot tripped pleasantly on the green sward in the graceful quadrille or voluptuous waltz till ‘the weary sun had made a golden set.’”

Later that month when the teams met again on 22 July 1834, Purton won by 110 runs. Purton ended up with 211 with Lansdown managing only 101. The outstanding figures for the match go to Budd (Purton) and Protheroe (Lansdown) with ten wickets each. Not surprising then that the highest score with the bat was 46 from Budd. However, the tables were turned in the return match a fortnight later on 7th August with Lansdown winning by 17 runs, scoring 156. Protheroe took seven wickets while Budd took six. Budd again scored highest with the bat achieving 46.

### ***Queen Victoria’s Coronation Celebrations, Purton June 1838***

In light of the recent Platinum Jubilee here is a brief summary of the events that took place at the cricket ground in June 1838 to mark the coronation of Queen Victoria.

Tents were erected and dinner tables spread for 400 people. It was a very pleasing sight to view the long line of children who, with their masters and assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Lamb and their family, made a very interesting procession. 400lbs of beef and mutton, besides mutton pies, 8 sacks of potatoes and about 50 plum puddings were distributed. A 65 gallon of good table beer was drunk at dinner and a 79-gallon cask of rich fat ale was breached afterwards. A true loyal English spirit universally prevailed.

*Graham Wright*

# Poetry Corner

## ***A Midsummer's Fairytale***

Once upon a Midsummer's eve, deep in the dark,  
spooky forest, not a whisper of a breeze, or a small  
dormouse stirred;

Only the distant hooting of a wise, old owl  
could be heard.

In a small clearing, silvery moonbeams dance  
through the air, on the shortest, most auspicious  
night of the year.

By the light of the mystical moon, on a grassy knoll  
covered in fairy rings, powerful magic begins.

A special gathering is to be held for all  
fairies, pixies and elves.

From near and far, on gossamer wings, tiny  
folk appear, all smartly dressed in their best;

Wearing pretty garlands of flowers,  
daisies, buttercups, bluebells, wild roses,  
dainty, lacy, green ferns to impress.

On cue, glowing fireflies take off into the night,  
performing their spectacular aerial flight.

A fanfare of horns heralds the arrival of their Imperial  
fairy king, and his ethereal, shimmering queen.

Cheers of happiness and joy, complete  
our magical scene.

They feast on scrumptious forest fruits;  
drink nectar served in acorn cups,

flown in by gracious, busy, bee recruits.

The whole night long, under sparkling stars,  
they prance, dance to the music of the fabulous,  
famous beetle band.

After a wonderful night, exhausted, hardly  
able to stand,

The fairy king raises his magical wand;

In a blinding flash of light, all revellers disappear,  
into the first golden rays of the new day.

Dawn breaks, early birds sweetly sing, baby  
rabbits awake, anxious to play.

On the forest's ferny floor only piles of broken  
acorns remain, until next year, when fairy magic  
will begin, all over again.

*Carolyn Crawford*



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