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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				
(Tuesdays 2.00-7.00pm)						
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 La	ne, (10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, I	Fri, Sat, Sun)				
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869				
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872				
(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm)						
www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/						
Schools & Playgroups						
Bradon Forest School	Secretary	770570				
Pear Drops at Playclose	Sarah Grigg	950159				
Pear Drops Pre-School	Sarah Grigg	978536				
(formerly Under 5s')						
St Mary's Primary School	Office	770239				

Church of England - Parish Church of St Mary www.stmaryspurton.org.uk For information about services, see the diary pages in the centre of the magazine.

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

Tel: 770627

Warden Sandra Horsnall: 770157

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

Methodist Churches For information about services in Purton, see the diary pages

in the centre of the magazine. Braydon: Sundays 6.00pm Evening Worship

Minister: 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

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

Purton Magazine committee:

Avril Ainscough, Barbara Compton, Sheila Fowler, Sandra Horsnall, Francis Sheppard, Richard McCarthy, Neil Miles.

Designed by: Heather Ponting-Bather, In Touch Design & Print, Purton. Printed by: Hulbert & Woodall Print, Royal Wootton Bassett.

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email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Distribution & Delivery enquiries:

Sandra Horsnall Tel: 01793 770157 Email:

distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Other enquiries and comments for the committee to:

The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close, Purton SN5 4DF

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Front cover image: Bruce and Jackie Porter are retiring from their roles as Principal and Vice Principal at the Jubilee Gardens Project. Bruce has been with the Project since it began in 1978.

Credit: Jubilee Gardens Project



August 2022

From the Editors

Volume 44 No.8 1st Published 1975

The weather has certainly given us all something to talk about recently with the hottest day ever recorded in the UK. Normally these new records are rather like athletic track records, achieved only by a tenth or even a few hundredths of a second. However, the previous hottest place in England was 38.7°C (101.7°F) as recently as 2019 whereas the new hottest place was 40.3°C (104.5°F) this year, an increase of 1.6°C (2.8°F) – really rather unprecedented.

The weather forecasters predicted the extreme temperatures several days in advance and the news bulletins carried warnings with stories of the effects of high temperatures around the world. The reality in the UK was rather alarming. For example, the London Fire Brigade said it was their busiest day since World War 2 – quite amazing to consider. They usually receive 300 calls a day, rising to 500 calls on a busy day. On this new hottest day they received 2,600 calls, at least five times more than on a previous busy day.

Scientists tell us that there are four ways that climate change is changing our weather – hotter, longer periods, more persistent droughts, more dry fuel for wildfires and more extreme rainfall events. Several of those changes have

already been experienced in France and Spain recently.

Here in Purton, the "weather gods" shone on this year's Open Gardens and, on page 25, we learn that among the 300+ visitors, some arrived from as far afield as Port Talbot, Devizes and Witney helping to raise well over £1000 – a breakdown of the proceeds has been promised for the September magazine.

On the gardens theme, we have an article about the Jubilee Gardens project on page 23. It explains how horticulture is such an excellent activity through which to provide education and training for adults with varying levels of learning disability by helping them to develop life skills in numeracy, literacy and art as well as in horticulture. Readers are reminded that a stall selling vegetable and flower plants grown at the project is open on weekdays between 9 am and 3 pm.

Local produce is also put to great use every day at Pips, especially on Tuesdays with Lou's Hot Lunches. About 20 portions are prepared and available from 12.00 noon and customers arriving on an Age Concern minibus will be guaranteed a serving – with the menus on page 32 there's bound to be a rush!

7

Different menus for the Tuesday hot lunches at Pips, see page 32.

26

Gardens on display in this year's Purton Open Gardens, raising well over £1000 for charity. See page 25 1959

The year Fergus the 'little old tractor' was made, and he's still haymaking 53 years later. See page 36

Purton Parish Council News

Donations to Your Community

The Parish Council at their Finance and General Purposes Meeting held on Monday 20th June 2022 considered six applications for funding and awarded a total amount of £3,628.20.

Fund allocation as follows:

- Purton Footpath Volunteers £255 for a battery-operated blower.
- Purton Bowls Club £500 towards the purchase of a new scarifier.
- Silver Threads Charity Hall £594 to install a community fridge in the lobby.
- Swindon Dial A Ride £1,000 to provide door to door accessible transport for disabled individuals in Purton.
- Purton Football Club £300 towards a new water filled roller.
- Purton Cricket Club £979.20 for two new benches.

Our next round of donations is to be held in February 2023. If you wish to discuss any potential projects and the criteria in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the council and speak to the Clerk who can help with options and advice.

For information, the Parish Council continues to support the Purton Stoke Planters (entrance to Purton Stoke) each year with £250 towards the flower displays.

Welcome – Community Engagement Officer

We are delighted to announce the employment on a part time basis of Susan Hughes as Community Engagement Officer. Susan will be working with the council and charities in the coming months to grasp the complexities of each area and formulate a council strategy. If you see her, please welcome her to this new post and our wonderful community.

Email: susan.hughes@ purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk Tel: 01793 771824

What Does The Rest Of The Year Hold?

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

Community Safety Roadshow – "Focus on Speed and Road Safety" held at Purton Village Hall on Saturday 1st October from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"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 Red House – resident children only due to numbers, more details to follow – Saturday 17th December 2022 from 12 noon.

Council Meetings – September 2022

The parish councillors take a much needed recess from meetings in August and resume in September as follows:

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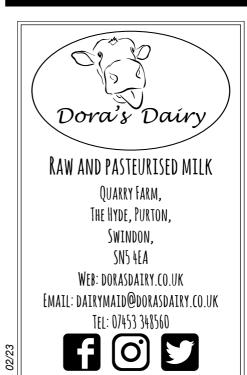
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12th September 2022 - Council meeting 26th September 2022 - Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Charity meeting

Agendas are posted on our notice boards (Purton Village Hall and Pavenhill Shops and our website 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. The Youth Club meets on Wednesdays at Purton Village Hall 7.00pm to 8.30p. for young people in Year 7 and above.

Volunteer Footpath Team Update

In June we replaced another hanging post to a wooden kissing gate on FP72 off of Hyde Lane. We continued trimming back in the Packhorse and Down Farm area, but missed a couple of Mondays due to rain. Strimming of overgrown footpaths continued and a fallen branch obstructing the footpath around Bradon Forest School was removed.

Here is an interesting piece of information for you. We now have a new footpath, number PURT162, well it's a bridleway. It was noticed on the online Definitive Map for Wiltshire. It's off Wood Lane and is a short length from the road through a wooded area to the Lydiard Millicent boundary where it continues as a Lydiard bridleway. We hadn't been told of this; it's presumably a new entry, correcting a previous omission and not marked on our current paper maps.

Our traditional Annual Village Walk will

take place on Sunday September 4th. Meet at the layby opposite the cenotaph to leave at 2 o'clock. The route is not yet decided but will be between four and five miles with minimal or no stiles. We are hoping for fine weather.

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 located on our notice boards and website.

Permission Granted Applications

- PL/2022/03105 59 Ringsbury Close, Purton, SN5 4DF. Proposed single storey rear extension.
- PL/2021/07191 Brockhurst Farm Stables, Greenhill, SN4 8EH.
 Conversion of former stables to 1 No. dwellings.
- PL/2022/01217 22A Hyde Lane, Purton, SN5 4DU. Additional garage with home office above the new and existing garage.
- PL/2022/01831 63 Pavenhill
 Purton, SN5 4DA. Demolition of existing garage, conservatory, and rear lean-to-structure. Erection of a new side and rear two storey extension along with side single storey extension.
- PL/2022/02030 20 Hoggs Lane, Purton, SN5 4BU. Disability

adaptations including a single storey rear extension, first floor extension over the existing kitchen to give headroom for a new stair, new dormer to bedroom 2, new light well to the basement and associated works.

- PL/2022/01304 8 The Parade, Pavenhill, Purton, SN5 4BX.
 Proposed change of use from Butchers to Thai takeaway.
- PL/2022/03167 103 Pavenhill, Purton, SN5 4DB. Two storey front extension.
- PL/2022/01543 The Ghost Train, New Road, Purton, SN5 4HF.
 Proposed annex.
- 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/2022/03437 6 Battlewell, Purton, SN5 4BT. Single storey rear extension and porch.

Refused Application

20/06768/LBC – 4 Willis Way, Purton, SN5 4BD. Replacement of 3 wooden sash windows at back of property with UPVC sash windows of same type.

Councillor Vacancies

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

The Clerk is also available for an informal chat prior to completion of your application.

www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/data-transparency-sub/policies-procedures

Community Surveys

Please be reassured that we haven't forgotten these questionnaires. We have waited for the new appointment of our Community Development Officer, who can now work with the council to formulate response and actions. As soon as this is available the results and council/charity comments will be available to all in various outlets, resources and media types.

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
Full Council details can be found on our website www.purtonparishcouncil.gov. uk.

Telephone number: 01793 771066, Email address: deborah.lawrence@ purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk We also have Facebook and Twitter accounts

On our website you can 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 – and sign up today.

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG

Dr Chandran

It is with sadness that we inform you that after 22 years at the practice Dr Chandran has decided to leave general practice.

Dr Chandran will continue with his hospital work, but will no longer be a GP. He will be leaving us on 19th August. We would all like to thank Dr Chandran and wish him all the best for the future.

New NHS organisation replacing CCGs

On 1st July the CCG (clinical commissioning committee) was replaced with an integrated care system (ICS) made up of NHS and local authority organisations working together. Our ICS brings together an Integrated Care Board, three hospital trusts, private providers, a mental health trust, an ambulance trust and voluntary sector organisations.

More information can be found at the

following link: https://bsw.icb.nhs.uk/

Holiday Medication – a message from Kai Howard, Practice Manager

Polite reminder: Please ensure you request your medication in good time (7-10 days before running out), particularly if you are going on holiday. Also,

don't forget to bring your medication back home with you!



We have had several patients asking for a prescription immediately as they are either going on holiday and forgotten to request their medication or returned from holiday and left their medication behind.

This puts a huge demand on the practice staff and means that we cannot provide the care and service to all our other patients.

Table Top Sale and Books – Purton Surgery Waiting Room

The tabletop is now up and running in the Purton Surgery Waiting Room. There are also, once again, books in the bookcase for purchase (5op each). If you wish to purchase from the tabletop please hand your money to the reception team, please also donate any books by handing them to the reception team... and don't forget once you have read a book you can always bring it back for the shelves!

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 July draw was done by Receptionist Marie Chapman and the £100 winner was Eric Cripps.

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.

Sheila Fowler PPG Secretary

Purton Magazine July issue

Following the publication of the July issue of the magazine we discussed the poor print quality with our printers and they have reprinted some copies for us. If anyone would like a new copy, free of charge, please contact Heather, 772954 or email mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk and we can get one delivered to you.

We know how disappointed some of you were with the photos of the village

jubilee celebrations. Rest assured that the major IT system failure at the printers while they were printing our magazine has been fixed, and we expect our usual excellent service to resume for this issue.

Thanks to Pete Hulbert and Hayley Woodall of H&W Print for working with us to resolve this.

Christian Aid Week 2022



We are delighted to say thank you to all who were involved in Christian Aid Week this year.

The total raised is £5,000, including £917 at the cake trail and over £1,870 in the envelopes.

This is a superb amount for a small village and we are grateful to everyone who took part...

making cakes or buying cakes, delivering envelopes, growing plants, eating curries, coming to the Church service and eating breakfast... and lots of other fundraising activities.

The quiz was, yet again, a huge success, raising around £800.

If you want a more detailed breakdown of the sums raised, please let us know We are very, very grateful to you all for your involvement and for every pound

raised. Libbie, Mary and all involved with setting up Christian Aid Week.



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Purton & District Age Concern

Events coming up...

- 17th August 10am Trip to Westonsuper-Mare for the day. Return by 6pm.
- 4th September 11am-2pm Cream teas at the Red House. See details below.
- 14th September 10am Trip to Garden Centre coach only. See details below.

Our trip to the Watercress Line steam train at Alresford in Hampshire on the 15th June was enjoyed by all who attended and we were treated to lovely weather for the day. Our bus was able to pull up right outside the station and the train left exactly on time being run by station staff in traditional dress. We had an allocated carriage which, of course, had no air conditioning except small windows, bringing back memories of when we were used to travelling that way. We forget how springy the seats were and we sank into them with the rough but tough coverings that lasted for years. The engine was the 'Cheltenham' and we were in the carriage just behind it.

We stopped for 40 minutes at one station which gave us time to visit the repair works and shunting yard. The line is about 10 miles long and we enjoyed our packed lunches while watching the lovely scenery, with wafts of smoke and the smell of coal permeating the air. It really was a good trip.

Purton and District AGE CONCERN

Quiz Evening With Fish & Chip Supper

This will be on Friday 29th July at the Village Hall from 7 p.m. and will cost £9 per person. Maximum six people per team. Just a late reminder in case you get the magazine early.

Trip To Weston

The trip to Weston-super-Mare is 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 nonpensioners and people living outside of the village. So don't forget this trip is open to everybody and it would be nice to have a full bus. 10 o'clock start and we get taken right down to the promenade and picked up from there around 4 p.m. It promises to be a great day out!

Cream Teas at the Red House

We are entering the Scarecrow weekend, but just on the 4th September, which is Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with our own scarecrow and producing Cream Teas to pre-order for collection or eat at the Red House. Please speak to Laura on 07921 628992 for details and costs.

September Outing

We will be visiting a Garden Centre on Wednesday 14th September, which will have other things to shop for, not just plants, although that will be possible and we have the coach to store them in on the way home. There will be a restaurant for lunches etc. so the cost of £12 for residents and £14 for non-

residents will be just for the cost of the coach. Let's hope the fine weather lasts long enough for us to enjoy this trip. Ring me on 778119 or contact your street warden to make your booking.

2023 Calendar

I am putting out a call to all our photographers in the village to get 'snapping' and send me high-resolution pictures that will print up to A4 for our Calendar for next year. Anything to do with life in Purton including landscapes, buildings, animals and birds. Send them to me at peterberry@uwclub.net so that I can start as early as possible on producing the artwork.

Minibuses

We now have both minibuses back on the road and we are able to offer lifts to the doctors surgery. 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 from 1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m., 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.

Pheonix – This is a free transport service on your bus pass. You need to ring 01249 890794 to book with them. Remember if we don't use it, we lose it!

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

We still have a couple of 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

Purton Age Concern Minibus - can you help?



As many readers will know, our two Age Concern minibuses are entirely manned by volunteer drivers and shotguns (driver's assistant) and following the Covid shutdown we now have both buses back on the road. Sometimes both buses are in use taking people to surgery appointments as well as various clubs and activities held in the village, including lunch club at PIPS on Thursdays and now on a Tuesday. Generally it is usually within the village but occasionally to special events elsewhere for example we have taken a group to the annual pantomime at the Wyvern Theatre. We don't do hospital appointments as Phoenix covers those (ring 01249 890794 to book). The buses are mostly in demand from Monday to Friday and during the day, but are also used occasionally in the evening for, say, Gardeners Guild.

Most of our drivers are retired and in their 60s or 70s, but a couple are in full-time work and either fit us in on a day off or in the evenings. Some of our older drivers now would rather not drive after dark. In recent months it has become increasingly difficult to maintain the service, as we pride ourselves that we never say no, meaning that some drivers are out on a very regular basis.

If you think you can spare either an occasional few hours (or it might only be an hour taking someone to a surgery appointment), even if you are only able to help during the weekend or evenings, then perhaps, after reading this, either

you or another family member might like to become a volunteer driver; all you need is a normal clean car licence. We already have a few husband and wife teams and we warmly welcome any younger members of our wonderful village who would like to help.

Both our buses have a regular MOT style inspection and carry eight passengers including the shotgun. They are both fitted with rear hoists for wheelchairs and less ambulant passengers. Training is given in the use of these lifts and securing wheelchairs. They are parked centrally in the village and a parking pass is provided whilst you are on duty if you need to park a car.

Amazingly, there are still people in the village who are not aware of the help they can be given to get around the village. If you need transport, are over 60 and have a disability or mobility problem, please call me on 770862. It would be very much appreciated if you can possibly avoid making surgery appointments between 10.30 and 2.00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays as we are covering Lunch Club. However, we realise this is not always possible and we will do our very best to meet your appointment.

Please give me a call for an informal chat, even if you can only help occasionally you would be made most welcome.

Hazel Woodbridge, Minibus Co-ordinator 01793 770862 or, Email pac2bookings@gmail.com





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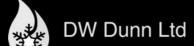
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Purton Annual Flower, Arts, Craft & Produce Show

Saturday 20th August in the Village Hall

We are all looking forward to our show after an enforced break of three years, and are now putting the final arrangements in place for what we hope will be another successful village event.

Please remember all entries must be received by 8.00pm on Wednesday 17th August.

Only Children's entries will be accepted on the day until 10 a.m.

There are two booking in sessions on that day:

Pips Community Café from 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Village Hall dressing room 6.00pm to 8.00 p.m. You can also deliver to myself at 2, Orchard Gardens, or email: 3rwardles@gmail.com.

The schedules and entry forms are now available to pick up at various locations, and you will see the posters around the village and further afield for more information. Please contact me if you would like one delivered.

There are five classes specifically for children 15 years and under. Children are always encouraged to enter any other class and all entries are free for them.

For children aged six and under: Make a Nature Collage, from anything you have collected whilst out on a walk, or from your garden or allotment. Or mix up the most yummy Krispie Cakes, you need to save the best three to enter into the

show, but you can enjoy eating the rest.

For ages 7 to 11 years: Have a go at creating a hanging outdoor decoration out of anything you can find, inside or outside, and our judge would love to try you best ever Chocolate Brownies.

The fifth class is for everyone: A flower arrangement in a jam jar. This was so popular in 2019 we decided to include it again.

Your entry forms are all pre-printed, so you only need to include your name and contact details.

We mustn't forget all you excellent bakers and preservers, we have nine classes to whet your appetites. The old faithfuls are Fruit Scones, Fruit Cake, Ginger Cake and Victoria sponge. For a change, Carrot cake & Flapjacks, along with Cheese straws and finally a jar of jam or pot of chutney are also included.

Our last section, eight – the fruit classes, include eating and cooking apples, and any other fruit.

We look forward to welcoming all exhibitors old and new (and that's not your age!) on Saturday 20th August.

I will finish with my ever hopeful final plea for much needed extra help to operate the show safely, particularly stewards for each class section. If you can spare an hour or two on show day, then please please get in touch.

Lorna Robinson-Wardle. Show Secretary 01793 778013 or 3rwardles@gmail.com

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Outreach Purton Community information from Wiltshire Council

For the past few months I've been sitting on the Wiltshire Council Area Board committee focussing on the health and wellbeing of elderly and vulnerable people, and their carers. The committee comprises representatives from the parishes (Cricklade, Lydiard Millicent, Lyneham and Bradenstoke, Purton, Royal Wootton Bassett and Tockenham), along with Wiltshire Council, Celebrating Age Wiltshire and other agencies. It aims to work with people within each community to share information about support services and groups available and through joined-up working, help inform those most in need of what they can access.

Communication is an ongoing issue, with many of those needing most help not being able to access online resources, or not knowing where to look. This is where the committee is focussing its efforts and it will soon be publishing a directory of useful contact information about local and national organisations that can offer help and advice.

It is hoped that reference copies of the directory will be available at places such as Purton Surgery, Pips, the library, and copies can be distributed to individuals via Purton & District Age Concern and Outreach Purton.

Community Connectors

Are you over 18 and struggling? Perhaps you have a long term illness or disability, mental health issues, money concerns or just feel socially isolated?

A Community Connector works alongside an individual (anyone aged 18+, no upper age limit) and helps them to reconnect with their lives using their own strengths and resources and those of their community. The Connector works across services, linking with partner organisations such as drug and alcohol services, housing, social services and third sector groups.

Community Connectors are employed by the NHS and work through the Wiltshire Centre for Independent Living, their primary job is to provide preventative support to help people reconnect with life in their communities and reduce reliance on primary care services.

Community Connectors accept selfreferrals or referrals from GP Surgeries, supporting services and community groups.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact Jan Forsyth on 07816 407769 or email janice.forsyth@nhs.net

Shared Reading

Every Thursday from 11am-12pm, Royal Wootton Bassett Library hosts Reading Friends, a shared reading group where you can discover stories and poetry. A trained facilitator reads aloud whilst participants are encouraged to read along or just listen and discuss or comment as the tale unfolds. Reading is proven to boost our mental wellbeing so why not share it with friends? Listen, join the conversation and enjoy a cup of tea with a friendly group, everyone welcome.

For more information call 01793 853249 or email

libraryenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk

Heather Ponting-Bather, Outreach Purton Tel: 772954

Ten Years Ago...

By the time the August 2012 edition of Purton Magazine arrived, all the fun of the fairs at the Diamond jubilee celebrations were long past. We reverted to being a quiet, maybe introspective, village. The first main item encouraged us to participate in the Parish Plan which would feed into the Neighbourhood Plan - but I think we've covered this recently!

The big news came from St. Mary's Church. Judith Wells had been ordained priest at Bristol Cathedral, while the long-awaited announcement of a new vicar, Ian Tweedie-Smith, starting in October. So now our parish team is well-established.

It seems there was one preoccupation - rain. One would think it had not stopped all summer. It affected everything from the Age Concern coffee morning to the cricket and tennis clubs, to say nothing of the Purton WI cream tea. Ironic, then, that Ps & Qs offered a piece on "the finite amount of freshwater on the planet". As one might expect, the Rainbows/ Brownies/Guides weren't put off by a few drops and continued their



activities as usual, this time with challenges from the Olympic programme, or so they said. Does it really include water-pistol shooting and running in full armour (technically "hoplitodromos")? All was well, however; the event finished with Olympic Maori dancing.

Wiltshire Council Waste collection update

Thank you for your continued patience amid the recent waste collection issues, which are a result of a staffing shortage at our contractor Hills Municipal Collections.

If your bin isn't emptied

on its scheduled collection day, please leave it out and we will get to it as soon as possible.

Please also visit our regularly updated service page on the Wiltshire Council website, which provides details of any collections rescheduled.
If you're interested in any of the vacancies at Hills Municipal Collections, or know someone who might be, please visit their website https://careers.hills-group.co.uk

Jubilee Gardens Project

Jubilee Gardens is a charity tucked away on a bend in the road between Purton and Cricklade and yet is one of the best known horticultural centres in the area.

The Project was set up to provide education and training for adults who experience varying levels of learning disability and focuses on the development of life skills including horticulture, numeracy, literacy and art. Bruce and Jackie Porter are retiring from their long serving roles as Principal and Vice Principal this July. Bruce has been with the Project since it began in 1978 and Jackie joined some years later.



They said: "It has been a privilege to have worked for such a worthwhile purpose. We will miss the students and the family atmosphere that has always been a feature of the Project.



The support from the local community in making donations and buying the horticultural produce has been an important part of keeping the Project viable and we want to thank people for their generosity and support over the years. We are confident that we are leaving the Project in the good hands of our new Principal Alicja Gliniak and her Assistant Instructor Dave Hilston who are already becoming well known to students and their families."

Please help support an incredibly worthwhile local charity

We are looking to raise £10,000 to replace, install and maintain a new industrial greenhouse.

Our current greenhouse is over 30 years old and with the ravages of time and storm Eunice, unfortunately it is no longer economically viable to keep repairing it.

The funds we had set aside to replace the existing greenhouse had to be used during the COVID pandemic to keep the charity running, with fewer students able to attend to ensure that everybody was kept safe.

Anything you can give would be greatly appreciated and provide a fantastic opportunity to continue to help develop practical learning experiences for our students. All students at the project are encouraged to develop new skills within reasonable expectations.

Horticulture is a good learning medium, because you need everyday skills like literacy, numeracy, colour recognition and the concept of time.

Students learn all aspects of cultivation, plant care and of course the dreaded weeding. They make hanging baskets

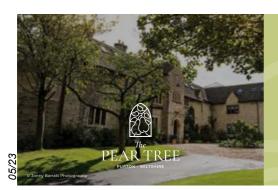
and containers using the plants they've grown ready for sale to the public.

The students help run a stall outside the training centre on weekdays from 9am to 3pm where you can buy produce grown at the Project including vegetables and flower plants.

We also use the vegetables we grow in our midday meals – the students gain great satisfaction from eating their own produce!

Any support that you are able to give us would be greatly appreciated and donations can be made using the following this link: https://gofund.me/faa8179b

With many thanks, Jon Bellamy Chairman, Jubilee Gardens Project, Church Bush Hall, Purton Stoke



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Are you supporting a young person who is interested in starting their own business or already running one?

Wiltshire Council is working in partnership with the South West Enterprise Fund (SWEF) to provide business grants of £2,000 to young entrepreneurs in Wiltshire and Swindon that are aged between 18-30. As part of the programme SWEF provides the opportunity to join a network of peers who are also in the early stage of starting their business to share ideas, experiences and learn.

To be eligible to apply, you need to be:

- aged 18 to 30
- living in Wiltshire or Swindon
- planning to start your own business within the next 6 months or running your own business which has been trading for no more than 2 years
- without easy access to other sources of finance

Grants can be used towards capital items and running costs such as:

- stock, equipment or materials
- rent or business-related bills

Further guidance on the programme is available here: https://www.wiltshirecf. org.uk/Guidance%20Notes%20for%20 SWE%20Fund.pdf and you can apply online via our website www.wiltshirecf. org.uk/grants-and-support/individuals/south-west-enterprise-fund/

Purton Open Gardens

The weather gods shone on the team of Open Gardeners that offered their gardens for viewing over the weekend of 9th and 10th July.

26 Gardens were open and well over £1,000 was raised, though a full breakdown of the finances will be in next month's magazine.

A big thank you to all those who opened their garden and put the extra hours in the run-up, and a bigger thank you to the 300 plus visitors who not only visited gardens, but gave generously to receive tea, coffee, cakes and ice cream.

It was lovely to see so many visitors from outside of Purton; people travelled from Port Talbot, Cheltenham, Devizes, Witney, Ogbourne St Andrew, Down Ampney and Swindon, as well as many from this locality.

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.

July Nature Correspondent

"Adventure lit their Star."

In 1949 journalist and broadcaster Kenneth Allsop wrote a charming book - part fact, part fiction - about a pair of Little Ringed Plovers nesting at Tring Reservoirs at the end of the War. Until 1938 when the first pair were discovered there, these small plovers were no more than rare vagrants in Britain. "Adventure lit their Star" was one of the first natural history books I read, and given the species' liking for drained or working gravel and sand pits the title is appropriate. Allsop's book features a fictional egg-collector's foiled attempts to rob the nest and records the pair's eventual triumph over adversity and danger.



The Little Ringed Plover is a small, slender wader bird with a black and white face pattern, yellow eye-ring and flesh-coloured legs. Compared with the similar Ringed Plover we see on sandy and shingle

beaches, it is daintier, lacks the pale wing-bar and calls with a soft "pee-oo!", unlike the Ringed Plover's melodious "toolee!" Arriving in March and April in a precarious environment with trucks and bulldozers for company and water levels variable, nesting success is by no means guaranteed.

The butterfly-like display flight is a delight to the eye, the male circling endlessly with slow wing-beats, calling loudly during steep ascents or vertical dives. Courtship displays are noisy, but the birds become secretive while nesting: like other plover species they sometimes resort to injury-feigning, dragging a faked broken wing to draw a potential predator away from a nest site. By August they will have left for winter in the Mediterranean and further south, recovering perhaps from a stressful breeding season. From those first nesting successes in the war years, numbers have steadily risen. Birds return each year to breed in most

English counties: a recent estimate suggested there are now well over 1,250 pairs. At the Cotswold Water Park numbers of pairs vary from 6 to 10 year by year, according to the availability of suitable sites, and there are one or two other locations in Wiltshire where they have bred.

There are other species that have joined us through northward expansion: Cetti's Warblers, Collared Doves, Firecrests and Little Egrets. We have reintroduced the Great Bustard, reversed the decline of the Tree Sparrow and Red Kites outnumber Buzzards in our county. Alongside these gains we have witnessed the drastic reduction in native species such as the Nightingale and Turtle Dove and some of our farmland birds. But now White Storks and Bee Eaters are our latest starlit adventurers, proof that the future is not all doom and gloom!

> Robin Nelson, Commissioned by Tower & Town, Marlborough

Cricklade Revealed

Sadly after 20 years of writing, distributing and promoting my 15 books, the time has come to phase them out. This means there will be no further reprints of any issue, making this year and next the last opportunity to purchase a full set (4 remaining at £48 each) or an individual issue (see below at £3.60 each) should any be missing from your collection. In future the series will only be available from *me and from the Museum while existing stocks last.

My current stock lists show that all of the main books 1-9, and CRE1, are now below 10 copies (Part 2 is already sold out) while there are still good supplies of my CR Extra books (Parts 2-5) and main book Part 10. The Museum stock, which I supply, may be different. *Animal Fayre and Cricklade Town Council Office have kindly agreed to continue to sell my final book (CRE 5) only.

Thank you as always to my regular readers for your ongoing support for this most enjoyable project. Proceeds as ever from my remaining books will be donated to Cricklade Open Door.

Marion Parsons, tel:750542, or mfparsons071@btinternet.com

Prayer for Purton

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

Church Floodlighting

Aug 17

St Mary's will be floodlit for ${\bf Reg}$ and ${\bf Madeline}$ ${\bf Herbert}$

who celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary.

Aug 20/21

St Mary's Church will be floodlit for the weekend in memory of **Ivor Tombs** who would have been 100 years old on August 23.

Remembered and loved always: Kath, Kim, Ann, Roger and families.

Aug 25

St Mary's will be floodlit on the day that Glyn and I would have been

celebrating our 60th Wedding Anniversary. Christine Shailes.

For August, floodlighting bookings will start at 8.30pm and the lights will stay on until 11.30pm. Details for other months will be published in the next magazine.

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

Purton Post Bag

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





John Lilley

We would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support after our lovely dad passed away on the 8th June. We were so pleased to be able to send £520 to Cancer Research in Dad's memory from the very kind donations.

Amanda Hazell (John's eldest daughter)



Glynn Shailes

Following the passing of my husband Glynn, my family and I would like to thank the many people who sent cards and messages of sympathy to us. Kind offers of help have been very much appreciated. Glynn would have been so touched by all this and the amazing attendance at both funeral services.

Without the 100% support of everyone at Purton Surgery over the years we could not have gone on for so long. Community nurses, First City carers and Lloyds Pharmacy girls all contributed in major ways to his longevity, given his many medical problems, and I thank vou all.

Thanks also go to Judith Wells for her comforting words and expertise conducting the services.

Christine Shailes



Excellent service

Readers might like to know that I have recently received an outstanding level of service from several employees at D W Dunn, one of this magazine's advertisers.

Perhaps we should start a local feedback column to highlight companies and thank them (when appropriate) in the magazine to share confidence in their levels of service with all readers?

Francis Sheppard



Flourishing flowers

Thank you to the Purton Parish Council Groundsmen who mowed around the wild orchids growing on the verge in Reids Piece. It was so lovely to see these intricate and delicate flowers growing there, undisturbed.

A Purton resident

Purton & District Probus Club



At the Probus meeting on Tuesday, 14th of June, Dr Timothy J Brain, until his retirement the Chief Constable of Gloucestershire, addressed the members with "The History of Policing in England & Wales". Law and Order has always been a prime consideration for any governing body; national, metropolitan or provincial. However, ensuring the law, and Policing, have developed in a somewhat haphazard fashion down the ages, with towns and cities having to lead the way.

Though earlier examples were indicated, Tim's talk began in detail, with the Night Watchmen of the mid-1700s, who carried a lamp, a staff and were sometimes accompanied by a dog. Watchmen citizens were selected by rota and unpaid. By calling the hour & "All's Well" they alerted their fellow-watchmen and ensured the safety of the community. From about the 1720s, William Hogarth was illustrating the moral decline of society with paintings such as the 'Thief Taker' and the 'Rake's Progress'. The introduction of 'Thief Takers', a sort of detective, was well intended, but corruption soon became rife, the Thief Takers encouraging theft for their ease of living. From the 1730s, local improvement acts often included provision for paid watchmen or constables to patrol towns at night, while rural areas had less formal arrangements.

In the 18th century, law enforcement and policing was left entirely to local initiative. There was no nationally organised police force, but, in 1749, Henry Fielding, a London Magistrate, together with his half-brother John and some government support, founded and developed The Bow Street Runners. Originally designed to catch criminals 'in the act' and clean up the streets they became, over the following decades, well-known for their skill and expertise in investigating crime, tracking and convicting offenders.

In the early 1800s, riots and criminal activity were continuing to rise, and in 1829, Robert Peel, principal founder of the modern Conservative Party and Prime Minister at the time, established London's first disciplined police force. They were known as 'bobbies' or 'peelers' after their founder. Provincial town authorities gradually followed suit: Gloucestershire, six hours after Wiltshire in 1834. Peel is remembered for the stability and prosperity that followed the introduction of police forces. In 1901, a finger-print branch of the Metropolitan Police Force was formed.

Above are some of the highlights of Dr Brain's talk. It included a lot more information and explained the origins of the terminology used in police work. Questions were answered on Scotland Yard, the CID and the Crown Prosecution Service.

At the meeting on 28th June, John Macartney, a retired executive of the now defunct British Leyland Motor Corporation gave a talk entitled, "British Leyland: From the Start to the Wilderness Years".

In his early career, John

was appointed personal assistant to British Layland's chairman and major investor, Lord Stokes, and consequently enjoyed unlimited access to executives and senior management teams across all of BL group factories. Many of our members, particularly those that 'bought British', remember the range of manufacturers involved: Jaguar, Rover, Land Rover, Triumph, M G, Riley, Wolseley, Morris, Austin and more. In 1968, BL had 40% of the British car market.

Unfortunately, the competitive spirit of the different companies remained competitive and did not progress into 'across the board' co-operation. Selling

abroad needed Letters of Credit which seriously delayed cash flow. Competition from America and Europe began to erode the market and, when the Nissan Micra arrived to replace the Morris Minor for driving schools in 1973, it became necessary to nationalise the corporation. Under investment by the government and union trouble did not help and the company closed in 1986.

Probus Meetings for August, 10 a.m. in Hook Village Hall:

9th - "Montgomery, Field Commander"; 23rd - The Civil War".

Visitors and new members Welcome.

Bob Stevens

Purton Cricket Club

This year the club has again been helping out the Wiltshire Youth Cricket League, hosting a number of county games and training sessions this summer, with teams travelling from far and wide to play at one of Wiltshire's finest grounds. Last month we had representatives from Devon boys Under 14s and look forward to hosting other county events throughout the season. We managed to welcome the boys and their parents from Devon with bacon and sausage buns. On Friday nights we also welcome members and non-members to partake of the drinks and snacks available thanks to our volunteers

Fridays now see our "All Stars" programme for children between six and eight years old. This is the fifth year that we have run this ECB backed programme and yet again we are fully booked. This means that you will see lots more activity at the ground on Friday nights, as parents bring their children to the ground and stay to watch the fun with a cup of tea and a cake.

See the diary pages for the dates and times of our home matches for all teams throughout August.

From The Archive

Our August senior and youth team home fixtures are displayed on the notice boards at the ground and below. You won't, however, see some



of the names from the 1950 season. Teams like Footballers, Wills, Vickers Armstrong, Gorse Hill Wesleyans, Littlecote, BR "R" Shop, Swindon Press, Southall P.O. Staff, RAF South Cerney and BR Wagon Shop who were all part of the 1950s Purton fixture list.

1950 also saw the club celebrating its 130th anniversary with a garden fete at The Court on the High Street where the club's benefactor, James Sadler, was born. The event was hosted by Mr and Mrs A.V. Mayer and the Prospect Silver Band conducted by Mr W. People played during the afternoon. Judging by the number of stalls at the event a good time must have been had by all.

Graham Wright

Purton Scarecrow Trail

The Purton Scarecrow Trail is all set for Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th of September 2022.

This is a quiz trail around the village where you will find "scarecrows" in various locations.

The theme for this quiz is "Heroes and Villains".

Money raised is used to maintain our two community access defibrillators in Purton.

We have prizes from local businesses for the quiz trail winners and "best scarecrow", as voted for by those completing the quiz. The sheets (£4 including a trail map of the locations) can be bought from several places around the village just before and during the weekend of the trail.

We will also run a short trail for children based on cartoon villains. (£1)

Where to buy your quiz sheet:

- Purton Co-Op, Station Road
- Purton House Farm Shop

- The Royal George, Pavenhill
- Hair By Val, Ringsbury Close (weekdays only)
- Pips Café, Silver Threads Hall (weekdays and possibly Saturday)

This is good fun for families & folks of all ages and will take a route around Purton, exploring areas that those not familiar with the village will find interesting.

Afternoon teas & refreshments will be available around the route and will be shown on the map. We recommend contacting The Royal George and The Angel ahead of the day to book if you will be wanting food.

The names of the winners will be available in the November issue of Purton Magazine.

For updates and more information, you could visit our Facebook page: www. facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail/

Please tell family & friends to come along for a fun day out.



Pips Community Café

Hello all, just a quick update on how things are going on with Lou's Hot Lunches on a Tuesday at Pips Cafe: It's been a huge success and has gathered momentum with each week's delicious menu. We will have a seven week home cooked menu done on a rotation system, and the choices for each month will be added here in the magazine to remind you. The price is £5 for a main meal and £2 for a pudding, and, if bought together, you get a free drink of your choice. The lunch is served from midday until 2 p.m. and there will be around 20 portions of both main meal and dessert available until it's all gone. The usual full daily Pips menu will also be available as well if you'd prefer or as an alternative if we have sold out.

As there is no current booking system in place for the hot lunch we understand there was some concern about making the effort to get to Pips for the lunch only to be told we'd already sold out. Have no fear we have solved this problem! Anyone using the Age Concern minibus will be guaranteed a lunch place providing there are enough (minimum of 4) people booking the bus to make it viable. If you would like to reserve a bus seat for next Tuesday or any of the Tuesdays please do so by calling Hazel on 01793 770862.

Here's what's on the menu for the next few Tuesdays...

 August 2nd – Beef stew & dumplings, mashed potato, red

- cabbage, carrots & French beans/ Apple pie & custard..
- August 9th Sausage & mash, cauli cheese, broccoli, carrots and onion gravy/Sticky toffee pudding & custard.
- August 16th Cottage pie, cauli cheese, cabbage & carrot Mini fruit pavlovas & cream.
- August 23rd Chicken casserole, mini roasties, red cabbage, French beans & carrots/Lemon cheesecake.
- August 30th Lasagne, mixed veg & garlic bread/Strawberries & ice cream
- September 6th Fish 'n' Chips, mushy peas or baked beans & a buttered roll/Mini trifles.
- September 13th Chicken ham & leek pie, cauli cheese, broccoli & carrots/Strawberry cheesecake.

Look forward to seeing you soon!

Purton is soon to have its very own Community Fridge!

The purpose of a Community Fridge is a space where surplus food is shared for free and is available to all. The fridge will not be a food bank but aims to bring people together to see good food being shared and eaten, instead of going to waste at landfills. Food can be donated and taken to use totally free of charge! Kindly funded by Purton Parish Council, the fridge will be located in the entrance lobby of the Silver Threads Hall. The

fridge will be available to use by everyone and anyone when Pips Cafe is open or when there are activities in the hall during the evening. There will also be a pantry section too which will stock packet and tinned foods.

If anyone is interested in being a volunteer and learning new skills including maintaining the fridge (i.e.

keeping an eye on it, cleaning the fridge, rotating food, collecting food donations, generally keeping it nice and tidy etc.), I'd love to hear from you.

Latest update The fridge has arrived and now needs the final processes to be put in place. As soon as the fridge has a launch date we will let you all know!

Louise, Pips Community cafe volunteer

Purton Amateur Dramatics Society

PADS 2022 Pantomime - Merlin

Christmas seems so far away whilst we are currently enjoying a lovely summer heatwave, but we in PADS are already turning our thoughts to casting and rehearsing this year's pantomime, originally scheduled for early February, but postponed to November, due to the rapid increase in the Omicron variant of Covid at the end of 2021. This decision was made for many reasons, not least due to concerns for the health and safety of the cast, crew and our valued audience. When the government fully lifted all restrictions, we were able to reschedule to the final weekend in November 2022. The new dates and times of our performances are as follows. All being well, this time Covid will not get in our way!

- Thursday 24 Nov 2022 7.30pm.
- Friday 25 Nov 2022 7.30pm.
- Saturday 26 Nov 2022 2.30pm. (Matinée)
- Saturday 26 Nov 2022 7.30pm.

Due to the rescheduling, a few members of the original cast are no longer available, so we are currently looking to recast a few parts, large and small. If you like to perform, act, sing or dance, and would like to be involved, please get in touch, either by emailing me (kate. bath@hotmail.com) or contacting us via our Facebook page – Purton Amateur Dramatic Society. All are welcome!

Medieval Murder Mystery

We have now performed our latest original murder mystery play for four local organisations, helping them to raise much needed funds – St. Mary's Church Purton, Cirencester Rotary Club, St Mary's Church Stratton, and Cricklade Twinning Association. And, as I write, our next performance will be at Haydon Wick Working Men's Club on 15 July, for the local parish council.

If you are interested in joining us, or just want to know more about PADS, please don't hesitate to contact me on the above email address, or via our Facebook page.

Kate Bath - PADS Chair

Purton Village Diary - August 2022

1	M	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club U19 v Swindon
6	Sa	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club 2nd XI v Avebury 2
7	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship a Purton Methodist Church
		8.ooam	Holy communion at St Mary's
		10.30am	Church for all at St Mary's
		1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club U13 v Goatacre
8	M		Commonwealth Games 2022 closing ceremony in Birmingham
9	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus meet at Hook Village Hall 'Montgomery, Field
			Commander'
13	Sa	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club 2nd XI v Beckington 2
		9.00pm	Live music at the Red House
			International Left-handers day
14	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship a Purton Methodist Church
			Holy communion at St Mary's
17	W	10.00am	Purton Age Concern day trip to Weston Super Mare
		6.oopm	Purton Cricket Club U15 v Wessex Warriors
		7 . 30pm	Chris Rumming talks on farming to Purton WI at the Silver
			Threads Hall
20	Sa	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club 1st XI v Calne
		2.00pm	Purton Annual flower, arts, crafts and produce show at the
			Village Hall
21	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship a Purton Methodist Church
		8.ooam	Holy communion at St Mary's
		10.30am	Church for all at St Mary's
		1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club U13 v Swindon
23	Tu	10.00am	Purton Probus meet at Hook Village Hall 'The Civil War'
27	Sa	1.00pm	Purton Cricket Club 2nd XI v Heytesbury & Sutton Veny
28	Su	10.30am	Morning Worship a Purton Methodist Church
			Holy communion at St Mary's
		10.30am	Purton Cricket Club U11 v Corsham
29	M		Summer bank holiday
	W	6.oopm	Purton Cricket Club U15 v Royal Wootton Bassett



Purton Magazine is available to buy at; One Stop, Purton Farm Shop, Dora's Dairy, Shear Success and the Co-op.

We deliver to over 700 homes each month through our network of volunteers. To become a distributor, or a Magazine subscriber, contact Sandra Horsnall, tel: 01793 770157 or email: distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton 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	to 11am Purton Toddler Group at the Village Hall (term time)
	2.00pm	to 7.00pm Purton Library open
	7 . 30pm	Bridge Club at the Red House
W	10.00am	to 12 noon Coffee and Chat at Pips Community Cafe, Silver
		Threads Hall.
	6.15pm	Purton Youth Club for school years 4-7 at Purton Village Hall
	7 . 00pm	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

Beneath the Wool

Well this month has been really busy. We've been very busy haymaking on the farm. We did the first bit in the middle of June with lots of sunshine, but the weather decided to change so we had to make it a bit quick, but we got there in the end and we managed to get 110 bales in the shed and the hay is some lovely stuff. On the 2nd July we cut the big lot of hay which was all of the grass at College Farm. This was the most hay we've made in one hit before, so I was a bit unsure as to how many bales it would be. As someone said 'somewhere between 250 and 1200' which is a bit of a difference! In the end we had 496 which filled the shed up well and hopefully we should have enough to get us through the winter.

On the 3rd July we had Sid come to shear the sheep and they are all feeling much better for having their wool off. Yet again it's another big money loser as the price of the wool is peanuts, although I think peanuts might be more valuable really. But anyway, it's one of those things which needs to be done and the ewes look a lot better for it. While they were in, we wormed all the ewes and lambs as they were going onto new pasture and they were due a wormer.

The weather has been unbelievably dry this spring and summer so the grass has never really got growing and any rain we do have isn't enough to make much difference. We have been feeding our winter feeds now for a few weeks already, and all the hay we have made may well be needed not just for winter but for the summer. It's quite a drastic situation for the whole of the farming





community, as crops won't have done very well and the livestock farmers are struggling to feed their animals. All of this coming at times where the overheads in farming are at a record. It's certainly a very hard time for farmers, as it is for a lot of people globally.

On the subject of overheads, with the price of diesel so high Fergus, our little old tractor, has been the star of haymaking this year doing all the hay turning as he only burns a very small amount of diesel being a three cylinder, which has helped out massively. It's incredible to realise that a tractor from 1959 is still putting in the work in 2022! *Michael Woodward, Rogers Farm, Purton*

We Record...

Weddings at St Mary's Church

16 June 2022 Joanna Becker and Perry Dean Hawkins

18 June 2022 Emma Victoria Hickey and Robin Maendy Andrew White

30 June 2022 Ruby Rose Barnard and Thomas Alfred Eady

2 July 2022 Lillian Rose Bailey Davies and Joel Matthew Coombs

9 July 2022 Carrie-Ann Lee Bletso and Tristian James Heal

Memorial Service at St Mary's Church

13 June 2022 Jennifer Hamilton-Duirs (73)

Funeral at St Mary's Church

16 June 2022 Mary Griffin (88)

20 June 2022 Sylvia Beryl Irene Pratt (102)

Interment of ashes at Purton Cemetery:

20 June 2022 Wizz Blake 5 July 2022 John Lilley

After 8



For our June meeting we decided to have a lunchtime picnic in the delightful surroundings of the Millennium Gardens, situated on the corner of Reids Piece and the High Street. So much hard work has been done by volunteers to make what was a run down area of land into a little haven of colourful flowers and shrubs. It is well worth a visit, particularly if you haven't been before.

Having enjoyed our packed lunches, we chatted about the jubilee celebrations we had all enjoyed and spent some time trying to identify some of the beautiful trees that are in the garden.

Towards the end of the meeting one of our members read a poem they had written about the Queen. We didn't realise what creativity we had within the group. We thought it would be good to share it with you all.

Thank you, Diane

Her Majesty

Our glorious Queen so long to reign over us On her 70th Jubilee, we made a spectacular fuss A wonderful life, with ups, and some downs She accepted it all, since she had been crowned

Lords and ladies, Prime Ministers, her beloved corgis, Glorious Balmoral, palaces, castles and horses Her charming prince, her royal, no longer by her side, He was so close to a century, before sadly he died.

The Queen's duties are many, when all said and done Her age is limiting, so now performed by her son. The Queen's been with us since our time of dawn When her Majesty moves on, we will all sadly mourn

After 8 Summer Social

On a lovely, sunny evening, eleven ladies convened to learn about, and play, petanque (said "Petang") at Cricklade Spa (formerly Cricklade Hotel and Country Club).

We were welcomed by Helen who had arranged the session and introduced to Malcolm, a founding member of the Cricklade Petanque Club and an official England coach who was there to show us amateurs the ropes. We had all heard of the game, and some

had played it previously either whilst on holiday in France or in their back gardens, but few accurately.

To the uninitiated, petanque is very much like bowls or even curling. Well it is, and it isn't! There are a number of what initially seemed very complicated rules, but as play progressed, these all fell into place.

We were divided into four teams of three members (including Malcolm, who nobly used his left hand at times) and battle commenced! The start of play is the throwing a small coloured ball called a cochonnet with the aim of getting your teams' boules as near as possible, and if possible excluding those of your opponents. At first, our throwing seemed rather wild and nowhere near the target, but to our amazement and some pride, we all improved as the play went on. After about an hour and a half we drew stumps (oops, wrong game!) and found that we had all almost tied.

We then adjourned to the hotel where we enjoyed drinks and a lovely meal on the terrace

overlooking a wonderful view over the surrounding countryside on a beautiful balmy evening.

Our thanks to Helen for organising this event and to Malcolm for explaining and demonstrating the skill of petanque.

Christine Gill

Purton Historical Society



Following our June and July events, the society now has a break with no meeting during August. We would like to welcome members and visitors back for the commencement of our Autumn programme as follows:

Thursday 22nd September 2022 Archaeology of Chedworth Roman Villa Site – Dr Nick Humphris

Our presenter, Dr Nick Humphris writes:

"My talk will show what was revealed when the new West Range cover building was opened 10 years ago and the archaeology in preparation for a proposed new cover building for the North Wing. This revealed some surprising building modifications and interesting carbon dating."

Thursday 27th October 2022

A Town Most Notoriously Discontented: Marlborough And The Civil War – Nick Baxter

Further details will be published in the September magazine.

Visitors are always welcome.

Janet and Tony Neate email: tjneate57@gmail.com

Museum News

Friday 22nd May 1925: Empire Day celebration took place today. The Union Jack was saluted, national anthem, 'God Bless the Prince of Wales' etc were sung and the Headmaster gave an address on Empire Duties. In the afternoon holiday was given.

December 22nd 1925: The attendance is very poor owing to a severe snowstorm. Only 74% of the children were present.

Thursday 1st July 1926: School closed at the end of the afternoon for Swindon Trip Week holiday. The attendance at the afternoon session was very low owing to children being absent making preparations for an early start, many at 4 a.m.

4th September 1935: A wet morning. 74 children were absent. The School Attendance Officer visited the school. 2nd, 3rd, 4th September 1939: The school was used by local billeting officers for the reception of people (women and children) evacuated from London. On the night of September

it was necessary for them to sleep in the school all night to be taken to their billets in the morning.

5th September 1939: The school should have reassembled today after the summer holiday but, owing to the outbreak of war between Great Britain and Germany, the LEA, acting under instructions from the Board of Education, has postponed the opening.

Read these and other fascinating entries in the Log Book for Purton Church of England Mixed School 1925-1944, kindly on loan from St Mary's School.

Purton Museum is open on Saturdays from 10.00am -12.30pm and the current exhibition is on Education at St Mary's School.

Lucy Lewis, Museum Archivist

Purton Library News

4th, many evacuees were sent late. and

I can finally report that the computers are back up and running; they have been out of action for some time but are now working again.

Another piece of good news is that starting from Friday 9th September the library will be open on two days per week. The new opening hours will be:

- Tuesday from 2pm to 7pm.
- Friday from 2pm to 4.3opm.

The Summer Reading Challenge will also start soon, details are below.

Gadgeteers Summer Reading Challenge 16 July to 10 September 2022

 This year's theme, 'Gadgeteers', is all about science and innovation.
 Developed in partnership with

- the Science Museum Group, the challenge will inspire children to use their curiosity and creativity to discover the science behind the everyday and celebrates the role of the imagination in both reading and the sciences.
- Through the challenge, children will meet six fictional characters, the Gadgeteers, brought to life by top children's writer and illustrator, Julian Beresford. Using their imagination and curiosity, the Gadgeteers will come up with innovative ways to get everything ready for their summer party. This setting will allow children to explore the science behind a range of interests, from fashion and technology, to cooking and music.

- Children can also take part in the challenge online via the website

 summerreadingchallenge.org.
 uk – where they can rate and review books, download activities, and access video content, games and quizzes.
- Children can read any six library books of their choice; they don't have to be linked to the theme. They can of course read more than six books, and this is to be encouraged.

So please encourage your children and grandchildren to take part.

Joyce Waylen, Library Volunteer Coordinator We are looking for volunteers to help at

Purton Library

If you enjoy meeting new people, and love books and reading we'd like to hear from you

Contact Jane Hunt,
Library Service Volunteer Coordinator
Tel: 01225 713792
Email: jane.hunt@wiltshire.gov.uk

Love Reading Love Libraries **Wiltshire Council**

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



As this had been a last minute booking, I was particularly delighted to welcome Andrew Woodall as the speaker for our June meeting, with a talk highlighting his career in horticulture.

One of twin boys, Andrew was born on 12 April 1961, this being the day that Yuri Gagarin became the first human to journey into outer space.

He and his brother Richard were brought up by his foster mum in a small village outside Oxford, where they lived in a large house by the Thames. Andrew would mow the lawn and care for the garden and he recalled standing and admiring their neighbour's immaculate garden, and so an interest in horticulture was kindled.

At the age of 16, the two brothers set forth on their chosen career paths; Andrew into horticulture and Richard into catering.

Following a four year apprenticeship at Oxford University, Andrew travelled to Europe where he set up a business manufacturing stilts for picking tomatoes, with a later venture into keeping giant snails, 1lb in weight when fully grown apparently! The venture failed and returning to England in 1992,

Andrew took up a post at Pennington House, situated in an idyllic setting near the Solent. His brief was to reinstate the original garden which had been left untouched for 10 years.

Eight years later, together with his Danish wife and young son, he moved on to Fort Belvedere in Surrey, the setting of Edward VIII's abdication speech, where for three years he was responsible for maintaining the established garden there. This was a big step up for Andrew, working for the Selfridge family, with more responsibility and a home included as one of the perks of the post.

In 2003, a position in Italy took his eye and after 14 months and seven interviews the post was his. Together with his wife, son and border collie, he moved to Il Palagio, near Florence, working alongside Arabella Lennox-Boyd on the reconstruction and planting of a garden for his new employers, the musician and singer Sting and his wife Trudy Styler.

His home was an authentic Tuscan cottage near their villa with views of the Apennine mountain range.

By 2006, he had started putting out feelers for positions back home in England and he was eventually shortlisted for the post of head gardener at Broughton Grange. The gardens are set in over 400 acres of undulating North Oxfordshire countryside. The rest is history as they say. Together with a team of four, he now manages the 25 acre garden set within 400 acres of undulating North Oxfordshire countryside. He calls it a 'beast', as it

needs deep pockets to feed.

The centrepiece is a three terraced walled garden designed by the owner, Tom Stuart-Smith, who bought the house in 1992. It takes the form of a prairie garden with grasses, lavenders and step-over apple hedging features and the terrace's low box hedging representing the cells in ash, beech and oak leaves.

An arboretum, winter garden and stumpery also feature in the garden design, whilst other areas of interest include a woodland garden, rose parterre and stumpery, together with the lake completed this year with the addition of fresh spring planting.

Broughton Grange and its gardens have been significantly transformed such that its gardens are now recognised as one of the most significant private contemporary gardens in Britain.

The gardens are open to visitors on: Tuesdays (Groups only):

Wednesdays (Individuals).

Entry costs £10.

A tea area in an old horse shelter has been created with seating under a marquee.

A bespoke Ploughman's lunch, prepared by his brother, Richard, is available to purchase for £12.50 per person. It looked amazing!

An outing beckons I feel!

Andrew's talk proved to be a fascinating insight into his career journey from Europe to North Oxfordshire.

Margaret Goodall (Secretary 770906)

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 July's puzzle are 1) Walking 2) Meadow 3) Outdoor 4) Birdsong 5) Orchids 6) Jackdaw

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

•	2 across Coastal area (7)		1						
•	5 across Beach construction (10)	2							
•	6 across Leisurely stroll (9)						3		
•	1 down Canvas seat (9)					1			
•	3 down Enthusiastic (7)				4				
•	5 down Summer treat (3, 5)								
This is the next crossword created by Neil and Rob Miles									
to challenge villagers. Answers		5							
for this quiz will be in the									
September issue and if any									
	der would like to create their	6							
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 t	he 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

Visit 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 September issue. Our copy deadline is the 10th August, please email: mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Purton Football Club

Following my item in the July magazine we have appointed a joint management team for the 2022/2023 season of Ryan Elliot and Andi Philpot, who come to us having experienced playing careers at Supermarine and Hungerford Town respectively, and will bring players to the club with plenty of experience and a good mixture of youth, as I know Ryan in particular has been coaching at New College. Hopefully a few will join him and with our reserve side full of young local lads, competition will be fierce on all fronts to give us a club to be proud of.



The Ladies team have been training regularly with as many as 18 turning up so they are looking forward to a successful season.

We had our third annual ex-players match on July 9th and used it as a memorial match to one of our former and most popular players, Adi Kember.

We raised a magnificent total of £556.80 on the day thanks to the supporters and players, and all the money will go to Adi's family to be used as they wish.

Arrangements for our sporting dinner on September 12th are going well, as are ticket sales! We are changing the location to the Purton Club function room, so if people still wish to attend, contact me on 07855 406662 or terry.crumbie@gmail.com.

I will try to give full updates on all the PFC teams this season, which includes the two senior Saturday sides and the Ladies side, via the magazine but should you wish to purchase a programme, I be will willing mail you one or, even better, if you have a business and would like to advertise in the programme, please contact me on the email address above.

Terry Crumbie, Chairman and Treasurer of Purton FC

Purton Tennis Club



We hope you enjoyed watching Wimbledon on the television this year. There were some fantastic matches and some real nail-biters! The grass court season for the professionals is drawing to a close now, but it is certainly not the end of the tennis season for club players. At Purton we still have some matches to play in the Swindon & District League. All our B sides are top, or nearly top, of their respective divisions and the A sides are holding their own too. So, all round, it looks like it has been a good season and there may even be some silverware at the end.

Saturday mornings are as popular as ever with our juniors and everyone is improving all the time, under the guidance of Nicola, Tom and Teresa.

The junior end of season tournament is on Saturday 3rd September. Spectators are welcome to come along and support our juniors at this event.

Our Box Tennis league is slowly gaining momentum. This is singles tennis and playing the best of three sets. As an incentive, little prizes are awarded throughout the summer for various things – recently Jennifer, Julia, Robbie and Paula won edible prizes for playing really long matches (they needed the sugar!).

Anyone who is interested in picking up a racquet for the first time or, perhaps, for the first time since leaving school (!) can come along to club sessions and have a go. There will be a friendly welcome, balls are provided, and should you wish to borrow a racquet, that can be arranged, we just ask that you wear suitable footwear. Alternatively, if you would like to hire a court for the hour, we can arrange that too.

Janet Saunders (secretary) janetcsaunders@gmail.com

Swindon Croquet Club

SCC's High Handicap Golf Croquet team recorded its first victory of the season with a hard fought win playing away against Broadwas Croquet Club. SCC was warmly welcomed by the home team, whose lawns slope slightly but are well mown and green. Both sides got off to a good start, winning a game each before SCC won five out of the next six games to secure a commanding lead. The Broadwas team staged a strong fight back, but were unable to catch SCC who held their nerve to run out winners by 11-9. Captain Tony Tomlin said, "It was a good win with all the team contributing to the victory. We all thoroughly enjoyed the day and thanked Broadwas for their hospitality".

If you would like to give croquet a try, please email swindon.croquet@outlook.com as free taster sessions are available.



Photo (L-R): Steve Hares, Dave Booth, Sandra Jerram, Terry Clements, Tony Tomlin (Captain), Simon Cooper-Tydeman

A book I will always remember

...Alterntive Friends are humanoid robots capable of empathy and are common in the near-future society of the story. But it turns out that the mother has a very particular reason for making the purchase.

It's a story that I find I can't stop thinking about...

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.

Klara and the Sun

This is a thought-provoking story about a teenage girl whose mother buys her an Alternative Friend. These AFs are humanoid robots capable of empathy and are common in the near-future society of the story. But it turns out that the mother has a very particular reason for making the purchase. It's a story that I find I can't stop thinking about.

What's the book about? It's about what it means to be human. Humans have lots of capabilities and traditionally (say, 100 years ago) it was believed that several of these were unique to humans. Examples include intelligence, (self-) consciousness, language, use of tools and religion (which, it was said, needed the ability to imagine a world you couldn't see, and animals couldn't do that). It used to be said that no other living things had anything remotely like any of these capabilities. Humans didn't just have more of these than anyone else - they weren't just quantitatively different. They were qualitatively different.

More recently, we have realised:

- Other animals use tools. There are now documented examples of this in not only other great apes but also in, for example, crows and octopuses;
- Other animals have language.
 Not just a small number of pre-set sounds each of which is used in a defined circumstance, but a flexible set of sounds that can be combined in various ways. There are now documented examples of this in elephants, bats and dolphins. And, of course, some birds including parrots, hummingbirds and songbirds such as zebra finches;
- Other animals have forms of intelligence, or a generalised problem-solving capability. There are now documented examples of this in the other great apes, mice and rats, and pigs.



Yoga Classes

Starting in September

Whether you're just starting your journey or have past experience, you will be welcomed into our friendly Hatha Yoga group.

Hatha is a gentle form of yoga, the class will include a warm up, posture work - Asana, breathing - Pranayama and relaxation.

Allow Yoaa to help you combat the stresses of daily life Develop Flexibility - Core Strength - Muscle Tone Breathing Techniques and Relaxation Skills

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For further details without any obligation simply ring: Chris or Justyn on 01793 814888 In Klara and the Sun, I guess Kazuo Ishiguro has noticed recent developments in artificial intelligence such as:

AI can do better than people at the early detection of diseases including cancer and retinopathies. (https://www.kolabtree.com/blog/5-real-world-examples-of-ai-in-healthcare/)

Computers have been able to beat Grand Masters at Chess for a little while but now Artificial intelligence beats eight world champions at bridge: Victory marks a milestone for AI as bridge requires more human skills

than other strategy games (www.theguardian.com/technology/2022/mar/29/artificial-intelligence-beats-eight-world-champions-at-bridge).

Klara is clearly solar powered. Her proto-religion venerating the sun (described in the book as "an AF superstition" even though people have been venerating the sun for a long time) seems to be a nod towards

another supposedly uniquely human characteristic, to provide a rationale for her behaviour in the barn near Josie's house, and to explain her hatred of the polluting machine. I also took it that having this machine in the story places the story not too far into the future, but that may not be a strong point.

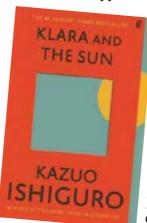
But what about (self-)consciousness and empathy? Ishiguro sets up a situation in which robots have these capabilities and then imagines how it might play out. The story is told in the first person from Klara the robot's point of view. By this technique, the narrative tries to demonstrate that Klara has self-consciousness. She also describes for us that she can detect the emotional state of people – and that's where her empathy comes from.

Once you have a robot displaying empathy, the question arises what the human reaction to this might be. We already, of course, have examples of the use of robots in care homes (www. theguardian.com/society/2020/sep/07/robots-used-uk-care-homes-help-reduce-loneliness), used to provide emotional support to people. It seems that people

can react emotionally to these objects, which aren't at all empathetic. In Klara's case, Ishiguro has them reacting more strongly. All the teenagers who have Alternative Friends react by becoming very attached to their AF. Joltingly, Josie's mother reacts by trying to arrange for Klara to be able to take the place of Josie should Josie's illness cause her to die. And in a poignant scene at the end of the book, the (by

now ageing) Manager seeks Klara out because she wants or needs specifically to see Klara again. Then Klara makes two points that somewhat untangle this situation, but which are beyond the grasp of the humans in the story. She says:

"However hard I tried, I believe now there would have remained something beyond my reach [if she had tried to continue Josie after Josie's death]. I'd never have reached what [Mother, Rick



...] felt for Josie in their hearts." So Klara's capabilities (Ishiguro is saying) aren't quite equal to human ones.

And then, "Mr Capaldi believed there was nothing special inside Josie that couldn't be continued. ... There was something very special but it wasn't inside Josie. It was inside those who loved her." We are to a significant extent formed by the relationships that we have. This is why behaviour, interests and characters can run in families, and why education works as it does. In the story, it's Klara who recognises this. I would have liked the world of the

story to be better described (possibly because I'm just slow on the uptake). It was similar in many ways to our own and wasn't set very far into the future – witness the polluting machine ("Cooting"?) which I imagined like a large roadworking machine such as you might see on one of those endless stretches of motorway where the speed is limited to 50mph. Perhaps an asphalt laying machine or something of the sort.

laying machine or something of the sort. It took me a little while to work out what was meant by Klara seeing things in boxes or squares. This was about the robot's visual processing programme. Human brains do a lot of processing of the data that comes from the optic nerve so that it's interpreted for us. (By the by, one of the results is that we "see" a lot that isn't actually there: our brain does lots of interpolation and can assume that three bits of the visual field [A, B, and C] are continuous: B is a bit fuzzy and lacks data so the brain helpfully corrects the fuzziness and invents things

that look right in the context of coming

in between A and C – or in other words, it invents things based on its own predictions of what "should" be there. There have been lots of experiments about this.)

Klara has visual receptors, and some sort of AI interpreter (call it a "brain" if you like). It works differently from ours and prioritises bits of the visual field differently from the way our brains do. I think the boxes are the author's attempt to tell us something about how Klara's visual perception works, and – possibly – how it does this prioritisation. Klara's processing probably puts important things into their own boxes. Mention of the boxes would therefore be a (pretty clumsy) attempt by the author to show something about Klara's priorities.

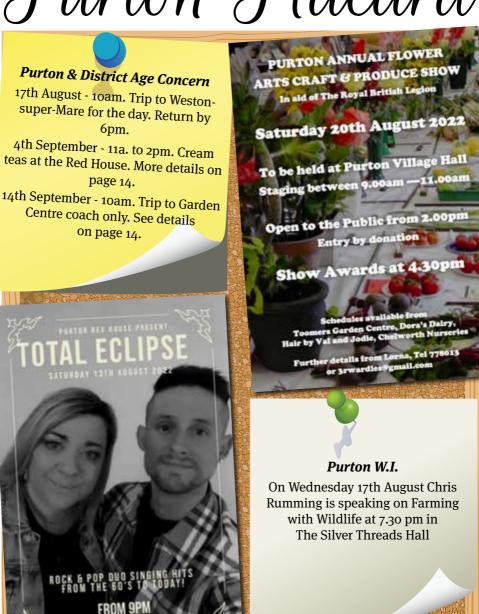
Genetic engineering seems to have been commonplace but again wasn't explained. "Lifting" was genetic engineering to improve someone's intelligence, though it's not clear if this caused Josie's illness. I wasn't sure if lifting was a risky procedure, or merely expensive. We, of course, already use genetic engineering techniques to improve crops, develop medicines, treat some cancers and other medical conditions.

There was, however, quite a description of how in this society people had retreated into isolated units, even to the extent that teenagers needed to learn how to socialise. Some might say that is an echo of today's world!

As you can see, I found it a thought-provoking book to read and remember!

Dick Millard

Purton Placard





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Tues 13 Sept 2022 2.00pm

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Tea and cake served in the break

This is a FREE event, but please book your place by contacting Pat Hughes on 01793 772382 / 07484 748737 or patricia.j.hughes@btinternet.com



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CRICKLADE CAFE

The Cricklade Club, High Street, SN66AY 10:30-Noon

2022 - Not up for coffse, cake and that on - 20 key, 17 Aug. 21 Sept. 29 Oct. 16 Nov. 21 Dec. We now meet in The Living room, turn right and follow sign from Foyer.

contact: parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call 07951 944760

Fitness & Friendship Club

De-stress with exercise

For me, a bit of low impact aerobics allows me to unwind and switch the brain to just thinking about me for a while. That and a bit of tai chi is a great way to de-stress. So, why not join your local F&F club and have a nice de-stress time with us?

Our exercises have been designed for all abilities

Whether you are mobile, use a stick, walker or are in a wheelchair, our sessions are for everyone. And after refreshments & games, we send you home relaxed with a Tai Chi session, again adapted for all abilities.

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. What a lovely way to de-stress! Come along to one of these clubs:

Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall, Station Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 8EN (closed for August), Thursday 2pm - 4pm.

Swindon Central Community Centre, Emlyn Square, Swindon, SN1 5BP, 2nd 16th & 30th August, Tuesday 2pm - 4pm. Chippenham, Kingsley

Road Community Hall, Kingsley Road, Chippenham, SN14 oAS, 3rd 17th 31st August, Wednesday 2pm - 4pm.

Wiltshire

You can come along to any or all, and there are more clubs around Wiltshire listed on the website: https://www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/

For more information about the above clubs please call Jane Pitcher, the project worker, on her mobile: 07506 836876. πlease note that this mobile will only be answered on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. However, if you leave your name and number I will get back to you.

AgeUK Wiltshire is seeking staff and volunteers

Would you like to train as a volunteer or apply for a possible six-hour paid work per week + expenses position? If you like exercise, would like to learn and share the benefits of fitness & tai chi and have the ability to manage detail, data and assessments, why not contact Tracey Jones on 07754 612569 or email tracey.jones@ageukwiltshire.org.uk to arrange for an informal discussion about the roles available?

Carer Support

If you look after, or help to look after, someone who could not otherwise live independently without your support, then you are an unpaid carer. You might be caring for a partner, parent, child,



friend or neighbour who is elderly, has a disability or an illness – including a mental health illness or an addiction to alcohol or drugs.

If you look after someone you love

or care about you might not consider yourself a carer. Caring is something we do often without question, or the need for a label. But it can be useful to acknowledge your role so that you can ensure you're receiving all the support available to you and taking care of your own needs.

Carer Support Wiltshire (CSW) offers advice and support to those who are caring for someone. This often starts with an assessment to determine what impact a carer's role is having on their own health and wellbeing. They run a number of groups and carer cafes where carers can meet up and offer support to one another. These groups can help with feelings of loneliness and isolation that many carers experience. There is always a member of CSW staff or a trained volunteer on hand to answer any questions you may have and often there are guest speakers too. To find out more call 0800 181 4118 or visit us online at carersupportwiltshire.co.uk.

Events near you:

Malmesbury carer café - 10.30am to

midday, Malmesbury Abbey, Gloucester St, 25 August & 22 September.

Royal Wootton Bassett support group – 10.30am to midday, The Brunel Room, The Angel Hotel, 2 August & 6 September.

Calne carer café – 10.30am to midday, Lansdowne Strand Hotel, The Strand, 9 August & 13 September.

Carer Support Wiltshire needs you!

We are a Registered Charity (No 1092762) helping unpaid carers to access services, information, education and training, respite and breaks from their caring role. We are currently recruiting for three trustee roles with commercial and financial experience including a treasurer. In addition, we have several other part time and full time job vacancies. Full details are on our website: carersupportwiltshire. co.uk/aboutus/jobvacancies. For more information, please contact kerryw@ carersupportwiltshire.co.uk. If you are an unpaid carer and need some support, please call 0800 181 4118. We would love to hear from you.

Work Wiltshire Results Day 2022

Support for Young People and their Parents/Carers - 21st July 2022, 10am

Young Work Wiltshire holds valuable information and signposting tools for young people collecting results for GCSE's and A-Levels this August.

Visit Young Work Wiltshire's dedicated Results Day page here – https:// workwiltshire.co.uk/young/resultsday/

The National Careers service will be answering calls on their helpline between 8am - 8pm from Thursday 18th August to Friday 2nd September.

Call them on o800 100 900 for support following results day.

If you are interested in starting an apprenticeship visit – https:// workwiltshire.co.uk/become-anapprentice/

Register now for 27th July 6-7pm or 8th August 5-6pm. This webinar will provide support and tips to prepare for results day, advice about exploring careers and signposting to useful sources.

Book here: https://bit.ly/3nYxCj2

Purton & Lydiard Scout Group: A Fox's tale

Fox, otherwise known as Richard Gray, (but don't tell the seven years' worth of Beaver Scouts that he has led), is stepping down from the role for a well-deserved rest in his lair.

Richard has been involved in the Purton and Lydiard Beaver Scouts since before his eldest son was invested in 2015. He began as a colony assistant, then stepped up to the full leadership role when his predecessor (Osprey) moved on. Over the years he has had a menagerie of British Wildlife (and beyond) supporting his endeavours with the children. Owl, Squirrel, Bearcat, Falcon, Otter and Badger (to name but a few) were all parents who wanted to help the group run effectively and who would get stuck in planning, leading and running events where needed. As one of them put it, "Personally, I have enjoyed helping the kids at Beavers but also had lots of fun and laughs doing it. Both of our two children got a huge amount from their time at Beavers and always looked forward to Mondays no matter what we had planned or made up!"

With an average of 20+ boys and girls in the troop each year, Fox has managed to entertain and teach the children, preparing them for Cubs and opening their eyes to lots of fun activities. Highlights have included trips to the fire station, canoeing, the Defence Academy Museum in Shrivenham, water-based highland games, plenty of adventure walks around Purton including encounters with stubborn horses. The children particularly enjoyed the den building and junk modelling evenings with dodgeball being a perennial favourite. Campfire nights were always welcomed for the soup and s'mores and even Fox's singing!!

Fox was particularly proud of his hot air balloon demonstrations, while the Christmas parties were legendary, particularly the toilet roll snowmen competition and the visit from several Star Wars characters (thanks to Jo Archer for this). Many parents around the villages will be "grateful" for the Mother's



and Father's Day gifts that the children crafted while in their lodges. The many children Fox has led have had a great time over the years and have made the most of the sessions prepared for their weekly visits. I know that Fox has thoroughly enjoyed his time with the children and found the experience very rewarding. So thank you Richard from your band of assistants and from all the Beavers.

The loss of Fox and the lack of a replacement





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(contact: Sophie)

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Dandelion Gifts & Coffee Shop (49 High St) Fortnightly Thursday (2-3:30pm)

(starting 9th June '22 – contact: Sophie)

For further information – Wiltshire Mental Health Inclusion Service staff contact details: Jackie - Tel: 07467 291091 / Sophie - Tel: 07467 711544

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS <

www.actionforhappiness.org

unfortunately means that the Beavers will no longer be able to run in Purton and Lydiard Millicent. If you're interested in leading or helping to lead a popular and well-resourced local community group, or have children who you are hoping will join Beavers soon

and would like to ensure the group is running, then do please get in touch with the current Beaver leader Richard Gray on 07410 591240 or the Group Scout Leader, Chris Male on 01793 633602. Either would be delighted to have a chat with you.

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Oxford University Hospitals Radiotherapy Centre opens in Swindon

After many years of planning, fundraising and construction, the new Oxford University Hospitals Radiotherapy Centre @ Swindon is now officially open.

Clinicians, patients and supporters

from Oxford University Hospitals and Great Western Hospitals joined together, alongside building firm Sisk, for the official opening, which has been long anticipated for thousands of local people undergoing treatment for cancer. Building on site started in August 2020, with the ground-breaking ceremony taking place in October 2021. The opening marked the biggest milestone yet, with a ribbon cutting ceremony and speeches from some of the people who have been instrumental in bringing radiotherapy to Swindon.

The ribbon was cut by two patients

from Swindon, Fred Bassett and Sandra McGlone, alongside Liam Coleman, Chairman, Cat Weaver, Associate Director of Fundraising and Voluntary Services and senior representatives from OUH. Guests were also invited to walk around the Radiotherapy Centre and had the opportunity to see the two new linear accelerators – mostly used for external beam radiotherapy – and a CT scanner which was funded by Brighter Futures.

The first patient will be treated at the Radiotherapy Centre later in the summer.

Bringing radiotherapy closer to home

Swindon was one of the very few parts of the country without a radiotherapy service. The development of a local radiotherapy service for cancer patients Specialist in PVCU windows, doors, patio doors, bi-folding doors and conservatories.

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1 cu m £110 1½ cu m £150 2 cu m £200 diagnosed at Great Western Hospital will mean over 13,000 patient journeys for radiotherapy treatment will be significantly shorter every year.

Currently, the 70-mile round trip is adding extra stress and anxiety to patients who are already facing an extremely difficult time, and our goal is to ensure many cancer patients diagnosed locally receive the best possible care and can have their radiotherapy appointments and treatments closer to home, and closer to their support networks.

A cancer diagnosis affects not only the patient but ripples out to so many others. Radiotherapy in Swindon will offer much needed support to every patient, but also to hundreds of families, friends and carers as well.

Kevin McNamara, Chief Executive, said, "Radiotherapy being provided from Swindon has been in the pipeline for a number of years, and I'm thrilled that we are opening a brand-new Radiotherapy Centre right here on the Great Western Hospital site.

"Every day, many local people travel over 70 miles to Oxford for treatment but bringing radiotherapy closer to home will save thousands every year the extra travel and stress during what is an extremely difficult time.

"We are only in a position to open the Centre due to the help and support of so many; from staff, contractors, architects and our local community who have been instrumental in raising millions for the Radiotherapy Appeal.

"My thanks goes to every person who has helped us get to this stage. We hope that, with the relationship we've formed with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, many patients will have a much better experience when receiving treatment for cancer."

We couldn't have done it without our local communities

Back in 2015, our Trust charity, Brighter Futures, launched an appeal of £2.9 million to raise money which would be used to purchase key clinical equipment within the new Radiotherapy Centre.

Today, 2,391 days after the first pound was donated, the efforts of the local community were rewarded with the official opening.

It was an incredible 3 and a half years of fundraising for Brighter Futures that has seen thousands of local people across Swindon and surrounding communities, including a large number of our own staff, come together and do some truly amazing things for the charity.

Supporters have jumped out of planes, cycled across the UK, motored to Cyprus and Mongolia, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro and taken on the London Marathon and Great North and South runs.

Many more incredible people have held bingo nights, baked cakes, hosted tea parties, shaved their heads and so much more. Together we have been united in the fight against cancer which has affected so many families in our local communities.

We want to say the biggest thank you to each and every person who has donated to the Radiotherapy Appeal. Whether you gave us a pound or a thousand pounds, your contribution has meant that we were able to build this incredible new Centre that will benefit so many.



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*

PC Doctor Dan

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11/22

Year 7 STEM workshops at RWB Academy

Bloodhound Education (https://bloodhoundeducation.com/), a charity that brings STEM subjects to life, visited Royal Wootton Academy for two days of hands-on engineering workshops. STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) are key skills for the careers of many young people. The Rotary Club of Royal Wootton Bassett & District is proud to support the workshops with a donation and attendance of the sessions.

Anthony, an experienced trainer from Bloodhound Education, led four separate sessions over two days, motivating nearly 300 students. In small teams, the students had fun building an air-powered rocket car. The goal of the challenge was to design and make a model car using K'nex, powered by compressed air and capable of travelling a distance of 10m. For teams that were successful, a secondary challenge was then to make the car travel 10m even faster. The sessions concluded with timed runs to determine an overall winner.

During the process, teams were encouraged to document what they were doing, test their models (again and again), observe what happened, learn and redesign to improve. At all times the need for safety was also strongly emphasised and observed. These are all skills that real engineers need.

Rotary club members attended all of the sessions, commenting that it was evident



the students were fully engaged in what they were doing and thoroughly enjoying the experience. It was very interesting watching the different ways that the students chose to construct their cars.

At the end of each session, the students all agreed they'd had a lot of fun and thought that they would be able to build a better car next time based on what they had learnt.

Sarah Day, Co-Head of Design & Technology and Co-ordinator of KS4 Design & Technology at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, said, "It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to work with the Engineers from Bloodhound again, and we are very grateful to the Rotary Club for helping us to provide this again. There is no better learning experience than to 'have a go' and the students really gained a lot from testing and developing throughout this STEM activity."

Mark Mudd, chair of the club's Rotary Youth Services Committee was delighted with how the students were engaged in the sessions. "It was a fantastic two days, enjoyed by everyone and clearly of great value to the students who all embraced the challenge with determination and interest. The quality of the workshop delivery by Bloodhound Education was outstanding, and the event was very well organised by the Academy." Linda Locke, Rotary Club President, considered the club's donation "well spent".



Students decide show must go on as heatwave cancels Tea Party

RWBA Sixth Form had to cancel a muchanticipated Community Tea Party last week due to concerns over the effects of the heatwave on their elderly guests.

Preparations for the tea party had been going on for weeks and local residents were looking forward to the event which included a cream tea, raffle and entertainment all organised by year 12 students from the sixth form.

Disappointed that the tea party couldn't go ahead and with all the planning and preparation that had been put into the original event, students decided if the residents couldn't come to the sixth form, then they would take the party to them!

Armed with baskets full of scones, jams, cream and quiz sheets, a group of determined students visited local care homes Miranda House, Ridgeway House and the Lorna Doone Centre to deliver their cream teas and chat with residents.

Staff at the care homes said, "We are extremely grateful to the students and

the residents are delighted to have such lovely visitors."

Year 12 student Ariana Shafie said, "The residents were so happy to see us, it was really nice that we could still deliver a little part of the tea party for them, hopefully it took their minds off the heat for a little while."

Hilary Stubbs Sixth Form Support Manager confirmed plans to still hold the event, "We are hoping to reschedule the Community Tea Party in the next academic year. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the students who volunteered their time both baking the scones and visiting our elderly residents."

If you would like to learn more about Royal Wootton Bassett Sixth Form and what it has to offer, please visit: www. rwba.org.uk/sixthform The Sixth Form will be holding their annual Open Evening for Year 11 students on 12 October 2022.

Poetry Corner

John Lilley 1942 - 2022: An Ode to John

John was a character larger than life
I'm sure Brenda was exhausted being his wife!
He never stopped talking, unless drinking beer
To John, going to the pub was something so dear
A pint in hand, a chat at the bar,
a game of crib at the George, he didn't have to go far

A walk in the field, a stroll on the beach
John would have many things he could teach
He always knew something about this and that
A mysterious plant or a very rare bat

I'm sure he'd give Attenborough a run for his money When he talked about nature, he was serious not funny

He loved his allotment where he spent many hours
Planting his vegetables and growing his flowers,
He grew sweetcorn, potatoes, beetroot the lot
He'd take it all home to cook in the pot
He loved planting seeds and watching them grow
Sometimes a prize onion for the Purton show

Talk of holidays could go on and on, Mention Kefalonia, and an hour was gone

Travels to Greece, to France to Spain,
I'll always remember his first time on a plane
He loved the sea, the beach the sun
The beer the food the evening fun

When he did sit down, he loved to watch gold "The old comedy's the best" we were always told

Del boy & Rodney, Fawlty Towers made him chuckle Some of the humour was quite near the knuckle

But it was always Dad's Army he thought was the best "Don't panic Mr Mannering", he would say when you're stressed!

There's so much more, I could go on But for now let's just say Farewell John.

Written by John's daughter Sharon



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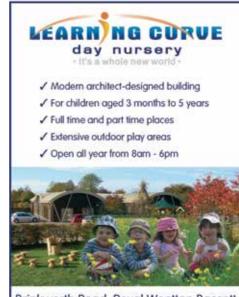
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