

September 2022

Purton Magazine

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and information from and for the Parish of Purton, Wiltshire.

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Purton Contacts

Wiltshire Councillor	Jacqui Lay	770704
Doctor	Purton Surgery	770207
Dental Surgery	Church Street	770532
Junior Church	Mary Hodges	770505
Library	Librarians	770870
<i>(Tuesdays 2.00-7.00pm)</i>		
Museum	Marion Hobbs	770185
Police/Fire/Ambulance	Emergencies	999
Police	Non-emergency	101
Age Concern Minibus	Hazel Woodbridge	770862
Purton Parish Council	Deborah Lawrence	771066
Purton Silver Threads	Lindsey Hall	771890
Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, <i>(10am-4pm: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun)</i>		
Veterinary Surgery	Purton Vets	771869
Pips Community Café	Duty volunteers	07498 526872
<i>(Tuesday-Friday 9am-4.30pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm)</i>		
www.facebook.com/purtoncommunitycafe/		

Schools & Playgroups

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

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

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

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

Printed by: Hulbert & Woodall Print,
Royal Wootton Bassett.

Advertising enquiries: Richard McCarthy
Email: advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk

Copy & advertising deadline: 10th of each
month, please to: Purton Magazine,
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Front cover image:
Purton late summer sunset.
Credit: Heather Ponting-Bather

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From the Editors

September 2022
Volume 44 No.9
1st Published 1975

This month's magazine contains some very interesting articles from years past. The first comes from Purton Museum and specifically the St. Mary's school Headteacher's log book between 1985 and 1998 with people who are still very much in today's local community. We would very much like to publish any reader's recollections of the events mentioned on page 35. Those specifically mentioned are also invited to add some background to the entries bearing their name – watch this space!

The Purton Historical Society are advertising some very interesting looking talks in their autumn programme on page 34. As well as a talk about our very own Ringsbury Camp in November, the October talk is about one of the most appalling events of the English Civil War, namely the Royalist siege and sacking of Marlborough in December 1642. Edward Hyde, advisor to King Charles and former resident of Purton, described Marlborough people as “notoriously disaffected” and full of “malice” – hardly a fair description these days even in local derby sporting contests.

Purton tennis club reports on page 31 on some “interesting and enjoyable” games in their in-house singles league that included “a lot of huffing and puffing and some choice personal criticism and

words.” Clearly a lot of pride was at stake!

Meanwhile we are reminded on page 22 that 10 years ago the London Olympics had just finished and it has generally been agreed to have been a resounding success particularly when viewed from different perspectives. This year the Commonwealth Games was held in Birmingham and finished in August. It was the largest event ever held with 72 nations taking part and it was also the first to have more events for women than men.

1st Purton Guides are celebrating their centenary. The girls have been looking through old scrapbooks and have started making their own scrapbook about what 21st Century Guides get up to. The culmination of the centenary year will be a celebratory evening and an invitation is being extended to all former Purton Girl guides.

Finally the Purton Gardeners' Guild are reporting on page 26 that as no one has come forward to replace the outgoing committee, it looks as though the final meeting will be held at the end of October. That would be particularly sad from Purton Magazine's perspective as, especially throughout the pandemic, we were able to publish many fascinating facts and figures in their articles.

58

Women are given news of their gynaecological cancer every day in the UK, see page 37.

600

Tons of coal per day was required to feed the engines on RMS Titanic. See page 40

£2567

Raised by Purton Open Gardens 2022 with a large portion for local charities. See page 25

Purton Parish Council News



Donations to your community

The Parish Council Finance & General Purposes Committee reviews funding for local community groups.

Whilst things are quieter over the summer, perhaps you may have time to consider what your group, club or society needs next and be looking for funding.

If so, you may like to contact our Parish Clerk, Debbie Lawrence to learn more on 01793 771066. You'll be able to discuss any potential projects, and criteria in more detail, so please do not hesitate to call to access help and advice.

You may also wish to note that our next round of donations is to be held in February 2023.

Purton Carnival – End of an era

At Purton Parish Council we were sad to hear about the decision the Purton Carnival Committee needed to take, in bringing their efforts to a close due to lack of volunteers and support.

We would like to thank them for all their hard work over the years and for the wonderful annual event that they brought to the community of Purton.

In closing, the Committee generously decided to offer the remaining funds to the Parish Council. The Council would like to offer their most sincere thanks for all their hard work, contributions to the community, and generosity in donating these funds.

Funds donated by the Carnival Committee will be used for future

Community projects for the village.

Volunteers are always needed in our village. If you can offer any time, no matter how little please email: susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Purton Ladies FC

After the great success of the Lionesses at Wembley in the European Cup, Purton Parish Council are pleased to announce that they will be helping to keep you up to date with the new Purton Ladies Club who will be running football training and matches at the Purton War Memorial and Village Centre Football Pitch.

Having had the opportunity to meet and greet the new club members this July, Parish Clerk Debbie Lawrence, Cllr Neil Hooper and Purton Red House Bar Manager James Poole are all keen to see how our new future football stars develop.

If you'd like to be the next Mary Earps or Chloe Kelly, you may like to get involved! Follow us on Facebook, to keep up to date with any new information as its posted:

- [@purtonparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/purtonparishcouncil)
- [@Purtonredhouse](https://www.facebook.com/Purtonredhouse)

Or get involved by contacting the coach Thomas Swindall directly at:

- tom@allstarzcoaching.com

What does the rest of the year hold?

Some reminders of dates for your diaries (more details with follow nearer the time)

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Community Safety Roadshow, “Focus on Speed and Road Safety” held at Purton Village Hall on Saturday 1st October from 10am to 12 noon.

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

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

Keep up to date by following us at: @purtonparishcouncil

Autumn Full Council Meetings 2022

Our Council Meetings will be held at the Village Hall from 7pm on:

- Monday 12th September
- Monday 10th October
- Monday 14th November
- Monday 12th December

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 young people are welcome from Year 7 and up. It’s free to come along and refreshments, activities, and support are all available. The club is open Wednesdays at Purton Village Hall 7.00-8.30pm.

Youth Club Changes

Please note that from September sessions will move to Thursdays and will be held at the Millennium Hall, starting

on the Thursday 8th of September. Session timings will remain the same from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

Plans to further develop sessions are also in progress, which means that timings could change during Half Term from Thursday 20th October, although sessions will continue to be held at the Millennium Hall.

Please keep up to date by following us on Instagram: @the_rise_trust_youth If you’re not online and need to check details of the Youth Club, please email Sue Hughes: susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Find out more and keep up to date at:

- Call - 07715681950
- Email - danielleb@therisetrust.org .
- Follow on Instagram - @ the_rise_trust_youth
- Follow on Facebook - @ TheRISETrustYouthTeam
- Visit our web page - www.facebook.com/TheRISETrustYouthTeam/
- Check our notice boards – we’ll soon have our own space on the boards so do take a peek!

Volunteer Footpath Team Update

In July we continued trimming back and have now reached the Lydiard Millicent area. A report was received of footpaths in the Bentham area being overgrown. We trimmed these back at the beginning of June, which shows the relentless efforts needed to keep our footpaths clear for walking, so please bear with us.

A few minor repairs were carried out including the reinstatement of a post with way markers for FP50 in the field off Vasterne Close. The previous one had mysteriously disappeared.

Several footpaths were strimmed, including the one through Brockhurst Wood which also required the removal of some fallen branches.

If you come across any problems with our footpaths, please let the Parish Council office know. If we're able to fix it, then we will. However, we do not get involved with certain problems, these need to be reported to Wiltshire Council using the My Wilts app. These are obstructions like electric fences, barbed wire, padlocked gates and crops like maize.

Our Annual Village Walk will take place on Sunday September 4th. We will meet at the layby opposite the War Memorial, ready to leave at 2pm. It will be just under five miles, with no stiles. It will be possible for those not wanting to walk that far to cut it down, to just under four miles towards the end.

Planning Applications

Planning applications received and are discussed under Council agenda 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 should you wish to view or through the Wiltshire Council portal link also 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 at:

www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/services/planning-highways

Permission Granted Applications – the next Granted Permissions will be published on our website and in the

October Edition of the Purton Magazine after the Council Meeting on Monday 13th of September.

Councillor Vacancies

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

Our Community Development Officer Susan Hughes has been busily collating the results of the surveys and producing reports for our Councillors next meeting on Monday 13th September. After reviewing, our Council and Community Engagement Officer will then work 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.

Safety inspections and memorials in Council cemetery/churchyards

Following our testing in January 2019, headstones which were staked due to failure will now be sunk to safeguard all users of our cemetery as no contact has been made by family members to repair.

Grave Spaces :236 Miles, 310 Davies, 319 Bunce, 356 Strange, 374 Mason, 404 Newman, S16 Young and S19 Unitt.

The works will be carried out between September and December 2022, and we

will endeavour to ensure the inscription in all cases is legible.

If anyone wishes to speak to the Council before work commences, please do so by calling on 01793771066 or emailing lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Hall Hire, Charity Buildings

The Parish Council manages two community hire facilities, the Village Hall, and Millennium Hall, for more information please contact us:

- Email: lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
- Call: 01793 771066

Purton Parish Council would like to thank everyone for their patience whilst work is carried on refurbishing the windows at the Village Hall and whilst parking spaces are restricted to and keep everyone safe.

Keep up to Date

Further Council details and community information are available as follows:

- Call: 01793 771066

- Email: deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
- Notice Boards: all council meetings and community notices are placed on these boards
- Attend council meetings: all meetings are public access, held in the Village Hall and are advertised in the Purton Magazine.
- Visit: www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
- Sign up for regular updates at www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/contact/contact-us
- Follow us on Facebook: @purtonparishcouncil
- Visit our offices - Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 5.00pm and Fridays 9.00am to 4.00pm.
- Follow us on Twitter: @PurtonPC
- Hard copies of council meeting minutes are also available at the library, which is open Tuesdays 2pm-7pm.

Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG



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.

Please follow the link for more information: <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.

PPG and Purton Open Gardens - 9/10 July

Thank you to all who supported us over this hot but successful weekend. The total raised from plant and bric-a-brac sales was £165.

PPG and Purton Scarecrow Trail - 3/4 September

We will be joining the Scarecrow Trail around Purton on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 September when we will have a Table Sale outside Sylvia Freemantle's house (35 High Street) opposite the Surgery ... in the garage if wet. Come and see us.

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 (50p 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 to the reception team for the shelves!

200 Club draw

Membership is open so do consider joining. The annual cost is £15, Standing Order preferred. Monthly prizes, first prize is £100, second is £15. Forms are available from the Surgery, for more information on the 200 Club contact Trish Baker (tel 770371) who is a member of the PPG committee. The August draw was done by Dr Au-Yeung and the £100 winner was Paul Baker.

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

Public Transport alternative

Do you have mobility difficulties which mean that you can't use mainstream public transport?

Link6 Royal Wootton Bassett (07879 394 666) and Swindon Dial A Ride (01793 522123) operate volunteer car schemes that cover Purton and Lydiard.

Swindon Dial a Ride also offers a door to door wheelchair accessible service (01793 616050)

These services can be used for a variety of journeys - for shopping, meeting friends, visiting, appointments; hospital, doctor, dentist, optician etc.

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Purton & District Age Concern

Dates for the diary:

- 11am-2pm, 4th September. Cream teas at the Red House.
- 10am, 14th September trip to Garden Centre coach only. ,
- 7pm, 7th October 3Bs event (watch for details next month).

Lots Of Thanks

Thanks to Sheila Price and her family for inviting all current and past workers with Purton and District Age Concern to a memorial service for our President Tony at the Red House on 23rd July. This was a legacy that Tony had left in his will as he was so proud of what everybody does for our charity.

We had the Chedworth brass band, a hog roast and drinks vouchers, all very nicely organised out on what was the putting green area of the Red House grounds. The weather that day just about held up, it was a bit chilly, but it was never going to rain on his parade!

I had the honour of giving a tribute to Tony and then we presented Sheila with a plaque that she then placed in front of a tree that was planted in his memory. We will always be grateful for his work and enthusiasm for this village and especially Purton & District Age Concern.

Thanks now to everybody that attended our Coffee Morning at Dick & Jackie Scott's house in Bentham, almost 100 people in total. It was a hot day, but we had marquees and gazebos for shelter and bric-a-brac, raffle, tombola, plants for sale and tea and coffee with

homemade biscuits from Georgina and also from Margaret Carter on her last time. We need a new biscuit maker next year! Thanks also to all the people that donated cakes, we had a whole table full and sold the lot.

Thanks also for everybody that attended our Quiz Night with fish & chip supper, 80 in total, so another really good attendance. Thanks to Alan and Richard for setting the questions and entertaining us at the same time!

Cream Teas at the Red House

We are entering the Scarecrow weekend, but just on the 4th September which is Sunday from 11am-2 pm, 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 outlets, not just plants, although, of course, 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 coach cost. Let's hope the fine weather lasts long enough for us to enjoy this trip. Ring me on 778119 or 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

Purton and District AGE CONCERN

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 to produce the artwork.

Minibuses

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

Tai Chi

The Tai-Chi classes are on a summer recess and start again in September, 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 letting nobody enter your home then you will need to replace your smoke alarm yourself as they won't leave one on the doorway. If they are called to replace one, then they have to do it. Please be aware.

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

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

We still have a couple of 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.

Electric recliner chair with fabric covering available in Purton. Used only two months from new and is needing a new owner. Ring Anne on 770001 for details. Collection only.

Peter Berry, Chairman

1st Purton Guides celebrates 100 years



Calling all former Purton Girlguiding Members!

Just over a decade after a group of girls turned up at a Boy Scout parade declaring themselves to be Girl Scouts, the first Girlguiding unit opened in Purton, and this year we are excited to celebrate 1st Purton Guides' Centenary.

The girls have been looking through old scrapbooks created by former Purton Guide members and have set about making their own scrapbook of what 21st Century Guides get up to. We also enjoyed a visit from the keeper of the county archives, who brought examples of all the different uniforms that have been worn through the decades.

The girls were lucky enough to be able to try on the various uniforms and took part in a "Guiding Through the Ages" fashion show.

The culmination of our Centenary year will be a celebration evening in the Autumn and we'd like to extend an invitation to join us in celebrating to all former Purton Girlguides. If you were part of 1st or 2nd Purton Guides, please get in touch if you'd like to find out details of how to join in our celebratory evening.

Alice Hart, Leader, 1st Purton Guides
alice.freeman@gmail.com
tel: 07814 007681

Purton Scarecrow Trail

Scarecrow Trail reminder: Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th September 2022. "Heroes & Villains"

A fun quiz trail for all the family: as well as the main scarecrow trail (£4), we have a mini one for younger children (£1). There are prizes to be won and you can vote for your favourite scarecrow as the maker will also receive a prize.

Tickets and trail maps will be on sale and refreshments will be available around the village and locations 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.

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)

For more information visit our Facebook page (and please like it to share the fun) www.facebook.com/PurtonScarecrowTrail/

12/22

Community Spaces for Hire

Purton War Memorial and Village Centre

tel: 01793 771066
www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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10/22

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02/23

PADS News

2022 Pantomime - Merlin

This is a quick reminder that we shall be performing this year's pantomime at the end of November 2022, and that there will be no pantomime in Feb 2023. The new dates and times of our performances at Purton Village Hall are as follow:

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

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. We are also looking for more chorus members, so if you like to perform, act, sing or dance, and would like to be involved, please get in touch, either by emailing information.pads@gmail.com - You can also find us on Facebook - @PurtonPADS



Auditions/1st readings for Merlin the panto will be held at 7.30 p.m. on Tues 6 September 2022, at The Red House, Purton. Regular rehearsals will then be held Tues & Thurs weekly up to performance.

Although we are an adult group, all ages and abilities are welcome to join us. However, please note that Under 16's must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

If you don't want to act, but would like to get involved in some other way, we are always in need of backstage help, making costumes, doing makeup, making props, making cups of tea etc. All help gratefully received. Please contact us on the above email address or via our FB page, or just come along on 6 September, and let us know how you would like to get involved.

Kate Bath, PADS Chair

Swindon Open Studios

During the last two weekends of September I will be opening my ceramics studio to the public.

I make a varied range of earthenware pots including wheel thrown bowls, jugs and mugs and much larger sculptural pieces. My work reflects the natural world in general and specifically the landscape and history of the Avebury area. My studio is situated within our front garden at 26 The Close, Lydiard Millicent, SN5 3NJ (at far end in the corner of the red brick road part).

This year you will be able to see a working studio in action with a chance to see pots being thrown on the potters' wheel. Please come and have a look round, I would love to see you, and enjoy some complimentary tea and homemade cake.

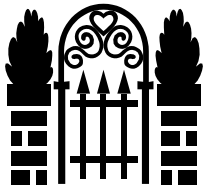
Wendy Farnham

Dates: Sat 17th , Sun 18th, Sat 24th, Sun 25th September 11am -5pm

To see other participating artists go online at: swindonopenstudios.org

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12/22

Tony Price's Celebration Afternoon

We would like to thank everyone who came to Tony's party at the Red House the other Saturday afternoon. As many of you know, Tony left money in his will to have a party for the Age Concern volunteers – the charity that meant so much to him - and we were so pleased that so many people made the effort to come – not only Purton Age Concern volunteers but friends and family as well.

Anyone who knew Tony would be aware that he was a born organiser so you can imagine that it was a bit daunting to be organising his party without him there to say 'you ought to move that over there' or 'I think it would be better to do this' but we did our best to put in place all the things he would have liked, especially when we heard someone say 'that man was a legend!'. That's a lot to live up to. However, we knew he loved Robert Collis's hog roasts (thanks for doing a grand job Robert) and also that the Chedworth Band was his favourite, so thanks to them for their lovely entertainment. The Red House was a very special place to Tony so thanks to the Parish Council for allowing us to have the party on their green and very special thanks to the staff at the Red House for their excellent service and all their help in organising the day.

Purton Age Concern certainly turned up trumps lending us tables, chairs, gazebos and their sound system and also helping us set it all up and pack it away – special thanks to Pete, Kevin, Brian and Colin, Mike and Louisa and also Sylvia who organised lifts for people. The icing on the cake was the unveiling of the tree that Purton Age Concern had planted in Tony's memory at the Red House with a plaque with very special words on it – that meant a great deal to us.

The weather was just right (we felt that the 'legend' had a hand in that) and we were so pleased that we could make that lovely request in his will, happen. Thank you again to everyone involved for making it such a happy village occasion.

Kevin, Sheila and all the family

Ten Years Ago...

In Purton Magazine for September 2012, life seemed more optimistic than it does now. The London Olympics had just finished, “by all perspectives a resounding success” and the editor was moved to say that Britain was being seen as Great again in the eyes of other countries. Of course, this was before we had heard of Trump and MAGA (Make America Great Again) but, with crises mounting up and a rudderless government, can we say the same today?

In the previous edition it was noted how much rain there had been that year. The Rainbows, Brownies & Guides had the answer, for their activity afternoon

they booked sunshine. Problem solved. Activities included building an obstacle course for a tiger, though we aren’t told whether it was tested.

In the meantime, a team from Bradon Forest was unable to erect a ridge tent on the grounds that they had never seen one. As a child, I spent my summers in mine in the back garden. How did the class of 2012 spend theirs? At about the same time, one school member was on the World Challenge Morocco Trek; the picture on the front cover (see above) shows his group at their highest point.

Highlighting a problem which frequently arises in the magazine’s pages, the Dog Poo Fairy noted



that, while a dog had won Britain’s Got Talent, they didn’t know how to clear up their own mess. Maybe they should take lessons from cats.

Often, the editor slipped in some bon mots. One this month said: “The greatest pleasure in life is doing what others say you cannot do.” Please, no comments about the abilities of the writer of this column.

Beneath the Wool

Well, the last month has been very hard, not for jobs but because it’s been so dry. First of all there’s the physical work behind it because the sheep are only eating hay as there isn’t a blade of grass in sight, not even a bit of hedge as they’ve eaten all of that they can reach.

The continual work behind feeding them is a lot too, they have been having round bales which was the last hay we had made. We made nine round bales and they have been eating two or three a week, and in the last few days the bales have only lasted about two



days. Because of the quantity I've been feeding them some little bales for a few days in between the round ones as the round ones are more useful when I'm busy. When they need the little bales they eat four in a day so the haystack will soon disappear at that rate. Then there's the mental hard work as it's quite

demoralising when you see yourself using a lot of your winter feed in the middle of summer. I know we made a lot more hay this year than we have before but it's beginning to have a knock on effect on other plans.

Luckily the lambs seem to be growing quite well considering the conditions which is good to see. Some of the older ewes however are starting to lose condition and unfortunately for a lot of them this will be their last year mainly due to the grass shortage having an impact on them.

It's certainly a very difficult time for all farmers at the moment whether it's arable or livestock. The weather has had a massive impact and unfortunately it's going to take so much rain to do any good that unfortunately it's looking like the whole of the summer will basically be ruined as we won't get another decent crop of grass again before winter. Unfortunately for us this could/will have an effect on our lambing percentages and lambs next year so this year's weather won't just affect this farming year.

Hopefully next month I will have something else to talk about rather than the dry weather but unfortunately this month it's the only thing hitting farming hard.

Michael Woodward, Rogers Farm, Purton

Prayer for Purton

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Jubilee Estate, Vasterne Close, Hoggs Lane, Vasterne Hill, (and from Moulden View) Caspian Close and Pinto Close*

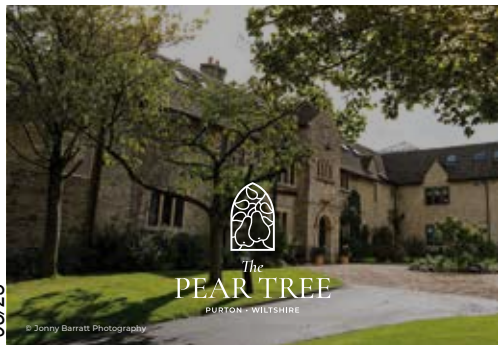
Church Floodlighting



- Aug 18 St Mary's was floodlit to celebrate the 60th Wedding Anniversary of **Eileen and Norman Dodson**. The couple have lived in Purton all their lives and were married in St Mary's Church in 1962. Congratulations from all the family. XXX
- Aug 29 St Mary's was floodlit in loving memory of **Nancy Williams** on what would have been her 90th Birthday. Sadly missed by her Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren.
- Sept 20 St Mary's will be floodlit in support of the International Month of Intrauterine Cancer. (Please see further details on page 37)

For September, floodlighting bookings will start at 7.00pm and the lights will stay on until 10.30pm. 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.



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Purton Open Gardens

How time flies: when Novak Djokovic and Elena Rybakina were winning their respective Wimbledon trophies, the Open Gardeners of Purton were demonstrating their own skills.

Some gardens had over one hundred visitors on each of the days, and whilst I had reported last month on the variety of visitors from outside Purton, I omitted an intrepid traveller from the Isle of Man.

The total raised for the central pot totalled £1540 from the sale of programmes and money from two gardens who donated their refreshment money.

As always many of our gardeners raised money for their own favourite charities through various activities including the sale of scrummy cakes and homegrown plants. Dementia Care, The Prospect Hospice, The British Heart Foundation, The Jubilee Gardens, Purton Surgery, RNLI and last but not least Macmillan Cancer Support will receive varying

amounts. This additional total raised was £1097 a magnificent sum benefitting both local and national charities.

The books aren't completely closed as we have a few expenses to go out and some advertising revenue to come in but we still plan to send £500 each to The Jubilee Gardens Project, The Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and The Prospect Hospice.

Our grateful thanks to all our visitors who made it such a successful weekend and to our amazing gardeners, who are out in all winds and weathers making their gardens look so beautiful, and then opening them for all of us to enjoy. Thank you.

Feedback suggests that visitors enjoy the Open Garden weekend as much as the gardeners enjoy opening their garden and meeting their many visitors; we are always looking for new gardens to be open and so if you would like to sign up for Purton Open Gardens 2024, please do contact Diana Meares on 770046.

Wiltshire Life Awards 2023

The Wiltshire Life Awards scour the county for tales of creative endeavour, bravery, community spirit, business acumen and young entrepreneurship and sportsmanship. The county's residents aren't short on pluck and as they continue to work in ways that can only promote Wiltshire, we continue to champion them.

The awards seek to raise the profile and awareness of not just profitable businesses, but also the charities and community groups; the young, the older people in our community and everyone in between; those who seek to put the county on the map; designers; the food producers who are making a name for themselves locally, nationally and internationally; the people who keep us entertained

with their events, restaurants, pubs and artwork; conservationists; sporting stars from all realms; our special towns and businesses that we can be proud of.

The Awards will take place on Friday 10th March 2023 at STEAM Museum, Swindon. www.wiltshirelifeawards.co.uk/enter

Wiltshire Life

The Wiltshire Life Awards are organised by Wiltshire's leading county magazine Wiltshire Life. Established in 1946, it has a strong sense of tradition but a modern outlook, and its winning formula of stunning photography, well written features and strong design has made it the magazine to read.

The Magazine is packed with interesting and topical features on village life, walking, local history, food and drink, gardening, the arts and much more. Each month it focuses on different towns and villages throughout Wiltshire and special features include subjects such as winning schools, weddings, motoring, days out and healthy living. Above all it is a magazine for local people about local life.

Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



As I write this report we are entering our second heatwave of the summer and water restrictions are looming. Let's hope that by the time you are reading this we have had a few downpours of rain!

Our July speaker was Robert Harvey, who spoke about how he and his wife created a downland garden. It took the Harveys several years to find the ideal plot that they could turn into their dream garden. Two removal vans were needed, one for furniture, the other for garden plants. A plan was drawn up, showing the position of the sun throughout the day and soil samples taken.

A conservatory was top priority (for plants, not people!), with a wide trench being dug out to provide an inside border. A sub-tropical border with canna lilies, dahlias, tree ferns and a Chusan Palm was planted near the house. Yew and Box hedges were planted into soil enriched with large quantities of manure kindly produced by the shire horses of Wadworth's brewery.

The bottom third of the garden was devoted to creating a wildflower area. All the excavated soil from the conservatory was moved into a mound to form a 1/28th scale model of Silbury Hill. A chalk

downland seed mix was sown over the mound. For a successful wildflower garden, soil fertility needs to be reduced so the topsoil was removed from the surrounding area, and when this was achieved a meadow mix from Cricklade was sown. June is considered the most picturesque month, with most of the wildflowers over by July. It is important to cut and remove all the grass and wildflowers at this time to maintain the poor fertility of the soil. For interest over the Spring over 1000 native wild daffodil bulbs and 3000 bluebell bulbs were planted. Robert had 'acquired' a sarsen stone and managed to source another 6 smaller ones and these were placed with some difficulty into a stone circle. Lastly a wildlife pond was dug out and planted. Robert has spotted at least 23 different species of butterflies in this area and the pond is the breeding ground for at least 6 species of dragonflies.

A vegetable patch was next on the list, requiring lots of sharp sand and manure to improve the clay soil. A fruit cage was erected, swiftly followed by rabbit-proof fencing around the entire garden.

The creation of a formal croquet lawn involved stripping 100 tons of topsoil, levelling and compacting the subsoil, and laying mesh all around to prevent moles. 22 tons of shingle were spread over, and then topped with the saved topsoil, followed by 7 tons of sharp sand.

A laser was used to ensure the whole area was level, and after a top dressing, grass seed was sown in early September. A summerhouse was erected, along with pergolas either side of the lawn and another area of the garden completed.

A greenhouse, a seaside garden with cobbles and an ornamental pond were the last to be finished, almost five years after starting this amazing project. The following year the garden was open for the National Garden Scheme, an incredible achievement and visited by one of our members who remembered it well.

Important: September Meeting change

After a discussion with the members it was decided not to proceed with our usual Mini-show. We will hopefully manage to book a speaker for this meeting instead.

Future of Gardeners' Guild

After announcing at the A.G.M. that the current officers and committee would be standing down at the end of the year, regrettably no one has come forward to take on these roles.

The final meeting of Purton and District Gardeners' Guild will be held at the end of October, and we will also be organising an American Supper during November.

Moira White (Chair)

Purton Post Bag

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



Thank you from Purton FC

By the time this magazine is distributed and read we should already have played three senior first team games on 13th, 20th and 27th August respectively with the Development/Reserve side and the Ladies not starting until September.

Andi Philpott is the man in charge and he has been recruiting over the summer with the help of Luke Neale and John Cousins. John is looking after the Reserve side team with many local lads signing on which is always good to see after so many years without a second team.

Many thanks again to the people that supported the charity match on July 10th and Scott Crumbie has informed me that the total exceeded £600 in the end once money was counted up after the event.

At the time of writing I am pretty well up to the limit on the Bruce Grobelaar dinner so for those attending I hope you enjoy the evening.

Finally, fundraising is always important to the football club and may I take this opportunity to thank our programme advertisers and match sponsors.

We still have a few matches open for sponsorship at a cost of £30 should

anyone wish to do that, it entitles you to a seat in the directors box (just joking on that bit!) a programme and a free pint bought by me in the bar afterwards, with an added bonus that you don't have to stay with me to drink it!

Terry Crumbie (Chairman of PFC)



We are so grateful

In the very hot weather in July, my father Mr Gerald Sanderson aged 91, was on his mobility scooter when he hit a tree root coming up through the pavement, he was thrown to the ground, hitting his head on a wall as he fell.

We are so grateful to so many of you in the village; the nurses from the surgery went to help and many villagers stopped to offer aid. The Police and Ambulance looked after him and my husband and I had phone calls and emails from people around the village.

We want to say a huge thank you to Sally Fairfax who sat with him the whole time until the ambulance took him. My husband and I had Covid at the time so could do nothing to help Dad. Our son and niece travelled long distances to help but the people of the village, and Norbury Court in particular, have been wonderful!

Dad is doing well and back to his independent self, though with a large bruise, cuts and scrapes. We would like to thank you all. How lovely it is to live in such a caring community.

Gill and Glenn Shore and family



Anniversary wishes

Reg and Madeline Herbert would like to say a big thank you to our family for presents and cards and our neighbours and friends for the lovely cards we received on the occasion of our 65th wedding anniversary on the 17th August.

Reg and Maddy Herbert

Pips Community Café

Lou's Hot Lunches at Pips

Hello all, I'm delighted to say that Lou's hot lunches on Tuesdays have been a fabulous success! Thank you to everyone who has attended

so far despite the incredible hot weather we had in August, it's been lovely to see so many friendly faces.

If you haven't already attended, here's all the info you need. Every Tuesday lunchtime at Pips Cafe we have a two course home made two course hot meal served between 12 midday and 2pm. It is a first come first served system, unfortunately we don't have a booking facility in place at present, so when it's all gone it's all gone. But if you use the Age Concern minibus then we can guarantee a meal for you. Minibus places can be booked via Hazel on 01793 770862. The cost is £5 for a main meal and £2 for a pudding and if bought together you will be entitled to a free drink of your choice. There is quite often a limited number of vegetarian main meals available which usually consists of a broccoli or cauliflower cheese bake or a macaroni cheese based meal. Just ask at the till when ordering your meal.

Everyone is welcome to come, we also have the regular Pips Cafe menu available too.



What's on Lou's Lunch menu for September?

- September 6th - Fish and chips, mushy peas or baked beans plus a roll and butter. Syrup Sponge pudding and custard.
- September 13th - Pie, mash, cauliflower cheese, cabbage & carrots & gravy. Rhubarb crumble & custard.
- September 20th - Beef casserole, mash, French beans, carrots and cabbage. Apple pie and custard.
- September 27th - Sausages, mash, broccoli, cauliflower cheese, carrots and gravy. Sticky toffee pudding & custard.

Hope to see you soon!

*Louise, Pips Community
cafe volunteer*

September Nature Correspondent

Chalk streams

A precious water runs through Marlborough - the Kennet, a chalk stream. There are only 210 in the world, 160 in Southern and Eastern England. In Wiltshire we have a stretch of the Avon, and its tributaries the Ebbles, Nadder and Wylye, as well as the River Kennet and its tributary the Dun.

Chalk streams are rivers that rise from springs in landscapes with chalk bedrock. Since chalk is permeable, water percolates easily through the ground to the water table and the streams therefore receive little surface run-off. The water in the streams contains little organic matter and sediment and is generally crystal-clear, the beds generally composed of clean, compacted gravel and flints, which are good spawning areas for game, fish. Since they are fed primarily by aquifers, the flow rate, mineral content and temperature range of chalk streams exhibit less seasonal variation than other rivers. They are mildly alkaline and contain high levels of minerals: in addition to algae the streams provide a suitable habitat for white-flowered water-crowfoot, water star-wort and watercress. All have been modified in some way, usually for milling, fishing, irrigation or watercress beds, but despite weirs, impoundments and abstraction, the best chalk rivers still support a fine aquatic flora and a diversity of invertebrates and fish, including bullhead, brook lamprey and crayfish.

John Hounslow has been river-keeper for over 40 years on a stretch of the Kennet flowing from Elcot to Stichcombe, one of five keepers covering the waters as far as Newbury. He undertakes many tasks to keep the 34 members of the Savernake fly-fishing syndicate happy: bank stabilisation, coping with poachers, trespassers, canoeists and swimmers: then there is brown trout restocking, weed-cutting in the autumn with a hand-scythe, and discouraging invasive species such as Himalayan balsam, American crayfish, mink and cormorant.

ARK (Action River Kennet) has done much to protect the river from



Purton Tennis Club



the export of water to Swindon and improve water quality: volunteers have taken on some of John's onerous tasks. In this mostly dry year water levels are worryingly low and the lack of invertebrates and variable water quality makes hard work for the fisherman, who pay a high price for their sport. If the numbers of nymphs and olives are low, trout are less inclined to go for imitations on a fly-line. The anglers pay the highest prices in the mayfly season, when fish lose their inhibitions and go crazy when the insects hatch: suddenly fly-fishing is easy, giving rise to the term "duffers fortnight."

A dipper spent most of the winter on the Kennet at Town Mill, Marlborough: its presence there is an indication of the quality of the aquatic environment. I was sorry to see a Waitrose trolley half-submerged nearby, making me wonder if people know how special a chalk stream is.

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

As the summer season draws to a close, at the time of writing, most of the results are in:

- Men's A (Division 1) 3rd - with 2 matches to play.
- Men's B (Div 6) Top - so silverware to be collected at the presentation evening! (well done team)
- Ladies A (Div 1) 3rd
- Ladies B (Div 4) 2nd - with one match to play
- Mixed A (Div 1) 3rd - with 2 matches to play
- Mixed B (Div 3) 5th - but this was a very tight division, with all the teams in the division scoring between 53/47% of the games.

We didn't have any matches rained off this year, but for the first time ever, postponements were made for excessive heat! (18th & 19th July)

Our in-house singles league has seen some interesting and enjoyable games. One report quoted: 'A scrappy first set by both (players) but a lot of huffing and puffing and some choice personal criticism and words'. That set went to a tie break, and was obviously taken very seriously – a lot of pride was at stake! The singles league runs to the end of September, so players still have time to get some matches played and points earned.

Social tennis continues on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings, where everyone mixes in. Guests are welcome to join in for a taster session.

The annual junior tournament takes place on Saturday 3rd September and we hope that all the juniors from the Saturday sessions will take part. It has been great seeing their improvement over the summer and it is also nice to see our junior members using the courts during the summer holidays.

On the maintenance side of things; thanks go to the groundsmen at the Red House for tackling the vegetation growing alongside the perimeter fences, it is much appreciated.

On the whole it has been a good summer weather wise, and an enjoyable one for our members.

Janet Saunders (secretary) janetcsaunders@gmail.com

Purton Village Diary - September 2022

3	Sa		Purton Scarecrow Trail
		11.00am	Locally Yours Market at The Royal George
4	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
			Purton Scarecrow Trail
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Church for all at St Mary's
		11.00am	until 2.00pm, Purton Age Concern Cream Teas at the Red House
		1.00pm	Royal Wootton Bassett Rotary Club car boot sale at Lower Hook Farm
		2.00pm	Annual Village Walk, leaving from the High Street layby
8	Th	7.00pm	Purton Youth Club's first meeting at its new venue; the Millennium Hall
10	Sa		Wiltshire Historic Churches Ride & Stride
11	Su	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Holy Communion and Baptism at St Mary's
		10.30am	Junior Church at St Mary's
12	M	7.00am	Purton Parish Council full meeting at the Village Hall
13	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus meet at Hook Village hall for a talk on the Battle of Trafalgar
			Wessex Male Choir open evening at Royal Wootton Bassett Rugby Club
			Roald Dahl Story Day
14	W	10.00am	Purton Age Concern garden centre coach trip
17	Sa		Swindon Open Studios weekend
18	Su	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
		10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Church for all at St Mary's
		4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's
19	M	2.00pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women meet at Purton Methodist Church for a talk from Chloe Ayres about Dressability
21	W		Autumn equinox
		7.30pm	Purton Evening WI meet at the Silver Threads Hall
22	Th	7.30pm	Purton Historical Society meet at Play Close Methodist Church for a talk on Chedworth Roman Villa
24	Sa		Swindon Open Studios weekend
25	Su	10.30am	Morning worship at Purton Methodist Church
		10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
26	M	10.00am	Macmillan Coffee Morning at Silver Threads Hall
27	Tu	10.00am	Purton & District Probus meet at Hook Village hall for a talk on Rogers and Hammerstein
28	W		Phoenix Players production of Steel Magnolias opens at Swindon Arts Centre

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-end of Oct)

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

Purton Historical Society



Meeting venue - Purton Methodist Church, Play Close

Following successful, well supported, summer events and a break in August, the Society would like to welcome members and visitors back for the commencement of our autumn programme as follows:

Thursday 22nd September 2022, 7.30pm

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, 7.30pm

A Town Most Notoriously Discontented: Marlborough and the Civil War – Nick Baxter

In December 1642 a Royalist Army besieged and attacked the town of Marlborough in Wiltshire. Edward Hyde, adviser to King Charles, described Marlborough people as “notoriously disaffected” and full of “malice”. The Parliamentary commander, Sir James Ramsay, organised the defence of the town building earthwork defences and erecting barricades. Militia put up a spirited defence but could not withstand the Royalist onslaught. Marlborough

was plundered and pillaged. Houses were burnt and the cheese taken from the market. Some 120 prisoners were led through the snow to captivity in Oxford castle. John Francklyn, the Marlborough Member of Parliament, was one of the prisoners and died there. The Royalist sacking of Marlborough was amongst the most appalling events of the English Civil War.

Thursday 24th November 2022, 7.30pm

Ringsbury Camp and The Iron Age - Keith Allsop

Ringsbury Camp was built in the Iron Age, about 2,600 years ago. It took an incredible amount of effort to build but what was it used for? This talk looks at the Iron Age, the role of hillforts and looks at Ringsbury Camp and some other local hillforts (there are more than you think). Ringsbury Camp has never been excavated, but it has been ploughed in the past so the archaeology will be badly damaged, and I will be taking what we know about other hillforts and applying it to Ringsbury.

Friday 2nd December 2022, 7.30pm

Christmas Social at The Silver Threads Hall

Full details to follow. Visitors always welcome.

Janet and Tony Neate
email: tjneate57@gmail.com

Purton Museum News

The Log Book entries for Purton Church of England Mixed School, 1925-1944, created a lot of interest in last month's magazine. Following on from that, below are entries from the Headteacher's Log Book from 1985 - 1998, when Mr David Bisset and then Mrs Jane Ratcliff were headteachers. The Log Book is kindly on loan from St Mary's School.

October 4th 1985: About a square yard of ceiling fell down in Mrs Butler's room during the night. Class 4 moved to a spare class. We now have two ceilings in this state as the ceiling in the ladies' cloakroom upstairs has also fallen.

October 17th 1985: Miss Score attended a two-day music festival at Braeside. Mr Kirk and Mrs Waterfield collected a new concept keyboard for the computer.

January 28th 1986: 2-3 inches of snow fell between 7.30am and 9am. Some chaos on local roads but all teachers were in by 9.10am.

May 18th 1988: We took the unusual step of fumigating the Lower Building after a number of cases of flea bites. The fleas are thought to have originated from

the many starlings that occupy the roof area and these birds have got into the classrooms on a number of occasions.

October 24th 1988: Mr Norman Jackson retired today after 23 years' service.

March 27th 1990: Unusual incident in Old School Playground when a Year 1 infant managed to jam his knee between a metal post holding wire fencing and the stone wall. Thanks to Mr Kirk's suggestion we freed the knee by using a car jack.

March 15th 1994: Environment Club went to Wyvern to see and hear David Bellamy open the Great Western Forest.

June 9th 1997: Michael Rosen with us from 1.30-5.30pm. After entertaining the whole school for over an hour, he then went on to do a staff meeting. Teachers from other schools came. It was a great success! The children and adults were much inspired.

Purton Museum is open on Saturdays from 10-12.30pm and the current exhibition is on Education at St Mary's School.

Lucy Lewis, Museum Archivist

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Purton Cricket Club



Thanks to the good weather we have not had to rearrange so many fixtures this season as the last, when by this time there had been over 40 updates.

The other benefit of the good weather has been the number of outstanding performances by our players across all age groups. On the 12th of July I witnessed something I have not seen before at any cricket match.

One of our young bowlers, in the space of a single over, managed to take four consecutive wickets without conceding a single run. A Thati, a spin bowler, took four wickets with the score on 46 for 5. At the end of the over Potterne were on 46 for 9 after his **QUADRUPLE** wicket maiden. In the same match his elder brother also took a wicket. Needless to say, Purton ran out the winner on this occasion, winning by 7 wickets.

In the under 13s we have had 2 strong batting performances with W. Carter 100 retired/not out and P. Sahota scored 107. As for the bowlers then S. Wickramarachchi had figures of 3 overs, 1 maiden taking 3 wickets for just 6 runs. L. Portlock recorded 3 wickets for 3 runs off 2 overs and S. Sheppard took 2 wickets for 2 runs.

In the Under 15s I. Sheppard took 3 for 13 against Swindon; A. Davison scored 134; T. Hallett scored 64 against South Wilts; A. Kuram took 4 for 38 and J. Tweed took 3 wickets for just 13 runs vs Biddestone.

In the Second X1 C. Crumbie took 4 wickets for 12 runs in 7 overs including a



A. Thati holding the match ball after a remarkable maiden over, which saw him take 4 wickets in 4 balls

TRIPLE wicket maiden. M. Wilson scored 141 not out against Ramsbury on 18th June. First and Midweek outstanding figures next month.

And that is more or less it for the summer season. Apart from our usual training days and a couple of junior county training sessions, Saturday 3rd September represents the last match of the season at home. If you want to catch this final match, then our first team will be playing Malmesbury from 1pm. Next month I'll share the final table position and advise on our Winter indoor training plans.

Graham Wright

Purton Cricket Club Archives

In the past Purton CC entered two evening competitions called the Morse Shield, where the games were played at Swindon Cricket Club; and the Callick Williams Cup, where the games were played at Goatacre Cricket Club. Between 1979 and 1995 the Purton CC won the Morse Shield nine times and Callick Williams Cup an equal number of times. This was T20 cricket before the first class county clubs discovered it!

Joe Gardner

September is Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month

Peach is the colour of the awareness ribbon

Late last year I was lucky to be diagnosed early with Uterine Cancer and treated quickly in January 2022; hopefully I am now on the road of full recovery. However around 9,000 women are diagnosed each year in the UK with this particular cancer and around 2,200 will die of the disease. Regretfully there is no screening for this type of Cancer for women who do not have any signs or symptoms.

The figures for the other Cancers relating to Gynae issues show that early detection is key for successful outcomes. Hence women really need to be aware of symptoms and get checked out.

Gynaecological cancer refers to the five cancers that start in a woman's reproductive system – cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, vaginal cancer, vulval cancer and womb cancer (also known as endometrial or uterine cancer). The Awareness month is used as an opportunity to encourage women to become more aware of these cancers including early detection and prevention. Around 21,000 women are diagnosed with gynaecological cancer every year in the UK. Every single day 58 women are given this life-changing news and sadly, each day, 21 women will die from their gynaecological cancer. In order to recognise the signs and symptoms of gynae cancers and raise awareness, it may be helpful to

understand a little about what these cancers are. There is useful information on this website - www.silversurfers.com/health/september-is-gynaecological-cancer-awareness-month/ and also www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/statistics-by-cancer-type/uterine-cancer .

I would like to thank Purton Surgery and GWH and all the NHS staff who have supported me on this journey and I know my children are really grateful that I am still here.

Jacqui Lay

The Church will be floodlit on 20th September to reflect that September is Gynaecological Cancer Awareness Month with the 20th for Uterine/Womb Cancer.

Lyneham Banks landslip information

In February 2022, a major landslip occurred on the B4069 at Lyneham Banks, Wiltshire. As a result of the landslip the B4069 has been closed until further notice. Since February the bank has continued to subside with the road alignment moving significantly from its original location. We have installed temporary signage to advise road users of the B4069 closure and the associated diversion route. A copy of the diversion route can be found in the downloads section.

As well as in-person observations during site visits, a set of fixed monitoring points have also now been installed on site to record ongoing land movements in the area. The site will continue to be monitored until such time that it can be confirmed that the land has stopped moving. Once the landslip has stopped it will allow us to undertake further work on the site. We expect that a series of ground investigations will need to be undertaken to enable us to find out more about the underlying ground conditions. The ground investigations will then inform any future designs for the road.

We are continuing to monitor the traffic impact on the local road network as a result of the B4069 closure.



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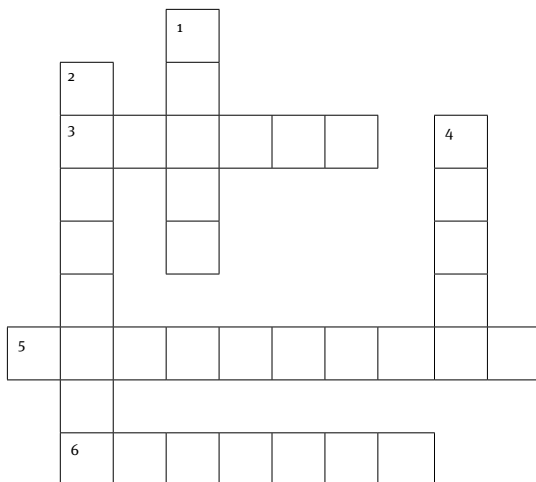
Mini crossword

Here is the next in our series of mini crosswords that are only designed to be a bit of fun. Again there are no prizes but the answers to August's puzzle are 1) Deckchair 2) Seaside 3) Excited 4) Icecream 5) Sandcastle 6) Promenade

This month there are six seasonal clues.

- 3 across Season of mellow fruitfulness (6)
- 5 across English quarter day (10)
- 6 across Time of equal day and night (7)
- 1 down Daisy-like flower (5)
- 2 down Blue corundum (8)
- 4 down Seventh Zodiac sign (5)

This is the next crossword created by Neil and Rob Miles to challenge villagers. Answers for this quiz will be in the October issue and if any reader would like to create their own mini crossword we would be delighted to include it in a future issue of your magazine. Some of the words come 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 & District Probus Club



At the Probus meeting on the 12th July, Lieutenant Commander Geoffrey Carr, ex Royal Navy & an MIMech E, gave an account concerning the loss of the steamship 'Titanic'.

"In 1912 there occurred a shipping disaster of such proportions that we are still talking and speculating about it over one hundred years later. Over 1400 people lost their lives in a ship which was at the peak of modern technology at that time. On the face of it, it was a gross failure in engineering design and nautical practice". The talk covered the circumstances that led to the creation of the TITANIC, her collision and her eventual loss, with particular emphasis on engineering and the role that engineers played in her short life; dispelling many of the popular myths that surround this tragedy.

Built in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Titanic was the second of three Olympic Class ocean liners which were the largest vessels commissioned by the White Star Line shipping company. Faced by strong competition from German and American companies, Bruce Ismay, the Line's chairman, decided to compete on size, ie. carrying-capacity, rather than speed. Ships of this class, at the time, were ambitiously large. It was first necessary for Harland & Wolff to build a special dry dock and install an extra large overhead gantry. The Titanic was equipped with three engines, each standing 63Ft high, giving 46,000 shaft hp plus power to a 400Kw Dynamo serving lifts and lighting. The engines comprised two 4

cylinder, triple expansion reciprocating steam engines driving L & R outer propshafts with a central engine driving the conventional propeller screw. The L & R Prop-screws, 23.5ft in diameter, were reversible. The centre screw, cast as a single piece of Bronze, and set within a very large rudder, powered only forwards. The steam was raised by 24 double ended and 5 single ended boilers. 150 stokers shovelled in 600 tons of coal per day in shifts of 4hrs on, 8hrs off.

The maximum speed of the Titanic was 23 knots, competitive at that time with other shipping companies. Though warned of the icefield, not normally so far South at this time of the year, the ship was flat-out when the iceberg was spotted. Seen at 500 yards, 37 seconds later, it struck and grazed the iceberg. To stop a 52,000 Ton Ship from this speed would require more than twice this time or distance. The attempt to steer the ship away from the iceberg probably worsened the point of impact. The wrought-iron rivets, 24ft below the waterline, securing the overlapping plates of the "clinker built" outer skin, popped (Known as Springing) over some distance along the hull. As the water penetrated, the bow sank deeper and deeper, spilling over the inadequate (too low) bulk-heads. Five or more of these failed in turn.

The collision @ 11.40pm on the late evening of April 14th 1912 proved fatal. The horrors of what followed; indecision, lack of communication,

disbelief and general chaos are well documented. The ship plunged at the head at 0205am and, 15 minutes later, broke in two at the third funnel and sank. The California, 12 miles away, did not register the Distress Call. The Carpathia, at 50mls, raced to the scene, but arrived 1 ¾ hours after the Titanic went down. Those in the lifeboats; 492 passengers plus 208 of the crew were rescued while 1400 were not recovered from a dark and freezing sea. The safety of Shipping @ Sea took a new direction, with more lifeboats and safer procedures.

At our meeting on 26th July, we enjoyed another visit by Professor Anthony Briggs, expert and translator of Russian Prose and Poetry. His subject this time, entitled “A kick up the Arras for Shakespeare”, covered the massive contribution that Christopher Marlowe made to Literature and poetry, precedent to, and current with the productions of Shakespeare’s plays in 16th century London.

The talk began with a resume of Tudor History; William Cecil (Lord Burghley), Professor Briggs assured us, was one of the most reputable and influential persons at court and virtually ran the country for almost forty years. In 1550, he became Secretary of State to King Edward VI, a Protestant. When Bloody Mary, daughter of Catherine of Aragon, took the Throne in 1553, she made every effort to resume Catholicism, but in this she failed, and after four years she left the country to marry Philip II of Spain.

Burghley and other Lords persuaded the country that the young Elizabeth was the rightful heir and she was crowned in 1558. As Lord High Treasurer and eventually Lord Privy Seal, he guided her through almost the whole of her reign which included the Spanish Armada.

The core of Professor Briggs’ argument rested on an inscription/acronym that first appeared, in 1565, on a pamphlet advertising “The Tragedy of Gorboduc” a play by Thomas Nortone and Thomas Sackwyle. Thirty-two years later, an almost identical inscription, with almost the same acronym appeared on the title page of “The Herball”, a large Documentary of Plants, compiled by John Gerarde. This John Gerarde, at the time, happened to be the Head Gardener of Lord Burghley, which seems to signify that, in addition to his influence with The Queen, Burghley had a heavy hand on Printing & Publishing for the capital throughout most of his life; a Guild perhaps.

Christopher Marlowe and William Shakespeare were born in the same year, 1564. Marlowe in February and Shakespeare on the 26th of April, but their life experiences were very different. Marlowe was an early developer (a Genius), publishing much ahead of Shakespeare. He travelled abroad and it is intimated that he acted as a spy for Burghley to protect the Queen’s interests. He was, so-say, murdered in a street brawl at the age of 29, but by that time he had already published a

wealth of plays and poems, his greatest – “Tambourlaine”. It has been suggested his death was faked.

Shakespeare, after his education at the Grammar School, married at 18 yrs and started a family in Stratford on Avon. He did not arrive on the London Scene until 1592, and nothing of his life has been recorded of the “lost years” from 1585 until that date. He lived until his 52nd year, 1616. Presentations, in London, of his 36 Plays, date from 1592 until 1613. There is no record that Shakespeare ever travelled abroad and although his education at the grammar school probably included Latin, he did not attend university.

Both authors could have drawn on the same historical and classical sources

for their story lines and there are a number of similarities in various Acts of the Plays, but co-operation has never been evident. (The word “ARRAS” refers to the tapestry drapes through which Hamlet thrusts his sword in haste to accidentally murder Polonius, the Queen’s chamberlain in “Hamlet, Prince of Denmark”.) Professor Brigg’s research is intriguing, but the debate will continue.

The Purton and District Probus Club meets every 2nd and 4th month of the year in Hook Village Hall @10am. Programme for September:- 13th, “The battle of Trafalgar. 27th, “Rogers & Hammerstein.” Visitors and new members welcome.

Bob Stevens

We Record...



Weddings at St Mary’s Church

16 July 2022 Emily Louise Russell and Ryan Joseph Hibbard

Funerals at St Mary’s Church

13 July 2022 Josephine Weaver Marsh (Josie) (94)

20 July 2022 Christopher John Rouse (Chris) (73)

28 July 2022 Joan Adeline Saunders (89)

Funeral at North Wiltshire Crematorium

14 July 2022 Lewis Hanks (Lew) (87)

Funeral at Purton Cemetery

18 July 2022 James Sheppard (Jim) (82)

Memorial Service at St Mary’s Church

3 August 2022 Adam Jeremy Meares (64)

Baptism at St Mary’s Church

17 July 2022 Albie George Price

BWY

AT THE HEART OF YOGA TEACHER



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.

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Purton Silver Threads Hall

Monday Evenings at 6.30pm

Purton Millennium Hall

Tuesday Mornings at 10am

For more details contact:-

Maria Looker

Mob – 07786912859 or Email – looker.mia@gmail.com

09/22



Do you have friends or family who lived in the village but have moved away?

Purton Magazine is available online!

Each issue is uploaded around the middle of the month, and all previous editions of the magazine are available. So wherever you are in the world, keep up to date with all the village news!

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A book I will always remember

The brilliance of his prose is his ability to transport the reader to a different time, a world as painted by an 18-year old without heavy responsibilities who has the time to observe and marvel at what he sees...

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.

A Time of Gifts

by Patrick Leigh Fermor

As the first book in a trilogy A Time of Gifts captures in an enthralling way the exuberance of an eighteen (and three-quarters!) year old young man who embarks on an epic journey on foot from London to Constantinople (Istanbul) in the 1930s. The book is not just a travelogue but a social and political commentary on Europe as Fermor makes his way up the Rhine and down the course of the Danube as far as Hungary. The journey continues from there in *Between the Woods and the Water* and a posthumous work *The Broken Road*, compiled mainly by his biographer from notes and diary entries left by Fermor when he died in 2011.

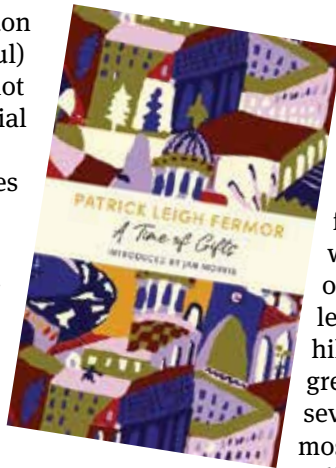
The brilliance of his prose is his ability to transport the reader to a different

time, a world as painted by an 18-year-old without heavy responsibilities who has the time to observe and marvel at what he sees but also analyse and try to understand the ominous changes that

are taking place as he makes his way through Germany with Hitler recently coming to power.

Fermor travelled lightly, with heavy boots on his feet and a rucksack stuffed with a sleeping bag, books of verse, some introductory letters and little else. As he hiked, he recited aloud “a great deal of Shakespeare, several Marlowe speeches, most of Keats’s Odes” as well as “the usual pieces of

Tennyson, Browning and Coleridge”. Throughout the journey he relied on regular stops at Post Offices to collect a weekly allowance of £1.00 from his



parents and hospitality from an eclectic collection of contacts for whom he carried the letters or who welcomed him as he walked along. In Munich he has the misfortune to have his rucksack stolen, he shrugs it off with a comment “it was far too heavy”. Having lost his passport and wallet as well, the British Consul lent him £5.00.

His experiences range from sleeping in a pigsty to staying in a brothel. He shares shelter with shepherds, loggers and, in intricate detail, shares their stories and their lifestyles in his narrative. Not all of his journey is so rugged, he stays in castles and spends two nights in Stuttgart with two very pretty girls. As he walks Fermor absorbs everything around him, art and architecture, fauna, flora, language and foods, transmitting his experiences in a way that brings the reader with him, almost participating in the same events.

This is a book to be savoured and when finished you will be eager to follow the rest of his journey Between the Woods and the Water and down The Broken Road. You may even wish to read more about Patrick Leigh Fermor, he was quite the most remarkable character not just as a writer but as a decorated officer in the Second World War. He was knighted in 2004. An Indiana Jones of the 20th century.

Paul Ballard

Celebrating 50 years as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Following the article published in the June 2022 issue of Purton Magazine (p32) about the 50th anniversary of the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the celebrations continue with ‘50 Things Not to Miss’.

1. Uffington White Horse

There are eight huge white horse hill figures in the North Wessex Downs carved into the chalk downland but the prehistoric Uffington White Horse is the best-known.

2. Wayland’s Smithy

Wayland’s Smithy is about a mile’s walk along the Ridgeway from the Uffington White Horse and free to enter.

3. Ashdown House

This unusual property was built for the Queen of Bohemia in 1662. Ashdown House with its dolls house appearance, set in a beautiful valley and surrounded by woodland for you to explore.

4. Combe Gibbet

Set at the top of Inkpen Hill on a Neolithic long barrow close to the Hampshire/Berkshire border. Only ever put to its grisly use once in 1676, today a replica gibbet marks the site.

5. Watership Down

Richard Adams’ timeless novel Watership Down about the rabbit families and their adventures draws on his memories of living near the real Watership Down in north Hampshire.

6. Highclere Castle

Otherwise known as Downton Abbey! The house and gardens are open to the public on a seasonal basis and there are also some walks through the estate. Find the Heavens Gate for a stunning view of the Castle.

7. Avebury

Part of the Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage

Site. Containing the largest and one of the most important megalithic stone circles in Europe.

8. Silbury Hill

Part of the World Heritage Site, Silbury Hill is Europe's largest man-made hill at 130 feet high (40m).

9. Fyfield Down

Situated on a high plateau of chalk grassland north west of Marlborough, it has one of the best collection of sarsen stones in Britain. The Ridgeway National Trail runs along its boundary.

10. Whittenham Clumps

The Clumps are the oldest known planted hilltop beeches in England. Two round hills topped with 18th century beech trees give a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside and the nearby historic town of Dorchester on Thames.

11. Basildon Park

An elegant 18th century Palladian mansion managed by the National Trust and set in beautiful grounds near the River Thames between Pangbourne and Streatley.

12. Wilton Windmill

The only authentic working windmill in the entire AONB and wider Wessex region and still producing stoneground flour.

13. Crofton Pumping Station

This Grade I listed building houses two Cornish beam engines, one of which is the oldest working beam engine in the world.

14. Kennet & Avon Canal

Meandering for 87 miles the canal runs through the length of the North Wessex Downs with points to access it including at Kintbury, Hungerford, Great Bedwyn and Pewsey.

15. Savernake Forest

Believed to be over 1000 years old, Savernake Forest is one of the oldest woodlands in England.

16. Lambourn Gallops

Lambourn and its surroundings are second only to Newmarket in their importance as a centre of activity for the UK racing industry

17. Pewsey Downs

A stunning sweep of chalk downland with breathtaking views stretching across Pewsey Vale.

18. Roundway Hill

The scene of a crushing Royalist victory in the English Civil War in 1643, Roundway Hill near Devizes is now a 68-acre nature reserve.

19. Barbury Castle

A glorious Iron Age hillfort on the edge of the Marlborough Downs.

20. Liddington Hill

Rising over 900 feet (275m) and with its clump of beech trees, Liddington Hill is visible for miles around.

21. Farmland Birds

22. The other eight white horses

Challenge yourself to visit all of the White Horses! Pewsey, Marlborough, Hackpen, Broad Town, Cherhill, Alton Barnes and Devizes (the newest of the white horses, cut in 1999 to mark the Millennium).

23. Chalk grassland flowers

24. Water voles

25. Butterflies

26. Bluebells at West Woods

Treat yourself at West Woods on the eastern edge of Pewsey Downs.

27. Starry nights

28. Four county tops

The North Wessex Downs AONB spans four counties and is lucky to include all four county tops: Berkshire: Walbury Hill (297m), Wiltshire: Milk Hill (294m), Hampshire: Pilot Hill (286m), Oxfordshire: White Horse Hill (261m)

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29. Dawn chorus

30. Sunrise at Adam's Grave

This high point on Pewsey Downs provides some of the best views in the AONB! What better place to watch the sun come up?

31. Aldbourne

This pretty Wiltshire village is a real gem with some quirky cultural links and surrounded by inviting countryside.

32. Marlborough

An English market town in the rural north east corner of Wiltshire with the River Kennet running through it and surrounded by the glorious countryside.

33. Sarsen stones at Lockeridge Dene

Lockeridge Dene is the location of a unique sarsen boulder stream which is a rich and diverse natural habitat for insects, birds, flower and lichens.

34. Hungerford

A world-renowned antiques centre, Hungerford lies at the very heart of the North Wessex Downs AONB and is easily accessed by train.

35. 'Chocolate box' villages

36. Pewsey Vale by bicycle

37. Cycle from Hermitage to Hampstead Norreys

38. Sandham Memorial Chapel

A world famous chapel containing Stanley Spencer's visionary paintings tucked away on the AONB boundary.

39. Chalk streams

40. Views from Martinsell Hill

At 289m Martinsell Hill offers a panoramic view of Salisbury Plain; the spire of Salisbury Cathedral can be seen 25 miles away on the southern horizon.

41. Beacon Hill

Views for miles, an Iron Age hillfort, buzzards and skylarks.

42. Small Grain picnic site & Morgan's Hill

Stunning walks and views from this little-known spot on the western edge of the AONB.

43. The Aldworth Giants

Aldworth with its ancient church, village pub and remote and tranquil location is a perfect place for an afternoon's pottering – perhaps after a walk on the Ridgeway.

44. The Wansdyke

This 5th or 6th Century defensive ditch and bank runs from Morgan's Hill near Bishops Canning to Savernake Forest.

45. Littlecote Roman Villa & Mosaic

An extensive and exceptional Roman villa with a significant mosaic on display to the public in the grounds of the estate.

46. Freeman's Marsh, Hungerford

Easily accessed from Hungerford town centre is this oasis of calm brimming with wildlife.

47. Snelsmore Common

Just north of Newbury lies this haven for wildlife which also happens to be a great place for a picnic...

48. Fosbury Camp

Sitting atop Knolls Down, on the edge of Wiltshire, lies Fosbury Camp – an iron age hillfort and scheduled monument.

49. The Ridgeway National Trail

Starting in the World Heritage Site of Avebury, the Ridgeway follows a ridge of chalk hills north-east for 87 miles to reach Ivinghoe Beacon, northwest of London.

50. Stained Glass Window at Farnborough

The Church of All Saints houses a glorious stained glass window designed by John Piper in memory of his friend Sir John Betjeman.

For further information about all 50 things visit: www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/50-things-not-to-miss/

Purton Placard

Purton & District Age Concern

4th September - 11am to 2pm. Cream teas at the Red House.

More details on page 14.

14th September - 10am. Trip to Garden Centre coach only. See details on page 14.

Wiltshire Historic Churches Ride & Stride

The Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust fundraising day called Ride and Stride Day is 10th September. This event is for Cyclists, Walkers and Horse Riders. Please contact Jane Smith 01793 772422 for a sponsor form and other details. Half of the money raised goes to a church of your choice.

Locally Yours Market

We are holding a "Locally Yours Market", in the Royal George car park Saturday 3 September
Time: 11am - 4pm

In aid of Prospect Hospice come along and support our local crafters in our community.

Traditional and Contemporary Folk Music concert
Memorial Hall, Royal Wootton Bassett

Tues 13 Sept 2022
2.00pm

Come and enjoy an afternoon of folk music with **Ribble** - an instrumental duo playing a mix of traditional and contemporary folk tunes that range from melodies to foot stomping bangers!



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

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

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Purton W.I.

On Wednesday 21st September Amanda Butler is speaking about Artist David Sheppard and his Wildlife Foundation at The Silver Threads Hall, 7.30pm.



St Mary's Church Harvest Supper and Barn Dance

Saturday 1st October, 6.30pm
Purton Churches invite you to a Harvest Supper & Barn Dance for all ages.

Do come and join in the fun!
To book please contact: Sandra on 01793 770157 or Mary on 01793 770505

CELEBRATING 75th WILTSHIRE

Live Jazz Trio Concert and afternoon tea
Purton Village Hall
Wednesday 5th October 2pm

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The Phoenix Players present **Steel Magnolias by Robert Harling** Swindon Arts Centre 28th Sept-1st Oct

Based on a true story it depicts a bond of friendship that exists between a group of women. Witty, warm, uplifting with laugh out loud moments and, just as you thought it was safe, utterly heart-breaking. A wonderful tribute to friendship and the power of the human spirit.

Tickets can now be purchased at www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-phoenix-players

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Supporting local & global charities

September is Catch the Bus Month!

A double-decker bus can take up to 75 cars off the road and switching just one journey in 25 to the bus would save two million tonnes of CO2 emissions

September is Catch the Bus Month, and Wiltshire Council is taking part to encourage more people to change their travel habits by taking the bus and celebrate it as a sustainable, inclusive and accessible form of transport.

During the course of the month, the council will highlight several positive aspects of catching the bus in Wiltshire, including free bus passes for older residents, ticket promotions, and apps that allow you to live track bus departures and arrivals.

The month began with a celebration of the council's Enhanced Partnership with local bus companies, which helps to create a better bus network in the county.

The Department of Transport's (DfT) National Bus Strategy requires local authorities to form enhanced legal partnerships with bus operators, and the council is working on a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) to achieve a vision for a better bus network.

Working in partnership with local bus operators such as Salisbury Reds, Stagecoach, First West of England and Faresaver, the plan aims to increase bus usage following a decline since the pandemic. It will bring a number of benefits to the residents of Wiltshire, including improved access to shops and areas of employment to help

improve the economy, improved services to support vulnerable and elderly residents to access essential services, and supporting leisure travel and local tourism.

Buses reduce congestion, improve air quality and provide access to life's opportunities. A double-decker bus can take up to 75 cars off the road and switching just one journey in 25 to the bus would save two million tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Cllr Laura Mayes, Deputy Leader of Wiltshire Council, said: "We're delighted to be working in partnership with the bus companies with a combined aim of increasing usage and improving the service across Wiltshire.

"As stated in our business plan, we are continually reviewing our services to deliver better outcomes to empower local people with the support of an efficient and effective transport network.

"Bus user numbers have fallen since the pandemic, so we want to highlight what a clean, safe and cost-effective way to travel for people. Taking part in Catch the Bus Month this year will highlight the benefits of using the bus as a healthy, inclusive and sustainable way to travel."

Claire Walters, Chief Executive of Bus Users UK the charity behind Catch the Bus Month said: "Buses make a huge contribution to all our lives socially, economically and environmentally. They are also a lifeline for communities providing access to education, work, healthcare, shops and leisure. We want to see more people get on board this



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September to protect these vital services for future generations.”

The council will be using Catch the Bus Month to highlight what is already on offer to Wiltshire residents, including: Concessionary bus passes for older and disabled residents, which currently entitles the holder to free off-peak travel on local services from 9.30am to 11pm Monday to Friday, plus all day weekends and bank holidays.

Wiltshire Day Rover tickets, other ticket promotions and contactless payments.

The Wiltshire Day Rover ticket provides one day’s unlimited travel on nearly all local bus services in Wiltshire, across approximately 200 routes in the county. The Connecting Wiltshire: Bus, which provides useful information for planning a trip by bus, journey planners and live traffic, bus and train updates.

For more information on the Bus Service Improvement Plan, people can visit Bus Service Improvement Plan Bus or email buses@wiltshire.gov.uk.

Come Along to The Wessex’ Open Evening at Royal Wootton Bassett Rugby Club on 13th September

The rugby season is almost with us and the six nations tournament is just around the corner too. Will the lucky English repeat their fortunate win down under? Will the Scots shake off their humiliation in the Argentine? Have the Irish peaked too soon? Will the Glorious Welsh team continue to dupe its opponents as it climbs to World Cup success? Will the French and Italians.... well, you get the picture.

Whichever is your team, do you have a hankering to sing your favourite rugby song properly? Bashing out Swing low, Bread of Heaven, Flower of Scotland or whatever, in harmony can only earn you the respect of your fellow supporters. So if you want to tell your arias from your elbow, here’s your opportunity.

The Wessex are having an open evening at Royal Wootton Bassett rugby club on 13th September just for you. Come along, learn your favourite songs, and enjoy the good natured rivalry that’s sure to follow. The Wessex’s long list of competition successes marks it as one of the most successful male ensembles of the 21st century. We take our singing seriously as evidenced by our competitive successes, but we take ourselves less seriously. We have one member who fancied being a professional comedian, and about 50 others who think they should be. So, if you want to develop and hone your singing whilst also having a good time, you know where to be on 13th September – Royal Wootton Bassett rugby club. See You there!

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Rollout of Energy Grant Scheme continues

140,000 eligible households in Wiltshire have now received their £150 Government energy rebate.

Those households that are due a payment and haven't applied will shortly have £150 credited to their council tax accounts. This process will affect around 13,500 households. Once the payment is applied a new council tax bill will be issued.

The Government has given the council a discretionary fund to help households on low incomes who live in properties in bands E-H. We have identified around 1,400 households eligible for this discretionary payment and will be writing to them week commencing 8 August explaining how to submit their details.

This includes households in receipt of council tax reduction, properties that have been adapted for a disabled person and households where people are disregarded for council tax because of disability.

Households that meet the qualifying criteria and who pay by direct debit will automatically have the funds paid direct to their bank accounts.

We are also opening up the scheme to applications from other households in bands E-H. Details of the scheme, the qualifying criteria and the application form can be found at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate.

Applications will have to be submitted in writing to Revenues and Benefits at Wiltshire Council.

Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of Wiltshire Council, said: "We're really pleased that

so many residents have now received their energy rebate and the team is working hard to ensure the remaining people have their council tax accounts credited as soon as possible.

"We're also delighted to be launching the discretionary fund which will further help eligible residents with their household bills. One of our key priorities is to ensure our residents are safe and well and we know this money will be very welcomed.

"With the cost of living rising, we understand how difficult it is for people. We are fully committed to ensuring everyone who is eligible gets their money as quickly as possible and we thank everyone for their patience while we continue to rollout these payments."

Wiltshire Council will not be telephoning people to ask for their bank details. There have been reports of telephone scams in other parts of the country. No calls of this nature have been reported in Wiltshire but anyone receiving a telephone call about the energy rebate should not give their bank details and should hang up and contact the revenues team at Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0109.

Updates on the rebate and discretionary funding will be posted shortly on the Wiltshire Council website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate.

If anyone is worried, the council has a dedicated webpage with useful information and the support available. People should visit www.wiltshire.gov.uk/worried-about-money



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

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12/22

Bring a picnic not a BBQ



If British Summer Time and warmer days means you will be visiting one of Dorset & Wiltshire local heathlands or outdoors spaces to enjoy the wildlife and wilderness, please take a picnic.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) are encouraging residents and visitors to take a picnic and not BBQ. Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires in our open spaces. A wildfire can move at speeds faster than an Olympic sprinter, so we are asking people who are out and about to follow some simple steps:

If you are enjoying our open spaces when a fire occurs, get to a safe place and call 999 with as much information as possible.

Consider downloading and using What3Words to identify your exact location.

You can also help by reporting any antisocial behaviour on the heath to the Police on 101.

During 2021, DWFRS dealt with 494 fires in the open. In 2022, we have already seen large wildfires in Dorset & Wiltshire and firefighters across the UK have dealt with more wildfires between January and May than in the whole of 2021 (243 compared to 237 in 2021).

Area Manager Marc House, Head of Prevention at DWFRS said: "As we move into the summer, with longer daylight hours and warmer weather, understandably more people want to get out and use Dorset & Wiltshire natural

environments. There is a trend that the number of deliberately set fires and fires caused by BBQs and bonfires in these open spaces, increases.

He added: "I cannot stress enough how important it is to take extra care when enjoying our beautiful open and forestry areas. If you are a smoker, please extinguish cigarettes fully before disposing of them responsibly – never ever just throw them away lit, similar to throwing them out from car windows – the result could be 50 or 100 firefighters

tackling the subsequent blaze."

Anyone caught starting a fire on a heath will be prosecuted whether it is a case of deliberate arson or neglect, for example an unauthorised camp fire or a disposable BBQ that gets out of control. Wildfires cost lives not only to endangered plants and animals but also put people and houses in danger.

We need your help to protect our countryside. Please
#BringAPicnicNotABBQ

Fitness & Friendship Club



Want to keep active and make new friends?

Then why not come along to a local FITNESS & FRIENDSHIP CLUB near you.

We have two clubs in your area:

Swindon Central Community Centre, Emlyn Square, Swindon, SN1 5BP which runs this month on September 13th & 27th from 2pm until 4pm

And Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall, Station Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 8EN on September 8th & 22nd from 2pm until 4pm

Why should you come along?

Because it's never been more important to keep active and look after our mobility. Here at Age UK Wiltshire, we understand that keeping mobile is really important. That's why we are determined to maintain our existing Fitness & Friendship clubs and are striving to open new clubs around the county.

New members wanted

We're gradually getting new members joining our clubs around the county which is wonderful. But to continue offering this club we need you! If you live locally and want to pop along to see what we do, then you can. Just turn up on the day, bring a friend along or if you have a carer who can bring you, then they are very welcome and can attend for free. You can be sure of a friendly welcome.

Our exercises are designed for all abilities

So if you are not so mobile, never mind - you can do everything seated! You will be guided as to what is safe for you. We end the session with an easy form of Tai Chi designed to send you home relaxed and hopefully looking forward to the next session.

Refreshments, chat and games

You will be rewarded for your efforts with a cuppa and refreshments. We also have activities, games and lots of conversation.

So, what are you waiting for?

Just come along to the next session. We run every two weeks, so if you can't make one, there will be another two weeks later. The sessions are £5 each time and you can have your first visit for free.

For more information on all our clubs, where they are and dates, please visit our website <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/>

Contact: Jane, your Fitness & Friendship Project Worker on 07506836876.

Available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 1pm email: jane.pitcher@ageukwiltshire.org.uk OR Tracey Jones, Senior Fitness & Friendship Project Worker, on 07754 612569 Available Mondays from 10am - 2pm and Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am-4pm, Friday 11am-2pm. Interested in volunteering? You could run one of our clubs! If you like exercise and would like to learn and share the benefits of fitness & Tai Chi, why not email Tracey with your details or check out the website.

Age UK Wiltshire Fitness and Friendship is supported by WASP (Wiltshire and Swindon Sport) and Sport England.

Are you passionate about helping older people remain active and independent in later life?

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Age UK Wiltshire are looking for two Project Workers, with a zest for life and experience of delivering exercises to older people in a group setting.

Supported by Wiltshire and Swindon Sport (WASP) and Sport England, our Age UK Wiltshire Fitness & Friendship team is thriving and rapidly expanding, and we want you to join us!

You'll deliver Fitness & Friendship exercise sessions and provide peer support and training to volunteers.

Using your enthusiasm and drive, you'll successfully promote the clubs to increase membership and volunteer support and make a real difference.

If you are people focused and able to engage and inspire at all levels, as well as manage detail, data, and risks – we want to hear from you!

If this sounds like you, then apply today.

Full job description and person specification can be found here (insert link: www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/about-us/work_for_us/fitness-project-worker/)

Applications close on 2nd September 2022 and interviews will be held week commencing 5th September.

For an informal chat about the role, please contact Tracey Jones on 07754 612569.



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