

November 2022

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

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# Purton Contacts

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

## **Schools & Playgroups**

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

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

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

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

Tweedie-Smith Tel: 770077 (773031 emergencies only)

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

Tel: 770627

Warden Sandra Horsnall: 770157

Administrator: Rosie Harris [administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk) Tel: 773035

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

Minister: Tel: 853197, 1 Garraways, Woodshaw, Royal Wootton

Revd Shirlyn Toppin Bassett SN4 8LT

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

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

Priest: Revd Father Tel: 852366

Lucas Rodrigues

*Services: Holy Mass Sunday 11.00am. Mon, Tues, Wed 9.30am. Fri 7.00pm*

## **Catholic Church - St Mary's Church, High St, Cricklade**

Priest: Tel: 01285 712586 St Mary's Church

Father Michael Robertson

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

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# Purton Magazine

## **Purton Magazine committee:**

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

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

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**Advertising enquiries:** Richard McCarthy  
Email: [advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:advertising@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

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month, please to: Purton Magazine,  
c/o In Touch Design & Print, 2 College  
Road, Purton SN5 4AR

Tel: 01793 772954  
email: [mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

## **Distribution & Delivery enquiries:**

Sandra Horsnall Tel: 01793 770157

Email:  
[distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk](mailto:distribution@purtonmagazine.co.uk)

## **Other enquiries and comments for the committee to:**

The Secretary, 45 Ringsbury Close,  
Purton SN5 4DF

Also online at [www.purtonmagazine.co.uk](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk)

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Purton House Farm Poppies.  
Credit: Heather Ponting-Bather

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# From the Editors

**November 2022**  
Volume 44 No.11  
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Last month we led with the sad death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. By now, most of us have got used to referring to His Majesty and singing God Save The King. At the time of writing and after 44 days in office, our Prime Minister has announced her resignation after having spoken with King Charles. Checking the now famous quote by Enoch Powell, his actual words were “all political lives, unless they are cut short in midstream at a happy juncture, end in failure because that is the nature of politics and of human affairs.”

As the country awaits our 3rd Prime Minister in 3 months it seems a wonder that anyone would want to take over the role. Whatever the outcome in the next week or so, spare a thought for the children and other family members of all those involved, especially Liz Truss’ two daughters who are both under 17 years of age – their life at school must now be extremely difficult.

Activities here in Purton are on a slightly smaller scale although news of the new Community Fridge, featured on the October front cover did make the television regional news programmes. A team from BBC Points West came and

filmed several interviews at Pips café in the Silver Threads Hall. Since the scheme started it is understood that no waste at all has gone to landfill and further donations are arriving daily – more details are on page 21.

Other articles inside yet again confirm that “Purtonians are amazing people.” On page 46 we have an article from Khalique about the sadness he feels about having to close The Maharajah restaurant after 30 years. He is very grateful for all the local friendships extended to him and his family since their arrival. Continuing to live in the village after his children were educated here, Khalique sees himself as something of an ‘apprentice’ Purtonian – perhaps in the same way that so many others of us do, by choosing to live here without actually being born here.

The annual ‘report’ from the Purton Branch of the Royal British Legion on page 29 informs us that, to the end of September 2022, the annual amount raised was a huge £11,540.10. That is a really remarkable total for a village of our size and huge thanks again go to Mike and Shirley Lawrence, along with their many Poppy Appeal helpers.

---

## 60

Residents of all ages attended the Parish Council’s community safety event, see page 6

## 60+

Links to information and support with the cost of living increases. See page 14

## Over 60s

County triples bowls and four wood singles champions are from Purton. See page 33

# Purton Parish Council News



## ***Community Safety Roadshow***

On Saturday 1st October, around 60 residents of all ages attended a free, community safety event, run by Purton Parish Council.

This year's event focussed on road safety, which is known to be a concern for residents, so the Police Accident Car was available outside, whilst, in the hall, more information and advice was made available by the Wiltshire Council Road Safety Team, Community Speedwatch and Community Policing.

Staying safe and secure at home were also featured, with representatives from Neighbourhood Watch and the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire Service available to offer free home safety checks and to support volunteers in setting up Neighbourhood Watch groups.

At a time when many are facing economic challenges, local councillors from both Purton Parish Council and Wiltshire Council were also on hand for the morning to listen to residents and offer information and advice.

After a busy morning, organisers

deemed the event a great success, with one attendee saying, "We could do with having this type of thing more often", and it was clear that many younger visitors enjoyed sitting in the fire engine and trying on Police Officers' hats!

Purton residents are welcome to the next FREE community safety roadshow event on Saturday 4th March 2023, open from 10.00 a.m. until noon at Purton Village Hall.

Purton Parish Council Chairman, Ray Thomas said:

"Having surveyed the village earlier this year we know that many residents are concerned about road safety. This free, local event is one low-cost way to support local people with these concerns. It also offered the chance to empower people by showing them what they can do to stay safer at home and on the roads. Of course, it has also provided a lovely opportunity for our smallest residents to learn more about 'people who help us' too!"

## ***Purton Community Fridge Officially Opened on TV!***

On Wednesday 5th October the Purton Community Fridge was officially opened by Purton Parish Council Chairman, Ray Thomas at a celebratory opening covered by BBC Points West and local press.

The Purton Community Fridge is based in the entrance of the Silver Threads Hall where the Pips Community Café is run. It was set up earlier this year by a group

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of volunteers. It has been funded by the generosity of local people through the project's Just Giving page, which has raised £550 and Purton Parish Council, which has supported the scheme with £594. The fridge is now open five days a week and receives donations of food destined for landfill from Co-op, One Stop, Purton House Organic Farm and local people. It offers both chilled and pantry items as well as toiletries and, on occasions, dog food.



The opening event was well attended, with around 40 people from the local community, as well as from Wiltshire Council, local policing, Pips Community Café, the Co-op and One Stop Supermarkets, and Purton Parish Council there to support the project. There was a real buzz in the air!

The event commenced with the ringing of a hand bell, before Cllr Ray Thomas, Chairman of the Parish Council, gave a speech and formally cut the ribbon, which was followed by applause and cheers.

Chairman, Cllr Ray Thomas Said:

“This is such a worthwhile project. Purton Parish Council are most pleased and happy to support it in full, particularly in the current economic

climate with the high cost of living and people relying on food banks across the country.”

There was further cause for celebration when Pips Café presented the Community Fridge with a cheque for £693.33, which will help with ongoing costs including cleaning items, insurance, electricity and training.

The occasion was marked with tea and a celebratory cake made by local business Delicious Delights and cut by Purton Community Fridge volunteers Linda Buckland and Karl Cordas.

Chatting to the Purton Community Fridge team, they took great pride in the volumes of food given and passed on, which one volunteer suggested was equivalent to ‘the weight of a small horse’! Moreover, in line with the project’s ambition to reduce waste reaching landfill, to date there had been no waste, with just a few items added to the compost bin to help generate next year’s crops for the fridge.

At the opening, the fridge, pantry shelves and the lobby were all abundantly stocked with the latest supplies from Co-op Supermarket, Purton House Organics, Jubilee Gardens, allotments, and generous personal donations from local people. A member of the local community said, “It’s brilliant, I have used it”.

Comments and feedback from the community and councillors showed equally strong support for the new project.

Purton Parish Councillor Cllr Sue Relfe added, “I’m amazed at the generosity of organisations in the village and the individuals who donate from their allotments.”

And indeed, Wiltshire Councillor for Purton, Jacqui Lay, added her delight in the community activism saying, "It's just great to see that the community have got up and done this. They're a wonderful team!"

The Community Fridge is open to anyone and everyone to prevent waste going into landfill and to obtain free supplies and is open between 10.00 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Monday to Thursday, from 10.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. on Fridays, and on Saturdays 10 a.m. until 1.30 p.m. To find out more and how you can support the voluntary community project follow them on Facebook: Purton Community Fridge

### ***Light Up Purton***



Plans are coming together for the annual Purton Lights switch on, which will take place on Saturday 3rd December from 4.30 p.m. at the Village Centre.

A 35ft Christmas tree will be lit up simultaneously

at the Purton Institute, before Council Chairman Cllr Ray Thomas opens proceedings.

Residents will be able to enjoy festive music, warm drinks and food.

All are warmly invited to this free event, to welcome in the festive season.

If you would like to book a stall at the event or advertising space in the event programme, please email by 13th November: [susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Please note that advertisers must supply artwork.

### ***Children's Christmas Party***

Purton Parish Council will again be welcoming resident children to the free annual Christmas Party at Purton Red House on Saturday 17th December.

The children will be able to enjoy all the fun of Razzmatazz Entertainment as well as a visit from Father Christmas himself.

In the evening, adults may also enjoy the performance by The Corsairs at Purton Red House, who, for the unfamiliar, are a mod, indie rock band.

To register your interest in obtaining tickets, please complete the online booking form, which can be found online at: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/whats-on](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/whats-on)

Or call us on 01793 771066 for assistance with registering your interest.

Please note that:

- You need to be listed on the village's Electoral Register.
- Children attending must be under the age of 12.
- That tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.
- No food will be served at this event, but drinks can be purchased from the bar.

### ***The Village Hall***

We're pleased to confirm the works on the exterior windows have gone to plan and been completed, giving a fresher look to the building.

Please do note that the Village Hall will be closed from the 5th of December until the end of the year for interior window renovations to be completed.

## ***Graffiti making its mark beyond our parks***

Living in a rural, beautiful village already with conservation areas, we are all keen to preserve and enhance our surroundings for the enjoyment



of all. In contrast with this are issues like littering, leaving dog mess and, of course, the damage done by graffiti.

For many of us the visual damage is quite enough and we need not consider what this means beyond this, but on the parish council, we see the full extent.

Costs to clean off such marks are an obvious starting point, but they also include man hours, cleaning chemicals, training, and safety equipment. Moreover, the reality of tighter budgets and rising costs mean that it doesn't end there.

Money available each year can only be spent once, on one project, so each time funds and resources are allocated

to such clean-up operations we have less available to fund village events, play area equipment, the youth club, planting and many other things.

For many of you out there, this will only serve to enhance your frustrations, but what can you do?

The first thing is to continue taking all the positive steps that you already are, in picking up and taking litter home, and respecting the village's play equipment.

Secondly you can help to convey the message to those around you that not doing so will only cost us all, as each household will pay for it within their local tax or precept. So, if people think it's easier not to bother cleaning up after their dogs or themselves, they will know that they are only moving the responsibility back to their own wallets and service reduction in our community.

For those who may take regular walks and who may see something of concern, you can report it to the council or community policing teams. Key to this is information on timings of such behaviours in order that monitoring can take place. At no point should you interact with anyone as this could put you at risk.

Let us know if you see anything of concern by email at: [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

### ***Annual Volunteer Recognition Awards 2023***

Volunteers in our village give many hours of their time to improve all our lives, without pay and, often, without recognition. Without them many local events, clubs and services simply would not exist.

Each year the Parish Council offers

you the chance to recognise these community stalwarts, who do so much for our local community. This takes place via the Purton Parish Council Annual Volunteer Recognition Award Scheme.

To nominate your local hero, you simply need to obtain, complete and return a copy of the entry form to the Parish Council Office. Nomination forms can be collected from the Parish Council Office, downloaded from our website or, if required, posted to you.

The form is available on our website at: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/whats-on](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/whats-on)

Councillors will consider all entries, following which, award recipients will be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday April 3rd at 7.30 p.m., when awards will be presented.

Each winner who accepts an award will be welcomed to the Annual Parish Meeting at the Village Hall with their families, to receive their awards and enjoy some light celebratory refreshments.

Your hero can be of any age. They may be new to a project, have set up a project or have been giving their time, energy and commitment to a well-established organisation for many years.

You'll simply need to let us know who they are, which organisation they volunteer with and provide 50-100 words about what makes their contribution so special.

The closing date for entries is January 31st, 2023.

### **Autumn Council meetings 2022**

Meetings will be held at the Village Hall from 7 p.m. as follows:

- Monday 7th November – Finance and general purposes
- Monday 14th November – Full Council Meeting
- Monday 5th December – Finance and general purposes
- Monday 12th December – Full Council Meeting

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

### **Purton Youth Club**

Purton Parish Council continues to support and fully fund the running of our very own Youth Club. All Purton resident young people in Year 7 and above are welcome. It's free to come along and refreshments, activities, and support are all available. The club is open Thursdays at the Millennium Hall between 7.00 p.m and 8.30 p.m.

Please keep up to date by following us on Instagram: [@the\\_rise\\_trust\\_youth](https://www.instagram.com/the_rise_trust_youth)

If you're not on social media and need to check details of the Youth Club, please email Sue Hughes: [susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:susan.hughes@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk).

Find out more and keep up to date at:

- Call - 07715681950
- Email - [danielleb@therisetrust.org](mailto:danielleb@therisetrust.org) .
- Follow on Instagram - [@the\\_rise\\_trust\\_youth](https://www.instagram.com/the_rise_trust_youth)
- Follow on Facebook - [TheRISTrustYouthTeam](https://www.facebook.com/TheRISTrustYouthTeam)
- Check our notice boards – we'll soon have our own space on the boards so do take a peek!



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## ***Cost of living help***

To help everyone with the cost-of-living changes, we've created a page with more than 60 links to further information and support. This includes information from Wiltshire Council on debt advice, utility bill support links, sources of help and information from banks and building societies as well as some information on free local resources.

You can find this page at the below web page link: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/community-awards/cost-of-living-support](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/community-awards/cost-of-living-support)

Take a look and if you need further information, do feel free to come to the Parish Council Office to chat to us. Purton Parish Council Offices are open Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## ***Donations to your community***

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

Perhaps your group, club or society needs 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.

## ***Litter picking in the community***

The Parish Council holds 24 litter pickers and a selection of high viz clothing if anyone in the community wishes to borrow them to pick up litter in their area. We cannot provide recycling/

waste collection options therefore any litter would need to be taken to the local recycling centre by those collecting it.

Please contact the offices should you wish to use these items by either:

- Calling us on: 01793 771066
- Emailing us at: [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## ***Planning Applications***

The Parish Council reviews planning applications 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 current applications are posted on our website and on Wiltshire Council's portal, the link for which can also be found on our website. Applications to be considered at our meetings will be listed on our agenda, which can be found on our notice boards and our website at: [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/services/planning-highways](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/services/planning-highways)

Applications received, granted, and refused at the date of submission for this edition of the Purton Magazine, are listed below. Details from the meeting held on 10th October will be published online and in the December issue of Purton Magazine.

## ***New applications - September 2022***

- PL/2022/05885 – Derryfield Farm, The Common, Minety, SN16 9RH.

Proposed holiday let accommodation, regularise work to garage and tennis courts and associated works. Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council raise No Objection to the proposed holiday let accommodation, regularise work to garage and tennis courts and associated works.

- PL/2022/03624 – 26 High Street, Purton, SN5 4AE. Replacement/repair of window on rear elevation to match the original style using traditional materials and techniques.

Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council raise No Objection to the replacement/repair of windows on rear elevation to match the original style using traditional materials and techniques.

- PL/2022/06918 – Widham Farm. Erection of 61 dwellings, access and open space following the demolition of two dwellings and outline permission for 0.72ha of employment land for Use Class E. Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council Object to the erection of 61 dwellings, access, and open space following the demolition of two dwellings and outline permission for 0.72ha of employment land for use Class E for the following reasons:
- An application to build on the site has been in place since 2008. It was refused by Wiltshire then, went to appeal and was also refused. Details were, the site was in the countryside, outside the Framework Boundary, remotely located from employment opportunities in an area not well served by public transport, and this was contrary to various policies at that time. There was also insufficient evidence to determine the level of flooding on site. The reasons stated still exist at this time. The application returned and went to appeal in November 2009, this was for 136 dwellings and

was again dismissed. Mainly for similar reasons, still holding true.

- The application came back in 2011 for 50 houses, which were allegedly sustainable. Wiltshire Council again refused on the usual criteria: Open countryside development included, also the Wiltshire Local Development Plan was being developed. This went to appeal in October 2012 and was dismissed again, based on development outside the Settlement Boundary. Yet again it came back in December 2012 and was dismissed by a different Planning Inspector on 7th November 2013. This seems to be a rehash of the same application in differing forms to try and get approval. Now we have an application for 61 houses, again allegedly sustainable. Wiltshire Council recently stated the scale of development is far greater than the housing need in the parish. There is nothing new in this application, there is a reliance on the number 53 bus service which can be unreliable, depending on the economic situation. This whole application appears to be based on an urban template, which is not correct for this village location. There is a concept concerning flooding issues again based on an urban setting.
- In conclusion I would request the application is refused: This location remains outside the Limit of Development of the Village The application has not been brought forward through the Local Plan. It is in conflict with the Neighbourhood Plan. If the application is approved,

it will promote car journeys and excessive commuting, which is against the Climate Emergency declared by Wiltshire Council. Purton Parish Council request the Application is refused.

- PL/2022/06599 - 3 Long Acre, Purton, SN5 4BQ. All trees have TPOs This request is for permission to fell the specimens T1, T2 and T4 in a timely manner, before they pose a risk of breaking/falling. Because of the number of felled stumps on the property, it will be difficult to replace these trees. Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council raise No Objection to the felling of specimens T1, T2 and T4.
- PL/2022/06373 - Land at Packhorse Lane, Purton, SN5 4HU. Erection of a single dwelling house (Outline application with all matters reserved) Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council raise No Objection to the outline application for the erection of a single dwelling house.
- PL/2022/05840 – 38 Stoke Common Lane, Purton Stoke, SN5 4JG. Change of use of land for the stationing of 2 Shepherd Huts to provide holiday accommodation. Under delegated powers, Purton Parish Council raise No Objection the change of use of land for the stationing of 2 Shepherds Huts to provide holiday accommodation

### **Permission Granted – September 2022**

- PL/2022/04085 – 8 Station Road, Purton, SN5 4AH. Proposed two storey extension.

- Approve with conditions.
- PL/2022/04763 – 5 Crosslanes, Purton Stoke, SN5 4JN. Loft conversion with dormer to rear, Balcony opening Velux windows, solar panels and Velux windows to front. Approve.
- PL/2022/04812 – 3 The Brook, Purton, SN5 4GB. Change garage door from up and over style to white electric roller. Approve with conditions.
- PL/2022/03841 – 49 The Hyde, Purton, SN5 4EA. Erection of single dwelling access and parking (Outline application with all matter reserved). Resubmission of 20/10410/OUT. Approve with conditions.

### **Refused**

- PL/2021/06230 – 7 Caspian Close, Purton, SN5 5DZ. Change of use from open space to garden use and erection of 1.8 m high fence.

### **Councillor Vacancies**

Parish Council currently has the option to co-opt five councillors. If you are interested in this community role and can provide valuable time and resources to support our community, please use the link below to our website and complete the forms or contact the offices directly for information to be sent in the post. The Clerk is also available for an informal chat prior to completion of your application.

[www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/data-transparency-sub/policies-procedures](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/data-transparency-sub/policies-procedures)



12/22

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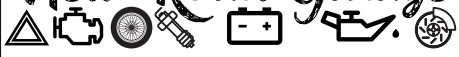
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02/23

## ***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 the cemetery, as no contact has been made by family members to discuss repairs.

Headstones still to be sunk: 310 Davies, 319 Bunce, 356 Strange, 404 Newman, S16 Young and S19 Unitt.

Work has commenced and will continue in October, and we will endeavour to ensure the inscription remains legible wherever possible.

If anyone wishes to speak to the Council before work commences, please do so by calling on 01793 771066 or emailing [lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:lesley.miles@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)
- Call – 01793 771066

Purton Parish Council would like to thank everyone for their patience and considerate use of the car park at the Village Hall whilst refurbishing work was carried out and parking spaces were restricted for safety.

Please note that the Village Hall will be closed from 5th of December for refurbishment of the inside of the windows.

## ***Keep up to date***

Further Council details and community information are available as follows:

- Call – 01793 771066
- Email – [deborah.lawrence@purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto: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.
- Web – [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)
- Sign up for regular updates at [www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/contact/contact-us](http://www.purtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/contact/contact-us)
- Follow us on Facebook – [purtonparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/purtonparishcouncil)
- Visit our offices – Monday to Thursday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and Fridays 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.
- Follow us on Twitter – [@PurtonPC](https://twitter.com/PurtonPC)
- Hard copies of council meeting minutes are also available at the library, which is open on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

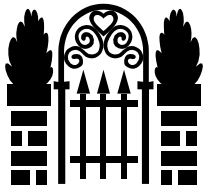
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## *Prayer for Purton*

This month the churches in Purton are praying for everyone who lives or works in: *Church Path, Church Street, Hyde Lane, The Hyde, Parkside, Church End, Manor Hill, (and from Moulden View) Criollo Place and Oldenburg Close*

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# What a fabulous October we had for the Community Fridge!



Not only did we have four successful weeks of initial opening with zero wastage, but we also had our official launch day on the 5th October, and we were on the telly too!

Cllr Ray Thomas and Cllr Jacqui Lay did the honours of cutting the ribbon to officially open the fridge and we had a celebration cake made for us by Katherine Young at Delicious Delights. BBC Points West came and interviewed several members of the community who have used the fridge and have found it extremely useful. We also had a photo on the front cover of October's Purton Magazine and a short article as well as Jessica from the Swindon Link Magazine who did such a fabulous report on the fridge, Pips cafe and the Silver Threads hall.

We had an amazing donation from Pips Community Cafe, who gave us £693.33, a share from the surplus monies they had made from the previous year.

Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to make the community fridge dream a reality and the project has so far managed to save over 300 kilos of food going to waste in September alone, that's the equivalent weight of a small horse!

We have had some amazing non-food

items donated to the fridge and larder area, including brand new toothbrushes, tooth paste, feminine hygiene products, nappies, toiletries, family planning products, supplement drinks, baby formula milk, dog and cat food, plants and flowers!

The community has been really wonderful in their support. We've had some amazing fruit and vegetables from gardens and allotments and the fridge and larder area has been the benefactor of some wonderful store cupboard clear outs too!

We continue to have regular surplus food donations from the Co-op and Purton House Organics but we are always looking for more regular donors of surplus food. If you or anyone you know would like to be a regular donator to our community fridge, please contact Louise on [louisecordas@outlook.com](mailto:louisecordas@outlook.com) or call 07495 008484.

Last but by no means least, we would like to say a massive thanks to everyone who made time to come and join us in celebrating our official opening of the Purton Community Fridge. It was an amazing day full of community spirit and happiness. Thank you everyone!

*Louise Cordas,  
Purton Community Fridge Coordinator*

# Purton & Green Gable Surgery PPG



## ***Update on PPG Fundraising***

1. The Doppler Machine has been purchased.
2. The Treatment Couch has been ordered.
3. The High-backed chair with arms – we are very grateful for the generosity of Purton & District Age Concern for offering to fund this.

All the above for Green Gable Surgery.

## ***PPG Information Talks***

We are hoping to restart our Information Talks in the near future.

## ***200 Club draw***

The new year for this has now started and membership, which has increased by 34%, is closed for this year. There will be space for new members from next year. The result of the October draw will be in the next Purton Magazine.

## ***Parkinson's Café in Cricklade***

You may already be aware of the monthly Parkinson's Café held 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Living Room in Cricklade Club in support of those with Parkinson's and their carers. Open to all affected by Parkinson's, the next meetings are on 16 November and 21 December. Contact parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call 07951 944760 for more details.

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 us via groupforpatients@gmail.com.

*Sheila Fowler, PPG Secretary*

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## **Outreach Purton *Community information from Wiltshire Council***

### ***Cost of living – advice and support***

Wiltshire Council has collated a range of advice, guidance and contact details to ensure you know where to get the support you may need during the current cost of living crisis. This page will be kept updated so please share the link with anyone who may find it useful especially in connection with Council tax, benefits and financial support: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6665/Council-tax-benefits-and-financial-support](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/6665/Council-tax-benefits-and-financial-support).

### ***Energy Price Guarantee***

From Saturday 1 October, a new Energy Price Guarantee will mean a typical UK household will now pay up to an average £2,500 a year on their energy bill for the next two years. This is automatic and applies to all households.

The new price guarantee will be paired with both the existing Energy Bill Support Scheme (EBSS), which will provide £400 support to households, and a £150 saving, brought about by a

temporary suspension of green levies on energy bills.

If you're in financial difficulty, you can access money and debt guidance for free. [www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/money-troubles](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en/money-troubles) provides guidance based upon your individual circumstances and will help you find support in your area.

Please also be aware of phone, email and text message scams about the Energy Price Guarantee and Energy Bill Support Scheme. There are different scams, but the most common asks for your bank details in order to send you money. Please do not respond to these scams. Both of these discount schemes will be applied to your bill automatically.

[www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-energy-price-guarantee-for-families-and-businesses-while-urgently-taking-action-to-reform-broken-energy-market](http://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-announces-energy-price-guarantee-for-families-and-businesses-while-urgently-taking-action-to-reform-broken-energy-market)

### ***A Banking Hub for Bassett***

Many residents will be aware that the last High Street bank in Royal Wootton Bassett (Lloyds) is due to close on December 6th.

You may also have heard that Royal Wootton Bassett has been chosen as one of the next tranche of towns to get a Banking Hub!

Some of your local Wiltshire Councillors have set up a working group to help make this happen. We are looking at ways of keeping you informed as to progress but will certainly be bringing an update to our next Area Board meeting on January 18th 2023.

In the meantime, UK Finance, which is the organisation tasked with rolling out this project, has given us a questionnaire

which they are hoping residents will fill in. We are asking for paper copies to be provided, but you can complete the survey online at the following link: [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SQBT8ZN](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SQBT8ZN)

Please do take a few minutes to fill in the questionnaire, which will help to shape our future Banking Hub .

### ***Helping your child with anxiety and worry***

The online course offers support to families with children who are finding life difficult during these tricky times. Families will learn how to improve communication and problem-solving skills and be more able to be more resilient in times of stress.

Tuesday 8 November 10:00-12:00 (1 x 2 hr session). Join this online course where parents/carers learn together and take part in practical group activities, all in a relaxed and friendly environment.

### ***Who will benefit from attending?***

This course is for parents/carers who want to support their child/children with their mental wellbeing.

### ***What will you learn?***

Explore anxiety and worry, and how they affect the body, behaviour, emotions and thought.

Discover ways that children's mental health can be supported at home.

Develop an awareness of how anxiety and worry cause the stress response and how this can affect learning.

Find out where to go for further help, advice and support.

Contact Details:

Email: [familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk)



## Remember to #SaveSafely when cutting costs



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Website: <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>

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Courses are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Learners must be 19+, have been resident in the UK/EU for three+ years, a service family

member, have a child with SEN, have less than 5 GCSEs A – C and/or be in receipt of benefits or be unemployed. If you feel you do not fit within the criteria, we may still be able to help so please call if you have any questions.

*Heather Ponting-Bather,  
Outreach Purton Tel: 772954*

## Ten Years Ago...

In Purton Magazine for November 2012, the Parish Council reported on arrangements for the Community Plan which were back at Square 1. It must be said that this was not Purton's fault, more a matter of central Government allowing a free-for-all, but as this column has touched on it many times before, this time it is drawing a curtain.

The Museum's exhibit this month was a photo of a man, "Curly Tom", who died in Purton Workhouse in 1913 at the age of 103. Every spring he would ask the Guardians for five shillings (25p) for a stock of pins, bootlaces and the like which he would then peddle around the

surrounding villages. Back in Purton in the winter, he was free to "go whither he willed" while back at the Workhouse, never short of tobacco or beer from generous Purtonians. Proof that Purton has been a caring village for a long time.

Purton Brownies were out looking for signs of wildlife. They found plenty of molehills. I have often thought that the Brownies lived in a parallel world and now they have found another one – that of moles.

I imagined that by the November issue, the Magazine would be Olympics-free but no, on page 55 it cropped up again, a lucky Tennis Club member having received



tickets for the opening ceremonies and then umpiring – along with a few other events such as Wimbledon. The club no longer had a structured selection system for its teams; players were chosen by a small group. We used to have that system for Conservative Prime Ministers; I can't help thinking it was much better than the present one.

# Purton & District Age Concern

# Purton and District ~~AGE~~ CONCERN

## ***Dates for the diary:***

Christmas Shopping Trip – 30th  
November (see notes for details)

Christmas Party – 3rd December, 5 p.m.  
to 8.30 p.m.

Christmas Eve – Carols Under the  
Christmas Tree, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## ***Christmas Shopping Trip***

We are organising a Christmas shopping trip on the 30th November to Clarks Village in Somerset leaving the village at 10 a.m. from our usual pick-up points, and returning normally around 6 p.m. This is open to everyone in the village and the cost will be £15 and for people living outside the village they will pay £17. The trip takes about an hour and a half each way so you'll get a nice coach trip through the countryside. Clarks has about 80 shops of all types and has easy access. Call me on 778119 for tickets. Ring soon, as this is a popular trip.

## ***Garden Centre Trip***

We had a very nice trip to Webb's Nurseries on the 14th September. It really is a good nursery and we all enjoyed the good weather we had for the trip and also for wandering around the greenhouses. The food there is very good and everybody said how much they enjoyed the day. It was a shame that once again we only managed to fill half the coach, and as this seems to be a regular occurrence, it could affect our future trips; let's hope not. If we don't use it, then we lose it!

## ***Christmas Functions***

We will be having a Christmas Party on the 3rd December at the Village Hall from 5 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. with entertainment and food included for the cost of £7.50 per person. If you are one of our Street Wardens or Minibus Crew then you come for FREE, as a thank you for what you do for us. We look forward to seeing as many as possible joining us. Everyone must book in advance by ringing Jean on 771304 so that we know how many to cater for.

Please make a note on your calendar for Christmas Eve – yes we are having our Carols Under the Christmas Tree this year! We are hoping that we can go ahead as this is a special event and we want as many people as possible singing with us. Mince pies and mulled wine provided free of charge.

## ***Christmas Vouchers***

We are preparing the Christmas vouchers. If people are 65+, and don't receive the vouchers, then they should make themselves known to the street wardens so that they can be included on the distribution list. If you don't know who your street warden is email [secretary@purtonageconcern.com](mailto:secretary@purtonageconcern.com).

## ***Christmas Cards***

We are selling our Christmas Cards again this year, there are eight cards and eight envelopes in a pack for £4. Ring me on 778119 as soon as possible to order yours; Christmas is coming!



## ***We are promoting our tai chi classes – and explaining how good it is for you***

### 8 reasons to try Tai Chi

1. Tai Chi is good for both body and mind. Tai Chi is a gentle martial art that originated in China. It's called 'mediation in motion' because it involves slow movements with a focus on breathing and on what your body is doing in that moment. You can go at your own pace.
2. It's easy on the body. Tai Chi is suitable for all ages and levels of fitness. It is low impact, meaning there is minimal risk of damage to your joints. Muscles are relaxed and there is no stretching or straining. It's an exercise that can be easily adapted for less able people, including those in wheelchairs.
3. It could prevent falls. A 2019 review of studies suggested that Tai Chi might reduce the risk of falls in older people. Certainly, the emphasis is on balance, with sideways and backwards movements helping to strengthen muscles required for good stability. It also improves flexibility and spatial awareness.
4. It may reduce pain. A small body of research indicates that practising tai chi on a regular basis can help alleviate knee osteoarthritis, fibromyalgia and lower back pain.
5. Tai Chi compares with brisk walking and resistance training. This might be difficult to believe as Tai Chi is so slow and smooth, but it can improve both upper-body strength, thanks to the unsupported arm movements it involves, and lower-body strength when practised regularly.
6. It may boost brain power. Benefits aren't just physical. Studies have found that regular Tai Chi can improve cognitive functioning in older people with dementia and without. Given that it's considered safe and suitable for the elderly, this is a definite win.
7. It has the feel-good factor. A reduction in stress and anxiety, and increased confidence, are other mental health benefits of Tai Chi, according to some research, though further research is needed.
8. You can do it at home. Classes are useful not just for teaching the movements but also for meeting like-minded people. However, between classes you can also practice the movements easily at home.

### ***Tai Chi Classes***

The Tai-Chi classes will continue weekly at 1.30 p.m. on Thursdays at the Millennium Hall, so come along and enjoy the benefits of this gentle exercise. We will be offering a FREE taster session for beginners. New members will have to fill in a health form at the first lesson. Cost is £5.00 per session, and sessions take place only during term time.

## **Minibuses**

If you need to use the Age Concern transport for appointments or to go on one of our shopping trips, and are over 60 years of age, then please contact Hazel on 01793 770862 as usual.

## **Useful Contacts**

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

## **If You Need It!**

Bobby Van – If you need the Bobby Van for replacement batteries or if the smoke alarms are not working properly then call them on 01225 256867. Please be aware that there might be restrictions in place at this time. If you are self-isolating and not letting anybody enter

your home then you will need to replace your smoke alarm yourself as they won't leave one on the doorway. If they are called to replace one, then they have to do it. Please be aware.

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

Website - Visit our dedicated website – [www.purtonageconcern.com](http://www.purtonageconcern.com) – to find all the details you need about our contacts, events, news and links to other websites in the area. We also have a Facebook and Twitter accounts which can be found at Facebook: [purtonageconcern](https://www.facebook.com/purtonageconcern) and Twitter: [@Purton\\_AC](https://twitter.com/Purton_AC). Please visit our social media sites and let us know what you think.

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

*Peter Berry, Chairman*

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## **Cricklade Revealed for Christmas while stocks last!**

### **Stock Update**

Remaining books, all now at £3 each, that are still available (as of October 1st 2022).

Cricklade Revealed main series: Parts 2 & 3 now SOLD OUT and Parts 1 – 9; under 10 of each left.

Cricklade Revealed Extra: CRE1: now SOLD OUT, Part 2: only 8 copies left, Parts 3 – 5: 40+ copies left.

SETS, perhaps as Christmas presents or stocking fillers?

3 x Complete sets of all 15 books remaining now @ £45each.

5 x WW2 sets of 4 @ £12 each.

5 x Post-war sets of 4 @ £12 each.

Proceeds from my remaining books will, as ever, be donated to Cricklade Open Door. To obtain a copy (or copies) please call me on 01793 750542, or e-mail [mfparsonso71@btinternet.com](mailto:mfparsonso71@btinternet.com)

*Thank you, Marion Parsons*

# The Royal British Legion Purton Branch

The Purton Branch members would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Purton and the surrounding area for their generosity over the years towards the Poppy Appeal and the support of everyone is very much appreciated.

Due to the continuing Covid restrictions placed on fund raising, there were still some difficulties in raising money for the appeal, however, due to the magnificent efforts of Mike and Shirley Lawrence and all their helpers, it was a very successful year with a grand total to the end of September 2022 of £11,540.10

We are fortunate in having Shirley and Mike Lawrence as Poppy Appeal organisers, for whom we have to thank for most of the above sum and, to all of the many other wonderful people who give their time to help to collect for the Poppy Appeal, we extend our grateful thanks.

In addition we would also like to thank all the customers of Asda who gave so generously.

## **Remembrance Service**

This year is particularly important with the death of our patron, and much loved sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II and the accession to the throne of King Charles III being so recent.

The Remembrance Service will be held on Sunday 13th November at 2.30 p.m. at the Cenotaph, and the format will be as normal.

# Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2022

Please support the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, which will take place from Saturday 29th October until Remembrance Sunday on the 13th November. We are hoping there will be a house-to-house collection and poppies will be available in many local businesses as usual.

If anyone is unable to get a poppy or a Remembrance cross, please contact us and we will arrange delivery to you.

*Shirley and Michael Lawrence*  
*Poppy Appeal Organisers*  
Tel: 01793 771084 or email: [thelawrences@btinternet.com](mailto:thelawrences@btinternet.com)

# Purton & District Probus Club

On September 13th, Dr Chris Scott gave us 'The Battle of Trafalgar' and on the 27th Malcolm Lewis, from Cirencester PROBUS, related and played the music of Rogers & Hammerstein. Both were very entertaining speakers, with good responses from members. The PROBUS Club meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 am in the Hook Village Hall.

November programme: 8th, The Man who Built Britain, 22nd, Days that Got a Whole Lot Worse. Visitors and new members always welcome, we aim to provide an interesting & varied diary over the year.

*Bob Stevens*

# 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.*

## **The end of an era for Purton**

On behalf of the Hall family & friends, as well as all the charities in the village, Purton Bowls & Tennis Clubs, I would like to wish Khalique all the best for the future and thank him for his support over the years he has had the Maharajah. We will miss his delicious food!

*Lindsey Hall*

## **6th October 2022**

I'd like to thank everyone for their kindness and messages of sympathy, following the passing of my mother, Mrs Patricia Fraser. Many of you may remember her going up the High Street on her mobility scooter and perhaps stopping for a chat.

Thanks also to Rev Judith Wells for conducting the funeral service for Patricia on 24th October at St Mary's Church.

*Janet Saunders*

## **Responses to last month's letter about Lloyd's Chemist**

In response to R Clarke's letter in the October issue it is a little unfortunate that he did not feel able to discuss the matter with our team in the shop

at the time. The great majority of our customers are aware that we are doing our very best trying to meet the huge demands of the village and surrounding areas (including Minety, Lydiard Millicent, Ridgeway Farm, Moulden View and Tadpole Garden Village). A twenty minute wait for a prescription to be made up is a very fair time to wait, especially as the patient has quite probably waited even longer to see the doctor. The dispenser labels and makes up the prescription, the pharmacist then has to make a clinical and accuracy check and then bag it. This all takes time depending on how many prescriptions are waiting. That is also why we ask patients to order their repeat prescriptions a week before they run out to give the surgery and ourselves time to process them and order new stock in. We are only a small pharmacy for a large group of patients and can only accommodate a small amount of stock at any one time. Although Mr Clarke was once unhappy with our service, he would be welcomed back as are all our many other regular customers. We look forward to seeing you all.

*Lloyds staff, Purton.*

I was saddened to see the letter about Lloyd's Chemist in last month's Purton Magazine.

I am grateful to Lloyd's for looking after the village so well.

I have repeat prescriptions and the system with the Surgery and the Pharmacy seems to work like clockwork for me, as long as I follow the rule of needing five clear days. And now I even receive a message on my phone when my tablets are in and waiting for collection. What a remarkable service! Thank you Lloyd's staff. I, for one, am extremely grateful to you all.

LS

I feel it necessary to correct the impression suggested by R Clarke's letter in the October magazine. I have cause to visit the Lloyds pharmacy shop in the village probably every week for at least the last 5 years to collect repeat prescriptions as well as for ad hoc purchases. On every occasion I have been greeted with friendly smiles and prompt service, even when an obscure request requires a little extra effort. Our village really is very lucky still to have our own chemist operating in the village and even more lucky that it is staffed by such helpful and cheerful staff.

*Francis Sheppard*

I feel that I must write in defence of our Lloyds chemist, after reading the letter from R Clarke in October's issue of the

Purton Magazine (very aptly titled by the way). I know that the staff, mainly Purton residents, took this letter very personally.

I myself get good service in the Purton branch of Lloyds. The girls are under daily pressure from addition of patients being lumped onto them from additional housing estates such as Tadpole and Ridgeway Farm. They have in the main always served Lydiard Millicent, Braydon, parts of Minety and Cricklade, as well as outlying areas around Purton. The shop has not increased in size, leaving little room to store great stocks of every medication. It's not just the case of grabbing something from the self and giving it to the customer, it has to have labels printed, to be checked and double checked. Everyone wants to have their prescription NOW!, but sometimes we have to wait because someone else's prescription is being put together. As for chairs for elderly patients, there are two on offer, with no room for more, perhaps someone less in need could consider freeing one up. The staff put up with being cold in winter and far too hot in summer, which many wouldn't put up with. Cut them some slack and have some patience, rushing causes mistakes, patience costs nothing.

*Pearl Lait*

#### DISCLAIMER

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

# Purton Historical Society



## ***Meeting Venue - Purton Methodist Church, Play Close***

The Society would like to welcome members and visitors to the continuation of their programme as follows:

### ***Thursday 24th november 2022, at 7.30 p.m. - 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, Ringsbury Camp, some other local hillforts (there are more than you think) and their roles. 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, at 7.30 p.m. - Christmas social in the silver threads hall***

We welcome back, by popular request, 'Out of the Box Catering' and 'The White Horse Folk Club' from Highworth. These

are the same caterers and entertainers that were so successful at the 2021 Social. Tickets are £17.50 per person and include a buffet supper, entertainment, quiz and lucky ticket number. Bring your own choice of drink and we will supply the glasses.

Tickets are available at monthly meetings, from Janet and Tony Neate (770117),

Jim Mosley (778395) or Marion Hobbs (770185).

### ***The New Year***

### ***Thursday 26th January 2023, at 7.30 p.m. - The Golden Age Of Mountaineering And Exploration, Martin Collisson***

This presentation covers the heroic exploits of the men who made first ascents of the Matterhorn, Eiger and Everest plus the exploration of the Arctic and Antarctic

sub-continent. The talk finishes with the mountaineering achievements of arguably, the greatest mountaineer living today – Reinhold Messner.

*Janet and Tony Neate*  
email: [tjneate57@gmail.com](mailto:tjneate57@gmail.com)

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## **The Golden Chapter**

We would like to remind members and friends that the copies of The Golden Chapter, containing important additional information, are to be dedicated during the service in St Mary's Church on Remembrance Sunday, 13th November 2022, at 10.30 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

*Jean Belt*



# Museum News

On his retirement in 1976 Mr Glyn Lloyd, appointed a master at St Mary's in 1932 and Headmaster from 1957, said one of his greatest achievements was that, "Every child who now leaves the school can swim and is able to read." It was in 1963 that Mr Lloyd launched the swimming pool project and eight years later the heated indoor swimming pool was opened. For those of you who receive your magazine before the end

of the month, there's still time to visit Purton Museum to view the plaque that was unveiled at the opening of the pool and a 1977 Learner's Certificate awarded for successfully swimming 25 metres.

Purton Museum is open on Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. The museum will close at the end of October and reopen in the spring.

*Lucy Lewis, Museum Archivist*

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## Purton Bowls Club

We have had another enjoyable season; the weather has been kind to us, and the green has once again bowled very well. We have welcomed new members to the club, and we hope they have enjoyed their first season with us. Our congratulations must go to Chris Mitchell, who is the county 4 wood singles champion, and Colin Baker, Peter Berry and Dave Mitchell, who are the county over 60's triples champions; well done to you all.

We are holding a number of events during the winter months, and we would like to invite you to come along and join us. The first event is to be held on Wed 2nd Nov from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the clubhouse; it's coffee and chat and there will be a lovely variety of cakes available too!



Please keep an eye out in the village diary for future events and dates.

If you require any further information or would be interested in having a table at our Xmas Fair then please give me a call – see below

### **Forthcoming events:**

- Wed 2nd Nov - Coffee and chat at the bowls club 10 a.m to 12 noon
- Thurs 24th Nov - Bingo at the bowls club eyes down 7:30 p.m.
- Sat 3rd Dec - Xmas fair & coffee morning at the bowls club 10 a.m. to 12 noon
- Wed 7th Dec - Coffee and chat at the bowls club 10 a.m. to 12 noon
- Wed 4th Jan - Coffee and chat at the bowls club 10 a.m. to 12 noon

*Alison Fail – Secretary, Tel: 770015*

# Purton & District Gardeners' Guild



Following a last minute cancellation, we were greatly relieved when Dr Rachel Warmington, originally booked to present a talk at the October meeting, kindly accepted our plea to 'swap' dates at short notice.

A Purton resident for the last 18 months, Rachel began her talk by offering us a brief insight into her career background.

Having worked in tax for eight years, she decided on a career change, completing a Horticulture degree at Pershore College in 2009. Various posts followed until she chose to specialise in plant pathology and, after completing her PhD at Warwick University, she took up the position of Plant Pathologist at the Eden Project.

Following six years in the post, she now works as Senior Portfolio Manager at the Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), a major funder of world leading bioscience in the UK contributing to tackling global challenges including sustainable food production, climate change and healthy ageing.

The topic of the talk was 'Science and Gardening: the Past, Present and Future'.

Rachel explained that horticulture science incorporates both the science and aesthetics of plants so that as we experiment to produce plants – fruits, vegetables, flowers and ornamentals – we can improve not only how they grow, but also how they look aesthetically.

It's hard to believe that the first evidence of plants being domesticated was in 9,000 BC and that it wasn't until 1716 that the first artificial plant hybrid was produced by Thomas Fairchild.

It was a cross between a Sweet William and a Carnation Pink, known as the Fairchild's Mule. He did this by taking pollen from the Sweet William with a feather, and brushing it onto the stigma of the Carnation Pink.

He was uncomfortable with the success as he believed all plant species had been created by God and he was afraid that it would seem that he was disturbing this natural order. When he presented his dried plant to the Royal Society in 1720, he fudged the story of its creation, and claimed it was an accident.

In 1774 John Priestley worked on an experiment that was to prove that plants produce oxygen. He used two sealed glass containers, one containing a lit candle only and the other a lit candle alongside

a plant. The single candle under the glass soon expired, whilst the candle with the plant continued to burn. This proved that the plant was producing oxygen through its leaves.

Not all experiments over the years have produced a positive result. The glass in the Palm House at Kew Gardens for example used to be completely green. The first curator of Kew, thought green tinted glass panels would provide extra shade for the plants. But this actually caused many problems for plant growth and was later recognised as a mistake.

Rachel highlighted how technology now plays a large part in all aspects of horticulture today.

For instance:

- A lab attached to a drone can be flown over a field enabling the lab to perform rapid diagnostic tests.
- An electronic node can be used to detect if there is any disease within a large crop store.
- A robotic imager can pick up changes in temperature and stress signals on leaves. This is a cheaper and more accurate check than someone crop walking.

Nutrition, climate change and biosecurity will continue to have an impact moving forward, and horticulture science will always continue to develop with the introduction of new composts, extreme weather, pests and diseases and gardening for wildlife.

Besides the many things we have learned about horticulture, Rachel made us aware of many things we still don't know. For instance 'Why do bananas fluoresce around brown spots?'

This was a talk full of content relevant to us all as we continue to deal with the consequences of climate change.

Regretfully, Tuesday 29 November will be our final meeting of Purton & District Gardeners' Guild – as per usual with a 7.30 p.m. start in Silver Threads Hall.

This will be a members only meeting and will take the form of an American Supper, a chance to socialise and enjoy the wonderful spread that we always manage to present thanks to the delicious offerings from all our brilliant members.

*Margaret Goodall*

## After 8



A table invitingly spread with a broad variety of children's books for us to peruse was an introduction to the talk by Mary Hodges about the history and aspects of children's literature.

Until the 17th century, children were regarded as mini-adults, and no books were produced specifically for them. Reading material in schools was presented on a wooden or horn hand-held 'paddle' and consisted of lists – perhaps the alphabet, or lists of social values of the time to indoctrinate children. They were often deeply pious or remorselessly instructional. Although the printing press was invented in Germany in between 1440 and 1450, it was during later centuries that the process became widespread, with the first children's book being produced in 1744. This was 'A Pretty Little Pocket Book' by John Newbery – a book of rhymes based on the alphabet.

Fairy stories (collected by the Grimm brothers) and Aesop's Fables had been passed down orally for centuries, but were for adults. Later, these were adapted and published for children to help them read.

During the 19th century, literature for children became more light-hearted and amusing, sometimes including fantasy. In 1865, 'Alice in Wonderland' was published, followed by, for example, 'Tom Sawyer', 'Treasure Island', 'Gulliver's Travels' and 'The Secret Garden'. Later, Enid Blyton, Roald Dahl and J. K. Rowling and others too numerous to mention became popular.

Children take on serious matters without adult help and their books do contain moral lessons; to be brave, to stand up for one another, and develop a particular set of values. Environmental and human relationship subjects are also included.

Discussing the books on the table, and those we had brought along individually led to memories of not just the books themselves, but how different stories appeal to different children – some only becoming interested in reading when given factual books, some enjoying books including witches and scary animals, but all fascinated by dinosaurs.

Thank you to Mary for such an informative and enjoyable evening.

With so many authors, and such imaginative stories, I'll be aiming for the children's section on my next library visit.

*Barbara Gosden*

# Purton Cricket Club



The season may have finished weeks ago, but events at the cricket club haven't slowed down. Youth training continued up to the end of September thanks to weather we had over the course of the summer. Awards evenings were held for both the youth and adult sections and the process of packing the club down for the winter has begun.

Starting with the youth cricket awards, and for the Under 11s, Nischay Kilaru won best batter, whilst Aanvik Thati won best bowler. The coaches award went to Nate Pari. Moving onto Under 13s, William Carter took home the best batter trophy, whilst the best bowler was shared between Louis Portlock and Sanuka Wickramarachchi. Charlie Bratley won the coaches award. Finally, for the Under 15s, Adam Davison won best batter, Aryan Kuram best bowler and Harvey Kahlon the coaches award.

For the adults, Tom Whittaker took home both the batting and bowling awards for the 1st XI. Then in the 2nd XI, Mark Wilson won the batting award, whilst Jamie Richards won the bowling award. There was also a special award for both Phil Duffell and Kenley Thomas, who have worked tirelessly over the summer to maintain the ground and ensured all of our teams can fulfil their fixtures.

Their hard work has been continuing along with other members of the club in recent weeks to put the ground to bed for the winter. Lots of work has been carried out to ensure the pavilion, garage and nets are all clean and tidy. In

the coming weeks, the main task of preparing the square for the off season will be carried out and then attention will turn to getting ready for the 2023 summer in other aspects of the club.

With that in mind, we are looking at getting the nets refurbished as the mats we currently have are worn and not providing the facilities for the best practice and safety possible. In line with this we are always on the lookout for new sponsors to help fund different initiatives across the club, such as refurbishing the nets. If you are interested in sponsoring the club then please contact us by email: [chair.purtoncc@gmail.com](mailto:chair.purtoncc@gmail.com).

As was mentioned in last month's entry, there are plans for winter nets across both the youth and adult sections. These will be starting January 9th and run until March 23rd for the youth, and finishing closer to April for the adults (details still to be finalised). Both will be held in the sports hall at Cricklade Manor School, as we have done in previous years. The cost will be determined by the number of people who sign up.

If you are interested in joining the winter nets programme, then please contact [membership.purtoncc@gmail.com](mailto:membership.purtoncc@gmail.com). As always, we would be delighted to accept new members from ages eight and upwards. There will be communications from the club if you are an existing member, so keep an eye out for them.

*Harrison Burridge*

# Purton Village Diary - November 2022

2	W	10.00am	until 12.00pm Coffee and chat at the Bowls Club
3	Th	5.00pm	until 10.00pm Christmas shopping event in aid of MNDA at the Royal George
4	F	5.00pm	until 10.00pm Christmas shopping event in aid of MNDA at the Royal George
5	Sa	2.00pm	until 5.00pm Christmas shopping event in aid of MNDA at the Royal George Guy Fawkes Night
6	Su	8.00am 10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church All Souls' Service at St Mary's Church
7	M	7.00pm	Parish Council finance and general purpose meeting at the Village Hall
8	Tu	10.00am	Purton and District Probus meet at Hook Village Hall for a talk entitled 'The Man who built Britain'
11	F		Armistice Day
13	Su	10.30am 10.30am 2.30pm 4.00pm	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Holy Communion at St Mary's Church Remembrance Service at the War Memorial Messy Church at St Mary's Church
14	M	10.00am  7.00pm 7.30pm	Purton WI meet at Silver Threads Hall for a demonstration from Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club  Full council meeting at the Village Hall Royal Wootton Bassett Gardening Club meet at the Memorial Hall for a talk from Michael Jones about Mistletoe: fact, myth & legend.
18	F		BBC Children in Need
20	Su	8.00am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church Church for all at St Mary's
21	M	2.00pm	St Mary's Fellowship of Women meet at Purton Methodist Church for a talk from Jon Ratcliffe about photography of the cellars, towers and tunnels of Swindon. FIFA World Cup 2022 until 18th Dec 2022, the 22nd World Cup will be held in Qatar.
22	Tu	10.00am	Purton and District Probus meet at Hook Village Hall for a talk entitled 'Days that got a whole lot worse'
24	Th	7.30pm	Bingo at the Bowls Club Thanksgiving
25	F		Black Friday/Buy Nothing Day
26	Sa	11.00am	Christmas Market at St Mary's Church



27 Su	10.30am	Morning Worship at Purton Methodist Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's Church
30 W	10.00am	Christmas shopping trip to Clark's Village, Somerset, organised by Purton & District Age Concern. St Andrew's Day, a celebration of the Patron Saint of Scotland

### **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
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
	3.15pm	to 4.15pm (during term time) IMPACT after school club at Pips Community Cafe. Games, snacks and Bible exploration. Parents need to stay but need not get involved.
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 & 4th Tuesday	10.00am Purton Probus meet at Hook Village Hall.
4th Tuesday	7.30pm Purton and District Gardeners' Guild meet at Silver Threads Hall
2nd Wednesday	(except Aug) 2.30pm Methodist Women's Fellowship at Purton Methodist Church - temporarily suspended
3rd Wednesday	2-4pm Purton Charity Knitting group meet at Pips Community Cafe 10.30am-Noon Parkinson's UK Cricklade Cafe at the Cricklade Club 7.30pm Purton Evening WI meet at the Silver Threads Hall (April-September)
4th Thursday	(September to May) Purton Historical Society meet at 7.30pm in Play Close Methodist Church.

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

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

# Memories of Purton By Joyce Wheeler

I was born in Purton on 10th November 1925, the second daughter for Harry and Elsie Smith and sister to Lorna. We lived at Melville House, 49 Station Road and had a lovely large orchard in the back garden. I was named Audrey Joyce, but as there were two more Audreys living in Purton and to avoid confusion I was known as Joyce to this day! I enjoyed a loving and happy family and village life and I have fond memories of my days in Purton.



I attended Purton school and I used to cycle on my little blue bike to school and park it at Auntie Nellie's and Uncle George's yard opposite the Angel Hotel, where they ran an ironmongers shop. At home time I would free wheel down the hill on Station Road and whizz straight through Dad's garage and out the other side into the orchard. When we moved to secondary school, we caught the train to Swindon every day and the driver and guards would wait if we were a bit late, especially as my cousin Clem Smith had a limp so running to catch the train was difficult for him.

I attended various dance classes in Swindon and regularly performed at the Conservative Amateur Dramatic Society concert parties in Purton Institute with Auntie Win on the banjo or the piano and my twin cousins, Peggy and Phylis dancing too. Mrs Handcock, who lived in the house on the railway crossing, made lots of my dance costumes and she was very good and very cheap! Eric Webber was MC and a very good entertainer and Muriel Webb was a good comedienne. Mr



Opposite page: Melville House, Station Road. Above left: With Mum and Lorna outside our house. Above right: Purton Carnival Queen, 1946

Hewitt, who had been evacuated from London with his wife, formed a choir and used to give concerts. My piano tutor made me cry after lessons due to his rather frightening voice hence I never managed to pass my exams! To compensate I often sat at the pianola and left the windows open wide to try to impress passers-by that it was indeed me playing such melodies!

The family dog, Tinker, howled when my Dad played his violin with Mum singing and was often called to help find the lost football in

the overgrown gardens opposite Melville House. When I left school I followed my sister to work in the Great Western Offices in Swindon, but office work was not for me, so I left to help Dad selling petrol at his garage and I regularly sat outside and chatted to the village work force on their way to the railway station and I knew them all by name.

In June 1946, I was elected by vote as Purton's first Carnival Queen and I was crowned in August 1946. I organised a variety of fundraising events throughout the year and kept a scrapbook of this momentous year which I still have! I enjoyed happy times with friends in Purton and tennis matches at Red Lodge, and I was the first secretary of the Purton Young Conservatives. It was at this time that I met my late husband, Harold Wheeler and we married in December 1948 at St Mary's Church, Purton.

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## Household Recycling Centres to switch to their winter opening times

From 1 November, the opening hours of all ten of Wiltshire Council's HRCs will change their opening times to 10am to 4pm on each day that they're open. Currently they are open from 9am.

As per previous years, Salisbury, Trowbridge and Stanton St Quinton HRCs will be closed for an additional day a week, so will not be operating on Thursdays and Fridays. The opening days of the other centres will remain as they are. All of these temporary changes will take affect from 1 November and last until 31 March.

Purton Household Recycling Centre, Mopes Lane, will be open from 1st November 10am - 4pm, closed Tuesday and Wednesday

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## Pop-up shop trial to reuse items donated to local Recycling Centres

A new recycling and reuse partnership initiative is being trialled in Devizes and will see residents given the opportunity to buy bargain quality used items sourced from Wiltshire Council's household recycling centres.

***Reuse Pop Up Shop, Devizes Market Place, Wiltshire, SN10 1JD - Saturday 29 October - 9am - 2pm***

With more people than ever before keen to do their bit to help the

planet, the FCC Environment team, which operates eight of Wiltshire Council's network of ten HRCs are working in partnership with Devizes Town Council and Sustainable Devizes to offer residents a novel way to pick up a pre-loved bargain on 29 October with the area's first ever pop-up reuse shop.

Located in Devizes Market Place, the pop-up shop will give residents an opportunity to buy good quality pre-loved items that have been previously donated by Wiltshire residents for reuse at the council's HRCs in the area thereby reducing waste and breathing new life into items that might otherwise have been recycled or landfilled.

Visitors can expect to find a range of kids toys and games including board games and books; we expect to have for sale sporting goods from bicycles and golf clubs to exercise equipment, racquets and bats; the gardeners out there we will have access to garden tools, pots and planters; and for the budding interior designer we will have a large selection of furniture and housewares which are great as they are or perfect for upcycling and all at bargain prices.

Cllr Dr Mark McClelland, Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member for Waste, said: "We are extremely proud of our recycling achievements here in Wiltshire.

Providing people with the opportunity to reduce and reuse as much waste as possible is a key aim of our business plan, and this trial event will give us insight into how we can make better use of some of the goods taken to our HRCs.

"We want to open our residents up to the idea of reusing as much as possible and carry on the work that Sustainable

Devizes have previously started. We are also really interested to see how this trial works and will continue to work with our partners at FCC Environment to create more reuse and recycling opportunities for our residents.

"We hope that many residents will enjoy browsing the items"

Gemma Green, Reuse Development Manager, FCC Environment added:

"Every day at the Recycling Centres, we receive amazing items that have lots of life left in them. We understand that it's easy to bring everything to us in one go for recycling or disposal, but we wanted to provide residents with an alternative, so we are trialling a pop-up reuse shop to see what people think of the concept. We have been putting great items from furniture and kitchen staples, bikes and golf clubs to books and board games to one side for some time and these will be available for sale to residents who can put them to good use. Profits from this event will help to fund future reuse events in Wiltshire."

Sam Drury Shore, Zero Waste Coordinator, Sustainable Devizes concluded: "Our linear Take-Make-Waste economy is a key driver of the climate crisis. It's easy to forget when you throw something away, there really is no such place as 'away'. We're delighted to see more circular solutions being trialled in Devizes. Sustainable Devizes are also planning some repair demonstrations alongside the pop-up, to showcase just how easy and fun it can be to flex your creativity and extend the life of well-loved items, rather than buying new. On a more personal note, I am very excited by the possibility of snapping up some cool mid-century furniture!"

# Purton Tennis Club



Last month Nicola Gardner reported on the very successful season for our juniors, and included some lovely photographs taken at the end of season tournament. We have more exciting news – two of our juniors who are coached by Sid Falconer, did extremely well in the under 10s country championship and pictured below is Sophia, who is now the County Champion! Well done, Sophia!



In other news; we will hold our AGM on 9th November. This year it will be held at the Royal George in Pavenhill at 7 p.m. (with thanks to Sonja & Kazik). All members are encouraged to attend, as are guests who are thinking of joining the Tennis Club as we are always looking for new

faces with new ideas to join our committee.

Winter matches have just started – at the time of writing, only one match has been played so far, but, talking of winter, we will be holding our Christmas Tournament on Sunday 11th December starting at 10 a.m. There will be mulled wine, mince pies and some fun tennis. Fingers crossed that it will be a bright and crisp sunny morning!

Should you be interested in joining the Tennis Club, or just hiring a court to play with

friends, please visit the website or contact me at the address below.

*Janet Saunders (secretary)*  
*janetcsaunders@gmail.com*

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# Purton Football Club

Unfortunately I missed the deadline for the last magazine due to my holiday and now, on my return, we get the sad news of the passing of John Matthews, who was of great assistance to the football club, taking on the important role of pitch marking and telling me when various other tasks were required on the pitch to maintain a good playing surface. Well, after all he had 42 years

on the Swindon Borough Council maintaining playing surfaces, so when John spoke, you listened.



You will be missed, John, by PFC and many public houses locally so we could be looking at multiple wakes! Who knows!

On the playing side the ladies' team is out performing the men's sides on

the pitch, but it is refreshing to see so many young lads playing out on Red House pitch representing the village, although the step up to senior football is challenging and will take time to come to fruition. However, the attendance at training etc. is very encouraging, so they want to learn from the senior players, which is good for the future.

Our sporting dinner night at the Purton

Club with Bruce Grobbelaar was a great success and thanks to Matt and Lou for their assistance to make the night go well and to Helmut Lenz for penning a brief summary of the night in last month's magazine in my absence. Watch this space for the next one, hopefully in early Spring 2023.

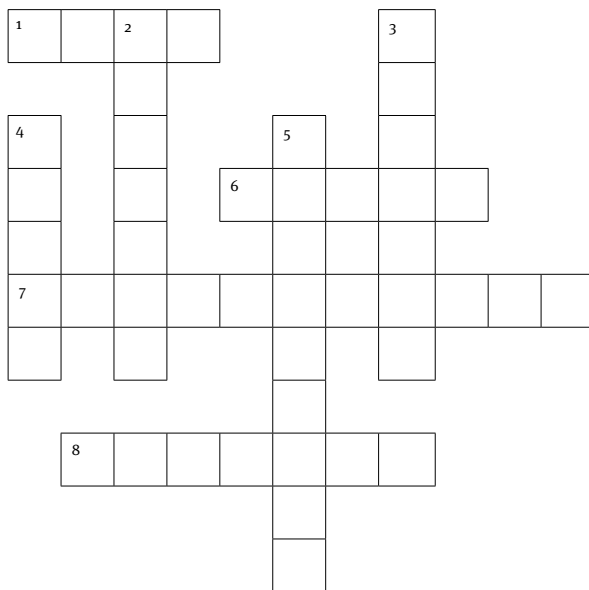
*Terry Crumbie, Chairman and Treasurer of Purton FC*

## 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 October's puzzle are 1D) Batter 2D) Over 3A) Ball 4D) Bowler 5A) Cover 6A) Stumps 7D) Spin 8A) Boundary 9D) Duck 10A) Catch

This month there are eight clues.

- 1 across Aim (4)
- 6 across Concluding (5)
- 7 across Rivalry (11)
- 8 across Make the cut (7)
- 2 down Sung before international sporting events (7)
- 3 down Punishment (7)
- 4 down Golf shot or sale talk (5)
- 5 down Iconic route and England's football World Cup year (5, 3)



This is the next crossword created by Neil and Rob Miles to challenge villagers. Answers for this quiz will be in the December 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](http://www.purtonmagazine.co.uk)



# The Maharajah

As many of you will by now know I have sadly had to close the Maharajah after almost 30 years trading in such a wonderful place that Purton is. This closure is a result of a series of perfect storms; Brexit, COVID 19 Lockdown and now the energy cost escalation due to the conflict in Ukraine. After Brexit I continued to trade as a restaurant despite staffing challenges. COVID 19 and Lockdown drove the contraction of the business to a “Take-away” business model, I really did miss the reduced interaction with you all as you ordered food and drinks. Now the final straw was and is the high and ongoing rising cost of energy and food. The business was not sustainable any longer.

I would like to thank the customers over nearly 30 years for patronising the Maharajah. I have loved every minute. Many of you have become close friends and I was cheered by your comments expressing sadness and disappointment at the demise of the restaurant whilst still commending the food.

I have and will continue to miss the Christian Aid curry evenings and the “Tea Parties” held in aid of Purton Age Concern and the Orphanage in Udaipur India. Truly generous amounts of money have been raised over the years using the restaurant building as the venue for these events, largely orchestrated by others, I enjoyed giving my full support at these events.

Purtonians are amazing people and you have extended your friendship to me and my family over the years. I live in the village and plan to continue to do so. My children went to school here, so in many ways I see myself as an “apprentice” Purtonian and seek to move beyond that as time marches on.

We don’t know what the future will bring but I hope that you will realise your dreams and I thank you all once again for being my friend. Best wishes, Khalique.

*Abdul Khalique Ali*

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## Pips Community Café

Pips is a not-for-profit organisation. However, trade has improved so much since we moved to the Silver Threads Hall that we have made some money, so decided to give it away to good causes. Everyone who has helped Pips in the past year was invited to nominate a good cause and we had a vote with the money being divided in ratio of the votes cast. We are proud to announce that the following organisations have benefitted from the share out of £8,000 (in no particular order!):



- Prospect Hospice
- St Mary's Church, Purton
- Prostate Cancer Research
- Guide Dogs for the Blind Association
- Parkinson's UK
- Purton War Memorial
- Millennium Garden Project
- Wiltshire Air Ambulance
- Ainsley's Pavilion fund at Purton Cricket Club
- Purton Community Fridge
- St Mary's Primary School
- Bradon Forest School
- Jubilee Gardens Project
- Cancer Research UK

This share out of profits will be an annual event from now. We would like to thank all our customers and volunteers for making these donations possible.

### ***Lou's Hot Lunches***

Hello everyone. Here's what's on the menu at Lou's Hot Lunches throughout November.

- November 1st – Cottage pie, French beans, carrots, cauliflower cheese & gravy. Sticky toffee pudding & custard.
- November 8th – Lasagne, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower cheese & garlic bread. Apple sponge & custard.
- November 15th – Steak Pie, mash, cabbage, carrots & cauliflower cheese. Rhubarb & ginger crumble & custard.
- November 22nd – Chicken casserole, roast potatoes, French beans, red cabbage & carrots. Chocolate sponge & custard.
- November 29th – Sausages, mash, cabbage, carrots & cauliflower cheese. Apple pie & custard.

The last Lou's Hot Lunch of the year at Pips Community Cafe will be on Tuesday 20th December at 12.30 p.m. and it will be a special three course traditional turkey Christmas dinner hot lunch with tea, coffee, mince pies and a cracker. Vegetarian option available.

The price will be £15 in total per person, children will be half price. There will also be a complimentary glass of mulled wine on arrival... This will be a pre-booked and you will need to pay in advance; there will be no walk-ins on the day. There will be approximately 50 seats

available and bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Alcohol may be brought in by diners to enjoy with their meals. Unfortunately there will be NO Pips Café menu available on this day. Everyone welcome! Any enquiries please contact Louise on 07495 008484

### ***Starter***

Home made broccoli & stilton soup OR Homemade vegetable soup.

### ***Main Course***

Turkey, stuffing, roast potatoes, pigs in blankets, carrots, red cabbage, sprouts, cauliflower cheese, roast parsnips, cranberry sauce, bread sauce, gravy & a festive Christmas cracker!

### ***Dessert***

Christmas pudding with custard or cream

Sticky toffee pudding with cream.

Tea and coffee with mince pies.

Please book and pay at Pips Café. Age Concern vouchers will be accepted. The mini bus will be available and bookings for that are made through Hazel as normal on 01793 770862.

STOP PRESS! As this magazine went to print, we sold all the places for the Christmas meal! but will return next year with more spaces.

*Louise, Pips Community cafe volunteer*

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## **PADS News**

Tickets for this year's pantomime, Merlin, go on sale from 1 November. The ticket price has been kept at the pre-pandemic price of £8, with all concessions £6.

There will be the usual four performances of the pantomime, at Purton Village Hall, on the following dates:

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

You can purchase tickets in Purton from one of three venues – Shear Success, Flawless

Floors, or you can pick them up from Pips @ Silver Threads, Tuesday to Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Alternatively, you can email [padstickets@gmail.com](mailto:padstickets@gmail.com) or contact us via the Purton Amateur Dramatic Society Facebook page.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of our performances.

*Kate Bath, PADS Chair*



# November Nature Correspondent

## *Raptor Watch*

A large, bare field at the foot of the Downs seems bereft of life, but as a Buzzard lazily cruises overhead a mixed flock of birds gets up—a dozen Lapwings with their distinctive floppy flight and a larger group of slightly smaller birds with sickle-shaped wings flying in formation and calling with soft whistles, Golden Plover, winter visitors from Northern Europe and Britain.



It's mid-afternoon on a cold November day with light beginning to fade after three o'clock. It is then on a favoured spot in the Salisbury Plain Training area that dedicated birders and photographers gather, waiting for the arrival of

special birds of prey in an area of unimproved grassland dotted with small bushes, and I've joined them.

First to appear is a Short-Eared Owl, cruising back and forth low over the ground in search of field voles and then another, emerging from a fold in the downs. When there is a “plague of voles” the Owls, which are scarce but regular winter visitors to Wiltshire, will suddenly appear in numbers and then just as suddenly disperse. It's a glamorous bird, the short ears just about visible when it perches on a bush, the plumage a subtle mix of browns, oranges and pale ochres. The photographers are clicking away...

A Kestrel hovers and a Red Kite sails past, but the birders are looking for something much more exciting: as the light begins to go there it is, a beautiful male Hen Harrier, gliding past slowly, close to the ground on long, grey V-shaped wings. Some of our wintering individuals may originate from Fenno-Scandinavia and the Netherlands, but a number of ringed birds have come from Wales and Scotland. The term “harrier” refers to its former habit of preying on free-ranging fowl, its winter diet mainly consisting of short-tailed voles, meadow pipits and

skylarks. A small falcon is perched upright on a post, before taking off and zig-zagging in the air pursuing a lone skylark. It's a female Merlin hoping its prey will tire and give up the ghost, but it doesn't, and the Merlin goes hungry.

Some will have got that special shot of the Owl as it turned in the air, and it is good that the shooting is with a camera, not with a gun. I make my way home in the dark, happy to have experienced a raptor watch, but there is another surprise awaiting me. Along the West Kennet Avenue a bird rises up from a fence-post: a beautiful Barn Owl, caught in the car lights, vanishing on silent wings to hunt for mice.

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

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

We had a fantastic turn out at our recent show. Despite the challenges we have had along the way, coupled with the very dry weather, it was lovely to see a broad spectrum of entries.

Again we were delighted to see our regular competitors, and welcome so many new exhibitors, including a few of our Ukrainian residents who have recently arrived in Purton.

On behalf of the committee, we would like to thank our judges, on the day helpers, and everyone else who publicised or sponsored our annual show. Your support is greatly appreciated.

There were 210 entries this year, not many from the younger generation, but hopefully next year we will receive more.

Visitors to the show were very generous in donating to our collecting buckets and we will be giving £312.40 to the Royal British Legion.

The Results for this year's Show are as follows:

### **Cup Winners**

- Most points in the Vegetable Section – Edwin Hodge
- Most points in the Flower Section – Pete Griffin



- Most points in the Arts and Craft Section – Moira White
- Most points in the Industrial Section – Jill Herbert
- Most points in the Floral Art – Anthony Beechey
- Most Points in the Photography Section – Elizabeth Rushen
- Best Flower in Show – Pete Griffin
- Best Industrial in Show – Jill Herbert
- Best Vegetable in Show – F J Strange
- Best Photograph in Show – Alan Woodward
- Most points in all classes – Edwin Hodge
- Banksian Medal – Edwin Hodge
- 1st Place in Children’s Classes
- A Nature Collage – Adam Soady
- 3 Krispie Cakes – Yana Yushchenko
- A Hanging Decoration – Matthew Soady
- Make 3 Chocolate Brownies – Maksym Yushchenko
- Flower Arrangement in a Jam Jar – Maksym Yushchenko



This will be my last article I write on behalf of Purton Flower Arts Craft & Produce Show. After four shows, I have decided to relinquish my role as show secretary, and will also be leaving the committee.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with everyone, and have learnt a lot along the way, and made many new friends. I am very grateful for the support given to me which resulted in several successful shows. However, it is now time for me to concentrate on other things. Maybe I will develop my skills in growing vegetables in drain pipes! Therefore the committee would like to hear from anyone interested in getting involved with the show, either as secretary or new committee member.

Please contact Pat Hughes (email: [patricia.j.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:patricia.j.hughes@btinternet.com) or Tel:772382) or speak to any other committee member: Graham Price, Lindsey Hall, Mike Lawrence or David Herbert.

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



## What can we learn here from Queen Elizabeth?

For over a week the world poured out its praise, honour and thanks for a universally agreed special person. A quarter of a million people queued for up to eighteen hours just to pass by her coffin – some crossing continents to do so. And for every one there – hundreds of thousands of others expressed the same sentiments elsewhere in their own way. In Purton a good number signed the book of condolence put out in church – many using the place and occasion to give quiet reflection and prayer.

The qualities of the one known across the globe as The Queen have been lucidly documented in that book, in thousands of others, and in days of media coverage. What was it that contributed towards making this person who she was? In hours of live coverage and reams of textual tribute very few have failed to talk about the Queen's Faith – a subject commented upon by people who might not have been expected to give credit in this area.

From her own lips, a recently much quoted statement, “The teachings of Christ have served as my inner light – as has the sense of purpose we can all find from coming together to worship.” Broadcast to the nation – Christmas 2020.

Many have picked up and quoted the first part of that sentence. Numerous people would echo its sentiments. But perhaps we should not too easily brush past the second part. Whether in Windsor, Balmoral, Sandringham, or wherever, the Queen has made a point

of attending Sunday worship. And she has not been alone. Other members of her family may not all enjoy the same confidence of Faith but they too have worshipped regularly.

We may ask – what has worship offered – to them and to countless others? Many would answer that it offers a chance to pray together. There seems something special about praying alongside others. Many people confess that on their own they cannot always find the words to pray. But standing with others they echo many of the sentiments expressed – and the world at present may seem seldom to have been in greater need of prayer. Public prayer for world, national and communal issues is a feature of every church service. Private prayer with a minister for personal issues is readily available.

Many people across both our nation and our village have questions about Faith. The Queen was famous for inviting the preacher for Sunday lunch and The Duke of Edinburgh was famous for quizzing them on what they had earlier said to the congregation. Worship seeks to give place to addressing the questions anyone and everyone has about matters of Faith.

Worship also gives open access to everyone to enjoy songs together. The benefits of this may for a while during recent years have been underestimated. The resurgence of choirs of different types gives credence to the value of the practice. And in church singing is open to all – to listen to – and to be drawn in to.



Of course everyone may not best wish to worship in the same way. As a village church our parish church seeks to provide a variety. In broad terms Sunday morning services alternate weekly between the more traditional (Holy Communion) and the more contemporary (Church for All). They follow a monthly cycle – details available on the Village Diary pages of this magazine. Our village Methodist Church, with whom St Mary’s is in partnership, offers a free-church style service each week – again details on the diary page.

There are few people for whom the life of Queen Elizabeth has not posed a recent challenge. We have seen the concepts of service to others, hard work, steadfastness and sense of humour

exemplified at every turn. She has been admired so much by so many for such good reasons. Our parish church has sought over the period of the nation’s reflection to provide a spiritual resource for the village community. This continues.

From time to time the Church of England has issued a ‘Back to Church Challenge’. Perhaps this is the time its sentiments might be particularly apt. At St Mary’s we continue, along with our Methodist partners, to seek to provide for some of those life-enriching elements our late Queen left with us by way of her personal example – in prayer, reflection and worship.

*The Ministry Team of St Mary’s Church*

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## Celebrating Age Wiltshire

Our programme of events for September 2022 until August 2023 is well under way and continuing to be much appreciated from residents in our community.

Seventy four people enjoyed a concert by folk music duo “Ribble” in September at the Memorial Hall, Royal Wootton Bassett. Frankie, Tom and Seb entertained an audience of forty four at Purton Village Hall in October. There was much toe tapping and even some dancing as we listened to a wide range

of music – swing, jazz and some classic favourites. Our next event is a seasonal concert by Pete and Bob on Tuesday 6Th December at Royal Wootton Bassett in the Memorial Hall. As always, the concert will include refreshments and is a free event.

*For further details contact: Pat Hughes,  
Celebrating Age Volunteer.  
Tel no. 01793 772382 or email  
patricia.j.hughes@btinternet.com*



*A book I will  
always remember  
...my interest was piqued  
from the off by the fact that  
the book focusses on the  
wartime occupations of  
two women; pilot and spy...*

*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.*

# Code Name Verity

by Elizabeth Wein

Following my review of *The Underground Railroad* in the February 2022 issue of Purton Magazine, *Code Name Verity* is another book I read at an appropriate time; during the 75th anniversary socially-distanced celebrations of VE day in 2020.

It's 1943 and a Westland Lysander\* crashes in occupied France, the interrogator is Nazi SS-Hauptsturmführer von Linden, and the prisoner is a suspected spy captured after the crash, dancing around the truth of the British war effort. I was immediately drawn into the story through the intriguing interrogation sequence that starts the book and my interest was piqued from the off by the fact that the book focuses on the wartime occupations of two women; pilot and spy – the more adventurous roles women were allowed to play. The story's two protagonists strike

up an unlikely friendship, crossing a class divide which also provides an interesting insight into our social history. Maddie ('Kittyhawk\*\*') is the working-class motorcycle enthusiast daughter of an immigrant, and a pilot in the Women's Auxiliary Airforce, but desperate to fly combat missions over occupied Europe – a role only men were allowed to carry out. Julie ('Verity') went to a Swiss Finishing School, is an Oxford graduate, her family have a castle in Scotland and she's a spy. However, their shared courageous attitudes, teamwork and a need to do their bit sheds light on the wartime tactics which enabled Britain to gain the upper hand on the Third Reich.

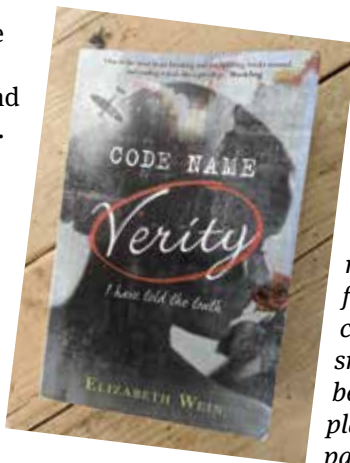
Julie's capture and subsequent interrogation at a Gestapo HQ, during which she needs to satisfy the demands of her captors – spilling just enough beans to appear plausible,

but concealing the genuine truth, also reveals her connection with Maddie and the Air Transport Auxiliary. Elizabeth Wein, herself a pilot, uses her passion for flying to emotively describe the sensations felt whilst navigating the countryside, using Roman Roads and other features of the landscape.

What is clear throughout the book is that both women have strength and defiance which enables them to play their parts in assisting the greater cause and are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice to defeat Hitler's tyranny.

Unpicking the truth from the tangled web of conspiracy that Julie creates during her captivity, along with Maddie's story of how they became friends and both came to be in France, whilst piecing together the story, makes this a gripping tale of female adventure, with plot twists to the end and espionage reminiscent of Rudyard Kipling's Kim.

*\*The Westland Lysander is a British army co-operation and liaison aircraft*



*produced by Westland Aircraft that was used immediately before and during the Second World War.*

*After becoming obsolete in the army co-operation role, the aircraft's short-field performance enabled clandestine missions using small, improvised airstrips behind enemy lines to place or recover agents, particularly in occupied France with the help of the*

*French Resistance. Source: Wikipedia*

*\*\*Kittyhawk is the call sign of any military flight when Queen Elizabeth II is on board. The call sign was used for the last time on Tuesday 13th September 2022 when the Queen's coffin was flown by an RAF C-17 Globemaster from Edinburgh to RAF Northolt, before being driven to Buckingham Palace ahead of her lying in state in Westminster Hall and her state funeral on Monday 19th September.*

*The Curtiss Kittyhawk IV was a monoplane used during WWII, providing reinforcement in the Middle East when British resources were overstretched.*

*Heather Ponting-Bather*



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# Beneath the Wool

Finally in the past month we've had a little bit of rain, which has helped some of the grass along, but it's nowhere near enough and, to be honest, the best thing that can happen now is for it to stay dry, which will help the winter along. We've still been feeding quite a bit of our hay, which isn't too much of a problem as we made quite a lot but still amazing to see the stack going back in the summer.

With the lambs weaned from the ewes, they're now on a bit of supplement feed to help them along, ready to sell in the market. Some of the big ones are showing what they eat. As always, there are a selection of greedy ones who are always first, whether it's the hay or the coarse mix.

Domino has been feeling a bit under the weather. We think she got stung by something, and her head and ears swelled up. A quick phone call to the vet, some Metacam and a few days of piriton sorted her out, but she certainly did look quite bad which was a bit worrying.

Next month it's time for Jules to go in with the ladies and it's amazing it's that time again so soon; the important parts of the year seem to come round so quickly! It doesn't feel that long since we were lambing and now we're getting sorted for next year's lambing.

*Michael Woodward,  
Rogers Farm, Purton*



# Cakes and Tales: Lydiard Tregoze: A Free Family History Event

***To be held at Hook, Greatfield and Greenhill Village Hall  
2.30 p.m. Tuesday 15 November 2022***

Last year our Cakes and Tales event was such a resounding success we thought we would make it an annual occasion. Thanks to our wonderful audience, new material in the form of photographs and documents came to light and have kept on coming! If you have family connections with Lydiard Park and the parish of Lydiard Tregoze this is a chance to share your memories and explore The Lydiard Archives with Friends of Lydiard Park Chair, Sarah Finch-Crisp, and local historian and fellow trustee, Frances Bevan.

For over fifty years The Friends of Lydiard Park have been gathering and compiling the memories and stories of people who grew up in and around Lydiard Park, creating a fascinating history of the life of the village. We will be showing more of the historic photographs we have collected and describing some of the stories behind them. This year is the 70th anniversary of the opening of Hook Village Hall in 1952; an amazing local achievement. Find out about the whist drives, dances and entertainment which were part of the fundraising effort to build the hall and help us fill in some of the gaps.

Frances Bevan will also share her discoveries in the remarkable diaries of Elliot Woolford (d.1941) of Hook Farm. Elliot provides the reader with a no-nonsense view of farming life at Lydiard Tregoze spanning more than 45 years as well as a record of social activities in the village. His livelihood was forever at the mercy of the vagaries of the weather and fluctuating market prices, but both he and his wife Amy appeared indomitable.

The Lydiard Archives are continually expanding and provide a wonderful digital resource for anyone interested in their local history, including school pupils who will be able to discover more about what life was like for children in the past. Please do bring along any photographs and historical material you would like to share and we will photograph them on the spot.

## ***To Book***

Cakes and Tales is a FREE social event though we would be very grateful for your donations on the day. The cakes are all home made by our lovely volunteers and to help with catering please book your place by emailing the Secretary, Julie Holland, at [secretary@friendsoflydiardpark.org.uk](mailto:secretary@friendsoflydiardpark.org.uk) or write to her at 30 Croft Road, Swindon, SN1 4DQ.

# We are looking for volunteers to help at **Purton Library**

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# Swindon Croquet Club

Six players recently competed for the Chairman's Plate trophy at Swindon Croquet Club. The players qualified for finals day by winning or being runner up of the three round robin groups which had been played through the season. Tournament organiser Tony Tomlin oversaw a full day's play which involved each competitor playing one game against the other five competitors. All players executed fine hoop running shots and strong clearances during some closely contested games with none of the six players remaining unbeaten.

Steve Hares and Martin Briggs both won four out of their five games, with Steve winning the competition by virtue of a higher 'hoops won' total, edging Martin into second place.

Tournament organiser Tony Tomlin said, "I was delighted with the quality of play today and the friendly spirit in which the games were played. Congratulations to Steve on winning and to all the competitors for their contribution to a super day of croquet."



Tony Tomlin (left) presents the trophy to Steve Hares



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# Purton Placard

We are holding an evening to celebrate the lives of our parents, John and Brenda Lilley at Purton Club on Saturday 3rd December from 7 p.m. until late. We will be raising money during the evening for Jubilee Gardens and the Moonlight Eclipse Project, which supports the homeless, the vulnerable and low income families. The evening will begin with bingo at 7.30 p.m. followed by live music from The Dots and Purton's own AutoBBand.

Please come and support the evening and have a good time, everyone is welcome.

Amanda and Sharon

St Mary's Church ....



**Christmas Market**  
**Sat 26 November**  
in  
**St Mary's Church**  
**11.00am – 3.00pm**

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

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**Purton WI**

On Monday 14th November Jan, from Royal Wootton Bassett Flower Club, is giving a demonstration of a Small Flower Arrangement for Christmas in The Silver Threads Hall at 10am. Jan will also be helping members with their arrangements.

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**Purton & District Age Concern**

Christmas Shopping Trip – 30th November (see notes on p26 for details)

Christmas Party – 3rd December, 5 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Christmas Eve – Carols Under the Christmas Tree, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

# Parkinson's Cafe Cricklade

Hello to everyone who has helped the Parkinson's UK Cricklade Cafe to survive and provide support and friendship to those recently diagnosed, and those further along with their Parkinson's journey.

Recent news has confirmed the sad fact that, "two people are diagnosed with Parkinson's each hour of each day, every day."

The Parkinson's UK (PUK) Cricklade Cafe meets on the third Wednesday of each month, at The Cricklade Club, High Street SN6 6AY from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and all with Parkinson's (wherever you live) and their carers are always welcome to attend if they wish. We are a friendly social group, providing support, answers and more questions. Great drinks and cakes are available to purchase. We are extremely grateful that The Cricklade Club has provided us with such a great venue and happy staff to make us feel more than welcome. At our September Cricklade Cafe, thirty six people attended, including four new visitors.

We are now regularly hosting expert visitors who come and talk to the visitors by mingling amongst us and helping further with those endless questions.

December 21st – We will once again be visited by Ashley Harris, Community Connector from Carer Support Wiltshire.

Other regular key visitors do appear unannounced and they are always welcomed too including PUK Head Office or Branch, and/or PUK committee members and volunteers from Malmesbury, Cirencester, Shrivenham and Swindon.

We look forward to seeing our visitors, both regulars or new faces at a future PUK Cricklade Cafe. No need to book; just turn up when it suits you to get there and you will receive a warm welcome.

If you do have any questions regarding the above, please contact: parkinsonscafecricklade@gmail.com or call Vincent on 07951 944760.

*We Record...*

## ***Baptisms at St Mary's Church***

2 October 2022 Penelope Sumire Ikeda

2 October 2022 Jayden Andrew Arthur Eggleton





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## St Mary's C of E Primary School Open Mornings

St Mary's will be holding open mornings for children starting in September 2023, and their parents. These will take place on Friday mornings at 10 a.m. and can be booked by calling 01793 770239.

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Mrs Naomi Clarke BEd (Hons)



# Rotary Club of Royal Wootton Bassett & District



## Carols by Candlelight

The fantastic, and popular, Youth Action Wiltshire Carols by Candlelight Service will return to Malmesbury Abbey on 9th December at 7pm. The service will include Readings from The Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire, a young carer and others, along with performances from some wonderfully talented local musicians.

All funds raised will go towards providing respite activities for young carers who access Wiltshire Young Carers Service, a service provided by Youth Action Wiltshire, the youth arm of Wiltshire charity Community First (registered charity number 288117)

To order tickets please complete a ticket order form which can be downloaded from [www.communityfirst.org.uk/yaw/fundraising/](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk/yaw/fundraising/) or email [ginniekeen@gmail.com](mailto:ginniekeen@gmail.com)



John and Valerie Hicks held a pig roast on the 14th August at their farm on behalf of Royal Wootton Bassett & District Rotary Club in order to raise funds to give to the Prospect Hospice. Interestingly, this was probably held on the hottest day of the year.

Elaine Pickford from the Prospect Hospice was invited to our Rotary Club lunch meeting on 28th September at Basset Down Golf Club, where a cheque for the sum of £1,400 was presented to her, which was gratefully accepted. This was the total sum raised by the event and includes gift aid.

In the attached picture from left to right are Valerie Hicks, Elaine Pickford from the Prospect Hospice, Linda Locke Rotary Club President and John Hicks.

*Linda Locke, President  
Rotary Club of Royal Wootton Bassett & District*

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# Sixth form raises over £100 for Macmillan Cancer Charity

Sixth Form students at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy got busy baking and raised an amazing £112 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

A group of aspiring chefs honed their baking skills to produce an array of delicious cakes and biscuits to sell during the morning break to the general school community. The students, who included Ariana Shafie, Cheuk Tse Koon and Aaron McNeill, were thrilled to raise £112 for their efforts, with all money going to Macmillan Support, a charity that provides important emotional, physical and financial support for those dealing with a cancer diagnosis.

Ariana said, “This is an annual event for us, and we baked a majority of the cakes on Wednesday ready for the coffee morning. We actually sold out, which is amazing. We had a lot of fun as well as raising money for such an important charity.”

Katharine Salmon, Head of Sixth form added, “We are very proud of our students today. We actively encourage them to get involved with the local community and charity work.” She went on to say, “They also support our wider school community, enhancing the learning and development of our younger students through Student Ambassador Programmes. These are just some of the ways in which our Sixth Form students develop into adults that we are proud to call our own.”

The Sixth Form has a long record of charity involvement and their chosen charity for this school year is ActionAid – an international charity that works with women and girls living in poverty.

For more information about how to apply to the Sixth Form please visit [www.rwba.org.uk/sixthform/](http://www.rwba.org.uk/sixthform/)





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

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# Save Safely this winter

With living costs rising all the time, everyone is looking for ways to save some money, so Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is highlighting some areas where a saving could be a false economy – and a fire risk.

The Service is asking people to #SaveSafely, and there is a wealth of information about staying safe at home and on the roads at [www.dwfire.org.uk/save-safely](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/save-safely). This includes energy saving tips, cooking safely advice, how to stay warm safely, staying safe when cutting costs, cutting the costs of driving, and signposting to financial help.

Some top tips include:

- Pulling things like electric heaters or electric blankets out of the loft, which haven't been used for years, can be risky. Watch for signs of dangerous or loose wiring, such as scorch marks, hot plugs and sockets, fuses that often blow, or circuit breakers that trip for no obvious reasons.
- If you're drying clothes indoors rather than using a tumble dryer, keep them well away from the heat source so they can't catch fire.
- Air fryers and microwave ovens are great at saving energy when cooking, but please read the manufacturer's instructions and keep them clean between uses.

- Getting chimneys swept when you have a wood burner or open fire is essential to reduce the risk of chimney fires. Also be careful of what you burn; green (unseasoned) wood may seem cheap, but it doesn't create much heat and it creates a residue that can easily catch alight within the chimney.
- Get your boiler serviced – a well maintained boiler is more efficient and reduces the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Only use the correct charger for mobile devices. Although it can be cheaper to buy non branded and unofficial chargers, fake ones are often made with poor quality components that fail to meet UK safety regulations. This means they can cause injury, electric shocks and even fires.
- Make sure you follow the manufacturer's instructions when using wheat bags – don't heat them for too long, or at too high a temperature.

The Fire and Rescue Service offers free 'Safe & Well' advice, which can include a home visit and the provision of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. To request this for yourself, a family member or a vulnerable person, please call 0800 038 2323 or visit [www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits)

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

# Church Floodlighting



- Sept 29 To **Ann and Reg**. Wishing you a very Happy 60th (Diamond) Anniversary. With lots of love Sharon, Hollie and Eri, Amie, Matt, Madolie and William.
- Nov 14 St Mary's will be floodlit in memory of **Monica Sue Kinnett**. It will have been 17 years since her passing. Love from Pete, Mandy, Paul, Jenny, Jerilyn and family
- Nov 14 Also remembered on the 14th, St Mary's will be floodlit for **John Bentley** on what would have been his 80th birthday. Special thoughts and remembering him every day, especially his humour: Alison, Sharon, Nigel, Scott and Gemma
- Nov 28 St Mary's will be floodlit for **Mary Wightman's** birthday and life. Dearly loved and sadly missed by Roderick, Mark and Ben and all the Wightman family.

*For November, the floodlighting bookings will start at 5.30pm and the lights will stay on until 10pm. 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.*

## Combat those autumn & winter blues



During the autumn and winter, AgeUK FITNESS & FRIENDSHIP CLUBS offers low impact & chair-based exercises promoting flexibility and helping to sustain mobility. We also have time to make friends, chat over a cuppa, try quizzing and activity games. Why not attend one of our clubs? The aim is to send you home feeling invigorated and refreshed. If this sounds like an appealing way to combat the autumn/

winter blues, then see where we are and come along. A warm welcome awaits! November and December Dates and details of the clubs in your area: Swindon Central Community Centre, Emlyn Square, Swindon, SN1 5BP – November 8th and 22nd & December 6th & 20th from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Royal Wootton Bassett Memorial Hall, Station Road, Royal Wootton Bassett, SN4 8EN – November 3rd & 17th &

December 1st 15th from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

For more information on all our clubs, please visit our website: [www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/wiltshire/activities-and-events/fitness-and-friendship/)

Contact: Jane, your Fitness & Friendship Project Worker on 07506 836876. Available Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 1 p.m. email: [jane.pitcher@ageukwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:jane.pitcher@ageukwiltshire.org.uk) OR Tracey Jones, Senior Fitness & Friendship Project Worker, on 07754

612569. Available Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m and Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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.

---

## Poetry Corner

### **Whisky!**

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