

# PURLEY PARISH NEWS

**JUNE 2006**



## HOLY SPIRIT

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom"

2 Corinthians 3:17

**35P**

For the Church & Community of  
**PURLEY ON THAMES**



# ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

## PURLEY ON THAMES

### **CURATE**

Rev. Jean Rothery  
Oaklea, Tidmarsh Road  
Tidmarsh  
Tel: 0118 984 3625

### **CHURCHWARDENS**

John Rothery  
Tel: 0118 984 3625

Debbie Corrigan  
Tel: 0118 967 6061

### **RECTOR**

Rev. Roger B. Howell  
The Rectory, 1 Westridge Avenue  
Purley on Thames  
Tel: 0118 941 7727  
Email: rbh@bradean.fsnet.co.uk

### **ORDAINED LOCAL MINISTER**

Rev. Andrew Mackie  
12 Church Mews  
Purley on Thames  
Tel: 0118 941 7170

### **CHURCH HALL BOOKINGS**

Lorna Herring  
Tel: 0118 942 1547

### **BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS**

All enquiries should be made to the Rector

[www.stmarythevirgin.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.stmarythevirgin.fsnet.co.uk)

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### **FROM THE CURATE**

This month will be an exciting and joyous one for us as a family and a particular privilege for me as I baptize my first grandchild, Benjamin.

When he was born, there were many people who, having followed his development via scans, wanted to see him and to marvel at his so tiny but perfectly formed body.

The birth of any baby is a wondrous event, one that gets many parents thinking about the miracle of creation. Sometimes it can mean thinking about God for the very first time, or perhaps thinking about Him afresh.

In the bible one of the psalmists wrote:

*'I praise you (God) because I am fearfully and wonderfully made'* Psalm 139v14

Most new parents will understand those words as they gaze at their baby for the first time. Not surprisingly then, Benjamin's parents wanted to take the first available opportunity to thank God for his safe arrival. They brought him to St. Mary's within two weeks of his birth and together with their church family we

all joined in a short act of *Thanksgiving*. At St. Mary's we offer this short and simple *Thanksgiving* to all parents who would like to thank God for their child, whether or not they are considering baptism in the future. Any of the ministers would be pleased to hear from you as soon after your baby's birth as you wish.

All parents want the very best for their children and for Christian parents, this will often include Baptism. But what is Baptism? It is a visible sign of something that is difficult to put into words. So we use signs to indicate important truths.

Just as a kiss symbolises love and a handshake symbolises friendship, so we use water to symbolise that although we are all fearfully and wonderfully made, none of us is perfect. Water is used as a sign of being cleansed from our wrongdoings.

Similarly the cross signed on the forehead symbolises that Jesus died for us.

A lighted candle is given, reminding us that Jesus is the 'Light of the World' and just as light helps us to see where we are going, so following Jesus' keeps us on the right path through life.

So Baptism is about the three B's:

**Beginning** a new life following the way of Jesus.

**Believing** that we belong to Jesus and in all He did for us.

**Belonging** to Jesus' family, not only in Purley, but in the world wide church.

Those being baptized are asked to make promises that they will reject the wrong way of living and follow God's way. Babies and little children who cannot answer for themselves have parents and godparents to answer those questions for them.

But Baptism is only a beginning. It is rather like putting a child's name down for a particular school because of what it offers educationally. That of course is only the beginning, because it requires the child to actually attend the school in order to receive all the possible benefits and for the child to realize his or her potential.

Similarly with Baptism, if the child is not encouraged to learn more about God, then not all the benefits and promises of God will come to fruition. The child is metaphorically being left at the school gates.

If the child is to get to know more about God it will mean learning through, saying prayers, reading about the stories of Jesus and worshipping with their Christian family at their local church. These things all prepare them for making their Baptism promises for themselves at a later date when they have a greater understanding.

As a Christian family at St Mary's church we want this for Benjamin and will be helping him in any way we can to come to know Jesus as he grows up, but we also want it for you and your children.

Our 9.30am Family Worship service is designed to help all children and adults to start or continue their Christian Journey.

We warmly welcome you to come and join us.

*Jean*

## CHURCH SERVICES

4 June Pentecost	10.30am 6.00pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion
11 June Trinity Sunday	9.30am 11.15am	Family Worship Holy Communion
18 June	11.00am 6.00pm	Worship in the Willows (Pangbourne Meadow) Evening Worship
25 June	9.30am 11.15am	Family Worship Holy Communion

## SPECIAL SERVICE

All are invited on Tuesday 7 June at 7.30pm to St. Mary's Church, Mortimer (near Rail Station).

This is the occasion of the Archdeacon of Berkshire's Visitation and Admission of Churchwardens to Office for the coming year. There will be a service of Holy Communion and the Archdeacon will preach. Refreshments will be served afterwards. If you would like to come, either sign the list in Purley's church, or contact the Rector (941 7727).

## SUNDAY 18 JUNE

As advertised elsewhere in this issue, on 18 June at 11am there will be a joint service at the Meadow, Pangbourne. The speaker will be Steve Prince, Chaplain to Reading Football Club. All are welcome! So that we can support this service, there are no morning services at St. Mary's on this Sunday, but the evening service will be on as usual at 6pm.

**[WWW.CHRISTIANITY.ORG.UK](http://WWW.CHRISTIANITY.ORG.UK)**

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## FUNERALS

27 Apr	Charles Bloom aged 78 years
5 May	Allen Saunders aged 84 years (cremation)
11 May	John Grimshaw Hammond aged 80 years (burial at Henley Road Cemetery)

## WEDDINGS

6 May	Jonathan Paul Herring and Samantha Louise Wainwright
13 May	Christopher Patrick Murray-Robertson and Eloise Vanessa Jones
20 May	Thomas James Keegan and Carmen Paula Ruth Higgs

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## TOUR OF PANGBOURNE CHURCH

On 10 June at 10am, St James the Less in Pangbourne are holding a tour of the church at the request of the village Heritage Group. All are welcome.

## DA VINCI CODE

You have **read the book**, you can now **see the film**,  
but what's the **real story**?

We invite you to come to the church at 8pm over the next few Monday evenings and watch a 20 minute video on the following issues – arising from the contents of the book:

5 June Has the Bible been corrupted?

12 June Was Jesus just a man?

19 June The Marys Jesus loved

We had the first one on 22 May: How did we get the Bible?

Come and ask your questions. We may not have all the answers, but we would like to hear the questions!

## DID YOU KNOW THIS?

The cold facts of poverty in Britain today are:

- 11.4 million live in poverty including 3.4 children.
- One in five people over 65 spend more than 12 hours on their own every day resulting in isolation, depression and ill-health.
- It is estimated that there are between 310,000 and 380,000 single homeless people

Find out more: [www.challengingpoverty.org](http://www.challengingpoverty.org)

## ST. MARY'S CHURCHYARD

You may remember that last summer we had a series of break-in incidents at St. Mary's Church. The strimmer was stolen and two weeks later the mower was also taken. Everyone wants the churchyard to look neat and tidy, and there is nothing worse than to see the place overgrown and looking uncared for. But we do need some help with this please. If anyone who lives near to the church is able to store the following items for us so that those on the cutting rota can have access to the machinery, would they please contact me at the Rectory. We need space for a strimmer, 1 small mower and 1 medium-sized mower.

*Roger Howell*  
941 7727

## WALK WITH THE COMMUNITY

Friday 23 June, starting at 7pm from Pangbourne Recreation Ground Car Park. Two walks suitable for all – one gentle, one more challenging. End with an optional drink in Pangbourne. Ring Nicki Woodward 984 2112 for more details. (Part of Summer Social Challenge)

## **HOLIDAY APARTMENTS IN NORTH DEVON**

We have two new purpose-built beachside holiday apartments to rent in North Devon. The apartments are within yards of the long sandy, surfing beach at Westward Ho!, near the market town of Bideford. They are on the ground floor with a decked area at the front, and have magnificent sea views. Each apartment has one bedroom with a double bed, and a sofa bed in the lounge. They are fully equipped, with a washing machine, dishwasher, microwave and freezer. They each have an allocated parking space in a secure car park. This is an ideal location, not only for access to the beach and coastal walks, but also to visit all the attractions in central and North Devon. The Royal Devon golf course is nearby. Some dates still available this summer.

For more details please call 942 0663 or 941 4889

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## **PROJECT PURLEY**

### **THE BURIAL GROUNDS OF LONDON**

By one of those happy coincidences which often seem to involve Project Purley, the guest speaker at the meeting on Friday, 21 April was Leslie Grout. Besides being a former *Mastermind* Champion, Mr Grout is also a Blue Badge Guide at Windsor and his talk to society members came on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday, which she celebrated with a walkabout in the Royal Borough where Mr Grout lives.

In a brief introduction to his topic, Mr Grout explained that originally all burials took place in churchyards in the area where the deceased had lived. By the 1830s however space had become so limited that bodies were being piled on top of one another and the smell emanating from some graves had become so nauseous that visitors were forced to hold their noses as they made their way to church.

So the whole business of burials and burial grounds had to be undertaken by private companies and burial land found on the outskirts of London. Even then, there was still no facility in these locations for the burial of Jews or non-conformists, as they could not be interred in consecrated ground. In many of these large public cemeteries gravestones have had to be repaired and moved as a result of bomb damage during World War II.

It is impossible in a written narrative to do justice to the excellent illustrations our speaker had provided of so many gravestones and mausoleums. It is more appropriate therefore to detail the burial grounds he described and reflect on some of the better known people who lie at rest therein.

Kensal Green, described by Mr Grout as "one of the magnificent seven" of London's burial grounds, holds the remains of the Duke of Sussex, one of Queen Victoria's sons. Princess Sophia was also buried there, and with two members of Royalty already in their graves, commoners were literally queuing up to have their names put down for a burial plot there. Also buried at Kensal Green are

Blondin the tightrope walker; Dr James Barry who had pretended to be a man, but was found by undertakers to be a woman; the Brunel family; literary figures such as Anthony Trollope and W. M. Thackeray; W. H. Smith, the founder of the bookshop empire who was a role model for the character of Sir Joseph Porter K.C.B. in Gilbert & Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore" and sadly, Marigold, the three year old daughter of Winston and Clementine Churchill. Jane Francesca, the mother of Oscar Wilde, is also buried at Kensal Green, but had no monument erected to record the fact until one hundred years after her death. The Catholic cemetery of Saint Mary's is next door to Kensal Green, and contains the last resting place of the entertainer Gilbert Harding and the conductor, Sir John Barbirolli.

Nunhead, the sister cemetery of Highgate, is where graves are sold in perpetuity. It was originally administered by the London Cemetery Company, but once they had withdrawn, nature took over and graves became overgrown. It does contain a grave marking the Leysdown tragedy of 1912 when eight Boy Scouts, including an ancestor of the current England footballer, David Beckham, were drowned in a sailing accident.

Other burial grounds referred to by Mr Grout, and some of the people who lie there, were Abney Park Cemetery (last resting place of William and Catherine Booth founders of the Salvation Army and whose headstone is, of course, engraved "Promoted to Glory"); Saint Marylebone and East Finchley; The City of London Cemetery (which contains the remains of the actress Anna Neagle and the monument to David Vigland R.N. whose memorial is covered in winter to prevent it from becoming stained and grubby); Richmond; Hampstead (where the musician Dennis Brain was buried in 1957 after a car accident and where the funeral of music hall star Marie Lloyd attracted a crowd of 20,000); Tower Hamlets and the Great Northern Cemetery.

The Jewish community had their own burial grounds, the most upmarket of these being at Willesden where Lord and Lady Rothschild are interred. The Jewish faith dictates that only one person may be buried in a grave, that burial should take place within twenty-four hours of death and that any tatty hymn books should not be destroyed but buried in the coffin of a well known Jew. This happened at the funeral of the singer Frankie Vaughan. Golders Green Cemetery contains the remains of Lord Hore-Belisha, Jaqueline du Pre and Rufus Isaacs, Marquis of Reading. It was one of the first cemeteries to adopt the practice of horizontal

You are invited to.....



## Teddy Bear's Picnic

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July  
from 4-6 p.m.  
in Bucknell's Meadow**

bring a Picnic      bring your Teddy  
Have FUN  
All welcome

gravestones. Golders Green Crematorium has memorial tablets to many well known entertainers including Bud Flanagan, Hughie Green, Ivor Novello, Norman Vaughan and Bernie Winters, as well as Sigmund Freud and Bram Stoker, the creator of Dracula.

Mr Grout was moving towards the end of his tour of burial grounds now and mentioned people from such heroic backgrounds as Rex Warneford, awarded the Victoria Cross for shooting down a Zeppelin in World War I and Emmeline Pankhurst, who led the campaign for votes for women. They are both buried in Brompton Cemetery, while Putney Vale holds the remains of the Egyptologist, Howard Carter and Desert Island Discs' Roy Plomley. The South Metropolitan has a number of elaborate and expensive coffins resting in underground catacombs, whilst Norwood has a cemetery within a cemetery for the Greek community.

But the final reference was to perhaps the best known of all the London burial grounds, Highgate Cemetery. When the London Cemetery Company abandoned it, it was maintained by Friends of Highgate. It contains the graves of Tom Sayers, a prize-fighter whose chief mourner was his faithful dog, the television chef Philip Harben, actor Sir Ralph Richardson, who had often appeared in horror films set in graveyards and probably the most visited of all graves in London, that of the founder of modern communist thought, Karl Marx.

Leslie Grout received warm applause at the end of his hour long talk. It was well deserved, as he is a fluent, humorous speaker who does not need notes and he had brought an apparently sombre topic to life in a most entertaining manner.

*David Downs*

The next meeting of Project Purley will be an outing to Milestones Museum at Basingstoke on Saturday 17 June. For details please contact Lee Hall on 0118 942 9238.

## **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**



Tickets for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in The Barn at 7.30pm on Friday 9 June are now on sale.

The Rain or Shine Theatre Company is a 9-strong troupe from Gloucester that brings you this rendition of the classical comedy directed by James Reynard.

**Tickets £10**  
**(Concessions £7.50)**

Please contact David Downs on 942 4167 for details.

All profits will be donated to Dogs for the Disabled.





Tue 20 June

Mon 31 July

Tue 19 September

Mon 30 October

Tue 12 December

Join Christians in Purley from many churches as we come together to give

thanks to God for our village, and to pray - for individuals, families, schools, groups, activities etc. We start at 8pm and are finished by 9pm.

Sally Robertson – 962 5978 – sally.a.robertson@ntlworld.com –

Melyn Colyton Way (on the corner next to the shop)

Chris Rayers 942 1880 – c.rayers@talk21.com – 9 Allison Gardens

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## **PURLEY ON THAMES FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME**

### **PROGRESS REPORT**

Following flooding in 1990 and 2003, we carried out a pre-feasibility study into a flood alleviation scheme for Purley-on-Thames.

In December 2003 we reported that the study had identified a viable scheme, consisting of a series of flood bunds and a temporary demountable defence, and this was developed.

The 2003 floods were estimated to be a 1 in 30-year event. The proposed defences would provide a much greater level of protection than this, up to a 1 in 100-year standard of protection. This allows for expected climate change, although the details may change as the design is refined.

However, as we explained at the time, the availability of funding to take the scheme forward to feasibility and design stage is dependent upon its priority score relative to other potential schemes across the whole of England and Wales.

This priority score is calculated using Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) guidelines. Under these guidelines, for a scheme to be considered for funding a priority score of 19 is required – unfortunately, the proposed scheme for Purley currently has a priority score of eight and is, therefore, still not eligible for funding.

The proposed scheme, which we hope to build when funding does become available, consists of a series of flood bunds, or earth embankments. These would be built in the vicinity of the Marina and the meadows to the rear of Wintringham Way, extending around Home Farm to connect in to higher ground north of Purley Lane. The flood defences along River Gardens would comprise of a permanent low retaining wall, varying in height from 100 to 800mm. On top of this wall a temporary demountable defence could be installed up to a height of 1.75m above ground level.

As Purley on Thames is built on porous ground, some of the defences would also require a cut-off wall installed below ground level to reduce the flow of groundwater under the defence. These would probably be needed along River Gardens, the marina and parts of the rear of Wintringham Way. As part of the scheme, a new drainage network, including a series of pumping stations, would be installed to reduce groundwater flooding.

We have also been looking at a number of additional works, which we hope will raise the benefit of the scheme and improve its chances of getting funding. These include further ground investigations and pump tests to provide information for the design of the drainage system and the pumping stations.

We are also in the process of developing a computerised digital model of the Thames from Goring down to Maidenhead to ensure that whatever Flood Alleviation Scheme we propose for Purley will not have a detrimental effect on other local communities.

We hope these improvements will increase the benefit-to-cost ratio of the scheme and thus its Defra priority score. But we still do not think this will increase the current score sufficiently to progress the scheme at present.

However, we will continue to work on the proposed scheme and monitor its progress against the guidelines laid out by Defra.

We have also improved our Flood Warning Service over the past year.

For more information please contact:

*Jeff Kingswood*  
01491 828662  
Flood Alleviation Scheme

*Kate Vincent*  
01491 828572  
Flood Warning Service

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Purley Pre-School invites you to a

## Quiz Night

to be held at The Barn

7.30pm on Friday 16 June

Tickets are £3.00 per person

Teams of 4-6 please - Refreshments available

For tickets & team registration

please call Caroline Drew on 961 9452



# Worship in the Willows

## **ALL CHURCHES TOGETHER PANGBOURNE AND DISTRICT**

Come along to the joint Sunday service of the local  
Pangbourne and District churches

**18 JUNE AT 11AM ON PANGBOURNE MEADOWS  
(IN PANGBOURNE VILLAGE HALL IF WET)**

World Cup special with the Chaplain of Reading Football Club

Scout Group Flags dedication

Praise and Worship

Followed by a light lunch and refreshments

**ALL WELCOME**

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## **PURLEY PRE-SCHOOL**

Summer began for Purley Pre-School in May with our Summer Fun Day which was held on 13 May. We had a bouncy castle, football competition, face painter and lots of stalls and games for the children to play on. We were also lucky enough to have a fire engine attend the event, which was great fun for the children. The raffle of a signed Reading football shirt created quite a buzz with many people buying quite a few tickets. Although it wasn't the sunniest day of the year it stayed dry and the people who came along seemed to have a very good time. We would like to thank everybody who came out to support our Fun Day, without you it couldn't have been a success.

In June we will be going to visit Bucklebury Farm Park and we are certainly hoping for better weather than we had for last year's trip! Our summer trip is always a lovely event and we hope the children will have a great time.

Our website [www.purleypreschool.co.uk](http://www.purleypreschool.co.uk) is going from strength to strength and is frequently being updated. If you haven't viewed it before it is well worth a look to see what is going on.

If you are looking for a pre-school please come and visit us! We always welcome visits and you don't need to make an appointment. Our waiting list does get busy and we do advise parents to put their child's name down by their second birthday.

*Nicky Danbury  
(Chairperson)*

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**PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE**

## MESSAGE FROM HOME FARM

"Surely we can't, can we?" I asked on the morning that Tim told me of his plans to put both litters of piglets and mums together. The norm would be to expect a world war to break out, with the possibility of many casualties, when pigs from different families are mixed, let alone adding two possessive sows as well! But as usual, regardless of what I said, the plan went ahead and hey presto – or almost – we now have 16 piglets and 2 sows living harmoniously together in one large pen! No, this is not the moment when you say "don't take any notice of the wife!"

Rain, rain has come to stay; we should, with the current problems of lack of water, all welcome the wet stuff – gardens are being watered and the grass is growing well – but I only wish that the lawnmower wasn't out of action at the moment! Ian has spent all week changing the blades on the farm mower in readiness for silage making this next week, so it was bound to rain just as we were ready to roll. We're just never satisfied with the weather.

Tim attended a WBDC meeting last week about our glorious Thames Path, the long saga looks as if it will draw to a close with the 'path' through Purley on Thames being completed, a move that will not please all. The delaying tactics having prolonged the inevitable outcome. Tim also put in a plea for the Path through our bottom meadows to be returned to a width more in line with the historical value of two fat horses rather than the current SIX! It is great for folk

to walk, enjoying our beautiful countryside, particularly beside *Goode Olde Father Thames*, but we do wish that they would walk beside the river and not through our hay crop.

Hay needs warm and dry which equals *Summer*, and I should imagine that like us, many homes in the village are tied up with the trials and tribulations of exams. They seem to come around so quickly – yet another trying time. Have fun!

Vicky Metcalfe

*Let's go fly a kite!!*



*Sunday 20th August*

*4.30 - 6.30 p.m.*

*In Bucknell's Meadow*

**Bring a picnic  
Bring a kite  
or make one there**

*Everyone welcome*

Additional information from Pam Slingsby tel: 961 5585

### LUNCHTIME CONTROLLERS REQUIRED

Long Lane Primary School currently has vacancies for lunchtime controllers. If you are interested in this post, please contact the school for further details.

The school's office number is 942 7187

# **PURLEY INFANT SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE AND AUCTION**

## **SATURDAY 15 JULY – GATES OPEN 12.00**

Auction items include

*An Escorted Family trip to Binfield Heath Polo Club to watch a match  
with the opportunity to meet the Players and Horses*

*A Day at Newbury Races            Car Valet from Sonning Common Garage*

*A Signed Football from the newly promoted Reading Football Club*

Others Attractions include

Bar and Barbecue            Cake Sale            Refreshments  
Tombolas            Lucky Dips            Coconut Shy            Raffle

Entrance £1 per adult (lucky ticket prize) accompanied children free

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## **THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP**

Is there anyone who would like to meet new friends, and spend a pleasant afternoon in friendly company? The Hand of Friendship is a group that meets every Tuesday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm in St. Mary's Church Hall. We welcome new members, of any age, for a chat, tea and cakes; we have a small raffle. We look forward to seeing you soon.

*Babs Waring 942 8844  
Gladys Morris 942 3610*

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## **A WALK IN THE RAIN?**

Recently I walked to Pangbourne. It had rained overnight and more rain was forecast so I carried an umbrella. It was fortunate I did or I could have been swamped by uncaring motorists. Why? Because a stretch of the road and footpath near Purley Hall was flooded. Protecting myself as best I could with my opened umbrella I paddled along several yards of footpath whilst the drivers of a queue of vehicles did their best to soak me.

Flooding here is no unusual occurrence yet nothing seems to be done to prevent it. Even the *flood* signs are left in position, presumably to await the next shower. As we have the Chairman of the Highway Authority and another verbally active member both resident in the parish, may we expect some curative action now that I have drawn their attention to the problem, of which I assume they were previously ignorant.

*George Critchell*

# PURLEY PLAYERS

Present their summer show

## THAT'S LIFE!

**ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 14 & 15 JULY 2006**

**THE BARN, GOSECROFT LANE, PURLEY ON THAMES**

Tickets, which include a bowl of strawberries and cream and a glass of wine  
£8.50 with concessions at £7

Come along with your friends and enjoy an evening of  
sketches and songs of situations we all recognise

Tickets from Jean Chudleigh (984 2563) or Anne Bolland on (941 3259)

Lucky programme wins a bottle of Champagne

Proceeds in aid of Daisy's Dream  
a service supporting bereaved children in Berkshire and the surrounding area

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## PURLEY ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

David Betts stood down as Chairman of the Parish Council at the Annual Meeting and was replaced by Rick Jones with Rick Farrow as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. The Council also agreed the membership of the standing committees and working parties and appointed representatives to outside bodies and other organisations. The following committee Chairmen were also agreed:



Barn Management	Alex Stott
Highways and Footpaths	Tim Whitaker
Recreation	Sally Robertson

Rick Jones has written an introduction to his Chairmanship on our website ([www.purleyonthames.net](http://www.purleyonthames.net)) and I would draw your attention to this and other available information to be found there. Which reminds me, the Community Council for Berkshire are again offering to host web pages for local community organisations – details can be found at [www.ba4all.org.uk](http://www.ba4all.org.uk).

Provisional dates set for Council meetings are 3 August, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December 2006, 25 January, 22 February, 29 March, 26 April, and 17 May (Annual) 2007 and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Future agenda items may include completion of the Thames Path, and associated issues, Denefield Campus proposal, and a possible increase in size of the Parish Council. Please check on the notice boards or website for agenda information in the week before each meeting date.

Scheduled committee dates are as follows:

Barn Management	6 July, 12 October 2006, 8 February 2007
Highways & Footpaths	20 July, 16 November 2006, 15 March 2007
Recreation	13 July, 9 November 2006, 1 March 2007

I have also been asked to remind you of the dates for the popular visit of the Farmers Market to the Barn for the remainder of the year and these are:

10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October,  
11 November and 9 December

Many older local people have already taken advantage of the free bus pass offer from West Berkshire Council but if you are still intending to utilise travel tokens we have agreed to issue them from the Parish Office on the following dates:

Tuesday 4 July (10am-2pm), Wednesday 5 July (noon-4pm)  
and Thursday 6 July (10am-4pm)

After that date you will still be able to collect from Pangbourne Library during their normal opening hours or from a number of alternative locations. Further information can be obtained from the Concessionary Fares Team on 01635 519800 or by e-mail [transport@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:transport@westberks.gov.uk). They have asked me to advise you that the new travel tokens will be changing colour to green and that the existing lilac tokens will need to be used before 31 July this year.

West Berkshire Council has provided us with some leaflets regarding anti-social behaviour from motorised scooters and motorbikes. These clearly set out the law and the remedies available. If anyone is still having problems locally please collect a leaflet from the office. Leaflets on Summer Driving, provided by the Highways Agency, are also available.

*Brian J. Smith*  
*Clerk to Purley on Thames Parish Council*

The office, located near the tennis courts, opens:

Mondays (not BH): 5.45pm to 8.30pm  
Including an opportunity to meet  
Councillors between 6pm & 7pm  
Thursdays: 9.00am to 3.15pm

Barn Manager: Jean Chudleigh 07917 453187

Purley on Thames Parish Council  
Parish Office  
Goosecroft Lane  
off Beech Road  
Purley on Thames  
Reading  
RG8 8DR  
Tel/fax: 0118 984 4507  
E-mail: [clerk@purleypc.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:clerk@purleypc.wanadoo.co.uk)

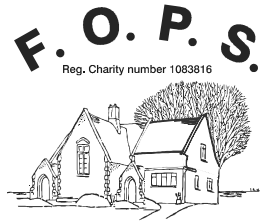
**[www.purleyonthames.net](http://www.purleyonthames.net)**

Readers interested in the current status of the Thames Path routing may wish to review the following document on the council website:

[http://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/pdf/k/m/Individual\\_Decisions\\_2006-05-25.pdf](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/media/pdf/k/m/Individual_Decisions_2006-05-25.pdf)

*Editor*

Firstly I would like to thank all of you who have taken the time and trouble to donate your old Yellow Pages for the Recycling Project/Competition we have been involved in at Purley Infant School. Particular thanks to the Village Stores for acting as a Drop Off point. You may have seen in the local press that we won first prize in West Berkshire – no mean feat for our little village school, and a real testament to the support of the local community. THANK YOU!!!



On behalf of the children, parents and teachers of Purley Infant School, I would also like to thank Purley Sports and Social Club who identified us as one of their nominated charities last year, and as a result made a cash donation to the School of £2500! This is very much appreciated, and we know that we will see real benefits to our children as a result.

Friends of Purley School P.T.A. have several events planned for the coming months, with which we would welcome any help and support as usual!!

You will, I hope, have noticed that the building work at the school is finally complete, and we are so pleased to be able to use our new Hall and classroom. Indeed the new Hall was formally opened and blessed by the Bishop in April. You may also have noticed however, that the grounds and gardens remain in need of some tender, loving care! We are hoping to provide this TLC over the summer, and are looking for volunteers to help us! If you have an interest in gardening and perhaps some time on your hands, we would love to hear from you. We would welcome as much or as little time as you can spare. Please contact the School on 0118 984 2384 if you can help.

As you will see for the notice with this edition of the Parish News, we are also planning our Summer Fayre and this year we will be back on the School site! We are planning to have an 'Auction of Promises' as well as the traditional raffle, so we are asking for any donations of goods, services or promises! Do you or any of your friends and family have a particular skill/service you could donate? Anything from a promise to do a week's ironing, cook a three-course meal for four, to a week in the Bahamas would be very welcome!! Please do contact the School on the above number if you can help.

Also do please put the date of the Fayre in your diaries – it promises to be a lot of fun!! In the meantime, a very big Thank You again to the local community for the support they continue to show the school and F.O.P.S.

*Debbie Mackay  
Chair F.O.P.S.*

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A teacher giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood, trying to make the matter clearer, said "Now class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it and I would turn red in the face. So, why is it that while I am standing upright, the blood doesn't run into my feet?"

A little boy shouted, "'Cause your feet ain't empty."

## PURLEY W.I.

We were more than grateful to those who booked and arranged a coach so that we could visit Prince Charles's gardens at Highgrove. We were enthralled with the many small gardens which all held a theme of their own and, along with a well informed and enthusiastic guide, it was just magic.

This year's resolutions were Renewable Technology and Sport for a Healthy Population. The resolutions really gave us food for thought and, as we felt the subjects were highly controversial, we know our representative will make the correct decision at The Royal Albert Hall.

We were reminded that, if we want to keep Purley Post Office from closing, we should go along and sign Charlotte's petition.

We finished the evening with mouth watering cheese and wine (which we felt we had earned) and then raced about with renewed energy to complete a Railway Station game – all good fun.

Flower competition

1<sup>st</sup> Kath Hodge - 2<sup>nd</sup> Margaret Martin

Competition (alternative resolution)

1<sup>st</sup> Sylvia Conquest

Next month's speaker will be Anna Cannon on Herbs for Health. The competition will be a small posy of herbs and the result of the Bra competition for the Newbury Show will be announced.

The Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 14 June at 7.30pm at Purley Memorial Hall, Glebe Road, Purley on Thames. **Visitors are always welcome.**

*Sylvia Conquest*  
941 1936

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## PURLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### COACH TRIP TO LULLINGSTONE CASTLE

#### SUNDAY 2 JULY

If you have received a blue form to go on this trip and are still interested, could you please return this to Mr J. Armstrong by Sunday 4 June, as we have a waiting list for this outing.



#### TRADING

The Trading Store in the Memorial Hall car park is open every Saturday and Sunday from 10am until 11am. Membership of the Society, costing only £1.50 for a year, is tremendous value; not only can you buy items at the Store at lower prices than most other sources, but you can also make further savings on garden purchases at Collins of Pangbourne, BSB Garden Machinery, Sulham Lane for new mowers, Englefield Garden Centre, Glenville Nursery, Bradfield Southend and Newington Nurseries, Newington on the A329 road, north of Shillingford.

Please remember to show your membership card at the start of the transaction, as tills have to be set to deduct discount in some outlets. We stock peat free

compost (New Horizon and John Innes), also bird food, tables and nesting boxes. If you have not already renewed your membership for the Society, we would be grateful if you could do so as soon as possible.

## **23<sup>RD</sup> LATE SUMMER SHOW**

Schedules for the Show to be held in Purley Memorial Hall on Saturday, 9 September are now available in the Trading Store.

Happy gardening!

*Marion Dabbs*  
942 2349



# **The Long Lane Summer Fair at a New Time**

(Great way to get in the mood to watch the match)

**Saturday 24 June 2006 from 12.30 to 4pm**

Lots of stalls including: Coconut Shy, Raffle, Tombolas, Beat the



Goalie, Crazy Golf, Lollipop Football,  
Wellie Wanging, Water Football, Bouncy  
Castle, Spin the football, Hoola Hoops,  
Spot the ball, Refreshments, Plant sale,  
Bar and BBQ ...



## **STRAWBERRY TEAS IN THE GARDEN**

**SUNDAY 25 JUNE 2-5.30PM**

at

Cherry Acre, Purley Village, Purley on Thames

Strawberry Themed Food

Teas Cakes

Excellent Plant Stall

Activities for the Children

Browse Around the Garden

In aid of St Mary's church, Purley-on Thames





## PANGBOURNE & DISTRICT VOLUNTEER CENTRE

If you need help with transport, or know of anyone else who does, please contact us.

Volunteer drivers always needed! Do you have a few spare hours? Car drivers are needed to transport clients to hospitals, also for local journeys to doctors, etc. Help in the office is also required. Office opening hours: Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri 9.30am to 11.30am. Please come and join us.

Call 984 4586 or pop into The Committee Room, Pangbourne Village Hall.

## Purley Parish News

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I welcome all contributions to this magazine, particularly on local issues and events. Contributions can either be delivered in writing or by email. Please note however, I reserve the right to edit contributions to suit space availability and to maintain consistency of style (font etc). Local event adverts can be accommodated but space is limited; landscape format copy is preferred in this case as it allows a ½ page entry to be published. If specially preparing content, please set your page size to A5.

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This magazine is published on the first Saturday of each month (except August). The price of each issue is 35p with a discounted annual subscription price of £3.50 for eleven issues.

If you are new to the area and would like to subscribe to Purley Parish News, please contact either Steve Corrigan or Les Jamieson.

This edition published	Next edition copy deadline	Next edition published
3 June 2006	17 June 2006	1 July 2006

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