

# ST. MARY'S CHURCH - PURLEY ON THAMES

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## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR THE COMING MONTH

See page 4 for full details.

**RECTOR**                      Rev. Roger B. Howell,  
The Rectory,  
1 Westridge Avenue,  
Purley on Thames  
Tel: 941 7727

**CURATE**                      Rev. Brendan Bailey,  
10 Knowsley Road,  
Tilehurst  
Tel: 945 1411

**READERS**                      Jean Rothery                      Wally Watkivs  
Tel: 984 3625                      Tel: 942 6170

**CHURCHWARDENS**      Jackie Benstead                      David Jordan  
Tel: 942 9116                      Tel: 941 5994

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR & CHURCH HIRINGS**      Sally Robertson  
Tel: 962 5978

**BAPTISMS** Enquiries about baptism should be made to the Rector (941 7727)

**WEDDINGS**      Enquiries about weddings should be made to Jackie Benstead (942 9116)

**FUNERALS** Enquiries about funerals should be made to the Rector (941 7727)

Dear Friends,

## **HAVE YOU EVER VISITED YOUR PARISH CHURCH?**

The parish church of St. Mary's has been here since the twelfth century, and even then it was described as "ancient". Of course, it has not always looked as it does today. Over the years there have been several re-buildings and restoration programmes. It is not a large church, but it has an interesting history and today there are parts of the church from different periods:

- \* the Font is from around 1150 AD
- \*the Chancel Arch (now over the organ recess) is also from the twelfth century
- \*there are 14th century windows and gargoyles
- \*substantial re-building took place in 1626
- \*the tower was faced with brick about 1739
- \* the six bells dated from 1627 - 1788
- \*in 1870 it was rebuilt again

Over the years, thousands of people have visited St. Mary's and, although we have to keep the church locked nowadays, anyone is welcome to ask for the key to look around inside. Generations of Purley residents have worshipped here together, and the church is as it is today through the sacrificial work and generous Christian giving of present and

former members.

Now we need to do some major repairs and maintenance on the buildings so that we keep them in good order and pass them on to future generations. To do this work we shall have to find about £130,000. This will provide for the following works:

- \*New roof for the tower, and re-pointing of the walls
- \*Restoration of the bells (at present the only tower in the Reading Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers which cannot be rung)
- \*Re-roofing the Chancel
- \*Removing and restoring the East and West windows
- \*Re-pointing external walls
- \*Provision of a Lightning Conductor
- \*Work on the listed churchyard graves

This is a large undertaking and we need help from as many people as possible, as soon as possible. Gifts of any size will be welcomed and put to good use. We particularly need **covenanted gifts**, which enable us to reclaim tax paid to the Inland Revenue. If you are unable to give by covenant, you can provide a one-off gift through *Gift Aid* (minimum £250) which again enables us to get back any tax paid.\*\*

**There is a General Meeting for all Church members and others who are interested on Wednesday, 10th June at 8.00 p.m. at the church to hear more about what needs to be done, and to find out about our Share Scheme for contributing to this work.**

St. Mary's Church belongs to the Parish, i.e. people of Purley. We look to you to be involved with us in its preservation.

\*\* For further information on Giving by Covenant or Gift Aid, please contact either Graham Pearson on 984 3070, or the Rector on 941 7727.

## **PARISH REGISTERS**

### **Baptism**

26th April

Jessica Rhian Fox

## SUNDAY SERVICES FOR JUNE

7th June	9.30 a.m.	Family Worship
	11.15 a.m.	Morning Worship
	6.00 p.m.	Holy Communion
14th June	9.30 a.m.	Family Worship
	11.15 a.m.	Holy Communion
21st June	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.15 a.m.	Morning Worship
	6.00 p.m.	Evening Worship
28th June	9.30 a.m.	Family Worship
	11.15 a.m.	Holy Communion

## PANGBOURNE AND DISTRICT ALL CHURCHES TOGETHER

There will be a united service on Sunday, 7th June at 3.30 p.m. in Pangbourne Meadow, as part of the celebrations in Pangbourne Fete.

## EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

All church members and others who are interested are invited to this special General Meeting on **Wednesday, 10th June at 8.00 p.m.** in the church. We shall be presenting our Action plan for funding the maintenance and repair project on the buildings.

## MUSIC AT DOUAI ABBEY

The Abbey Church has been used for concerts for many years and particularly since the completion of the building in 1993. Local choirs of different sizes have sung here and professional performers have also come to take advantage of the extraordinary acoustic and unique atmosphere. On **Saturday, 20th June at 7.45 p.m.** Newbury & Pangbourne Choral Societies, conducted by Bob Barsby, will perform Durufle's *Requiem*. The concert begins at 7.30 p.m. and features soloists Catherine Sams and David Campbell, organist David Whitehead and The Prince Consort Players. Tickets are £7.50 (£5 students), available in advance from Percy Stone Ltd., Pangbourne and The Corn Exchange in Newbury.

John Talbot















## **PURLEY ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**

At the recent meeting of the Parish Council, the Chairman, Mr. Reg Marshall, commented on the proposed increase in the discharges from AWE along the pipeline through the parish into the River Thames. The amount of the discharges was to be reviewed and there are to be full consultations before the matter is finalised.

It was learnt that West Berkshire Council is to introduce a charge of £13.50 for the collection of "special" items. The Parish Council has expressed great concern at this proposal as it will almost certainly lead to more indiscriminate dumping.

The purchase of the additional land to the north of the recreation ground has been completed and contracts for the laying out and landscaping of the burial ground will be placed in due course.

The budget fixed by West Berkshire Council for replacement of street nameplates has been severely cut and will allow for only one new nameplate per parish per annum for 1998/99. The Parish Council has reminded West Berkshire that it has a legal responsibility to provide adequate street nameplates throughout the whole of its District. The Parish Council will, however, consider making a contribution in respect of specific replacements in the parish.

Mr. Dennis Stacey of Beech Road, has joined the Parish Council after an uncontested election to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. John Colton. He raised the matter of lack of adequate communication to the parishioners as a whole, of Council activities, and it was agreed to consider proposals for increasing communication by means additional to the Parish News.

R.D. Fullbrook

## **WANTED**

Part-time gardener for odd jobs at Purley Tennis Club.

Interested?

Contact: 941 8315 for further details.

# ROTARY CLUB OF PANGBOURNE

## Summer Paintings Exhibition and Sale by Local Artists

The Rotary Club of Pangbourne will be holding their first exhibition and sale of paintings by local artists on Saturday and Sunday, 13th and 14th June, starting at 10 a.m. each day. It will be held at the Pangbourne Village Hall.

There are many artists in the locality - Reading and Newbury artists' club alone have nearly 500 members. This event is a good opportunity for local artists to exhibit their paintings and for the local residents to be able to view in comfort a varied selection of local art.

Public admission to the exhibition will be £1. Catalogues and refreshments will be available. Proceeds will be in aid of Local Charities.

It is the intention of the Rotary Club to make this an annual event, the next being scheduled for June 12th and 13th 1999 at Pangbourne Village Hall. For information about this event, contact Harry Lloyd on 984 2820 or myself on 984 3721.

Cliff Meredith, Public Relations Officer

## **PURLEY TENNIS CLUB**

**Membership:** New members are always made welcome and the season is just beginning. Those interested in joining please contact Jane Perugia on 984 3932.

**Evening events:** Junior coaching takes place on Tuesday evenings and is both popular and effective; anyone wishing to join this enthusiastic group, please contact 984 3932. As a follow-up, "Champs and Tanks" takes place on Mondays at 7.00 p.m., when Junior and Adult members mix in together. Adults beware!

**Club evenings:** These take place on Thursdays, 6.30 p.m. onwards, and are an opportunity for adults to mix socially and play tennis with many different partners.

**Afternoon tennis:** Our Wednesday club afternoon, beginning at 1.30 p.m., is popular. You are guaranteed a game and it is a good introduction if you are a new member.

**Other news:** Our April Barn Dance, held at Denefield School, was a great success. This was a real family event and it was a pleasure to see so many children participating. Anne Brown

## **GRAND CHARITY AUCTION**

in aid of

MACMILLAN Cancer Relief  
and  
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL S.I.A.M. Project  
at

**The Drake Hall, Pangbourne College on Sunday, 14th June 1998 at 2.30 p.m.**

**Kate Winslet**, along with Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen, 'Miss Read' and many others, has autographed a celebrity Recipe Book to be auctioned at this event. **Tim Henman** has autographed a poster. These are just two of the excellent 'lots' to go under the hammer.

You could take to the air in a Tiger Moth or a Hot Air Balloon, go by water across the Channel or along the Thames, drive a Mondeo for the weekend, or a real Steam Train for a day. There are opportunities for holidays abroad to Spain and France, or stay at home and go along to "Glorious Goodwood", Newbury Races, attend Prime Minister's Question Time and dine in the House of Commons, tour Wembley Stadium, or bid for a ticket for "This is Your Life". If you prefer a quieter life, buy a book, have a massage, a hair-do or a facial before going out to dine locally or go to the theatre. These, and many more promises, feature in our catalogue, free with a ticket (£3) from Brenda Jenkins (942 9665), or £4 on the day.

There will be something for everybody. Come at 2.30 p.m. to view items (prints, antiques etc.) on show, and support these worthy causes.

Members of the Reading Committee of Macmillan Cancer Relief thank the local Soroptimist International Clubs for organising this event.

## **PURLEY MEMORIAL HALL ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING MONTH**

10th June	7.30 p.m.	Women's Institute
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The Committee have decided from now on not to hold the Remembrance Day Service in the Hall. A great deal of thought has gone into this decision and, as no response was received from the public, it was with some regret that we have come to this conclusion. Over the years the attendance has gradually dwindled. The Rector has invited us to attend the church service on that day and we hope that this will meet with approval. The Committee are in the process of having a bronze plaque made, which will be sited in the porch of the Hall and will commemorate the dead of both World Wars. Mrs. J.E. Hutchings

## **PURLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Last month we discussed the Horticultural Show results and pondered over what trips to become involved with.

May meetings are taken up with the year's resolutions. Votes are taken and then forwarded for parliamentary discussion. This year's resolutions are:-

### **Housing**

The NFWI urges all levels of government (national, regional and local) to make the regeneration of brownfield sites in urban areas a priority in the planning of housing development.

In 1996, the Government estimated that between 1991 and 2016, 4.4 million new homes would be required in England. It was predicted that demographic trends (people living longer, leaving home at a younger age and the increasing number of marriage break-ups) would produce a marked increase in the number of separate households, and therefore demand for housing would increase. Will we see the green belt encroached upon? In addition, new development does not attract VAT which is imposed on refurbishment and conversion work.

### **Young Carers**

This meeting urges HM Government to ensure that full support is available to assist school-aged children who are carers in order that their welfare and education are protected. Many folk are quite stunned as to how many young persons aged from 8 - 15 years come under the category of carers. They can be the sole supporter of an ailing parent and school work suffers. They become mentally and physically exhausted. Help is available but pride can block them from asking and fear of being taken from the home. Surely, if we consider ourselves a caring society, we must ensure children have a childhood. A delicate area - which must be handled with 'kid gloves'.

We are planning a trip to London, a visit which entails a view behind the scenes at Drury Lane. We have vowed not to throw anything away so we can plan a busy white elephant stall at the Millennium, as planning is underway.

The competition, "A May Queen's Hat" was won by Sylvia Conquest with Irene Smith in second place. The Flower Competition was won by Sybil Pryor with Kath Hodge in second place. This month's speaker is Mrs. Julie Hurst, talking on "The Ashmolean Museum". The competition will be "An Unusual Relic" and there will be a White Elephant stall.

Every year Sybil Pryor has a coffee morning, which is also a Bring and Buy. Money

raised goes to Women of the Third World. Sybil has extended her invite to anyone who would like to turn up. Her garden is enchanting and worth a visit, so don't be shy, bring a friend.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 10th June, 7.30 p.m. at the Memorial Hall. Visitors welcome.

Sylvia Conquest

## **PURLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

The annual coach trip this year takes place on **Sunday, 28th June** to the National Trust's Mottisfont Abbey. Set amidst glorious countryside along the river Test, this 12th century Augustinian priory was converted into a private house after the Dissolution. The abbey contains a drawing room decorated by Rex Whistler in trompe l'oeil and Derek Hill's late 19th/early 20th century picture collection.

The key attraction is the grounds - a 21 acre landscaped garden with magnificent trees including the great plane tree thought to be the largest in the country, pollarded lime walk, a ha-ha, woodland walks, mill stream and a pleasant walk along the Abbey stream. The gardens are mainly 20th century and feature work by Norah Lindsay and Geoffrey Jellicoe. The walled gardens contain the National Collection of old fashioned shrub roses renowned for their scent, and comprised of more than 350 varieties from many parts of the world.

Price, for fare only (not including entry to Mottisfont) is £7.50. Entry into Mottisfont is free to National Trust members, and £5.00 for non-members. Application forms can be obtained from the Trading Store and should be returned by **Sunday, 14th June**. Cheques should be made payable to Purley Horticultural Society.

The Summer Show takes place on 12th September this year. The schedules will be available from the Trading Store soon. We really look forward to lots of new exhibitors this year. I finally took my courage in my hands and entered a few classes at the Spring Show this year (well, after some 5 years as Secretary I thought I ought to have a go!). I got 3 placements from 6 entries! I'm sure you can imagine how chuffed I was. Furthermore, it was not at all as I had imagined. I think I've been watching too many television sitcoms, or may be some societies really do have exhibitors with prize leeks and marrows that barely fit through the door, and back-stabbing and general chicanery on the allotments! I can assure you that our society simply isn't like that. Our exhibitors are normal gardeners like you and like me. No special secrets. The experienced exhibitors really are happy to give you their best advice. If you don't believe me, then pop along to the show this year and take a look, and talk to a few of the exhibitors. I think you will find that your rhubarb measures up to any there, and don't you have sprays of herbs just as good as the first prize, and isn't your pot plant the equal of any that have been entered? Go on, have a go this year. It is very easy, and great fun.

The Trading Store is open every Saturday and Sunday, from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m. A ticket allowing a 30% reduction in the entry fee to Wisley is available to be borrowed by any member - give me a ring if you are interested.

If you have any queries about the Society, please call me on 962 4457.

Anne Stockley,  
Secretary



## **A CONVERSATION WITH BERNARD THEOBALD**

*The following is an extract from a taped interview with Bernard Theobald who farmed at Westbury for many years.*

I originated from the other side of the river, a little area called Tokers Green, and I lived there with my parents until the end of the war, when I joined the Royal Navy. And during the war I got married, I'm still married to the same woman, damned nearly fifty years, and at the end of the war we came here to Westbury, which is just 42 years ago, and I've been farming here ever since. We took over this good old fashioned mixed farm. We had a bit of everything. Two men milked 40 cows and thought they were going to be employed when I stopped milking, and I planted the vines over 20 years ago now. When I stopped, one girl and myself were milking 120 cows. In the early days, apart from the cows, we had a bit of everything. A small breeding herd of sows, laying hens, cockerels, turkeys, ducks, geese, guinea fowl. We grew wheat, barley, oats, maize, kale, mangles, potatoes, linseed, tobacco - you name it, we grew it - a good old fashioned mixed farm.

I made lovely tobacco and I used to smoke it in my pipe. We dried the tobacco on wires hung across the backs of the cows in the cowshed. When we only had forty cows they were tied up by the neck in the cowshed and we dried the tobacco beautifully in there. We can grow good tobacco in this country.

My vineyard is the first in Europe to be planned on the Geneva Double method - something of which I am very proud. I said to the English growers "Why aren't you growing red?" And they gave a shudder of horror and said "You can't do it in England". The stupid clots hadn't tried. That's the first thing I've got against them. And secondly they hadn't used their brains! A second thought would have told them that every country in the world where wine is grown, red and white are grown together.

And there is nothing in the physiology of the vine itself or in wine making which says that

red wine requires any conditions different from, or different to the conditions required for making quality white wine. And I believe in the power of reason, and when I put down the vineyard out there I put one third down to black grapes for red wine, and in 1976 I became the first English vineyard to sell red wine commercially, and I'm still the only one with red wine in commercial quantities, and the only one with a high quality red.

*How come you got hooked on this wine growing thing?*

This is where we came in. Milking was becoming more and more difficult and growing wine is much more interesting.

*Do you tread the grapes?*

This year, in fact, we did it literally. The crusher broke down, the spare part I couldn't get for a couple of days, so we disinfected our Wellington boots and climbed into a tank and crushed them by foot. It worked very well. In fact, it didn't take any longer than the crusher and made a better job of it. It was very hard work.

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Following my article last month, I have been asked to explain what goals the Education Authorities require us to work towards. There are six 'learning outcomes' which we work towards in our weekly activities. These notes are from the Playgroup Supervisor .....

1. **Personal & Social Skills**

Social skills are a very important part of a child's development. They learn to share, take turns, respect each other's needs and property. All activities help to do this.

2. **Knowledge of the World**

From our themes, children learn about the world around us, through objects, photos and projects. Days of the week and weather are discussed on a daily basis. Children

and staff relate stories from their own lives. The cars, dressing up, home corner/shop/hospital all encourage role play.

### 3. **Physical skills**

Larger equipment such as the climbing frame, trampoline, rocking horse and obstacle courses help develop larger muscle control. Puzzles, playdough, glueing, pencils/drawing, water and sand play all help to develop small muscle control.

### 4. **Creative Skills**

Painting, chalk board, pencils and drawing encourage children to develop creative skills. Musical instruments, tapes, singing rhymes, music and movement are also creative.

### 5. **Maths**

Number recognition, counting, shapes and colours are found in all the games, puzzles and activities we use. Water, sand and seed play, as well as being fun, bring 'science' into a child's world, whilst introducing words like volume, floating and sinking.

### 6. **Language and Literacy**

Books are always available for children to look at and 'read'. A story is always read at the end of a session, and often through the morning, as requested. Children become aware of letter formation and how words are built up and they are encouraged to recognise and write their own names. Language develops by talking and listening to others. Singing games and rhymes also help with language and numbers etc.

If children do not bring home any written evidence of things they have been doing, you can see that they will not have been idle, but will have been learning a great deal, through 'play'.

For more information about the Playgroup, or to put your child's name on the waiting list, please contact Sue Slade on 941 0778.

### **Calendar of Events:**

17th June	-	Sports Day	
2nd July	-	Summer Outing	Annie Thorpe

Set out below are the recorded Crime Figures for the month of April:

<u>Type of Offence</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
Burglary - Dwelling	0	0
Attempted Burglary - Dwelling	0	0
Burglary - Other than in a Dwelling	3	1
Theft (including shoplifting)	3	2
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	0	3
Theft or Unauthorised taking of Motor Vehicle	0	3
Theft or Unauthorised taking of Pedal Cycle	0	1
Criminal Damage to Dwellings )		1
Criminal Damage to other buildings )	4	1
Violent Crime	2	0
Arson	1	0
Indecency (on female)	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

As can be seen from the above, the categories of offences I have detailed have changed slightly. This format will be used in all future newsletters.

Since April, the recording of crime has changed slightly. There are now far more offences which are to be officially recorded against crime figures. This is a national change to recording procedures, and not something that only affects Thames Valley Police. It is, therefore, quite likely that, over the next few months, the numbers of recorded crime may jump markedly. If additional offences appear in my future newsletters, I will explain as necessary.

Yet again, I can say that burglaries are remaining very low and good news it is too! However, I must again re-iterate how important it is to close doors and windows and lock up. The May figures will show at least one dwelling burglary, which occurred overnight, entry being gained to an insecure ground floor window. As the weather gets warmer, the tendency is to leave windows open for ventilation. All I would say is, do not leave

windows open downstairs or above flat roofs.

Vehicle crime unfortunately took an upward turn right across the Pangbourne area. On one occasion a member of the public chased offenders on foot, but unfortunately they were too quick for him.

Damage is down again and hopefully this trend will continue.

The indecency which was reported is being investigated and enquiries continue.

There is another matter I have been asked to bring to your attention. In September, myself and several other Officers from Pangbourne Police Station are going to ride from John O'Groats to Lands End on pedal cycles. The distance is just under 900 miles and my intention is to ride the whole way, the actual journey taking 9 days from start to finish. "WHAT ON EARTH DO YOU WANT TO DO THAT FOR?" I may hear some of you say! Well, we are doing it in order to raise sponsor money for Macmillan Nurses. These people are devoted to the care and well-being of those suffering from cancer. Our great hope is to raise somewhere in the region of £10,000 for them.

If anybody would like to help us reach this target, then please contact Police Sergeant Smith at Pangbourne Police Station. Any cheques should be made payable to "End to End in Aid of Macmillan".

Thank you for your help and support.

PC3236 Welford

## **GARDENER'S CORNER**

If I said hands up all those who have a Bamboo in their gardens, I wonder how many of you would answer in the affirmative. Although you see these plants often in show gardens and as architectural pot plants, the Bamboo is still largely ignored by the average gardener as a first choice shrub.

Two years ago I stayed in a small guest house in Lyme Regis which boasted a Bamboo garden. The infinite variety and usefulness of the plants as hedges or screens, ornamental shrubs and even groundcover surprised me. I had the impression that the Bamboo was too large for the average garden, needed a frost free climate and was invasive. I also thought it was short lived, dying off after flowering. This, however, is not true in most cases.

In fact, the Bamboo is not a tropical plant at all, as it comes from temperate Asia and parts of South America. It is, therefore, quite hardy in this area. The belief that Bamboos flower and then die is rarely true. The plant is weakened by flowering especially if it is profuse. This also makes the plant unsightly for a time. If this is repeated over a number of years, the plant can die. However, most plants will recover their former stature in a short time.

There are now over two hundred types in cultivation; many have either coloured canes or variegated leaves, so there is bound to be one suitable for your garden. They associate well with many other garden plants, especially evergreen shrubs which provide a good foil for the bamboo foliage. Given the average size of town gardens, the more compact varieties are the best to choose unless you want to screen off an eyesore like the garden shed or the compost bin where a larger plant is more suitable. The golden yellow and green striped leaves of *Pleiblastus auricomus* (max height 3ft) are particularly good despite its name. It does need a sunny spot to maintain its leaf colour. For a shady spot try its near relative *Chrysophyllus* which lacks the green striping but is happy in semi-shade. There are also some white variegated types such as "Tsuboi" (max height 5ft). However, these can be moderately invasive and require more room. Bamboos tend to be either short or tall. There are very few intermediate types which will ultimately grow between 6 and 10ft. A useful new introduction in this category is *Fargesia spathaca* "Simba". It is said to be the shortest clumping form of Bamboo in cultivation. It makes a fountain of slender canes and small leaves and is ideal for restricted spaces.

So, having convinced you to try a Bamboo, how and where do you grow it? Well, you'll be surprised to know that Bamboos are very easy to grow. They need no special treatment except some form of restriction for the more invasive species. This is usually done by sinking a rot proof barrier around the plant to a depth of about 20 inches. The smaller non-invasive plants will not require this restriction. Almost any soil is suitable except that which is permanently waterlogged. They do thrive on soil which has had good organic material incorporated in it. They also like an annual mulch of the same material to keep the roots moist. An annual feed with a general fertiliser such as "Growmore" is also beneficial.

Annual maintenance is limited to removing dead canes and removing unwanted growth. The plants are resistant to pests and diseases and are also very resistant to honey fungus. Bamboos can also be propagated from root cuttings in spring.

If you would like to see the many varieties of Bamboo in display, the National Collection can be visited at Drysdale Garden Exotics, Bowerwood Road, Fordingbridge, Hants. They are open from Wed-Friday and also Sunday, tel: 0425 653010.

**Other jobs to do in the garden this month include:**

Lawns - Apply fertiliser. Regulate the height of your mower blades to reflect the weather. If drought conditions prevail, raise the blades and cut without the grass box; the clippings will help to retain moisture.

Roses - For larger blooms, remove the small side buds from flower shoots. Pull away suckers. Spray with systemic insecticide against aphids and also spray against black spot and mildew.

Hardy Herbaceous Plants - Cut back early flowering plants to within 3in of the soil level after flowering. Divide Primroses for re-planting.

Half-Hardy Annuals - Complete planting out this month. Water thoroughly in dry spells. Hoe out weeds regularly and support taller growing types.

Greenhouses and Frames - Damp down regularly to keep a humid atmosphere. This helps prevent red spider mite attack. Give a little ventilation at night if the weather is very warm. Pinch out side shoots from standard tomatoes and feed with a nitrogen based fertiliser if the main stems appear thin. Control aphids with a systemic insecticide. Apply a whitewash or erect blinds on the greenhouse to keep the heat within bounds and stop sun scorch on delicate plants.

Trees and Shrubs - Cut back Brooms as soon as flowering has finished. This will stop the shrubs seeding themselves. Make sure that you don't cut into the old wood as this will prevent new growth.

Vegetables - Marrows can be planted out this month. Plant carefully, keeping as much soil on the root ball as possible. Plant on a small mound of soil to stop water gathering around the stems and causing stem rot. Leeks may also be planted now. Cut the tops back by a quarter of their length and the roots a third before planting. Do not firm them into place but merely water the planting holes so that soil is washed over the roots. Set out indoor tomatoes so that the tops of the soil balls are about 1in below the surface. Firm in and water well.

General Tasks - Pests and diseases are often at their most troublesome this month. Examine your plants frequently and spray at the first sign of attack. Try to use sprays that do not kill the pests' natural predators like ladybirds and hover flies.

Happy Gardening, Colin Graves

## Fixtures for June

Saturday	6th June v Sandhurst (1st XI League)	Away
"	6th June v Sandhurst (2nd XI League)	Home
Sunday	7th June v St. Sebastians (1st XI Friendly)	Away+
"	7th June v Bradfield (2nd XI Friendly)	Home+
Wednesday	10th June v Gibb (Business Houses League)	Away
Saturday	13th June v Frimley (1st XI League)	Home
"	13th June v Frimley (2nd XI League)	Away
Sunday	14th June v Shinfield (1st XI Friendly)	Home+
"	14th June v Knowl Hill (2nd XI Friendly)	Away
Wednesday	17th June v County Arms (Business Houses League)	Home*
Saturday	20th June v West Ilsley (1st XI League)	Away
"	20th June v Ibis Mapledurham (2nd XI League)	Home
Sunday	21st June v Berkshire Gents (1st XI Friendly)	Home
"	21st June - 2nd XI Friendly - No Game	
Wednesday	24th June - Business Houses League - No Game	
Saturday	27th June v Goring (1st XI League)	Home
"	27th June v Stratfield Turgis (2nd XI League)	Away
Sunday	28th June v Caversham & Sonning Common (1st XI Friendly)	Away
"	28th June v Ibis (2nd XI Friendly)	Home+
Wednesday	1st July v Cavendish Meats (Business Houses League)	Home*
Saturday	4th July v Farley Hill (1st XI League)	Home
"	4th July v Farley Hill (2nd XI League)	Away
Sunday	5th July v Britwell Salome (1st XI Friendly)	Home
"	5th July v Silchester (2nd XI Friendly)	Away+

All Saturday fixtures begin at 2.00 p.m. Sunday fixtures marked with a cross begin at 2.30 p.m., all others at 2.00 p.m. The Business Houses League games commence at 6.15 p.m. and \* denotes artificial wickets (no spikes).

If you are interested in participating in the Cricket Club in any way (Colts, Adults playing, Umpiring, Scoring or just watching) come along to any advertised event or contact us on the telephone numbers below; new members are always welcome.

Martin Bishop (942 7142) Brian Smith (984 3653)

## **BEREAVEMENT COUNSELLING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

The organisation Cruse Bereavement Care has launched Youth Line, a new telephone helpline for young people and children. There are around 200,000 children and young people in the UK who have lost a parent through death, and their number grows by 18,000 every year.

Thousands more young people suffer the loss of another close relative or a friend. Others witness death through their involvement in fatal accidents or other tragic incidents.

Bereaved children need help in coming to terms with their loss. The death of a parent means a loss of love and security, as well as the 'expert' who mends bicycles, cooks meals or helps with homework. Bereavement can affect school or college work.

Cruse has always cared for bereaved families. The new telephone line will give young people the opportunity to talk with a trained counsellor about their loss and to explain, in confidence, what might be troubling them.

The service is available on Fridays between 5pm and 9pm and Saturdays between 11am and 6pm. The helpline number is 0181 940 3131.

## LAUGHLINES

The church organist struggled valiantly through the first three hymns until the vicar whispered to him, "Can't you play something more up to date?"

"You can't get more up to date than this," hissed the organist, "I'm making it up as I go along."

\*\*\*\*\*

A mother was sitting with other women in the gallery of a synagogue. Suddenly she cried out to the male members of the congregation below: "Is there a doctor here! Is there a doctor here!"

Sensing an emergency, a doctor stood up.

"Oi!" cried the mother, "Have I got a girl for you!"

\*\*\*\*\*

## PURLEY PARISH NEWS

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I welcome contributions from anyone to this magazine, particularly on local issues and events. Please note, however, I reserve the right to edit contributions to suit space availability. Comments and opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the P.C.C. of St. Mary's Church, Purley on Thames - sponsors of Purley Parish News.

**This magazine is published on the first Saturday of each month (except August) and the subscription Price is £3.00 for eleven issues.** If you are new to the area and would like to subscribe to Purley Parish News, please contact the Circulation Manager, Les Jamieson, on 941 2342.

This month's magazine is published on **Saturday, 6th June**. All copy for the July issue must reach me by 15th June and the magazine will be published on **Saturday, 4th July**. Editor