

Account of Purley on Thames

Purley's Newsgirl is aged 80

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By the age of 80 most people are taking life more gently. They get up a little later in the mornings and regard regular work as a thing of the past. Not so Mrs Violet Stubbs. She was 80 on Tuesday and she still does a paper round at seven o'clock every morning!

She is a newsgirl for Annetts, the newsagents, of Oxford Road, Purley and come rain, snow or shine Mrs Stubbs faithfully delivers 60 papers along Long Lane Purley, each day. She is up every morning at 5.30 to "clear up and do the household chores" She leaves her home at "Way-bac" off Long Lane to be at the bottom of the road by 6.55 to collect the papers, then sets off to deliver them with her little trolley-basket.

"I have been doing this for 13 years now and I don't think I have missed a morning yet" said widowed Mrs Stubbs when she spoke to the "Chronicle" at her home on Tuesday. "I started doing the round as a favour to the newsagent when I was 67 and I have just carried on ever since. "I think that it is getting up early every morning that keeps me going" said Mrs Stubbs, "and I am a keen believer in eating an apple a day to keep the doctor away. When I get back from the round I have breakfast at nine and a little rest. I then finish the housework, have another rest in the afternoon and am in bed, usually by 9.45 pm." And the comment from the newsagent, Mrs Isobel Annetts - "She is the best paper girl we have ever had, we should never ask her to retire"

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