

# *Account of Purley on Thames*

## Project Purley Meetings 1981

Before Project Purley was formed as a society there were three groups who worked on various aspects of Purley. The Natural History Group, The Archaeology Group and the Parish Registers Group. These all held lots of meetings but the only one where the topics were recorded was the Parish Register Group lead by Jean Debney who kept a diary. This shows considerable light on how Project Purley came about.

We will therefore reproduce Jean's diary entries until the Society was inaugurated in May 1982 and thereafter record only the full meetings, group meetings and visits. Committee meetings are recorded separately.

Reports are preceded by their reference in the Project Purley Archive, although restricted to four digits. eg R0988

### *October 1981*

#### *R0980*

Tues 13 Oct 1981

present - Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Sue Matthews. Tom Robinson, John Titterton

- pictures with display at bazaar - Domesday 1086 and quitclaim 1390
- logo for Project Purley designed - snipe standing on book.
- John T reported on letters from Mr Eyston of Mapledurham re St John family
- Tom completed study of sale catalogues in Reading Reference Library ie 1904, 1926 and 1927
- discussed method of demographic studies from parish registers eg family size

#### *R0981*

Tues 27 Oct 1981 at 8 Huckleberry Close

Present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Sylvia Conquest, Ray Herrinmg, Marjorie Herring

- Tom and John material for bazaar. John had county map to show Purley, gen on lords of Purley Magna, large coat of arms of Lord Grandison
- Jean part of 1370 quitclaim display, photos especially for competition
- slides of dig - John T and John Chapman, looked at floor tile tracings from church
- Ray Herring produced logo for Project Purley - snipe standing on book
- looked at outline map of Purley pre 1800

### *November 1981*

#### *R0982*

Tues 3 Nov 1981 at 8 Huckleberry

Present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest

- Jean - letter re Rev Gostwick - photos of dig and church tiles
- draft for Project Purley leaflet - front page intro - centre pages potted history finished 10.45

*R0983*

Tues 10th November 1981

Present Jean Debney, Tom Robinson, John Chapman

- finalised Project Purley leaflet - front page OK with extra spaces - centre pages OK - back page a) digging in the past written - b) Project Purley written - agreed print of 200 - Dereck Humphries
- competition - 12 questions - prizes - discovering local history @95p, discovering your old house @95p, discovering street furniture @75p
- coat of arms colouring 20p
- Purley Park sale catalogue - 20p

finished 10.30

-----  
*R0984*

Tues 17th November 1981

Present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Tom Robinson, John Titterton, Sylvia Conquest

- work on display - John T St John's coat of arms, - tree of lords of manor, - Map of Berks
- Tom competition form
- Sylvia painted floor tiles
- competition 12 questions complete

*R0985*

Sat 21 Nov 1981 - Christmas Bazaar at Memorial Hall

sales

	start	sold	left
Project Purley leaflet -	200	131	69
coat of arms -	50	48	2
Purley Park sale catalogue	19	18	1

actual takings £28-20

Competition returned forms 35

winners

1 - B Buckner 16 The Short R22474

2 David Evans (rector)

under 14 Ian Chapman 5 Cecil, Aldin Drive

costs

prizes - DLH 95p DYOH 95p DSF 75p total £2-65

printing - Project Purley £2-00, coat of arms £1-50, sale catalogue - 60p total £6-75

expenses John T £1-50. Jean D 6-25

### *R0986*

Tues 25 Nov 1981 at 8 Huckleberry

Present Jean Debney, Cliff Debney, Tom Robinson, Sylvia Conquest, John Titterton, Richard

- agreed to set up Project Purley as local history and archaeological society - chairman Jean D, secretariat John and Rita Titterton, Treasurer Tom Robinson - sub £1 students 50p

- Tom and Cliff to discuss aims and objectives etc

- agreed to publish articles from Purley News in booklet form plus maps and line drawings etc

- quantity and method of reproduction

- quarterly meetings rest work parties as at present

- advertise in Purley News and poster in village

- looked at turnpikes

- inaugural meeting in Feb

- names from bazaar -

Mr Shattock 5 Orchard Close - ancient right of way through Keens/Menpes Fuit Farm site

Mrs Simpson 40 Holburton Rd Rdg 861668 lived in Purley 50 years, daughter attended village school.

Mrs Williams 44 Glebe Road

## *December 1981*

### *R0987*

Tues 1 Dec 1981

Present Jean Debney, Tom Robinson

- no more meetings until new year



