

Account of Purley on Thames

The Silver Jubilee 1982

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Purley made a great effort to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977. Here are some of the articles published in Purley Parish News

JUBILEE '77

by John Chapman

We are now in the run up to the Jubilee celebrations in Purley. These will be held in the week 5th to 11th JUNE and as our friends and neighbours in Tilehurst have decided to concentrate their efforts on providing an adventure playground to which no doubt many of our children will wander, we have extended an invitation to them to join us on our two big fun days - Monday 6th and Saturday 11th June.

By the time you get this magazine you should have received the two circulars - one which gave the outline programme for the week and the entry form for the Jubilee Queen competition. We will be at the Parish Assembly on 20th APRIL to answer questions and fill you in on a little more of the detail.

If you are planning to organise a Street Party, please get in touch with Reg Marshall, 23 Long Lane. Tel, Reading 412297. He will help you get clearance from Newbury District Council for the event in accordance with section 41 of the Public Health Act 1961.

Parish Organisations who have not yet sent in their slips about floats for the procession and sideshows for the Saturday are asked to return these as soon as possible to Ken Mercer, Martingales, Beech Road:. Tel Pangbourne 3842. If you have an antique vehicle or would like to decorate your car, boat or bike to enter the procession please get on with your plans and join us on the day. How about a decorated pram or cart for your kids?

Over the next three months you will be visited by one of our canvassers to see if you have any children who qualify for Jubilee Crowns. To qualify you must have been born on or after 5th June 1964 and live in the Civil Parish of Purley. We'll also take a chance on any babies due in June of this year. We have ordered a few extras which will be available to older folk on payment of 35p to cover crown and case (we may have to increase this slightly but it will be no more than 50p). We will accept reservations up to Saturday June 4th, if there are more reservations than crowns then it will be youngest first.

If there are any left over they will be on sale at events during Jubilee week.

John Chapman

JUBILEE TREE PLANTING

by Sybil Pryor

The Jubilee trees for Purley (see October issue) are going ahead. Exciting things began to happen almost as soon as we started looking for sites, the Parish Council established a tree planting sub-Committee which did endless careful work with the Newbury District Council and the Berkshire County Council. People gave trees - six from one source to the Parish Council, one from another, and four to be planted in the Lock Meadow.

These last presented a serious challenge as fencing against cows had to be provided - you may have seen the S.O.S. for help, and by the time this goes to press there should be twenty impeccable 7 ft ex-railway sleeper anti-cow posts in position - all put up by generous voluntary labour and generous expert help.

Even with the expense of the fencing there was still enough money in the Exhibition fund for three more trees, so there will be 15 in all - lime, oak, walnut, hornbeam, Norway maple, copper beeches, holm oaks, horse chestnuts, a wild white cherry and a new Cedar of Lebanon for Lister Close to replace the Coronation Cedar which got its top blown out in gales of January a year ago. Quite a story to the Cedar if the Editor has room! Cedars were disappointingly not available from any commercial source, then someone appeared saying, "I hear you want a new Cedar for Lister Close, and cannot get one. I've got one grown by my father-in-law which you can have - when will you come to collect it?"

So - 15 new trees on order, lots achieved, and lots still to do - but so far, very good.

Sybil Pryor