

# Maiden Bradley

Parish News

No 323 May 2016



**The Community Shop's smart new awning**

## Diary May 2016

1 <sup>st</sup>	Sun	Holy Communion (BPC)	10.00 am
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mon	Household Waste Collection	7.00 am
4 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Kids@MB – Memorial Hall	6.00-7.30 pm
		Prayer Meeting	6.30 pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	Thu	POLLING DAY	7am to 10pm
8 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	No Service in Maiden Bradley but come to Bison Farm at West Knoyle to enjoy an outside service	10.30am
9 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Black Box, Blue & Green Bins Collection	7.00 am
10 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	Parish Council Meeting and AGM– Memorial Hal	7.30 pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting	6.30 pm
		Stretch & Recharge – Memorial Hall	7.00 pm
12 <sup>th</sup>	Thu	Welcome Club Bingo – Horningsham Hall	2.30 pm
15 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Pentecost Parish communion (CW)	10.00am
16 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Household Waste Collection	7.00am
17 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	Welcome Club Outing	8.45 at H and 9am at MB
18 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting	6.30pm
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Copy Day for articles for June News to <a href="mailto:pat@visa-office.com">pat@visa-office.com</a></b>	
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sun	Rogation Service – venue to be decided	3.30pm
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Mon	Black Box, Blue & Green Bin Collection	7.00am
24 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	WI Meeting Stourton VH	7.30pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting	
		Stretch & Recharge – Memorial Hall	7.00pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Film Night – “45” - Memorial Hall	7 for 7.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Holy Communion	10.00am

**Mass times:- St.George’s, Warminster – Saturday 6 pm (Vigil); Sunday 8 am 10 am**

**St. Mary’s, Mere – Friday 10 am; Saturday 5.30 pm**

Dr Harding’s Surgery every Monday at the Memorial Hall except Bank Holidays 5-6 pm. Due to pressure of work the Surgery at Silton, Bourton, is unable to accept repeat orders for medication by telephone. Please bring your orders to Memorial Hall Surgery the week before they are due so that the Doctor can collect them.

Dustbin Day every Monday for Bank Holiday changes see Wiltshire Council website. Mother & Toddlers every Tuesday 10.00 am to 12 noon in the Memorial Hall.

Useful telephone Nos.: The Village Shop: 844206; The Post Office: 845040; The Pub: 844207; Memorial Hall bookings – Mel Thomas 845111 ; Dr. Andrew Murrison MP: 01225 358584 or [murrisona@parliament.uk](mailto:murrisona@parliament.uk); Mere Link Scheme 01747 860096; Rev. Carol Wilson-Barker 01747 861859

Maiden Bradley Parish News: contributions are welcome in any format. E-Mail: [pat@visa-office.com](mailto:pat@visa-office.com)

## **Editorial**

Cold weather blights the burgeoning spring, with plants and trees alike, desperate for some warmer weather. Our bird population increases as the goldfinches, black caps, siskins, sparrows, blackbirds, thrushes, collar doves, wood pigeons and even the greater spotted woodpeckers, make a beeline for our feeders. Food is scarce enough for the garden rat to make a regular daily appearance around the bird feeder in order to scoop up any leftovers! There is a village fear that when the bird rearing huts relinquish their inhabitants, there will be a mass exodus of rats from the huts and into village. Please let me know if this happens as it would make a good front cover photograph for the News!

I think you may agree with me that the new shop awning is a welcome addition, arriving with the new shop manager this May. Amanda has been such an asset to the village since she joined as shop manager a couple of years ago and we wish her well as she moves on to pastures new.

Having lost a number of advertisers in recent months which have yet to be successfully replaced, and still suffering from a number of non-payers, the News' funds are in need of a boost. If you would like to make a contribution to our publishing costs a cheque made payable to Maiden Bradley Parish News, would be gratefully received (however small a donation). Thank you.

**Pat Kennedy 845397 [pat@visa-office.com](mailto:pat@visa-office.com)**

## **News from the Vicarage**

Liz Nixon was telling me she has recently returned from a trip to Jerusalem, describing it as an amazing place despite all the bad things we hear. In the old quarter you could feel you were taken back 2000 years. She was particularly interested to know that in Jesus' time the Temple complex was quite enormous and imposing and would have dwarfed the city itself, you couldn't have missed God's presence if you lived there.

Before I became a Christian I was sympathetic to the church and loved to go round visiting churches. It struck me, agnostic as I was, that the influence of the church seemed to stretch well beyond its buildings into its community in so many ways. It might be as a venue for events of life-changing importance, culturally, musically or by the way people who went there had a sort of energy about themselves and a sense of purpose. Please come and join us at Sunday worship, because I think you would find at Maiden Bradley church you would also catch that sense of energy!

We will be celebrating the Queen's birthday like so many others with a service on 12<sup>th</sup> June (the week after the Hall's events). Come along give thanks for a special lady and enjoy worshipping with us.

Blessings

**Rev Carol**

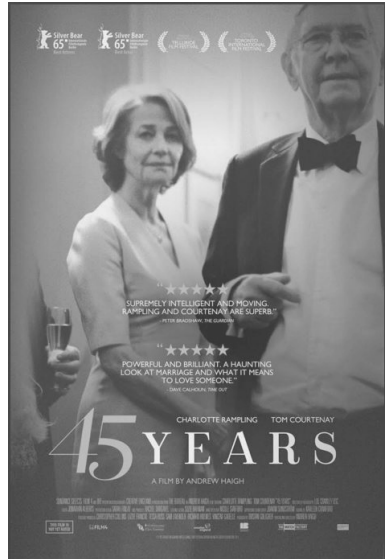
## April 2016 News From The Hall

We had our best turn out yet for the film night, for the showing of "The Lady in the Van" with 34 sitting down to watch and enjoy a really good film, which was well made with excellent acting.

The next Film night will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May where we will be showing "45 Years" starring Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtney. If you have not been before, come along and give it a try. Watch this space for details of "Dads Army" arriving in Maiden Bradley!

The "Roast Pork Lunch" was also well supported and all those who sat down to it, enjoyed the social aspect of the meal, there is always a great atmosphere at these lunches.

Over the weekend of June 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> official Birthday at the hall. There will be Cream Teas, Flower exhibition, Children's competitions, and photos Past and Present will be on show. On the Saturday evening weather permitting we will be having a family BBQ (bring your own wine/beer). Sue Priestner will be leading a Sing-A-Long on the "Ol Joanna".



There is NO Bingo in May because those who do a sterling job of running it, are taking a well-earned break.

On the car-parking front, in the notice board at the bottom of the steps you can find dates of when the hall is booked. The Committee wishes to thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Mel Thomas**

#### Village Hall Lottery

##### March

1 <sup>st</sup> Sharon Edwards	£22.50	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mark Sheppard	£11.25
3 <sup>rd</sup> P. Coleman	£6.80	4 <sup>th</sup> Liz Nixon	£4.45

##### April

1 <sup>st</sup> P. Coleman	£22.50	2 <sup>nd</sup> S. Gunter	£11.25
3 <sup>rd</sup> Pat Kennedy	£6.80	4 <sup>th</sup> Margaret Crossman	£4.45

Since 1998 the lottery has brought in a total of £190167.00 to help maintain the village hall. Therefore £9508.50 has gone to the village hall and the same amount in prize money up to last December.

If you would like to help support your Village Hall, please get in contact with John Priestner on 844244 who has some spare numbers. Only 50p per number per month, you can have more than one number. Half the draw's income goes to the Village Hall and half goes in prizes.



## **Church News**

There is a small committed group of worshipers at All Saints who come to church on a weekly basis and a much larger group of committed parishioners who come to church regularly but maybe not so often.

As you know funding for churches is always needed for the upkeep of the building and also contributing towards the ministry.

We are in the process of setting up a group called 'Friends of All Saints.' This group will focus on ensuring that the church building is safe and fit for purpose. You will hear more about that in the future.

The PCC is passionate about keeping the church open and having services every Sunday throughout the year; in order to do that we need to pay our 'Diocesan Share' towards such things as clergy salary, pensions, housing and expenses. This is in addition to the money needed to insure, heat and maintain the building.

We have been unable to pay our share in full over the last few years and are requesting that you consider making a one off or regular donation to the church. Please give generously to help us keep the church open for us all.

## **CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE – HELP NEEDED**

Can anyone please lend a hand to Colin Dowson in maintaining the churchyard? Colin works very hard to keep our churchyard neat and tidy by mowing the grass and doing some general garden maintenance. Henry Crabbe was also instrumental in keeping the grounds tidy and in the past year there have been a couple of volunteers helping Colin but they are no longer available. I am sure everyone in the village appreciates the churchyard being so well cared for but it is a very large area for Colin to maintain on his own in the spring and summer months. If anyone can offer some time to help Colin then please contact him direct or contact me and I will pass on any messages.  
**Liz Nixon [ernixon66@gmail.com](mailto:ernixon66@gmail.com) or 844242**



## **News from the Belfry**

Having decided to ring the church bells on the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday just like most of the country, we managed to find a team of six ringers and started our celebratory ring. With just a few pulls of the rope however, our efforts came to a halt as the rope on the second bell broke throwing the 'ring' into confusion. Never the less we re-started the ring and with just five bells continued our endeavours! Of course the ropes do wear out from time to time and a new set of ropes is upward of £1000. Fortunately, most of the ropes were replaced by Colin Dowson and Henry Crabbe, a couple of years ago and so we already have enough spares to finish the last two bells. In order to complete this work, all the bells have to be in the 'down' position and Colin had to clamber over the bell housing in the belfry in order to attach the new ropes ready for us to ring again on Tuesday.

# Maiden Bradley Shop

April was quite a month! We found a new Manager, a new Saturday Assistant and installed the awning! But firstly an update on the Shop AGM which was held at the end of March and introduce the new elected shop committee members.

As Chairman I thanked the staff and the volunteers for all their hard work during the course of the year. The financial position at the end of the financial year last September was disappointing although an improvement on the year before. We have put in place various changes to address this and the financial position of the shop to date is much improved. However we need to keep working hard to balance our books and we need your help to keep this very valuable amenity going.

A quote from the report given by Rupert, our Treasurer: *'Imagine, driving to and from Frome or Mere each day to collect a newspaper. The distance is about 7 miles, the average car today does say 40 miles per gallon and at current fuel prices this would be a cost of 80p each way, £1.60 per journey or £11.20 per week'*. This also applies to any item which one has run out of or has a sudden need for. Rupert added that if we could attract 50 new customers who would spend just £5 a week in the shop we could increase our profit by £3,000 a year. Food for thought!

The new committee elected at the AGM is: Philip Henry, Sam Higgins, Elaine Lavender, Nigel Lavender, Liz Nixon, Rupert Scott and John Somerset. Everyone will do their best to ensure that the shop continues to serve the community.

**Staff:** Our new Manager, Sue Worrell, will be taking up her position on 1 May. We feel very lucky to have Sue as she brings experience from the retail and catering world. Sue and her husband, Richard, will shortly be moving into their house in Maiden Bradley from their present home in Trowbridge. Sue very much wants to continue the emphasis on community and undoubtedly she will bring some new ideas and changes to the shop. Do please go to the shop and introduce yourself to her as she wants to hear all your thoughts and ideas. We are also very pleased to have Tash Peck working for us on Saturdays until the end of May. Tash stepped in immediately when Melanie had to resign due to a shoulder operation. We wish Melanie all the best and hope she comes back to visit us.

And finally, we say goodbye to Amanda as she becomes a customer on the other side of the counter! We have appreciated everything she has done for the shop over the last 2 years and wish her well in her next ventures.

In solidarity the till decided to give up too .....

**Liz Nixon**

**[www.maidenbradleyvillageshop.org.uk](http://www.maidenbradleyvillageshop.org.uk)**

Facebook: Maiden Bradley Community Village Shop

## **Parish Council April 2016**

**Annual Parish Meeting-** Parishioners are asked to note that the Annual Parish meeting of the Electoral is to take place on the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014 starting at 7.30pm, it will be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting afterwards. All are welcome to attend and bring any issue to the attention of the meeting.

**Community Consultation results** -the Parish Council would like to give parishioners a view of the Community Consultation results. There were only 19 replies received and most from grandparents than parents regarding facilities within the parish. The Parish Council also wish to invite parishioners to attend the Annual Parish meeting advertised above to discuss the replies below:

The willingness of parishioners to come forward as volunteers, new volunteers to resurrect the village fete and join in helping at the Christmas party.

Maintenance of Footpaths – kept clear and maintained, Millennium walk better maintained, walkers maps -mapping available in the village hall and shop re rights of ways. A community boundary walk to get the community out together. A picnic table on the Knapp for passing cyclists to stop a while along with wild flowers planted in the verges and entrances to the village.

Mobile phone signal improved, traffic, speed and a weight limit and affordable housing – only as an infill.

Recreational ground is highly valued.

The following wish list has been compiled: Skate park for 10-16 age group, tennis courts, crazy golf, creation of village sports teams – Cricket team, zip wire, slides, a climbing wall, Wi-Fi at the recreational ground, picnic tables, a shelter, more rubbish bins, toilet facilities, hard pathway/surface for walking cycling skating and that dogs are permitted on the recreational area.

There was also a suggestion to move recreational area to behind the public house, build a sports pavilion with showers etc. half the building could house the village shop, with solar panels and heating from home farm and a low cost rent for the shop, giving better parking and become a central village hub area. The recreational area could then be used for light industrial and affordable housing.

**If any Parishioner sees or is aware of anything which they feel needs attention in and around the parish highways, they are requested to contact Wiltshire Council using either the online website, the Wiltshire Council App or on the landline number 0300 456 0105.**

**Items for the next Agenda:** The Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman to the Parish Council, a review of the relevant Parish Council Documentation, appointment of Committees, membership to those committees, internal audit and to also reaffirm eligibility for General Power of Competence, Mere Link Scheme Grant Cheque to be actioned and presented by the Chairman.

**Date of the next meeting-** The Council agreed that Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016 will be the date of the next Parish Council meeting.

As always, the Parish Council meeting will be open at the start with an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make comments on any matter. The website Southwilt.com (Maiden Bradley) can be accessed to read a copy of the Agenda and Minutes electronically or copies are displayed on the Community Notice Board at the village shop. Sarah Jeffries can be contacted by email: [maidenbradley@virginmedia.com](mailto:maidenbradley@virginmedia.com) or phone: 01985 213436 Parish Clerk 9 Beech Grove Warminster BA12 0AB

## **Flower Festival at All Saints Church 9th and 10th July 2016**

We said "Never Again!" but here we go again with another flower festival to raise funds for our church. So what is the theme, I hear you say. Well, Queen Elizabeth is celebrating her 90th birthday so we thought we would like to illustrate the events in her diary over the course of a year. What a lot goes on during Her Majesty's year! Using the title 'The Queens Diary', Sue has created a list of some of the many events for us to depict in flowers, so get your thinking caps on all you keen flower arrangers. Sue (844244) will keep the master list but Mary (844392), Diana (844428) and myself (844221) all have copies so please get in touch with one of us to choose which of the events you would like to depict.

We will need lots of volunteers to help with teas, games, raffle, etc. so please keep the dates in mind.

More next month. Thank you

Sally Higgins

## **Rose bowl for the best Maiden Bradley garden**

**This competition was judged in 2015 in June, and as we are always trying to think of a new theme, we thought that the best "eco garden" would make a change. It will be held in July, which will give everyone a little longer to think about how their garden could fit this criteria. We hope to have lots of entries in July. The rose bowl is awarded during the produce show on August 20th.**

**From the village hall show schedule committee, John Priestner.**

## **Welcome Club**

We had an enjoyable time taking part in a Quiz on April 14<sup>th</sup> with first, second and third places with only one point between them!

The report of our first trip, a mystery outing, will be in the next issue so you will find out then what a great time we had! (I'm sure we did but my crystal ball is out of action at the moment!)

The next hall meeting in Horningsham will be on May 12<sup>th</sup> when Tom will once again be wearing his Bingo Hat – eyes down at 2.30pm.

For our May trip we are giving the gardeners amongst us a chance to spend a longer time at Cadbury Garden Centre, probably 2 hours or so, to allow a greater shopping opportunity to seek out new plants for the season. This will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>. After shopping we will travel to Weston to find some lunch and stay a while before we go home. All are Welcome as ever.

Chris Short 01985 847373

**To all my dear friends in Bradley -**

Thank you so very much for the unforgettable party on April 16th. It was the most delightful shock that I have ever had in my life and when I saw my family there as well I really began to think that I was dreaming!

So much hard work went into preparing the wonderful food but even more amazing was getting so many of you together without a hint of it getting out to me!

My address in Mere is 1, Castle Hill Lane and my phone number 01747 860111 - do please come and see me if you have time to spare when you're nearby.

The party was a truly Maiden Bradley occasion with the feeling of warmth and love which I have always felt around me during my 57 years living there. Thank you all again for that day but mainly for your wonderful friendship!

**Meg**

**Request from the other side of the world.....**

Il wonder if you would be so kind as to help me. I am researching my family tree and its history. I have come upon an ancestor [Robert White, circa 1819] with a connection to a Newmead Farm, Maiden Bradley, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 7HJ, UK.

I wonder if you through your Parish news, which I found on the internet, be able to establish a Email address in order that I may make a contact.

Your help would be most appreciated.

Kindest of regards

Martin. (ex Pat)

**Martin A. Cooper**

11, Parry Crt  
Mornington, Vic 3931

**Australia**

Tel: 61 0359751434

Mobile: 0409 238205

Email: [casademartin@bigpond.com](mailto:casademartin@bigpond.com)



**FINAL REMINDER: 7 May - Sarah McQuaid in Concert.**

The George Inn, Longbridge Deverill, 7.30pm.

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Local pre-school Leaping Frogs has finalised the plans for its new site in Zeals. Now called Leaping Frogs Day Nursery the successful pre-school will be expanding to provide full daycare facilities from September 2012.

If you are interested in registering your child or baby with Leaping Frogs and would like to chat to someone about joining, please call Victoria or Becky on 01747840373

or visit our web site [www.leapingfrogs.org](http://www.leapingfrogs.org) for more information.

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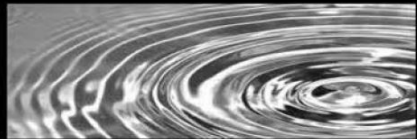
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**Need help with  
Windows 10?**





Whitesheet Hill

May 15th From 12:30

Bring a picnic and kite or make on the day

*Kite Fest is a free family fun day  
organised by Churches Together in Mere  
and District  
and held on Whitesheet Hill  
by kind permission of Angus Neish  
and the National Trust.*

Just bring your kite and a picnic on the afternoon of May 15th. For those without a kite there will be materials available to make one on the day.

At 3pm there will be a competition for the best homemade kites and it is hoped that during the afternoon there will be a chance to see display kites. To find Whitesheet Hill head towards Mere and turn left at the Red Lion.

If you would like any further details or would like to help in any way phone Celia, 01985 844817.