

Maiden Bradley Parish News

387 September 2021



Ines and Richard Holmes with their daughter
at the opening of their Old Chapel Gallery

Diary for September

5	Sun	Sunday Catch-up – 10.00 am Memorial Hall
6	Mon	Green Bin Recycling - collection
8	Wed	Blue Bin – Black Bin – collection
12	Sun	Morning Worship – 10.am All Saints – With Jane Hurd
13	Mon	Household Waste
18	Sat	Penny's Wood Walk – meet 10:30 Memorial Hall – Maiden Bradley Climate Collective
19	Sun	Morning worship – 10 am - All Saints with Tom Blay
20	Mon	Green Bin Recycling - collection
22	Wed	Blue Bin - Black Box – collection
23	Thu	Wild Life Talk – Welcoming Wildlife to your Community – Silk Mill, Frome 10:30 to 12:30
24	Fri	Harvest Supper in the Memorial Hall
26	Sun	Patronal Service – 10:30 am St Michaels, Mere
27	Mon	Household Waste - collection
3 Oct	Sun	Sunday Catch-up – 10:00 am Memorial Hall

Useful Telephone Numbers

Speed Watch Co-ordinator	Simon Wager	simon.m.wager@gmail.com
Nadder Oil Buying Club	Richard Willan	Email: richard.willan@me.com www.oilbuyingclub.com
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Derek Stevens	01985 844428
Community Garden	Kate Moore	katemoore@silkmillstudios.co.uk 01985 844305
Book Club	Jessica Johnson	01985 844174
Pilates		01985 511693
Cookery Demonstrations	Rosie Brown	01985 844236
Luncheon Club		01985 844779
Welcome Club Outings		01985 844779
Scrabble Club		01985 844919
Memorial Hall bookings		01985 845303
Dr Andrew Murrison MP		01225 358584 murrisona@parliament.uk
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096



The post office is open in the Village Hall on Tuesdays 1-3pm
Bell Ringing Tuesday 7 pm in the Bell Tower at the Church, beginners welcome 844475
Coffee Mornings every Friday in the Hall 10 am till 12 noon
Maiden Bradley Parish News – contributions are preferred in editable text format.
Email pat@visa-office.com

Magazine available online on the village website:

www.maidenbradleyvillage.org.uk

September Editorial – James Kennedy

It gives me great pleasure to provide the services of acting Editor in the absence of Pat Kennedy as she attempts to complete the Camino de Santiago in Spain.

Have you noticed how effective our new streets lights are you can see the Milky Way on a fine night without having to walk out of the village. I understand from the fitters they are focused LED (light emitting diodes) which project downwards to give a pool of natural colour light below the lamp rather than a glare of sodium gas light. I suspect there is a big saving on energy and I am thankful not to have a bedroom illuminated by that hideous sodium lamps.

In a passing discussion with a village elder the other day, that I learned that to keep alive the edifice of All Saints Church, the 12th century building in the core of our village will need a considerable sum of money to be spent on it to keep it going. The cost of maintenance and repairs to maintain the facility, is of the order of £250,000. Sadly this colossal amount needs to be spent on the building to stop it crumbling away to a ruin. Whatever our persuasion, are we the generation of villagers about to let this monument and all that I think is good about this village and this community become a memory?

In passing at the Friday coffee morning, the message from Martin Brown was, “can I give you advance warning that there will be a Harvest Supper at the MBMH - 24th September 2021, in aid of All Saints through the good offices of Friends of All Saints Church”

Yes the Friday Coffee morning is back and the best way to get to know the village and its people is to turn up before noon, it will only cost you a quid for a beverage. Tom Allday may even wear his stunning electric blue satin waistcoat.

Cover Story - The Old Chapel “All art was once contemporary”

So said Ted Schroll of the Metropolitan Museum of Art – New York. This clever strap line is coined by Paul Hughes in his first exhibition of art at The Old Chapel Gallery in the form of textiles and other related media across the millennia. Those words demonstrate the clear relationship between the ancient Andean Pre-Columbian archaeological textiles 2000 year ago of hand woven and dyed textile yarns and the use of minute bird feathers against more recent artwork effects using hand dyed viscose yarn, then woven to create a stunning imagery. For those with an interest in art it's a must to visit this exhibition, which remains open until 24th October 2021, Thursday to Saturday 10:00 to 18:00 Sunday 10:00 – 16:00. Take your time and read the titles but view from across the gallery for a better perspective of the artists intention and be guided by the gallery team who are deeply knowledgeable about these fine works of art.



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 56/57 The Rank**

Village Hall Lottery

July

1 st C. Corp	£26.50	2 nd Sarah Muir	£13.25
3 rd J. Betts	£8.00	4 th Robert Morris	£5.25

August

1 st Steve Crossman	£26.50	2 nd Glenda Andrews	£13.25
3 rd Mel Thomas	£8.00	4 th Mark Holbrook H	£5.25

A Memorial Hall "thank you" for all the support during lockdown

To all those contributors to the Hall Lottery, a very big thank you for helping maintain this vital social hub. Over this year alone £600+ has gone to you in prizes and £600+ to the maintenance of the Hall.

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.



The Maiden Bradley Climate Collective

Activating Maiden Bradley's Environmental Response

September is such an important month for anyone who loves gardening. It is the month where many of our Dahlias stand tall and proud, the month where gourds and pumpkins are developing and often the month where you start to plan what you want to grow for next year.

August 2021 was a critical month too. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its assessment report on climate change. The report is perhaps best summed up by Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General who stated:

***"Today's report is a code red for humanity.
There is no time for delay and no room for excuses."***

We have seen and are living through environmental changes that are deeply concerning. Greek Islands burning for weeks; flash flooding across many parts of Europe, animals and plants becoming extinct at an alarming rate and icecaps melting. No-one on this planet can fail to see the serious and devastating impact we are having on the world around us. The main aspects of the report are as follows:

- We still have a 'narrow' path opportunity to avoid climate catastrophe
- Climate change will only get worse. The change is not only ongoing but it is accelerating.
- The decisions we make now and over the next decade will be the difference between a future where the planet is irreversibly damaged and us ensuring our stewardship of the planet for future generations. We have the ability to reduce temperatures, reduce rising sea levels, reduce heatwaves, reduce floods and slow the impact we are having. Every fraction of warming matters. The report notes that a mere 0.5% increase can bring with it dire consequences.

What we need to do:

- Dramatically reduce the carbon dioxide (CO2) in our atmosphere. The levels of CO2 are higher currently than at any point in the last two thousand years.
- Take emergency action to stop the huge impact that human influence has had and continues to have on our planet.

It is easy to look at this and feel that there is nothing we can do. It is easy to form the opinion that only governments and large industry can make the changes that are necessary.

THIS IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE

People power can be amazing. It has made huge cultural changes in our world. One person in 1955, refusing to give up her bus seat in Montgomery, Alabama started a civil rights movement that was to have a huge impact. The 'green revolution' in this country has been driven by people who demanding cleaning products that caused less damage to the environment.

What we do as one person, multiplied across the planet can and will make a difference.

We have the ability to make simple changes in our lives that could, if done in large enough numbers, have a dramatic impact on making things better. Let's all be part of the change. There are numerous websites that offer suggestions as to what individuals can do. One to look at is clareosborn.com. Clare challenges us all to make a difference. She asks what type of Eco-Hero's we are? It does not need to be hugely ambitious; my pledges are relatively simple:



The call to arms may be best summed up by our national treasure, David Attenborough:

"We are at a unique stage in our history. Never before have we had such an awareness of what we are doing to the planet, and never before have we had the power to do something about it. Surely we all have a responsibility to care for our blue planet."

Maiden Bradley can seem like the middle of nowhere but the people of this village have the power to generate change.

If not now, then when? If not us, then who?

Lending with Heart and Mind

Wiltshire Council fund a not-for-profit loan scheme for homeowners.*

If you have lived in your home for over 5 years and:

- Are over 60; or
- Are in receipt of State Benefits; or
- Have children under 16 living with you.

You may be eligible for a home improvement loan to keep your home warm, safe, and suitable for your needs.

Lendology CIC work in partnership with Wiltshire Council to deliver the council subsidised loan scheme. Our knowledgeable team of advisers will guide you through the process of applying.

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Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton, TA4 1EU

*subject to eligibility

The Bee Team

Its nice to be able to report that during this somewhat cool damp summer that something is humming. The Bee Team received a swarm of bees in the late spring and the colony was settled into our own Dartington pattern hive. The queen continues to be very active and she has expand her team considerably such the brood box is getting fuller and importantly the Honey boxes are beginning to show signs of filling up as well. A honey box is just that; it holds the foundation frames onto which the workers build the cells and then fill with honey. The design of the honey boxes allows the workers access and not the queen and is the place where the comb is built and filled with honey and later the honey is extracted. It's an exciting time as we need to have strong thriving swarm and well fed and provisioned swarm to overwinter.

The pictures below show Sam Ribeck our Beemaster making a routine inspection 24th August. We are hopeful that next spring we might be able to expand the apiary with another swarm and introduce them to a second hive.



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Best Kept Village Competition

Maiden Bradley came 2nd among the "Best Newcomers" in the Best Kept Village Competition for South Wiltshire.

Thank you to everyone who helped spruce up the village by collecting rubbish, clearing footpaths, and weeding flower beds. And thank you to everyone volunteering at the village hall, village shop, churchyard, and community garden – your efforts were a major contribution to the village's success.

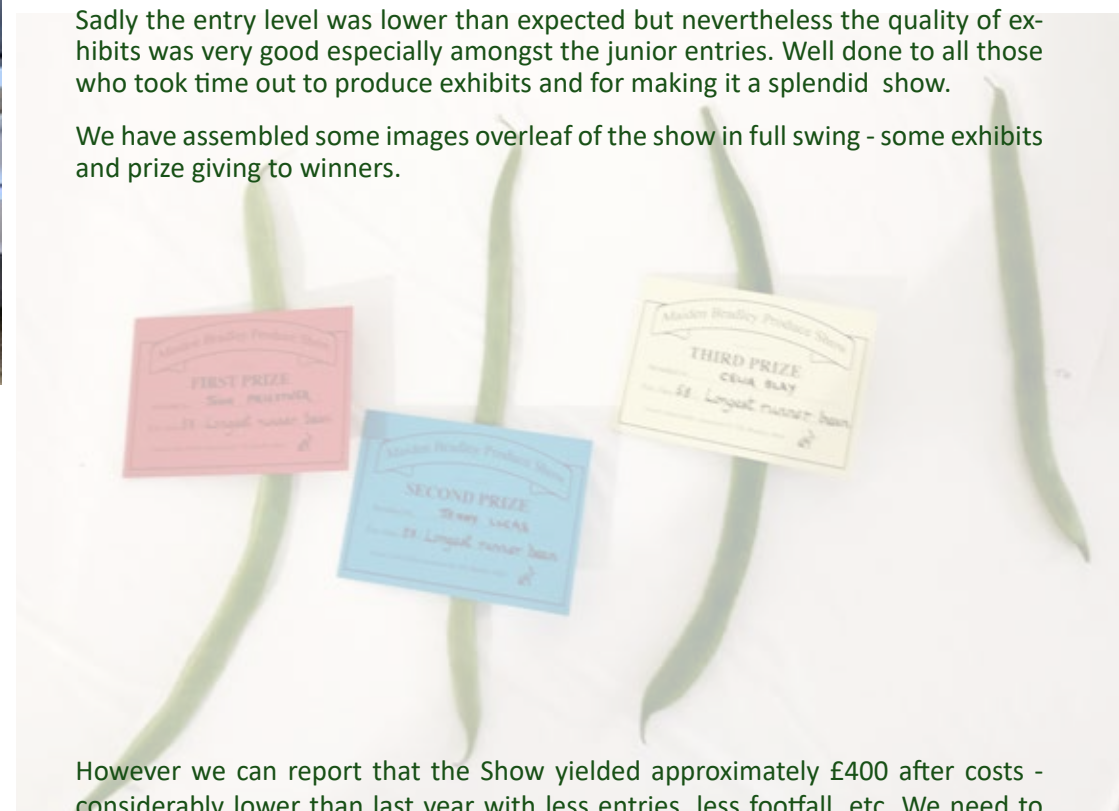
Alex Channer

The 2021 Flower and Produce Show

We should strike a medal for Sue and John Priestner and their team of helpers, organisers and judges for the effort that has gone into planning this years show.

Sadly the entry level was lower than expected but nevertheless the quality of exhibits was very good especially amongst the junior entries. Well done to all those who took time out to produce exhibits and for making it a splendid show.

We have assembled some images overleaf of the show in full swing - some exhibits and prize giving to winners.



However we can report that the Show yielded approximately £400 after costs - considerably lower than last year with less entries, less footfall, etc. We need to be more supportive as a community and be prepared to join more to produce more revenue for running the Memorial Hall - we can no longer rely on Riki Sunak's handouts.

However, we have winners and the successful are as follows:

- Ladies cup was Alexandra Poole**
- Men's cup was James Kennedy**
- Dahlia cup was David Crossman**
- Best village dog was Honey owned by Lucy Smith**
- Children's cup was Phoebe Cross**
- Priestner cup was won by the Community gardens.**
- The Rose Bowl for best July garden to Caroline and Stewart Male.**

Some highlights of the 2021 show -

Jannine Barron, Hall Chairperson, awards the Pete Dean Dahlia cup to David Crossman and the Thomas Sheild to Phoebe Cross. Honey, with Lucy Smith, won the Best Village Dog award. The Priestner cup went to the Community Garden (right).

Mary, Sarah and Tom served up some delicious cakes and tea.

Esther Swan auctions off one of her cakes to the highest bidder!



Phoebe Cross's pasta earrings and cactus garden cupcakes, Christine Bullen's winning scones and Vera Crossman's floating flowers.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS

Police Community Volunteers working on behalf of
the Wiltshire Police and Maiden Bradley



Welcome to Community Speed Watch News, August Issue, compiled and produced by the Maiden Bradley Community Speed Watch Volunteers to keep the village aware of our activities.

First and foremost we have three new CSW members and once they have finished their training course very shortly, they will be very active with the rest of the team. Thank you for giving your time.

Activity has been as good as usual this month with 9 sessions this month 1575 vehicles counted and 136 vehicles logged for speeding. One at 50mph Plus unfortunately a deliberate act of aggression towards the CSW team on the Bus Stop position, where the driver and occupants deliberately pulled over towards the CSW team and threatened physical abuse. Then returned some 15 minutes later and pulled into the line of oncoming traffic and threatened further physical abuse, regardless of blocking the oncoming traffic. This is now a police matter. So no further comment.

The problem area, Frome Road (B3092) and getting worse with the increase in traffic after lockdown. The average speed has increased, we logged one vehicle at 50mph coming into the village, and so has the aggression. The doubling of CSW activity on the B3092 is having a positive effect Church Street is suffering a lot of aggression through the traffic calming area again down to speed and the increase in aggression. The vocabulary of foul language has increased greatly regardless of gender. Guess where the CSW teams will be working shortly.

We continue to share the Speed Device with the Deverills CSW team "If Maiden Bradley don't get yer Deverills will " our joint motto.

SID. The Speed Indicator Device as always has a very positive effect. Therefore it is being considered we have a second one.

If you see an incident Call 999 if the driver is still on scene, or 101. Take the Reg. No.

Thank you for all your support in the CSW activities Just telephone 01985 844848 and we will do the rest.

Simon Wager

Simon Wager. Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.
Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish Council

We are back !!!

After 18 months of closure all the members of Luncheon and Welcome Club plus helpers and cooks were invited to a cream tea at the Village Hall in July. A very happy time was enjoyed by all with a lot of chatting and catching up with old friends.

Luncheon Club will open again on Thursday 2nd September. For those interested in joining, the club is open to anyone 60 and over. New members are always very welcome. We meet every Thursday from 12 noon with lunch served at 12.30pm. For £3 a head you can enjoy a dinner, pudding and cup of tea or coffee plus good company. We do hold a weekly raffle and small donations are welcome. The club is run by volunteer cooks and helpers and we are very grateful to them for their time in helping to keep the club open.

The Welcome Club outings started in August with a trip to Sidmouth, coffee stop at the donkey sanctuary (below). With limited numbers allowed on the coach we have given priority to members. Our September outing on 28th September is to Swanage & Corfe Castle stopping at Blandford for coffee.

Our last outing of the season is on 19th October to Poole, coffee stop at Lyndhurst. The cost is £15 per person. If you are interested please ring Lesley (01985211355) to see if any seats are available.

Providing all things go well next year we hope to have a full season of 7 trips with a coach capacity of 48.

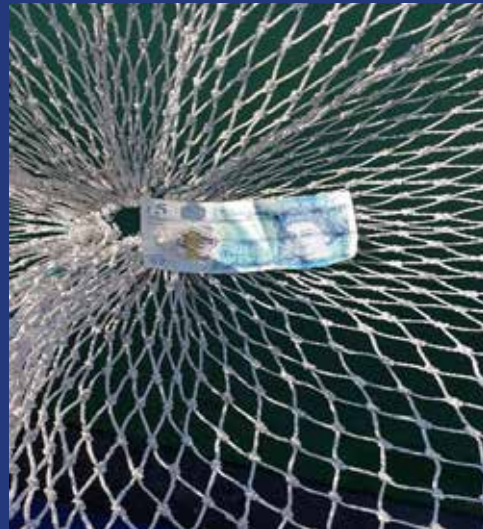


Maiden Bradley Annual 'Cuckoo' Fishing Trip 2021

Having been cancelled in 2019 (bad weather) and 2020 (Covid 19), the annual Cuckoo fishing trip was able to take place on 25th August. We fished out of Poole Harbour aboard Silver Spray 2, a spacious and comfortable catamaran, skippered by Andy Cummings ('The Admiral'). As with previous trips and in order to inject a bit of fun, the day was run as a species competition.

The morning session was slightly impaired by unfavourable sea conditions (wind over tide) so the skipper decided to drift half a mile off Bournemouth Beach.

It was during one such drift that Fe noticed something shiny floating in the water which turned out to be the hologram on a £5 note! Luckily the boat drifted towards the treasure and the skipper was able to net it.



Floating Treasure

Unusually for this time of year we were unable to catch a single Mackerel all day so had to rely on frozen bait and rag worms. However, the crew managed to make the most of what they had and caught a number of Plaice.

Once the sea conditions improved, we were able to head further offshore to fish over some rough ground where a variety of fish were caught, the best of which was a 7lb Small Eyed Ray.

As the tide turned, we headed for the Dolphin Bank, close to the Isle of Wight, where more sizeable Plaice were caught. This was followed by our final mark, once again over rough ground that added to the species tally.



Gilly with a Plaice



Dale with a Small Eyed Ray



Eoin's first fish (there is a fish there) and it is a Pouting.



Alex (1) with a very small shark

The total number of fish caught during the day was 33, made up of the following species:

- Bream
- Conger Eel
- Dab
- Dogfish
- Tub Gurnard
- Plaice
- Pouting
- Small Eyed Ray
- Smoothound
- Tope
- ...And a £5 note



Alex (2) – Overall Winner

A few Plaice were kept for the table with the remainder of the fish safely returned to the sea. So, all in all a very enjoyable day made special by the weather and a fine group of local enthusiastic anglers.

Adi

Article submitted by Simon Wager

The Memories of a Railway Man

By Mike Herrin about his life on the railway.

The Whisky Wagon

Another, at the time a funny incident. I was on early's (04:00 to 16:40hrs) and Eric Reeves on late's(08;30 to 20:30hrs) . Once a week the Taunton - Yeovil daily goods dropped off a wagon of spirits for Bruttons the local brewery and today was the day.

The driver, fireman and myself had just finished our breakfast when Eric arrived, had a cup of tea, and said he would go with the locomotive out to the long siding to bring in some wagons for unloading and on the way he would knock (Fly Shunt) the Whisky wagon back to the shed., “you have the brake” he said. Fair enough: the wagon would be rolling well. It was about 300yds away, no problem we had done it all before, I would steady it down into the shed.

Eric sets off with the engine, I reckon I have time for a quick leak next door, standing there I hear the sound of wheels, but you just cannot stop can you??

The wagon sails past the toilet into the good shed. There is a terrific crash, the wagon bounces back off the stop blockis, well at least it is still on the road. I shout a warning and walk calmly with the wagon and stop it on the blocks. the shed smells strongly of whiskey.

I walk calmly off up to the top of the yard. But the door to the good office opens and Yard Foreman Charlie Hawkins appears. Not Happy. You B*****S have done it this time.

Get Eric and get yourself down here quickly. I walk up to the top of the yard and explain to Eric. We go down to the office.

Behind the stop blocks was the Chief clerks desk, one Mr Cornelius. Above him were shelves of files, some probably not disturbed since Brunel's days and many of these had deposited themselves and vast quantities of dust on his person, not happy either, the other clerks were dusting him down and muttering vengeful thoughts about us.

It was quite a costly incident, I believe £600.00 was mentioned, also a waste of spirit. Eric made out his usual multi page report which really only said I was obeying the call of nature. We heard nothing more about it.

Mike Herrin

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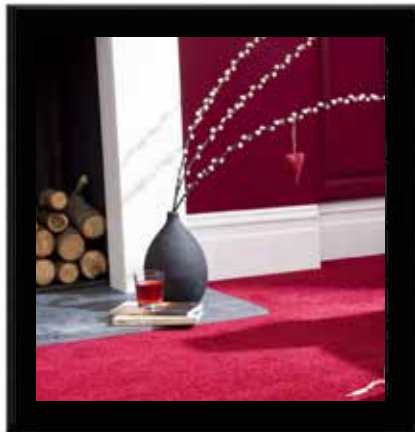
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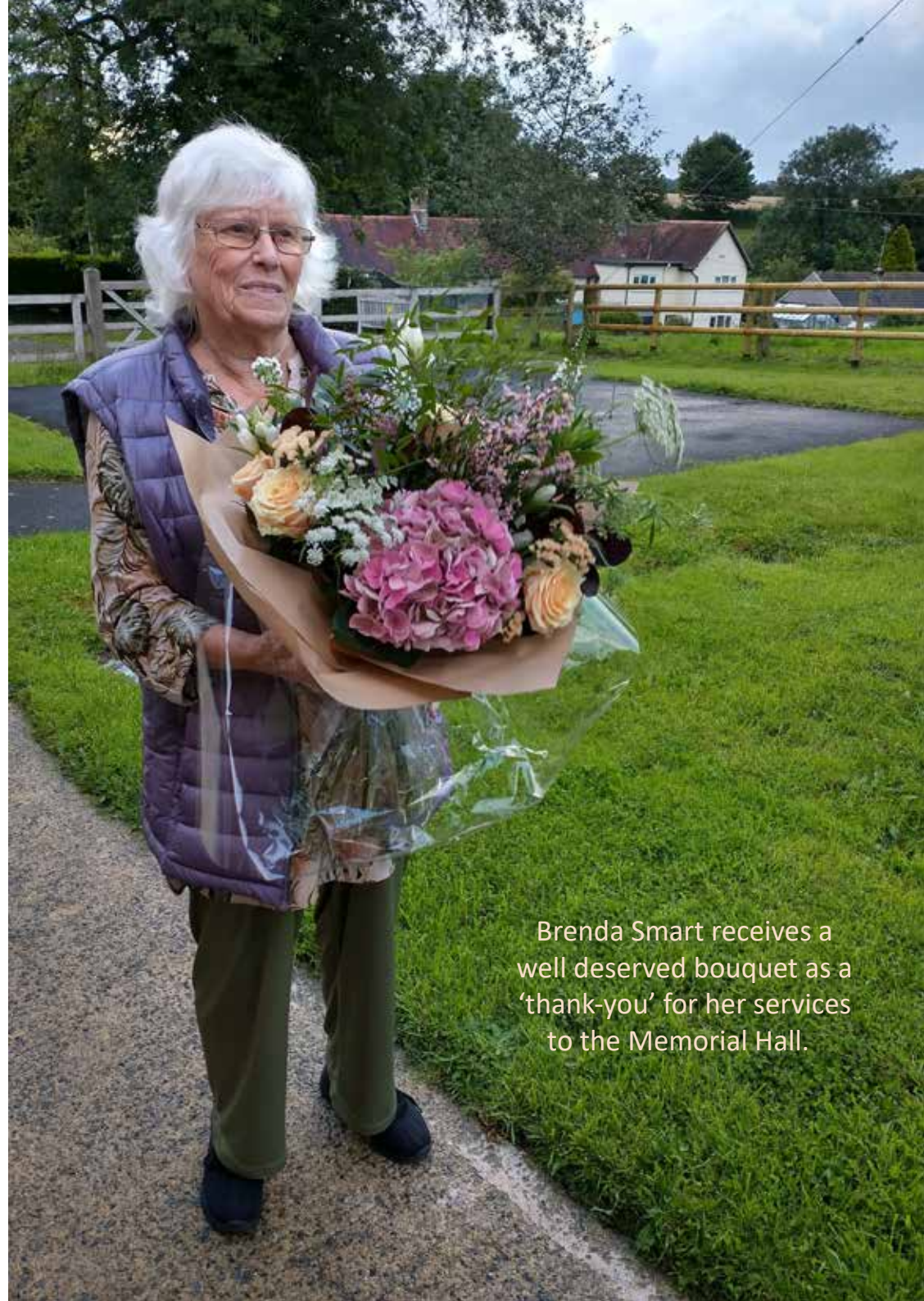
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