

# MAIDEN BRADLEY

# NEWS

APRIL 2023



comm**unity**  
edition

- 1 Sat Community litter pick
- 2 Sun Palm Sunday service in church,  
led by Jane Hurd - 10am
- 3 Mon **EASTER BINGO – 7 FOR 7.30PM START**  
Green recycling
- 5 Wed Blue bin and black box recycling
- 9 Sun Easter communion service led by Rev. Liz Smith at 10am followed  
by 'egg and treasures' hunt in the churchyard for children of all  
ages and refreshments inside for all-comers from about 11am.
- 12 Wed Household waste collection
- 15 Sat Wedding
- 16 Sun Songs of Praise led by Jane Hurd 10am Come along and choose  
your favourite hymn.
- 17 Mon Green recycling
- 19 Wed Blue bin and black box recycling
- 22 Sat **CRAZY PONY– LIVE MUSIC EVENT 7.30 FOR 8PM**
- 23 Sun Catch up in the Hall 10-11 am  
St George's Day
- 26 Wed Household waste collection
- 29 Sat Wylve Valley Arts trail until 7<sup>th</sup> May



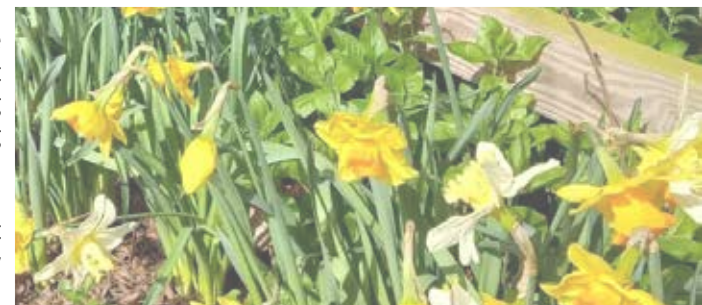
On Easter Sunday the church service will start, as usual, at 10am after which there will be a hunt around the churchyard for children of all ages, where they might be lucky enough to find tiny, hand-painted stones (thank you Ray) and Easter eggs tucked away in places for little people to find. There will be tea and coffee inside for all-comers. after the service.



With the flowering of the daffodils around the village, spring is here in Maiden Bradley. The area for the Queen's Canopy is settling down after its remodelling and the views across the countryside stretch beyond the town of Frome and far into the distance. A perfect spot. The houses being built at the Old Timber Yard are progressing well with many already sold and I am pleased to say at very little inconvenience to us close residents in The Rank.

Unity abounds in the village. There is much to enjoy in the activities generated by enthusiasts and the new residents moving here will be welcomed to join in where their interests may take them. Certainly, we need more bell ringers. Tuesdays 7.30pm at the Church!

Please keep a watch for the hedgehogs. Ours are now out of hibernation and feeding well on the special hedgehog food we buy at the pet food shop. If you are putting food out for them, don't forget that they also need a shallow bowl of water as well.



**Patricia Kennedy**

pat@visa-office.com

845397

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Speed Watch Co-ordinator	Simon Wager	simon.m.wager@gmail.com
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator	Derek Stevens	01985 844428
Community Garden	Sam Ribeck	sam.ribeck@btinternet.com
Book Club	Jessica Johnson	01985 844174
Cookery Demonstrations	Rosie Brown	01985 844236
Luncheon Club	Margaret	01985 844756
Welcome Club Outings	Pearl	01985 219289
Scrabble Club	Sue	01985 844919
Memorial Hall bookings	bookingsmaidenbradleyhall@gmail.com	01985 845303
Dr Andrew Murrison MP	murrisona@parliament.uk	01225 358584
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Bell Ringing Tuesday 7.30pm in the Church Bell Tower - beginners welcome		01985 845397
Church contact	Diana Green	01985 844500
Environmental issues	greenermaidenbradley@gmail.com	
Nadder Oil Buying Club	Email:richard.willan@me.com	www.oilbuyingclub.com

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

PLEASE EMAIL PAT@VISA-OFFICE.COM BY 20<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH

MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ONLINE ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE:  
**WWW.MAIDENBRADLEYVILLAGE.ORG.UK**



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**YOGA & MEDITATION AT YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE HALL**

11.00am	Monday	SLOW FLOW	Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall
12.45pm	Monday	MEDITATION	Longbridge Deverill Village Hall
1.15pm	Monday	YOGA FLOW	Longbridge Deverill Village Hall
6.30pm	Tuesday	RESTORATIVE YOGA	Longbridge Deverill Village Hall
6.00pm	Wednesday	YOGA FLOW	Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall
11.00am	Thursday	RESTORATIVE YOGA	Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

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**What's happening at the Hall?**

**01985 845303**  
leave message

**WEBSITE:**  
[www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk](http://www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk)

**EMAIL:**  
[maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com)

**REGULAR EVENTS**

**PLEASE NOTE - YOGA RETURNS ON 17TH APRIL**

**MONDAYS 11.00AM-12.00AM NEW TIME**  
Yoga for all

**MONDAYS 5.00PM-6.00PM**  
Dr's Surgery

**TUESDAY 11AM-MIDDAY**  
Bradley Babies

**TUESDAY 1.00PM-3.00PM**  
Post Office Service

**WEDNESDAYS 6.15PM-7.15PM**  
Yoga Flow

**NEW THURSDAY 11.00AM - MIDDAY**  
Restorative Yoga

**FRIDAYS 10AM-12PM**  
Coffee Morning

**Book library available during hall opening Friday mornings**

**APRIL EVENTS COMING UP....**



**Friday 21st April**  
**AN EVENING OF VILLAGE NOSTALGIA AND HISTORY**  
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start

**Saturday 22nd April**  
**CRAZY PONY - LIVE MUSIC EVENT**  
(website: [www.crazypony.banjocircus.com](http://www.crazypony.banjocircus.com))  
Doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm start  
Tickets £10 on the door or online at Eventbrite



**SATURDAY 29TH APRIL – MONDAY 7TH MAY**  
**WYLYE ARTS TRAIL**

The Hall (venue 46) is one of 3 sites in the village to be part of the trail  
**CREAM TEAS WILL BE SERVED IN THE HALL ON THE TWO WEEKENDS AND BANK HOLIDAY MONDAYS 2 - 4PM**



L to R: Gillian Flint, Helena Marsden and Steve Gunter - venue 46 Hall



L to R: Deb Barnes and Tonia Gunstone  
venue 44 - The Old Chapel



Susanna Lisle - venue 45  
41 - 42 Church St

# Crazy Pony Music Duo

## Bluegrass and Surprises



**An audio visual experience with  
acrobatics, comedy and circus**

**Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall**

**Saturday 22nd April 8pm**

**Tickets £10 online from [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)**

**and on the door subject to availability**

**doors open 7.30 - licensed bar**

**[www.crazypony.banjocircus.com](http://www.crazypony.banjocircus.com)**

### **MAIDEN BRADLEY WEIGHT WATCHERS**

*Hanson Industries have submitted a planning application to develop their existing quarrying operations at Whatley.*

*The proposal involves quarrying limestone from 100 acres of good farmland near Nunney and burying the waste in Asham Wood, an SSSI that provides a habitat for horseshoe bats, protected bird colonies and other ancient flora and fauna.*

*The proposal has direct consequences on our village in Maiden Bradley. This is a mega quarry which will extract 2 million tonnes of carbon rich limestone over the next 40 years. 88 more enormous lorries will travel through the villages of Wiltshire and Somerset every day in addition to the 200 lorries already passing through Maiden Bradley.*

**PLEASE GET  
INVOLVED**

*Join the activities of  
Maiden Bradley Weight  
Watchers  
and write to our MP  
Andrew Murrison*

*Martin Brown  
MBWW*



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[www.ruralaffairs.co.uk](http://www.ruralaffairs.co.uk) • email: [lucinda@ruralaffairs.co.uk](mailto:lucinda@ruralaffairs.co.uk)



Last Month we met at the Village Hall for a coffee morning and were pleased to welcome new villagers to our Greener Maiden Bradley group. Sharon's yummy vegan snacks were popular, and we served organic, fair-trade coffee and tea.

We all shared our purpose in our deep care for the environment and protecting our climate with community actions. While topics of creativity, litter picks, nature walks and biodiversity were discussed, I am going to report this month on a very exciting recycling initiative.

We proud to announce an initiative with the Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall for recycling 'tricky things' and we need your help to make this a huge success and put our village on the map as a village who cares about reducing waste.

It has been almost twelve months of research that has resulted The Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall partnership with Steve Hendy at Upper Row Farm. Steve has set up an initiative using the TerraCycle® system to be a collection point for a variety of items that cannot be put in our blue lid bins, nor can they be easily recycled and regularly end up in all the wrong places or in household waste.

You can now bring the following items to the Village Hall in opening hours and use the bin system shown in the photo on this page.

**There are two locations to note - OUTSIDE BACK DOOR AND INSIDE HALL KITCHEN**

**1 - Items to bring to plastic bin near back door at rear of hall**

- Empty Crisp Packets of all brands

**2 - Items to put in the silver bins inside the hall kitchen:**

- Coffee Pods all brands
- Medication Blister Packs all brands
- Pens, Pencils, Texta all brands
- Toothbrush Tubes & Toothbrushes

**3 - Items to put in the plastic tub next to silver bins**

This is a mixed box. You can add a variety of items including

- coffee pack
- peanut packs & other foil lined packaging
- cheese wrappers - the waxy ones, any like mozzarella or 'wet cheese'
- bread and bakery packaging
- dishwasher tablet bags
- wet wipe bags
- plastic bottle tops from milk, coke etc
- sweet and biscuit wrappers including Roses and Quality Street sweets.



*Please wash before bringing, no dirty or smelly items please!! People are sorting this rubbish by hand.*

To check on what you CAN recycle in your household blue bin, this link has a clear list.

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/recycling>



**Changing our Rubbish Habits**

While recycling is a great idea, we acknowledge that creating a simple system at home for fiddly bits and then remembering to drop them to the hall can be half the challenge. Here are some tips to help make the change easy and don't worry if you forget the first few times, just try again.

- Have a small old container near your bin to make it easy to remember to pop odd things in there.
- Wash up your dirty packets before bringing them to the hall with your dishes and let the plastic dry in the rack first.
- Bring your items to the hall during opening hours on Monday 5pm, Tuesday 1 – 3pm and Friday 10 – 12 am. See Newsletter for other opening times.

While it was agreed that we would like to see companies taking more responsibility for their own packaging, we agreed that small, significant changes help us all think about what we buy and how we can make a meaningful contribution to our environment by thinking about our purchases.

**Purchase Suggestions**

There are many ways to shop for zero waste products and here are some favourites from our village.

- Denude in Frome offers bulk food shopping with no packaging for dry goods and general household goods. Visit at 4 Bath St, Frome.
- Plastic free chewing gum nuud.com
- Search Laundry Sheets or Laundry Leaves such as eco laundry club
- Pet Lover Suggestion: <https://honeysrealdogfood.com/about/environment/>
- Frank's Repair Shop and sharpening farm & household tools, fortnightly from 26th March at Crockerton Lakeside Garden Centre 07562 717620

**Consider renting instead of buying.**

**You can also earn extra income by renting the gear you don't use.**

- Share Frome: Thousands of items <https://sharefrome.org/things/>
- Camping: <https://www.tentshare.co.uk/>
- <https://www.rentmy.com/>



## LINK NUMBER TWO - BARBARA GOLLEDGE, HIGH STREET

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED MAIDEN BRADLEY?

Since 1972.

### TELL US SOMETHING OF YOUR WORK PAST AND/OR PRESENT

I was born in Cheltenham and I worked in a busy agricultural office until I married my husband Jim. Then we started the little market garden nursery 'The Walled Garden' in what is now the Community Garden where we grew tomatoes, cucumbers, salads, every kind of vegetable in the beds as well as flowers. We supplied Britain in Bloom flowers for Salisbury, Frome & Warminster.

### TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR LEISURE ACTIVITIES

I like to crochet, knit, grow plants mainly in pots now and I like to go to the Everyman theatre in Cheltenham where my sister still lives. I am quite interested in Roman history particularly Roman Gloucestershire.

### WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY?

Lying in my pram under the trees of the orchard of our remote cottage in the Cotswolds looking up at the leaves. Also before I could even walk being lifted onto the back of my grandad's horse.

### TELL US ABOUT AN ANIMAL THAT MEANS/MEANT A LOT TO YOU

My beautiful dogs; my golden retriever Angus who died in 2011 and our lovely labrador Jago. I couldn't bring myself to tell my parents that he had died for weeks.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FILM/TV SERIES?

'Ever Decreasing Circles' with Richard Briers & Penelope Wilton in the 1980s, I still watch the DVDs when I need to cheer myself up.

### DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER WITH A STORY THAT IS UNUSUAL?

My father was Irish and on their honeymoon my parents stayed in a house belonging to Sir Bernard Shaw in Hertfordshire. It was something to do with the Irish connection but they never talked much about it.

### WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF IN YOUR LIFE?

At the moment I am proud of living on my own and not harking back to the past too much and letting it drag me down.

### NAME YOUR FAVOURITE RIVER

The Severn where I grew up it is tidal and the Severn Bore comes up river from the sea leaping and roaring. It is really quite frightening because the whole river bed can be empty one moment and then you hear this roar in the distance before it rushes up from the sea. All the roads swish with water afterwards. When I was a teenager I had a boyfriend who used to surf the wave. He was 16 and very brave! I also like the Windrush because it is so gentle.



### TELL US A BIT ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FUTURE

Hopeful; no good being anything else.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE WAY TO ENTERTAIN YOURSELF?

Reading and talking to old friends.

### TELL US SOME THINGS THAT YOU LIKE/DISLIKE ABOUT THE VILLAGE

I love the people, they are really friendly especially to people like me on my own, always offering a lift or to pick up some shopping or just saying hello when they are about with their dogs. I don't think you would get that everywhere and however much people change over they still seem all to have that quality. The thing I regret about the village is that we don't have our 5 days of transport. We used to be able to get a bus to Bath, Salisbury, Trowbridge, Frome or Warminster.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SEASON?

Spring.

### TELL US ABOUT A CRISIS IN YOUR LIFE

When my husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's. He was ill for many years and died in 2018, the same year as I lost both my parents.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

I like simple foods, French bread and cheese, salad, homemade soup.

### TELL US ABOUT A HIGHLIGHT IN YOUR LIFE

My wedding day!

### WHAT IS THE BEST BOOK YOU HAVE READ AND WHY DID YOU LIKE IT?

A Traveller in Time by Alison Uttley. Penelope goes on holiday to an ancient farm and steps through a door into the 1500s. She gets involved in the Babbington Plot to assassinate Elizabeth 1 & put Mary Queen of Scots on the throne. We used to play on an old farm that dated back to the 1500s and I used to be that little girl.



*Barbara's husband Jim auctioning a cake at the Maiden Bradley Produce Show which he used to run.*



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## MERE AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME

March update - John Fitzgerald

[www.merelink.org.uk](http://www.merelink.org.uk)



01747 860096  
9am – 5pm Weekdays Only

In February we did 80 trips in total with 30 to Salisbury District Hospital including six for visiting an in-patient. This was less than January but more than February 2022.

Our volunteer drivers are available to take you to medical appointments, including Covid vaccinations, and even shopping, if resources allow. Once you have an appointment please call 01747 860096 to book a Link driver. As a charity we do not charge for trips but ask for a donation. Please try to give us 48 hours notice, if possible, as we cannot guarantee to arrange last minute requests. Also, please remember that our coordinators work in their own homes so keep calls to 9-5 Monday to Friday and only use the 01747 860096 number. If you would like to find out more about volunteering as a driver please call our co-ordinator on 01747 860096.

A reminder that the Link Scheme AGM will be held on Friday 23 June at 7pm in the Grove Building. After the meeting we will have drinks and nibbles socially. Everyone is welcome.

Also, please remember that our coordinators work in their own homes so keep calls to 9-5 Monday to Friday and only use the 01747 860096 number.

*If you would like to find out more about volunteering as a driver please call our co-ordinator on 01747 860096.*

*John Fitzgerald*  
Chair Mere and District Link Scheme  
01747 860867  
07795606426  
Link phone 01747 860096  
[www.merelink.org.uk](http://www.merelink.org.uk)



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# THE RETURN OF THE TEMPORARY MEASURE POP UP PUB NIGHT AT THE HALL



It was with a bit of trepidation that members of the Hall committee kitted the inside of the Hall out as a pub complete with dartboard, pool table, background music and plenty of low key lighting.

We opened the doors at 5pm and nervously waited.....

We needn't have worried. The Temporary Measure was enjoyed by a real mixture of people from the village - young and old alike - who downed a few pints of draft Doombar, had a good old chinwag and, in some cases, threw a few arrows.



We were able to offer drinks at a good price (the advantage of volunteers, low overheads and some donated stock) and still made a small profit for the hall. A huge 'thank you' to all the bar staff and particularly to Jo and Jim Gilbert for transporting and lending us Harrison's pool table, the lighting and many other accessories. Also a special mention to Christina Bullen for signwriting our very own pub mirror!

**Elaine Lavender**



6.03.2023  
1, Frome Vale  
Maiden Bradley,  
BA12 7SE

To The Committee,  
Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall.

Congratulations of the wonderful success of the two evenings of the Maiden Bradley "Pop-up Pub".

The effort made by everyone concerned was truly exceptional from the decorating of the hall to the attentive service of all the helpers. It was a brilliant effort on all fronts worthy of the highest of compliments.

I am very conscious of all the hard work involved by all of you and hope you will accept my heartfelt "Thank you."

Sincerely,  
Tom Collier

We had lots of positive comments - including this lovely letter from Tom



# community

A project designed to share information  
and encourage mutual support within our village

*dreamt up by Elaine Lavender assisted by Ian Ferguson  
with lots of valuable input from Diana Bourne, Jo Gilbert, Charlie Carter, Ben Jones,  
Christina Bullen, Simon Wager and Alex Channer*

*email: [elainelavender1@outlook.com](mailto:elainelavender1@outlook.com)  
[ianferguson59@gmail.com](mailto:ianferguson59@gmail.com)*

## INTRODUCTION

Do you know how many groups and organisations there are in Maiden Bradley? We are just a tiny village, and yet, we have a lot of activity. In addition to the events hosted by our village hall, such as quiz nights and the weekly coffee morning, we have a thriving pub which has brought jobs to the village; a flourishing community garden, full of beginner and expert gardeners; a village newsletter, which is the main means of communication between all generations in the village; a book club that has met every six weeks for who knows how many years; a parish council that valiantly deals with all the bureaucratic, but necessary issues in our community; and a small, but steady church community, working hard to maintain an ancient building, ringing the bells and helping those in need. Recently, we've seen villagers organising a mother and babies' group, a women's cycling group, and a running group. Some are also playing bridge. No doubt there is something else happening that we haven't heard about yet!

This is all fantastic evidence of the positive energy and community spirit of which we can all be proud. The only challenge we face is making sure that we all communicate and coordinate our activities. We want to harness all this enthusiasm and ensure that we always work together, for example, in organising events and raising funds, so that our entire community benefits.

***Read on to learn more about some of our community groups, institutions,  
and businesses.....***

## THE BRADLEY ESTATE

I took over the management of the Estate from my father, the Duke of Somerset a few years ago now. Maiden Bradley is my home and has been the home of my family for generations. That gives the village a special meaning for me. But the Estate is also a business, and it has to remain economically sustainable to survive. Our main activities are to rent homes to many of you in the village, to farm, and rent out farmlands, and to manage the forest lands we own. You'll notice we are doing quite a lot of tree felling at the moment – this can look a bit disturbing, but it is all part of the long-term, sustainable management of our woodlands and keeps them healthy. We are always planting extra trees too. Soon we hope to plant a circle of trees by the footpath on High Street and Back Lane to mark the late Queen's jubilee and long reign.

We are keen to manage the Estate in a way that provides jobs and livelihoods for young people growing up in the village, while also maintaining our rural village character and farm landscape as a beautiful place for us all to live. You'll notice various changes we have been slowly making, such as buying the old chapel, which is now an art gallery, and joining with partners to refurbish and relaunch The Bradley Hare pub.

We're always glad to hear from you if notice anything about the Estate infrastructure that needs fixing, such as trees that fall down, or broken stiles and gates. We're also delighted to be part of annual village events and fundraising activities that raise money for village organisations and institutions, such as the village hall and the church.

If you need to contact the Estate, then please feel free to get in touch.

*Sebastian Seymour*

*email: [office@duchyofsomerset.co.uk](mailto:office@duchyofsomerset.co.uk)*



## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

I am Diana Bourne, and I have taken on the role of acting church warden while the parish is without a minister. I've never been a warden before, and it is both curious and something of a revelation to discover the many responsibilities and numerous questions that come to me in this voluntary role.

My main message to villagers is this: I see the church first and foremost as a network of people who care about and help others. I don't see our church as being about just entering the physical building for services. I personally find being in the church peaceful and uplifting, especially as ours is such a beautiful and ancient sacred site. But I sense that many people consider church to only be for people who are 'holier' than they are, that it is old fashioned, possibly intimidating – generally not for them.

I fully understand that church is not everyone's cup of tea but for me, the religious part of church life is just one part of the story. I do think that most of us want the church to be part of the village life – we enjoy hearing the bells, we like wandering in the ancient grounds, knowing something of the historic building and those who were there centuries before. Many of us want it to be there for the big life events and those times when coming together is important, like Christmas, Remembrance Sunday, harvest festival, weddings, christenings and perhaps for our burials. That means caring for the building and the graveyard, which requires hard work and fundraising events.

So, I see the church as part of the fabric of our community, and all of us as the people who bring the values of the church to life, in our daily lives. One of my challenges is how to be more proactive in making the building a welcoming place – it is cold and heating it is expensive, the seating is uncomfortable, and the toilet is outside! If you have any brilliant ideas about how to address this, do let me know. Anyone wanting to join the teams of volunteers who turn up before events to clean, or help tidy the churchyard, your efforts will be much appreciated. Please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved, or just having a chat, that's what I'm here for. The next 'big clean' in the church will be on Thursday 6th April from 10am when we will be preparing for our Easter Day service and the first wedding of the year.

Diana Bourne

email: [diana@dianabourne.co.uk](mailto:diana@dianabourne.co.uk)

Maiden Bradley's Parochial Church Council - PCC - members are:

Diana Bourne (acting church warden)

Kate Symonds (secretary)

Judy Bickerstaff (treasurer)

Jane Hurd (licensed lay minister)

Tom and Celia Blay

Sue Priestner

Victoria de Mare

Sarah Neish



## THE MEMORIAL HALL

I'm Charlie and I'm the current chair of the Memorial Hall committee. We're quite a large group of volunteers from different parts of the community who come together to organise different activities at the hall. Our goal is to make the hall a centre for the community, young and old, where we offer activities that bring people together.

Loneliness is a key challenge in rural communities, and we want to make sure that no one in our village feels alone. That's why we hold a regular weekly coffee morning on Fridays between 10 and 12 which is open to anyone. Our age range at the coffee mornings is often from a few months old to over 80!

People on our committee bring their own ideas about events and activities they'd like to organise, and that includes film nights, quiz nights, bingo, a pub night, and we also support the Horningsham lunch club.

Every year, we also host the annual harvest supper which is a lovely event that is unique to and celebrates our farming community. We also rent the space out to people for community events, like yoga classes and pilates, rambles' lunches, and family events. The hall is also used for community meetings and groups, like the mother and babies' group, and for public lectures, and sometimes the odd music event. And we provide some basic services as well, hosting the doctor on a Monday evening, distributing prescriptions, and hosting a podiatrist and post office.

As you can see, we are open to all ideas and keen to ensure that the hall serves the community and provides a warm and welcoming place for people to come together. Please do get in touch if you want to help – it can be fun volunteering and you can give as much or as little time as you have.

Charlie Carter

email: [maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com)

or chat to any of the committee members:



Charlie Carter (chair)

John Priestner (vice chair)

Carol Kenzie (secretary)

Elaine Lavender (treasurer)

Jo Gilbert (events)

Keith Appleton

Christina Bullen

Rosie Brown

Sarah Muir

Brenda Smart

[www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk](http://www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk)



## THE PARISH COUNCIL

I'm Susanna Brigden, and I'm the vice chair of the parish council. We meet once a month, and our goal is to be a positive and pro-active team, supporting our villagers. Our tasks range from technical issues, such as maintaining the defibrillator at the village hall, to assigning funds for village events, such as the queen's jubilee, supporting village organisations, and making improvements to the village infrastructure and fabric, such as the playground, the speed indicator devices at the village entrance, or the bench on Back Lane. We have an active traffic group with a Speedwatch team led by our chairman, Simon Wager. The speed watch team play a crucial role in monitoring traffic speed and deterring drivers from driving too fast through the village. If you want to get involved, please get in touch with Simon as we are always in need of new volunteers.

The Parish Council is only effective when we have good communication and cooperation with members of the community who tell us about their problems and support us when we try to fix them and improve our village. For example, after a petition on High Street about speeding and danger to pedestrians walking down the road, the parish council pursued the long and complex process of having the speed limit reduced to 20mph an hour, and at the same time, we got agreement to place white gates at the entrance to the village. These help to slow down traffic. During Covid, we provided the funds to buy spring bulbs to brighten up our village, but we could only implement this project because a group of villagers spent many hours digging and planting the bulbs. We are also firm supporters of MBWW, the HGV action group, which is working hard to convince Wiltshire Council to implement the 7.5-ton weight limit agreed back in 2011 for the B3092, but never implemented. In April, we will be organising our annual spring clean of the village and again, this is only made possible by the involvement of lots of volunteers who pick up rubbish from the verges and spruce up the village. These are just some examples of the work we are doing. We encourage you to get in touch if you have any issues to raise and do think about volunteering as a councillor for a couple of years. It is a great way to serve the community.

*Susanna Brigden*

*email: [clerk@maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk)  
[www.maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk)*



## THE BRADLEY HARE

Hello, I am Ben Jones, General Manager of The Bradley Hare, and I've been in the role since we launched the pub back in late April 2021. I still remember the first village event we had outside when we opened and how great it was to see everyone enjoying a drink and food outside in the cold but sunny evening. Since that night, we have had so much support from the village and the surrounding areas which have embraced the pub in a time of huge uncertainty for the industry with Covid, staff shortages, the energy crisis and rocketing food prices being major hurdles. We are tackling it head on and thriving.

Do you know how many people in the village have worked here? 16!!!! And they have all been, and some continue to be, absolutely fabulous!

Our directors have a vision for the pub as a beautiful country pub where people want to come to stay and eat good food. I'm very keen to see you all here, popping in for a drink with family and friends, having a coffee during the day, or coming to eat. That's why we now have a villagers' discount scheme for meals at the pub, and we're always open to any ideas you have, as The Hare is part of the community. We continue to have our beer and burger nights, and this seems to have gone down a treat since its introduction. We are looking to increase our food options as we go on and we are planning to put on some events and workshops.

If you do wish to sign up to the local discount, please come and see any of our friendly managers. We are really looking forward to meeting new locals and chatting amongst those who have been here from the start.

*Ben Jones*

*email: [ben@thebradleyhare.co.uk](mailto:ben@thebradleyhare.co.uk)  
[www.thebradleyhare.co.uk](http://www.thebradleyhare.co.uk)*



## MAIDEN BRADLEY NEWS

Did you know that the monthly newsletter is printed in the village by Nev Dean who has a specialist printing works near the recreation ground? It is designed and laid out by Elaine Lavender, sitting up in her loft, and the text is prepared and edited by Pat Kennedy.

In our world of social media, it can seem strange that the paper newsletter remains our most effective means of communication in the village, but it crosses all generations. In the last parish survey, it received the highest mark of appreciation from villagers. It is the place you go to in order to find information about what is happening, community issues, and local traders. Every month, our team of volunteers delivers 200 copies to villagers.

We are lucky to be part funded by the parish council and by traders who advertise, but your donations and our fundraising activities are absolutely vital to our survival. The Christmas lights competition raises funds for the newsletter each year, we run occasional fundraising coffee mornings and every so often we include a 'donation envelope' inside the magazine. We are also extremely grateful for the 'ad hoc' donations we occasionally receive.

Our other challenge is finding people who are ready to contribute articles and photos on a regular basis. We could have introductions to new people who move to the village, articles about wildlife, interviews with all the talented and interesting people who live here, updates about what's happening on the farms, your favourite bike ride or run, and your photo of the month, but we need you to write them and share them with us. We are open to all ideas so please do get in touch.

*The Newsletter Team*

*email: [pat@visa-office.com](mailto:pat@visa-office.com)*

*Pat Kennedy (editor and distribution manager)*  
*Elaine Lavender (designer, compiler and treasurer)*  
*Kate Moore (regular contributor and proofreader)*  
*Nev Dean (printer)*

And don't forget - the magazine is available online on the Maiden Bradley website -

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

You can download issues going back to November 2015. There is also a much older archive of newsletters in the Memorial Hall library.



## WHO'S NEXT?

Tell us about the organisation / club / activity you are involved in

Are you an artist / tradesperson / business?  
Let us have a profile to include in a future newsletter

And, of course, do you have any ideas of ways we can enhance or improve our village life?



*Thanks to all our contributors for participating in this initiative, and to Alex for helping to prepare the text.*

# community

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### *The Welcome Club*

On Thursday 23rd the Welcome Club held their meeting at Horningsham Memorial Hall. We had a very good attendance with several new members joining wanting to come on our monthly outings. They all paid £5.00 to join the club and got their membership cards telling them where our outings will be going to this year. The first outing is a mystery trip where only the driver knows where we are going and it is on Tuesday 25th April picking up at Horningsham at 9.00am and Maiden Bradley 9.15am. The charges this year are £18.00 for members and £21.00 for non-members.

There may be seats  
available so if you are  
interested please call  
Pearl  
on 01985 219289 or  
Lesley  
on 01985 211355.



*photo from the  
Maiden Bradley archive*

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## GRANDPARENTS' SHARING SCHEME – AN IDEA!

I have a problem that I suspect I share with others in the village: our grandchildren all live some distance away which means that when they come, they come to stay for a night or two and although I have collected some useful bits of kit, before I can blink, they've out-grown it and I'm without the next stage of things they need.

I expect most of us grandparents probably have things like small cutlery, child-friendly cups and plates. I bought an inexpensive collapsible highchair from Ikea which is invaluable for all the younger children and when they are not here it lives in a cupboard. Now I could do with a slightly taller children's chair that can be pulled up to the table, suitable for 3 – 6 year olds.

I have a travel cot that packs away when not in use, but I don't have a full-sized cot for toddlers and those who are too young to be in a grown-up bed.

Are there others out there with similar issues, or who have been through these early years of children or grandchildren and wouldn't mind lending the equipment?

I would be very happy to lend my travel cot or highchair. I would be thrilled to be able to borrow a full-sized cot (the type with a drop side) if anyone has one they could lend for the occasional family visit.

If you have ideas of things you could lend for short stays or things you want to borrow, please get in touch and I'd be happy to draw up a sharing register. Please do suggest other things that could be borrowed – toys for differing ages, bikes, pushchairs or garden toys etc. I would also love to recommendations for great places to go to with visiting children; where to go for a pony ride, a really good playground with fun equipment etc.

I'm hoping we can help each other out of a hole!

Please send your thoughts to Diana

diana@dianabourne.co.uk  
or ring 01985 844 500

**Diana Bourne**



## THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III - 6TH MAY 2023

It is my deep regret that we may not be able to ring our bells at All Saints on the day of the Coronation of our King. Maiden Bradley will be unable to celebrate the anointing of our King in common with other Church Towers on the glorious day.

Very simply, we do not have enough ringers to ring our six bells even for the simple task of ringing rounds. Had my earlier requests for those interested in learning this simple skill been headed, we would not have a problem, but in common with so many other towers we just don't have the people.

What's involved, from your part not a great deal will ask you for £5 to start the skill and when you become a full member £10 a year. We do make a donation when visiting other towers, normally what you can afford but I donate £2 and this helps to pay for new ropes etc. This is a pastime, an interest, and a bit of fun and you can meet ringers from all over this district and indeed all over the country.

One of our regular practice ringers has managed to ring at 50 different church towers and Cathedrals in the most recent 12 months. How much time do you need to spend; you need as much rope time as possible but we will start here in MB and we would need you for a couple of hours a week under the tutelage of David or Pat. How old do you need to be? well anything between 12 and as old as me which is quite old. Colin Dowson whom many of you know, has been ringing All Saints bells for nearly 60 years. Just come along Tuesday evening next and we will show you around, meet those that come for practice and have a go. It should be light at 7:30pm, if you stay for the whole practice session, we will withdraw to The Bradley Hare for a reviving glass of something.

You don't need to understand music, you just need to be able to count from one to six. Our Bell Captain, David Puckey acts as conductor, steers the band by calling changes to the bell positions. It is not difficult even I can do it, almost! With just a short period of tuition of maybe 6 weeks I got to understand ringing rounds and setting the bell. We might not get you to that stage before the Coronation but we could give it our best shot. An accelerated ringing training. We have lots of towers to visit to extend the training as well.

Our Bells are used for secular duties, Coronations, Civic Events, Ringing for Ukraine, Weddings, Armistice Day visiting dignitaries and on occasion we do ring for Church services when we can. It's good fun I am quite fond of a beer after practice as well. All this is good exercise for the upper body and even climbing the 31 steps to the ringing room, hardens you up a bit when its minus 2 outside.

So please come along and make this ancient skill part of your life and ring anywhere in the UK in fact anywhere in the world.

All Saints Church – Tower Contact  
64therank@gmail.com  
01985 845397

**James Kennedy**



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## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS

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



### HELLO!!! WELL WE'RE BACK!!!

The Month did not start well with inclement weather which stopped activity. Then the device failed, even though it had just returned from servicing, putting both The Maiden Bradley and Deverills teams out of action. We only received it back on 19th March. So our activity has been minimal to say the least. However we did achieve two sessions during the period with a total of 7 cars booked in excess of 37/39 mph on a total vehicle count of 283. The HGV count remains at the same level although the Quarry traffic has increased

The 20mph limit on the High Street is generally having a positive effect although there are a number of regular users that blatantly ignore the 20mph. So when the CSW restriction is lifted in 6 weeks time CSW will be active again and I suspect have a field day. In the meantime if anyone does see blatant speeding on the High Street. Get the registration number and time. Then call the police. They do react to speeding complaints and an officer usually visits the address of the registered owner of the vehicle concerned.

Thank you to all the CSW members both regular and new. It is a worthwhile job. So you see the importance of gaining volunteers to spread the load.

THANK YOU Maiden Bradley Village and Community for all your support you show and give for the Community Speed Watch Team.

*Simon Wäger*

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



### A SAD NOTE FROM KATE MOORE....

*So much for the 20 mph signs finally going up...  
our beloved ginger tom Muesli (mentioned in last month's  
News) was killed by a car outside our house at about 7.30  
in the morning about 2 weeks after the signs appeared.*

*He had survived here for 4 & 1/2 years.*



## FALKLANDS VISIT DECEMBER 2022 : PART 2.

PAUL COX



Last month, you may recall, I began the story of my visit to the Falkland Islands at the end of last year. I'd arrived at the RAF base (Mount Pleasant) and was now on the transport, along with 8 former shipmates and a number of former Royal Marines from NP8901; the original defenders of Stanley back in 1982.

The bus wends its way the approximate 35 miles from the airbase, mostly along a compressed cinder road to Stanley, passing along the way seemingly endless 'stone rivers' - so called as they literally look like rivers made of jagged broken stone. Caused by the repeated freezing and thawing of the rock which, over time causes the rock to fracture and the meltwater to wash away any sediment these geological features can be found in various places globally but those in the Falklands are simply stunning.

As we arrived in Stanley we were surprised to see many of the houses had sprinkler systems operating in their gardens. It's something of a myth that the Falklands are a cold, wet and dank place. This isn't entirely accurate. Yes, it can be rather cold and windy but it probably experiences less rainfall than we do in the U.K. Also true is that the islands don't enjoy particularly warm weather - December is approaching the height of summer and the maximum temperature we experienced was 18°C, but it's not wet. They hadn't had rain for about two weeks when we arrived and we only saw rain very briefly on one or two mornings. But what the islands lack in rain or warm weather they more than compensate for with wind, which generally hails from the Antarctic land mass less than 1,000 miles away to the south.

We drop the Marines off; they're all staying in the homes of the families they first met 41 years earlier and whose homes they have stayed in many times since so the bus navigates its way expertly around the narrow streets of suburban Stanley as we drop them off at various houses. My shipmates and I are staying in Liberty Lodge: a large purpose built bungalow completed in 2010. Large enough to sleep 9 adults in 3 separate 'en suite' bedrooms plus 3 others in the self contained 'family room' the Victory Lodge boasts a large kitchen and a large lounge with two outside decked areas commanding spectacular views across Stanley harbour and The Narrows. 'The Lodge' is funded by the Falklands Veterans Fund and by voluntary donations by those staying there.

Our first full day saw us taking advantage of the 2 4x4 Mitsubishi's donated to the lodge and we set off the shortish distance for Cape Yorke and Cape Pembroke to the north of Stanley just out beyond Stanley airport (not to be confused with RAF Mount Pleasant which is some 35 miles distant off to the west).

Cape Pembroke is the location of the rather striking memorial to the 12 men who died onboard Atlantic Conveyor.

Slightly further around the coast, at Surf Bay is the memorial to the 14 sailors who died onboard HMS Glamorgan, killed when she ventured too close to a mobile land based Exocet platform.

On Tuesday evening we enjoyed an invitation to a special function in honour of NP8901 to commemorate their efforts undertaken in the defence of the Islands in 1982. During the course of the evening I met one of our volunteer drivers for the following day - Terence. He was a guy of around 60-65 years and something of a legend as a result of his exploits whilst under occupation where he would drive out into 'camp' (everywhere that isn't Stanley) and meet up with the forces (which had by now landed) and, using his Landrover and a trailer, help them move their gear around right under the noses of the Argentines. Terence asked me if we'd like to go and see some sheep shearing on our tour, to which, I must confess, I thought 'meh... I've seen sheep shearing...' but was mindful that my shipmates probably hadn't, so said, as enthusiastically as possible 'Yes, we'd love to'.

Wednesday arrived and Terence and 2 others collected us from The Lodge in their 4x4's and off we went to a number of locations including Goose Green and Darwin. Goose Green was where the Argentine soldiers took the civilian population of 114 men, women and children and placed them in the village hall (about the size of our own Village Hall) and held them there at gunpoint and with minimal supplies for 29 days.

Terence had arranged for us to visit the sheep shearing shed at Goose Green (which was once the largest in the world) and we were treated to the most incredible display of sheep shearing by 6 shearers at a station each. Loud music pumping out and an overpowering smell of sheep.... Yup... I'd seen sheep shearing, but not like this, ever....

Just along from Goose Green is Darwin, Darwin is where, on 28 May 1982, 2 Para engaged Argentine troops resulting in a number of casualties, amongst them Colonel 'H' Jones and a visit was paid to the spot where he fell. Respects were paid to all 18 Paras who died during the battle to relieve Goose Green.

Nearby is The Argentinian cemetery where many Argentinians who lost their lives are laid to rest and we paid our respects there also.

The return journey took us along a road which overlooks San Carlos water (bomb alley). It looked beautiful and serene: such a different image to that of 40 years ago of an area filled with warships, missiles, bombs, gunfire, smoke, explosions and aircraft flashing by periodically erupting into balls of flame. It was difficult to comprehend that such a tranquil scene could have been so utterly different all those years ago.



Thursday 8 December was Memorial Day for the Battle of The Falklands (1914), so we, along with NP8901 paraded in our best bib, tucker and medals to conclude with an invitation for tea on the lawn at Government House to meet the Governor and other civic dignitaries. A permanent plaque was unveiled to the memory of NP8901. This was the day of 18°C and as we stood on the lawn we all managed to get quite severely sunburned heads... particularly the follicly challenged amongst us.. Apparently the ozone layer is most depleted in this part of the planet.

One of the most important reasons for our trip was to visit the memorial to our 2 lads 'still on patrol'. This is on an isolated headland called Fanning Head. 75 miles from Stanley, the last 8 of which are 'properly' off road. The existing wooden memorial has seen about 20 years of the worst weather the South Atlantic could muster so was due for replacement. We'd bought a nice shiny stainless steel cross with us and on Sunday 11 December we set off to do battle with the stoney ground at Fanning Head. Mission completed, toasts were raised to our fallen shipmates and off we set for Stanley.

Other trips took us to Bluff Cove (actually it's Fitzroy..) where the two RFA's Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram came to grief resulting in a high number of casualties. Perhaps because of the circumstances and the wholly unnecessary loss of life but the memorial to those casualties is particularly moving and it must have become quite smokey as we stood by and read the names as I wasn't the only one wiping my eyes.



Above is the memorial to those onboard Atlantic Conveyor.

Right is of our replacement cross alongside the original at Fanning Head.



#### MESSAGE FROM BILL PARKS

Easter approaches and will have come and gone before you read this. Spring is a special season marking the time when our plant and wildlife starts to emerge from a dormant state after winter. Thankfully this winter did not have long shutdowns due to snow, but we still had some cold snaps and plenty of rain in the middle part of the winter. The wet weather was enough to cause flooding in many parts of the county, but the parts of this area were not badly affected.

Wiltshire Council has been advertising some of the areas that it is trying to improve in its service delivery. The Council has been asking for your help to recycle more by ensuring you only put the correct things into your blue-lidded bin. Please look at the hanger that you may find attached to your blue-lidded bin. More information on these bin hangers can be found:

[Hanger time: residents reminded to put the correct items in their recycling bins - Wiltshire Council](#)

For information the most common "wrong item" that people put into their blue-lidded bin is plastic bags – this includes carrier bags, bin bags and plastic film such as fruit bags or the film on top of meat or ready meal trays. The Council has made clear that they will check some bins for "correct content". If this happens to you and you think that the check was either too intrusive or unfair, please let me know.



Wiltshire Council is also trying to help those who rely on public transport. The £2 single bus fare promotion has been extended until 30 June, so you can enjoy cheap and convenient travel until the summer. Many single bus fares throughout Wiltshire have been capped at just £2 for both adults and concessions. If the single fare was originally less than £2, it will remain at the reduced price, and many day return tickets have also been reduced. The promotion, which began on 1 January, is proving to be very popular in Wiltshire, with one bus operator in the county seeing more than 70,000 reduced-fare trips in the first month alone.

So, as we move into warmer weather there is some good news and let us hope that the rest of the year brings better news for us all. Perhaps a fall in inflation, lower interest rates and lower energy prices would be a good start! Here's hoping.

Bill Parks

Wiltshire Councillor for Warminster North and Rural.

07712 490075

[bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk)



People with an interest in scrutinising police force performance, speaking up for vulnerable prisoners and assisting with serious misconduct hearings can now apply for volunteer opportunities within the Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) office.

These roles will support the PCC in delivering the four priorities set out in his Making Wiltshire Safer: Police and Crime Plan 2022-25.

The latest round of volunteer recruitment includes opportunities to be part of the Joint Independent Governance and Risk Audit Committee, Police Misconduct Hearing Panels and Scrutiny Panels. These roles involve reviewing police actions as well as providing independent advice, assurance and recommendations to the Commissioner and the Chief Constable.

Over a thousand people give up their free time to support the criminal justice system in Wiltshire whether it's through being a Special Constable, being part of the Community Speed Watch scheme, working within restorative justice or being part of the many other volunteering opportunities on offer.

Wiltshire PCC Philip Wilkinson said: "Volunteers give up their own time to make a real difference to their communities and help make Wiltshire a safer place to live and work. I'm constantly struck by their outstanding efforts which are unpaid and often, unseen.

"I'd like them to know that without their work, our communities would be worse off and less protected. I'd like to put on record my gratitude and heartfelt thanks for their efforts.

"I hope that more people, if they can, think about making their own contribution to making a difference to where they live. You can look on my website to see the latest opportunities we have available to you."

We like to ensure our panels are as diverse and inclusive as the communities we represent and serve. Therefore, we place no barriers to entry when it comes to volunteering and helping communities.

To see the latest volunteering opportunities, please visit our Get Involved page.

[www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/the-pcc-and-you/get-involved](http://www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk/the-pcc-and-you/get-involved)

#### **FOUR SITES IN AND AROUND SALISBURY ARE ACTIVELY BEING CONSIDERED AS POSSIBLE LOCATIONS FOR A NEW SOUTHERN POLICING HUB.**

Steps to bring forward plans to provide a policing hub for the south, which would include a police station for Salisbury, among other functions, are moving in the right direction with Wiltshire's Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner leading the project.

#### **Sites actively being considered are:**

Land at High Post, near Salisbury. The PCC understands this is further from Salisbury than residents would wish however it remains an opportunity.

Conversations are also taking place with landowners in the Fugglestone Red and Old Sarum areas of Salisbury. Investigation is ongoing to see if the land and location is appropriate to deliver policing from.

The final location for consideration is on land joined with Salisbury District Hospital. Conversations surrounding the layout of the current site are on-going and whether a policing facility can be located on their land.

Wiltshire PCC Philip Wilkinson said the value of engaging with the Salisbury community at a public meeting last October was evident – as it opened up other site options to the team, with some as a result of suggestions from members of the public at, and after, the event.

"We are listening to all feedback given to us," Mr Wilkinson said. "For a southern policing hub to be successful, it has to meet the needs of our communities as well as being viable in terms of planning, provide the facilities needed to deliver quality policing from. It also has to be affordable.

"It is a very fine balance – and a major investment – so we are extremely keen to make the right decisions for the community."

Conversations and negotiations have been continuing, post event, with different landowners and developers taking place over the last few weeks.

A further decision on whether a custody suite would be part of any proposed development will be taken at a later point, with any decision made firmly rooted in the operational advice – and need – from Wiltshire Police Chief Constable Catherine Roper.

Mr Wilkinson added: "All four sites remain options at this stage. We are fortunate to be in a position where there are several possibilities as that was looking like it was not the case late last year.

"Continued conversation with residents directly affected by decisions made by myself and the Chief Constable is vital – we both acknowledge the public's views on the police service they receive is important. Once we are in a further position to update residents, I will do so."

#### **Contact Information**

Amy Pantall

Campaigns and Communications Manager

OPCC

[amy.pantall@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:amy.pantall@wiltshire.police.uk)

# AN EVENING OF VILLAGE NOSTALGIA AND HISTORY



Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall  
Friday April 21st  
doors open 7pm for 7.30pm

Come and join us for a presentation of the  
Village Photographic Archive

Plenty of memories for those who have been around a while  
and an entertaining history lesson for those who haven't!

There is no fixed entry fee to the talk  
Refreshments will be available

Money raised from donations  
will go towards the upkeep of  
our Hall and Church

