

# MAIDEN BRADLEY NEWS

MAY 2023



29th April - 8th May

WYLVE VALLEY ART TRAIL IN THE HALL, THE OLD CHAPEL AND 41-42 CHURCH STREET

TEAS SERVED IN THE HALL 2 - 4 PM ON BOTH SAT, SUN AND MONDAYS

- 1 Mon Green Recycling  
3 Wed Blue bin and black box recycling  
6 Sat CORONATION EVENTS AROUND THE VILLAGE (see centre pages)  
7 Sun No Service – Church open over Coronation Weekend  
9 Tues Annual Parish Council Meeting- Memorial Hall  
10 Wed Household waste collection  
13 Sat Underwoods fish and chip van 4.30 - 5.30 Hall car park  
KANGAROO MOON & BLUE MIDNIGHT LIVE MUSIC  
Doors at 7.00-7.30pm Tickets available on the door  
14 Sun Rogation Sunday - Revd. Judith Thompson will lead the Benefice Communion service at Bush Farm Bison Centre, West Knoyle BA12 6AE - starts 10.30. The service will be held outside, weather permitting, or in a barn, and children and dogs are welcome.  
A lovely place for children to meet a variety of animals.  
15 Mon Green Recycling  
17 Wed Black box and Blue bin recycling  
20 Sat Copy deadline - All copy to pat@visa-office.com  
21 Sun Morning Worship led by Jane Hurd 10am.  
Annual Parochial Church Meeting following the service, open to all.  
24 Wed Household waste collection  
27 Sat Underwoods fish and chip van 4.30 - 5.30 Hall car park  
28 Sun Parish Communion Service let by Rev. Harold Stephens 10am  
29 Mon Green recycling  
31 Wed Black box and Blue bin recycling

### 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 Bourne	01985 844500
Environmental issues	greenermaidenbradley@gmail.com	

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

### EDITORIAL

*We trust that the aquifers are now fully replenished after all this rain and that warmer climes will soon be with us and bring the return of many of our migratory birds. I always look forward to the return of the swifts to our nesting boxes high up in the face of our house. We were not sure if the swifts reared many young last year but it was a treat to hear their screeching as they flew around the houses before they came to rest for the evening. The RSPB bird count results for the South West placed the most common garden birds in the following order: house sparrow, blue tit, starling, blackbird, woodpigeon, goldfinch, robin, great tit, long-tailed tit and chaffinch. The numbers were either slightly higher or lower from the previous year but the long-tailed tit was up by over 51% which is very pleasing and just happens to be my favourite bird of all time.*

**Patricia Kennedy**

845397 pat@visa-office.com

### THANK YOU FROM ALL SAINTS PCC

In last month's newsletter, we put out a general request for helpers to give the church a spring clean before two very important events in early April, namely for Easter and the following weekend, for our first wedding of the year.

Having lived in the village for just over 4 years, it really shouldn't still be a surprise to me that there is such willingness from the whole village to support and bring an element of fun to these calls for help. We had a terrific turn out of volunteers who came armed with polish, cloths, mops, vacuum cleaners and plenty of elbow grease. When we were finished the result was spectacular. A good clean really does transform the building. The enormous, clear glass, east window, was cleaned inside and out by the Bradley Estate's contractor who did a magnificent job. To all those who helped, a very big thank you for your time and energy.

The flowers in church for Easter were, as usual, a magnificent show of Spring in its most optimistic glory. Thank you to Sue Priestner for rallying all the arrangers and doing all the background preparation that makes it easy for everyone to have such a lovely creative time. With gleaming windows, polished wood, clean floors and deliciously fragrant flowers, it really does feel that Spring, at last, has arrived and our beautiful church is at it's very best.

Thank you!

**Diana Bourne**

### MINOR REVISION OF ALL SAINTS' ELECTORAL ROLL

*I am undertaking a minor revision of the Church's electoral roll. Those already on the list do not need to take any action. However, if there is anyone else who would like to be included, please contact me for an enrolment form or pick one up from the table at the back of the Church by 20th May. Many thanks. Victoria de Maré Electoral Roll Officer.*

victoria.demare@gmail.com 844695

# Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

01985 845303 leave message  
www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk  
maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com



COMING TO MAIDEN BRADLEY  
MEMORIAL HALL (car park)  
starting  
SATURDAY 15th APRIL 4.30-5.30 PM  
then fortnightly

## REGULAR EVENTS

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  
EVERY OTHER SATURDAY  
Fish and chip van

Book library available during hall  
opening Friday mornings



The Bradley Babes enjoyed sharing the Hall with the coffee morning on Good Friday

## MAY EVENTS COMING UP....

Saturday 29th April – Monday 8th May – WYLYE ARTS TRAIL  
Cream Teas available both weekends and Bank Holiday Mondays

Tuesday 9th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting  
Saturday 13th May – Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30pm-5.30pm

Saturday 13th May – KANGAROO MOON & BLUE MIDNIGHT live music  
Doors at 7.00-7.30pm Tickets available on the door

Saturday 27th May – Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30-5.30pm

Together for the first time!

## KANGAROO MOON and BLUE MIDNIGHT



SATURDAY 13 MAY  
MAIDEN BRADLEY MEMORIAL HALL  
BA12 7JG  
entry by donation £5 /£10 on the door ~ 7:30pm

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## VILLAGE SHOW 2023 and 2024

The village produce show will take place this year on Saturday 19th August and we are starting to have meetings about the schedule, the judges and the general format.

However, for 2024 John and I would like to stand down from organising it. So is there any villager out there that would be willing to run the village show next year? There are probably members of our community who have had ideas on how some things could be improved, altered or modified. We welcome new ideas and we are sure there are people hiding their light under the proverbial bushel, who could come forward.

Help or advice would obviously be given if it was sought.

The reason for the change of leadership is that John and I have organised the show for many, many years, with a team of helpers, and really feel that the time is right for a new enthusiastic team leader.

Please email on: [priestnersusan@gmail.com](mailto:priestnersusan@gmail.com)

or phone 01985844244.

## VILLAGE GARDEN COMPETITION

The perpetual Rose Bowl for the best village garden competition will be this year judged in early August, ready in time for the presentation at the Village Show. The final date will be confirmed closer to the date. We had lots of entries last year and are looking for a repeat this year too.



A huge THANK YOU to John Priestner  
for presenting the fascinating and very well attended  
'Evening of Village Nostalgia and History'  
on Friday April 21st.

There was no entry charge and we raised just over £200  
for the Hall and Church from donations



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# GREENER MAIDEN BRADLEY

*Following the talk about renewable energy in Maiden Bradley Village Hall in January 2022, Martin and Rosie Brown asked two companies to quote for a renewable energy system for their cottage in The Rank.*



As they are in a conservation area they asked Councillor Bill Parks to help them with the planning approval application from Wiltshire Council. The Browns were very concerned about the visual impact of the panels on their roof and chose an 'all black' panel design without a visible aluminium edge.

Martin has had a long association with Mole Valley Farmers, who have a dedicated team of consultants and installation engineers called Mole Energy, based in Totnes. They designed an efficient system incorporating solar panels, an inverter and a battery. The total weight of the panels is less than 200 kgs so this does not place an undue burden on their roof. The solar panels are treated with a self cleaning Teflon coating which prevents unwanted detritus from sticking to them.

Electricity generated immediately after the solar panel installation in June 2022 was used for home consumption and surplus electricity was exported to the grid. The solar panels are powered by ultraviolet light, so they provide some power even on dull days. On sunny days they provide up to 4 kW of power.

The Browns installed a battery in October 2022 which can store 13.5 kWh and takes 5 hours to charge on a bright sunny day. When the battery is fully charged, there is a device which diverts surplus power to heat their hot water system. Surplus electricity is exported to the National Grid. In April 2023 the Browns were 93% self powered, in March 66% and in February 59%. The battery is one option for storing energy for later use, but another way is by having an electric car connected to the system.

This will depend upon practicalities and our roads and pavements in this village may not be suitable for charging electric cars in the near future.

At the start of this process, the Browns estimated the capital cost would be repaid within 6 years. Since then electricity prices have soared and the initial cost will now be repaid in 3 years. The new Octopus Flux tariff gives higher rates for exporting electricity to the National Grid at peak times of consumption and enables their battery to be charged on cheaper night time electricity in the winter when there is less sunshine and shorter days.

A Smart Meter is an essential part of this system and there is a way of installing one which works well in this village, despite the poor mobile signal.

***We are very grateful to the Browns for their generosity in taking the time to share their experience which seems to have been very positive.***

***If anyone is thinking about renewable energy installations, please contact Martin on [gopsillbrown@gmail.com](mailto:gopsillbrown@gmail.com), for further information.***





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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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**40TH CELEBRATION OF HORNINGSHAM LUNCHEON CLUB**

On 13th April the Luncheon Club held an afternoon tea for all members, cooks and helpers to celebrate the 40th year of Horningsham Luncheon Club.

We had a special guest Jane Yates with us who had made the journey from Kent. Unfortunately Hazel Gillingham who was due to be with us had covid and was very disappointed to not share the day with us.

Hazel who had lived in Horningsham started the Luncheon Club in February 1983, with her friend Brenda Mackintosh. They were helped by the WRVS with the supply of large saucepans, tins and hygiene instructions. The club was open to any resident in Horningsham over the age of 60 and was held every Thursday for coffee and a chat followed by a lunch.

When Hazel left the village for pastures new, Jane took over the running of the club, with her husband Richard (a Warminster dentist) as treasurer and it continued to thrive with additional cooks and helpers.

After Jane moved to Kent, Margaret Long took over and I joined to help her. The numbers have continued to increase and the club has 40 plus members at present. They come from various surrounding villages, but all have a connection with Horningsham.

Our celebration tea was enjoyed by over sixty members and helpers, with brilliant entertainment from 'Acoustic Duo' Sian and Rob.

Jane cut the cake and a toast was made to the forty years that have gone and a hope the club will continue well into the future. Thanks were also given to Hazel and Brenda who had the foresight to see what was needed in the village and to start what has been a very successful venture.

*Lesley Trollope*




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## WELCOME CLUB

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April, the Welcome Club held their first outing of the season and no one knew where the journey would take us except for the driver. We had a good attendance and several new members joining the Club, this being their first outing and we hoped that they would enjoy the experience.

We set off in sunshine a cold morning but bright. We headed off to Mere then Gillingham, after Shaftesbury the coach had a tight squeeze through the village of Melbury Abbas. I think most people on the coach were pleased they were not driving. Our coffee stop was at Haskins Garden Centre in Ferndown it was new one to the Club. We left the garden centre at 12.30pm not sure where we were stopping for lunch but ended up at Bournemouth where we stopped for 2 hours and the weather was so beautiful some of us even left our coats on the coach which was marvellous after the weather we have had in the past few weeks. Then we proceeded to Poole for our final stop leaving Poole at 4.30pm after Tom and Lesley did the raffle. Tom also thanked Kevin the driver who was new to us, but had done a very good job. We got back about 6.15pm everyone seemed very happy after a good day out.

Our May outing is on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Lymington we may have some spare seats so if anyone is interested pleased give me a call on 01985 219289 or Lesley on 01985 211355.

*Pearl Hudson*



## EASTER SUNDAY AT ALL SAINTS (submitted by Alice Bulkai)



"We had friends to stay for the Easter weekend and Emily and I went early to church to hide the eggs and the pretty pebbles. The sun was out and the daffodils were blooming. It was a beautiful start to Easter Day."

*Sasha, 12*

"It was a lovely service. I liked seeing all the families and people very much. The Easter egg hunt was my favourite part and I enjoyed eating chocolate. The length of the service was perfect and the sermon was very interesting and luckily we didn't eat any daffodils! It was amazing to see the painted stones. I felt closer to God at the end of the service I hope everyone else did too."

*Theodore, 10*

"Hiding the eggs was really fun. The rocks were really nicely decorated. I enjoyed searching for them too and eating the chocolate."

*Louisa, 7*



## LINK NUMBER THREE - KEITH AND CAROLE APPLETON

### HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN MAIDEN BRADLEY?

We moved into The Old School Cottage in 2021.

### WHAT IS THE FURTHEST YOU HAVE TRAVELLED AND WHY?

To South Africa on many occasions. Our son Lee moved to Joburg 13 years ago when a job opportunity arose following working for the same company in London. During that time he met Theola, now our daughter in law. Two years ago our first grandson Milos was born and a second grandchild is due in August. We are looking forward another trip in September. South Africa is an amazing country and so diverse. I would recommend anyone to try and get there at least once. Cape Town is a wow.

### TELL US SOMETHING OF YOUR WORK PAST.

Both Carole and I were working right up until the time we moved to the village. We worked in the care sector at a group of colleges in West London specialising in the Autism Spectrum. Many of the students who were of adult age had many additional issues both physical and mental. Although the work was challenging it could also be very rewarding. Carole and I actually met at work. I was employed at the Times Newspapers for many years and Carole joined our offices in 1980. The rest is history.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FILM/TV?

Anything with Tom Hanks but The Green Mile and Shawshank Redemption. More recent has been All Quiet on the Western Front. For TV; Line of Duty and Happy Valley.

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

Our three sons. Craig (40) is a manager at an asphalt plant in Middlesex, he lives in Uxbridge. Lee (38) is head of a South African market research company, the head office of which is in London, and Neil (36) is a freelance exhibition staging designer and lives in Aldershot.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD?

Call me old fashioned but I still love a Sunday roast of either beef or lamb. Our son Neil comes over every other weekend... he loves cooking and does a mean roast.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE BOOK?

I have to go way back to when I was about 11 years old and will never forget Emil and the Detectives by Erich Kästner. I read it so many times. A wonderful kids story. I like Michael Connelly especially the Lincoln Lawyer and the Exchange and Mart is a good read!!

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SEASON?

Springtime without doubt. So nice to see everything coming to life and the birds singing their hearts out. At the time of writing it is still very chilly; perhaps by the time you read this we will have some warm sunshine! I think we deserve it after the past six months of grey and dank weather. Even the cat has been moaning about how miserable it has been.



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## The Coronation of King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla

Millions of people across the UK and beyond are preparing to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III - a symbolic ceremony combining a religious service and pageantry. It is being held at Westminster Abbey on 6 May and the King, who will be crowned along with Camilla, the Queen Consort, will be the 40th reigning monarch crowned there since 1066. The formal celebrations will begin with a procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey which will then move along The Mall to Trafalgar Square, then down Whitehall and Parliament Street before turning into Parliament Square and Broad Sanctuary to reach the Great West Door of Westminster Abbey. In a break from tradition, King Charles and Queen Consort Camilla will be in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach rather than the older, more uncomfortable, Gold State Coach.

The procession is expected to arrive at the abbey shortly before 11:00 am, with the King likely to wear military uniform instead of the more traditional breeches and silk stockings worn by kings before him. King Charles will enter through the Great West Door and proceed through the nave until he reaches the central space in the abbey. There are several stages to the service, which is expected to last a little under two hours.

Stage one: The recognition

Stage two: The oath

Stage three: The anointing

Stage four: The investiture

Stage five: The enthronement

### The Queen Consort

After the homage, Queen Camilla will be anointed, crowned and enthroned in a simpler ceremony - although she will not have to take an oath.

She will be crowned with Queen Mary's Crown - originally made for Queen Mary's coronation alongside George V - but it is being modified to remove some of the arches and reset with the Cullinan III, IV and V diamonds.

### The departure

The King and Queen Consort will descend from their thrones and are likely to enter St Edward's Chapel - here Charles will remove St Edward's Crown and put on the Imperial State Crown before joining the procession out of the abbey as the national anthem is played.



### **DIDN'T GET AN INVITE? THIS IS HOW YOU CAN MARK THE CORONATION IN OUR VILLAGE**

*On the morning of the 6th May, Their Majesties King Charles and Queen Camilla will travel from Buckingham Palace in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach in Procession to Westminster Abbey where the Coronation Service will begin at 11 o'clock. This is a quick overview of what's happening in Maiden Bradley to mark the occasion.*

*Our local pub, the Bradley Hare, will be showing the whole event on the television screen in the Skittle Alley. Coffee and pastries will be provided during the morning and, of course, you can always order lunch if desired later. The church bells will be rung from 10.15 to 10.45am and this allows the ringers to watch the ceremony as it happens. We are also hoping to have a supply of willow rods on hand for children to have a go at making their own willow crowns.*

*After lunch, why not visit the Old Chapel where village resident Tonia Gunstone is exhibiting as a part of the Wylve Art Trail. Tonia has been commissioned to produce an image to reflect Maiden Bradley at the time of the King's Coronation and free printed copies of this will be available to any resident.*

*Finally, complete the village art trail, and your Coronation celebration, by visiting the second exhibition in Maiden Bradley at the Memorial Hall, where you can round off your day with tea and cake.*



### **And don't forget ..... The Big Help Out**

Taking place on Monday 8 May, this initiative has been launched by the King and Queen Consort to encourage people across the UK to try out volunteering and join in the work being undertaken to support their local areas, as well as highlighting the positive impact that volunteering has on communities.

**Your village needs you!**



OUR VILLAGE ARTISTS  
TAKING PART ARE  
TONIA GUNSTONE,  
SUSANNA LISLE AND  
STEVE GUNTER

# Maiden Bradley News

**EACH COPY OF THE NEWS COSTS  
AROUND £1.30 TO PRODUCE**

HOWEVER - it is available free of charge to all residents of the parish in order to ensure that everyone is aware of what is going on in the community - and also to give everyone the opportunity to submit their own news stories and articles.

We are grateful to all our advertisers and the Parish Council for partially funding the magazine - and we are also extremely grateful to you, our readers, for the donations you kindly give us.

We need to raise around 50% of our printing costs from donations and, as our bank balance is diminishing (we only have enough funds for 4 more editions), we are asking those who can afford to, to help us out.

There is an envelope included in this magazine, which can be used for cheques or cash and returned to the treasurer at 31 Church Street, for banking.

OR if you would like to make a payment (or set up a standing order) directly into our bank account, the details are as follows:

**TSB Bank**  
**sort code: 30 - 93 - 40**  
**account number: 00128837**

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**  
**FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM**



EVER WONDERED WHAT AN ARTIST LOOKS LIKE?  
COME AND MEET THEM ALL ON THE WYLYE VALLEY ART TRAIL!

The Wylve Valley Art Trail kicks off at the end of April and runs until 8th May, a wild and wonderful mix of arts and crafts shows all around the south-west corner of Wiltshire, from Westbury in the north down as far as Donhead St Andrew in the south. Over 250 exhibitors - painters, sculptors, jewellery designers, furniture makers, you name it - are strutting their stuff, some grizzled practitioners and others fresh-faced graduates, all eager to talk about their art. Grab your free brochure from shops, cafes, libraries, pubs and many other places, and head on down to the Wylve Valley Art Trail.

For more information please contact [info@wvat.co.uk](mailto:info@wvat.co.uk) or phone 07730 400784.  
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## MERE AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME

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



01747 860096  
9am – 5pm Weekdays Only

March was a bumper month for the Link with 109 trips including 30 to Salisbury District Hospital and a further 16 trips to visit patients in various hospitals. This was the busiest We have been for over a year. A big thanks to our co-ordinators and drivers for all their efforts to meet the increased demand.

At the time of writing in the middle of the four day junior doctors' strike it looks like April could be a quieter month but we are likely to be busier again as the NHS catches up on canceled appointments.

***We are always looking for new drivers and if you would like to find out more about volunteering as a driver please call our co-ordinator on 01747 860096.***

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.

Don't forget 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.

**John FitzGerald**  
Chair Mere and District Link Scheme  
**01747 860867 07795606426**  
Link phone **01747 860096**  
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## Crazy Pony

The incredibly talented duo of Frank Powlesland and Léa Rovero performing as Crazy Pony treated us to a really excellent set of traditional songs and tunes with some original compositions in a bluegrass style.

Frank is an exceptional banjo player and is sponsored by the famous American banjo brand Goldtone for his original fingerpicking technique. He also brought out the

dobro for a couple of numbers, as well as the harmonica. Lea plays the bass (handmade by Frank!) and they both sing some great harmonies.

And then, of course, there's the madcap antics - acrobatics, magic tricks and plenty of humour. Certainly an amazingly talented pair who can multi task spectacularly. They did not miss a beat in any position!

It was a really fun evening for a very select gathering. Sadly only 19 people turned up, which was such a shame because we all knew folks in the village who would have really enjoyed it. It was certainly well advertised and not expensive at £10 a ticket.

The previous night they played to a packed house in South Petherton. On Sunday they were playing the Bell in Bath with huge turnout guaranteed at this popular music venue.

## Maiden Bradley - you missed a treat!



## WARMINSTER COMMUNITY RADIO IS NOW AVAILABLE TO HEAR IN MAIDEN BRADLEY



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## VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

### MARCH

1st Liz Thomas	£25.40	2nd George Jones	£12.70
3rd Sandra Grimstead	£7.65	4th Tom Alday	£5.00

### APRIL

1st Pat Kennedy	£25.40	2nd Eileen Baggs	£12.70
3rd Richard Holmes	£7.65	4th Robert Morris	£5.00

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

John Priestner



***"I HAVE LIVED A THOUSAND LIVES AND I'VE LOVED A THOUSAND LOVES.  
I'VE WALKED ON DISTANT WORLDS AND SEEN THE END OF TIME.  
BECAUSE I READ."  
GEORGE R.R. MARTIN***



Exciting news: transformation of the library is in full swing! Thanks to recent generous book donations, there are now plenty more fantastic books to choose from (see pics for a selection of the new books and library layout).

All the books have been sorted into genres, colour-coded (small circular sticker on the spine) and within each genre they have been sorted alphabetically by author's surname to facilitate readers finding what they'd like to read.

If you live in Maiden Bradley or Yarnfield, you have automatic membership. The library is open between 10:00 and 12:00 on a Friday (coffee morning) or at other times the Hall is open so long as Hall users are not inconvenienced (e.g. yoga, private functions). Going forwards, subject to demand, the library could be open on a Saturday morning, once a month. Please let us have your feedback and comments.

When borrowing a book, just write your name, the title of the book being borrowed and the date in the register. Then fill in the date the book is returned and leave it in the returns box. You can borrow more than one book at a time, for as long as you like, within reason. No penalties for late returns!

The library is NOT currently accepting donations of books as the shelves are now absolutely brimming with reading material (with children's picture books being added very soon) so, why not come along and see if you can be tempted by any of the titles on offer! A few carrier bags are available to take your books home, in case you get carried away!

The village also has a thriving book club that meets roughly every 6-8 weeks. Gatherings are relaxed and enjoyable, coupled with lively discussion about the book that has been read, over a glass of something and nibbles. All are welcome. If you'd like to join in the fun, please contact the Book Club Co-ordinator, Jessica Johnson. Jessica's contact number can be found in your copy of the Maiden Bradley News that comes through the door each month. The current book is *The Lido* by Libby Page and the next meet-up is on Monday 15 May at 7pm at Jessica's (subject to change).

**Christina Bullen**



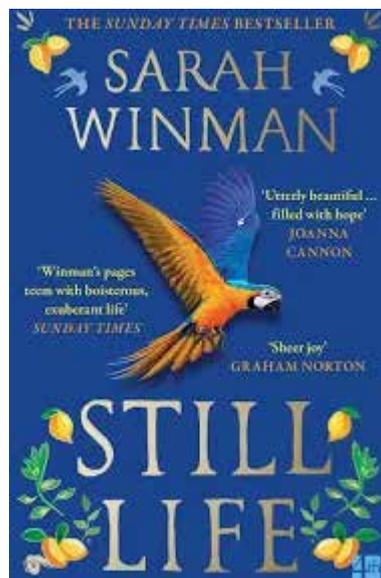
### **MAIDEN BRADLEY BOOK CLUB CHOICE FOR MARCH**

*What do a Shakespeare-quoting parrot, a clairvoyant communing with trees, the glory of Renaissance art and architecture in Florence, and the ravages of World War II across England and Europe have in common? You've guessed it - they are all brought together in Sarah Winman's *Still Life*. Many of the Maiden Bradley Book Club members absolutely loved this novel which followed the lives of an eclectic*

*set of characters, who come to form an unusual and tender family, from the end of the War to 1979, with a little foray into 1901 to visit EM Forster, and a description of the 1966 flood in Florence thrown in for good measure.*

*The discussions at the Book Club are most fun when there is a range of opinions about the book we have read, and this time was one of those, with a great good-humoured debate about what we enjoyed or found annoying. Most absolutely adored the warmth of the book and all the characters, while some found it over-whimsical with a disjointed narrative (two books and two short stories rolled into one).*

***Onto the next choice - *The Lido* by Libby Page - if you want to read along!***



# Maiden Bradley Litter Pick



**1st. April Fools Day**

I awoke on Saturday morning full of the joys of spring and enthusiasm ready to start the Litter Pick, thought Oh! It's 1st, April Fools Day, it's going to be a good, positive fun day. Looked out the window and it's raining. Bah! That's going to spoil the day.

Well!!!! I could not have been more wrong, we started as planned at 12:30/13:00 hrs at the Village Hall to find willing members of our community already there waiting to start at 13:00 hrs and so it went on. A constant flow of helpers the whole afternoon. With cups of tea and coffee provided by the Village Hall. The showers of rain did not deter anyone, far from it just added to the event.



On completing the required paperwork!!! (As you know today everything has to have paperwork!!!!) We had forty yes 40 volunteers registered, plus four Parish Councillors, including The Chairman. All in all a wonderful effort by the whole community. I do not like to mention individuals in events however in this case I must make an exception and thank Martin Brown and Derek Stevens for the exceptional work they did on the day

So what more can I say other than a big heartfelt thank you to all who helped make the litter pick a resounding success and supported the event. It's part of what makes living in Maiden Bradley a wonderful place to be.

Milena  
Milena Stancomb - Parish Councillor

## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS Police Community Volunteers working on behalf of the Wiltshire Police and Maiden Bradley



*Community Speed Watch News. Produced by the Maiden Bradley Community Speed Watch Volunteers to keep the village safe and aware of our activities.*

### **“LOOK OUT” HERE COME THE FUZZ**

It has been a month a bit like the Curate's Egg - good in places. It started well with sunny weather which improved our activity, if not speeders. We achieved 4 sessions out of the possible 6 for the month. Not many booked for speeding as the traffic volume was extremely high, I guess building up for Easter. The average vehicle count was in the range of 231 vehicles in the 60 minute session with so 71 HGV's Good Friday exceeded 279 vehicles with 41 HGV's We are having quite a lot of police attention. Last Monday 10th April we met with a traffic officer on High Street to discuss the speeding problem there. So we can expect police visibility there once the 3 month probationary period is over.

Wednesday's session we had our new PCSO with us for the period. He seems very proactive and keen to help us in any way he can.

Friday - yet another officer appeared to join our session although the timing was out and the good lady officer missed our activity. Nevertheless it all boosted our egos if nothing else.

The CSW restriction on High Street is lifted in 6 weeks time and CSW will be active again and I suspect have a field day.

AGAIN 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.

As always - 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.

*Keith Appleton (CSW),  
Derek Stevens (Neighbourhood Watch)  
Simon Wager (CSW Coordinator),  
PCSO Leigh Holcombe (Wiltshire Police)  
Ian Ferguson (CSW)*

*Simon Wager*

**Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator,  
Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish**



## FALKLANDS VISIT DECEMBER 2022 : PART 3

PAUL COX

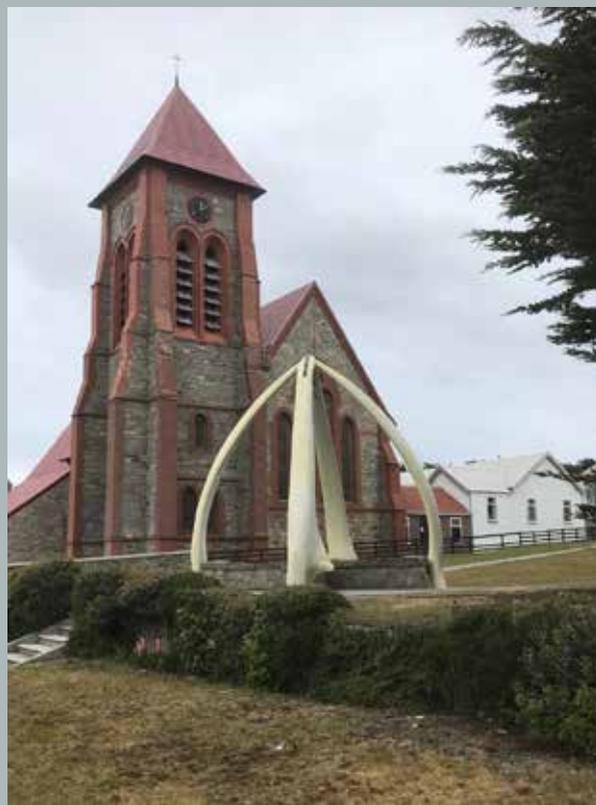


As our time on the islands began to draw to a close we made further trips to see more of the wildlife and a few more memorials. We took a ride out to Berthas Beach to visit the resident Gentoo penguin colony. They're very cute with quite comical antics but if you find yourself downwind of them they're also extremely smelly. Instead of leaving the nest to defecate they just 'projectile squirt' over the adjacent nests... nice...



On a couple of days we saw a group of pregnant sea lions on a small jetty right in the middle of Stanley.

*Stanley Cathedral -  
The Southernmost Anglican Cathedral  
on the planet*



Over the duration there were a lot of people who'd gone out of their way to make our trip such a momentous one so our penultimate evening was spent extending our gratitude by entertaining them and their families at a restaurant in Stanley. An evening of mixed emotions as we say our goodbyes to friends old and new. On our final day four of us decided to drive the short distance to Wireless Ridge where we parked the vehicle and walked to Mount Tumbledown.



The remains of 2 Argentinian field kitchens are still on Mount Tumbledown which serve to add some perspective to the events of 40 years ago. Tumbledown was one of the final battles of the Falklands conflict, fought at night involving The Scots Guards, 42 Cdo Royal Marines, Blues and Royals and Gurkhas. Once again the ascent of the 'mount' is difficult enough in daylight, without a 70kg pack, rifle and ammunition and without 500 Argentinian marines shooting at you so the enormity of the achievement is not lost as you struggle to the top. The following day was departure day so an early night and on the airport transport at 0500 for the ride back to RAF Mountpleasant and the long onward flight back to Brize Norton.



An amazing trip and an incredible, emotional journey. Until the next....

**Paul Cox**

## MESSAGE FROM BILL PARKS -

I hope that everyone had time to enjoy the Easter break and wind down from the busy pace of life that most people lead. We are fortunate the wonderful countryside is never very far away from us here in West Wiltshire, and even if you must wrap up warm and put your wellies on, there are so many places accessible for us to enjoy. I certainly take the opportunity to blow the cobwebs away on the hills whenever I can.



Moving from thoughts of a county walk to some practical things that may make people's lives a bit easier, I thought it would be a good idea to highlight how Election processes are changing shortly.

There are no scheduled elections in our areas of Wiltshire in the foreseeable future that I am aware of, but the way we vote is changing from 4<sup>th</sup> May this year. This will affect elections for Wiltshire Council, Town and Parish Councils, Police and Crime Commissioner and UK Parliamentary and by-elections.

Photo ID will be required at all the above elections at a Polling Station. Only a small minority of people don't have any photo ID such as a driving licence, passport, bus pass or some other specific forms of ID that are suitable, so this is unlikely to be an issue for very many people. However, to avoid any problems in the future one simple answer is to apply for a Postal Vote. Once you have a Postal Vote it will be continuous for relevant elections unless you cancel it.

I know that some people like the experience of going to the polling station and putting their cross on their ballot paper in the booth, but this is not a problem as you can take your postal vote to a polling station, and it will be treated the same as a normal ballot paper.

The obvious benefit of a postal vote is that you have time to vote before the day of the election which can be very helpful if you are going to be away from home on election day, or for any other reason are unable to get to the Polling Station.

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Applying for a postal vote is quite simple and can be done online at [elections@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@wiltshire.gov.uk) where you can download a Postal Vote application form, and return it either online at [voting@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:voting@wiltshire.gov.uk) or post it to Election Services, at Wiltshire Council. Full details on the webpage. You can also contact Election Services by email [elections@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@wiltshire.gov.uk) or by calling 0300 456 0122.

If you think a postal vote is a good idea for you, why not go ahead and apply for yours now, we never know what the future holds and you only need to apply once, but if you are a procrastinator, make sure your application is received at least 11 working days before the next election!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you think I can help with any local issue.

Bill Parks – Wiltshire Councillor – Warminster North and Rural

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

07712 490075



## COMMUNITY ACTION FUND NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS FROM LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) is once again offering grants of up to £5,000 to local organisations and charities as a way of giving back to the community.

Every year the Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Action Fund is delivered in partnership with Wiltshire Community Foundation and

supports voluntary groups to deliver activities in line with priorities set out in PCC Philip Wilkinson's #MakingWiltshireSafer Police and Crime Plan 2022-25.

This year, the application process itself has been redesigned to make grants even more accessible for smaller groups, as well as there being multiple opportunities to apply throughout the year. Funded by proceeds from the Police Property Act, the pot of money available has come from auctioning any unclaimed property that has been recovered following a crime.

Mr Wilkinson said: "My office is looking to help fund voluntary groups, organisations and charities that tackle major issues like anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol related crimes and supporting young people. It's a really great way for us to give back to the community with the money raised from unclaimed property.

"In previous years we have awarded thousands of pounds to some incredible causes which will make a difference to the lives of people living in Wiltshire and Swindon.

"I want to encourage groups to visit the WCF webpage to read the full eligibility criteria and get your application in."

Wiltshire Community Foundation Joint Chief Executive Fiona Oliver said: "We are delighted to be working once again with the Police and Crime Commissioner to deliver the Community Action Fund Grants. Projects delivered by these grants will help to build safer, stronger and more cohesive communities across Wiltshire and Swindon improving the lives of local people."

For more information on how to apply, please visit the Community Action Fund page. The fund will be open for submissions all year round, but funding will be awarded on a quarterly basis with the first awards being made to bids submitted by mid-May. An online Meet the Funder event is being held on 26 April from 10.30-11.30am to explain the full criteria for the programme as well as take any Q&As.

You can sign up here.

Contact Information:

**Amy Pantall**  
**Campaigns and Communications Manager**  
**OPCC**  
**[amy.pantall@wiltshire.police.uk](mailto:amy.pantall@wiltshire.police.uk)**

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