

# MAIDEN BRADLEY

## NEWS

MAY 2024

SPRING IS HERE!

RAINBOW OVER HORNINGSHAM LANE

THE NARCISSI IN JUBILEE GARDEN

SURVIVED THE RAIN!

# MAIDEN BRADLEY PARISH NEWS - ISSUE 419

## DIARY MAY 2024

1	Wed	Blue bin and black box recycling
2	Thur	PCC Election Day
5	Sun	Rogation Service at St Peter's Stourton 10am Rogation Service at All Saint's MB 3pm
8	Wed	Household Waste collection
9	Thur	Ascension Day Parish Communion at St. George's Bourton 6pm
11	Sat	Underwoods Fish and Chips 4.30-6pm
12	Sun	Parish Communion with Baptism at St. Mary's Kilmington 10am
13	Mon	Green recycling
15	Wed	Blue bin and black box recycling
19	Sun	Parish Communion St George's Bourton 10am <b>Deadline for copy - to pat@visa-office.com</b>
22	Wed	Household waste collection
25	Sat	Underwoods Fish and Chips 4.30-6pm
26	Sun	Parish Communion at All Saint's and Banns to be read 10am and Parish Communion at St. Martin's Zeals 10am
27	Mon	Green recycling
29	Wed	Blue Bin and Black Box recycling

**NEW BUS SERVICES FROM THE BUS STOP BY THE KNAPP  
FROME - WEDNESDAYS 9.53AM  
WARMINSTER - FRIDAYS 9.35AM**

### 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
Memorial Hall bookings	bookingsmaidenbradleyhall@gmail.com	01985 845303
Dr Andrew Murrison MP	murrisona@parliament.uk	01225 358584
Bill Parks (Wiltshire Cllr)	bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk	07712 490075
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	
Nadder Oil Buying Club	Email:richard.willan@me.com	www.oilbuyingclub.com

Cover pictures - Carole Appleton and Alex Channer

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

## EDITORIAL

Reading the transcript of the meeting with Wiltshire Council on how they dispose of our rubbish, I was impressed by the positive and progressive work achieved in the county. All of us now have to think seriously about what we wish to dispose of and with the very successful litter pick of the village recently, I am sure we are all fairly well attuned to being responsible sorters. Yet I still see litter being thrown out of cars, usually from take away venues, and cans, lots of cans. If money was attached to the return of cans, I suspect they wouldn't get thrown into the countryside. Decades ago, as children, we used to return our 'pop' bottles to the shop and received a cash refund. This principle could be applied again.

**Patricia Kennedy 845397**

**pat@visa-office.com**

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- CAVENDISH COOKS - STILL SISTERS -  
& MANY MORE LOCAL & WEST COUNTRY DELIGHTS

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SEATING - WELL BEHAVED DOGS WELCOME



### OPENING HOURS

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 0800-1800  
SATURDAY 0800-1800  
SUNDAYS 1000 - 1600

### VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

#### MARCH

1st	Diana Green	£26.10	2nd	Pat Kennedy	£13.00
3rd	Phoebe Muir	£7.80	4th	Mark Holbrook	£5.15

#### APRIL

1st	Shirley Morris	£26.10	2nd	Karen Saunders	£13.00
3rd	Lesley Trollope	£7.80	4th	Mark Sheppard	£5.15

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 £600+ has gone to you in prizes and £600+ to the maintenance of the Hall. If you would like to help support your Village Hall, please get in contact with John Priestner on 844244 who has some spare numbers. Only 50p per number per month, you can have more than one number. Half the draw's income goes to the Village Hall and half goes in prizes.

## THE LAST PRIOR

Maiden Bradley's leprosy hospital for women became an Augustinian priory around 1198 during the lifetime of Margaret Biset, daughter of the hospital's founder.

Margaret's obituary described her as, "Illustrious and morally pure; rejecting completely the embrace of men she founded a convent of nuns against the wishes of her carnal friends and sustained it at a not inconsiderable expense as its patroness."

In every particular the last prior, Richard Jennings, was very different in character to Margaret. Richard received priest's orders in 1505 and by 1510 he had been elected prior. Between 1512 and 1513 court cases showed him involved in disputes with neighbours including an accusation of assault. On one occasion he pawned the priory plate to the tenant of the mill at Bradley then sued him and was sued in return. Jennings sexual misdemeanours must have started soon after becoming prior as his children were adults in 1535. Between 1515 and 1520 he was sent to Kidderminster as vicar and was threatened with a visitation on behalf of the General Chapter of Austin canons who had oversight of priories. During this banishment there is the only record of Maiden Bradley having a prioress; it would seem that Jennings had been sidelined but he was soon back in the village.

We don't know when Richard received his dispensation from the pope to keep a whore but if it was intended to stop worse immorality it didn't work as when in 1535 the priory was inspected during the dissolution of the monasteries, Layton, who was noted for his coarse sense of humour, entertained Thomas Cromwell by reporting:

"Maiden Bradley, where there is a holy Prior, and has but six children, and but one daughter married, yet out of the goods of the monastery trusts shortly to marry the rest. His sons be tall men waiting on him, and he thanks God he never meddled with married women, but only with maidens the fairest that could be gotten, and he always found good husbands for them."

Jennings care for his family might explain why, at the dissolution, the priory had sixteen hired servants to serve the prior, five priest canons, two novices and two pensioners. The commissioners found the canons to be 'of honest conversation' and the church and mansion well maintained and newly repaired. The last prior had recently sold lifetime leases and leases of 51 and 97 years on priory land but despite a good income still managed to be in debt.

Richard Jennings was given a rectory at Shipton Moyne in Gloucestershire at the dissolution; Richard lived elsewhere and curates took the services.

Our Rogation service on the 5th is a chance to visit the site of the priory. It is a service of blessing for the land, its produce and all who work it. All are welcome.

## PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, MAIDEN BRADLEY



### ROGATION SUNDAY SERVICE

5th May at 3 p.m.

All welcome at our special service at Priory Farm, Maiden Bradley  
(with thanks to Graham and Dawn Stevens)  
followed by tea.

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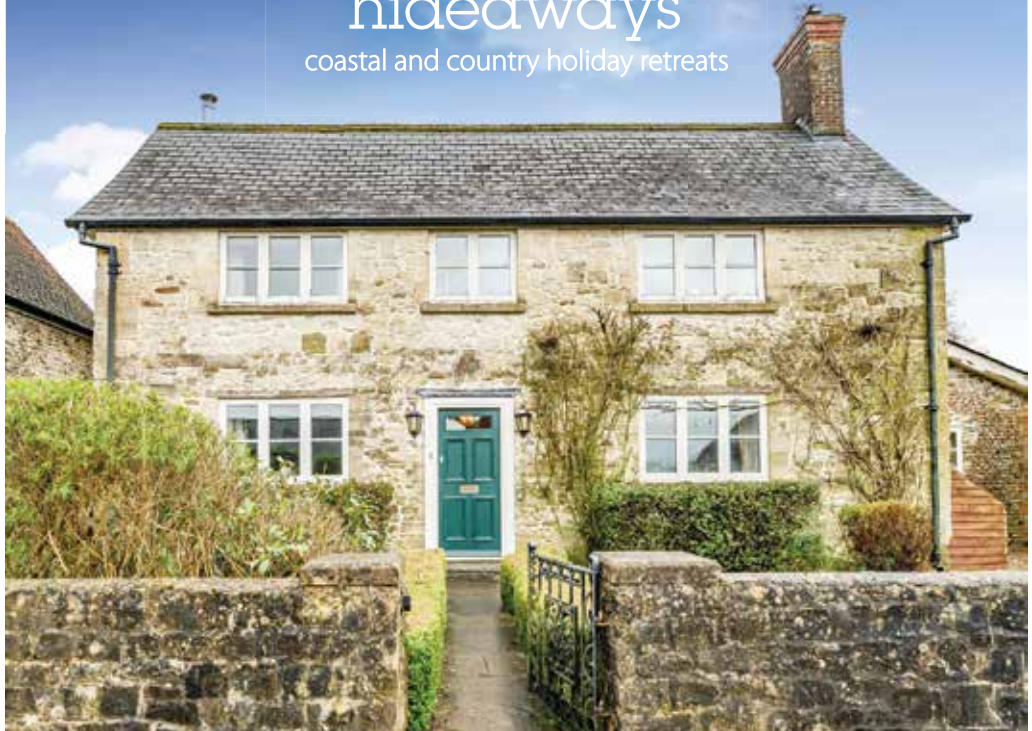
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# Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

*May and future 2024 events .....*

Thursday 2nd May  
Saturday 11th May  
Saturday 25th May

**PCC ELECTION DAY**  
Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30pm-6.00pm  
Underwoods Fish & Chip Van 4.30pm-6.00pm

Sunday 23rd June  
Saturday 13th July  
Saturday 27th July  
Saturday 17th August

Plant & Cake Sale 2-4pm  
Live music with Jon Kenzie  
Race Night  
Produce Show



## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE HALL

MONDAYS	9.30AM-10.30AM	PILATES
MONDAYS	10.45AM-11.30AM	CHAIR PILATES
MONDAYS	5.00PM-6.00PM	DR'S SURGERY
TUESDAY	9.30AM-10.30AM	BRADLEY BABIES
TUESDAY	1.00PM-3.00PM	POST OFFICE SERVICE
WEDNESDAYS	10.00AM-11.15AM	SILVER SNEAKERS
WEDNESDAYS	6.15PM-7.15PM	YOGA FLOW
THURSDAYS	9.30AM-10.30AM	PILATES
FRIDAYS	10AM-12NOON	COFFEE MORNING

**BOOK LIBRARY AVAILABLE DURING HALL OPENING**

**FRIDAY MORNINGS**

**01985 845303** *leave message*  
[www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk](http://www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk)  
[maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:maidenbradleyhall@gmail.com)



## WILTSHIRE COUNCIL RECYCLING

We were delighted by that around 30 people attended the meeting at the Village Hall on 11th April for our Waste & Recycling meeting. Charlotte Lawson and Vicki Harris gave us a fascinating insight into the scale of the processes about what happens to what we throw away and helped us to understand these important issues and how we can help. Their most important message was the need to reduce the amount that we discard generally. Cllr Bill Parks also attended as he is the Waste Portfolio Holder for Wiltshire. Jo Gilbert kindly filmed the event and will try and get it up onto a platform in due course.

### TO SUMMARISE THE ANSWERS TO OUR QUESTIONS:

#### ***What happens to the things that go in our big blue topped bin & how are they sorted?***

The council has a huge and expensive plant that sorts them into different types on a conveyor belt then they are packaged up and sold on as a resource to be reused in manufacturing processes. The metal material is extracted using giant magnets then the rest is sorted by size using an infra-red laser that is calibrated to sort different plastics. The conveyor belt is black which means that it cannot deal with black plastic which is also harder to reprocess, so black plastic and polystyrene needs to go into the grey bin. Materials that go incorrectly into the recycling bin are largely removed by hand. If they get through to the conveyor belt they can cause problems further through the system, so if in doubt put things in the non-recyclable bin. Tools are often incorrectly put in the recycling bin and they damage the equipment and can put the staff in danger. The government plans to push the responsibility for packing materials onto manufacturers rather than consumers so if producers choose to use black polystyrene trays that they know cannot be recycled then there will be heavy penalties. In the past the mixture of materials in eg tetrapacks was an issue for recycling but now the systems have caught up and you can put those in the bin without having to separate the plastic pourer or take the cellophane window out of the envelope. Unfortunately medicine blister packs continue to be a problem for everyone as the systems have not got to them yet.

#### ***How critical is it that things are clean before we put them in the boxes?***

Mercifully, not critical, they say 80% clean is fine and clearly there is no need to worry about the contents of tubes!

#### ***What about the paper/card?***

Cardboard is a useful and very recyclable resource however if it arrives in the system wet then the nature of fibers changes and they are no longer useful becoming serious contaminants that clog up the system. Similarly if paper is intact it is valuable but shredded becomes useless and should go into the general waste.

#### ***Do you have plans for kerbside food recycling & what would happen to the food material collected***

YES!! This will start in the next 2 years or so and will be collected weekly. The team are currently researching the 'food waste treatment market' and it looks likely that they will

adopt an anaerobic digestion system. Shockingly food waste currently forms 43% of waste in residual grey bin! 2/3rds of that is avoidable waste. This really needs to change as food waste emits methane when it rots and methane is a much more dangerous greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide. Home composting is the best way to reduce this. 'Choose loose' is the message to reduce plastic packaging and to only buy what you need, understand the difference between 'best before' and 'use by' dates!

#### ***What happens to garden waste collected and how free of weeds is it?***

There is a composting process that mimics what we do in our gardens. They are not allowed to call it compost but it gets to a good enough temperature to kill weeds and is then sold as soil conditioner. This all happens in Wiltshire and they were proud that it is all fairly local.

#### ***Does Wiltshire produce energy from waste & if so what is the carbon calculation for it?***

Yes there are two categories of waste that are not recyclable; residual waste and the waste that goes into our black bins. The residual waste collected at Household Recycling Centres is sadly sent to landfill (15%, 70,000 tons per year) but the rest is sent to an energy from waste plant and it generates electricity using a process that is less polluting than the what happens when it is in landfill.

#### ***Tell us about costs***

The lorries collecting waste is one of the biggest costs. There will be government support for the increase that will be needed to fulfil the food waste collection commitments in 2027.

#### ***We hear that waste collection is going to be standardised across the country?***

A level of consistency coming but it will be more of a baseline requirement than exactly the same everywhere because contracts with the companies that buy eg. the sorted plastics or metal are very long; up to 25 years. Swift change is difficult to implement.

#### ***Tell us about dog waste?***

This cannot be composted so needs to go in general waste. Compostable bags are a problem (in any context that is not composting) because they emit methane when they decompose if they are in landfill so it is best to use ordinary ones. It all gets shredded and sent to the energy from waste system.

If you would like to keep up to date with these issues then you can sign up for the monthly 'Lets sort it' newsletter where you will find regular tips. From next month we will feature these in the News!

***Thank you Charlotte & Vicki for a very useful session and to all the interesting questions from the lively audience.***



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## LINK NUMBER 14 - PAT KENNEDY

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

My husband James and I moved to Maiden Bradley over 13 years ago.

### WHAT IS THE FURTHEST YOU HAVE TRAVELLED IN YOUR LIFE AND WHY?

What seems like an age ago, I worked for a charity as a fundraiser and one of the opportunities to fundraise was a sponsored trek to Machu Picchu, a ten day excursion into high altitude, camping in the Peruvian Andes mountains with a group of like minded individuals all raising money for their respective charities. Even then, when recycling was in its infancy here in the UK, great emphasis was made in the towns to recycle. However, on the outskirts of Cusco no care was taken and the hillside was covered with litter probably because there appeared to be no formal road system, therefore no truck collections. Homes were built out of clay blocks mined from the space in which they stood, such a contrast to the centre of the town with its different recycling bins, central square and gold encrusted church. The people were friendly, made wonderful trinkets and toys for the tourists and dressed in their cultural clothes for photo opportunities.

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

My all time favourite job of work was organising weddings at a delightful rural venue. The owner offered a Champagne wedding package which appealed to most couples and as most weddings were in the warmer seasons, the cold buffet of many salads, beef, turkey and ham went down well. Sadly, the venue ceased trading and the buildings and land were neglected when we last visited a couple of years ago.

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

Give me a good period drama any day of the week! I am word perfect on Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility, Room with a View, Howard's End to name but a few. Is my interest down to the fact that we have lived mostly in old houses or have I inherited my love of history from my father?

Do you have a family member with a story that is unusual?

I was the bossy person in our family. With four brothers, I had to be to survive. In conversation with one of my brothers some years ago and having a jaundiced view of charities at the time, I told him that I thought that the only way to help those in Africa was to go to that country and give hands-on aid. My brother had invested heavily in woodworking equipment and this was before social media and his business failed. So, through a contact at his local church, he got in touch with a school in Africa, packed up his workshop and took it to them and showed them how to use the equipment.

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

Looking after my family.

### NAME YOUR FAVOURITE SIGHT.

One of the most beautiful places I have seen on my walks was Glencoe and I will never forget the views on a gin clear day, from the top of Helvellyn in the lake district. A moment in time that was quite special was one morning high in the Andes, the yoga teacher on our trek to Machu Picchu, gave a lesson when we were perched on a plateau. We were in an amphitheatre of mountains and in front of us was the snow-capped peak of a mountain and as the sun rose we did the Salute to the Sun routine.

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

I love to go walking but since Covid, only managed to complete the Spanish Camino the last 200k of the 800k route. Other treks I have undertaken are The Great Wall of China, The West Highland Way, Scarfell Pike, Snowdon, Ben Nevis, South Downs Way and The Isle of Wight. Lots of local walking with

the Ramblers Association. Being a glutton for punishment, I am again embarking on walking the Camino for a second time to accompany my daughter. So what brought about this interest? I was probably only 8 years old when we lived in Scotland and one Easter holiday my father booked a hiking holiday for him and the three oldest boys. My mother was not a walker so we stayed with my youngest brother at a holiday house in Kings Lyn whilst they went youth hostelling. I was not happy about that, I wanted to go with them but at that time accommodation rules meant that for me to stay in a hostel, I had to be accompanied by a female adult and that would never happen. Years later when a fund-raising group needed another member I joined it, I walked my family's route, completed the West Highland Way and stayed in the hostels where they stayed.

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

We are fortunate to live in Maiden Bradley, a very old village set amidst rolling countryside which is beautifully maintained by the landowners and farmers alike. We have a choice of different towns to shop in, all around 5 to 7 miles distant: Frome, Mere and Warminster. I never tire of visiting Bath and Salisbury, two historic places I have visited many times even before we moved this way. What always seems to catch my interest here in the village are the number of people in the community who are willing to help others. We may now take for granted the Bradley Hare, but remember how it used to be! The latest addition to the village of the Bradley Pantry is a game changer and also recently returned is a bus service to Warminster and Frome, once each a week. What more could we ask for? The only thing I could think of was better access to the countryside without the road walking.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SEASON?

I enjoy Winter for the log fires, Spring for the flowers, Summer for the open windows in the house and Autumn for the festivals in the run up to Christmas.

### TELL US ABOUT A CRISIS IN YOUR LIFE.

Any parent will tell you that when your child is ill, it is a very difficult period to go through. At the age of 3, our first daughter became ill with Acute Myeloblastic Leukaemia, an illness usually associated with adults. This was nearly fifty years ago and despite the great efforts of Great Ormond Street Hospital, she lost her life a couple of months before her 5th birthday. She was a very bright child whose ambition was to go to school, which I am glad to say she achieved even though it was only for a few months. The determination she showed was epic as although her initial treatment period in hospital lasted six weeks, as soon as she was allowed home, she climbed out of bed and walked even though the staff expected her to need a wheelchair. When there was no more treatment recommended, and she was out of remission, the chemo had been brutal, we had to make the decision not to prolong her suffering further with another round of chemicals. A very sad time in our lives. Do you "get over" these happenings – no, you learn to live with them.

### TELL US ABOUT A HIGHLIGHT IN YOUR LIFE.

There have to be many highlights in everyone's life and the birth of my children count first and foremost. Passing my driving test opened up a new world of connectivity long before computers and mobile phones and was especially important when living in remote villages.

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

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin. I love the use of the English language as it sweeps you into a different period of human life.

### TELL US A JOKE!

Why couldn't the pony sing? Because she was a little hoarse!

What is Forest Gump's email password? One forest one.



## YARLINGTON SPRING PLANT FAIR, 11 MAY 2024

The Yarlington Spring Plant Fair is held in the park of Yarlington House, by the kind invitation of Count and Countess Charles de Salis. The fine Georgian Manor House and grounds are the perfect setting for a plant fair and great day for all plant and garden lovers.

With over 30 stalls, overflowing with organic vegetable plants, interesting herbs, colourful summer bedding, and plants for cut flowers and shady areas. There will be perennials, climbers and unusual shrubs – plants for every nook and corner of your garden! Many of the stands will focus on wildlife-friendly plants. Whatever plants you are looking for - we are sure you will find them. All fantastic quality, great value for money and with expert advice from the grower if you need it.

The entrance ticket includes admission to the extensive private gardens. Explore the rose garden with pleached limes, lily pond and a wisteria arbour. There is the sunken Italian garden, golden laburnum walk, a productive vegetable garden and a woodland dell with original Victorian winding paths, cleverly fashioned into the manner of an amphitheatre. Perfect for inspiration for your garden! Many of the plants in the garden will be on sale, including a stand with plants grown and propagated by Yarlington's head gardener. It promises to be a great day out for everybody, from the novice gardener with a new garden to fill to plantaholics looking for more treasures. Free car parking and tea, coffee and homemade cake will be on sale. Dogs welcome on a lead. Full details, including stall holders at [www.plantfairs.com](http://www.plantfairs.com)

### MAIDEN BRADLEY GARDEN COMPETITION

Calling all gardeners in Maiden Bradley! It's been a wet and squishy Spring with only the last few days giving us some very welcome respite from the endless drizzle and rain. However, we are soldiering on and thinking of the warmer, drier days that will come in May, June and July. I am pleased to announce that once again we will be running the Maiden Bradley garden competition this year. We had seven entries last year and it would be fabulous if we could match that number again this year.

As always, there will be an independent judge who will have a background in horticulture. They will visit the gardens, this time in early to mid-July. I will confirm timings at a later date. Please enter your garden no matter how big or small as they all provide us with a wonderful haven of sensory interest.

If the rain doesn't stop we will just have the one category of Best Bog Garden and the judge will make his way around by canoe. More later - get planting!

*Adrian Wylie*

# Yarlington House

24th specialist plant fair by kind permission of Count and Countess De Salis  
Yarlington, Wincanton, BA9 8DY



**Over 30 nurseries, specialist plants, organic herbs and vegetable plants, roses, climbers, perennials, grasses, wildflowers, and unusual annuals, and many more.**

**Entrance £5.00 per person (under 16s free)  
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**Explore Yarlington House  
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## LUNCHEON CLUB NEWS

Joy and sadness this month

The joy was just before Easter. Members on arriving for lunch were greeted by a table full of Easter Eggs and home-made cards. The children from Horningsham School had delivered an egg and card for every member. The happiness on all their faces was a joy to behold and our thanks from all the recipients to the children for such thoughtful gifts.

The sadness is the death of another of our members Bill Smy. Bill was the resident plumber for Longleat and visited most houses in the Village over the years. He joined the club in 2013, but at his request his dinner was delivered to his home rather than joining us at the hall. For eleven years, every Thursday when luncheon club was open a dinner and pudding was delivered to him by either Dolly or Fran and we know was much appreciated by him. Our condolences to all his family.

Our yearly subscription of £5 to become a member is due in April, with the cost of £4 each week for a home cooked dinner and pudding with tea or coffee. Please contact either of the numbers below if you are interested in joining or need further information.

**Margaret 01985 844756**

**Lesley 01985 211355**

## WELCOME CLUB

On Tuesday April 23rd the Welcome Club went on their first outing of the season. This was a Mystery Trip when only the driver knows where we are going. Tim was our driver this time and we set off towards Mere joining the A303 towards London. We came off the A303 at the Fonthill Bishop turning making our way to Wilton through the beautiful Wiltshire countryside. We stopped at Wilton Garden Centre for coffee break, some of us were surprised how they have improved the cafe area since when we were last there. After an hour and a quarter we were on the road again not knowing where we were heading, but being on the Bournemouth Road some of us wondered whether Bournemouth was our destination, but no. Once we got to the A31 we turned towards Southampton and after a short while we turned off through the New Forest where we saw all the beautiful gorse in full bloom, it was a mass of yellow.

We eventually got to Lyndhurst going through Burley first after a lovely drive with the sun out!! We stopped at Lyndhurst for lunch, and left there at 2.15pm on our onward journey. We eventually reached the M27 then M3 coming off at Winchester where we had our tea break, leaving there at 4.45pm. The only rain we had was about half dozen spots once we were on the bus at Winchester. We did the raffle at Lyndhurst car park because Tim could only drop us off and come and pick us up at Winchester. Tom and Lesley did the raffle and Tom thanked Tim at Winchester saying we had a lovely day. Tim then told us he would not take us back direct. We headed out of Winchester on the A30 going through Stockbridge turning off for Gratley and, ending up near the Soloistic Park on A303, arriving home in beautiful sunshine at 6.30pm after a really lovely day out which everyone enjoyed. Our next outing is on Tuesday 21st May to Cheltenham and the Cotswold Area.

**Anyone interested please call Pearl on 01985 19289 or Lesley on 01985 211355.**



Tickets now on

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AT MANOR FARM, BA12 7QE

**Saturday 27 July 2024 at 7.00pm**

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[andyswindowsfrome@gmail.com](mailto:andyswindowsfrome@gmail.com)



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## MERE AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME

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



01747 860096  
9am – 5pm Weekdays Only

Community First, who oversee the 42 Link Schemes in Wiltshire, produce a summary of the audit of Link Scheme activity in 2023. We are preparing one for Mere's Link Scheme. One figure which jumped out at me was the average mileage for each Link Scheme in 2023. This was 17,700. In 2023 Mere Link Scheme drivers covered an amazing 46,121 miles. A tremendous effort from all of our drivers. In March we did 104 so we are still averaging 100 trips per month this year. As ever Salisbury District Hospital was the busiest destination with 27 trips.

Do you want to volunteer as a Link driver? We are a local charity and we take clients to medical appointments, including Covid vaccinations, and even shopping when resources allow. New drivers are always welcome. You choose when you want to drive, use your own car and we pay 45p/mile to cover your costs. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver please call our co-ordinator on 01747 860096.

If you want to use the Link, 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 remember that our coordinators work in their own homes – we do not have an office - so please keep calls to 9-5 Monday to Friday and only use the 01747 860096 number. Also, it is a great help if you can give us a minimum of 48 hour's notice (not including Saturdays and Sundays). Our coordinator has to ring round to find a driver who is available to take you to your appointment and we cannot guarantee our co-ordinator will be at home to arrange last minute requests.

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

**Mere and District Link Scheme**

**01747 860867**

**07795606426**

**Link phone 01747 860096**

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

*John FitzGerald,*

**Link Chair**

**Additional drivers are needed  
to join the LINK team**

To find out more call our co-ordinator  
on 01747 860096.

## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS

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



**“HIGH STREET”**

**Maiden Bradley**

In case it did not register  
last month

**SPEED LIMIT 20mph**

*“20 is plenty as they say”*



As you are aware from the previous issue of this article the speeding hotspot in the village is the High Street followed by Back Lane.

The average vehicle count during a 45 minute CSW session is 38/42 vehicles of which 18/20 are travelling in excess of 30 mph roughly 33% over the statutory speed limit for this section of highway. All this has been highlighted with Wiltshire Constabulary and a traffic officer will whenever possible be with the CSW team when active on the High Street as an officer explained recently to a driver that was stopped for speeding. In a 30mph zone at your speed you would have been given a severe letter of reprimand, in a 20mph zone you will be prosecuted.

The CSW are a great team working together for the safety of the village no matter where one lives and are doing a great job for all the village's traffic safety.

We achieved a new record on Monday 15th April booking a vehicle passing the church entrance / layby at 51 mph.

Come and join us.

*Simon Wager*

**Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.**

**Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish Council**

**Telephone No 01985 844848**



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all pensioners get 25% off their food bill for lunch.

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