

# MAIDEN BRADLEY

## NEWS

MAY 2025



REMEMBERING V E DAY

KILMINGTON AND MAIDEN BRADLEY HOME GUARD

MAIDEN BRADLEY PARISH NEWS - ISSUE 431  
COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND DIARY MAY 2025

Thursday 1st	<b>7:00 am-10:00 pm Parish Council Elections</b>
Saturday 3rd	<b>SUNDAY 11TH MAY WYLYE ART TRAIL</b>
Sunday 4th	<b>10:00 St George's, Bourton Parish Communion</b>
Wednesday 7th	<b>Household waste collection</b>
Sunday 11th	<b>10:00 Maiden Bradley Parish Communion</b>
Monday 12th	<b>Garden waste collection</b>
Tuesday 13th	<b>6.30 pm Parish Council AGM</b>
Wednesday 14th	<b>Blue bin and black box collection</b>
Sunday 18th	<b>10:00 St Peter's, Stourton Parish Communion</b>
Saturday 24th	<b>7:00 PM QUIZ HOSTED BY BOB &amp; JED</b>
Wednesday 21st	<b>Household waste collection</b>
Sunday 25th	<b>3.00 pm Rogation Service Rodmead Farm</b>
Sunday 25th	<b>2:00 - 4.30PM STICKY TOFFEE JAZZ - VE CELEBRATIONS</b>
Monday 26th	<b>Garden waste collection</b>
Wednesday 28th	<b>Blue bin and black box collection</b>
Sunday 1 st June	<b>10:00 St George's, Bourton Parish Communion</b>

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INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SEATING - WELL BEHAVED DOGS WELCOME



OPENING HOURS

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 0800-1800

SATURDAY 0800-1800

SUNDAYS 0900 - 1600

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
TUESDAYS	9.30AM-10.30AM	BRADLEY BABES
TUESDAYS	1.00PM-3.00PM	POST OFFICE SERVICE
WEDNESDAYS	10.00AM-11.15AM	SILVER SNEAKERS
THURSDAYS	9.30AM-10.30AM	PILATES
FRIDAYS	10AM-12NOON	COFFEE MORNING

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USEFUL CONTACTS

**Social / Interest Groups:**

Book Club - Jessica Johnson	01985 844174
Luncheon Club - Margaret/Lesley	01985 844756/211355
Welcome Club Outings - Pearl	01985 219289
Bell Ringers - Pat Kennedy	01985 845397
Community Garden - Sam Ribeck	<a href="mailto:sam.ribeck@btinternet.com">sam.ribeck@btinternet.com</a>
Pilates - Dawn Baynham	07936 271806

**Support Organisations:**

Speed Watch Co-ordinator - Simon Wager	<a href="mailto:simon.m.wager@gmail.com">simon.m.wager@gmail.com</a>
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator - Derek Stevens	01985 844428
Environmental issues - Kate Moore	<a href="mailto:greenermaidensbradley@gmail.com">greenermaidensbradley@gmail.com</a>
Mere Link Scheme	01747 860096

**Community Contacts:**

All Saints Church - Diana Bourne	07775 625448
Memorial Hall Bookings - Jo Gilbert	<a href="mailto:bookingsmaidensbradleyhall@gmail.com">bookingsmaidensbradleyhall@gmail.com</a>
Dr Andrew Murrison MP	<a href="mailto:murrisona@parliament.uk">murrisona@parliament.uk</a> 01225 358584
Bill Parks (Wiltshire Cllr)	<a href="mailto:bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk">bill.parks@wiltshire.gov.uk</a> 07712 490075
Newsletter - Gilly Hayden	<a href="mailto:editormaidensbradleynews@gmail.com">editormaidensbradleynews@gmail.com</a>

MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ONLINE ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE:  
[WWW.MAIDENBRADLEYVILLAGE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.MAIDENBRADLEYVILLAGE.ORG.UK)

BUS SERVICES FROM THE BUS STOP BY THE KNAPP  
FROME - WEDNESDAYS DEPART 9.53AM RETURN 12.25  
WARMINSTER - FRIDAYS DEPART 9.35AM RETURN 12.30

## EDITORIAL

Easter seems to have passed by very quickly, I hope that you all had a relaxing time.

I spent an entertaining and informative evening on April 11th in the village hall listening to John Priestner present a history in pictures of the village. John has a huge archive of photos, which coupled with some amusing anecdotes, made for a fun evening. He raised £95 for the church.

As you will see Alex Channer, Diana Bourne and Elaine Lavender have been exceedingly busy putting together a booklet containing your stories of what went on in the village and nearby, along with family histories to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE day. I really hope you enjoy these inspirational tales - gosh, we really do have a lot to live up to!

As ever, do let me know if you have anything that you would like to add to the magazine.

*Gilly*

## COVER STORY -VE DAY BOOKLET

### **WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE COMMEMORATION BOOKLET PREPARED TO MARK THE 80TH VE DAY ANNIVERSARY**

We're so grateful to everyone who shared their stories about the village in World War Two, or about their relatives. There are tales of sacrifice and service, of relatives in the army and navy, including in the Special Operations Executive (SOE), and dramatic battles; and there are tales of hardship - and mischief – back at home, with the Maiden Bradley Home Guard, German POWs, and evacuees. All of the stories are now second-hand, retold by those who heard them as children, and so, we hope that on VE day, you will read these tales and keep in mind the brave, and tough generation who came before us and sacrificed so much for us all.

### **THANK YOU.**

#### **VE DAY BOOKLET TEAM**

*Diana Bourne*

*Alex Channer*

*Elaine Lavender*

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL ARTICLES FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEWS BY THE  
20TH OF EACH MONTH BY EMAIL TO:  
[editormaidenbradleynews@gmail.com](mailto:editormaidenbradleynews@gmail.com)

## FAMILY NEWS



The family of Doug Ball would like to thank all those who made his funeral and wake on Friday 4th April such a special occasion.

Thank you to Diane Stevens for arranging such beautiful flowers, Sue Priestner for playing the Organ and to the bell ringers who managed to toll the bell 86 times, one for each year of his life. £450 was donated in his memory to Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall and All Saints Church.

A special thank you to Conor and his team at The Bradley Hare for accommodating so many people on such a beautiful, sunny afternoon, ensuring that everyone had a drink and compliments to the Chef for providing such a delicious buffet.

It certainly was a 'send off' that Doug would have loved!

Thank you

**Jackie Gunter**

**- and a very special "Thank you" to Jackie and family from the Hall Committee for the very generous donation from the retiring collection.**

**A BIG WELCOME to the village to John Marshall, Sarah Burton and their daughter Bess who have moved into The Rank**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO Martin and Rosie Brown who have moved into Moonrakers on High Street.**

## THOUGHTS FROM THE RECTORY....



### UNITY, DOCTRINE, AND THE BIRTH OF A CREED

In the year 325 AD, about 220 bishops from across the Christian world gathered in the city of Nicaea, in what is now modern-day Turkey. Called together by Emperor Constantine, this meeting—known as the First Council of Nicaea—was a landmark event in the history of Christianity. For the first time, church leaders from various regions came together to define what Christians believe, seeking unity in a time of theological division.

At the heart of the council's work was a controversy surrounding a man named Arius, a priest from

Alexandria in Egypt. Arius taught that Jesus Christ was not fully divine—that he had been created by God and therefore could not be equal to God the Father. This teaching caused a huge argument, as many Christians believed that Arius' view undermined the very nature of salvation and the identity of Jesus.

The bishops debated from May to August 325, finally affirming what the Church had always believed but had not yet formally defined: that Jesus Christ is "of one substance" with the Father (*homoousios* in the original Greek). This meant that the Son is not a lesser being, but fully and truly God—"eternally begotten, not made", as Christians affirm today, Sunday by Sunday. This, of course, became a foundational belief of official Christian teaching.

To express this clearly, the council formulated what is now called the Nicene Creed. While slightly revised at the Council of Constantinople in 381, the Creed remains one of the most important summaries of Christian belief. Millions of Christians across denominations still recite it today, affirming the faith handed down through the centuries.

Yet Nicaea was more than a theological debate—it was a moment when the Church sought unity, clarity, and truth in a time of uncertainty. Though debates were fierce (it is said that Saint Nicholas got so frustrated that he slapped Arius across the face!), the goal was to remain faithful to the traditions handed down from the apostles, to the gospel that had been preached since the time of Christ.

The Council also addressed practical issues, such as the date of Easter and certain church practices, but its greatest legacy is the stand it took in emphasising the full divinity of Jesus. By doing so, it safeguarded the heart of the Christian message: that in Jesus, God truly came to dwell among us, redeem us, and bring us into communion with himself.

Today, the Council of Nicaea reminds us that the Christian faith is not a patchwork of opinions, but a truth grounded in Jesus, preserved and passed on by the Church in every age.

**Graham Southgate**  
(01747 476316)

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### VILLAGE HALL LOTTERY

#### MARCH

1st	Oliver Laidler	£25.00	2nd	Oliver Laidler	£12.50
3rd	Mary Stevens E	£7.25	4th	Dave Dewings	£5.00

#### APRIL

1st	Elaine Snook	£25.00	2nd	Tom Allday	£12.50
3rd	Vera Crossman	£7.25	4th	Esther Swan	£5.00

Thank you to all those contributors to the Hall Lottery 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.



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# Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

**Thursday 1st May**

Parish Council Elections

7am-10pm

**Tuesday 13th May**

Parish Council AGM 6.30pm



**Saturday 24th May**

QUIZ NIGHT  
hosted by Bob & Jed

**Sunday 25th May**

STICKY TOFFEE JAZZ  
and Buffet  
for 80th anniversary V E Day  
2-4.30pm



GATHER THE GANG AND GET COMPETITIVE!

**QUIZ NIGHT**  
**SATURDAY MAY 24**  
**MAIDEN BRADLEY MEMORIAL HALL**

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

## BRADLEY BABES UPDATE:



As Arthur is now older, thriving at life and always needing new challenges, it is with a heavy heart that I am stepping down from leading the group on a Tuesday morning. It has been hugely satisfying and enjoyable watching the babies of the village grow and develop their skills together and share in their enchanting personalities.

There are still some babies and toddlers that will benefit from the group so we are looking for someone to take it on. If you or know of anyone that would enjoy leading this group, setting up some toys and games in the village hall once a week then please let me know. We have a plethora of toys and activities.

**Laura Rayner**

## WELCOME CLUB NEWS

On Tuesday 22nd April we went on our first outing of the season. We did not know where we were going to only the driver Lionel knew. We headed down the A303 thinking we maybe going to Devon somewhere. No - he turned off and we went through Crewkerne then we thought we may go to a craft centre at Broad Windsor but no we went onto West Bay for Coffee Break.

After leaving West Bay we turned left along the coast road - it was beautiful with sun out - heading for Weymouth. We felt sure this time it was Weymouth but no, the next thing we realised we were heading into Portland. Someone was rather disappointed but never mind, we would make the most of it. Then Lionel stopped the bus at view point to show us Weymouth Harbour and Bay from high up. It was stunning. He then said he would take us to see the lighthouse but because he thought none of us could climb the steps inside we would go to Weymouth for lunch. You imagine a certain person was over the moon.

In Weymouth the weather was beautiful all the time we were there, everyone went and did their own thing. Most got lunch afterwards, some went shopping, others walked along the promenade. They also sat on the promenade watching people and children in the sea. I do not think any of our people went into the sea!

We left Weymouth at 4.30pm after Tom and Lesley did raffle and Tom thanked Lionel for a wonderful day out. We got back at about 6.15 pm after a enjoyable day out.

Our next outing is to Evesham on Tuesday May 27th if you are interested please ring Pearl on 01985 219289 or Lesley 01985 211355

## LUNCHEON CLUB NEWS

Our Easter break will be extended this term due to the hall being used for the Wylve Valley Art Trail. We will be open again on Thursday 15th May and continue to Thursday 31st July when we close for our August holiday.

Our AGM will be held after lunch on Thursday 22nd May. New members are invited at any time with an annual membership of £5 due in April. The hall is open from 12 noon for lunch at 12.30. The cost is £5 for a two-course lunch followed by tea or coffee. If you wish to join, please contact Margaret (01985 844756) or Lesley (01985 211355), you would be made very welcome.



## LINK NUMBER 25 - ED PEARCE

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

I completed a PhD in Economics at Cardiff University, researching how growth and energy prices affect structural income inequality. The dissertation is still on Google Scholar. I don't use my research background directly anymore, but it gave me useful skills I've carried into my current work where I have to constantly learn new systems and ways to assess data.

### TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR LEISURE ACTIVITIES.

I was a bit of a wimp growing up, so I try to make up for it now with extreme sports. I'm a qualified skydiver with around 250 jumps. No dangerous moments so far, though I did once crash into a hedge, which didn't go down too well at the drop zone. I'm now trying to take up kite surfing because Dorset is such a great spot for it.

### WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST MEMORY?

One of my earliest memories is carrying around a rag at nursery that I was oddly attached to. I took it everywhere.

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

When I was younger, I was a big fan of Memento, which was Christopher Nolan's first major film. It is about a man who has short term memory loss and is trying to track down his wife's murderer. The scenes were jumbled up so viewer gets an idea of the main character's confusion and desperation. I think I was drawn to it as I was going through a slightly artistic phase at the time.

### DO YOU HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER WITH AN UNUSUAL STORY?

My sister had two double lung transplants due to having Cystic Fibrosis, something I also suffer from but less seriously. She went on to break a world record for the highest climb by a double lung transplant patient, climbing Mount Cotopaxi in South America. She only turned back near the summit to help a friend who couldn't continue. She sadly passed just over two years ago, but her son sometimes visits us and has previously joined in the Saturday morning activities on the green.

### WHAT IS THE MOST PROUD MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE?

Any time our son Albie does something compassionate. It's such an important trait. Whenever he helps another child, or puts aside a piece of his chocolate and says "this is for mummy", I'm immensely proud.

### HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FUTURE?

I've always been an optimist. There are plenty of reasons to worry about the state

of the world, especially in recent years, but every generation has faced challenges and survived them. I try to focus on what I can influence. As a parent, I just want to make sure Albie has the right exposure and develops the skills to navigate the modern world.

### TELL US SOMETHING THAT WILL SURPRISE MOST READERS.

I used to do ski race training when I was 13-14. I thought I was pretty good at the time, but some of the others were on another level.

### What do you especially like about our village?

Living somewhere with a sense of community is such a privilege. Constantly passing people you know when walking through the village or popping into the Pantry. I've never lived anywhere like it, and I'm realising how much it adds to quality of life. It's especially valuable when raising a child, as it really encourages social confidence. I am very appreciative of those that arrange events and make the village what it is.

### WHO HAS INSPIRED IN YOUR LIFE?

I've always been inspired by Warren Buffett. His emotional intelligence, philanthropy, and humility make him a great role model.

In my personal life, I've been with my wife Jo so long that she's inevitably shaped who I am. Especially the way she has taken to parenthood with such devotion I am really in awe of.

My sister was also a huge inspiration. She kept going and never complained, no matter how difficult things were.

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

It's an obvious answer... When Albie was born. Someone once told me the first time your child first clutches your finger, it changes you. I found that to be true.





# NEED THE Loo?

The Friends of Maiden Bradley Church are raising £20,000 for a community project - providing an accessible toilet for our church.

We would love our beautiful Grade 1 listed church to be comfortably accessible to all - not only for religious services - but also for talks, exhibitions, musical events and any other appropriate community uses.

Clearly, without a loo, the prospect of attending any event in the church is not so inviting!

We are hoping to install an accessible eco-friendly (compostable) toilet adjacent to the church. In keeping with the churchyard environment, it will look more like a garden shed than a portaloo.

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE**

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Your details are safe with JustGiving - they'll never sell them on or send unwanted emails. Once you donate, the Friends of Maiden Bradley Church will withdraw funds directly. It's the most efficient way to donate and saves time and costs.

THANK YOU



## STICKY TOFFEE JAZZ WITH SANDY INCE

MAIDEN BRADLEY  
MEMORIAL HALL  
Sunday May 25th  
2.00pm - 4.30pm

Tickets £12.50  
available from Eventbrite  
or Jo on 01985 844057



## ANDY DEAN'S WILD RAMBLINGS - MAY 2025

Recently I decided to build a small level area of lawn for my baby, as there isn't a single flat bit of grass in the garden for her to play on. The area that I chose had a couple of ant hills in it. I didn't want to harm the ants, nor did I want the lawn to be infested with them. I had noticed however that I never see ants on these hills even if I scratch the surface of them. I realised it was time that I found out a little more about them..

Of the 60 odd species of ant in Britain, as far as I can see, our garden has two of the most common species, the black garden ant (*Lasius niger*) and yellow meadow ants (*Lasius flavus*) but I will be on the look out for more as ants are a complex and fascinating lot.

Now, I am, as you will probably not be surprised to hear, not opposed to having ants in the garden, but as mentioned above, I don't really want little Dusty to experience ants in her pants (nappies) just yet. But just because you have ant hills doesn't mean that your lawn, kitchen or indeed pants will be infested with them. There is a very real case of scapegoating going on by the black ants here, who though they can and sometimes do make ant hills, these are much less impressive and substantial than the yellow meadow ant's, they are much more likely to nest under stones, paving slabs or in brick work, and it's the black ant that gets up in our grill, often quite literally. Ants have an incredible sense of smell and have the ability to locate and communicate food resources through pheromone trails. This being the reason for black ants in the larder, as they are surface dwellers and foragers. Yellow meadow ants living sometimes a metre and a half below the top of their hills, that get up to about half a metre in height, tend to use these resources to forage aphids and other small insects in their tunnels.

The ant hills are the spoil from the excavation of the underground chambers and they serve as an air conditioning system, regulating temperature and humidity. They are also the way in and out of the nest, though yellow meadow ants spend much of their time underground. Both species 'milk' aphids for honeydew, a sweet excretion, but yellow meadow ants farm underground root aphids while black ants farm terrestrial aphids, as seen on many a garden rose. Don't be too quick to rush for the insecticide (ever!) but in this case because these are part of a balanced system that keep the ants, and many other insects such as lacewings, ladybirds and hoverflies fed, not to mention the vital resource that they supply to young of birds such as blue tits, sparrows, swifts and house martins. As an aside, 97% of all terrestrial birds feed their chicks on insects. If you leave out bird seed, this may give the busy parent energy but the chick needs insects. Which is one of the reasons why we'd do very well to garden to raise as many as possible.

Back to ants..

If ants didn't annoy us enough then there's 'Flying Ant Day'! Well a few days really between mid-July and the end of August when weather conditions are hot and humid. This is when the black ant queen (great band!) who never leaves the nest strays away from producing

the female worker ants and lays males - drones and virgin queens - princesses (cute) with wings, these 'alates' take to the air to find a mate, this reduces inbreeding and leads to the creation of new colonies. The males will live long enough to mate with the princesses of other colonies, often only a few hours but max a week, and then die. The princesses will bite off their own wings and go on to form the new colony after tunneling into the ground. She will, from mating that single time, or single event of perhaps many mates, gather enough sperm to lay enough eggs over her 15 or more years of life to create a colony perhaps 20,000 strong.

So much to say! I've used up my allotted word count but I'm going to be naughty and go over because I have to mention the beneficial relationship that the black ant can have with a butterfly that is in trouble. The silver-studded blue's numbers have declined 45% since 1979 and the black ant assists in the protection of butterfly larvae (the caterpillar), guarding it from predation in exchange for its sugary secretions. I should say that habitat loss and the diminished numbers of the British wild plants that their caterpillars eat is the greatest danger to all butterflies. This particular butterfly's caterpillar can only eat a few plants including that lovely lawn plant black medic along with common bird's-foot-trefoil, common rock-rose, gorse, heath heathers, hoary rock-rose and horseshoe vetch.

If we're talking about ants and butterflies, I can't not mention the absolutely fascinating interaction between the other commonish and pretty fierce garden ant that thankfully restricts itself mainly to compost heaps and alike, the red ant *Myrmica rubra* and the large blue butterfly. This butterfly is listed as Near Threatened on the global IUCN Red List of Threatened Species but is up by 1883% since being declared extinct in 1979 and undergoing an extensive reintroduction program - its only caterpillar food plants are wild marjoram and wild thyme. After tricking the ants into adopting the caterpillar (by mimicking ant larval pheromones), the larvae are carried to the nest where they feed on, yes, you guessed it, the ants' own young. Swings and roundabouts..

So, please leave the kettle where it is and don't be tempted to pour boiling water over those hills as you will likely be harming a pretty benign bunch and not the jam addicts that you suppose them to be.

Please do email with anything interesting!

**[andydeanuk@gmail.com](mailto:andydeanuk@gmail.com)**



*Silver-studded Blue (male / upperwing)*  
Bob Eade



*Black garden ant - Lasius Niger*  
Ann Miles



# Life on the farm

## May 2025

*The days getting warmer and longer as spring  
breaks ins into bloom*

*Spring sowing and drilling spring beans, maize,  
oats also potato, peas and other root crops  
Preparation first cut for Hay or Silage harvesting*

### *Livestock*

*Calving continues until May with the new-born  
having their ears tagged and passports applied for  
movement purposes: a reminder that there is always  
a lot of paperwork and office work these days in  
farming.*

*Continue to keep a careful eye in the fields with ewes  
and lambs vulnerable to predators both wild and  
domestic*

*Continue to monitor poultry flocks for signs of bird  
flu*

*Hedge cutting and hedgelaying finished  
Continue to check and inspect all the pastures that  
stock will be turned out into and see that they are  
safe and secure*

*Overall general maintenance*



Maiden Bradley  
Parish Council

### **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW CLERK!**

We are looking for a dedicated Parish Clerk to help ensure the smooth running of Maiden Bradley with Yarnfield Parish Council. As the first point of contact for the community, you will provide support, manage meetings, maintain records, and handle financial and administrative tasks for the council.

This is a highly rewarding role with flexible hours and competitive pay. You will primarily work from home but will need to attend regular evening Parish Council meetings, currently held six times per year. You will work a total of approximately 7 hours per week, with the basic rate depending on experience but in the range of £14.30- £18.26 per hour, plus working from home allowance and travel expenses. Full salary details are available upon application.

Ideally, you will have previous experience as a Parish Clerk, but training will be arranged if needed. You should have strong administrative skills, be well-organised with excellent Microsoft Office expertise, and have experience of updating website content management systems. You will also need to be comfortable writing for and posting on social media.

**Closing date for applications is 6 May 2025 – please send your CV with a covering letter to: [clerk@maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@maidenbradley-pc.gov.uk).**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the  
**MAIDEN BRADLEY WITH YARNFIELD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
will beheld in the Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

Please note, that through circumstances beyond the control  
of the Parish Council, the meeting date has had to be  
changed to:-

**TUESDAY 13TH MAY 2025 18:00 HRS (6PM)**

Agenda to be published 1st May in The Parish Magazine, Facebook  
or Parish Council.



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CHARITY REGISTRATION 1062328

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



Community First, which oversees the 43 Link Schemes in Wiltshire, produces a summary of the annual audit of Link Scheme activity. The 2024 details can be found on the Community First website: [www.communityfirst.org.uk/transport/link/](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk/transport/link/). We are also producing one for Mere.

Once again Mere and District Link Scheme drivers covered many more miles than the overall average of 20,201 with MDLS drivers covering 50,773 - a tremendous effort from all of our drivers. In March we did 116 trips. As ever, Salisbury District Hospital was the busiest destination with 44 trips. With this number of trips we have estimated that our five volunteer co-ordinators made/received around 400 phone calls during the month. Well done.

If you want to use the Link, once you have an appointment please call 01747 860096 to book a driver. As a charity we do not charge for trips but ask for a donation. Please remember that our co-ordinators 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 hours 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 coordinator will be at home to arrange last minute requests.

**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.**

A date for your diary - the Link AGM will be held on Friday 6 June at 7pm in the Grove Building. After the meeting we will have a drinks and nibbles social. Everyone is welcome.

**John FitzGerald, Link Chair**

01747 860867 or 07795606426

**Support needed with computers, broadband or phones ?**

**CONTACT THE VILLAGE HELPDESK**

Computing at Home  
Nigel Lavender - 01985 844637

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



**“VOLUNTEERS, KEEPING OUR VILLAGE SAFE”**

**APRIL -  
HIGH STREET**

**Average of 15.9% in excess of 20mph**

High Street, the major speeding area within the village, with an average of 7 vehicles recorded in a 45 minute CSW Session. Against an average overall vehicle count of 40 to 50 vehicles in the given 45 minutes. The recording point starts at 24mph All cars and a few light vans. Averaging 25/31 MPH. 90% of which appears to be commuter traffic who have scant regard.



**THE B3092**

**Average of 9% in excess of 30mph**

You will have noticed Wiltshire Police activity in the area of the Church and adjacent traffic calming. With the Police Road Safety Unit parked and recording traffic speeds in that area further highlighting just how vulnerable parishioners are being exposed to the very very poor condition that section of Highway is in, with regards to signage and road safety.

*Anyone who wishes to add a comment about this area of the B3092, please go onto the My Wiltshire website and make a comment.*

**OUR VOLUNTEERS**

It is with great pleasure we welcome Fiona to our team of CSW volunteers and once completed the required Wiltshire Police training course will undoubtedly be out with the team, working to keep our village safe.

Welcome to the team, Fiona.

***Come and join us too - you will be very welcome.***

**Simon Wager**

**Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.**

**Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish Council**

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## FROM THE ARCHIVE



Photos courtesy of John Priestner.

### **Above:**

Taken outside the Somerset Arms pre WW1 when Bradley Fair was held on Whit Mondays following a church parade headed by a band and the Maiden Bradley Friendly Society banner.

### **Below:**

A familiar sight in the 1960s - the Priestners' cows being walked up and down past the church every day. (*Is that John, I wonder?*)



## SIMPLE COUSCOUS SALAD

### **Ingredients:**

100g couscous

200ml hot low salt vegetable stock  
(from a cube is fine)

2 spring onions

1 red pepper

½ cucumber

50g feta cheese  
cubed

2 tbsp pesto

2 tbsp pine nuts



### **Step 1:**

Tip the couscous into a large bowl and pour over the stock. Cover, then leave for 10 mins until fluffy and all the stock has been absorbed.

### **Step 2:**

Meanwhile, slice the onions and pepper, and dice the cucumber. Add these to the couscous, fork through the pesto, crumble in the feta, then sprinkle over pine nuts to serve.



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THE  
BRADLEY  
HARE

OPENING TIMES

MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

BAR - 3PM - 10PM  
KITCHEN - 6PM - 8:30PM

THURSDAY

BAR - 12PM - 10PM  
KITCHEN - 12:30PM - 2:30PM  
6PM - 8:30PM

FRIDAY TO SATURDAY

BAR - 12PM - 11PM  
KITCHEN - 12:30PM - 2:30PM  
6PM - 8:30PM

SUNDAY

BAR - 12PM - 9PM  
KITCHEN - 12:30PM - 3PM  
6PM - 6:45PM

