# Maiden Bradley thehandbook 2008





# Maiden Bradley Village Shop & Post Office

Please support your Village Shop at the heart of our busy village. Anne, Kim and Pam are always pleased to welcome you.

Opening hours - Mon / Tues / Thur / Fri - 8 am to 6.30 pm Wed - 8 am to 6 pm • Sat 8 am to 1 pm • Sun 10 am to 12 noon

Newspapers, milk, bread, eggs, confectionery, hot pasties, ice cream, vegetables, etc. You name it, we will stock it. No request too small.

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## Francis & Jackson MsRCVS Veterinary Surgeons

Belle Vue Small Animal and Equine Clinics, Millards Hill, Trudoxhill, Frome, Somerset. BA11 5DW

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# 24 Hour Emergency Service



### **Maiden Bradley Handbook**



#### What is it?

The Maiden Bradley Handbook sets out to describe the Parish, its facilities, activities, businesses, and the various aspects that make up a small rural community. The Handbook provides general information that anyone living here needs to have, on health and education services for example, plus it is a practical guide for accessing a wide range of contacts and local opportunities.

#### Who is it for?

The Handbook is intended for three groups of people -

- Residents of the Parish, who will of course already know most of the content, but should find it useful to have it all brought together in one place.
- Newcomers to the Parish, who should find here the bulk of the introductory information they will need.
  - Visitors who want to find out what is going on, and get an idea what our community is like.

#### What's in it?

The Handbook is in 6 Sections –

- I. A general introduction and some history.
- 2. Facilities, amenities, clubs, organisations and local businesses.
- 3. Shopping, working and leisure in Maiden Bradley and surrounding areas.
- 4. Transport and housing.
- 5. Health and education (with child-minding).
- 6. Local government, policing and emergencies

#### Who did it?

The Handbook has been produced by the Editorial Team of the Maiden Bradley Parish News, based on material provided by many people in our community. For the general descriptions we have quoted extensively from the Parish Plan. It is as accurate and comprehensive as we can make it, though we can be sure there will be errors and omissions, and for these we apologise.

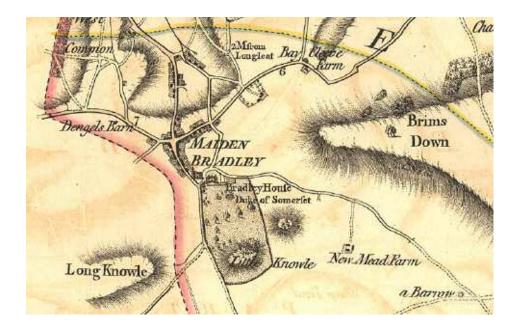
#### Who paid for it?

Funding comes jointly from the sale of advertising space and a grant from The Community Foundation for Wiltshire and Swindon.

#### How up-to-date is it?

This publication was prepared in early summer 2007 with a last minute update at the end of 2007. We are aware that bits of it will soon change or go out of date, and our aim is to provide occasional information updates in the pages of the monthly Parish News. However, we can only do this effectively if you keep telling us of any changes that have occurred. Please let any member of the Parish News Editorial Team know (contact details are in the front of every issue of the News).

clinic@fjvets.com



## A general introduction and some history

Maiden Bradley is a small parish in Wiltshire close to the Somerset Border. It takes in the Village and a number of small surrounding settlements, mainly farms. It is a very old parish, referenced in the Doomsday Book. Romano-British finds in the locality date back to at least 200 AD. For part of its life Maiden Bradley was best known for its Priory and its hospice for 'women of good birth' suffering from leprosy. Later it became the focal point for the workers on the Duke of Somerset's estates and in the Duke's family home, Bradley House, and in these decades it reached its largest size. However, the parish as we now know it dates from the period after the Second World War, when some of the Estate's farm land and many of its dwellings were sold.

The origins of the name 'Maiden Bradley' are lost in obscurity. 'Bradley' probably is of Celtic origin, meaning 'wide clearing'; less likely it may have a Saxon root, from the word for 'broad camp'. The 'Maiden' may refer to the 'leprous maidens' of medieval times rather than the old Celtic word for fortification (as in Maiden Castle near Dorchester).

The population of Maiden Bradley recorded in the last (2001) census is the same as that for 1971 – 335. Of these, 72 were recorded as under 18, no longer sufficient to support the Village School, which closed some years ago.

Maiden Bradley is within Wiltshire and is part of the soon to be disbanded (April 2009) Salisbury District. The nearest towns are Frome (Somerset), Warminster (West Wiltshire District), Mere (Salisbury District) and Bruton (Somerset). Nearby village communities to the North, East and West (e.g. Horningsham, Trudoxhill) are not part of Salisbury District. So in some ways Maiden Bradley is, and feels itself to be, at the boundary of several local government areas, and on the outer periphery of its own District Council. Our location sandwiches us between two major national tourist attractions. Three miles to the north is Longleat, with its Safari Park, and Center Parcs holiday village. A similar distance to the south is the National Trust property at Stourhead. The B3092 runs through Maiden Bradley, and links these two sites, but is also a 'rat run' for HGV traffic between industries to the north (around Frome, Bath, Bristol, etc.) and places south and along the A303. There is an ongoing and long-running campaign to have a 7.5t weight limit placed on the B3092 to reduce the impact of HGV traffic along Church Street (the name of the B3092 as it runs through the village).

We are a Conservation Area, and form part of the Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). There are 23 listed structures in the Parish, with All Saints' Church having a Grade I listing. Three areas, Brimsdown Hill, Bradley Wood and Long Knoll, are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Not surprisingly there are excellent walks in the Parish. Being in a Conservation Area and AONB means that more attention is given to conservation and planning matters.

We have many of the traditional features of a small parish, such as the pub and shop. We retain a strong agricultural focus, but also have some local small businesses, such as timber sales and building, and Bradley House is used for a variety of events. As well as this local employment, many residents commute to local towns. The parish has an active social life, much of it centring on a large number of clubs and associations.

Anyone wanting to read about the history of Maiden Bradley, or life here in the past will find two books useful - A History of Maiden Bradley (1997) by Hugh Kitching, and Memories of Maiden Bradley (2004) by Don Newbury. The latter is a personal memoir of the 1920s. Both are available via the Maiden Bradley Historical Association (contact Dr. Ian Henry, 76a High Street, Maiden Bradley). There are also some useful web sites, including www.maidenbradley.freeuk.com,



which is run by a local person, Jim Downes, and contains history, photos and maps. The County and District sites, www.wiltshire.gov.uk and www.salisbury.gov.uk are also worth pursuing. There is a brief history of Maiden Bradley on www.wiltshire.gov.uk/community.

For more up to date information about the Parish there is the Maiden Bradley Parish News, a monthly newsletter delivered free to all households. The Parish Council maintains a Maiden Bradley section on www.southwilts.com. A Parish Plan was produced in 2005 as a guide to the future development of facilities in the Parish. Copies are available from the Parish Clerk (see Section 6 for contact details). The Warminster Journal is a weekly news sheet for the area.

Maiden Bradley has a reputation as a parish with a strong community spirit, as the large range of community activities listed in the following pages illustrates. In many ways it is a typical 'traditional' village, with the expected range of facilities (pub, shop, recreation area) and activities (annual show, Christmas parade).

# Facilities, amenities, clubs, organisations and local businesses

#### **Basic facilities**

There is no mains gas supply to Maiden Bradley.

Broadband is available through BT phone lines, but there is no mobile phone signal in many parts of the Parish, and where it is present it may be weak.



There are several electricity suppliers. Poles and lines are maintained by Southern Electric - 0845 7444555 for general enquiries, or 0845 7708090 for a power cut. Postal address is Southern Electric, PO Box 7380, Perth, PHI 3ZP.

Most houses are on mains sewerage, but some have their own septic tanks. The water and mains sewerage for Maiden Bradley is the responsibility of Wessex Water. We are in their Area 2, Bristol, and contact numbers are - 0845 7023797 for water supply, 0845 6004600 for sewerage, and 0845 6003600 for billing. Their postal address is Wessex Water, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7WW.

There are several suppliers of central heating oil, including E.G.Martin (Westbury) on 01373 822784 or 846676; Total Butler (Devizes) on 01389 728564.

There are no vehicle fuel stations on the B3092 through the Parish. The nearest fuel stations are at Morrisons Supermarket in Warminster and Sainsburys Supermarket in Frome, with smaller suppliers in Longbridge Deverill and Bourton.

Salisbury District Council is currently (end of 2007) responsible for refuse collection and recycling (see under Local Government for contact details), but the service is being restructured both to increase the proportion of waste that is recycled, and as part of the switch of responsibility from Salisbury to the new Wiltshire Council. The usual collection day is Monday, though later in a week containing a bank holiday (the Diary in the Parish News lists dates). General nonrecyclable refuse is collected weekly. Black box and cardboard collections are fortnightly.

Every household should have a black box, but if not you are asked to ring Hills Waste and Recycling on 0845 6032085 to get one delivered. The black box can be used for bottles and jars, food and drink cans, empty aerosol cans, paper, most textiles and clothes and aluminium foil. The items we are asked not to put into the black box include broken glass, duvets and pillows, aerosol cans that still have some contents, plastic, yellow pages and cardboard.

The cardboard collection is the same day as the black box, and both should be ready, close to the roadside, by 7 in the morning. Cardboard consists of cardboard boxes and all forms of card, including greetings cards, hardback books, and catalogues with card covers. Cardboard should be bundled up with string or left in cardboard boxes (but not in plastic bags) to reduce the risk of being blown about by the wind and left at the kerbside next to the black box (but not in it).

Plastic bottles can be recycled at Household Recycling Centres (Warminster is the nearest) or one of the smaller sites (e.g. Mere). For best practice plastic should not be put in with general waste. It is accepted, however, that if residents do not have a kerbside collection of plastic bottles or do not have access to a nearby plastic bottle bank then general waste is the only option. A garden waste collection service will begin in 2008. For an annual payment is £26 a 180 litre bin will be provided and the contents will be collected fortnightly. Bonfires are not approved of as a way of disposing of waste both because they can cause deleterious health effects; and it is an offence in law to create smoke which becomes a nuisance to neighbours and those living nearby. Latest details can be found on www.recycleforwiltshire.com.

There are recycling skips for bottles and cans close to the entrance to the Recreation Ground, and more extensive recycling facilities in Warminster and Frome.

Public Libraries are run by Wiltshire County Council, and the nearest is in Warminster. A mobile library visits Maiden Bradley (Village Hall car park) on alternate Wednesdays (0935 to 0945). The whole Wiltshire library stock is catalogued and on the web-based 'virtual library' – www.libraries.wiltshire.co.uk.Warminster and Mere Libraries also have a number of public access internet connections.

For newspaper coverage of the Maiden Bradley area try the weekly Warminster Journal (available from the Village Shop). The Shop also stocks the free weekly BVM (Blackmore Vale Magazine), which is a useful source of information about local services. There are three address and phone directories delivered free to every household annually – Local Pages Warminster & Westbury (contact 0117 9231122 or info@localpages.co.uk), Dentons Warminster and Dentons Salisbury Plain Rural Villages and Nadder Valley (contact for both 01373 822224 or enquiries@dentonsdirectories.com). The Villager as a free advertising booklet delivered in Maiden Bradley and villages surrounding Warminster.



#### Amenities, Clubs and Organisations

This section covers amenities within the Parish. Other sections, e.g. on education and shopping, refer to accessible amenities outside the Parish. Some, such as the Shop and Somerset Arms, are businesses, but appear here as key Parish amenities.



#### Maiden Bradley Village Shop and Post Office

This is a traditional village convenience store owned by the community and not part of any national chain. It is run by the Maiden Bradley Village Shop Association. In additional to the usual range of goods the shop offers considerable added value with local produce, organic and specialist items. Newsagent (daily and Sunday). Photocopying and laminating. Bread and pastries baked on the premises. Hot drinks. Wine and spirits. Fresh milk, including Maiden Bradley organic milk and cream. Greengrocery and meats. Pet foods. Post Office offers full range of services, including bill payments, banking, insurance, etc. The location is a focus of Parish activity, e.g. for notices, Parish News distribution and general networking. Car parking at front.

The shop has 2 staff, and there is a part-time post-mistress. In addition several volunteers help out, and further volunteers are always welcome. Open all week, including Sunday mornings.

Postal address is Maiden Bradley Village Shop and Post Office, Church Street, Maiden Bradley, Warminster, BA12 7HW. Phone is 844206.

Chair of Village Shop Association is Kim Baker, and Secretary Shirley Moss. Kim Baker can be phoned on 01985 844684; email kimbakerlyne@msn.com: or by post at 71 High Street, Maiden Bradley, Warminster, BA12 7JG.

#### **The Somerset Arms**

Village pub and large restaurant. Wadworth beers. Home cooked food. Quiet garden (cream teas). Skittle alley. Small meeting room. En suite accommodation. Pitches for 2 caravans.

The Somerset Arms is run by Stuart and Debbie Lockley. Postal address is The Somerset Arms, Church Street, Maiden Bradley, Warminster, BA12 7HW. Phone is 844207.



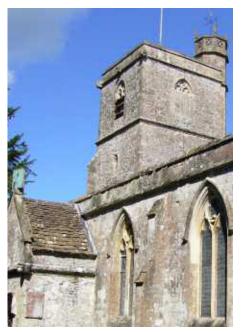
#### All Saints' Church and linked activities

Church of England place of worship. Services held weekly, at least. Programme listed in Parish News and on Church notice board. Open daily for private prayer. Wiltshire County Council Community History (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/community) states – "The Church was first mentioned in 1102 but the earliest features of the present church are the north bay of three arcades and the foundation of the wall of the north aisle, which date from c.1175. The south arcade is of the early 14th century and in 1328 there was a chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary near the north aisle. There was a major reconstruction in 1385, which created the church that we see today." All Saints' is a Grade 1 listed building.

There is a single Priest in Charge for Maiden Bradley, Mere and West Knoyle. He is Rev. Paul Barnes. Contact him at The Vicarage, Angel Lane, Mere, BA12 6DH, or on 01747 860292. Rev. Mark Wood is Curate and lives in Maiden Bradley, at 19 Church Street, or 845212.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is Chaired by the Priest in Charge. It takes decisions and makes plans for anything connected with All Saints'. Members are elected annually at the Annual Church Meeting. The PCC meets 4 or 5 times a year.

Maiden Bradley Churchyard Maintenance Committee oversees and organises the maintenance of the Churchyard, including grass cutting, planting, etc. It raises funds to finance this work. Contact person is Jean Ball, 11 Church Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HW, or on 844575.



#### Maiden Bradley United Reformed Chapel Occasional services. Contact Reg and Mary Prowse on 844580 for details.

## Recreation Ground, Youth Club, Play Area and Swimming Pool

Maiden Bradley has a Recreation Ground. It is a large grassed area with space for a games pitch, though currently the Parish has no organised football, cricket or other outdoor sports. Around the Rec are a building used by the Youth Club, a ROSPA monitored play area for younger children, and a swimming pool.

Oversight of the Rec (e.g. grass cutting) and play area (e.g. safety checks and maintenance of equipment) rests with the Parish Council (see separate entry).

The Youth Club is currently inactive and the building has been vandalised, but efforts are being made to put things right. Anyone wishing to know where things stand can get an update from Mark Wood at 19 Church Street, or 845212.

The Swimming Pool opens daily throughout the summer months. It is overseen by Susan and John Priestner on 844244 or Johnpriestner@yahoo.co.uk. It runs in association with the Youth Club. Keeping the pool open is dependent on volunteers, and anyone wishing to help out should contact Susan or John Priestner. Relevant training for pool supervision can be arranged.



#### Maiden Bradley Village Hall

The village hall was built in 1912 and given to the Parish by Lord Ernest St. Maur. During the First World War it was used as a military hospital, and has murals dating from that time. Since then the Village Hall has been used for a variety of events. The main hall has a small stage. There is a smaller back room. Both are bookable. The Hall has toilets and a kitchen, and car parking. Disabled access is in line with the requirements of current legislation (e.g. ramp, etc.).

The Village Hall is owned by Trustees, and run and maintained by a Village Hall Management Committee, meeting every one or two months. The contact is Dr. Ian Henry, phone: 844623 or email: patrician48@aol.com. Bookings and charges for the Hall or the smaller back room (Jubilee Room) are handled by Mrs Lisa Cripps, on 844956.

#### Maiden Bradley Show and Fete Committee

This is an augmented Village Hall Management Committee which organises the Show and Fete in August. The venue is either the Rec or Village Hall. Committee meetings take place as needed. Contact is Dr. Ian Henry on 844623 or email: patrician@aol.com.

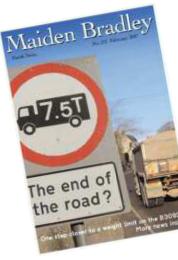
#### **Owlets Pre-School and Mother and Toddlers**

These groups meet in the Village Hall. Owlets meet Monday to Thursday 9.30 to 12.30. The Mother and Toddlers Group, for up to 3 year olds with parents or carers, meets every Tuesday from 10.00 to 12.00.

Contact person for Owlets is Sheila Ashton, phone 01963 31138.

Contact person for the Mother and Toddler Group is Jessica Johnson on phone: 844174 or (mobile) 07887 548098, email: jessica.johnson@fsmail.net.





#### **Maiden Bradley Parish News**

Monthly newsletter with photographs, delivered free to all households in the Parish, and mailed, by arrangement, to others. Each issue always includes a diary of forthcoming events; important contact details; family news; news from All Saints'; Parish Council report and agenda; and reports on the activities of clubs and organisations in the Parish.

The News is assembled by an Editorial Team and delivered by a Delivery Team. A number of contact points are given inside each issue. One of these, for sending in copy or any editorial matter, is Bryan Glastonbury, phone: 844345, email: bryan.glastonbury@virgin.net. For delivery matters the easiest contact is Anne Sercombe, via the Village Shop.

#### Maiden Bradley Gardening Club

A club for gardeners and those interested in gardening. Organises speakers and visits. Meetings 2nd Monday in the month, usually at the Somerset Arms.

Contact person is Diana Stevens at Somerset Cottage, Church Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HW. Phone: 844428, email: dianastevens@tiscali.co.uk.

#### Maiden Bradley and Kilmington Women's Institute

Usual range of W.I meetings and events. Meetings in the evening of the 4th Tuesday each month.

Contact person is Sue Mills, Secretary. Postal address is Highfield, Mount Pleasant, Kilmington, BA12 6RL, phone: 844744, and email: bobsuemills@hotmail.co.uk.

#### **Maiden Bradley Birdwatchers**

A group of birdwatching and conservation enthusiasts, holding monthly meetings or local field visits.Contact is Chris Oliver on 844317 or email: c.oliver@forest-fact.co.uk.

#### Millennium Walk and other Walks

Information on 'permissive pathways' for walkers, linking the village to the wider parish. Facilities for commemorative tree planting, etc. Contact is Chris Oliver on 844317 or email: c.oliver@for-est-fact.co.uk.

#### Welcome Club

Social activities for older people in Maiden Bradley and Horningsham. Has coach outings and meets with Horningsham Lunch Club. All meetings / lunches in Horningsham Village Hall. Contacts are Chris Short on 847373, Doris Harding on 844676 or Chrissy Buttery on 844622.

#### **Book Club**

An informal group. A book is chosen monthly by participants, who then meet to talk about it. Meetings usually in members' homes. Contact is Jessica Johnson on 844174.

## Maiden Bradley Historical Association

Meetings of the association are held at the Village Hall with the object of stimulating interest in local history in particular. The meetings, often with high calibre speakers are punctuated with occasional field trips to places of historical interest. The association is a member of the Wiltshire Local History Forum. Contact person: Ian Henry on 844623

#### **Traffic Action Group**

Formed to represent the concerns of parishioners, and especially residents of Church Street (B3092), about the increasing flow of traffic along the B3092. Produced report and in recent years has worked closely with the Parish Council to press Wiltshire County Council to improve safety of pedestrians and implement weight limit on HGVs using the B3092. Contact is Giles de Maré, The Old Dower House, Church Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HW. Phone: 844695, email: demare@onetel.com.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Currently inactive while attempts are made to find a new co-ordinator. Contact lan Henry on 844623 or email: patrician48@aol.com.

## Local Businesses

#### The Bowen Technique

Effective and gentle treatment for such conditions as – back and neck pain, elbows, knees and ankles, asthma, hayfever, migraines / headaches, frozen shoulder, arthritis pain, IBS and chronic fatigue.

Janie Godfrey on 01373 451558

#### **Bradley House Events Ltd**

Family home of the Dukes of Somerset. Bookable for meetings, conferences, special occasions (e.g. wedding receptions), outdoor pursuits (e.g. shooting) and filming. David and Kim Mattia, Bradley House, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HL, phone: 844052, fax: 844747, email: info@bradleyhouse.org, web: www.bradleyhouse.org

#### **BSM 4 Less**

Driving lessons.

Contact Jim Downes on 07773 530968 or web: www.jimdownes.co.uk

#### Casktap

A range of services around ale, lager and cider, from drinks for parties and events to bespoke ale, lager and cider tasting events for corporates. Alistair Betts on 844627 or email: Alister@casktap.com

#### The Cornerhouse Bed & Breakfast

Accommodation given five-star rating by enjoyEngland.com. Carmen Jiminez, The Corner House, 84 High Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HL, phone: 844629, fax: 844036, email: wildlifeinwilts@tiscali.co.uk, web: www.cornerhousebb.co.uk

#### Henry Crabbe, Builder

Decoration plus building repairs, maintenance, extensions and conversions. Henry Crabbe, 88 Frome Road, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7JA, phone: 844517

#### **DSB Builders**

Provide most kinds of building work, including plumbing and heating. DSB at 11 Church Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HW, phone / fax 844575, email: dsblimited@aol.com

#### **Duke of Somerset's Estates**

While matters concerning Bradley House are handled by Bradley House Events Ltd. (see separate entry), the wider Estates, including tenancies of rented properties, are run from the Estate Office in Berry Pomeroy.

Estate Office, Shadrack, Berry Pomeroy, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6LR, phone: 01803 866633, email: mary.sturgess@duchyofsomerset.co.uk

#### **Fitness Pilates**

Fitness activities taking place at the Somerset Arms and in the Village Hall. Caroline Newman, phone 0773407650

#### Giles de Maré, Wine Merchant

Wine delivery service.



Giles de Maré, The Old Dower House, Church Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7HW. Phone: 844695, email: demare@onetel.com, web www.gilesdemare.co.uk

#### **Hanson Watercolours**

Produces and sells fine limited edition prints of Victorian landscape paintings of the village and parish, on behalf of All Saints' Church. Chris Oliver on 844317 or email: c.oliver@forest-fact.co.uk

#### R & S Higgins

Mixed organic farm, registered for 7 years. Products include milk and cream (available from Village Shop), and whole or half lamb for the freezer (contact the farm). Supplies milk to Yeo Valley. Robert or Sally Higgins on 844221

#### Jenny's Mobile Home Hairdressing

A service for all ages. Jenny will travel to your home to provide hairdressing, manicure or pedicure. Also ladies' facial, men's sport facial, and Indian head massage. Jenny Merritt on 844430.

#### Mike Johnson - Marketing and Business Consultancy

Mike Johnson on 844955 or (mobile) 07868 721927, or email: info@barcroft-marketing.co.uk

**Ken, Farrier and Blacksmith** Ken Pilbrow on 844817 or email: familypilbrow@btinternet.com

#### **Maiden Flowers**

Any kind of floral arrangements. Diana Stevens on 844428 or email: dianastevens@tiscali.co.uk. Or Sally Higgins on 844221.

#### Ooggywawa

An internet service offering quality ales, lagers and ciders from UK and the rest of the world. Free delivery to anyone in Maiden Bradley. Alistair Betts on 844627 or email: Alister@ooggywawa.com

#### **PC Chauffeur Drive**

A small business that offers chauffeur-driven trips, tours or transfers in a luxurious Mercedes-Benz or an executive people carrier. Bespoke tours, weddings, theatre trips, corporate events. Paul Cox at 60 The Rank, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7JF. Phone: 844832, email: pcairtransfers@aol.com, web: www.english-chauffeurs.co.uk

#### **Posh Mops**

Housekeeping and cleaning services. Mary Richards on 844405 or email: mary@poshmops.net.

#### Jerry Rayner Boiler Maintenance

Qualified boiler services and repairer, offering quick reliable service and competitive rates. Specialises in oil burners.

Jerry Rayner on 841461 or (mobile) 07775 755981.

#### **Reading and Writing for Results**

A company that provides training and coaching services to businesses, the public sector, and individuals. Specialises in helping people read and/or write more effectively, whether novice or seasoned professional.

Trevor Day, Unit 3C, St. Martin's Courtyard, Chapel Lane, Zeals, BA12 6NZ. Phone: 01747 840006,

 $email: trevorday @reading-writing-results.com, web\ www.reading-writing-results.com.$ 

#### **Rodmead Farm**

Arable, sheep and beef farm. A.W. Neish on 844689, or fax 844966, or email: awn@framline.com

#### **Rural Business Services**

Professional guidance, book-keeping and admin services for rural-based businesses Lucinda Stokes, phone 844017, email: Lucinda@ruralaffairs.co.uk, web: www.ruralaffairs.co.uk

#### **Rural Portraits**

Stylish event and wedding photography. Portraits. Bespoke postcards and prints. www.rural-portraits.co.uk or phone 845106

#### Sydenhams

Branch of the builders merchant. Does not carry general stock, but specialist timbers. Nearest general branch is in Warminster.

Bruton Road, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7JG, phone: 844771, fax: 844809, email: phil.hogan@sydenhamsd.co.uk

#### Wywern Eggs

Free range eggs from Maiden Bradley chicken. Contact Caz at Wyvern, High Street, Maiden Bradley, BA12 7JG. Phone 844796.

### Shopping, working and leisure in Maiden Bradley and surrounding areas

#### Shopping

Maiden Bradley Village Shop and Post Office offer groceries, fruit and veg, milk, fresh meat, newspapers, and postal and banking services. Higgins Organic Farm (milk and cream via the Village Shop) and Wyvern Eggs are all local producers / suppliers. Giles de Maré and Ooggywawa provide wines and beers / ciders respectively. They all have entries in Section 2.

Further afield, the nearest supermarkets are:

Asda, Lidl, M&S Foods, Sainsbury's, and Somerfield, Frome Aldi, Asda. Lidl, M&S Foods, Tesco, Trowbridge. Tesco Direct will deliver to the Parish Iceland, Lidl, and Morrisons, Warminster Lidl, Somerfield and Waitrose, Gillingham Morrisons in Wincanton



Warminster, Frome and Mere have dispensing chemists, and there is a branch of Boots in Warminster.

Warminster has a weekly open market on Fridays and Frome on Saturdays. Warminster Farmers Market (a Wiltshire Farmers Market) is on the 1st and 3rd Friday mornings, and another Wiltshire Farmers Market is on the 2nd Saturday morning each month at Stourhead. Frome Farmers Market (a Somerset Farmers Market) is on the 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings, and is under cover in the Cheese and Grain building, and another Somerset Farmers Market is at Wincanton on the morning of the 1st Friday each month. Shaftesbury has a Dorset Farmers Market on the morning of the 1st Saturday of the month. Information on Somerset and Dorset Farmers Markets is published weekly in the Blackmore Vale Magazine (free at the Village Shop). For further information on farmers markets –

Dorset: www.farmersmarkets.net/listDorset.htm, or phone: 01258 454510. Somerset: www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk, or phone 01373 812757. Wiltshire: www.wiltshirefarmersmarkets.org.uk.

The nearest Farm Shops are at Beckington, Longbridge Deverill and Stourhead. Whiterow Farm Shop, Beckington, is just off the A36 (phone: 01373 830798) and Stourhead Farm Shop is accessible from the National Trust Stourhead car park (phone: 01747 841164 for the shop, or 01747 844029 for the butchery). Beckington carries the larger range while Stourhead offers home delivery (see www.stourhead-farm-shop.co.uk).

The nearest garden centre is Lakeside in the Crockerton Shopping Centre. It will deliver to Maiden Bradley. Phone is 217413.

Warminster, Frome, Wincanton and Gillingham all have a substantial range of shops. The nearest larger shopping centres are Bath and Salisbury, with Bath having the closest M & S (though there are M & S Foodstores in Frome and Trowbridge). Bristol has the nearest IKEA and a large out of town shopping precinct at Cribbs Causeway (with the nearest John Lewis).

#### Eating out (or ordering in)

We are spoilt for choice. Within a sixmile radius there are dozens of pubs and restaurants providing an excellent meal out or takeaways that offer you a fine meal in (for home delivery or to be collected). On our doorstep is, of course, the Somerset Arms (Phone: 844207). Further afield there is the Spread Eagle at Stourton (01747 840587), the Bath Arms at Horningsham (844308), the Old Red Lion at North Brewham (01749 850287), the Bath Arms at Crockerton (212262) and the George Inn at



Longbridge Deverill (840396), not to mention several pubs in villages just this side of Frome. Frome itself has at least twelve restaurants and cafes plus a similar number of pubs and takeaways. Warminster has only slightly fewer. Mere and Bruton each have at least three pubs and three cafes/restaurants. Between them these local establishments offer specialist Chinese, French, Italian, Indian and wholefood cuisine. Because restaurants and cafes come and go, and there is a wide variety, we suggest you refer to local phone directories for listings.

#### Working

There are no large employers in Maiden Bradley, so no regular supply of paid job vacancies. Occasional vacancies occur in agriculture and building (usually for persons with relevant skills), and sometimes organisations like the Somerset Arms and Bradley House have need of part time, often temporary help.

There is plenty of opportunity for fulfilling voluntary work, and key aspects of Maiden Bradley life (e.g. the Shop, Swimming Pool, Annual Show and Fete) depend on volunteer workers.

For anyone seeking premises to run a small venture in Maiden Bradley, the Duchy of Somerset Estates may have units to rent in or near the village. Contact the Duke of Somerset's Estates, Estate Office, Shadrack, Berry Pomeroy, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6LR, phone: 01803 866633, email: mary.sturgess@duchyofsomerset.co.uk.

#### Leisure

Within Maiden Bradley much leisure activity focuses around the clubs and associations, the Rec, Somerset Arms and Village Hall (see Section 2). There is currently limited sporting activity, though more is envisaged in the Parish Plan. However, as the Diary of the Parish News shows, there are frequent club activities.

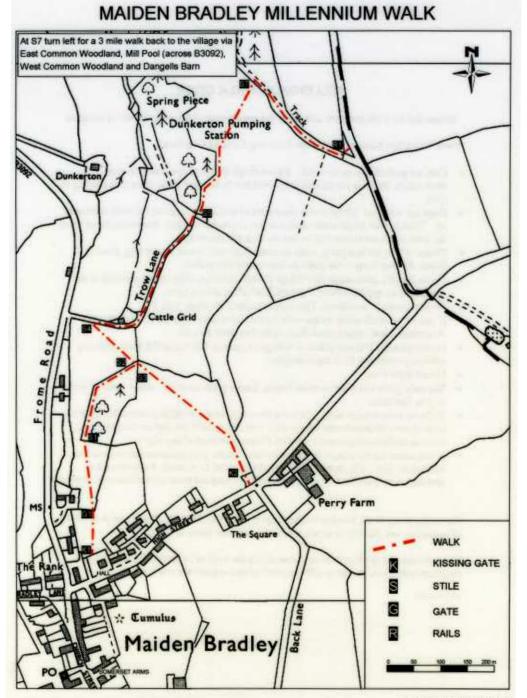
It is possible to make a tour of Bradley House, by prior arrangement. Contact Mary Sturgess, Estate Secretary, Estate Office, Shadrack, Berry Pomeroy, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6LR, phone: 01803 866633, email: mary.sturgess@duchyofsomerset.co.uk.

Maiden Bradley is an ideal place for walking, and a contribution to millennium celebrations was to establish a Millennium Walk (see map). Currently the Parish Council is working with Chris Oliver to create a list and map of other walks in the Parish.

Maiden Bradley is close (about 3 miles in each case) to two major tourist sites and a large leisure centre. South on the B3092 is the National Trust's Stourhead House and Garden. To the north is Lord Bath's Longleat Elizabethan House and Safari Park. Within Longleat Forest is the Center Parc activity and leisure centre.



The nearest cinema is the family-run Westway Cinema, Cork Street, Frome (phone: 01373 465685). It features some of the latest film releases. Film clubs operate in Frome, Mere and Warminster. Frome has two commercial theatres, the Merlin Theatre (phone: 01373 465949) and the Memorial Hall (01373 462795). Warminster has the Athenaeum arts complex that hosts occasional plays and other performances (phone: 01985 213891), The Frome Festival, a one-week arts festival featuring music, theatre and other media, runs in early July each year (www.frome-festival.co.uk).



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### **Transport and Housing**

#### Transport

There are scheduled bus services to [to be inserted]

Wiltshire County Council runs the Connect 2 Wiltshire service. This offers a bookable door-todoor minibus service over a zone covering Mere and Warminster. A leaflet (get one from the Village Shop) gives details. To book call 01747 861222. The service operates Monday through to Saturday.

For chauffeur driven cars see P C Chauffeur Drive in the Businesses in Section 2.

Taxis are available from Starline and Wessex Taxis, 38a Market Place, Warminster. Phone numbers are 212215, 212243 or 212288, fax 212101, email: starlinetaxis@btinternet.com, web: www.starlinetaxis.co.uk.

Rail links are various – Gillingham for the London (Waterloo) line; Warminster for access to the mainline junctions at Salisbury and Bath / Bristol; or Frome or Westbury for the London (Paddington) line.

Road communications have been a past feature of the development of Maiden Bradley, and what are now the small crossroads by the Knapp were once where North – South and East – West trunk routes crossed. Today the B3092 is not designated as a main goods traffic route, and the rest of the local network are best described as country lanes. However, the Parish has direct road access to urban centres to the North (Frome, Bath and on to Bristol), South (Mere, Gillingham), and East and North East (Warminster, Westbury, Trowbridge).



#### Housing

There are about 180 domestic properties in the Parish. Most are privately owned, but the Duke of Somerset Estates has a number of rented properties, so anyone seeking to rent could usefully make that contact. Write to The Estate Office, Shadrack, Berry

VVrite to The Estate Office, Shadrack, Berry Pomeroy, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6LR; phone 01803 866626; or look at property availability on www.duchyofsomerset.co.uk or www.bradleyhouse.org.

Council Tax bands for Maiden Bradley for 2007 / 8, including the Parish Council precept, are –

Band A Band B Band C Band D Band E Band F Band G Band H £896.78 £1046.23 £1195.71 £1345.16 £1644.09 £1943.01 £2241.24 £2690.32

Salisbury District Council is responsible for Council Housing (see under Local Government for contact details). They are the first point of contact for any matter concerning housing benefits.

## Health and Education (with Child-minding)

#### Health

**Primary Health Care (GP).** We come within the catchment area of the Wiltshire Primary Care Trust or PCT (HQ is Southgate House, Pans Lane, Devizes. Phone: 01380 728899. Web: www.wiltshirepct.nhs.uk.). Wiltshire PCT is rated 'Weak' on both the quality of services and use of resources.

The practices covering our patch are -

The Surgery, Gillingham Road, Silton, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 5DF. Phone 01747 840226. Despite the Dorset address this practice provides services for Wiltshire PCT. It is our closest practice, down by the A303 close to Bourton, and Dr. Freeland offers an early evening surgery every Monday at 36 Church Street, Maiden Bradley. Repeat prescriptions can be left at 36 Church Street for collection from the Village Shop. This is a small practice, with two listed GPs.

The largest practice on our patch, with eight listed GPs and an extensive range of clinics, including cosmetic surgery, is the Avenue Surgery, Warminster, BA12 9AA. Phone 224600.

Another Warminster practice is Smallbrook Surgery, BA12 8QS. Tel: 846700. Three listed GPs.

In Mere there is the Mere Surgery, with four listed GPs, at Dark Lane, Mere, BA12 6DT. Phone 01747 860001.

**Hospitals**. Accident and Emergency services are available at the Royal United Hospital (RUH) in Bath and Salisbury District Hospital. The phone number for RUH is 01225 824007, and for Salisbury District Hospital 01722 336262. In miles the RUH is closer, but traffic can be heavy, and on-site parking can be difficult. Salisbury District Hospital, just the other side of Salisbury at Odstock, is further away, but usually easier for parking.

Non-emergency access to hospital services, whether in or out-patient, is normally arranged via your GP. Out-patient clinics and some in-patient treatments have been provided at community hospitals, of which the nearest is Warminster. However, at the time of writing there is a programme of closures so these may not be available.

Under the NHS Choices framework you are able to arrange, via your GP surgery, for a choice of local hospitals and specialist clinics. To get information about facilities, and comparisons, the NHS web site (www.nhs.uk) provides details of hospitals, doctors and dentists, listed by proximity to your home location.

**Mental Health Services.** The main provider is the Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust. Phone 01225 731731.

**Ambulance.** In emergency call 999 or 112. The ambulance service is provided by the Great Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust. Its HQ is in Chippenham. Phone 01249 443939. We are covered by the Wiltshire (East) Sector, and our nearest ambulance station is in Warminster. Wiltshire has an air ambulance, shared with the Police.

**Dental Services**. These are co-ordinated by Wiltshire PCT. The PCT should keep up-to-date information on dentists in the area, including those who are currently taking new NHS patients, and this information can be obtained by phone or via NHS Choices (www.nhs.uk). The dental helpline is 0845 7581926, and there is an out-of-hours number for dental emergencies – 01249 456530. Wiltshire PCT maintains dental access centres in Chippenham and Salisbury, primarily for people with a dental emergency.

Because we are so close to Dorset and Somerset some residents use dental services across the boundary, such as in Frome. These are usually for private dentistry.

**General Health concerns**. NHS Direct is a telephone advisory service operated by qualified nurses. The phone number is 0845 4647. NHS Direct will give advice on health matters, including guidance as to whether, and with what level of emergency, to seek to see a doctor or call an ambulance.

**Social Care services.** Social care services are the responsibility of the local authority, in our case Wiltshire County Council, based at Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN. (See Section 6 for more detail). Wiltshire County Council has two separate departments for social care services. Children's services are provided by the Department for Children and Education; adult services by the Department of Adult and Community Services. There is a Wiltshire Social Care Helpdesk on 08455 6031570, and a Children's Information Service on 08457 585072.

Pet Health. The nearest veterinary surgeries are -

Francis & Jackson. Small animal and equine clinics at Millards Hill, Trudoxhill. Tel: 01373 836186.

Southill Veterinary Group based in Wincanton. Southill runs surgeries in Mere at the following times: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 2-3 pm; Tuesday and Thursday 5-6 pm; Saturday 1-1.30 pm. Phone 01963 33226.

Garston Veterinary Group, with surgeries in Frome (01373 452225) and Warminster (213350). They have a Farm and Equine unit (01373 451115).

Harris, Hill and Warner, Warminster (213522).

Lundberg-Young, Warminster (217430).

Manor Farm Veterinary Surgery, Codford (850752).

#### **Education and Child-minding**

Based on OfSTED and other reports, the quality of education for children from Maiden Bradley is considered to be high. The downside is that there is no school in Maiden Bradley itself, so all children have to travel. There is a choice of schools.

There is a Mother and Toddler Group and the Owlets Pre-School Group meeting in Maiden Bradley Village Hall. See their entries in the Section 2 for further details. Both are part time, and anyone wanting more comprehensive arrangements will need to go further afield.

State education in the Maiden Bradley area is the responsibility of Wiltshire County Council (WCC), and where relevant the information given below quotes directly from WCC. Their gen-

eral web site with links to all education matters is www.wiltshire.gov.uk. However, as the information below shows, our position close to county boundaries means that some schools used by Maiden Bradley children are outside Wiltshire.

Childminders are self-employed and all are registered with the Office for Standards in Education (OfSTED) and inspected on a regular basis. Financial arrangements are between the parents and the childminder. Childminders set their charges themselves, and they can vary from area to area. The Children's Information Service at 'ask' are contracted with Wiltshire County Council to provide free information, support and advice to parents and carers of all children and young people, aged from birth to 19, in Wiltshire. As part of this service, they are able to provide parents with details of childminders in their local area. 'ask' operate a lo-call enquiry line: 08457 585072. They also have a web site on www.askwiltshire.org.

If you wish to take up any matter with the County Council, then the contact details are – Early Years and Childcare Team, Schools Branch Department for Children and Education Wiltshire County Council County Hall Bythesea Road Trowbridge Wiltshire, BA14 8JB Email address is earlyyears@wiltshire.gov.uk, and phone 01225 713779.

**Nursery and Pre-School.** Nurseries provide play, care and educational experiences to children all day or on a part-time basis. Wiltshire County Council provides free part-time nursery education places for all three and four year olds in Wiltshire whose parents want one. Free places can be provided by a variety of providers in the maintained, private, voluntary and independent sectors including registered childminder networks. Additional provision, including care for children under 3 has to be paid for. Contact details for further information are the same as those given above for childminders.

Most nurseries are open to suit the hours of working parents, and the majority of places are allocated directly by the nursery. To express an interest in a nursery or put your child's name on a waiting list, please contact the Nursery Manager at the nursery. They will be able to provide further details about their admissions policies and charges.

Nearby nurseries and nursery schools include -

Little Cuckoos Pre-School, Corsley – 01373 832298 The Avenue Childrens Centre, Warminster – 214413 Mere Pre-School Nursery, Mere – 01747 863337 Barney Lodge, Warminster – 214286 First Steps, Horningsham – 844942 The Rainbow Pre-School, Warminster – 219161 Sunnyhill Nursery School, Warminster – 215377 Teddy Bear Montessori, Warminster – 212204 Warminster Pre-School – 214076 Codford Caterpillars – 851030 Sunflower Montessori, Frome, Somerset – 01373 453853 Busy Bees, Frome, Somerset – 01373 451619 Harlequins Pres-School, Frome, Somerset – (mobile) 07718 713541 Sunny Hill Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep, Bruton – 01749 814427 Tall Trees Kindergarten, Frome, Somerset – 01373 465691 A B C Nursery, Frome, Somerset – 01373 473361 Beckington Pre-School Group, Beckington – 01373 831492 Butterfly Pre-School, Frome, Somerset – 01373 451734 Ladybird Pre-School, Bruton – 01749 813164 Stourbridge House School, Mere – 01747 860165 Leaping Frogs Kindergarten, Mere

For a fuller list, including play groups and after school clubs, go to www.ofsted.gov.uk.

#### State Primary Schools.

The largest group of Maiden Bradley children go to Whitesheet C of E Primary, which has sites in Kilmington and Zeals. There is a school bus that picks up at 8.10 am outside the Somerset Arms and drops off at about 3.55 pm at the Church Street bus stop. Whitesheet's phone is 844283.



Children from the Parish also use two other schools, though neither has a school bus. They are Crockerton C of E Primary (212168) and Horningsham Primary (844342).

**State Secondary Schools and Colleges**. The largest group go to Gillingham School in Gillingham, Dorset. The school bus for Gillingham School picks up from outside the Somerset Arms at 8.05 am. After school it drops off at 4.20 pm at the Maiden Bradley bus stop. Gillingham School's phone is 01747 822222, and web is www.gillingham.dorset.sch.uk.

Kingdown Community School and Sports College in Warminster and (for further education) Wiltshire College, Trowbridge are other options. A Bee-Line bus for Kingdown School, Warminster, and Wiltshire College, Trowbridge, picks up from Maiden Bradley bus stop at 7.50 am. There is no afternoon return service. Phone for Kingdown is 215551, and for Wiltshire College 01225 766241.

Sexey's School Sixth Form, Bruton. No transport available. Enquiries to sixthform@sexeys.somerset.sch.uk

**Private Schools**. There is a school bus to two private schools in the area. Bruton School for Girls picks up from the Somerset Arms at 8.00 am and drops off at 4.40 pm. For Warminster School (boys and girls), the pickup at the Somerset Arms is at 8.00 am and the drop off at 5.45 pm. Contact details for Bruton are phone 01749 814400, web www.brutonschool.co.uk; and for Warminster School phone 210100 and web www.warminsterschool.org.uk.

# Local Government, Policing and Emergencies

#### Local Government

Administratively Maiden Bradley is part of Wiltshire County Council; at the northern end of the area covered by Salisbury District Council; and for the purposes of community development part of Mere and District. However, the process has already started of closing all district councils in Wiltshire and transferring them to the County Council, which will be renamed Wiltshire Council. This will be completed by April 2009. The formal name of the Parish Council is 'Maiden Bradley with Yarnfield', but there is no longer a separate Yarnfield community, and it is now viewed more as a historical site.

**Parish Council.** Maiden Bradley with Yarnfield Parish Council is the bottom tier of local government for our patch. It meets monthly, generally on the 2nd Tuesday, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Keep a check on the Diary in the monthly Parish News for any variations to this. There is an Annual Parish Meeting each May. Parishioners are welcome to attend all meetings, and all start with an opportunity for public views to be expressed or questions asked.

Agendas and minutes are pinned to the notice board by the bus shelter, and are also available on the web site (www.southwilts.com). The Parish Council publishes a shorter report and a note on the main upcoming agenda items in the Parish News every month.

The Parish Councillors are -

Chairman: Stefan Piwowarski, phone: 844524 Vice Chairman: John Priestner, phone: 844244 Suzy Pilbrow, phone: 844817 Felicity Rothwell, phone: 845034 Pamela Thomlinson, phone: 844838 Angus Neish, phone 844689 Adam Hunt, phone: 844265

There are no stated political party affiliations.

Clerk to the Parish Council is Mrs Sarah Jeffries (Tel: 213436, email: maidenbradleypc @jeff9.fslife.co.uk), and she is point of first contact for Parish Council business.

The Parish Council is responsible for public areas in the Parish (e.g. Rec, Play Area), but has few other direct powers. However, it is a key route for communicating with and influencing decisions of the District and County Councils. There is a Parish Plan (2005), and the Parish Council is in process of seeking Quality Parish status, which would devolve more influence locally.

District Council. Salisbury District Council can be contacted via -

Salisbury District Council PO Box 2117 Salisbury Wiltshire, SP2 2DS Phone: 01722 336272. Out of hours emergency: 01722 411676. Email: thecouncil@salisbury.gov.uk. Web: www.salisbury.gov.uk (very extensive, including details of planning applications).

Maiden Bradley is part of the Western and Mere Ward, and our councillors are Catherine Spencer (Cons) and George Jeans (Ind). Catherine Spencer has been the usual link person with Maiden Bradley, and regularly attends Parish Council meetings.

Salisbury District Council's responsibilities include planning authorisations, refuse collection and recycling, tree preservation and housing.

County Council. Wiltshire County Council can be contacted at -

County Hall Bythesea Road Trowbridge Wiltshire, BA14 8JN

Phone: 01225 713000. Emergency Duty Service (adult and community services, children and education): 0845 6070888. Email: customercare@wiltshire.gov.uk. Web: www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

Maiden Bradley is part of the Mere and Tisbury Division, and our County Councillor is Bridget Wayman (Cons).

Wiltshire County Council's responsibilities include social services, education, and roads.

Clarence is a County Council call line for reporting any problems connected with roads or street lighting. It is a freephone number – 0800 232323, or email Clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk.

#### Policing

Wiltshire is organised into Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs) with a Community Beat Manager (CBM). Maiden Bradley is part of the Mere beat, and the CBM is PC Richard Salter. His area is Mere and surrounding villages, going as far south as the Knoyles.

Use 999 or 112 for emergencies, and 0800 555111 for Crimestoppers.

For other contacts the Police prefer email if at all possible – to Richard.salter@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk. The phone number is 0845 4087000. The only problem with phoning is that officers are often out on the beat. Letters can be sent to the Police Station, White Road, Mere, BA12 6EX.

PC Mark Steele, who is the CBM for neighbouring Tisbury, sends out a monthly electronic newsletter giving details of road accidents and crime in our area, as well as useful help on current risks. To get onto the mailing list for this excellent and entertaining newsletter send an email to Mark.steele@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk.

Wiltshire Police also have a web site – www.wiltshire.police.uk – with useful general and local information, including a photo of our CBM.

Maiden Bradley has a Neighbourhood Watch, though currently it is not very active.

#### **Emergencies** –

999 or 112 for an emergency needing police, ambulance or fire engine. This applies to land lines or mobiles. 112 is the standard number throughout the EU. Textphone users with BT can use Freetext 18000, but mobile service providers have their own arrangements.

The Environment Agency has a freephone number, 0800 807060, for environment related emergencies, such as floods.

NHS Direct has a 24 / 7 line for health matters - 0845 4647.

There is a Wessex Water sewerage floodline number - 0845 8505959

For a power cut ring Southern Electric - 0845 7708090.



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## Historic Watercolours of Maiden Bradley

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Enquiries and orders please to 01985 844317 (Chris Oliver)



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# Maiden Bradley Birdwatchers

Our local field studies for 2007 also cover flowering plants, butterflies, geology, veteran trees, ferns, lichens and much more. Join at any meeting; £8 yearly or £12 for a family.



Details each month in this newsletter diary or please enquire at 01985 844469 (Phil Cooper) or 844317 (Chris Oliver).

# Dr Andrew Murrison MP Westbury Constituency



If you need help or advice, contact your member of Parliament, Dr Andrew Murrison.

House of Commons, LONDON, SW1A 0AA. Tel: 0207 219 8337

or

Constituency Office, Lovemead House, Roundstone Street, Trowbridge. BA14 8DG Tel: 01225 358584; Fax: 01225 358583 Email: murrisona@parliament.uk

