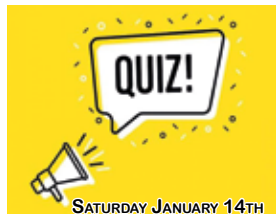


# MAIDEN BRADLEY NEWS JANUARY 2023



WE HELD A PROTEST!

- 1 Sun NO Service  
 4 **Wed Household waste collection**  
 8 Sun Morning worship with Celia Blay 10am  
 9 **Mon Garden waste collection**  
 11 **Wed Blue bin and black box recycling**  
 14 **Sat Quiz Night in the Hall 7 for 7.30pm**  
 15 Sun Morning worship with Jane Hurd 10am  
 18 **Wed Household waste collection**  
*Copy for M B News to pat@visa-office.com*  
 22 Sun Communion service with Judith Thompson 10am  
 23 **Mon Garden waste collection**  
 25 **Wed Blue bin and black box recycling**  
 27 **Fri Film Night "The Duke" 7 for 7.30pm**  
 29 Sun NO Service  
 FEBRUARY  
 10 **Fri Ukraine/Russia Conflict Talk 7 for 7 30pm**



### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Speed Watch Co-ordinator	Simon Wager	simon.m.wager@gmail.com
Nadder Oil Buying Club	Email:	richard.willan@me.com
		www.oilbuyingclub.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		01985 844779
Welcome Club Outings		01985 844779
Scrabble Club		01985 844919
Memorial Hall bookings		01985 845303
Dr Andrew Murrison MP	murrisona@parliament.uk	01225 358584
Mere Link Scheme		01747 860096
Bell Ringing Tuesday 7.30pm in the Church Bell Tower - beginners welcome		01985 845397
Church contact	Diana Green	01985 844500
Environmental issues	greenermaidenbradley@gmail.com	

Contributions for the newsletter are always welcome.

Please email pat@visa-office.com by 20th of the month  
 MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ONLINE ON THE VILLAGE WEBSITE:  
**WWW.MAIDENBRADLEYVILLAGE.ORG.UK**

### EDITORIAL

Inspiration to write is failing me this dull, wet and windy December afternoon. A lot of Christmas fare has been consumed, some good walks undertaken and even some bargain shopping achieved (very rare for me). Catching up with family has been successful and the Christmas cake which I thought would end up in the bin has proved to be one of the best ever, so it is always worth remembering to pour the brandy over the cake as soon as it comes out of the oven.

The demonstration against HGV's travelling through the village was very successful in terms of the number of protesters and the excellent TV coverage. It really is time for Wiltshire Council to wake up to their responsibilities and impose the weight restriction for our village.

Rosie and Martin gave an excellent Christmas food demonstration and the recipes are available, just email me for them.

Finally, the date of the Ukraine/Russia Conflict presentation has had to be brought forward to 10th February due to Professor Till's many engagements. We hope to see lots of you there, it is in aid of the Friends of All Saint's Church.

**Pat Kennedy 845397**

**pat@visa-office.com**

**The Maiden Bradley Climate Committee  
wishes you a Happy New Year**

**What happens when nature is at the heart of our decisions?**

## Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall

The Hall Committee would like to thank everyone who has helped out and /or supported the Hall during 2022. Far too many names to mention individually - but you know who you are. We are also grateful to the following local businesses for their generosity:



### Winter events coming up....

**Saturday 14th January 2023 – Quiz Night 7pm for 7.30pm**

**Friday 27th January 2023 – Film Night – ‘The Duke’**

**Doors open at 7pm for 7.30 start**

### REGULAR EVENTS

**MONDAYS 10.00AM-11.00AM**

Yoga (new time)

**MONDAYS 5.00PM-6.00PM**

Dr's Surgery

**TUESDAY 11AM-MIDDAY**

Bradley Babies

**TUESDAY 1.00PM-3.00PM**

Post Office Service

**WEDNESDAYS 6.15PM-7.15PM**

Yoga Flow

**FRIDAYS 10AM-12PM**

Coffee Morning

*Book library available during hall opening Friday mornings*

**01985 845303 (answerphone)**  
**www.maidenbradleyhall.co.uk**



**WREATH MAKING**  
on December 3rd,  
led by Alex, was enjoyed by all who  
attended and raised £40 for the Hall

## CAROL SINGING IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Thank you very much to all the villagers who came along to the hall to sing around the piano on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> Dec. We raised £80 for Dorothy House Hospice near Bath. Thanks must also go to the Village Hall Committee for hosting it and providing refreshments part way through.

*Sue Priestner.*





**The CHRISTMAS BAZAAR was a great success and raised £618**

Profits were split between the Memorial Hall and Friends of All Saints - just over £200 for each

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**There are still a few copies of the Jubilee local history book available for £5 (all proceeds to the Friends of All Saints)**

**SALES OF THIS HAVE SO FAR RAISED £300!**

MAIDEN BRADLEY  
JUBILEE  
EXHIBITION 2022



70 YEARS OF HISTORY

**SOUVENIR BOOKLET**

Interviews and photographs displayed in the Jubilee exhibition  
Price: £5.00 per copy

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE MAINTENANCE OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

On sale at Friday coffee mornings at the Memorial Hall, or please contact:  
Elaine Lavender: [elainelavender1@outlook.com](mailto:elainelavender1@outlook.com)  
Alex Channer: [adrchanner@gmail.com](mailto:adrchanner@gmail.com)



**Many of us enjoyed the Christmas cookery demonstration starring Rosie and Martin Brown, Maiden Bradley's own Johnny and Fanny Craddock!**

Rosie and Martin treated us to Spiced Cranberry chutney, spiced pickled Pears, the Oxford Bishop, one tray sausage supper and many more Christmas treats. Congratulations to them both for a very successful event.

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



## THANK YOU, MAIDEN BRADLEY

I am taking this opportunity to thank everyone in Maiden Bradley who helped Maureen and myself through the 22 months of her illness.

Thank you to the people who sat with her for an hour or more on a very regular basis, giving her relief from me and giving me a break from caring for her.

Thank you for the numerous offers to do our shopping, I was overwhelmed by the number of people who offered to do this.

Thank you for the people who offered to cook for us and also to the people who delivered food.

Thank you for all of your kind thoughts and comments it meant a lot to both of us.

Maureen passed away on the 12th November and your giving has carried on since then.

Your concern for my health, taking me to the pub, asking me for meals, talking to me on my daily walks have all helped me to grieve and to let my family know I am being looked after.

After a walk with my daughter around Back Lane, she made the comment that "I have never seen so many kind people in so short a time".

Maiden Bradley has shown itself to be a great place to live in, where there is so much of a community spirit made by so many nice kind hearted caring people.

Ian Ferguson

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## Maiden Bradley Community Garden Down The Plot...

2022 has been a year of extreme weather challenges for all of us and we have felt it keenly down on the community garden. The start of the year gave us a trio of storms, and it continued with high temperatures, drought, an unseasonably warm autumn and a prolonged cold snap in December. Despite all these challenges we have had a hugely successful year in the garden, producing an abundance of crops. We have been picking veg and flowers throughout the year - from apples to zucchini (courgettes to you and me). These photos were taken in late November and as you can see we certainly didn't go hungry! Having fresh produce throughout the year is always a great thing but it has been particularly useful recently when we have all been feeling the financial squeeze.

This coming year has a set of practical challenges for us. We are currently dismantling our very old and dilapidated greenhouse. Thankfully we have a replacement waiting in the wings, but we still need to lay a new base and figure out how to assemble the thing. Next on the agenda is the building of a series of brand new compost bays which will help to streamline the recycling of our garden waste, providing easy-access bays that are more efficient and accessible to all. Then we hope to improve our watering facilities by harvesting all the water we can from the available roof spaces and installing a new tap extension for access to the orchard and pond. All these things will help to future-proof us against weather extremes which we are being told will be the new norm.

If you would like to join us down the plot in 2023 please do get in touch. New members are welcome any time but our membership starts in January so that would be a perfect time to join. Membership entitles you to all the fruit and vegetables you can eat for you and your family. There is a greenhouse, a polytunnel, tools, wheelbarrows, seeds, compost and a mower available to all. We also have bees, a wildflower bank, a meadow, a pond and an orchard to enjoy.

Membership gives you year round access to a beautiful space where you can get some 'green exercise', socialise with other gardeners or find some peaceful solitude and take time to wind down. All that is required of you is to just spend some time working in the garden. You do not need any special skill. You can be an expert or a beginner - all are welcome.

We would also love some volunteers to help with the infrastructure projects, so if you don't want to join up but would like to offer your expertise please do let me know.



**For any enquiries  
contact  
Sam Ribeck**

**[sam.ribeck@btinternet.com](mailto:sam.ribeck@btinternet.com)**





*Thank you to everyone who entered this years Christmas decorations competition - we raised £75 for the Maiden Bradley News.*

*Previous winner, Kate Moore, awarded the prizes as follows:*

*SAM RIBECK - The most creatively crafted display (top left)*

*ESTHER SWAN - The most outstanding display of ready made decorations (above)*

*GEOFF & RENALIE SMITH - Judge's favourite (bottom left)*



**The Committee  
of the  
Memorial Hall  
wish you all a  
very happy new  
year**

**Come along  
and support us  
in 2023!**



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**SATURDAY JANUARY 14TH**

**Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm  
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Maximum of 6 per team  
Raffle**

*PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS*

**MAIDEN BRADLEY  
MEMORIAL HALL**



## **MAIDEN BRADLEY WEIGHT WATCHERS**

### ***We've had a demonstration!***

We had a meeting planned with Wiltshire Council, together with Chapmanslade and Corsley, for the 2nd December. to discuss our proposals for the introduction of experimental weight limits on the B3092, and the removal of weight limits on the B3089 to facilitate HGV movement westward from the A303/A350 junction.

But, citing the need to wait for new government guidelines in 2026, Wiltshire Council decided not to attend.

So, at 24 hours notice. we organised a demonstration!

We prepared a banner, placards, appealed to villagers, and got ITN West Country and BBC Points West to attend.

The results were amazing!

We crossed the road near the milk station at regular intervals, each crossing lasting for 3 minutes. The build up of traffic each time was staggering with queues backing up for 200-300 yards in each direction.

Our protest was peaceful but although most drivers were supportive we had incidents with a lorry driver and 2 motorists who were very aggressive with the motorists attempting to drive at us.

At 12.30 we had our meeting attended by our M.P. Andrew Murrison, and "empty chaired" Wiltshire Council (see opposite).

The results were that we had fantastic TV coverage from the media with one reporter saying "I've really enjoyed this", and with our M.P. saying that "enough is enough and that we have to stop HGV's coming through our village". To this end he has contacted the Leader of Wiltshire Council, Richard Clewer, to arrange a meeting to get Wiltshire Council to act.

**Thank you to everyone who supported us by turning out to demonstrate. We may need to do this again.....**

***Martin Brown  
Alex Channer  
Ian Ferguson  
Alex Haig***



# MERE AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME

Charity Registration 1062328



## Link Update December 2022

Hi All

Hope you are keeping warm in this cold spell - we had no electricity for four hours last night because of a supply failure and are still warming up!

The Link remains busy with 98 trips in November. As usual we will continue to do trips over the Festive Season but the phone will not be "manned" between 23 and 28 December so we have asked for anyone who has an appointment in this period to let us know by 22 December. Dick and Brenda Morris have again lit up their house for Christmas in aid of the Link so please pop along to Downside Close and feast your eyes. Also, if you are looking for something to do between Christmas and New Year there is a quiz at the George on 27 December in aid of local charities including the Link.

Thanks again for all of your work for the Link this year and best wishes to you and yours for a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Best wishes

**John FitzGerald**

**Chair Mere and District Link Scheme**

**01747 860867**

**07795606426**

**Link phone 01747 860096**

**www.merelink.org.uk**



### Welcome Club

On Monday 28th November the Welcome Club held their Annual Bingo at Maiden Bradley Hall. I am pleased to say we made a very pleasing profit of £270.30 for club funds. We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who gave prizes, came and supported the event. We also would like to say thank you to Brenda Smart and Mary Stevens who helped sell tickets on the door and special thank you to Graham Smart for putting the tables up so we can play Bingo. A very Happy New Year to Everyone.

**Pearl**

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## Happy Man No. 6 part 2 - The Memories of a Railway Man An Autobiography by Mike Herrin and his life on the railway.

### Yeovil Junction Part Two.

Instead of going through the routine of days again. Published last Month. Let us take a look at one or two of the amusing incidents that happened.

One of our gang was in the habit of going to Sherborne, next station up the line, about once a fortnight on lates for a haircut. He lived in a lineside cottage up the line and used to ride his bicycle to work along the "Cess", a narrow path alongside the ballast, no longer around. Back then you were able to cycle from Penzance to Wick along a well maintained path and banks.



After his haircut he used to visit the local for a pint, on this occasion he visited the Yeovil Junction Buffet during the evening and had another. About 8:30pm the foreman decides to let him go home a bit early so he sets off up the line on his trusty bike, we thought nothing more about it, until the 8:50pm Up Bideford express goods roars through at about 60 mph, up into the cutting on towards Sherborne the engine whistles long and loud, then we hear her open up again accelerating away, all seems well.

Next day our man cycles into work, his arms and face a mass of scratches and bruises. What have you been about? someone asks him: Reply. Did you hear that Bastard on the Bideford, he came up behind I whistling as he passed the driver yelled put that Bloody Red light out!!!! I looked up and rode right down the bank!!!!!! He had forgotten to turn the rear light on his bicycle off and in the dark the driver thought there was an emergency.



Same man, he was lovely. One night we were waiting for the arrival of the 5.52 Exeter-Waterloo and he decided to use the toilet, after he had gone in and a minute to settle, the foreman suggested a fire bucket of water tipped under the door may be a good idea. So I go and tip out the water and rush back out, "Shock" he is out there sitting on the Barrow with the foreman both in fits of laughter. Who had the water? In a few minutes out comes the old guy who used to sell newspapers up and down the platforms when the trains come in. His trousers soaked from the knees down. "Lots of water on the floor in there tonight" was all he said.

I remember making some overtime when Bertram Mills Circus came to Yeovil, they had their own trains and most of the animals arrived in one, we had to clean out and straw down the large bogie vans that the elephants travelled in. Elephant dung is like a huge football and it appeared to be mainly hay, not a very messy job actually. I remember going into the station in a very excitable mood saying there were elephants coming down the hill from the direction of the town, the foreman very politely!! said it would be alright. Of course the circus was over and the animals were making their way back to the station. When they were loaded and given some hay the wagons started to sway from side to side. I drew this to the attention of one of the circus workers, he said the time to worry was when the wagon stopped swaying as while it swayed they were content.

**Mike Herrin** (submitted by Simon Wager)

## COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH NEWS

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



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

Although there are no statistics to report on CSW activity, being stood down until the 9th January 2023. Does not mean that CSW has been idle. It has given time to reflect, review CSW activities, our successes and areas that may need a different approach.

Following the various discussions and our meeting last night 14th December. It has enabled CSW to look forward to the New Year on a very positive note.

We were concerned that we did not have enough CSW members to operate an effective three sessions a fortnight operation. That has changed with the coming of two new members to the CSW team and one existing member returning to activity. This brings the group up to twelve members. A very big thank you to the two new members and the returned member.

With the Wiltshire Police approved operating sites 6 in number we have taken a serious look at these sites and re-arranged their priority for CSW activity. No doubt that these changes will become apparent when we restart activity.

The undoubted success of the SID (Speed Indicator Device) on Frome Road. has had a positive effect in traffic calming and quite rightly changed the CSW activity. A second one of the same type has been agreed for the church end of the village along with other improvements to the traffic calming in that area. So you see the importance of gaining volunteers to spread the load.

I would like to give my HEARTFELT THANK YOU. to all the CSW volunteers both past and present who have and will continue to work so hard to keep our village and community safe as they are able.

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

Yes we even get offered a cup of tea at one location which is very welcome at times!

Thank you, Maiden Bradley

Have a positive and safe New Year

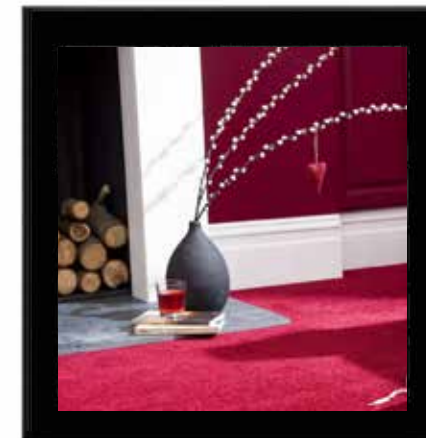
*Simon Wager*

**Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator.**

**Chairman Maiden Bradley Parish  
Council**

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## Village Hall Lottery

### November

1 <sup>st</sup> Victoria De Mare	£25.25	2 <sup>nd</sup> Jane Sheppard	£12.60
3 <sup>rd</sup> D. Stevens	£7.65	4 <sup>th</sup> Wendy Dewings	£5.00

### December

1 <sup>st</sup> J Horn	£25.25	2 <sup>nd</sup> Esther Swan	£12.60
3 <sup>rd</sup> Olwyn Hughes	£7.65	4 <sup>th</sup> Mrs S Cooper	£5.00

Thank you to all those contributors to the Hall Lottery, a very big thank you for helping maintain this vital social hub. Over this year alone £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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# THE UKRAINE / RUSSIA CONFLICT

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**All proceeds will go to  
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**GEOFF TILL IS A BRITISH NAVAL HISTORIAN  
AND EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF MARITIME STUDIES  
IN THE DEFENCE STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF  
KING'S COLLEGE LONDON**

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