

# Maiden Bradley

Parish News

No 355 January 2019



**A bumper evening for Maiden Bradley Students  
at Gillingham School**

# In praise of our Community Garden!

See article 'Garden Delight'  
by Kate Moore



# Diary

## December

30 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Mere Benefice Service – no service in Maiden Bradley	10.30am
31 <sup>st</sup>	Mon	No waste collection	

## January

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tue	Blue bin and Black Box collections	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Sunday Catch-up – coffee and croissants in the Hall	10 till 11am
7 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	No waste collection	
8 <sup>th</sup>	Tue	Household waste collection – Garden waste collection	
9 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting – 844	6.30pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Fri	Film Night - The Greatest Showma	7 for 7.30pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Plough Sunday – Somerset	3pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Blue bin, black box and garden waste collections	
16 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting – 844817	6.30pm
19 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	Topping out party – Village Hall	7.30pm
20 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – The Lady Chapel MB	10am
<b>20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Copy deadline for February issue pat@visa-office.com</b>	
21 <sup>st</sup>	Mon	Household waste collection	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting - 844817	6.30pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Sat	Family film night – Christopher Robin	5.45 for 6.30pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Sun	Parish Communion	10am
28 <sup>th</sup>	Mon	Blue bin, black box and garden waste collections	
30 <sup>th</sup>	Wed	Prayer Meeting – 844817	6.30pm

## February

21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Pantomime “The Pied Piper of Braiden Madley”

## March

21st	Thurs	Welcome Club first meeting of 2019 - Horningsham Hall	2.30pm
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Dr Harding’s Surgery every Monday at the Memorial Hall except Bank Holidays 5-6 pm.  
Please bring your orders to Memorial Hall Surgery the week before they are due for the Doctor to process.

Refuse & Recycling Collections every Monday, for Bank Holiday changes see Wiltshire Council website.

Mother & Toddlers every Tuesday 10.00 am to 12 noon.

Useful telephone Nos.: The Pub: 844207; Memorial Hall bookings – Mel Tho-mas 845111 ;

Dr. Andrew Murrison MP: 01225 358584 or murrisona@parliament.uk:

Mere Link Scheme 01747 860096; Rev. Carol Wilson-Barker 01747 861859.

Bell Ringing every Tuesday 7 pm in the Bell Tower at the Church.

Beginners welcome 844475

Coffee Mornings every Friday in the Hall 10 am till 12 noon

Maiden Bradley Parish News – contributions are welcome and preferred in WORD format.  
Email pat@visa-office.com

**Magazine available online at [www.maidenbradleyvillage.org.uk](http://www.maidenbradleyvillage.org.uk)**

## Editorial

As another year draws to a close it is difficult not to reflect on the preceding twelve months and wonder why time seems to fly by so quickly. So much has been achieved within the village over this period with Art and History Festivals, the Produce and Christmas Fairs; and don't forget the Village Hall roof is near to completion. A village working in harmony certainly achieves a great deal and thanks must go to all those concerned.

Thanks certainly go to Her Grace the Duchess of Somerset for opening her lovely home to host the Christmas Carol Concert in aid of the Church. The newly formed Maiden Bradley Choir accompanied by Jane and members of her choir sang numerous carols interspersed with poems and this was followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

The candlelit Carol Service in the church was well supported and the church decorated beautifully by the ladies of the village. Long may such co-operation continue.

The Team at the News wish you all the Season's Greetings.

Pat Kennedy 845397 [pat@visa-office.com](mailto:pat@visa-office.com)

### **Gillingham Students cover photo**

*A bumper evening for Maiden Bradley students at Gillingham School Speech day 2018*

*Photo: three of the five prize winners at Speech day (sorry we couldn't get pictures of Millie Barnes and Todd Lucas-Phillips).*

*Poppy won the John Webster cup for most Improvement and Commitment and Jessie Betts, Millie Barnes, Tod Lucas-Phillips and Elsie Swan-Stevens all were given subject prizes.*

*Esther Swan*

## **NEWS FROM THE HALL – DECEMBER 2018**

### **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

What a fabulous start to Christmas celebrations - **HUGE** thanks go to all those who worked hard to make the Christmas Bazaar such a success and to everyone who gave their support. Proceeds of over £800 raised have been equally shared between the Hall and Church.

### **FILM NIGHTS**

Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> January '**The Greatest Showman**' (PG)

Doors open: 7.0pm for 7.30pm start

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> January Family Night showing '**Christopher Robin**' (PG)

Doors open: 5.45pm for 6.30 start – why not bring in fish & chips from Mr Chippy who will be parked in the car park?

**Topping Out Party** – Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January from 7.30pm

A party will be held at the Hall to thank all those who have been involved in and supported us over the past year in all our fundraising events to re-roof the building. Come along for wine & nibbles – **free entry**.

22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> February Maiden Bradley Pantomime Group  
will be performing  
**'Pied Piper of Braiden Madley'**.

**Old Kitchen Store** – at the Hall. Thanks go to all our faithful customers for supporting the shop. We will continue our opening times – Mon, Weds, Fridays 9am-11.30am from the 31<sup>st</sup> December. Watch this space for up and coming bargains!!

**Re-roofing update** The reroofing of the hall is continuing and at this time of year it is very weather dependant, so it is not yet possible to put an end date on it. We have had some leaks recently due to heavy rain, this will not happen again as the contractor has now come to a stage in tiling where the leaks have occurred and he has assured me everything is now weatherproof.

The high gables of the building are going to be painted while the scaffolding is up, we have the funds to cover this cost, and by doing this now will save in the future for example without having to put scaffolding up again.

Ray Kenzie, myself and Steve Gunter meet on an almost weekly basis to monitor progress and to assess any problems that may be likely to crop up. We have a contingency amount in our monies to account for any problems that occur.

THE ERNEST & MARJORIE

**Fudge**

TRUST FOR WARMINSTER

## THE BERNARD SUNLEY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Regarding funding we have received the money pledged by the Bernard Sunley Trust and I heard on the 5th December that our application to the Fudge Trust has been approved by their trustees.

**Ian Ferguson**

**We wish Melvyn Thomas  
a speedy recovery  
from his  
recent operation  
and wish everyone a very  
HAPPY & HEALTHY New Year.**

## Garden Delight! Kate (& Damon) Moore

Soon after we moved to the far end of Maiden Bradley's High Street in August, I was proudly showing a friend around the village. She wanted to see the church, and we noticed, in passing, what seemed to be allotments in a garden over a low wall. A few days later, I saw that the interesting-looking gate to the same garden was open where someone could be seen digging in one of the upper beds.

This was my first meeting with Franck. I asked whether they were allotments to which he replied that it was a community garden. When I heard this I almost hugged him on the spot. Franck told me I could join and I said something like 'Where do I sign?' Franck said I could pay membership fees next year since the season was very nearly over but that I was welcome to come to the garden and crop the vegetables since regular harvesting was one of the main tasks at the moment.

Having never come across a community garden before, (I have heard of garden sharing but even that I have never actually seen), I wanted to ask all sorts of questions but didn't want to keep Franck from his work. Since then I have been telling everyone about the garden and what a wonderful idea it is. It is a way to support each other's different gardening skills, and deal with gluts when they happen... I love weeding and mowing but am much less keen on digging!

A community garden depends on the vision of the land owner to make the space available at an affordable rate, it offers as well, a different approach to horticulture; we are all curators of our gardens as much as owners. Since joining the community garden, I have met many lovely people in the village, more than I ever did in the 20 years we lived near a village in Oxfordshire.

I was speaking about the garden to our close neighbour Barbara Golledge who told me that this was where she and her late husband Jim used to run a nursery from 1972 until 2000. How well loved this tilled earth has been over the past few decades!

Gardening is one of the few ways by which you can make a benefit of the passing of time. When you plant a seed bulb or seedling, it will do its work when you aren't watching unlike Andy Pandy who used to dig up the seeds every day which didn't do them any good at all.

Our own garden here at High Street is small and demanding to have flowers cultivated. I have not been without somewhere to grow vegetables since I caught the gardening bug in my early 20s (quite a while ago!) so not having to shoehorn a veg bed into an unsuitable space is very good news! All of which is why I am so excited to be part of the continuing adventure and want to express heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved in our wonderful community garden.

## THE PIED PIPER OF BRAIDEN MADLEY

Tickets for our exciting and very entertaining Pantomime which is being staged in the Maiden Bradley Memorial Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 (with an added Matinee as well as the evening performance on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>) will be on sale from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the Village Memorial Hall Shop which is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9.00 am to 11.30 am. You will also be able to purchase tickets from the Somerset Arms from the same date. The price of a ticket is £7.00.

In the grand tradition of the Village Panto you will see some amazing and talented villagers as you have never seen them before and a few you have but love all the same.

If you have any problems getting hold of your tickets please ring me (but don't leave it too late), they go like hot cakes.

**Carol Kenzie 844745**

**MAIDEN BRADLEY PANTOMIME GROUP**

## Meet-up at The Somerset Arms

*We thought we'd try to organise an occasional get-together in the pub to meet new and old friends. Our first meet-up will be:*

*Saturday 12th January 2019 ~ Come along between 6.30-8.30pm*

Alex Channer



## Birdwatching in The Rank

It's 10:20 pm 5<sup>th</sup> December, I am returning home from an evening of Bell Ringing practice and park my car close by the only street light in The Rank. The evening is fine very mild for early December, whilst waiting for my wife, I hear a sweet song of a Robin. Its seems somewhat unusual to hear any bird song apart from the Tawny Owls and Barn Owls that same evening calling territorial rights in the distance.

A little later that evening taking the dog for his constitutional before bedtime around 11:15pm we , ventured down the front path to be met with two Robins calling an singing more or less in the same district just a few metres apart and flying urgently between the branches to effect some form of challenge to the opposition. I listened and watch for several minutes however it seems that they were keen on foraging in the light of the street lamp.

Robins are largely insectivores and therefore can locate insects and grubs in the trees and bushes having exceptionally good eyesight and it is believed that they see in colour they can forage in the half light of a street lamp it may be that an area bathed in the sodium glare of a street light may in fact provide a shield against an invasion of Robins foraging for insects or grubs.

On my return home and leaving the Robins to their own devices picked up the laptop retired to bed and studied with the help of Google the mystery of our late night winter songster.

Richard James a wildlife adviser writes on the RSPB web site that; "Robins are often one of the first birds to start singing in the morning and the last to finish at night, so are used to being active in low light conditions. In places where there are street lamps or other artificial light sources, robins can be triggered to start singing because it does not get completely dark.

Robins are one of the few birds that hold a territory throughout the winter so continue to sing..."

The British Trust for Ornithology write " Given their old name of 'Robin Red-breast' it is easy to think that only the breast is red (or rather orange) but it actually extends up onto the forehead and is used as a warning to other individuals to 'keep out'. Their territory is also defended with a slow and melodic song, sung in different phrases with gaps in between so that the singer can listen out for any responses. Robins are the only garden birds likely to be singing regularly in early autumn. When the display of the red breast and song fails to warn off an intruder, they will sometimes defend their territory to the death"

James Kennedy

# Village Hall Lottery

## *November*

1 <sup>st</sup> Alex Haig	£26.10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Kate Burgess	£13.05
3 <sup>rd</sup> Cas Gunter	£7.95	4 <sup>th</sup> Mel Thomas	£5.15

## *December*

1 <sup>st</sup> C, Crabbe	£26.10	2 <sup>nd</sup> Esther Swan	£13.05
3 <sup>rd</sup> A. Glastonbury	£7.95	4 <sup>th</sup> Ian Ferguson	£5.15

## **A Memorial Hall 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.

## **Welcome Club**

The Maiden Bradley & Horningsham Welcome Club held their Annual General Meeting on November 22nd. Tom Allday will take over the chairmanship after Chris Short's death. Lesley Trollope will be the treasurer and Pearl Hudson will arrange outings with Andrews coaches. Our next meeting will not be until March 21st 2019 at 2.30pm at Horningsham Hall when we hope to have a programme for 2019 organised. We will be going on our Christmas dinner to the Bell Inn Andover on Tuesday December 4th. We are still looking for members of the club to come forward to help with the running of the club.

On November 26<sup>th</sup> we held a Bingo evening in Maiden Bradley Hall and raised over £150. Thank you to Brenda and Jamie for their help. Also thank you everyone who gave prizes and came to the Bingo.

On Tuesday 4th December 45 members and friends went to The Bell at Weyhill for Christmas dinner which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Thank you, Lesley, for organising it. As always, all are welcome.

Pearl Hudson

# A Very Village Christmas



**W**reath Making  
- led by Alex  
Channer





**C**arols in the Hall  
raised over £130 for  
Dorothy House





**The Christmas bazaar raised well over £800 which was split equally between the hall and the church**

## To all the flower arrangers....

A huge thank you to everyone who came to church on the morning of Dec 22nd to decorate the church for the two candlelight services over the Christmas period. Lots of greenery arrived and we were able to decorate with much enthusiasm. The team consisted of Susannah, Pat, Sally, Di, Mary, Celia, Liz, Kim, Victoria, John and myself. Perhaps next year you would like to join us. The next big decorating event will be Easter and it would be lovely to have you on board!  
Sue Priestner.



## **Quick Update from the Cranbourne Chase AONB Team.....**

### **Landscape Partnership Scheme**

The Cranborne Chase & Chalke Valley Landscape Partnership (LP) is an exciting five-year Heritage Lottery funded scheme aimed at supporting activities which conserve or enhance the cultural and natural heritage of the area or help people to understand and appreciate its special qualities.

Our bid has now been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund, and we will hopefully be in touch in early March with good news..

### **New Communications Officer**

Our new communications officer will be up & running in the New Year, and will be working hard to keep you in touch with our activities and how you can contribute to keeping this living landscape special.

### **Dark Skies Bid**

You can now stay up to date with our bid to attain Dark Sky Reserve status with our website - [www.chasingstars.org.uk](http://www.chasingstars.org.uk).

Your support is vital - and you can be a huge help by signing our Dark Skies Pledge (takes 1 minute to complete).

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2019

Tel: 01725 517417

Email: [info@cranbornechase.org.uk](mailto:info@cranbornechase.org.uk)

Web: [www.cwwdaonb.org.uk](http://www.cwwdaonb.org.uk)



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# From the archive

**Left - Basil with Bob  
Bottom - Prince and Bob  
Centre- ??????**



# **PLOUGH SUNDAY**

**CELEBRATING FARMING  
AND THE WORK OF  
FARMERS**

**IN THE SOMERSET ARMS  
3PM JANUARY 13TH**



The Friends of Maiden Bradley Church  
invite you to our

# Farmhouse Supper and Quiz in the Memorial Hall

**Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> February @ 7.30pm**

**Please bring your friends!**

**£15 per head to include 2 course meal  
and glass of wine**

*All proceeds will go to the  
repair and conservation  
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