

Maiden Bradley

Parish News

No. 302 August 2014



Diary August 2014

| | | | |
|------------------|------|--|------------------|
| 3 rd | Sun | Holy Communion – Church | 10.00 am |
| 4 th | Mon | Black Box & Blue Bin Collection | 7.00 am |
| | | Bingo – Memorial Hall | 7.30 for 8.00 pm |
| 10 th | Sun | Matins – Church | 10.00 am |
| 11 th | Mon | Household & Garden Waste Collection | 7.00 am |
| 13 th | Wed | Mobile Library – Somerset Arms | 9.35-9.45 am |
| 16 th | Sat | Bird Club – meet Memorial Hall Car Park | 10.00 am |
| 17 th | Sun | Benefice Service at West Knoyle | 10.30 am |
| 18 th | Mon | Black Box & Blue Bin Collection | 7.00 am |
| 24 th | Sun | Holy Communion – Church | 10.00 am |
| 25 th | Mon | Household & Garden Waste Collection | 7.00 am |
| 26 th | Tues | Welcome Club outing to Ross-on-Wye Horningsham 8.45 am, Maiden Bradley 9 am | |
| 27 th | Wed | Mobile Library – Somerset Arms | 9.35-9.45 am |
| 30 th | Sat | Maiden Bradley Produce Show – Memorial Hall | 2.00 pm |
| 31 st | Sun | Show Service – Memorial Hall | 10.00 am |

Mass times in Warminster and Mere:-

St. George's, Warminster – Saturday 6 pm (Vigil); Sunday 8 am, 10 am

St. Mary's, Mere – Friday 10 am; Sunday 5 pm

Dr Harding's Surgery every Monday at 36 Church Street except Bank Holidays 5-6 pm. Due to pressure of work the Surgery at Silton, Bourton, is unable to accept repeat orders for medication by telephone. Please bring your orders to 36, Church Street the week before they are due so that the Doctor can collect them.

Dustbin Day every Monday; for Bank Holiday changes see Wiltshire Council website. Mother & Toddlers every Tuesday 10.00 am to 12 noon.

Useful telephone Nos.: The Village Shop: 844206; The Post Office: 845040; The Pub: 844207; Village Hall bookings – Mel Thomas: 845111; Dr. Andrew Murrison MP: 01225 358584 or murrisona@parliament.uk; Mere Link Scheme 01747 860096; Rev Carol: 01747 861859.

Maiden Bradley Parish News: contributions are welcome in any format. E-Mail: pat.kennedy6093@gmail.com or marklucasphillips@yahoo.co.uk .

Morris dancing at the Somerset Arms on the front cover from Mark Lucas-Phillips

From the Editor

Hello again! As I write, we are enjoying fabulous weather, long hot summer days and beautiful warm evenings, perfect for sitting in the garden and listening to the twitterings of the many swifts that have come to our village again this year.

In the few years we have lived in Maiden Bradley, a number of people have come and gone. In particular, Les and Kay Mayne, who lived here for over a decade and contributed greatly to life in the village bringing their expertise to many aspects of activities.

Kay's work in the Village Shop has been a significant factor in turning it around – work which Amanda and her team continue successfully. Kay served on the Village Hall Committee, helped to produce the Village Show and supplied many photographs and articles for the magazine, supporting with Les, other fundraising events and practically everything that was going on. I am sure you will agree with me that our sincere thanks go to this dynamic couple who are now progressing another adventure in their lives.

The new team at the News will be Meg, Mark and myself (plus a n other – please volunteer). Mark will be taking over from Bryan who also has given years of dedicated service to keep the News running. We hope we will still be able to call on him – thank you Bryan we will try to maintain your high standards.

For such a small village, there is a lot going on and we hope you enjoy our coverage this month.

Pat – 845397 – pat.kennedy6093@gmail.com



Vicar's Letter

I write this fresh from the Year 6 Leavers' service held for Whitesheet School in St Martin's church, Zeals also with Archdeacon Alan Jeans. You will know that as children come from the surrounding villages to Whitesheet the services are held in rotation at local village churches.

It was one of the best services of its kind I have been to marking the "graduation" of what Mrs Brooker described as the best group of Year 6s she has ever known. There were poems and tributes and though sadness also a good hope for the future at secondary school. There was a lovely atmosphere in the church – symbolic of a school which has renewed purpose and is setting its sights high.

Though August is a quieter time in the church year one of the significant events is the Transfiguration marked on the 6th. This is when Jesus showed His glory. It is hard to think what that might mean in everyday language and for us today. I would suggest it is when Jesus' true holy goodness shone out of his whole being. Rather like when someone's face "shines" with happiness.

Jesus did say that we would be able to do greater things than him. My sense of the Year 6 children at their Leavers' service was of youngsters not only transformed by their education in that small school but also transfigured too: shining with happiness, achievement and hope.

Happy holidays, blessings and grace, Rev Carol

Times and Content of Sunday Services

At the recent meeting of the P.C.C. it was decided that the varying times of our Sunday Services caused confusion and that there was no longer any necessity for this – in the past it had been to enable priests to get from a service at one parish in the benefice to take one at another. And so a decision was made to start all services at 10.00 am unless there was a special reason for something different. You will see from the Diary that we are starting this straight away in August.

For the past six months or so Jane Hurd has been leading a service of Morning Praise on the second Sunday of the month instead of Matins. We were wondering if this would be more acceptable to people in the parish but our numbers seem to have remained about the same. Therefore we are reverting to Matins again on two months out of three and initiating a brand new idea on the third.

In August it will be Matins but in September it will be Sing Sunday, a joyful Service of the Word with plenty of hymns which we are going to ask you to choose, so please start thinking about which your favourites are! From October onwards please check the Diary to find out what to expect, after that we shall be in a three monthly routine.

The Show Service on August 31st will once again be in the Village Hall which proved very popular last year and we hope to see a good crowd there at 10.00 am.

Meg Oliver - 844317

Ride and Stride

Saturday 13th September 2014, between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm. Is anyone interested in participating in a sponsored cycle, walk, jog, mobility scooter- or horse-ride which will be taking place around Wiltshire's churches and chapels in aid of a participant's chosen church and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust?

Prizes - The Brooke Cup and £500 goes to the best all-round parish with runner-up prizes of £100 and £50, and a Junior Group Cup, plus £100, to the parish with the most successful group of under 18s (£50 to the runner-up). Also there will be some individual cash prizes awarded to the best achieving cyclists and walkers from different age groups.

Further details and sponsorship forms are available from Victoria de Maré - 844695

Flower Festival

We are going to stage a Flower Festival in the Church on Friday 19th September. Please put your name on the list in the shop or phone me on 844428. You can plonk flowers in a vase or do a more formal arrangement. If you need help there will be plenty on offer. If you would rather just help with the event making tea, stewarding or selling raffle tickets, just add your name to the bottom of the page. Raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

Thanks, Diana

Family News

This village is usually very good at passing on news, good or bad, but it was horrifying to find out, many weeks after it happened, that John Potts had been taken seriously ill. We understand that he is now home again but we do send embarrassed apologies that the News Team did not find this out sooner and we send our very best wishes for a continuing recovery.

We are very pleased that we have news of welcome arrivals in the village. The Henry household in High Street is enlarged again with the arrival of Ian and Pat's daughter Sarah and grand daughter Chloe from Canada. They have often visited over the years but are now making their home here and we are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to them.

Meg Oliver - 844317

Parish Council 15th July 2014

Defibrillator Project- the Parish Council has received written confirmation from the Village Shop Committee to the fitting of the defibrillator to the outside of the shop and the use of the Electricity yearly to heat the housing cabinet.

It was agreed that the Village Shop would be given a grant of £12.00 a year under LGA 1972 s 137 for the cost of the electricity, this amount would be reviewed annually to make sure the shop was not compromised financially in any way in the future. The Clerk reported that she

would take delivery of the defibrillator the next day. It was agreed that the Clerk keep hold of the Defibrillator until Chairman could arrange its fitting. The Clerk updated Council on the receipt of the pledges and further donations advised of to date.



Planning - 14/05424/FUL Land Rear of 40 Church Street Maiden Bradley, Proposal: Change of use from farriers/blacksmiths workshop to B1 use for printers/bookbinders with associated alterations including extension to north elevation. Resolved: to support the application.

Recreational Area Fencing -The suggestion from the Village Hall Committee regarding a possible change to one section of the fencing on recreational area from a fenced area, to a gated way to give a level access from the road way, thus addressing the issues of the sloped entrance area being torn up during wet periods of use, was agreed. Sydenham's had already agreed to the suggestion with the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee. The shared cost of moving of the present gate was agreed, subject to the grounds maintenance firm informing the Clerk this course of action would cause no issue for them.

The further suggestion that the back entrance fencing is replaced was agreed and the shared cost of a removable barrier be put in place instead of a fixed fence, as the access for the Recreational Area is a problem for large events. The Chairman of the Village Hall would be asked to inform the Clerk of possible costs, these would then be agreed from the Risk and Reserves Budget as the replacement of fencing on the recreational area had not been budgeted within the precept for the 2014/2015 budget.

Review Objectives for budget preparations 2015/2016 – the Parish Council agreed to consider the Clerks suggestion of looking at developing a possible Village Design Statement/Neighbourhood Plan, a Grants budget of £1000.00 for groups/clubs and the national recommendations re the Clerk's wages for 2015/2016 when looking at the budget preparations.

External Audit – Council noted that the External Audit papers had been received back and no comments had been made. The cost of the audit would only be £100.00 so a saving of £80.00 will have been made against the budget. This was seen as helpful as costs for the recreational fencing suggestions had not been budgeted for.

Wiltshire Council Garden Waste Consultation – Council agreed to support option 1. A three month suspension of the non-chargeable kerbside garden waste service with no collections taking place in December, January and February, parishioners are advised that they can also comment on the consultation online on the Wiltshire Council website.

Parish Steward/Highways – If you know of any areas of the parish that require the attention of the Parish Steward please contact Wiltshire Council on 0800 232 323 or email Clarence@wiltshire.gov.uk or contact the Clerk direct.

There is still a vacancy for a Co-opted Councillor to come on board and join the Parish Council Team of 7 Councillors -

What does it do? A Parish Council builds bus shelters to stop you getting rained on, maintains and provides the play areas to have fun with your children, campaigns for affordable housing so the younger people can stay in the village, provides lifesaving equipment, can act as the lead body for the establishment of a neighbourhood development plan, comments on planning applications, these are but a few of the items Council works on or can work on.

What, How and When? The Council meets once a month on the second Tuesday through the year except for August when it takes a break. The meetings last for an hour and a half to two hours long in total. The meetings are held at 7.30pm in the village hall. Documentation for discussion is sent out by the Clerk to team members 5 days before a meeting, where you have time before the meeting to consult with other parishioners and make your mind up on issues presented.

Training? Training is available along with help from a Mentor Councillor, the Clerk and an extensive library of information the Clerk holds.

If you are interested in helping your community, having read the above and have ideas that you think might benefit the inhabitants of Maiden Bradley or would just like to know more about the position? Please do get in touch with a Councillor or the Clerk who is very happy to answer any questions you might have and will send you an application form. The Clerks contact details are Mrs Sarah Jeffries and she can be contacted by email: maidenbradley@virginmedia.com or by phone: 01985 213436 or post to Parish Clerk 9 Beech Grove Warminster BA12 0AB

Neighbourhood Watch – There is also still a vacancy for the post of Neighbourhood Watch Representative for the parish. If you would be interested in taking on this post not only representing the Community but helping coordinate issues from the rural policing unit to all. The Rural Policing unit have one meeting every 3 months in Bishopstrow Village Hall with the other representatives in the area. It is a very friendly meeting with everyone working together. They have an email warning system re incidents in the area and it can be a very rewarding position. Do get in touch with your local Councillor, the Clerk or take a look at <http://www.ourwatch.org.uk/> for more details on Neighbourhood Watch.

Items for the next Agenda: Receipt of second Precept Payment, ½ yearly Budget check, Review Risk Assessments.

Date of the next meeting- The Council agreed that Tuesday 9th September 2014 would be the date of the next Parish Council meeting. As always, the Parish Council meeting will be open at the start with an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions or make comments on any matter. The website Southwilts.com (Maiden Bradley) can be accessed to read a copy of the Agenda and Minutes electronically or copies are displayed on the Community Notice Board at the village shop.

Sarah Jeffries can be contacted by email: maidenbradley@virginmedia.com or phone: 01985 213436 Parish Clerk 9 Beech Grove Warminster BA12 0AB



MAIDEN BRADLEY VILLAGE PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 30th August at 2.00pm, in the Memorial Hall
There will be a Barbecue, Teas, Raffle, Tombola, Stalls
Please come along and support your Village Hall

Welcome Club

We had a really busy trip to Minehead on 24th June when we took a lunch break in Minehead followed by a train ride to Bishops Lydeard when we re-connected with the coach and went to see the museum nearby – most interesting. This visit included a cream tea then back on the coach and home. We had a fantastic day, very hectic but well worthwhile.

Our hall meeting on 17th July was when Charlotte Fyfe came to give a talk about chickens. She was very knowledgeable on the subject and showed us many slides of some very fancy hens and also brought eggs of all colours to sell – needless to say, she sold out.

On July 22nd, bathed in sunshine, we made our way with Peter driving the coach, to Teignmouth. Our coffee stop was a new venue for us, Oaklands Tea Rooms at Monkton. Well worth another visit, we understand that the coach company will be adding it as one of their stops. On arrival at Teignmouth we all went our different ways for lunch, meeting up again for the journey to Fray Mills for the shopaholics amongst us. We all had an enjoyable time, boarding the coach for the run to the Eagle, raffle and home – tired but happy!

No hall meeting in August, but we will be having a trip to Ross-on-Wye on 26th as we haven't been there for a long time. Usual 8.45am Horningham, and 9am Maiden Bradley. All Welcome.

Chris Short - 847373

Wryneck Stories



Late last year whilst discussing the flora and fauna in Maiden Bradley with Chris Downes - a local guru on birds - I won't say twitcher but certainly a knowledgeable person. He announced that he had seen a Wryneck in Mr Dean's garden feeding on his lawn with the local Sparrow population. I spluttered in my beer and demanded proof.

For those who have never met a Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*) it is probably one of the rarest birds to visit our shores and so far inland. The Wryneck is an unremarkable sparrow sized bird with a fairly boring plumage and looks like it is wearing a Harris tweed jacket but can turn its head and neck through 180° and is a member of the woodpecker family. For those who are interested I have included a picture for your information and would ask you to keep a look out for these unusual birds later in the summer and early autumn. Report through the news any sightings as this sighting is very very rare.

"Well!" said Chris, "I visited Pete's garden three time during the day and each visit the bird had flown however on the fourth visit it was there and I promise you it was a Wryneck." "Nonsense" I said, "down with the sparrows you saw a juvenile Cuckoo." Chris agreed that it could have been a juvenile cuckoo but it was a Wryneck he insisted. The discussion and banter has lasted on and off through the whole winter and spring. Mr Dean was very cross I had questioned his knowledge of ornithology. However, "show me the proof" said I. Well, what I didn't know at the time, Mr Dean had taken photographs with his mobile phone and his son had since arranged to have them printed and enlarged for evidence just to prove me wrong I think.

One morning about a month back Mr Dean stopped me in the car park at The Village Shop and produced a portfolio of splendid photographs of this elusive bird. It was a Wryneck, sorry Pete, sorry Chris, you were right so I owe you three pints of Henry's.

James Kennedy

July News From The Hall

After last month's hectic goings on, July has been a little more sedate. We had a very well supported £5 lunch (23 covers) where the diners sat down to Bangers & Mash and are eagerly awaiting the next one which should be in early September, a small clue of what will be on the menu is, one element swims!

Pam Coulbert has now resigned from the Hall committee and at the last bingo session organized by Pam, Tom Allday presented her with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the committee and all those who have supported the bingo over the years. A big thank you goes to her and we wish her well in the future.



Work has now started on the new Doctor's consulting room and once completed it should be a great asset to the village, as we will be looking for other medical professionals to make use of the room when its not being used by Dr Harding.

Coming up on the 10th October is - **"A Blast from the Past"**

Join us as we take a trip down Memory Lane in this hilarious musical comedy and sing-along. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of September, if it's as well supported as the Dickens Night last year I recommend that you get them early. Cost will be £7.50 adults & £5.00 under 16's. To include a light supper, the Bar will be open from 7.00 pm.

Cinema Club

We will be holding a Saturday Cinema club on the 9th August, **SO COME ON ALL YOU KIDS GIVE IT A GO**. Doors will open at 10.00am. £1.00 buys you a soft drink and some popcorn.

Mel Thomas

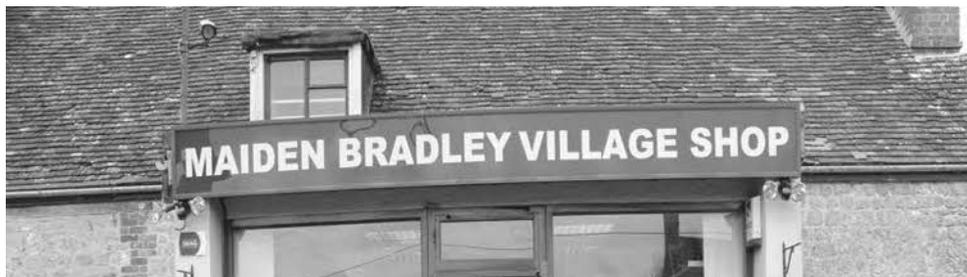
Recipe - Quick Dark Chocolate Sauce

This sauce is delicious poured over many different puddings but especially over vanilla ice cream!



185g (6oz) plain dark chocolate
125ml(4fl oz) strong black coffee or water
60g (2oz) castor sugar

Break the chocolate into pieces and put it in the top of a double boiler or a bowl set over a saucepan of simmering water. Add the coffee or water and sugar. Stir over a medium heat until the chocolate has melted and the sauce is smooth and creamy. Serve hot or cold. Serves 4-6.



Volunteering

When I was asked to write a few lines about being a volunteer in the village shop, I was unconvinced that I was the right person for the job. I only manage two hours on a Thursday morning, as the rest of my time is split between teaching, printing and ferrying two little girls to and from school, amongst other various far-flung activities.

Anyway, Thursday mornings are a busy time in the shop. There is a steady stream of deliveries, from fudge to fruit and veg, and a line of people can be found queuing up at the Post Office. It can be a bit daunting upon arrival, but Mary R has it all under control as I grab my green apron and a shopping basket so that I can help Mary P with her purchases.

Each shift develops its own routine, however, and amongst the date checking, restocking and temperature checks, there is a good deal of banter to be had about all manner of topics, including comparing notes on the undesirable symptoms of a summer cold (hope you're feeling better, Colin). I find myself looking forward to my brief weekly conversations with the regulars, and I am getting to know their preferences.

I have learnt new skills in my role as volunteer, not least nurturing a healthy respect for the till, which I am convinced has a mind of its own (Arkwright, eat your heart out). I can now operate the card machine with a minimum of support (thanks to Pam, Amanda and Mary whose patience knows no bounds) and I am happy to report that, despite nearly charging Alan £1,040.00 for his newspaper last week, I have learnt how to void any over rings.

Volunteering in the village shop is a great antidote to my "proper" job and it feels good to give something back to a little community that truly looks after its own. Come and join in, if you can.

Tonia Gunstone

Village Shop and Post Office - Opening Hours

Shop

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Mon – Fri | 7.30am – 6.00pm |
| Sat | 8.00am – 4.00pm |
| Sun | 9.00am – 12.00pm |

Post Office

| | |
|------|------------------|
| Mon | 9.00am – 1.30pm |
| Tues | 1.30pm – 4.30pm |
| Wed | 9.00am - 12.00pm |
| Thu | 9.00am - 12.30pm |
| Fri | 9.00am - 1.00pm |

Whitesheet News

Mere School Football Tournament Yr. 5-6

Tournament teams

Pool A

Milton A

Wyke

St. Mary's the
virgin

Whitesheet

St. Mary's
Marnhull

Pool B

Mere

Gillingham

St. Georges

St. Gregory's

Milton B

This is Tyler Lloyd Davis from Whitesheet Primary Academy, reporting on my thrilling visit to a year 5-6 football tournament. On Wednesday 5th March ten enthusiastic football teams from around Dorset and Wiltshire rolled in to Mere School.

The team line-ups (box on left) for the tournament show the keen participants from all around our local area.

When I arrived I was just in time for the Pool A 1st game: Milton A vs. Wyke, which was surprisingly even, ending up 0-0. After the game, I spoke to one of Wyke's star players. "Absolute rubbish!" exclaimed Harry "No-one scored." But it was thrilling to watch, so nothing was really lost.

By Tyler Lloyd Davis



The next three games after that were: St. Mary's the Virgin vs. Whitesheet, St. Mary's M vs. Wyke and Milton vs. SMTV. The only goals scored were from SMTV and Wyke, with one goal each.

What looked to be the most exciting match was worthy Whitesheet versus the sneaky St. Mary's Marnhull but, disappointingly, it ended in a boring 0-0. After that game I spoke to two of Whitesheet's top players, Harry Gunter and Lucy Bowles. Firstly, I asked Harry how that match went for him, "Another ten seconds and I would have scored; I was inches away." Lucy then informatively added, "The tournament has been great so far, the parents have been so supportive."

Towards the end of the tournament, I went over to find out the scores... Disappointing for Whitesheet, but overall it was a fantastic tournament because everyone played really well.

Pool A

1st Wyke

2nd Milton A

3rd SMTV

4th= Whitesheet

4th= St. Mary's Marnhull

Pool B

1st Gillingham

2nd Mere

3rd St. Gregory's

4th St. George's

5th Milton B



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Saturday 12.00pm-9.00pm Sunday 12.00pm-4.00pm

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Leaping Frogs
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www.leapingfrogs.org

Local pre-school Leaping Frogs has finalised the plans for its new site in Zeals. Now called Leaping Frogs Day Nursery the successful pre-school will be expanding to provide full daycare facilities from September 2012.

If you are interested in registering your child or baby with Leaping Frogs and would like to chat to someone about joining, please call Victoria or Becky on 01747 861186 or 01985 220483 or visit our website www.leapingfrogs.org for more information.

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Email: andrewleightf@gmail.com

Bike Ride Across France

Following our ride last year down the coast of France, this year we decided to ride across the middle (or most of it). Once again we left the car at home but this time we travelled by train, with bikes and panniers, from Gillingham to London, by Eurostar to Paris and then to our starting point in Chalon-sur-Saone. For the first week we rode along the delightful (and flat!) Canal du Centre and Canal Lateral a la Loire along "Eurovelo 6" bike route and then for the next three weeks along the "Loire a Velo" bike route from Nevers to Nantes near the mouth of the Loire, averaging approximately 30 miles per day. All told we travelled 620 miles on our bikes, including detours, navigation blips, sightseeing and trips to vineyards. Being "credit card cyclists" we stayed in pre-booked hotels and B&B (rather than campsites used by the more serious - and young), all selected for convenience to our route and ratings as "cyclist friendly" and generally of excellent standard with only one exception.

Our routine involved 3 days cycling followed by a "rest"



day (although there were mutterings about the amount of bike sightseeing on rest days). The scenery and route environs varied each day and were always beautiful and often stunning, varying from imposing Chateau to charming riverside villages and hamlets. Most importantly, the standard of the major (and minor) bike routes in France is superb and they are often wide, perfectly smooth tarmac paths, traffic free and dedicated to cyclists and walkers. Well over half of our 620 miles was travelled on such traffic free bike paths which are clearly signposted and easy to follow.

We would highly recommend anyone to try a similar trip, or even part of it. For anyone who fancies the idea but is put off by transporting bikes, they are available to hire (good quality) all along the route for short or long periods and can be picked up at hotels in one location and dropped off at another. And honestly, the long traffic free (flat) bike path sections of the route are easily within the capability of inexperienced cyclists. If anyone in the village is considering a similar trip and would like more information we would be very happy to share our limited knowledge.

Ray Kenzie

