

# Maiden Bradley

No. 283 January 2013

Parish News



## Diary January 2013

2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	Household & Garden Waste Collection Mobile Library – Somerset Arms	7.00 am 9.45-9.55 am
6 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Holy Communion – Church	9.30 am
8 <sup>th</sup> Tues	Black Box & Blue Bins Collection Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall	7.00 am 7.30 pm
10 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Village Hall Committee Meeting	7.30 pm
13 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Matins – Church	9.30 am
14 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Household & Garden Waste Collection	7.00 am
16 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Mobile Library – Somerset Arms	9.35-9.45 am
17 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Welcome Club Meeting – Horningsham Hall	2.30 pm
20 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Christingle Service – Church	10.30 am
21 <sup>st</sup> Mon	Black Box & Blue Bins Collection	7.00 am
22 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	W.I. Meeting – Stourton Village Hall	7.30 pm
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Wed</b>	<b>Deadline for Contributions to February MBPN</b>	
24 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Book Club Meeting at Tynning Wood	7.30 pm
27 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Holy Communion - Church	9.30 am
28 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Household & Garden Waste Collection P.C.C. Meeting	7.00 am 7.30 pm
30 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Mobile Library – Somerset Arms	9.35-9.45 am

### Mass times in Warminster and Mere:-

St. George's, Warminster – Saturday 6pm (Vigil); Sunday 8am, 10am  
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 – Samantha Haynes 844671; Dr. Andrew Murrison MP: 01225 358584 or murrisona@parliament.uk; Mere Link Scheme 01747 860096

Maiden Bradley Parish News: contributions are welcome in any format. E-Mail: editor@maidenbradley.net or contact Les Mayne; 845235.

*The cover photo shows that the sun did show occasionally in wet December. It was taken looking through the tall beech trees towards the Deverills.*

## **Editorial**

So it is all over; the Festive Season. How festive was it for you? I hope it was as good as mine. After a number of years when getting together was difficult we had both our girls home, albeit briefly. And that is the important part of the whole issue – family and all it means. It brings life into focus and underlines the things that are important to us all. We should remember and continue the rest of the year in the same spirit that pervades during this celebration period whether or not we fully subscribe to the original reason for the occasion. I am beginning to sound like the Vicar now so I had better change tack here since vicar I am not!

Did you have any contact with anyone other than your family? I am sure many of you did and that would be a good example of 'The Big Society' currently being promoted by our Prime Minister. But this is nothing new. It has existed in communities like Maiden Bradley for years. We all look out for each other; we help where we can; we do all sorts of things for neighbours and friends in times of need because they are friends and neighbours and because they are important to us. I could name many people in this village who put themselves out for others who are a little less fortunate in some way. I shall not do that for fear of embarrassing anyone but they know who they are and long may they continue to do what they do. And one would hope that they would do the same for you if the circumstances warranted. So, if that is what the Big Society is then it is alive and well in Maiden Bradley, has been for many years before the label was invented and will continue to be so for a long time. Keep up the good work!

Now, just a word about the Maiden Bradley Parish News. This is your publication and it exists to be informative, report on past events that have involved people in the village and provide news and information to residents on matters that may have an impact on our lives one way or another. It has no other agenda, no political affiliation and waves no flags other than having the good of the Parish and its residents at heart and that is the way it will always be. Contributions are always welcome and will be published provided they are not offensive, libellous or derogatory in any way.

It remains only for the Editorial Team to wish you all a prosperous, healthy and happy New Year.

*Les Mayne*

## **Family News**

We are pleased to welcome Karen and Mark Jenkins who have come with Katie to live at No.37 Church Street and we hope they will enjoy living in Maiden Bradley.

Recently I learned that we had omitted to report a very important event! Jerry and Laura Rayner were married in July which was very good news indeed. I am so very sorry that I did not hear about it at the time and send very belated congratulations now!

*Meg Oliver, 844317*

## **The Christmas Party**

On Saturday 15th December we went to the beautifully decorated village hall for the Christmas children's party. Dave Hickory entertained us with amazing tricks. It was really funny and I really liked his trick with the dog and the bone store where the dog kept sliding to and from each picture by magic. In his pot and penny trick money kept appearing from people's ears. He kept saying silly things about when he was a girl (not really).

Santa came and gave all the children presents. Each child that went to the party got a really good present, it took a really long time and I was the last person to go up. He talked to everyone for quite a while about Christmas and what toys we liked. Then he went off to check his reindeer. Then we had some Wonderful party food, I think the chocolate fingers were quite a hit and the parents were tucking in too!

Thank you. That was a great start to Christmas.

*Elsie Swan Stevens*

## Vacancy on the Parish Council! Being a Councillor

**What is a councillor?** Councillors are elected to represent an individual geographical unit on the council, known as a ward or - parish – in Maiden Bradley it is the entire parish. They are generally elected by the public every four years, but there is a Co-option space available on the Parish Council at the moment as no Election has been called for in the parish.

**What do councillors do?** Councillors have three main components to their work.

**1. Decision making** - Through meetings and attending committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented.

**2. Monitoring** - Councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.

**3. Getting involved locally** - As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available, and may include:

- Going to meetings of local organisations such as the Rural Police Neighbourhood Tasking Group
- Going to meetings of bodies affecting the wider community (The Warminster Area Board)
- Taking up issues on behalf of members of the public

**How much time does it take up?** Quite often councillors say that their duties occupy them for about an hour a week. Obviously there are some councillors who spend more time than this - and some less, but in the main, being a, parish councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community, and helping to make it a better place to live and work.

**Maiden Bradley Parish Council needs a new team member; if you think you would like to take the wishes of the Parish Plan forward are over 18 years of age contact the Clerk on 01985213436 or email maidenbradlypc@o2.co.uk**

## Parish Council 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012

**Chairman's announcements-** The Chairman distributed a booklet to each Councillor giving them the provisional dates for the Elections in May 2013. The important dates to note are: Publication of the Notice of Elections – Tuesday 26 March 2013; receipt of nominations - Friday 5 April 2012; and, the last date for Registration - Wednesday 17 April 2012. The first meeting of the new Council would take place on the 14th May 2012. If any parishioners are interested in becoming a Councillor please contact the Clerk or one of the Councillors. You can make a difference in your parish by being on the team.

**Dispensations-** the Government has recently changed the law regarding the interests of Parish & Town Councillors. To enable them to lawfully set the Precept figure for 2013/2014 they were required to discuss and approve a dispensation for each member to act. The Council discussed the dispensations for Councillor Angus Neish, Councillor Ben Gunstone, Councillor Sarah Fry, Councillor Patrick Nixon, Councillor Franck Baudrain and Councillor Jerry Rayner. The Parish Council agreed to approve the dispensation of those Councillors listed for a year, for the reason of setting of the precept. This then makes it lawful for them to make the decision. It is hoped that the government will take action to address this issue in the near future. If Parishioners have any questions regarding this matter please contact the Clerk.

**Planning - S/2012/1626** Location: Grange Farm Maiden Bradley Warminster. Proposal: Remove 130 Metres of hedgerow as per map. Listed Building: Conservation Area. Resolved: Approved the application

S/2012/1686 Location: High View High Street Maiden Bradley Warminster. Proposal: Fell x 12 leylandii and crown unknown species to reduce height and improve shape and maintain trunk. Resolved: Approved the application.

(In planning matters the Council acts as a consultee of the principal authority, so it is Wiltshire Council that makes the decision.)

**Maiden Bradley Estate Wood Burner** - The Parish Council had noted the report received back from Fleur De Rhe Philipe on the issues highlighted at the last meeting. The Clerk was instructed to thank her for her intervention. The Parish Council felt that it should be noted that the estate should be commended for its swift response to the noise issues. Council would await news from Enforcement that they had finally closed the issue.

**Parish Steward-** The Parish Council asked the Clerk to inform the Parish Steward that from Yarnfield, left turn towards Kilmington Church, past the Farm towards Grange Farm the first part of the lane is covered in mud and debris and might need attention. There is a need to be watchful of the gullies and grips in the parish; they need to be kept clear to help reduce surface water flooding this winter. If you see any other areas in the Parish that need clearing of mud and debris, if channels require cutting through the verges to let surface water clear or if there are small pot holes that need filling in, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk or Clarence at Wiltshire Council. Parishioners can help the Council identify such issues and get them repaired swiftly.

**Project to install a Heart Defibrillator** -Council asked the Clerk to invite Richard Schofield from the Community Heart Beat Trust to a Parish Council meeting to discuss the involvement and costs for placing a defibrillator in the parish for parishioners use in an emergency. Parishioners are asked to note that if they are interested in the Parish Council taking on such a project in the Community and they would support it, that they are encouraged to come to the start of the meeting when he is present to join in on the debate. The date of the meeting he will attend will be advertised in the next Parish News issue.

**Tonne Salt Bag Scheme** – It was agreed to purchase a grit bin for £145.00. The Clerk was instructed to find out from Wiltshire Council as to when the order of salt would be delivered. The Clerk would contact the Somerset Arms to arrange delivery and the siting of the Grit Bin. The grit salt would be used for the footpaths and road down Church Street or anywhere that was deemed necessary to enable parishioners to access services in the bad weather.

**Consultation Speed limits increased for HGVs over 7.5tonnes** –Council agreed to respond to the consultation and request their support for the speed limit to stay as it is for lorries. The Clerk was instructed to reply on behalf of the Parish Council that given the village is in an area of AONB, there is no need to increase the speed limit which affect small rural parishes even more with speeding.

**Items for the next Agenda** – Precept

**Date of the next meeting.** The Council agreed that the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2013 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 and the Bus Stop Noticeboard.

Mrs Sarah Jeffries can be contacted by email on maidenbradleyipc@o2.co.uk, by phone on 01985 213436, or post to Parish Clerk, 9 Beech Grove, Warminster, BA12 0AB

## Christmas in Afghanistan

This is my last article, as I will be home mid-January at my 5½ month point, slightly earlier than envisaged, as luckily my job has come to a natural end. I am very much looking forward to some leave in Maiden Bradley before I start my next job.

This month has passed quickly getting work done before our UK counterparts departed for Christmas leave. We have also had a number of VIP visits, including Her Royal Highness Princess Anne and the Prime Minister. Sadly, I didn't meet either, but I know their visits were well received.

On the run up to Christmas the Adjutant General's Corps' (AGC) band visited us again and Camp Bastion formed its own military choir. The highlight for me was Christmas Eve, when we met en masse outside the cookhouse for non-alcoholic mulled wine (which tasted remarkably like hot Ribena – other brands are available!) and a warm mince pie. I have been told that approximately 1,000 soldiers attended, many wearing Father Christmas hats with their uniform and holding glow sticks. We then walked to the vigil site for a carol service led by our Padres and accompanied by the AGC brass band and our choir. I can honestly say I have never heard carols sung with such enthusiasm before and the memory will stay with me for a long time. I also very much enjoyed attending Midnight Mass.

On Christmas Day we were allowed a late start, although a fire alarm in my accommodation block put an end to the planned lay-in. My roommate and I opened Christmas presents together and then watched a film on a laptop. We chose Salmon Fishing in Yemen, which it turns out was the perfect choice, as it is a feel good film, which I can thoroughly recommend. Apparently the book is worth a read – I may well suggest it to the Book Club when I get back. We then had an excellent Christmas lunch with our colleagues and the cookhouse did us proud with turkey and all the trimmings, followed by Christmas pudding. The afternoon was filled with more carol singing (our own version of the 12 days of Christmas) and Christmas presents delivered by Father Christmas from UK4U, a charity which gives every service person on operations a tin filled with useful gifts.

I am now preparing for my final trips to Lashkar Gah and Kabul and will then start to pack up my room for my return via 24 hours in Cyprus to 'decompress', which is the Army term for letting your hair down and normalising before returning to the UK.

On a final note, I wanted to thank Carolyn and the team at KiwiKate in Maiden Bradley who very kindly sent me some luxury merino wool and possum socks, as they read in my last article that I was after some bed socks. They are gorgeous and I can thoroughly recommend them to anyone who also suffers from cold feet!

I look forward to seeing everyone in the village soon. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and I wish everyone a healthy and happy New Year.

*Lt Col Amanda Brown AGC (ALS)*

## Village Hall Lottery

### November

1 <sup>st</sup> Juliette Clarke	£23.00	2 <sup>nd</sup> Len Cooper	£11.50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mrs Chard	£6.95	4 <sup>th</sup> Caroline Male	£4.50

### December

1 <sup>st</sup> Carol Kenzie	£22.75	2 <sup>nd</sup> Stewart Male	£11.37
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mrs D. Snook	£6.88	4 <sup>th</sup> R. Stook	£4.50

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.

## A New Maiden Bradley Business



Caz Gunter is now a fully qualified driving instructor, and has just started up in her new business. She is offering lessons at competitive rates for beginners as well as refresher courses and Pass Plus. Block booking discounts and gift vouchers also available. Contact Caz on 01985 844796 or 07708608359.

### From Behind the Counter.....

Again I am happy to start my piece with a positive note on sales. In November we took £13851 (excl of VAT) so we have maintained the positive start to our new financial year. A big thank you to all our loyal supporters, please keep coming and please keep telling us what you want to buy.

December has been a busy month as expected. The Estate kindly donated a Christmas Tree for us, heroically decorated by Sam on the coldest day of the year to date – I do so love delegating!! The Christmas orders rolled in and we set about planning the Christmas campaign to accommodate all our suppliers odd delivery days and times and the lead-in days for orders. I doubt that even Amanda Brown has seen a more detailed Military OrBat (Order of battle for the non-military among you). D Day was Christmas Eve which gave us some nerves in relation to the time-scale available to recover any howlers. Cars were kept warmed ready to be despatched to anywhere that might still have a turkey or piece of ham if an order came in that was wrong. In the event, we were one 5lb chicken and 18 chipolatas short and a gammon joint that was half as big again as had been ordered. The chicken and chipolatas arrived late but intact and the gammon joint was accepted by the recipients who will probably still be eating it at Easter! Thank you to all of you for your forbearance and patience. It was a big learning experience for both Sam and myself and we were just relieved there were no disasters.

We are now looking forward to the New Year and to working together with our customers to make ours the shop that everyone wants. We have seen many houses change hands in our village in 2012 and I am sure that the presence of the shop has made this a desirable location to buy – let's ensure it stays that way by securing the future of the village shop. We are still seeking volunteers for various roles but we understand if you can't commit at this time. What everyone in the village can do though is use the shop even if only for the very basics (and we actually have so much more). Help me to help you to help our shop!!

*Kay Mayne*

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## Recipe - Smoked Haddock Risotto with Chives

750g naturally smoked haddock  
1 bay leaf  
1 litre cold water  
75g butter  
1 small onion  
300g risotto rice  
300ml dry white wine  
1/2tbsp. Dijon mustard  
2tbsp freshly grated Parmesan cheese, plus extra to serve  
2tbsp crème fraiche  
2 tbsp chives

Serves 4.

Place the fish in a pan that can accommodate it in a single layer. Add bay leaf, water and 25g butter. Simmer gently for about 10 minutes until just cooked. Lift the fish on to a plate to cool. Discard the bay leaf. Pour the liquid into a saucepan and keep just below boiling point. Finely chop the onion. Melt 25g butter in a sauté pan. Stir in the onion and cook gently for about 8 minutes until soft but uncoloured. Stir the unwashed rice into the onion and cook for a couple of minutes until all the grains are covered in butter. Add the wine and simmer until reduced by half. Stir in the mustard and add a ladleful of the hot fish water. Cook , stirring constantly until absorbed into the rice. Continue until all the liquid is used up and the rice is creamy but still retains a bite in the centre. Flake the cooled fish off skin and bones in bite-sized chunks. Stir crème fraiche and 2 tbsp Parmesan into the risotto, followed by the flaked fish and any remaining juices. Cover the pan, turn off the heat and leave for 5 minutes. Give a final stir, adding the last of the butter and freshly snipped chives. Serve dredged with Parmesan.

## Santa's Tour

Well done Maiden Bradley once again for your tremendous support of Santa's annual tour of the village. The grand total of £177.64 was collected to help fund the Christmas party. A big thank you to everybody involved in making it happen.

*Richard Cripps*

## Christmas Cards

I knew there was something I forgot last month! I should have said in the last MBPN that Les and I were reverting to our pre-Africa position of not sending cards around the village and sending a donation to a worthy cause instead. So the more observant among you who noted an absence of cards from the Mayne's and have muttered about parsimonious Scotsmen etc etc can now stop because we have given a donation to Alan Inwood for the Mere and District Linkscheme which benefits Bradley residents who have no direct access to transport.

*Kay Mayne*

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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](http://www.leapingfrogs.org) for more information.

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# James McCulloch

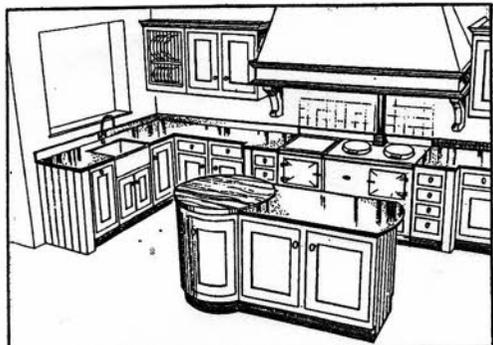
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