



Maer Village Newsletter

Village website – www.maervillage.co.uk

Maer Village Hall

Village hall registered charity number 503432



September 2021

Welcome to the September Newsletter

With Autumn officially started the village is still looking glorious. The weather was mostly lovely except for the day when a dedicated working party cleared the village hall car park, village pavements and church wall area. It poured down, so a huge thanks to Julia, Ian, Wendy, Linda and Sue for their fantastic efforts.



The proud new owners of the “shire horse” field are Val and Richard and we now have new equine residents. Welcome to Valentino and Marley who are definitely enjoying their new field and barn

CAFÉ SUCCESS

During August the café was open over three Sundays and is getting more and more popular, with Sandy providing us with an increasing variety of delicious bakery treats. Janet has also been selling her fantastic array of jams, jellies and marmalades. Customers are coming from Loggerheads, Woore, Madeley and Baldwins Gate as well as passing cyclists stopping for some much-needed refreshments.

NEXT CAFÉ – 26th September



NEW ARRIVALS - We have also had some new arrivals to the village. So a big welcome to Ade, Keely and Alfie who have moved into Number 7. Janet and Peter Beardwood welcomed their newest Granddaughter Chloe and we seem to have had a mini baby boom in the village!!!!



Baby Elsie May Rose was born on 12/8/2021
Congratulations to Alice, Gareth and Freddie (and Maggie!!!)

Baby Delphine Florence was born on 3/8/21 and became the newest resident of Stone Cottage. Congratulations to Ash and Jason



But we also had to say goodbye to a very dear friend and neighbour - Mary Fernyhough

Mary was 98 and she had been an absolute stalwart of this community for all of her life. She worked as a kitchen helper in the main Maer Hall and then went on to work in the Swynnerton Munitions factory during the war. She was involved in everything that happened in the village including the renowned Maer Country Show. She was a member of every committee; president of the Garden Guild and she was a member of the WI for over 75 years. She was an extraordinary lady, always dressed immaculately and she was full of fun, friendship and always had all the latest news to share.

Lockdown was hard for Mary, but her spirits were kept high by regular visits from friends and neighbours. She moved to Heyfields Nursing Home last September and soon became involved in all the activities and fun. She died there peacefully at the end of July with family by her side. Her service in St Peters Church was lovely with a brilliant eulogy by Wendy. Goodbye Mary – we will miss you



ART EXHIBITION

We were treated to a brilliant Art Exhibition in the village hall over the Bank Holiday weekend. Ian and partner Lindsay put on a fantastic display of Ian's work inspired by his walks around the local community. They very kindly invited Maer "Village People" to a sneak preview on the Friday night. Over the weekend there was a steady stream of people coming from far and wide to look at the paintings. Here are just a few pictures of the display



You can contact Ian on Twitter @flowerboxorguk and you can view more of Ian's work at "The Soden Collection" via Google, or to arrange a viewing contact Lindsay on frisby67@yahoo.co.uk

Church News from Wendy

Church services at St. Peter's have resumed their monthly pattern – 9.30 am on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. We are now able to sing again – but that singing would be helped if we had a regular organist to accompany. This is something we can pay for – so if anyone knows an organist who might be interested, do contact me or Vicar Nigel. The Church is now open 3 days a week for visitors and for private prayer – on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays 10 am – 4 pm.



"All good gifts around us" - Harvest Festival.

This year's Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday September 26th and all are welcome. For the second year running, concerns about Covid have put paid to the traditional Harvest Supper, but maybe next year 70 or so of us will be able to gather at the Village Hall to enjoy good food and good company.

Instead of the usual huge displays of apples, marrows, potatoes and other fresh produce – which has always been auctioned off during the Harvest Supper – we are asking for dried and tinned food to be donated. The intention is to distribute this to the Salvation Army and to Newcastle Food Bank. All donations will be gratefully received and passed on and the Church porch is always open.

Church Wall – the real brick

Ecclesiastical Insurance have confirmed that they are happy for a local civil engineering firm, Addpost, to be appointed to carry out the work necessary on the Church wall. The tender submitted by Addpost totalled £119,903.04 although the contractor hopes to complete the work for less than this. However, it will undoubtedly be a six-figure sum. Although this news is a huge leap forward, the contractor will now have to liaise with the local authority about giving notice and then closing the road before the actual work can take place.

It's been a long, long journey and it would have been even longer (and probably more expensive) without the dedication and commitment and tenacity of Andy Mainwaring. Many of you will know Andy. He has written and replied to countless emails, attended countless site meetings and patiently (most of the time!) moved Ecclesiastical Insurance towards a solution. So Andy is the real 'brick' who has given up so much time and effort to steer it all through.



Looking forward into the autumn.....

Remembrance Sunday will be marked as usual, on November 14th, with a service in Church at 9.30 followed by a short service up at the Cenotaph on the main road, which will include the minute's silence at 11 am.

Dates for your Diary – please share.



We have a brand-new club starting in the village hall this Month

Knit and Natter Club

Weekly event starting Thursday September 16th from 10am-12pm.

This is run by Shani Shultz from Baldwins Gate who is a brilliant crafter and knitter. You may remember her fantastic stall at the Spring Plant Sale Fair. Bring along your own needles and wool, but there will be spare if you don't have any. Beginners welcome and its just £3 a session, refreshments included. Come along to share or learn new skills

Maer and District Garden Guild

The next meeting is on **Monday 20th September at 7.30**

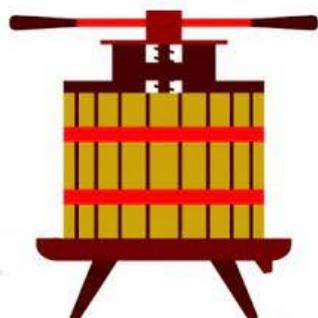
Doug Newton is telling us all about seasonal bulbs

All newcomers very welcome to come along and chat to fellow gardeners. Complimentary refreshments but bring along a few pence for the raffle

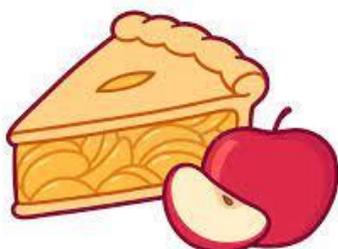
The growing challenge for this time is to grow **PINK** daffodils – all details given on the night!!!



Pink Daffodils!!



Bobbing for Apples



Apple Day

Sunday 10th October from 12-5pm in Maer Village Hall

We will have all the equipment for folk to bring along their own apples to press them and make their own apple juice. You can have bottles of fresh juice or we can pasturize the juice so it lasts longer (for later collection)

If you have friend or family members that can donate some spare apples then please bring them along.
(the apples and the friends!!)

We will have a produce stall of fantastic jams jellies, marmalades etc plus some apple themed bakery treats including toffee apples!!

The Human Fruit Machine is returning by popular demand and you can try your skill at apple bobbing. We will have two craft stalls and of course our famous community café will be providing hot and cold food and drinks.

As always we need lots of folk to run an event like this, so if you are able to offer your help to run the apple pressing, “man” one of the stalls, make cakes etc, help in the cafe or donate any prizes then please let any member of the village hall committee know or contact Sue on 07932955211

Thank you

Maer Calendar 2022

GET SNAPPING

We are really excited to be running this again this year and hope that we can create another fabulous calendar.

The village is blessed with so many fantastic rainbow displays during the year that we thought it would be a great idea for a theme – “colours of the rainbow”

So, if you are a resident of, or a friend of, Maer Village and you have any lovely colourful photos taken in and around this beautiful area, then please enter them in the calendar photo competition.

We would prefer landscape photos and you can enter up to FOUR photos showing different seasons if possible. They don't have to be professional in any way, just images you have captured during the different times of the year. And if you would like to name/identify your photos that would be great.

You will need to email or WhatsApp the photos to Sue Jackson

No later than 2nd October.

We need chance to get them all to the printers and receive them back again before the voting weekend

Email – sue.jackson521@gmail.com

You can email or send them now if you have already decided

Photo Display weekend

All the photographs entered will be on display in the village hall during the weekend of **16th/17th October.** The hall will be open from 9am-5pm, so please do come in and see them all and vote on your favourites that you would like to see in the calendar for next year.

We then compile all the votes to create another fantastic calendar for you to enjoy next year.



AND FINALLY.....

We are having our village hall committee on Monday 13th September. If you have any ideas of groups, events or activities that you would like to see happening in the village hall, or indeed the village community then please let one of the committee members know.....Thank you

Paul Adams - Chair
Sue Jackson -secretary