

# News from Maidwell

## Church Services

1 June	Family Service	11:00am
15 June	Holy Communion	11:00am
6 July	Family Service	11:00am
20 July	Holy Communion	11:00am

A BIG THANK YOU to Angela Palmer who has served on the PCC for over 20 years, as a church warden, reader, children sermon and activity leader and many more roles within the church. Thank you.

ALSO, A BIG THANK YOU to David and Ingrid CJ - David for tirelessly winding the church clock every week (this role will now go to Keith W) and Ingrid for her fabulous flower-arranging and church-decorating skills to make the church look stunning for Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Thank you. We will all miss you both and wish you well.



The Night Hike in March was a huge success – the children and adults enjoyed studying the stars, listening for animals and studying local area with head torches and night vision binoculars. The evening finished with soup and chocolates in the church (see photo). Another adventure is planned for September- date to be determined.

Movie in the church – Saturday **14 June 4pm** - movie and snacks. Come and enjoy a late afternoon film in the church. Film to be decided.

Ride and Stride will be on **Saturday 13 September 10am-5pm**. Enjoy a ride or walk around the local churches and help raise some money for the church and also Historic Churches.



**MAIDWELL OPEN GARDENS**  
**SUNDAY 8TH JUNE 11- 4pm**

**£5 per adult, Children are free, buy a ticket from any garden**

**Tea, Cakes, Filled rolls**

**Plant Sale, Croquet**

**Children's activities, Tombola**




Come and enjoy a stroll around the village  
 At least 7 houses will be open  
 Monies raised will go to the church and Air Ambulance.  
 See you there

## **The Loder Hall**

The AGM was held on 26 April and it was a pleasure to see a few residents in attendance. We can report that the Loder Hall is in good shape, both physically and financially, and remains a vital resource for our community.

The Hall is now host to a number of regular events that villagers are welcome to attend. These include The Kelmarsh Choir, U3A Science and Technology Group and Libra Full Moon Breathworks. Times and dates vary, so call Ann on 07939 124521 for details.

The Hall is available for your event at a very reasonable £10 for the first hour and £5 for additional hours. Tables, chairs and glasses are also available for your summer parties. Ann has the details.

## **Parish Council**

The Parish Council held its annual parish and general meetings on Wednesday 14 May. Penny Munro and Tom Paybody were re-elected as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. The Council were also delighted to welcome Mark Jackson-Stops onto the Council as a newly co-opted member.

The Council will be writing to Highways to get an update on the outstanding work on the main road, as well as two items relating to Blueberry Lane: the collapsed bridge just before the entrance to Dale Farm and the re-surfacing of the lane, which keeps being delayed.

The data from the Speed Indicator Devices is considered at every meeting and updates can be found on the Parish website.

The Council would like to thank Jonathan Davies and Kevin Parker, two of our old ward councillors. Maidwell and Draughton are now part of Rural North East and represented by Cecile Irving-Swift. Since the local elections, Kevin has retired and Jonathan continues to represent Brixworth. Both of them attended many of our meetings and worked hard on our behalf to raise issues and concerns within WNC. We are looking forward to continuing our partnership with Cecile.

The Draughton Club Room now has a very smart new roof and the Council were delighted to support the village, who have worked tirelessly to raise funds, by providing £2,000 towards the works. The Council welcomes ideas from residents for other projects/expenditure which could enhance our local environment or improve the lives of residents.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Wednesday 9 July at 7.30pm in the Loder Hall. All residents are very welcome to attend.

The contact details for the Parish Council are:

Clerk's e-mail address: [clerk@maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Website address: <https://maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk>

## **Maidwell-being coffee morning**

The next meeting will be on **Saturday 14 June 10am-12 noon**.

At the May meeting we had sweet pea plants available – thank you to Lisa Bates for her kind donation! The turnout was small, but those who attended were treated to VE Day commemorative cakes, which were delicious. Do join us for the next meeting - it's always a good chance to catch up with friends and neighbours.

Don't forget the recycling bins just inside the gate at Loder Hall for medicine blister packs, contact lens cases, old pens, used make up and toothpaste tubes.

Contacts: Amanda (07707 530720), Lynne (07785 790265), Paul (07710 096590), Mary (07703 291169) and Fiona (07903 137219)

## **Maidwell Wombles**

The Wombles were out on the A508 and the A14 Junction on Saturday 3 May. Either litterers stayed at home during April or the lush May vegetation hid lots of "treasure". Nevertheless, we still managed to fill 7 bags and the usual collection of car parts. Thanks to Carol, Juan Carlos, Tim, Andrew and Colin for their help. The next picks will be on Saturday 7 June and Friday 4 July. We will meet at 9am in June and 10am in July, 2 hours maximum. We would be delighted if you could join us! Please contact Colin on 07771 806094 for more details.

## **Maidwell Primary School**

Even though the warmer weather has been a little erratic it has been lovely to make use of the school field more often. Our Year 6 children are just about to embark on their SATs tests and we wish them all the luck for these. After this, the whole school will be gearing up for our end of year stage production. The entire school, from Reception to Year 6, will be involved with the singing, dancing and acting! Finally, we would still love to hear from anyone interested in the position at our school of Clerk to the Governors or even as a Governor.

### **Chair of Governors' Letter: Maidwell Primary School's Outstanding Ofsted Report**

As the Chair of Governors at Maidwell Primary School, I am absolutely delighted to share some wonderful news with our local community. We have recently received our Ofsted report from January 2025, and it is with immense pride that I report we have been rated as

*Outstanding* in 'Behaviour and Attitudes' and 'Personal Development' as well as *Good* across all other areas.

Ofsted praised the school for its "strong sense of community" and the "exceptional care and support" it offers to every pupil. The report states, "Pupils at Maidwell Primary School are happy, confident, and eager to learn. The school's small size and close-knit nature mean that staff know every child exceptionally well." These comments reflect the very essence of our school: a place where children are known, nurtured, and encouraged to thrive.

Ofsted also commended our diverse range of activities, saying, "Pupils benefit from a wide range of trips and activities that support their learning and development. Despite the small size of the school, the curriculum is rich and varied."

A particular selling point of our school is that our class sizes are smaller than many schools. In Years 3, 4, 5, and 6, the class size is often just 20 pupils or less, allowing for a better teacher-to-pupil ratio. This enables our dedicated staff to provide more personalised attention, ensuring that every child can reach their full potential.

Additionally, we understand that many parents in the community need support with their working hours, so we offer before and after school provision to help families balance work and life. The school also provides a variety of extracurricular activities, from sports clubs to music lessons, and enriching school trips, which help to broaden the horizons of our pupils. As we continue to grow and thrive, we currently have a few spaces available in Key Stage 2. While the school is otherwise full, these limited spaces offer a fantastic opportunity for new families to join our school and become part of the Maidwell community.

Lastly, I would like to invite members of the local community to consider joining our governing body. We are looking for new governors to help us with the strategic oversight of the school. No prior experience is required, as full training will be provided. This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community, ensuring that Maidwell Primary continues to flourish and provide a high-quality education for all our pupils.

For anyone who would like to read the full Ofsted report, it is available on the Maidwell Primary School website, where you can find more details about the findings and the areas in which we excel.

In closing, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the staff, pupils, parents, and governors for their continued hard work and dedication. Maidwell Primary is a very special place, and this Ofsted report is a testament to the incredible work being done here. We look forward to building on this success and continuing to provide an outstanding education for all our children.

Warm regards,

Thomas Wise

Chair of Governors, Maidwell Primary School

## **Other Maidwell news**

The church bells were rung to commemorate VE Day on 8 May. Thank you to those who rang and to the church's neighbours.

All the Maidwell news above can also be viewed on the Maidwell with Draughton website:  
<https://maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk>