

News from Maidwell

Church Services

6 September	Family Service	11.00am
20 September	Holy Communion	11.00am
4 October	Family Service	11.00am
18 October	Holy Communion	11.00am

Forthcoming events

SUPPORT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE'S BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES

RIDE, STRIDE & DRIVE

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Saturday 12th September 2026

between 10am and 6pm

Do something different – walk, cycle or drive
round Northamptonshire's beautiful churches
and raise money for NHCT and your own church



50% of initial sponsorship money received will be returned to
the church or chapel chosen by you
**Sponsorship forms and a list of open churches and chapels are
available from your local organiser: -
Amanda 07707530720**

Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust

Registered Charity No 1021632 For more details see our website: www.nhct.org.uk

HARVEST SUPPER 2026

Friday 25 September at 7.30pm in the church

£16.00 - cash bar and raffle

Come and enjoy a great evening

Help and donations needed

Contact Amanda

07707 530270

Save the date

Wreath-making in the church will be held between 11am-2pm in **early December - date to be confirmed next month**. All wreath bases and greenery will be supplied and if you would like to add your own baubles, decorations etc, please bring them.

A light lunch and drink will be supplied. Price £35. Please let Amanda know if you can come
07707 530720

The Loder Hall

The Loder Hall continues to host many activities that all residents are welcome to join, including a Singing Circle, Kelmarsh Choir, Elizabethan Dancing and Dog Training. Contact Ann on 07939 124521 for organisers' contact details and times.

Autumn is going to be busy!

12 September	Maidwell-being coffee morning with apple-pressing
4 October	Maidwell v Draughton Bake Off
10 October	Maidwell-being/Macmillan coffee morning
24 October	Quiz Night
14 November	Christmas Bazaar

If anyone would like a table at the bazaar to sell your crafts or other homemade goodies please contact Ann on 07939 124521.

Parish Council

Maidwell Hall planning application

Thank you to all residents who attended the Extraordinary Meeting on Tuesday 11 August regarding the recent planning application from Maidwell Hall. The re-consultation closes on 26 August. Comments can be made to the Planning Department via their website. The Parish Council continues to liaise with all guest attendees from the initial meetings regarding the A508 back in March and April and will share any updates at the next meeting in September.

Speed Watch volunteers

We currently only have four volunteers signed up to the scheme. We need a minimum of six before we can move to formally creating the group. All training is provided and funded. All we need is your time. Please if you are interested contact the Clerk on the email address below.

Councillor vacancy

The Parish Council have a vacancy for a Councillor. For more information, please contact the Clerk.

Next Meeting

Please note the change of date of the next meeting to Monday 7 September at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend and participate during the Open Forum.

Contact Details

Clerk: clerk@maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website: www.maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk where you can find all minutes for all meetings.

Maidwell-being Coffee morning

The next coffee morning is on **12 September 10.30am-12.00noon**, when we will also have the apple press in action, so bring along your apples and bottles for some delicious apple juice!

Book exchange

As you may have seen from the village WhatsApp group, the book exchange has had a tidy up and face lift, with Fiona and Lesley (honorary Maidwellian!) disposing of nearly twenty bags of books that were no longer in good condition and Paul repairing and painting the floor and installing new shelving (which was kindly donated by someone from Great Glen).

To maintain the exchange, please only donate books that are in good condition and that are likely to be of interest to others (e.g., is it a book you would pass on to a friend/will anyone want to read a children's annual from a couple of decades ago?).

We have had reports of people from outside the village using the exchange to dump books and toys – if you see anyone dumping items, please either ask them not to and/or let the Maidwell-being team know. If you have books that are not in a good condition, they can be recycled in the paper bins at Brixworth tip.

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 removing litter from the roads north of Maidwell on 18 July and 8 August, adding another thirty-nine bags of rubbish to our growing total. What an untidy nation we have become! Many thanks to Carol, Tim, David, Juan Carlos, Jo, Colin and Fiona for their continued efforts. The next pick will be on 5 September and new faces are always welcome. Contact Colin on 07771 806094.

Maidwell Primary School

Welcome to a new school year at Maidwell.

As we look ahead to the new school year, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our pupils and their families as they return to Maidwell in September. We hope everyone has enjoyed a happy and restful summer and we look forward to another exciting year together.

We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Natalie De La Salle, who will be joining Maidwell as our new Headteacher from September. Natalie joins us with extensive experience of school leadership and we are very much looking forward to welcoming her to the Maidwell community. We are sure that she will quickly become a familiar and valued member of our school and the village.

At the same time, we would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr Geoff Woods, who is retiring as Headteacher. Geoff has been part of Maidwell for an incredible 13 years as a teacher, including the last three years as Headteacher.

Throughout his time at Maidwell, Geoff has shown an unwavering commitment to the children, staff and wider school community. His leadership has always been guided by a genuine desire to provide the very best opportunities for every child, while preserving the warm, nurturing ethos that makes Maidwell such a special place.

As Headteacher, Geoff has led the school with integrity, kindness and determination. Those of us who have worked alongside him know just how much of himself he has given to the role. His commitment to Maidwell has extended far beyond the school day, with countless evenings and weekends devoted to planning, problem-solving, attending events, supporting staff and ensuring that every decision was made with the best interests of the children at heart.

Much of this work has gone unseen, but it has never gone unnoticed. His tireless dedication and willingness to go above and beyond have played a significant part in the continued success of our school. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Geoff for everything he has done for Maidwell and wish him every happiness and success for the future.

Places available at Maidwell

Maidwell continues to be a wonderful place for children to learn, grow and thrive, and we currently have spaces available in all classes.

If you know of a family who might be interested in their child attending our lovely school, please encourage them to get in touch. We would be delighted to welcome prospective families to visit the school and discover what makes Maidwell such a special community.

Could you become a school governor?

We are also looking for additional school governors to join us and help support the continued success of the school.

You do not need any previous experience of being a school governor. What we are looking for is people who care about the school and are willing to give their time and support. The commitment is to attend six meetings a year – one each half term – alongside providing support and challenge to the school as appropriate.

If you think you might be interested, or would simply like to find out more about what being a governor involves, please get in touch with the school. We would be very pleased to hear from you by contacting the school office.

We wish all our pupils and families a very happy start to the new school year and look forward to an exciting new chapter for Maidwell.

Tom Wise
Chair of Governors

Other Maidwell news

Project 508 – what it's about - *Christina Brookfield*

Maidwell is a beautiful village, but it's being treated like a through-route rather than a place people actually live. HGVs have been diverted onto the A508 and conversations with Highways have made clear this village is now absorbing a volume of traffic it was never designed for.

Project 508 exists to build the evidence base that's been missing. We've collected years of speed and volume data, and have surveyed all households across the villages and the responses skew heavily towards our older residents, many of whom have lived here for decades and now find it genuinely difficult to cross their own road safely. Alongside that, we've heard from people who can't sleep, who are too anxious to walk along the roads and even mental health issues due to the stress of the noise.

Maidwell isn't a village of one school, but two, meaning hundreds of children cross or travel this road every single day with zero safety measures for them.

Maidwell has, for too long, accepted what it's been given rather than demanded what it deserves.

Our children and our older residents have been an afterthought in decisions made about this road. If that doesn't change, this won't stay the village people choose to live in and stay in, it becomes a village people pass through or leave.

That's what Project 508 is fighting to stop, before it's too late to fight for it at all.

This isn't about opposing traffic on principle. It's about the law, the data and the duty of care owed to a village like ours.

Right now, that case is being built by a small handful of residents. This project runs on the time and effort of people like Lisa and me, doing what we can with the little support or funding on offer. But it's building a genuine picture, layer by layer, of where the system has let this village down and where it needs to do better. Maidwell is worth slowing down for.

If you would like to join us, please contact:

Lisa Baldwin (tel: 07961 748432 email: lisabaldwin290892@gmail.com) or

Christina (tel: 07961 449881 email: christina.legal.advocacy@gmail.com)

Maidwell and Draughton Bake Off



Bell-ringing

Our local bell-ringing branch (Guilsborough) will be holding part of their monthly practice at Maidwell church on **Saturday 3 October 6-8pm**. It is a year since the branch visited Maidwell, so we are looking forward to hosting the ringers again.

The annual Maidwell peal will be rung on **Wednesday 21 October from 5.30-8.30pm**. There will therefore be no practice session on Tuesday 20 October.

Thank you to all (most particularly the church's close neighbours) for your ongoing support and understanding.

All the Maidwell news above can also be viewed on the Maidwell with Draughton website: www.maidwellwithdraughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk