



# Maer Village Newsletter

Village website – [www.maervillage.co.uk](http://www.maervillage.co.uk)

Maer Village Hall

Maer Village Hall Registered Charity Number 1200870.



January 2023

## Welcome to the January Newsletter

Happy New Year and hope everyone had a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas. For the first time in three years, it was lovely to be able to spend proper time with friends and family.

Hope you are enjoying the first page of the new Maer calendar. I cannot quite believe we are into 2023 already and the snowdrops and daffs are already showing.

2023 is an important year for the village hall as some much needed (and very expensive) renovations are needed to the outside stonework. Just towards the end of last year, you may have seen a huge cherry picker at the hall starting some work.

## Christmas celebrations

We finished off the year with some great events at the hall and church. The decorations and light switch on at the village hall was great and thank you so much to the newly formed Activity Living Group choir for leading us in some carols.



The Christmas Café and craft fair was a huge success, really well attended and almost standing room only. There were some fantastic crafts and gifts for sale made by some very talented local people as well as Sandy's festive snacks and treats, and of course the always popular jams and jellies from Janet. Thank you so much to everyone in the committee, stall holders, friends and helpers that made these events possible.



## A Big Thank You from "The Orange Ladies"

As you know I am a member of the small but perfectly formed Potteries Fundraising group for ARUK. Over last year we held many small events and stalls, pulled fruit out of buckets, gave talks to the local community, ran quizzes, car rallies, and completed our own challenges. With the generous support from everyone including yourselves, our total raised last year was a **staggering £8000** And this is helping to fund research locally here in Keele University

If anyone has any ideas for us to be involved with for more "fun" fundraising, please let me know – thank you

## Church News from Wendy

### Christmas services

After 3 Christmases 'out in the cold', (very restricted services in church and only outdoor Carol singing), it was great to be back inside a warm, beautifully decorated St Peter's and even better to see people pouring through the doors for all our Christmas services – a real delight to see the church so full.



Not much progress to report on the quest for a new vicar, but the clergy who took our Christmas services did us proud, especially Megan Smith, Archdeacon of Stoke, who took the 9 pm Christmas Eve service at Chapel Chorlton, then took a Midnight service over at Sneyd Green but was back in ST5 to take the two services on Christmas morning, first here at Maer, then at Whitmore.

Christmas may be over but the church is still here and we're ready to welcome you whenever you come.

### Forthcoming Services:

Sunday 22nd Jan – 9.30 am – Family Communion (Gerald Gardiner presiding)

Sunday 12th February – 9.30 am – Family Communion (Stephen Habgood presiding)

Sunday 26th February – 9.30 am – Family Communion (Stephen Habgood)

## Regular activities at Maer Village Hall

### Knit and Natter

Every **Thursday Morning from 10am – 12noon**

New members always welcome please contact Shani on 07929118221



### Table Tennis Group

Tuesday from **6.00 -7.30pm** and **Wednesday from 6.30-7.30pm**

Please come and join in for some social fun or competitive games

For further details contact Harry on 07768992065

### Yoga

We are still trying to get some more sessions at the village hall for this new year. Keep a look out for news via the WhatsApp groups



ADVANCED NOTICE!!!

## Maer Calendar 2024

We know you have only just started using your 2023 calendars, but we thought you might like more notice of the theme for next years calendar so you can have more chances to take some stunning photos **"Skies of Maer"**, and there is no "limit" to what you can photograph around here.

So anything to do with the sky – sunrises/sunsets, dawn/dusk, clouds of all shapes and sizes, rainbows, moons, stars, shooting stars, aurora (if lucky), lightening, and other things in the sky – helicopters, balloons, birds and murmurations

Get snapping from now and we will have an amazing display for the competition in October -Thanks





# Dates for your Diary



## COMMUNITY CAFÉ DATES

**This Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January - 10.30-3.30**

and

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February - 10.30-3.30**

Come and join us for some more delicious food, drinks and treats and a catch up with friends and neighbours

## Garden Guild Meetings

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm at Maer Village Hall**

Annual General Meeting of the Guild, plus a look back at all the events last year

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm at Maer Village Hall**

Mary and David Lovatt will be presenting an illustrated talk of their trip to RHS Bridgewater

**Both events free and refreshments provided**



**Staffordshire  
Wildlife Trust**

North West Group – Chairman David Lovatt -Tel 01782 680250

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30pm Eccleshall Parish Rooms**

### **Hedgehogs**

Talk by Joan Lockley from the West Midlands Rescue Centre  
Plus short AGM



**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm Maer Village Hall**

**Life in the Undergrowth -a brief encounter with the  
invertebrates of Staffordshire**

Talk by Simon Van Toller



**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm Eccleshall Parish Rooms**

### **Great British Birds**

An illustrated talk by Ashely Grove

**Admission to all talks is £3 which includes refreshments**



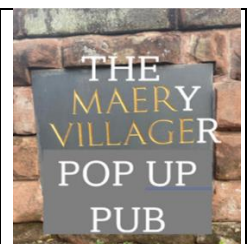
## **“The Maery Villager”**

**at Maer Village Hall**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February from 7pm till 11pm**

The pop up pub is open again for some very special birthdays within the village. Harry, Wendy and Ian will be celebrating their joint 205 years!!!!!!

Beer on tap, wine, gin, prosecco, soft drinks, party food and games. All welcome.



# Climate Change Event

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023 - 7.15pm Maer Village Hall



Maer Village Hall trustees and Maer and Aston Parish Council invite you to attend this new and innovative event

The evening starts with an introduction from **Staffordshire County Councillor, Simon Tag** in his capacity as Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure and Climate Change. He will give an overview of the County Council's climate change activities and will introduce our two speakers...

**Ryan Langley who joins us from Zero Carbon Rugeley** (ZCR). ZCR provide renewable energy technologies and smart control systems to deliver clean, affordable energy for residents. Discover more about this scalable energy solution that can be replicated in other areas in support of the UK's transition to a zero-carbon future.

**Rob Whitehouse from Waste Savvy Staffs**, who'll be telling us how we can reduce, recover and recycle waste at a local level, to make a global difference. There's lots of ways for you to get involved!

This community event is **FREE** to attend, and refreshments will be available. Donations towards costs and the village hall's upkeep, would be very welcome on the night. Bring your purse/wallet! Thank you

## Maer Village Hall AGM - Public notice

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 7pm at Maer Village Hall

Everyone is invited to attend Annual General Meeting of the Maer Village Hall Charity  
The aim of the AGM is to review the business of the charity for the last year, review the accounts, vote in the elected officers and confirm the committee/trustees

If you would like to attend, please contact Secretary Sue Jackson on  
[sue.jackson521@gmail.com](mailto:sue.jackson521@gmail.com)

**Did you know that the Maer Village Hall is a Charity managed by a small group of volunteer trustees and runs solely on funds raised or donated?**

There will be a full committee meeting following the AGM where the committee/trustees will discuss the plans for events and activities at the hall for this year.

So, if you have any thoughts or ideas of fundraising, events we could run, or any activities you would like to happen in the hall this year, or you would like to offer your support, then we would love to hear from you.