



Maer Village Newsletter

Village website – www.maervillage.co.uk

Maer Village Hall

Village hall registered charity number 503432



January 2022

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2022 and Happy New Year

Despite all the lockdowns and restrictions, weather events and terrible power cut last year, the community grew ever stronger and we were still able to have so many fabulous events in the village. We had the new groups of table tennis and Knit and Natter using the hall and we welcomed back yoga and the scouts. We had our first ever plant sale fair and fantastic Apple day and the weather was amazing for the Church walks/afternoon tea event. The creation and growth of the community café was absolutely superb and became a real heart of the community as well as attracting many visitors to the village.

We had some sad losses of dear friends and neighbours last year, but we were also able to welcome new babies, new neighbours and new families to the village who have all joined in with the variety of activities and groups within the community.

2022 has set us challenges already. The Covid pandemic still has a firm grip and will unfortunately limit our community activities for a while longer. Several folk unfortunately caught the virus towards the end of the year, but thankfully made a speedy recovery. Needless to say, please stay safe and well and if anyone needs help with anything then please just ask.

Huge thanks to everyone who came to the hall during the power cut weekend to get the hall decorations, nativity display and tree put up - a true community effort

Thank you also to Julia, Tannah and Cerece for the new stars for the tree and stable. I hope you agree that the outdoor tree this year was brilliant (thanks to Amanda for sorting)



The Christmas Craft Fair and Café organised by Sandy was a massive success. Many new craft stalls were there as well as home made cards and gifts from folk in our community, and a fabulous tombola run by the church. The food was, as usual, delicious and again the whole day was really well attended



Purely Dogs was one of the businesses affected by the fire at Slaters. The village hall was offered to them free of charge to be able to run some pop up shops to enable them to trade before christmas

There was a fantastic choice of food, treats, toys, leads, bowls etc. Well done Carol and staff.



The shop isn't at the village hall during the road closure but the team are still able to take delivery orders for food etc -you can contact Carol on 07749218382

They still aren't able to get back into their unit in Slaters so we wish them all the best and they might be back for more pop up trading at the village hall – watch this space.

Church News from Wendy

Christmas Carol Concert

Despite several changes to the plans and some murky weather the Maer Carol services went ahead. Everyone met at the village hall where we had a short service and sang several carols. Warm mince pies and mulled wine were enjoyed by the hardy gatherers. Well done Wendy and Nigel for making it happen

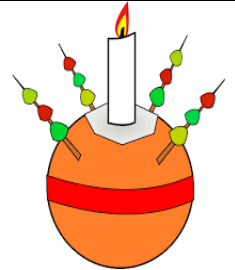


Work on the wall is not preventing Church services from taking place and there are three this month – on the 9th, 23rd and 30th.

- Sunday 23rd January – 9.30 am – Family Communion
- Sunday 30th January – 9.30 am – Christingle (Benefice Service)

January 2022 has five Sundays and the 5th Sunday is marked in our 3 churches (Chapel Chorlton, Maer and Whitmore) by holding a Benefice Service – one service for all 3 parishes. Sunday 30th is Maer's turn and we are holding a **Christingle**, an old Moravian custom celebrating Jesus Christ as the Light of the world.

An orange, representing the world, has a candle, representing the light of Christ, put in the top, and is decorated with red ribbon and sweets. Many churches have a Christingle at Christmas; our tradition has been to hold one on the Sunday closest to Candlemas, February 2nd, another festival of light (and also Groundhog Day) If you've never been to a Christingle, come and join us at Maer on 30th January.



The reconstruction of the church wall has finally started (nearly two years on) and this has led to the road being closed for several weeks. Whilst this is great that this is happening, the diversion when they are working is miserable especially for folk going to work and school. But at least it is open at the weekend. Thanks to Elena for the informative letter and liaising with the construction company. They have made great progress just in the first week and hopefully they will be finished by early February.



Regular activities at Maer Village Hall

Knit and Natter

Every Thursday Morning from 10am – 12noon

** This is cancelled during the road closure and is hoping to restart in early February once the road is open again. If you are interested in joining the group than please contact Shani on 07929118221



Table Tennis Group

Tuesday and Wednesday from 6.30-7.30pm

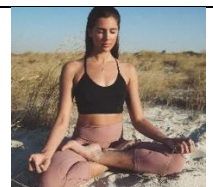
This will continue as able during the month. The tables will be available to use with small numbers or couples. We are looking for more members to join so please contact Harry on 07768992065

Yoga with Pip

The Thursday sessions at the village hall with Pip are on hold at the moment

Hopefully they will be back up and running soon

For further info please contact Pip on <https://www.yogawithpip.com/>, or 07787077846



NEWS from the Parish Council

Mobile Library

After consultation...and pressure from the Parish Council and Borough Councillor Paul Northcott, the good news is that the Mobile Library will be returning to stop at Whitmore Village Hall. It visits fortnightly commencing January 21st, 2022, from 10:20-11:00 am. Its next stop is at Standon, by the school, 11:20-12:35 pm. Please try and support this library because if it is not used enough it might be withdrawn again

Dates for your Diary – please share.

Maer Community Café

The next planned café is on [Sunday 23rd January from 11-4pm](#)

If you want a change of scenery and some delicious food, cakes and drinks then please come along. "Janet's Jars" (jams, marmalade and jellies) will also be on sale
The tables will be socially distanced and all covid rules applied

Maer Village Hall AGM - Public notice

Monday 31st January, 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 accounts, vote in the elected officers and confirm the committee/trustees

We are hoping that will still be run as a face to face meeting, but should circumstances change then it will be run via zoom. (a link will be provided)

If you would like to attend, please contact Secretary Sue Jackson on 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.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust -Northwest Group

There are several talks planned over the next few months

The next meeting is **Friday 4th February at Eccleshall Parish Rooms at 7.30pm**

The details of all the meetings are on the [back of this page](#)

The Whitmore and District Activity Living Group

The planned meeting on Tuesday 11th of January has been cancelled

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 8th February from 2- 4pm at Whitmore Village Hall**

Maer and District Garden Guild

The next meeting and AGM were supposed to be held on Monday 17th January, but due to current covid issues and the road closure this will now be held on **Monday 21st February at 7.30pm, Maer Village Hall**

AND FINALLY

The birthday flag will be flying high and proud on Tuesday 11th January
Our oldest resident of the village Freda Clarke will be celebrating her 95th Birthday.
Freda is one of our most active members of our community and gets involved in everything – village hall tidying, making cakes and jams, running stalls, and is one of the first members of the Knit and Natter group

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FREDA

