

MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGER ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Number 157

March 2013



Newsletter Editor Robert Latham
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MMPA covers transport aspects in Maidenhead - Marlow, High Wycombe and Twyford - Henley-on-Thames.

Annual General Meeting

On the reverse of the newsletter is the call for the MMPA AGM to which all are invited to attend. We anticipate John Goldsmith, Area Community Relations Manager, Crossrail and senior managers from First Great Western and Chiltern Railways will be attending.

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Reading Station Redevelopment

A reminder for those who plan travel at Easter on FGW territory here is notice of rail closures; these are the key dates:

Friday 29th March until Monday 1st April:

Airport Junction - Slough Maidenhead - Didcot	All lines closed
Slough - Maidenhead	All lines closed on Sunday 31 st March only; bus replacement.
Henley, Marlow and Windsor branches	Open
Reading – platform 2 (Basingstoke) and platforms 4/5 (Waterloo/Gatwick)	Open, all other platforms closed.

Tuesday 2nd April to Saturday 6th April:

All routes	Open but to amended timetables.
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Sunday 7th April:

Maidenhead - Didcot	All lines closed; bus replacement. Additional bus Twyford to Wokingham
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Where lines are closed, First Great Western will provide diverted trains or buses to enable customers to complete their journeys. A comprehensive timetable book is available from stations and at the AGM or go online at <http://www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk/Train-times-and-tickets/Train-times/Planned-changes>

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Assistance needed

MMPA is seeking assistance with the operation of the Association. In particular we seek:

- A General Secretary
- People to monitor planning applications in the area and advise MMPA of any that might impact the alignment of the line between Bourne End and High Wycombe.
- A volunteer to keep our social networking sites updated
- Representatives from the commuting community who can provide updates and feedback on their travel experiences and issues.
- A representative to monitor and report issues with Furze Platt Station.

Please contact us at secretary@mmpa.org.uk for more information if you are willing to help out in one of these ways.

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Membership Matters

Membership subscriptions for 2013 are due on 1st April except for new members who joined after 1st January. I shall be very pleased to receive renewals at our AGM on Friday 22nd March. If you pay by cash please make sure you get a receipt from me to ensure that your payment is recorded; if you pay by cheque just hand it in with the renewal form.

There are no changes to the fees this year which are £4 for individuals, £5 for families and organisations, and £3 for concessions (Senior Citizens and students in full time education). A renewal slip is enclosed with this newsletter, or attached in the case of email deliveries. Cheques should be payable to "MMPA" and, unless you are coming to the AGM, sent to MMPA Membership, 23 Switchback Road North, Maidenhead SL6 7UF.

If you wish to pay by internet banking please use sort code 60-14-12 and account number 72748745, plus your MMPA membership number as the reference. Please also email me so that I know you've paid.

Data Protection Act - members' names and addresses, including email addresses if applicable, are held on a database and we will not pass them to third parties unless we are required to do so by law.

Richard Porter (ricp@mmpa.org.uk)

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Bourne End Bridge

Work on the repair and maintenance of Bourne End bridge was due to have started on January 15 but due to the the strong river currents the contractor cannot use their barges to carry supplies and scaffolding necessary to carry out the work safely. They are waiting on better conditions to start work.

(As at 18 February there is definitely activity although it looks like all things that can be done working from the track bed, not from the river which is still running fast and high.)

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Chiltern Railways

Chiltern Railway's period 12 performance was good with a period Public Performance Measure result of 94.38% which put Chiltern third in the national league table. The MAA (Mean Annual Average) rose to 94.61% comfortably ahead of the 93.75% Franchise Agreement requirement measured on 5th January 2013. The Passenger's Charter punctuality MAA has risen steeply to 94.1%, well ahead of the 92% trigger level. Whilst challenges of fleet reliability, infrastructure reliability and the hazards associated with timetable change and winter weather remain, it is of note how much better performance is now compared to this time last year.

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

BBC Radio Berkshire:	95.4, 104.1 FM, DAB, or 311333	08459 -
National Rail enquiries:	08457 - 484950 (24 hrs)	
First Great Western:	08457-000125 (0700-2200 daily)	
Chiltern Railways:	08456 - 005165 (08.30 - 17.30)	
Arriva Bus:	0844 8004411 (0900 - 1700 Mon - Fri)	
First Berks Buses:	01753 524144	
Carousel Buses:	01494 533436	
Traveline:	0871 2002233 (0700 - 2200) 10p/min on BT landline	
RBWM helpline	01628 796666	

Also see our web site www.mmpa.org.uk for links.

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Contact MMPA

If you have any issues or comments regarding public transport in the area that you would like to raise please use the *Contact Us* links on the MMPA website www.mmpa.org.uk.

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