

MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGER ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Number 161

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MMPA covers transport aspects in Maidenhead - Marlow, Taplow, High Wycombe and Twyford – Henley-on-Thames.

AGM arrangements

On the reverse of this newsletter you will find the notice and details of the forthcoming MMPA AGM on Friday 28th March. In addition to the nominated speakers there will also be a representative of the Crossrail project who I expect will be able to take some questions about the project.

MMPA also seek members who would like to help out by joining the committee. If you are interested in working cooperatively with others to improve transport in our local area, please let us know via the website or at the AGM. In particular we are looking for regular commuters and a Furze Platt station representative. Even if you can't commit to committee work, we would welcome assistance from anyone with experience with social media, publicity, general administration, or strong connections to local authorities and community groups. Ensuring a sustainable future for our railway and related transport links is a real team effort that will be most effective with participation from members with varied experience and background. Thanks for your support!

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Weather travel disruptions

There can't be many people not aware of the continuing travel disruption being experienced in the Thames Valley and elsewhere in southern England. It does look as though disruptions will continue for some time to come which will often involve replacement buses. MMPA has previously received many reports about inadequacies of the arrangements which we have raised with FGW. We would particularly like to receive your reports on experience with replacement buses, good as well as bad. It was recently noted that passengers at Maidenhead Station were having to wait up to two hours for their bus connection.

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Marlow Station housing proposal

A developer has submitted proposals to build housing on the site of the old coal yard next to Marlow Station. MMPA has objected to this to the Planning Authority as we understand that as submitted this would cause serious access problems for maintenance of line. Network Rail has also submitted a holding objection. If the plans were to go ahead this could put line between Marlow and Bourne End at risk.

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Crossrail

The contract to build new trains for Crossrail has been awarded to Bombardier for the trains to be built in Derby. There have been exchanges of correspondence between MMPA and the Government regarding the lack of provision of any toilets on these trains despite the potential for journeys in excess of one hour. We were informed that toilets on stations on the route will be upgraded where necessary and kept open during running hours. This would presumably require stations to be staffed for extended hours which would seem to fly in the face of the McNulty Report.

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Membership Renewals

Once again it's time to ask for your membership subscriptions which fall due on 1st April except for new members who joined after 1st January this year. I shall be very pleased to take subscriptions at the AGM but if you pay cash please make sure you get a receipt from me.

The subs are unchanged at £4 for individuals, £5 for families and organisations, and £3 for senior citizens and students under 18.

Cheques should be payable to "MMPA". Thank you all for your support over the last year.

Richard Porter

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TRAVEL INFORMATION

BBC Radio Berkshire:	95.4, 104.1 FM, DAB, or 08459 - 311333
National Rail enquiries:	08457 - 484950 (24 hrs) or www.nationalrail.co.uk or text
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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**MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD
PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION**



*Covering Maidenhead - Marlow, Taplow, High Wycombe
Twyford - Henley-on-Thames*

Annual General Meeting

Friday 28 March at 7.30pm

Bourne End Community Centre

With presentations by

TIM SPARROW

Vice Chair, Sussex Community Rail Partnership

MARK MILLER

Community Rail Officer, Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership (Hampshire)

*and senior managers from First Great Western
and Chiltern Railways*

Hear all the latest and get answers to your questions about what's happening with our railway

www.mmpa.org.uk