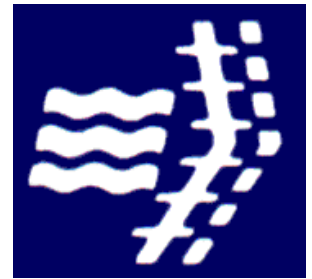


# MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 165  
March 2015

Newsletter Editor Robert Latham *Email: [newsletter@mmpa.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@mmpa.org.uk)*



MMPA covers transport aspects in Maidenhead - Marlow, Taplow and High Wycombe

## AGM arrangements

On the reverse of this newsletter you will find the notice and details of the forthcoming MMPA AGM on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March. In addition to the nominated speakers we expect representatives of Network Rail, Chiltern and Crossrail to be available who would be able to take some questions.

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 including station representatives who can report issues at their station. Even if you can't devote time 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!

\* \* \*

## Marlow Branch improvements

Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (BTVLEP) has agreed to extend its government 'Growth Deal' for the county by another £8.8million between 2016 and 2021. Among the investments, the business-led group plans to improve the rail link to provide a half hourly direct service on the Branch to and from Marlow. Richard Porter, webmaster and membership secretary and Robert Latham, newsletter editor of MMPA have been quoted in the Bucks Free Press and Maidenhead Advertiser respectively supporting the move. First Great Western, which operates the Branch, would oversee the project and install a section of track at Bourne End to allow two trains an hour to continue to Marlow.

\* \* \*

## Henley Branch

The Committee has decided that with the successful establishment of the Henley Branch Users Group (HBUG) MMPA will no longer take an active interest unless requested. The Committee is in discussion with HBUG as to whether they wish to consider taking over responsibility for Twyford station. Twyford Village Partnership will also propose to monitor the station.

\* \* \*

## Timetable distribution

The Committee has decided that, given the over £200 cost of distributing timetables (which currently seem to become inaccurate during their currency) to all members twice a year we should only do so where members positively request them – the "opt-in" solution rather than taking the "opt-out" approach whereby we would continue to distribute them unless members said they did not need them. The membership renewal form is being amended to incorporate this information.

## 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 the 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.

\* \* \*

## Crossrail

With the contract to build new trains for Crossrail being awarded to Bombardier MMPA continues to press 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 operating hours. This would presumably require stations to be staffed for extended hours which would seem to fly in the face of the McNulty Report which advised reduced staffing of stations to save money.

\* \* \*

## 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 revised at **£5 for individuals and families** and **£10 for organisations**.

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

*Richard Porter*

\* \* \*

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

BBC Radio Berkshire:	95.4, 104.1 FM, DAB, or 08459 - 311333
National Rail enquiries:	08457 - 484950 (24 hrs) or <a href="http://www.nationalrail.co.uk">www.nationalrail.co.uk</a> 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](http://www.mmpa.org.uk) for links.

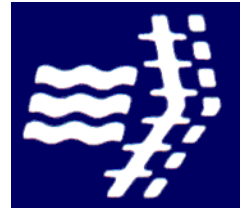
\* \* \*

## 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](http://www.mmpa.org.uk).

\* \* \*

**MARLOW - MAIDENHEAD  
PASSENGERS' ASSOCIATION**



*Covering Maidenhead - Marlow, Taplow, High Wycombe*

# **Annual General Meeting**

**Friday 27 March at 7.45pm**

**Bourne End Community Centre**

*With presentations by*

*senior managers from First Great Western*

*We hope also to have representatives of Chiltern Railways  
and Crossrail attend and be available to answer questions*

*Hear all the latest news and get answers to your ques-  
tions about what's happening with our railway*

[www.mmpa.org.uk](http://www.mmpa.org.uk)