

TRANSPORT NEWS February 2024

The Maiden Newton Ring and Ride service (01305 228965) is run by Dorset Council's passenger services, to Dorchester on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The bus leaves Maiden Newton Old School at 10.00 returning from Trinity Street at 13.00 or earlier if passengers agree. Ring before 15.00 on Mondays and Wednesdays to book for yourself and any children or visitors. These buses will start at Cattistock Square by request at booking. Fares £2.50 single £5 return. Children half price.

Dorset Community Transport is the Dorset part of the ECT Charity. They provide 3 bus services in this area. To use any of these services you must first register with the Charity (**01258 287987**) and then use the same number to book your seat and arrange your pickup point, before 1430 on the day before you want to travel. Each adult return fare is £7 on all 3 services. Children may accompany adults, but seats must be booked for them. **DCT now accepts the national pensioner concessionary bus passes.**

Every Wednesday to Dorchester the bus, from Broadwindsor to Dorchester, passes through Maiden Newton. The pickup point is in Dorchester Road at the corner of Church Road. The return service leaves Trinity Street at 13.00. or earlier. Ring by 14.30 on Tuesdays to book your seat, confirm your pickup point and check the time of the bus.

Thursdays to Yeovil on 8 and 22 February the bus leaves the Dorchester Road stop at 09.28 by the Garage and the War Memorial at 09.30. The drop off point is close to M&S and the return service leaves from the same place at 12.00. Book by 14.30 on Wednesdays.

Every Friday to Bridport the bus leaves the War Memorial at 09.15 and the return service leaves Bridport about 12.00. Book by 14.30 on Thursdays and confirm your pickup point.

On the third Friday of each month, we also have a service to Dorchester provided by the Dorchester Disabled Club. Pick up is from the passenger's own home about 9.30 and the return is from outside the Dorchester Library at 12.30. Fare £5 return. The February bus is on Friday 16. Please contact Di Minty on 07833995274 to book and for more details.

All the 3 service providers can supply buses with wheelchair facilities if requested at time of booking.

Country Cars.

Please call mobile number: 07833 074423 in order to request and book transport for essential, medically related needs to, e.g. GP surgery, hospital appointments, dentists, opticians, or to attend COVID and flu vaccinations.

This drivers' service is purely to support the elderly and vulnerable in getting to these appointments.

Please give at least 24 hours' notice.

Drivers are also needed for Country Cars!

The volunteers who take anyone registered at Maiden Newton surgery to medical/dental appointments, need more helpers. If you drive and have maybe an hour per week, please consider joining us. The advantage is that lifts can be given only if you have time. The more drivers we have, the fewer trips each one makes. We "earn" 50p per mile and the gratitude of the immobile or those patients whose appointments cannot be reached by train or bus.

In the first instance contact Marlene D'Allen on 07564 244602.

Trains

Maiden Newton to Dorchester and Weymouth

Monday to Friday

0757 0958 1157 1356 1556 1756 1912 2015 2244

Saturdays until 9 September

0757 1000 1045 1112 1157 1357 1557 1800 1912 2003 2245

Saturdays from 16 September

0757 0958 1157 1357 1357 1557 1800 1912 2245

Sundays

1012 1127 1337 1532 1941 2245

From Dorchester West to and from Maiden Newton to Yeovil, Westbury, Bath and Bristol

Monday to Friday

From Dorchester West 0651 0746 0944 1143 1342 1544 1742 2027 2141 Not Friday

From Maiden Newton 0704 0759 0959 1158 1357 1557 1757 2040 2154

Saturdays until 9 September

From Dorchester West 0651 0746 0944 1144 1344 1544 1748 1859 1951 2032

From Maiden Newton 0704 0759 1001 1159 1358 1558 1801 1914 2005 2045

Saturdays from 16 September

From Dorchester West 0651 0746 0944 1144 1344 1544 1748 2032

From Maiden Newton 0704 0759 1001 1159 1358 1558 1759 2045

Sundays

From Dorchester West 0812 1112 1428 1612 1806 2024

From Maiden Newton 0825 1125 1441 1624 1819 2035

GWR drivers are on strike on Monday 5th February. Check times on www.gwr.com/Check

There may be alterations to services on the evening of Sunday 4th and on Tuesday 6th.

Sally Falkingham - Maiden Newton and Frome Valley Parish Transport Rep. 01300 320969