



Mawsley Villagers Association

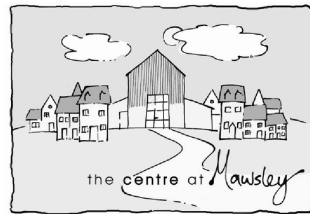


Newsletter

Christmas 2009

The Centre at Mawsley

A New Beginning for 2010!



Jane, The TCAM Team and I, would like to take this opportunity to say a very **Happy Christmas** to all of our customers. Thank you for your continued support through a difficult financial year. We look forward to a fantastic Christmas period and hope that you will join us to celebrate over the holiday.

As you can see below, we have listened to your feed back from last year and extended our offering over the Christmas period and we hope to see you and your family soon!



You will also be pleased to see that we have brought forward our regular bar opening times to 12noon every day.

There will also be a food menu to accompany this very soon. Our aim is to serve reasonably priced food, with a traditional 'Pub Grub' theme

- Lunch time sandwiches & toasties
- In the evening, classics such as Steak and Ale Pie, Scampi & Chips, Cottage Pie, and a Daily Special.
- We will be introducing a special kiddies menu from 'schools out' time.
- Also a Senior Citizen's menu to cater for the likes of Graham Leah and Bob Littler.
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In the New Year, we will be launching our meeting & conferencing facilities offering. We believe this will be a great way to utilise spare TCAM space in the daytime.

Although we expect to attract customers from outside the village, we would be pleased to provide facilities for villagers who require meeting and conference facilities for their business.

Please contact me at penny-tcam@btconnect.com

The Family Room:

We currently use this space for the children, allowing what should be supervised play, although parents tend to sit in the bar. Although this is not formal policy, it has proved to be a pragmatic solution to the original problem of children in the bar.

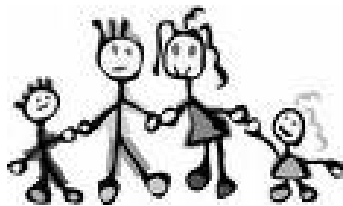
The room is predominantly used for this purpose on Friday & Saturday evenings in the winter months with very little use at other times/seasons.

It is also used by a mother and baby group on Monday mornings and between 3pm and 5pm Tuesday/Thursday by the children changing for their dance lessons.

Our intentions are to refit the room to use as an 'extended bar area'

This would:

- Give scope to accommodate more people
- Have a social area separate from the main bar for families to sit in
- Provide an area for food (separate from main bar)
- Provide a reasonably versatile space



Making that room a family room means that children will have more access to the lounge area than at present. A good idea for many adults; a bad idea for many adults. Staff will seek the co-operation of parents to ensure that children do not behave in a way that becomes a nuisance to other users.

Overall we feel this addresses the issues making better use of an under-used facility whilst at the same time meeting the requirements of as many people as possible. Won't be everybody we know!

Along side this we are now altering The Centre Children's Policy to:

- No Children under 14 in the Bar after 9pm (this includes the extended bar area)
- 14-16 year olds are allowed in the Bar after 9pm but **must be closely supervised** by an adult.
- 17-18 years allowed in the Bar after 9pm.
- When in the Bar area all children should be seated at a table with the relevant supervising adult.
- Disruptive behaviour will result in individuals being asked to leave TCAM.

To accommodate the children changing for dance lessons, Miss Katy has now booked a changing room and we ask that you change your children in there.

Changes will take place on the 1st December 2009.



We will also be reviewing how we can make The Centre more attractive to more people more of the time. Plans are not yet finalised but one thing we anticipate is being much more specific about when sport can be viewed on the TV. Not everyone, by a long chalk, wants to watch it. There does need to be a consistent policy about when it will be shown and when it will not – so that if you are planning to come to The Centre you will know what to expect. On the other hand when it is shown we are aiming for a better experience than when watching it at home.



We know that our task is difficult, BUT it is our aim to make you the villagers proud of the facilities your TCAM offers. Whether it is a simple drink in the bar, business meeting, party or wedding, we will continue to improve and to do the best for our village. Please help us by passing the word. Your recommendations are our primary form of advertising.

So as you can see we will be making a number of changes over the next few months and we ask for your feedback, to assist us in getting this right for you and for our community. Please email penny-tcam@btconnect.com with your feedback. Alternatively if you would like to book The Centre at Mawsley, please email bookings-tcam@btconnect.com or call 01536 799528.

If you would like to receive an email flyer with, special offers, freebies and updates on events being held at The Centre at Mawsley, please email penny-tcam@btconnect.com with the subject 'add to flyer'.



Dates for your Diary

Mind, Body and Soul Fair - 5th December, from 10.30am

Main Hall, includes spiritual readings, complimentary therapies, free talks and demonstrations, a variety of gift and health stalls.

Walgrave & Mawsley Amber Cup Match - 5th December

Blush Beauty Evening - Friday 11th December.

From 7 – 10pm in the extended Bar Area. Relax in the bar and pop through for a treatment from Blush Beauty. Idolz will be here as well with the GHD's and Black Cat Boutique Clothing Co. too.

Santa's Grotto - 12th December.

In the Main hall 2pm-5pm sponsored by Mawsley Amateur Dramatics. £2.00 per child.

Christmas Quiz Night - Thursday 17th Dec

In the Main Hall followed by a bit of a party!! Your host for the evening is Mr Rob Castley.

Christmas Raffle Night - Wednesday 23rd December

Lot's of Christmas goodies to be won throughout the night. Buy your numbered squares at The Centre now.



December Bar Specials

House Double G & T only £2.50
Whisky Mac £2.50
(While stocks last)

**A warm welcome
is waiting for you!**



Lounge Bar opening times over the festive period



*As normal up to Christmas Eve
Christmas Eve 12noon – 10pm
Christmas Day 12noon – 3pm
Boxing Day 12noon – 6pm*

27th Dec – 30th Dec 12noon – 10pm

*NEW YEARS EVE 6pm – late – Strictly ticket only
1st Jan CLOSED*

2nd Jan onwards open as normal.



Opening times

The Lounge Bar is now open from 12 noon everyday.
Watch out for the New Bar Menu coming soon.



We look forward to seeing you soon!



Penny Feasey, Centre Manager

TCAM Vacancy

*In the New Year we will be looking to employ somebody part time at the centre.
The applicant should have some previous bar and kitchen experience.
The hours will be flexible, three days a week including some evenings and weekends.*

To apply please send your C.V with a covering letter to:

**Jane Twisleton
The Centre at Mawsley
The Green
Mawsley
NN14 1GY**



Mawsley Money

A New Year resolution

Village Expert

I love this time of year, as I assume do many Mawsleyites judging by the number of trees and lights that are already up around the village. All we need is the snow to start on Christmas Eve so we wake to a white Christmas! It is a season that brings hope, a time when many people make major plans for the future; a new career, a change of address, a new body shape or a promise to spend more time around the family.

So will you be making resolutions for the New Year? If you are, I wonder if one of your resolutions for this New Year is to review and plan your finances for the coming year? To do a thorough job you need to spend around 4 to 6 hours to go through your current situation, review your spending and plan your large purchases for the year ahead.

Go through your direct debits and standing orders, question each one. Are you paying too much for your insurances? Could you earn better savings rates by moving your money? Are you buying things more out of habit than necessity? Will you be buying your major purchases from savings or with a loan? Are you saving enough for the future?

If at this point you are tempted to throw in the towel or stop reading then let me tell you that it is estimated that every household could save themselves £3000 (yes three thousand pounds) on average over the course of the year by doing a full spending review, and I'm sure that earning £500 per hour is worth the time sacrifice and a great way to start the new year.

Merry Christmas
Sam Mudd



smudd@tiscali.co.uk

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL December 2009

We have posted to every household a publication called Spotlight - Report to the People. This lets you know what we have been doing over the past year to deliver the things you said you want us to deliver. It also includes a section on our budget consultation and gives you a chance to influence where the county council spends your council tax next year.

We want as many people as possible to join the debate and give the county council a strong view of what you want your money spent on in Northamptonshire. This will help us make sure that our detailed draft budget being published at the end of this year for formal consultation properly reflects the services and activities people in the county tell us are important to them.

We deliver a vast array of services, all of which are paid for by a mixture of your council tax and other income such as grants and government funding and like everyone else, we are facing difficult financial challenges and will have to make some tough decisions when planning our draft budget for 2010/11.

Although we are working hard on putting together our budget, as always, I will be pleased to continue to help with any individual problems or issues you may have with County Council services, just get in touch if you need it.

JIM HARKER
County Councillor, Kettering Rural
01604 236982 jharker@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Village Updates

See the 'Group News' to find out what our many clubs and groups have been up to this year.

MAINTENANCE ISSUES AND THE ADOPTION PROCESS

I'm pleased to be able to report that Taylor Wimpey have authorised their local managers to proceed with a progressive works programme to bring our village up to the required standards on road and pavement surfaces prior to adoption.

This will entail a detailed survey, tendering for work to be auctioned early 2010, starting with phase 1 and hopefully adoption by County Council.

Taylor Wimpey is also in negotiation with Anglian Water to complete the work necessary on the storm water and drainage system.

Most of the street lights lamps that were reported have been fixed. There are 7 lamps and all the traffic signage lights still inoperative because they have never been connected. Again, this work is in hand and hopefully resolved as soon as possible.

The alteration to the traffic island at Loddington Way/School Road to facilitate the revised bus and gritting route is also being dealt with.

The problems within the building industry and local authorities on the un-regulated adoption process, which we raised with Phillip Hollobone MP, is now subject to review with the Department for Transport and our local council representatives.

Tom Sanders 07836 254252 t.sanders01@btinternet.com

Mawsley Issues Raised in Parliament!

In November, I was fortunate enough to be selected by the Commons Speaker to hold a Parliamentary Debate on an issue close to the heart of every Mawsley resident – the public adoption of residential roads. This debate was held on the main floor of the House at the close of business on Wednesday 11 November in the presence of the Minister for Transport.



The transcript of the debate can be found by accessing the following website:
www.theyworkforyou.com/mp/philip_hollobone/kettering.

Scheduled to be just half an hour long, because the rest of the business had collapsed early, I was able to speak for over 40 minutes and relate direct to the Minister the problems being caused in Mawsley by this issue. In fact this is the longest Parliamentary speech I have ever made!

During the debate I emphasised that this is a very big issue for my constituency.

“In my constituency, the main community affected is Mawsley, a new, model village that has been under construction for some years now. The problem is that Northamptonshire county council, despite its best endeavours, can effectively adopt land as highway land only if the developer wants it to do so. It has no power to require developers to hand over land for adoption, and it rightly takes the view that it will adopt land only if the developer has brought it up to the right standard.”

As a result of the debate, I will be setting up a meeting with officials from the Department of Transport, so that our local councils can discuss with them how legislation can be improved so that developers can be forced to get highways up to adoptable standards far more quickly.

Philip Hollobone

Bob's Big Bang Theory!

And what a bonfire! Bit too much of one actually. Gives a cheery atmosphere though don't you think?

We've had good reports from the night. Changing the fireworks to a more aerial display worked well.

As ever, many thanks to all those who helped in some way, be it selling tickets in advance, building the bonfire and / or acting as marshals. Plus our own brave warrior firework-lighter-uppers and the staff of The Centre - especially those freezing, sorry working - on the outside bar.

Plus you - for turning up in such good numbers.

Net result was a profit for the night, including a £750 donation from Barclaycard, of £2149.88. This excludes bar takings of £2,670.

Bob Littler



MVA Accounts

Detailed below is the summary status of the MVA Ltd. accounts, for the year to date. The accounts have now been loaded onto a commercial accounting system, which will save us time and money when preparing the year-end figures for the Charity Commission. There are some adjustments arising from this c.f. the figures I showed in the previous newsletter.

	Receipts	Expenditure
Mawsley Advertiser	£9,377	£2,044
Fun Day	£5,854	£3,507
Quiz Nights	£700	£374
Grants	£3,500	£0
Bonfire Night	£5,292	£2,892
Youth Club	£356	£2,553
The Centre	£0	£2,174
Contribution to cost of children's play area	£0	£3,500
Other	£1,146	£1,611
Total	£26,225	£18,655
Surplus	£7570	

Notes:

- Receipts include total grants from Barclaycard of £2,250 (Fun Day £1500; Bonfire Night £750). We are most grateful for their invaluable help.
- Youth Club includes wage costs of people hired to run it.
- Bonfire Night includes £250 receipts from last year paid in this year.

Bob Littler

Mawsley Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Hello everyone

First of all a big thank you to Jane Calcott and Jayne Breeze for hosting the Neighbourhood Watch meeting at The Centre in Mawsley on Monday, 23 November 2009. We had a good turn out and it was refreshing to see so many people wanting to join in to help keep Mawsley a safe and peaceful village.

If anyone was unable to attend the meeting but would like to join the Scheme, please let me have your name, address, email address and telephone number and I will contact you with a form to register shortly.

This is the festive Newsletter but please do remember though that it is especially at this time you make sure that you do not let the thieves spoil your celebrations. Keep all Christmas gifts out of sight. Make sure that you keep doors and windows locked when you are away from your property. The same goes for your vehicles - keep them locked and remove all traces of sat navs, mobile phones and other goodies, which are attractive to the opportunist thief.

Most of all, have a Very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year!

For more information on NhW or if you have any questions, please contact me on 01536 791844 or email me at heathermallinson2004@yahoo.co.uk

Heather Mallinson

OLDER CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Well, I can't say that the response to asking you what you thought about the outline proposals for the older children's play area, held at The Centre for four days, was numerous; however I shall press on.

Regardless of whatever particular equipment we aim for, the fundamental fact is that the majority of the money to pay for it will have to be raised; village funds can only cover a small proportion of the total cost. There are external grants available, it just requires time and effort to apply for them.

So come on; help and make a difference.
Or go without!

Bob Littler

We all want our older children to be safe yet have the opportunity to become more independent. A recreational area in our village designed to keep them active and entertained would be a superb way of achieving this. I know my eldest child is already outgrowing the existing park so I will be on hand to help move things forward - **how about you?**

Kids' Corner



Just for fun ...

Can you solve these 2
word yuletide anagrams?
Answers on back page.

- 1 STRETCHAMISER
- 2 NESTLINGHIT
- 3 SULTANASAC
- 4 RUSTLEDVOTE
- 5 TYKEGLUER
- 6 THAINAILSCONS

How many words
can you make
using the letters in
'Merry Christmas'?

Get Creative!

I know you are all very busy
writing your letters to
Father Christmas but I
wondered if you could spare
a little time to get creative?

My Christmas tree needs
decorating. I don't mind if
you paint, draw or stick on
your decorations, as long as it
is **REALLY COLOURFUL!**

You don't even have to use
my tree. Draw your own and
make it as big as you like!!!

When your tree is finished
you can post it to
Emma Brown at
3 Long Breech, Mawsley.

There is a special surprise
for the best decorated tree!

**Don't forget to put your name, age
and contact details on the back.**

Closing date is Friday 18th December 2009.

Good luck!



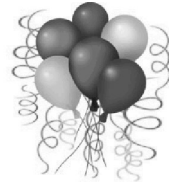
Kate and Rob Kirk
are proud to announce the birth of their
son
OSCAR CHARLIE KIRK
born on 28th October 2009.



A little brother for Nevaeh,
his older sister, aged 3.

Also, thank you from Marg and Ken for a
beautiful Grandson to go with a beautiful
Granddaughter.

Happy Birthday
Eva-Mae Hart!



Have a fantastic day
XXXXX
Lots of love

Mummy, Daddy, Sienna and all of your
family and friends

Happy Birthday
Claire Farthing!
XXXXX



Village Celebrations!



CONGRATULATIONS TO
BEN GARTON AND HIS FRIEND,
HARRIET WHO WON THE 'BEST GUY'
COMPETITION ON BONFIRE NIGHT
FOR THEIR GUY - MAWSLEY MAN!



Do you have something to celebrate in 2010?
If it is happening between 14th January and 11th
March – then let us all know!

Contact emma.janebrown@yahoo.co.uk
with the details by Thursday 14th January.

Well done Tracey and
Neil Baker and
The Centre staff
for a fantastic Evening of
Puddings and Shopping.

£234.50 has been
raised for Arthur.



Ben, Harriet and Mawsley Man!

Thank you to all the people
who have supported the
youth club,
especially Sara and Martin.

I couldn't have done it
without your help.

Thank you
Allan Macdonald

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
to you all!



Many thanks to everyone who supported the
Mawsley CP School Christmas Fayre.

Special thanks go to all the kind volunteers
who gave their time to set up, run a stall and
tidy away the tinsel and glitter!

Happy Christmas from the FOMs

Group News

Next newsletter deadline is Thursday 14th January. Please send your contributions to emma.janebrown@yahoo.co.uk

Team Manager
Walgrave and Mawsley Amber F.C.



Walgrave and Mawsley Amber F.C. is one of the oldest established clubs in the Northants Combination league, and is fortunate to enjoy some of the best facilities in the county at its base at the new Mawsley village community and sports centre. Due to outside personal commitments, our current manager has indicated a desire to step down as soon as a suitable successor has been identified and transitioned in.

The new team manager should have a proven track record and share the club's vision of firmly re-establishing itself in the top tier of Northants local football. The club is exceptionally well financed and the manager is supported by a longstanding and very well organised committee, allowing the manager to concentrate on the team activities.

Should you be interested in this post please, in the first instance, contact the club chairman Kevin Simons (07500-846292) or the club secretary, Jackie Gardner (01604-781786).

Daisy Pre - school

Since starting back in September we have had a lot of new children joining the pre-school and they have all been very busy. They have looked at various festivals including Diwali where we made candle holders out of clay and Bonfire night when we danced like fireworks and did some very messy flick painting. The children really enjoyed the topic autumn, collecting all the leaves and using them in their role play to pretend they were squirrels and hedgehogs getting ready to hibernate for the winter.

We would like to thank all of the parents and children for supporting us to raise money for Children in Need. The children dressed up in spotty clothes and we had a cake sale that raised £17 in total.

So now we are looking forward to Christmas with great excitement. We will be making lots of cards and decorations and having a Christmas party for the children.

All of the staff and children would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
Stacey Evans

Mawsley Cherokees Walking Club

Well Folks, we must be improving, we've only been lost a couple of times this year - still isn't that what it's about! We've now completed the 2010 programme of which there are 14 walks to tempt you, starting as usual with our annual New Years Day stroll to The White Horse, Old.

Those wishing to join us please meet at the 'footpath to Old' sign on Broughton road at 11am. If you wish to book a meal please ring Amy or Lee direct on 01604 781297

Also note we are reintroducing fortnightly evening short walks between May - July, these proved popular a couple of years ago and this is by 'public demand' ???

Kindest Regards for Christmas & the New Year

*Steve & Pamela Draycott slduk@f2s.com
791681*



Mawsley Gardening Club

What a great year we've had! The bulb fields of Holland, Chelsea, Kew, Gardener's World, Ryton and so on.

The Gardening Club's momentum is certainly upbeat and next year's programme looks just as good, if not better!



As per usual a year's programme of events has been arranged. Look out for GARDENER'S QUESTION TIME Thursday 11th March 7pm at TCAM with Johnny Amos and panel from Radio Northampton.

We really must have a Village Garden Meeting (TBA) and of course discuss our annual club holiday!

Kindest regards, Steve & Pamela Draycott
slduk@f2s.com 791681

SCOUTPOST
CUTTING THE COST OF CHRISTMAS!

1st Mawsley Scout Group
Will be delivering Christmas post



15p per card

We deliver to:-



Barton Seagrave Desborough Loddington
Rushton Braybrook Geddington Mawsley
Walgrave Broughton Grafton Underwood
Newton Warkton Burton Latimer Isham
Orton Weekly Old Cranford Kettering
Pytchley Cransley Little Cransley Rothwell

1st collection Tuesday 1st December
Last collection Wednesday 16th December
Collection box will be positioned in One Stop.

Scout Car Boot Sale - postponed!

The Sanctuary Annual Review 2009

I would like to use this opportunity to thank everyone from Mawsley who have supported The Sanctuary through its first full year of being open.

Without the unyielding loyalty of all our customers, The Sanctuary would not be where it is right now. We are a place to come and relax, chat, meet friends and business acquaintances and enjoy the atmosphere that has been created over the last 20 months by you, the customers.

The Sanctuary has become more than a Coffee Shop & Bistro. It is a central place in a large village that sometimes still feels isolated. The majority of the villagers that come to us have become friends and, as our popularity grows from people who live away from Mawsley, it would be great to make some new friends from those that live here.

As Christmas approaches, I look forward to welcoming many of you, to celebrate the festivities and toast the successes of The Sanctuary in 2009.

I wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Adele

Mawsley Coffee Club



Mawsley Coffee Club is for those who are retired, both men and women, and for those who are approaching retirement. This year we have continued to have our coffee mornings in each other's homes and we conclude these events with our Christmas Coffee Morning which will be held at The Sanctuary on Wednesday 2nd December at 1030a.m. Please come along and join us if you are able.

Our outings have included a trip to Oundle, visiting the Foxtail Lily garden centre, some shopping and lunch at the Coffee Tavern - a most enjoyable day out. We also went to Foxton Locks for lunch and a trip on the river, Poddington Garden Centre, Birmingham for shopping. Our last trip of the year is to Rockingham Castle for an 1840's Christmas around the castle.

11 members are off to the Thursford Christmas show on Sunday and we will conclude our year with our annual Christmas Lunch at the Overstone Arms where 28 members will be attending. It has been a most enjoyable year. Sadly Pat Ellis had to give up organising for the Coffee Club but Molly Shortt and Jean Wilson have taken over this task. Our thanks go to Pat for all she has done over the previous years.

If you would be interested in joining us for our coffee mornings and outings for 2010 please call either Molly Shortt 790781 or Jean Wilson 799490.

Mawsley Church



It's that time of year again. More stress.... and this year there is not so much money about! Advent is a time of waiting but we don't do much of that any more do we. As we wait for Christmas we at Mawsley Church and the Parish Church of St. Andrew's Cransley have a variety of services and activities arranged. December 6th is a special Cransley Praise, a time for all the family to think about Advent. Then on December 13th we are having a Messy Christingle in Mawsley. This will be held in The Centre at 11am. Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without carols. Tuesday 22 is carol singing in the village, why not come and join us. We meet at 6pm outside the Centre. On Christmas Eve our Parish Church has Nine Lessons and Carols at 6pm. This is a traditional carol service with readings about the Christmas story. There will be a Choir from St. Andrew's Kettering joining our own small choir and as usual it will be standing room only, so get there early. Finally on Christmas Day we have a short Celebration service at the Centre starting at 10am.

We hope and pray that your Christmas will be special and you experience something of the true reason for the season.

Have a truly Blessed Christmas!

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms or anything else spiritual contact Rev'd Richard Priestley 790140.

This is your local church

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|----------------|
| • Dec 6 th | Cransley Praise, St. Andrew's Church | 10:30am |
| • Dec 13 th | Messy Christingle @The Centre, Mawsley | 11:00am |
| • Dec 20 th | Communion @ St. Andrew's Cransley | 9:30am |
| • Dec 24 th | Carol Service @ St. Andrew's Cransley | 6:00pm |
| | Midnight Communion @ Broughton Church | 11:30pm |
| • Dec 25 th | Celebration @ the Centre, Mawsley | 10:00am |
| • Dec 27 th | Carols with Communion @ Broughton Church | 9:30am |

Everyone is welcome.

Mawsley Watercolour Group

We are a small friendly group that generally meet once a week to enjoy a couple of hours painting with watercolours, and sometimes with acrylic paints and watercolour pencils. Occasionally, we have a tutor to help us. This year we have organised outings to Thorpe Reservoir, Cransley Woods at bluebell time and a morning painting in a back garden. The highlight of the year was a visit to Bulwick Park where we enjoyed coffee, cake and a cream tea in the afternoon. Our painting is purely for pleasure: we haven't felt inspired to initiate an art exhibition yet!

Beginners are very welcome to join us.

For further information please contact Joan on 791 661



Baby and Toddler Group

Thursday 9.30am until 11.00am
The Centre at Mawsley
£1.50 child
Snack, craft, toys, singing session

Join us for our Christmas party on Thursday 10th December – usual time and price. Mr Crumble will entertain us and Father Christmas will visit with a present.

We will not meet on Thursday 24th December or Thursday 31st December 2009.

For more information please contact Sarah 790517

Mawsley Village WI



Well, here it is again, Christmas shopping in earnest, so much to do but we mustn't forget to stop and look around at the lights, music, decorations and enjoy it and be thankful we are in a privileged position to be able to do it!

We as a WI have had a good year with some enjoyable events. Our fundraising, although not always as successful as we hoped, has enabled us to donate to the Gardening Club for their project of a 'Garden of Reflection' which we hopefully can all enjoy and also M.A.D. So look forward to the pantomime, if anything like the last one, we are in for a treat!!

Our next year's programme is out so if you would like one please call any of the numbers below. Everyone is welcome to share an evening with us, perhaps there will be something you would like to try such as the 'Tai Chi' in January, a nice relaxing start to the New Year.

As mentioned, we are a lucky lot to live in Mawsley, whilst we may all be struggling a little, we as a WI are aiming to help ladies who are not so fortunate. The 'Ogango Sango' project helps such ladies to have a life, most have lost their husbands and have no means of support. This project gives them back that life and enables them to support themselves and their families on an amount we would probably spend in the shop. So with Christmas upon us try to spare a thought for those less fortunate than ourselves and enjoy your Christmas with a gladness in your heart.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year.
Brenda Quinn and the Ladies of Mawsley Village WI.

07767477519 or 799116

Mawsley Community Primary School

During October and November the children have been busy learning about a variety of different topics including: The Great Fire of London, The Seven Continents, World War 2, The Ancient World and Afghanistan. In addition:



- Children in Years 5 and 6 spent an enjoyable day doing a number of different Mathematics activities related to chocolate.
- As part of their History project Year 6 visited Holdenby House near Northampton to learn about life in a big house in Victorian times.
- A group of Year 2 children spent an enjoyable afternoon working with Year 2 children from Hall Meadow Primary School on a creative writing project.
- A group of children in Year 5 have been using their initiative to find ways to raise funds to help endangered animals.
- Year 3 and 4 travelled to Beaumanor Hall to take part in a number of learning experiences related to World War 2.
- Following an assembly by Revd. Richard a number of families very kindly put together a number of gifts to donate as part of the local Shoebox Appeal to help children in other countries.
- Our Year 2 children did very well when they took part in and won a local Gymnastics competition.
- A group of Year 5 and 6 children also enjoyed taking part in a recent Futsal competition.

Everyone is now looking forward to the Christmas period and our younger children are working hard on learning their lines, songs and actions for our Christmas performances.

Elaine Wright, Head teacher

MAD



MAD has invited Father Christmas to Mawsley to raise some funds for local charities. He will be in his sleigh being towed around the village (the reindeer are having a rest) and we will be carrying buckets to collect your donations. So when you hear the Christmas music, come to your door, say hello and throw your money in the bucket please. Father Christmas will wave to the children but he cannot let anyone near the trailer as we have to abide by his safety rules! Father Christmas will come round on three consecutive evenings (weather permitting) between 6 and 8pm.

Thursday 10th December: from Long Breech, Badgers Lane, The Centre and then onto Cowslip Hill, Ellis Lane and The Green

Friday 11th December: from Ellis Lane down to Loddington Way and Main Street etc.

Saturday 12th December: Loddington Way and the roads to the front of the village

If anyone is able to give up a couple of hours to help us with the collecting buckets, please contact Pat Downing on 791881 as she is organising the list of helpers.

Come to see Father Christmas in his Grotto at The Centre on Saturday 12th December in the afternoon between 2 and 5pm. Entrance fee is £2 per child payable at the door (to include a small gift). We also hope to be able to offer tea, coffee and a mince pie at very reasonable prices for any older children (I think we also call them parents) who turn up.

In the meantime everyone at MAD would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all at our pantomime in March 2010.

Vic Cope

Village Views



Celebrating the Young People!

Thank you to all the young people in and around Badgers Lane who behaved impeccably on Halloween night whilst still getting into the 'spirit' of the event with great fancy dress. Credit to them all.

Nicola Hoy

Kind Hearts of Mawsley

It makes me feel proud to be a resident of Mawsley when I see the long list of charity events going on.

An Evening of Puddings and Shopping, Mawsley Charity Ball, Virgin Vie Night, Coffee Morning at Mawsley Day Nursery to name but a few. They have all been in aid of a very brave and special little boy.

Well done to all of you - Tracey, Sarah, Helen, Victoria, Katrina and the many others who have organised and attended these events.



We went to the School Fayre and we loved visiting Father Christmas. The Winter Wonderland was amazing and we loved our presents.

*Thank you FOMs and Father Christmas!
Love from William, Maddie and Phoebe*

IT'S TIME TO SAY A WARM THANK YOU!

It's nearing another year's end - how was your 2009? Good, great, sad?

For Pamela and myself, it's our 8th Christmas here and, on reflection, truly a life changing move, what a great village community we have here. Just ponder on it for a moment ... we cannot overstate how pleased we are to be part of it. There are issues but that will always be the case.

Therefore let's encourage and pursue the many fantastic things happening around us all and appreciate them just for a moment.

The almost endless flow of unsung heroes everywhere, putting hours of their own time in just for us, Groups & Clubs all over the place and a more basic warmth within our parish, that can only come through time - our time.

Our own special times - playing in the Panto (thank you cast and Debbie), making over £350 in less than two hours on the Tombola, collecting bottles with Mark, our neighbour and friend, armed only with a wheelbarrow and a clown's outfit PLUS A BAR ENTRANCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!!! Enjoying the Walking, Gardening & Craft Clubs. The list is endless... Top Tip - if there's not a Club for your 'interest' then START ONE!

In Conclusion folks, the above are all bonuses.

JUST BEING HERE ON A DAILY BASIS IS ENOUGH FOR US!

THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.

Steve & Pamela Draycott



Thank you to Steve and Pamela who have been strong supporters of the newsletter through their regular contributions.

In fact,, big thanks to all of the newsletter contributors.

A Merry Christmas to you all and very best wishes for 2010.

Broadband - thin on the ground?

Hi...I am a recent resident of the village and wanted to find out if there is any petition to BT to improve the broadband service to the village. After speaking with BT, I understand that the village is connected to the Broughton exchange and anybody who connects to the Internet will get less than 1MB download speeds as opposed to a potential of 20MB.

To improve the speed, BT needs to install fibre optic technology and upgrade the exchange. If Mawsley residents were to form a petition to improve the exchange, BT would be forced to consider the upgrade.

Therefore, I have set-up a petition online for Mawsley.
The link is <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/21CN/>

Regards

Aaron Anthony



A Final Thought from Bob

As we climb into the end of the year fun and frolics it's perhaps a good moment to reflect on developments in the village over the past 12 months or so. These include the new play area; Fun Day; pantomime; crime and the associated police response - and Mawsley mentioned in Parliament!

You can read more about the fantastic work Tom Sanders has been leading in his article. This led to our local MP Philip Hollobone raising the issue of adoption of roads in new developments in a special debate in the House.

Of course there's a seemingly almost endless list of activity that has continued through the year too.

So it's thank you to everybody who has helped in some way.

On behalf of the MVA, The Centre, and the Parish Council,
I wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and a fulfilling 2010.

Bob Littler

ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS ANAGRAMS

- 1 Christmas tree
- 2 Silent Night
- 3 Santa Claus
- 4 Turtle doves
- 5 Turkey leg
- 6 Saint Nicholas

<i>Mind, Body and Soul Fair</i>	<i>Saturday 5th December</i>
<i>Walgrave & Mawsley Amber Cup Match</i>	<i>Saturday 5th December</i>
<i>Blush Beauty Evening</i>	<i>Friday 11th December</i>
<i>Santa's Grotto</i>	<i>Saturday 12th December</i>
<i>Christmas Quiz Night</i>	<i>Thursday 17th December</i>
<i>Christmas Raffle Night</i>	<i>Wednesday 23rd December</i>
<i>Advertiser deadline</i>	<i>Friday 8th January 2010</i>
<i>Newsletter deadline</i>	<i>Thursday 14th January 2010</i>
<i>Mawsley Charity Ball</i>	<i>Saturday 6th February 2010 (NOW SOLD OUT!)</i>

Diary

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