

A dramatic sky with sunbeams breaking through clouds over a village. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. The clouds are dark and textured, with bright light streaming through them. Below the sky, a village with stone buildings and green fields is visible.

THE MAWSLEY VILLAGER

SUMMER 2016

VILLAGE POND GETS A MAKEOVER

OUTDOOR GYM "A STEP NEARER"

SCHOOL SPORTING SUCCESS

SUN COMES OUT FOR FUN DOG SHOW

SOME VILLAGERS ON THE FENCE!

"SUNBURST OVER MAWSLEY" BY DUNCAN WEBSTER

MAWSLEY COFFEE CLUB



The Mawsley Coffee Club is for village folk who have retired or are approaching retirement.

Throughout the year we arrange a variety of events and outings, including coffee mornings, occasionally with a speaker, and visits to local places of interest. These are combined with the opportunity to enjoy good company, have some fun and discover places where tasty refreshments are served.

A warm welcome is assured. For more details please contact Molly Shortt on 01536 790781 or Jean and David Wilson 01536 799490.

We recently enjoyed two outings, using the Shire Community Services minibus. We visited the Leicester Cathedral and the Richard III Visitor Centre and had a history/mystery trip around the pretty villages of Northamptonshire.



Welcome to THE MAWSLEY VILLAGER.

The new colour version of the village newsletter!

Firstly, let me introduce myself to you all as the new volunteer Editor of the newsletter. My name is **Sandra Fernandes-Neto** and I have recently moved into the village with my family after living abroad for the past 18 years. I am a Northamptonshire girl originally and its wonderful to be home again near to family and to life in an English village.

Before settling on a house in Mawsley, I was given a copy of the village newsletter and it really made the community feel of the place stand out from all others. On arriving this was really evident by kind neighbours offering help, welcome cards and flowers and advice. To me that made Mawsley special and I wanted to play my part. I believe the newsletter is one important way to keep our community united and informed about what's happening and to celebrate what we are doing in the village and to let us know how we can all support and get involved if we so choose.

So on hearing we might lose the newsletter, I decided to volunteer. But as a working Mum I can't do it alone so I am sharing the task with **Robert Castley** (Layout & Design) and **Rob Bailey** (Advertising) . The newsletter will be quarterly and articles and photos are very welcome. The more local advertisers we can also tempt back, the more funds we will have to support the costs.

The Mawsley News is for everyone and I would like to set up a letters page for the next edition so please feel free to send me your comments, questions, thoughts to sgfn@hotmail.co.uk (titled Newsletter). All articles welcome.

Enjoy the summer!

Sandra

MAWSLEY VILLAGE FUN DAY SATURDAY 9TH JULY, 2016

MAWSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Update on proposed Outdoor Fitness Equipment



Further to our note in July 2015 edition of New & Views concerning Outdoor Fitness Equipment, the Parish Council thought that an update should be posted.

Four manufacturers of equipment have been contacted and meetings held to obtain advice and quotations for consideration. Based on overall value for money the Council have decided at this stage to proceed with one of these companies. Funding has been applied for and we await a response. The option selected offers the following

six items of equipment installed with grass mats to act as wear-pads to protect the grass surface. The actual site has yet to be decided but will be on the playing field perimeter.

- Air Walker – Provides Cardiovascular and flexibility benefits. Helps develop muscles in the legs and improves coordination.
- Air Skier – Helps tone up areas around the waist, hips, and thighs. Improves the general coordination of the body.
- Rower – Help the development of body muscles, arms, legs, abdomen. Improves the flexibility and provides cardiovascular and toning benefits for all.
- Lat Pull and Chest Press – Helps the development of upper body muscles; chest, shoulders, and back. Improves the flexibility and the agility of shoulder joints, elbows, and cardiovascular capacity.
- Ski Stepper – Provides a low impact workout. Help improve cardiovascular fitness, balance and coordination.
- Trinity Cycle – This item has been designed to be used both reclined and seated for a variety of exercises suitable for people of all abilities.

Similar items to the above can be seen and tried out in the play area off Dunkirk Avenue, Desborough. Images of the above outdoor gym equipment can be viewed on the Mawsley Parish Council notice board in TCAM. If have you any comments to make please feel free to email Mawsley Parish Council clerk at the following address mawsleyipc@gmail.com.

Cllr Richards
16th May 2016



MAWSLEY BOOK GROUP

We are a friendly, social group of all ages who meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 8.00pm. with members taking turns to host.

Books that we have recently read include:- *'The Humans'*, *'Kafka on the Shore'*, *'And Then There Were None'* and *'A Spool of Blue Thread'*. The host for one month selects the book for the following month. If you would like to join us contact Tricia on 01536 799487.

WHAT'S ON @ TCAM

July

| | | | |
|------|-----------------------------|------------------|---|
| 1st | Family Fun Night | 3pm - 8pm | Bouncy Castle & BBQ |
| | Tea, Cakes & Music | 2pm - 4pm | |
| 2nd | MADS Summer Show | 7pm | Variety Evening - Free Entry! |
| 8th | Family Fun Night | 3pm - 8pm | Bouncy Castle & BBQ |
| 9th | MAWSLEY FUN DAY | 2pm - 6pm | Fun family day out |
| 15th | Family Fun Night | 3pm - 8pm | Bouncy Castle & BBQ |
| 16th | Community Choir Summer Show | 7.30pm | Tickets on sale at TCAM (£3 Adults/£2 Under 14's) |
| 28th | Quiz Night | 8pm | Cash prizes and raffle. Only £1 per person! |

August

| | | | |
|------|----------------------|-----|--|
| 25th | Quiz Night | 8pm | Cash prizes and raffle. Only £1 per person! |
| | Children Film Nights | 6pm | Please check the website/noticeboard at TCAM |

September

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---|
| 9th | Tribute to the Stars | 8pm | Tina Turner & Elton John Tribute Night £12.50pp |
|-----|----------------------|-----|---|

MAWSLEY TODDLERS

Summer Term running from: Thursday 9th June to Thursday 14th July 2016.

Mawsley Toddlers is a popular, friendly place for parents and carers to get together and enjoy free play in the large hall at TCAM.

We welcome babies and children age from birth to 4 years old.

Day: Thursday mornings (term time only)

Time: 9.15am – 11am Location: TCAM

Cost: £1.50 for the first child and 50p for each child thereafter (this includes a snack) .

Sam Eggleton (07818 408911)

Shelley Brown (07887 792673)

Lucy Whestley (07834 515690)

FRONT PAGE PHOTOS REQUIRED

The Summer Edition front cover photograph was taken by Duncan Webster from his upstairs bedroom window which overlooks the school playing field.

Do you have anything amazing photographs of Mawsley and would you like your photograph on the front cover of the Autumn Edition?

If so, then please e-mail them to sgfn@hotmail.co.uk.





Mawsley Church meets on the first and third Sundays of each month at The Centre for either a Celebration Service or Communion. There is Sunday Club at both of these, unless it's during the school holidays when the services will include activities for all ages. On the second and fourth Sunday of each month, we join with our parish church of St Andrew's in Cransley for their Communion and Cransley Praise services. There is also a Communion service at 8am at Cransley Church on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month.

Services

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1st Sunday | 8am, St Andrew's Cransley, Holy Communion 10.30am, Mawsley Centre, Celebration Service and Sunday Club |
| 2nd Sunday | 10.30am, St Andrew's Cransley, Holy Communion |
| 3rd Sunday | 8am, St Andrew's Cransley, Holy Communion 10.30am, Mawsley Centre, Communion and Sunday Club |
| 4th Sunday | 10.30am, St Andrew's Cransley, Family Praise All-Age Service |
| 5th Sunday | 8am, St Andrew's Cransley, Holy Communion |

If you would like to find out more about our services, or would like to book a wedding or christening, please contact either:

Canon Brian Withington 01536 791373 or email revdbrian@uwclub.net or
Revd Nicki Hobbs 01536 799522 or email revnicki@familyhobbs.org.uk

SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

The Mawsley Short Mat Bowls Club is a friendly club where we have a great afternoon on Mondays playing 'Roll up', although you can play friendly matches as a team if you want. During our recent AGM we noted that there are 2 or 3 places available for anyone wishing to join and as there are a lot of new residents in the village, it would be lovely to have a chance to meet you. It really is a good way to meet people socially, learn a new sport and be part of the village community.

The first 3 meets are free, then after £3 per session and you can join as a member which has an annual fee of £8. Short Mat Bowls appeals to any age group and any fitness level. (Bring a pedometer as it is amazing how many steps you take!). We have a notice board in The Centre which features forthcoming matches to which you are most welcome to come along to.

I'm afraid we have to restrict the minimum age to 12 years as the bowls are very heavy and could cause an injury. For any further information call 01536 799116.



MAWSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

In consideration of Mawsley Young People

Cllrs Cope, Barnwell, Richards and Chairman of MVA Rob Bailey visited March, Cambridgeshire on the 4th March to see how the youth organisation 'Young People March' had evolved.

Cllr Barnwell had fortunately been introduced to the award winning organisation several years previously as part of his civic duties in the Fenland District of Cambridgeshire. He had been very impressed with the way in which the scheme had developed. As part of the ongoing process Mawsley Parish Councillors continue to consider further facilities for the young people in the village. It was decided to take a look and see how YPM had approached the subject.



Young People March (YPM) is a voluntary organisation, established in 1993, opening initially one evening a week and achieving charitable status in 1994 and becoming a Limited Company in 2009.

The centre is run with help

from adults, and young people who volunteer, bringing a wide range of skills from the local community. YPM aims to develop and continue to provide essential needs for the development of young people and their provision for future life chances and opportunities.

Their goal is to provide a safe and cared for environment in which ALL young people of the area can access positive experiences to enrich and facilitate their successful transition from child to adulthood.

The centre is run on a no entry fee basis with drop in sessions and clubs evenings 7 days a week from 6:30 to 9:30 and Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00. During the school holidays the centre is also open afternoons each week day from 12:00 to 4:00. Apart from the usual pool tables, basket ball, arcade, consoles, table tennis, air hockey, games etc. other subjects covered include general education, wide range of sports, arts and crafts, personal health, homelessness advice, volunteering opportunities, music and music workshops, employment skills and participation in community events.

We were greeted by two adults who oversee the centre and shown round. YPM is based in an old vegetable washing factory in the centre of the town. It includes a reception area, large hall with storage cupboards and areas, various office sized rooms and a kitchen.

This particular evening was just a normal club drop in night. As we talked to the two ladies young people arrived, signed-in and set about their evening's entertainment: arranging tables, chairs, music systems, table tennis equipment, logging on to computers, watching TV, making drinks and buying snacks at the tuck shop. Whilst the adults were available it was clear that the youth run the day to day activities and are the essential ingredient.

When asked what was the key to their success the answer was twofold 'give the young people ownership' and 'give them a place of their own'. The formation of Fenzone was crucial to the development of YPM. This was originally set up as part of YPM. The idea was to give young people age group 12 to 19 years a purpose and a voice so they could become decision makers for all young people. The idea was for them to take a major role in the running of the centre and to be able to part govern alongside trustees. Young people were being portrayed in a very negative manner locally and nationally, it was seen as an opportunity to portray young people in a positive way.

After two years Fenzone became a separate entity doing most of their work without YPM. They now have been operating for six years and the group is involved in planning and delivering many different projects at YPM, but independently for all young people's benefit. Again 'Ownership' Challenge – How do we apply any aspects or all of this to Mawsley Village?



Any comments or suggestions please email the Clerk to the Parish Council on mawsleypc@gmail.com

A NEW PLACE TO SIT



The Mawsley Village Development, which started in 2001 was built around the pond location and forms an attractive feature to the entrance of the village at Broughton Road. There are records that indicate that the pond dates back to the late 17th century and was originally a flight pond for migrating birds.

In 2007, the pond was totally overgrown after the 'marketing' and sales appeal had been utilised by the developers. At that time a handful of volunteers, supported by Mawsley Villagers Association and consultation with Cllr Jim Hakewill carried out extensive clearance work and constructed the dipping platforms at no cost to the public purse.

In 2009 the builder and Northamptonshire County Council offered to transfer the pond to Mawsley Parish Council, or concrete it over to offset their future responsibility!

It was later agreed that Kettering Borough Council would adopt the pond, with the proviso that the community would retain and be supported in the pond's maintenance and conservation.

Over the last couple of years the pond has not completely drained out and the vegetation clearance was not possible by our volunteers, so it was necessary to enlist the help of The Trust for Conservation Volunteers [Leicester] and MVA sponsored their cost of £425

Private Sponsorship

At the same time Emma and Ray Jacobs of Horts Estate Agents, who are residents of the village, expressed an interest in financial support to the pond conservation and agreed to underwrite the cost of a new children's bench at £500 ,which was specially designed and made by Artist Sculptor Dick Tilley, whose work can be seen at many of Northamptonshire's Country Parks and the bench was hand painted by the pupils of our Primary School.



To add to this Joanne Tomlinson and John Balzan of AMI Accounting Services, who are also village residents, responded to my appeal for £120 to purchase a Nature Sign depicting Life around the Pond and this is also fitted within the pond area.



The bench was installed and unveiled with the Nature Sign on Friday the 13th of May 2016 by Cllr James Hakewill.

Tom Sanders

MAWSLEY COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is an extremely busy time at school during this time of year. We are coming towards the end of the school year and are beginning to think about the next stage in our children's education. For some of them it will be the transition to 'big school' and the enormity of Year 7, while for others it will be moving from Key Stage 1 to 2 – another huge step.

It is however, a time of year when we can get back out onto the field and often go out for school trips. Here are just a few of the things we have been getting up to:

Reception: The children have recently visited Rockingham Castle and had a wonderful day blessed with the perfect weather for a castle siege!

Our Year 1 children have been studying British history and have been learning about the cause and impact of the Great Fire of London – resulting in some incredible artwork being produced on the playground.

Kings and Queens is the topic at the heart of Year 2's learning this term. Alongside this they have been attempting to learn the most difficult of English traditions that is the Maypole dance. I know Mrs Buckle has particularly enjoyed this activity and has loved demonstrating for the children!

Year 3 have been learning about traditional tales and how they have evolved over the years. In particular they have looked at fairy tales and their role in imparting and relaying messages and morals to our community. The rest of the school were also treated to a special assembly designed and performed by the children highlighting their safety awareness around water. Mr Smith again demonstrating his considerable musical talent!

Another trip for our Year 4 cohort was to Sulgrave Manor as part of their Tudors topic. Some splendid costumes were on show – at least I think Mrs. Butler was wearing a costume and not her usual outfit!

Year 5 have been exploring one of our more explosive topics while learning about what makes the earth angry. We have been learning about the natural disasters occurring around the world and their cause and effect on people and places. We are NOT responsible for any 'storm chasing' that might be going on in the village...

Year 6 have been studying hard over the past few months preparing for their SATS. Whatever the results, we know that SATS do not provide a true reflection of the amazing little human beings that they are – musicians, dancers, actors, singers, artists, sportsmen, designers and all the things that SATS don't test!



Alongside our academic learning we have also been very successful with our sporting adventures. The Year 4 hockey team achieved 1st and 3rd place at the Kettering Schools finals, the Year 5/6 cricket team finished second to Isham by 1 run and our swimming team finished 3rd in a very competitive gala at Corby. All teams will progress to the County Finals where we wish them well. Special thanks goes to all the parents that transport and support the children at these events, and to Mr. Walton for all his efforts in coaching them.

Gareth Weston - Year 5 Teacher

Housing Benefit, Council Tax Support Drop in Surgery on:



5th July 2016
2nd August 2016
11.00 am to 12.00 noon

**In the Bar Lounge, The Centre
Mawsley**

**Advice given on Welfare Reform and how it may affect
your household, how to claim, benefit entitlement, reporting
changes in circumstances and any other
council issues**

Kettering
Borough Council



Baby Loss Awareness Week

On Saturday 15th October at 7pm, the churches of Mawsley, Cransley and Broughton will be joining together for a Memorial Service at St Andrew's Broughton, to mark International Baby Loss Awareness Week.

During the service we will light candles as part of the International Wave of Light in memory of babies lost during pregnancy, stillborn and in infancy. If you are unable to attend the service, but would like a candle lit in memory of your baby, please contact Nicki Hobbs (01536 799522 or email revnicki@familyhobbs.org.uk)



GARDENING FOR ALL

The garden is in full bloom, herbaceous borders will remain colourful into September if you deadhead. Water copiously in dry weather. Sow fast growing annuals to fill any gaps in the borders. Mow lawns regularly.

At the February meeting Brenda gave us her tips of the month. Eve presented her thug plants, plant of the month and Obscure Gardening facts. Les and Tricia provided summer flowering bulbs for sale and Les showed us his Camellia which was splendid. New recruit to the Gardening for All steering team Sue introduced herself in the 'What's on Locally' slot that went down well.

The March meeting included some special items, a short talk about the selection sourcing, planting and protection of the 'Copper Beech' that is now planted on the Green outside TCAM. Brenda gave an interesting talk about the way in which Frank prepares his allotment soils and makes his own compost followed by her tips of the month. Sue continued with her regular 'What's On Locally' spot.

April saw us welcome Bob Malin of Northampton & District Fuchsia Society who gave an entertaining talk and demonstration on growing, showing and care of fuchsia's. Further new recruit to the Gardening for All steering team, James, told the meeting about the misfortunes and fortunes of his house orchids that survived a house flooding event which led to a general discussion on orchids. We closed the meeting with a sale of 'Love Story' lily bulbs.

In May we had yet another busy meeting with facts, tips and talks on a variety of garden related topics.

In July, Gardening for All, have booked a place for the Village Fun Day to be held on Saturday 9th July.

Make sure you, the family and friends visit the Gardening for All stall to take part in the fun.

The usual meeting will be held at TCAM on the 11th July at 7:30pm. No doubt we will be discussing the Fun Day that was a great success but the emphasis will be on Gardening for All's 2nd birthday with an informal fun gardening related quiz, birthday cake and nibbles and lots more.

In place of our usual meeting on the 8th August we will visit Sulby Gardens, situated on the borders of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire a garden with many interesting and fascinating features. An event not to miss!

Next normal Gardening for All meeting Monday 12th September 7:30 at TCAM.

Details to be advised – **PLEASE COME AND JOIN US**

Our meetings are held 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 in the evening at TCAM Open to All. Please feel free to bring a friend or two as always. £2 per person at the door (includes raffle ticket). All welcome!

Contact : Paul Richards on 01536 791898 or eandp68@gmail.com





For Mawsley Touch Rugby Club it has been a busy and successful start to the year. In April we hosted our first friendly match of the season against Wixams and took part in an exhibition match, to help promote the sport in nearby Kibworth. We won both of these matches. Then we played in our first competitive tournament of the year in Bedfordshire and took home the runner's up trophy.

We are always on the look out for new members to join us. Touch is a non-contact version of rugby and is great for fun and fitness. We are a friendly mixed team of men and women with a range of experiences and abilities. From this season we are also inviting players aged 16 to 18 to join us too. We train

on the sports field every Tuesday evening from 7.30pm, during the summer months.

The rules and skills needed to play are very easy to learn, so if you're looking for a fun way to get active, shift a few pounds for summer or learn to play a new sport, then visit our Facebook page to find out more, www.facebook.com/mawsleytouchrugby.

Mawsley FC Under 13s entered a national tournament in Weymouth and went on to win for their age group. The lads had their trophy presented to them by ex-England international Glen Hoddle, which rounded off a great weekend.

The Mawsley FC Under 13s also made it through to the league cup final against Corby S&L. Mawsley played exceptionally well but weren't able to convert some great play into goals and lost 3 -1.

Well done to Mawsley FC for a great performance this season in both the league and cup competitions.

We have Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in the village and like to think we are fairly active in the village and in our Scout District. Cubs and Scout meet on Tuesday in term time at TCAM - 6.15 pm to 7.30pm (Cubs) and 7.30pm to 9.00pm (Scouts). Beavers meet 6.10 to 7.10pm on Thursdays.

We are planning to open a satellite Beaver Scout Colony (2nd colony) in Loddington, the next village along from, July 2016.

Cubs have had a busy year as we celebrate our 100th Birthday. We have been to see Jungle Book at the cinema, on Pack holiday and have County Cub Camp in June to name a few things. Equally Scouts and Beavers have had busy programmes - the Scouts undertaking their Expedition Challenge two weekends ago and Beavers have been out and about.

We are always on the look at for new Leaders as this is a particular struggle for all the uniformed groups in Mawsley...we have good parental support but attracting people into uniformed positions is difficult, so any volunteers are very welcome.

Shaun Thompstone, Group Scout Leader for 1st Mawsley Scout Group and Arkela for the Cub Pack.



Nature on Your Doorstep

A stroll round Mawsley & District with Les & Paul (no dog but plus wives).

Today we were taking a gentle walk in an area once described by the BBC as *'This unknown part of England is chiefly noted for its pleasant rolling countryside and attractive villages'*. It was in fact the area just west of Lamport in the district known rather grandly as the 'The Northamptonshire Uplands'. Driving downhill from Hanging Houghton to the small car park next to the old railway we all had to remark on the wonderful panorama spread out before us. We parked up, changed our shoes to an unseen chorus of sky larks and headed west. Despite the overcast sky our way was lit up by the vivid yellow fields of oil seed rape surrounding us.



We continued up hill over a little bridge that spans a small silver stream. Earlier this year we had seen it in flood as an impassable brown torrent. The stream widens delivering the outpourings of the many springs in the valley to the River Nene in Northampton and onwards to the North Sea via the Wash.

Adjacent wet fields have been thoughtfully managed by the land owner who has established wild life corridors and water side meadows. This encourages voles and other small rodents thus creating rich hunting grounds for Barn and Tawny owls and the occasional Short Eared Owl. Marsh Harriers have been seen regularly in the area. On one occasion 'scaring the wits' out of our daughter's Border Collie (Jess).

At the top of the hill with the Granboro Plantation to our west we came to a 'T' junction with the Macmillan Way (a long distance footpath running from Boston

Lincolnshire to Abbotsbury on the Dorset coast). We turned towards Maidwell skirting round the field margins sprinkled with a wide variety of wild flowers.



Here we stopped and all agreed how wonderfully silent it was apart from the sounds of nature. Time dictated that we return to the car, but if we had continued north we would have reached the isolated Blueberry Lodge. The path continues towards Maidwell. However, if you turn South East on a bridleway you can return to the old railway track and back to the car park across small wooded areas and stream side meadows. Hares are regularly seen here, again on a previous walk Jess the collie had come face to face with a one. They both stood stock still, stared at each other for a while before bolting back from whence they came. On the subject of hares, a helicopter was circling Mawsley last evening apparently assisting the police in searching for illegal hare coursers.



Whilst in the area we had no option but to visit the Brampton Halt country pub in an old stationmaster's house at Chapel Brampton for a refreshing drink and hearty lunch. What a lovely way to spend a few hours appreciating this *'unknown part of England'*.

Paul

Going back to what Paul was saying about the fields of yellow, I could not help thinking that, striking as they are now, they do have a bit of a downside. In fact, for a number of reasons, it can be considered a bit of an antisocial crop.



Firstly, some people complain about the gas guns set up in the fields in late winter – with repetitive loud explosions designed to scare off wood pigeons.

Secondly, one feels for the asthma and hay fever sufferers who catch a large dose of pollen from the oil seed rape flowers, and thirdly, when the crop is harvested in late summer, it does give off a bit of a cabbagey pong. (The plant is in fact a member of that family). Nevertheless, it was quite mesmerising to be walking amongst this canvas of vivid yellow.

Turning to matters more horticultural, gardeners will be suffering from the depredations of slugs and snails this early summer. The mild wet winters have resulted in an explosion of them – high survival and prolific breeding - so expect more than the usual amount of damage. They will chomp through anything short of a piece of wood, and almost overnight, whole beds of plants such as marigolds have been laid waste, not to mention young vegetable plants such as runner beans.



What to do about it? I am loathe to get involved in the debate about chemicals, but it does seem a “no brainer” that somewhere along the line, other forms of wildlife will suffer, so other methods of control are worth trying if one feels this way. There are organic forms of slug pellet but I have to say, on my allotments, they have not worked satisfactorily.

Sadly, however much we limit the use of these chemicals individually, I think it is true to say that farmers routinely and liberally use them at sowing time in the same way I sometimes do on my allotment.

One last point on the hazards of gardening, how many of us are caught out each year with damage caused by late frosts? Particularly affecting young vegetable plants like runner beans and the foliage of early potatoes.

My philosophy is never to be too early with tender plantings unless you are well prepared and fleeced up, etc. My mate Frank at the allotments is one of the early brigade, and he doesn't half look old at this time of year with the

worry of it all. I suppose what I am trying to say is summed up in that old adage “Ne'er cast a clout till May is out”. “May” refers not to the month, but to the white flower of the hawthorn which goes on well into June. “Clout” refers to a coat or such like – unwise to discard it until the May flower is out in case you still get a cold snap.

Les

Enjoy your countryside.

If you would like to take this and other walks we have found Ordnance Survey map Explorer 223 very useful.



MAWSLEY AMATEUR DRAMATICS SOCIETY



PRESENTS

A VARIETY EVENING

SKETCHES, MUSIC AND MUCH MORE – FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2016

THE CENTRE AT MAWSLEY

FREE ENTRY

DOORS OPEN: 7.00PM FOR 7.30PM START

ARRIVE EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

Please come and support your local Amateur Dramatics Society and a number of guest acts from the village and village groups

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE MAD, BUT IT HELPS!



NEW FENCE AT CENTRE CAR PARK

'Summer Wine'retired persons volunteers (Vic Cope, Chris Davies, Charles Wooley, Paul Richards & Rob Bailey) joined forces with the 'Two Pints of Lager'... younger element of the Centre Bar fraternity (Steve Thorpe, Chris Ceccarelli, Richard Zegrean, Martin Bentley and Stephen Farthing), to carry out the much needed replacement of the safety fencing at the rear of the Centre Car Park.



This work was carried out over a period of 7 days with the 2 PL volunteers giving up their weekend and the minimal cost of the materials was dealt with by MVA.



HOME & GARDEN

PAINTING & DECORATING
GARDEN MAINTENANCE
DECKING & FENCING
PATIO CLEANING
FLAT PACK INSTALLATION

MI - DECO

10, THE JITTY
MAWSLEY, NN14 1ST

07590 617101
ENQUIRIES@MI-DECO.CO.UK



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

As it has been a while since the last Newsletter the Parish Council would like to give an update on recent activities.

Finance:

- The total budget for 2016-17 is £64,000. A full breakdown of planned expenditure is available via the website www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk, under "Parish Council Documents"; alternatively a copy can be obtained from the Clerk Diana MacCarthy (01536 790573).
- This is funded mainly by the precept (i.e. part of your Council Tax, collected for use exclusively in Mawsley); set the same as last year at £60,000. The balancing £4,000 will be drawn from reserves.
- Total reserves at the 2015/16 year-end were £68,000. It was agreed to allocate £40,000 of this to The Centre Reserve Fund, and the balance to general reserves. The Centre Reserve Fund is money ring-fenced to be available should any major repair issues arise for The Centre. Those issues could then be addressed quickly rather than having to wait to gather sufficient funds.
- The nature of and rationale for financial support by the Parish Council for The Centre is covered in depth in a report submitted to our auditors. A copy is available either via the website or the Clerk, exactly as per the budget as above.
-

Village issues:

- *Adoption of the roads:* this continues to be held up by a dispute between the neighbouring landowner and Taylor Wimpey (TW). Essentially the landowner requires TW to fulfil a number of obligations arising from when the first agreements to build the village were signed, and will not sign off TW access to the drain water balancing pond until TW have complied. This prevents adoption of the sewers, and County Highways will not adopt roads where the sewers are not adopted.
- *Adoption of open spaces:* apart from those within the David Wilson Homes area this has been completed, with ownership now resting with Kettering Council. David Wilson and Kettering Council have to date been unable to agree on payments for adoption of open spaces in that area; however following pressure by Parish Councillor Tom Sanders most areas have been brought up to specification and the two parties are now talking.
- *Completion of the cycle path past Birch Spinney (to the end of the wooded area):* Kettering Council has now agreed to help resolve this. No timetable though!
- *Neighbourhood Plan:* we have received endless conflicting advice re the value of going ahead with this. We have agreed though to go ahead with a basic village questionnaire.
- *Pub site:* no progress I regret.
- *"Mawsley" signs at village entrances:* the intention is to create these in ironstone. Permission from Highways has been obtained.
- *Outdoor keep-fit equipment:* a bid for funds has been submitted to the Landfill Tax scheme. We should hear the outcome by July.
- *Proposed bus shelter opposite the Medical Centre:* this is dependent on transfer of ownership of land from Taylor Wimpey, which is being progressed with them.

As ever I remind you that all are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings; and there is always a slot at the start of the meeting for anyone to raise any issues with the Council. Meetings are usually on the third Monday of the month; 7:00; at The Centre.

THANK YOU HUGH MULLIGAN



As some of our readers know, our Centre Manager, Hugh Mulligan, moved on to pastures new on the 10th June.

Hugh has been with us for almost two and a half years and it's fair to say that his development of our community hub within that time has been considerable. I managed to have a few words with him before his departure. His commitment to The Centre and the Mawsley community came through as strongly as ever, right up until the end.

Hugh saw one of his biggest challenges as increasing the footfall in The Centre, at minimal cost. To this end, he has introduced a variety of events with wide appeal: The Food and Drink and Cask Ale Festivals, the Music Festival, the Race Nights and Comedy

Evenings. He has also introduced Friday Family Fun Nights and Jazz Afternoons, as well as developing our established events such as the Family Fun Day, the Quiz and Children's Film Evenings. The list goes on.....

Hugh acknowledges that he has had to make some tough decisions along the way, but these have always been in the interests of serving the Mawsley community as a whole and balancing the accounts to ensure that our collective investment in The Centre represents excellent value for money. As well as firming up the financial element, Hugh has developed a team of bar staff that is stable and committed – not easy given our relatively remote location and our necessarily limited pay structures.

Meanwhile, Hugh has been a reassuring and supportive presence for all of our user groups, both local and from outside the village. There are many who have been grateful for his fixing and troubleshooting skills – often with little notice.

In short, he has laid very firm foundations for his successor, Jane Twisleton, to build on. The Centre is on a sound financial footing, there is a defined customer 'experience' and a momentum with the events programme that leaves you looking forward with excited anticipation.

Mawsley Villagers Association and its business element, (TCAM), are indebted to Hugh for all his endeavours during his time with us. I am sure there are many who share this view and who would also like to wish him all the best for the future as he moves on to a management role in the brewery trade. Thank you Hugh.

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As in previous years we are building up to our 'Summer Concert' with great enthusiasm.

After a shaky start to the year with illness striking down a number of our key members, not least our esteemed Music Director Carole we are now on the up!

Unfortunately we did not feel prepared to take part in the planned competitions, but we did however enjoy our yearly trip to the Community Choirs Festival Stratford-upon-Avon.

We also had our 3rd Birthday Party which was a great success, setting us on the road to recovery. We are now rehearsing like mad to perfect our pieces to bring you a Summer Concert to be remembered!

SUMMER CONCERT 2016

with
LAID BACK JAZZ DUO
ANDRA SPARKS & NICK WELDON
plus
THE RENOWNED
'POLISHED BRASS'

SATURDAY 16th JULY 7:30pm

@ THE CENTRE at MAWSLEY

PRICE £3 ADULTS £2 UNDER 14s
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM TCAM

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF MUSIC
WITH A ROUSING 'LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS' STYLE FINALE

If you would like to join the Mawsley Community Choir, rehearsals are held in TCAM Committee room on Thursday evenings 7.30pm - 9.30pm during school term time.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME
NO AUDITIONS JUST COME ALONG AND JOIN US
AND HAVE FUN!

Contact details
SECRETARY 07793 386232

Sing – Make Friends – Spread Happiness

The Annual Fun Dog Show (sponsored by Spinney Lodge Veterinary Hospital) was held on Sunday the 5th of June and attracted a large number of enthusiastic dogs ...and their owners!





RAY AND EMMA'S PROPERTY NEWS

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Hello fellow villager's, old and new. It's great to have the Mawsley Newsletter back once again!! Coming from a print trade background, I know how much more impressive and punchy colour copy is compared to black and white. Thanks to all that have worked hard behind the scenes to make this happen and also a very warm welcome to our new editor Sandra Fernandes-Neto.

The newsletter has changed but some things in life remain constant. The Mawsley Village property market for one. Values are as strong as they have ever been and with limited housing stock available within Mawsley the fundamentals/outlook for the village looks good for the short to medium term.

Thanks as always to the many vendors who have placed their trust in myself, Emma and Horts to sell their homes. We strive to give you the best possible service at all times, from the initial meeting and valuation, right through to key hand over on completion. Please do contact us anytime for a FREE no obligation sale or rental valuation.

On a separate note we are thrilled to be the new sponsors of our village pond. Hopefully, by now, you have all had a chance to see or sit on the new bench. It has been hand crafted by Dick Tilley and beautifully painted by children from Mawsley Community Primary School. It is now a lovely setting to sit, reflect or watch the world go by along with some resident ducks and pond life. As a local estate agent we are fully aware that the local community has been instrumental in helping us build our business to where we are now, therefore we are more than happy to donate to any good causes or help promote anything that shows what a wonderful place Mawsley is to settle.



Ray & Emma Jacobs



Ray & Emma Jacobs - Horts Property Consultant

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