



Mawsley News & Views

April 2012

From the Editor

Have your say.....

.....in how **big Mawsley grows**. Just when you think the village is almost finished - only 12 years after it began! - they come along with plans to start again! The majority, if not all, the residents who attended the recent Parish Council meeting felt that there is no need for further housing here, and after a short discussion, the PC agreed. See their letter to Kettering Borough Council on page 3 which sets out the reasons. If you have a view as to whether Mawsley does or does not need any more houses then make sure you **have your say** and respond to the proposal by 23rd April.

.....in how **Mawsley is run**. Become a Parish Councillor. See page 3 for how to be considered for the vacancy.

..... in **News & Views**. Write and tell us what you think about any local issues or what questions you would like answers to. Or become a regular reporter, searching out and following up stories. Perhaps you'd like to be our eyes and ears on what happens to the Pub site now that it's on the market again, or why not follow and report on all things 'sporty' in Mawsley?

Save the Rainbows

That sounds like the title of a song but it's not. In the last News & Views we included an appeal for more leaders for Brownies and Rainbows, unfortunately without success. It's sad to report that Rainbows will close down this summer unless someone volunteers soon. See page 16.

I look forward to hearing from you by 18th May, in time for our next issue which is due out on 30th May.

Name that road!

The Parish Council has been asked to suggest names for the few new roads in the Lodge Farm development. Any suggestions should be forwarded to Diana MacCarthy (Mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk) in the next couple of days to be forwarded on to Kettering Borough Council. I can't promise a prize for the good ones, but I look forward to enjoying that particularly Mawsley brand of humour we've come to know and love! See the letters page if you don't know what I mean!

Peter Thomas, Chair, Mawsley Parish Council

Editor: I suggest you send serious ones to Diana and the daft ones straight to me for the next News & Views.



Celebrate
the

Diamond Jubilee in Mawsley

Sunday 3rd June

Café Church at 10.30am.

A special thanksgiving service with Parish Council and other groups present to celebrate the Jubilee with the rest of the nation.

Monday 4th June

Open Gardens (from 11am)

Begin this Bank Holiday with a walk round some Mawsley gardens. Get some ideas for your own garden and see various ways of coping with clay, wind and the hosepipe ban.

Cream Teas at The Centre (from 2pm) with Bouncy Castle and BBQ

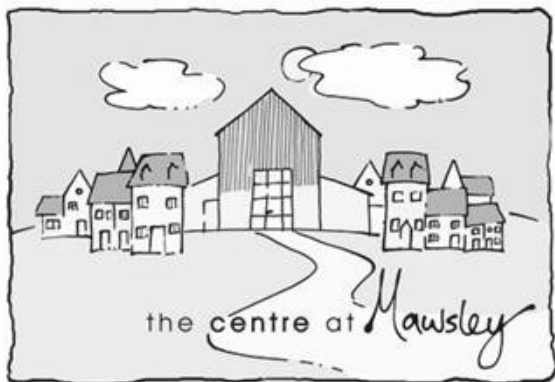
Join your neighbours at The Centre for a relaxing afternoon and evening.

Scarecrows, on the themes of Royalty and Olympics all round the village.

Make a scarecrow and put it in your front garden. Or take a stroll around the village yourself to admire the efforts of others.

Final details for these and other events will be in News & Views due out on 30th May. Put the dates in your diary now!





www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk

Tel: 01536 799528



'The Centre at Mawsley'

The Centre is available for Weddings, Christenings, parties, meetings - all occasions. We have a new marquee, mood lighting and lasers, a bar and a new kitchen. We can assist with all aspects of event planning - just contact us on 799528.

Regular events at The Centre

Quiz Night - Last Thursday of every month
8pm in the bar.

Curry Night - 1st Tuesday of every month
£6.50 for a curry and a pint - 6pm until 9pm.

The Centre at Mawsley Pool League - Every Tuesday evening - enter the league and enjoy regular games of pool.

Car Boot Sale

on the playing field at The Centre



Sunday 6th May
8am until 12noon

Have a good sort out and come along and sell your unwanted items.

Pre booked sellers charged £4 and those who turn up on the day to sell charged £6.

Free to buyers!!

Hot drinks and bacon sandwiches will be on sale. Telephone 799528 for more information or to pre book.

BLITZ NIGHT

Saturday 21st April 2012

Memphis Belles singing live

Comedian Billy De Laine

Disco playing music from the era

Corned Beef hash supper

7-30pm until midnight

£10 per ticket

Only 15 tickets left!



April drinks promotion

Buy 2 large glasses of wine
and get the rest of the bottle
free!

Date for your diary:

Mawsley Village Fete Saturday 14th July



12 noon - 4pm.

Mawsley Baby & Toddler Group

The Centre at Mawsley

Every Thursday morning during term time 9.30am until 11am
£1.50 for the 1st child in the family and 50p for brothers/sisters

This group is suitable for children from birth until they start school. For more information contact Sarah on 790517.

Mawsley

Bumps and Buggies Group

The Centre at Mawsley

Every Monday morning during term time From 9am

For more information contact Sarah on 790517.



Dry Cleaning

We are now agents for a dry cleaning company called Ecospin. They collect and return on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. They also offer an ironing service and alterations. Excellent competitive prices. Please call for more information.

Parish Council Update

It's been a busy time for the Parish Council lately and it shows little sign of easing off soon!

I was particularly pleased to see so many people at our April meeting. A great turn-out, which I'd like to think was because of my great speaking skills, but it was probably more to do with the leaflet we sent round about the consultation being run by Kettering Borough Council on growth proposals in the borough. The deadline for comments is 23rd April, so there should still be a few days left to add your thoughts and comments to those already submitted. **More information is available at www.kettering.gov.uk. Look for 'Proposed Growth Options for the Borough', then the 'Site Specific Proposals Local Development Document – Options Paper'. Mawsley is in section 13; rural areas at position 13.15.** You can then register your own, personal comments. The more comments received, the more information there will be to help the planners with the decision making process. So if you haven't commented yet, please do. Each individual comment really can make a difference.

Our official Parish Council response is printed below for your information. We hope we've got the mood of the village right on this issue. We think we have.

*To KBC. Dear Sirs, **Re: Proposed extension to Mawsley**
.....It has been decided that, as a Parish, we could not support any application to extend Mawsley, on the following grounds:*

Firstly, since Mawsley was created ten years ago the residents have had to endure constant building and road works within the village. Even as we write the roads are not yet up to adoptable standards and building continues in Phase 5. We, as a community, ask that we be given the opportunity to enjoy the village and to use the facilities free of construction traffic and potholes. If permission for any further development were granted this would mean an additional 5 years or so where we would again have to live with further disruption from construction traffic, building works etc. and the issues this will bring.

Secondly, the primary school is this year undertaking its third extension to accommodate the influx of children far and above its original intended numbers. This has impacted greatly on the children who attend in terms of constant building works, and lack of open space as the building grows, reducing the play area available. The school is currently at capacity and any further houses would have a direct impact on the school and would necessitate a new build on a new site. We would ask that the children are given the opportunity, once the third extension is completed, to enjoy their school and the teachers be able to teach our children in a safe and suitable environment. Any further building would have to be carried out on a new site, which would involve many years of planning and construction and would mean that for some children their whole primary school years would have been disrupted.

Whilst we appreciate that new housing is required to meet economic and social requirements, we ask that you consider other possible locations to ensure that as a village, we are at last given the chance to live in a safe environment for our families, and that we can experience both home and school life which does not involve further construction. Mawsley has already accommodated way above the original number of houses originally intended, and it is therefore with this in mind that we would be unable to back, indeed we would strongly oppose, any further extension.

Yours faithfully, Peter Thomas, Chair, Mawsley Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

14th May 7pm - 8pm

The Centre at Mawsley

This is the opportunity for village groups and organisations to report to the parish on their position at the end of the year, their plans going forward, and anything else they want to tell us about. Each group can have 5 minutes to talk to the Councillors along with any necessary questions and answers. Please let the Clerk know in advance if your group plans to attend.

This meeting will be followed by the AGM at 8pm and the normal monthly parish Council meeting from about 8.05pm.

All residents are welcome.

PC Resignation & Election

I'm sorry to tell you that Bob Holland has decided to step down as a Councillor after almost 8 years serving on your behalf. I'd like to express my personal thanks to Bob, a stalwart of the village, for his commitment and effort since long before my time on the Council. He'll be missed in the meetings but I'm sure we'll still see a lot of him on stage in MAD productions, as well as many other aspects of village life in which he gets involved.

This of course means we need to invite applications for a new Councillor. Anyone interested, please let our Parish Clerk, Diana MacCarthy, know by 11th May, by e-mailing her (mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk). You don't need to give us your life history at this stage. Just name, address, phone number and e-mail address will be fine. You can learn more about what being a Parish Councillor is all about, by looking at www.stand-and-deliver.com. Or just Google: 'being a parish councillor'. (Other search engines are available!)

If anyone feels there should be an election for this position, they need to tell the Clerk before May 11th. If there aren't enough requests for an election, then a Councillor will be co-opted (chosen), selected from the applicants who put themselves forward.

New Bench for the pond



Thanks to the generous donation by the WI of Mawsley, a new bench was commissioned, installed and officially handed over by Brenda Quinn on the 25th of February.

It's pleasing to note that it has already had the extreme test of someone jumping on it, but only needed another lick of teak oil to remove the muddy footprints !

On that note....It should be mentioned that the pond has now developed into a pleasant feature and haven for habitat. The majority of young villagers have total respect for its protection.....perhaps we can all help to keep it that way.

Tom Sanders

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Proposal to create a Pocket park

A group of volunteers involved in conservation of the village environment have recently submitted a proposal to the Parish Council to create a Pocket Park on the land opposite the school, known as the ECO meadow. That land will be dedicated to the community via Kettering Borough Council once it has been brought to acceptable standards by the developer.

There have been considerable delays in sorting out the land, involving weed control and cultivation. Central to our Management Plan is removal of the current weed wasteland and its replacement with a wild grass seed mixture over the whole area to give us the clean canvas to proceed. The contractors undertook to start this work in the week beginning 2nd April.

We have been invited to submit our Management Plan for the park at the next Parish Council meeting, which is scheduled for Monday the 14th May and we will outline what we hope to achieve in more detail.

Contact has already been made with other village groups...such as the Primary School, Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association, The Gardening Club, The Day Nursery, Mawsley Scouts and WI and they all acknowledge the benefits that a Pocket Park can deliver.

For our proposal to be successful, we would welcome as many as possible to be involved in the project, both at the meeting on 14th May and in the creation of the park.

For further information on pocket parks visit:

www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/pocketparks. For more information about our project contact Tom Sanders. Email: t.sanders01@btinternet.com



....from wasteland to park



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Thank you to Howard Smith Paper who have donated the paper for Mawsley News & Views.

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The next issue is due out on 30th May
Adverts to be received by 18th May

Letter for the Birdman - Reed Bunting in Mawsley

Here in Old Gorse way we are also lucky enough to have GoldFinches (didn't know they are known as "charms"). but also have at least two pairs of Reed Bunting, which we consider quite unusual - cannot imagine where they might be nesting .

Sadly, no Green Finches or Yellow Hammers this year, even though they have been numerous in previous years. I have heard there is a disease contracted from unclean bird tables which may be the reason, though we like to think we keep ours fairly clean. The other reason may be the marauding Sparrow Hawk which frequently causes wild panic during its lightening visits and leaves a sad pile of feathers somewhere.

Les Cottingham

Grants Available

The Parish Council has been told that money from the proceeds of the sale of goods recovered by the police that can't be returned to their owner, is available from the Police Property Fund. Awards can be made for charitable purposes, based on applications from voluntary groups, working with the local Safer Community Team to improve the lives of the local community. Grants are available between £250 and £1000. For more details or to get an application form, you can go to: www.northants.police.uk and click on Police Property Fund. Alternatively, e-mail john.chatley@northants.pnn.co.uk.

Peter Thomas

New Kitchen for The Centre

The Centre now has a completely new kitchen, including all the necessary appliances.

All of it has been donated free of charge by Howdens Joinery; so we all owe them a very big vote of thanks for their generosity.

Thanks also go to Graham Leah, who persuaded Howdens that this would be good PR and spent many hours organising it; and also to Allan MacDonald - who can now get into his garage. The installation was paid for by the MVA and the Parish Council.

Bob Littler

Milk Bottle Tops - please stop!!

Thank you to everyone who has collected milk bottle tops for the Air Ambulance. I haven't counted them, mainly because I can't count that far. Lots, and lots – especially from the school. I nearly bought a van.

I have now heard however that the special deal has finished, so we can now stop.

It does show what we can all achieve if we set our minds to it.
Cheers,
Bob



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Parking

Ma'am,

As a former army officer invalided out and now living with a disability, may I say how delighted I am that so many other disabled people are finding Mawsley to be a place where they can settle down.

I base this upon the number of times I find the disabled parking spaces full outside our local convenience store (I believe this to be the current vernacular for "shop"). Given the number of times I have to park in a regular parking spot I estimate that we must have in the region of 9,000 disabled people living in our burgeoning community.

I do wonder, though, how many of those with disabilities are actually partially sighted as, on leaving the disabled parking spots, most drivers seem to have an inability to follow the clear road markings out of the car park.

Maj. Gen Five P. Smaller (retired)

Generosity

Ma'am,

May I praise the Women's Institute for their generosity in donating a new life saving device to the Village?

The wooden bench now located close to the pond will make an excellent substitute for the missing life belt. Despite the additional weight of the new life saving device (and the extra effort that will be required to launch it towards any unfortunate who finds themselves out of their depth in the deep water of the pond), I am sure that the benefit of being able to sit on something whilst being rescued will comfort those in distress.

I do have concerns, however, that the residents of the village of "Mawlsley" may want their bench back at some point.

Mr. Ty Po

Editor: Probably the old English spelling.

One Stop

Ma'am

As I ponder life's imponderables, one thought keeps returning – why is our village shop named as it is? Is it a statement that we are only allowed to visit once? Is it a statement that we are not allowed any more shops (in which case it is missing a full stop in the middle) or is it just a Tesco trademark?

If anyone has the answer, please feel free to join my next philosophy class.

Mr. John Stuart Mill

Missing

Ma'am,

No article from my husband in the last edition. Do you know where he is?

Mrs G Grump.

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Inside the centre of The Centre

The theme of the first three articles in this series has been that running The Centre is more difficult and more expensive than you might realise. As Editor, I decided to do a bit of research to find out why and whether it has always been so. I've looked back over all the earlier newsletters and found that the message has been fairly constant, i.e. the volunteer directors of The Centre at Mawsley (TCAM), and the staff, have been working their socks off to make The Centre self-financing and yet never reaching that stage. I met up with Bob Littler to try to understand the difficulties better.

Q. Bob, how can The Centre be running at a loss when the Hall appears to be fully booked most of the time and the bar is so well used?

A. If we are going to talk about profitability then first we need to understand how the business operates. Central to that is recognising that there are basically two different parts. Firstly provision of facilities for the village as a community to use; i.e. essentially the main hall and meeting room – used by all manner of village groups from Scouts to dance, and for all kinds of parties and events. Let's call this "Community Use". Secondly there is the commercial side of the business; i.e. primarily the bar and lounge.

There is an overall loss because hall and room hire charges for community use are not sufficient to cover their associated costs. The bar / lounge makes a profit of about £30K a year which is very good for that type of business, but the loss on community use is more than that. It's £55K a year.

Q. Sorry to be a bit obvious, but in that case why not put up the hire charges?

A. Our charges are already a bit higher than those charged in neighbouring village halls, so if we increased them we believe we would lose business as many village groups would struggle to pay more. Also we charge our own community groups a considerably lower amount than we charge to outsiders. This is the right thing to do since The Centre is first and foremost a community facility and we don't want to price groups like Mums and Tots, Scouts or Line Dancing out of the place. We have always known that room hire, in a building like this, has to be subsidised. So rather than increase our charges and lose custom we put our efforts into making the bar side more profitable. This is why we run social events in the hall and encourage lettings for weddings and parties at weekends; they are usually good business for the bar.

Q. How do other village halls manage to balance their books?

A. You can't compare us with a village hall. Ours is a large, complex multi-purpose building that is very expensive to run. Just look at our annual overhead costs, which – apart from cleaning – don't include any staff costs. And I would add that considerable effort has been put into reducing these costs over the years.

Heating; lighting; water	£9,400
Cleaning	£12,000
Business rates and refuse charges	£2,100
Book-keeping and accountancy fees	£3,000
Accountancy and payroll software	£1,200
Insurance	£2,900
Essential repairs, maintenance & decoration	£5,500
Music and entertainment fees and licences	£6,700
Security contracts	£1,600
Broadband & telephone	£1,400
Bank / card service charges	£3,600
Other miscellaneous	£2,000
TOTAL	£51,400

Q. So is it the building that's the problem? Why didn't you get the building right in the first place?

A. This is not the building we asked for. We specified a much more modular style, which would allow access to individual parts of the building rather than the whole place having to be opened up for every usage occasion. This would have kept some costs lower.

However the building itself is only part of the problem; the other part is that The Centre is a large, varied and complex business. It can't run "on its own", in the way a village hall can. It requires constant staff presence, and relatively sophisticated services. There is also a cost from running the business as a business owned by residents; we have to be ultra-careful to ensure that everything we do is transparent and auditable.

Q. Since none of the TCAM Directors or TCAM itself has been declared bankrupt yet, you must be finding the shortfall from somewhere. Is this where some of my Council Tax is going?

A. Yes. Mawsley Parish Council receives £35K from Council Tax and about £24K of this is allocated to cover almost all The Centre's losses. That's how we balance the books. The MVA also helps, by paying for some equipment and loaning the money for some too (e.g. the mood lighting in the hall). So part of your Council Tax goes to partially subsidise the community use of The Centre. The profit from the bar

makes up the rest of that subsidy re community use. (In other words drinkers subsidise the community; not the other way round).

Q. So why not carry on balancing the books like that if it works?

A. We have always aimed at becoming self-financing and continue to do so – but getting there is proving to be much tougher than anyone expected. Also, relying on a subsidy could give the impression that The Centre is being badly run and we don't believe it is. You may remember that we reported in the newsletter some time ago that the parish council brought in a consultant to look at the business to advise them on whether we, TCAM, ought to be doing things differently. The consultant confirmed that our strategy was a good one; and that the business was being well run.

Q. So if you are doing the right things but the bar is still not making enough money to cover the community use losses where do you go from here?

A. Well, we can't simply shut up shop, although I do admit there have been times when the directors have felt like doing just that. We have to keep working at finding ways to increase revenue; in the last newsletter we talked about the effort going into marketing The Centre as a very attractive venue for parties, wedding receptions, etc.. Also now that we have a proper kitchen we can start to offer a more ambitious range of food; both meals in the bar and supplying the buffets when the hall is hired.

One thing I want to absolutely clear about: we are

completely open to ideas and suggestions as to how we may increase revenue. Any of these that come with even just a little offer of help would be even better.

Q. If increasing revenue is so difficult how about just reducing your costs instead?

A. We have a weekly Operations Meeting with the Manager and much of our discussion is around controlling not just overheads but also staff costs and cost of sales. I gave you the figures for the overheads earlier and we are not paying a penny more for these than we have to.

Some seem to think that we don't need some of the staff some of the time. This is our single biggest cost item - £86,000, and believe me we have sweated these costs to a frazzle. As I said earlier this is a multifaceted business in a complex building; it can't run "on its own", like a village hall can.

Q. And if we were having this conversation in 5 years' time.....?

The losses are much less than currently, though still some way from breaking even. The new conservatory allows much more flexibility, especially re serving food. You now have to book early to secure the hall for a party etc. at the weekend, as it's so busy. Community use is still heavily subsidised. The new directors have taken over.....

Thank you, Bob, for being so frank, and thank you to all the TCAM Directors who are working so hard to make The Centre a success. I can't imagine how you find time for your day jobs!

If you have any questions you would like put to Parish Councillors, the MVA or TCAM Directors send them to the editor and we'll spotlight other aspects of village life in future issues of News & Views.

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The First Mawsley Tea-Dance

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported this event. Although it would have been good to see more of you there, it was still a good afternoon. Everyone really enjoyed themselves, good music, fun and friendliness. It's something that anyone can come along to even if you are on your own. Although the ladies outnumbered the men and it wasn't exactly dancing around the handbags they all still twirled around the floor, so next time gentlemen we need you there!

Thank you to all the ladies who provided the cakes and waitressing, you were great. Hopefully there will be another one, if so please come along and just have some fun.

Brenda Quinn

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Mawsley Coffee Club



Mawsley Coffee Club is for those folk who live in the village who are retired or are approaching retirement. We meet for coffee and chat every four or five weeks, and we also enjoy outings to places of interest and visits to local theatres.

This year, we have arranged an outing to Jeyes Apothecary in Earls Barton and to the gardens at Boughton House to see the Spring flowers. Our next coffee morning is at The Centre, with a recipe swap, and in the next couple of months we have some special birthdays as well as the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to celebrate, with some tea parties!

Several new members have joined us recently and we offer a warm welcome to them. Pat Ellis, one of the founding members of the Coffee Club, has left the village recently to be closer to her young family, but she has not moved too far away from us and still hopes to keep in touch with us, as and when she can. As tokens of our appreciation to Pat, we presented her with some special coffee mugs to share with her new friends, and a rose bush, appropriately named 'Thank you' for her new garden.

If you'd like to know more about the Coffee Club, please phone:

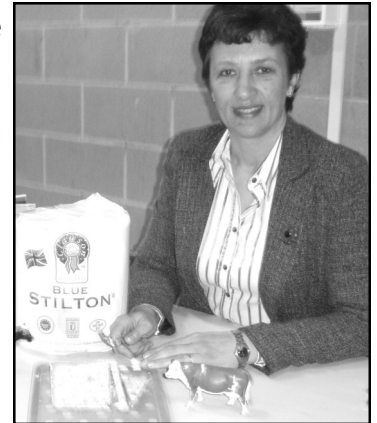
Molly Shortt 790 781 or
Jean Wilson 799 490.

Mawsley Village WI



We had a very interesting talk at our March meeting which was a bit of a quick change as the speaker we were due to have unfortunately couldn't make it. The talk taught us a lot about farming and all the problems this can entail but on the bright side we and our guests, including one very brave gentleman! enjoyed the wonderful 'real' Stilton cheese that Jane brought along.

Our next meeting will, I'm sure, be just as riveting. Margaret Hudson will be letting us into the world of the 'Tiller Girls'. Some of you may not go back that far but those who do will remember those lovely legs and the high kicks always so uniform. I'm sure we will all be reminiscing afterwards!



Please see the poster about our great annual Coach trip this year, it is proving very popular so let us know if you are interested in joining us.

Any information please call 791186 or 799116.

Pam's Craft Club

Card Making, Scrapbooking & Jewellery Classes
The Centre at Mawsley 7pm -9pm
Demonstrator: Suzie Candlin

The next 2 classes are

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See noticeboard at The Centre
for future dates

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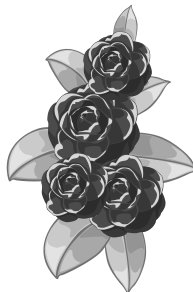
Mawsley Gardening & Wildlife Club offers its *Tips of the month.*

Tip 1. Cover tender young plants with fleece or Jack will surely catch you out

Tip 2. I often see people at garden centres at this time of year admiring and often buying those amazing camellia plants - small bushes with large rose-like flowers ranging from crimson to streaky pink in colour. With their glossy evergreen leaves, they are very eye-catching but, for the unwary, likely to be a huge disappointment.

To make sure you get those impressive flowers, year after year, and to ensure a healthy, lush- looking plant, there are some golden rules.

Camellias are woodland plants, so a site with dappled shade is preferred (not full sun). Because they grow in woodland soil, they like lots of organic matter at planting time - so incorporate ericaceous compost in the soil or in the tub. Buds are damaged by early spring frosts, and are especially vulnerable if a strong early morning sun follows the frost - so a sheltered spot is best. These buds begin to develop in the summer, so make sure the plant is kept watered and stress free over that time, perhaps with the help of a high acid liquid feed, commonly available in garden centres. Follow these simple rules, and your impulse buy will be the centre of attention at this time of year (or slightly earlier) for ever more. (Les C)



The next three Gardening & Wildlife Club visits are:

Sunday 29 April	Sunday 10 June
Ryton National Organic Centre	Harpole Open Gardens
Meet at The centre 10 am	Meet at The Centre at 12.30
	Gardens open 1pm – 6pm
Sunday 13 May	
Coton Manor gardens	Contact Steve & Pam
Meet at The Centre 10am	01536 791681

6 month programme on notice board at The Centre

Mawsley Cherokees Walking Club

Next 3 walks are

Sunday 22nd April
A Wildlife Flower & Bird Walk
at Stanwick Lakes
Duration 2 hrs. / 2-4 miles

Sunday 20th May
Aldwincle + adjacent Villages
Duration 4 miles

Sunday 17th June
Beckets Park River Nene circ.
Duration 5.5 miles

*For all walks meet at the
layby on Broughton Rd at
9.25am to leave at 9.30 am*

Contact Steve & Pam Draycott
01536 791681
NB 6 month programme on
notice board at The Centre

Mawsley Open Gardens: Monday June 4th

Would you consider opening your garden this year? It's only for a few hours but it really would add to the event if we had some new addresses to add to the list of regulars. To join in, or to find out more, please contact Pat Rowley on 791881 or rowleypj@btinternet.com.



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Olympics at school New Experiences, New Opportunities

Mawsley Community Primary School

There was a tangible buzz of excitement as the children left the assembly hall. The usual smiling faces were now beaming. The chatter, enthusiasm and in some cases squealing was infectious. The children had just been told about our ambitious Olympic project – **Try Something New** – and it had been received with overwhelming approval.

As adults, we understand the impact that the Olympic Games will have on our country. Our project aims to build on this excitement and provide the children with memorable and inspirational experiences that they will value and enjoy.

One afternoon each week the timetable at school is dedicated to enriching the curriculum. This gives the children a chance to take part in alternative learning experiences, something that they really enjoy. During the summer term we are giving this time to our Olympic project. The children will get the opportunity to participate in a range of unusual and exciting sports outside of school including winter and adrenaline sports, volleyball and athletics. The children will receive professional coaching and will be transported to and from all of the events. This project does unfortunately carry a great cost, and we would not be able to provide this experience without extensive funding from various groups within our community. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude again to the **Mawsley Villagers Association**, the **Parish Council** and **The Friends of Mawsley School**. We have also received a contribution from the County Council.

Sophia and Harvey from Year 4 commented:

*"My friends and I were jumping out of our seats when Miss Harris told us about the events, and when she said we can do **ALL** the activities I just screamed! My old school never did anything like this! I cannot wait to try some Street Dance!"*

"It's all we have been talking about since we found out. It's great that we will be going outdoors and I just can't believe that we get to try all of this cool stuff! I'm so excited. I can't wait to try Judo."



Magistrates' visit: Year 5

Our Year 5 children were treated to some very special visitors last week when two of our local magistrates visited for a Q&A session. The children have been exploring the concept of justice during their philosophy sessions and the magistrates were able to give the children an insight into the workings of the court service.

Lauren said: *"It taught me lots about the type of crimes they deal with and I also learnt the youngest age you have to be to appear in court is 10!"*

Archie: *"We learnt about all the different jobs people have in court. I enjoyed playing the policeman in the drama activity!"*

Jump Rope for Heart - Sponsored Skip

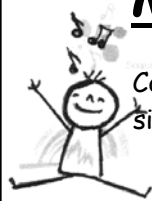
The entire school recently participated in our charity event for the British Heart Foundation. Helped by some glorious weather, the entire school managed to perform a skipping relay all afternoon. **Jamie Smith in Year 6**

completed 590 consecutive jumps while Grace Hayter in Year 2 completed 416!

The children had a fantastic time developing lots of physical abilities and several skipping styles. The staff may have enjoyed it too - reminiscing on fond memories from their childhood. Thanks to the children in Year 4 who helped run and co-ordinate the day, offering help to the younger ones and inspiring some of the older children!



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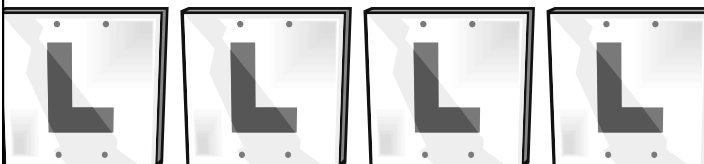
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Mawsley U10s youth football team

enjoyed some VIP entertainment courtesy of RICOH at last weekend's Coventry vs Peterborough match.

The team experienced a thrilling match and witnessed excellent goals, penalties and a 2 – 2 draw. It was an ideal opportunity for the boys to learn some valuable skills and techniques in preparation for next season's matches.

This is the first of many "off season" activities planned by the team to develop team spirit and enjoyment; the boys have decided that Go Cart racing will be the next event.

If you are interested in joining our squad, and are starting Year 6 in September 2012, please contact either Shane (07880 501 325) or Lee (07946 578 817).



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Thankfully winter seems to be at a close and the lighter, warmer nights mean that the 1st Mawsley Brownies can get out and about (although the cold weather didn't stop us doing some interesting indoor activities over the winter – a visit from the owl man was a definite highlight.)

We will be putting on our boating legs for an evening cruise along a nearby canal in the Girl Guides own Narrow boat 'Tuptonia' – hopefully we will all keep dry!! Keeping with the water theme (would be rude not to if the weather is good) we will try our hand at Bell Boating again at Pitsford Reservoir, Bell Boating being the art of steering and moving two large canoes strapped together to make one boat. We did really well last year so let's hope this year is as much fun.

The Brownies could not let the Jubilee and Olympic year go without celebrating it, so we are having a Jubilee party and our very own Olympic games. And finally, as our farewell to the summer term, we will walk to Cransley finishing off with chips and a drink in the open air! What could be better! If you think your daughter would like to join Brownies (we are full at the moment but operate a waiting list) please contact us.

We are in urgent need of another helper (to keep us within our child/adult ratios) – so if you have some spare time (one hour from 18:45 to 19:45 on a Monday evening) to join in with the fun and help out with the unit please contact us:

Sarah Blackman: K 799684 or Sarah.blackman@cmu.nhs.uk
Kate Brown: kate.brown@talk.21.com

1st Mawsley Rainbow Unit at risk of closing down

This year is an important year for Girl Guide Rainbows, it is their 25th Birthday! Since February half term the Rainbows have been working towards a special badge to celebrate the 25th Anniversary based around the colours of the Rainbow and 'Look, Learn, Love & Laugh'. We are planning special events to celebrate the anniversary later in the year.

2012 being a special year regarding the Olympics and the Royal Jubilee Mawsley Rainbows will be marking this with special evenings around these themes.

The 1st Mawsley Rainbow Unit has been in existence for over 4 years and it has seen girls progress through Rainbows, to Brownies and then onto Guides – all within the village of Mawsley, however unfortunately due to leader availability the unit will **close** in July this year unless a new leader(s) – it can be a job shared! – can be found. **If you feel you can run/help run the unit please contact Kate Brown on kate.brown@talk21.com for further information.....**

So sadly it may be that we will culminate in a Princess Party in July which will also mark the sad end of a very successful Unit.

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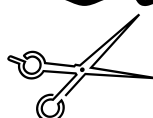
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FUN, FUN, FUN!

Mawsley Beaver's have been out and about in the last few weeks. On the 25th March 13 Beavers attended the District Fun at Glendon. The Beavers had the opportunity to try their hands at boulder walling, archery, shooting, climbing, pedal go-karting and campfire cooking, along with crafts and obstacle courses. One of best bits as far the Beavers were concerned was the District Challenge, where the Beavers had to construct a stretcher and a dummy then race against other colonies. We raced 3 heats and won all 3, which put us into the final with 2nd Rothwell. After a tight race and a lot of cheering **WE WON!**



We have also had an enjoyable evening at Brixworth Country Park, where the Beavers explored the park, had a walk, ran races and finished the night with a hot dog.

We would like to thank the ladies from the line dancing who gave up their evening to teach the Beavers a couple of dances. Also thank you to all of the parents who have supported events this term.

Hawk, Kingfisher, Kestrel and Woodpecker

1st Mawsley Scout Group

Barn Dance

Friday 27th April

TCAM

7.30 – 11.30pm



Och N'Dough

Tickets :-£5.00 children £10 adults

Food

Information and tickets contact
Mary Findlay 791228

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We have seen a number of well attended services this year. I especially enjoyed the parade service for Mothers' Day when so many of the uniformed groups attended and over 100 people were there.

Across the country churches will be full on the Jubilee weekend as part of the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We are having a special service on June 3rd too. As part of the village celebrations we will have a special service at 10:30. The Parish Council will be represented along with other groups as we join with thousands across the country for an act of thanksgiving. Come and join us!

Each month we continue with our pattern of gatherings.
All these are at 10:30 in The Centre:

- 1st Sunday SPACE on Sunday cafe church
- 2nd Sunday SPACE for worship with children's groups
- 3rd Sunday SPACE for all ages to worship
- 4th Sunday SPACE for communion with children's groups

PLEASE note:

due to our Annual Parish Meeting there will be no service on APRIL 22nd but we will meet on APRIL 29th for communion service.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, Cransley with Mawsley Services for April and May

Sun, 15th April 8am Holy Communion

Sun, 22nd April 10.30 am Holy
Communion

(This morning worship is shared jointly with Mawsley and includes our Annual P.C.M. when Officers of the Parochial Church Council are appointed) ALL

WELCOME

Sun, 29th April 10.30am
CRANSLEY FAMILY PRAISE
Note change of date

Sun, 6th May 8am Holy Communion
Sun, 13th May 9.30am Holy
Communion

Sun, 20th May 8am Holy Communion
Sun, 27th May CRANSLEY FAMILY
PRAISE

ANDY'S CAFÉ

*Every 3rd Saturday,
Cransley Village Hall 10 – 11.30am
(Free Café serving bacon rolls,
coffee etc. and featuring Village
Crafts.)*

ATTENTION all keystone 2 children:
we have a new group starting at school on
Monday 23rd. 3:15 - 4pm.

At the request of some of the children we are starting a group to discover more about God and the Bible. What's it all about? The group will meet every fortnight. More information through school.

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19

Mawsley Contact Details

Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA)

mva@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Chair: Bob Littler 791447

Other positions vacant

Mawsley Parish Council

pc@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Chair: Cllr. Peter Thomas 07809 074469

Deputy Chair: Cllr. Clare Farthing 799041

Clerk: Diana MacCarthy

mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk

The Centre @ Mawsley

Manager, Jane Twisleton 799528

www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk

themanager@thecentreatmawsley.co.uk

Mawsley CP School 799182

Headteacher: Mrs Elaine Wright

Mawsley Medical 791300

Mawsley Church

Rev'd Richard Priestley &

Rev'd Mandy Priestley

rpriestley@mac.com 790140

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

Dave Cross david.a.cross@gmail.com

Kettering Borough Council

Cllr. Jim Hakewill 01858 467686

jimhakewill@kettering.gov.uk

Cllr. Cliff Morton

cliffmoreton@kettering.gov.uk

Community Development Officer

Tim Bellamy 534355

timbellamy@kettering.gov.uk

Northamptonshire County Council

Cllr. Jim Harker 01604 236982

jharker@northamptonshire.gov.uk

MP Philip Hollobone

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hollobonep@parliament.uk

Mawsley News & Views Editor

Pat Rowley 791881

rowleypj@btinternet.com

Mawsley website

www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk

We are holding a "HAVE YOUR SAY" event in Mawsley on 25th May from 4 to 7 pm.

The mobile Police Station will be there and it will enable local residents to talk to us about any issues relating to the police or local authority etc.

I look forward to seeing many residents on that occasion.

If you need to contact me my mobile number is 07557 778714, but I would advise people to dial 999 in an emergency and to use our 101 non-emergency number if they need any assistance or advice quickly, as I may be off duty and unable to answer their calls. People can leave a message for me and I will get back to them ASAP if I can't answer the phone.

PC 1243 Martin Penhallow | Desborough Police Station.

Northamptonshire North | Northamptonshire Police

Telephone 03000 111 222/101

Email martin.penhallow@northants.pnn.police.uk



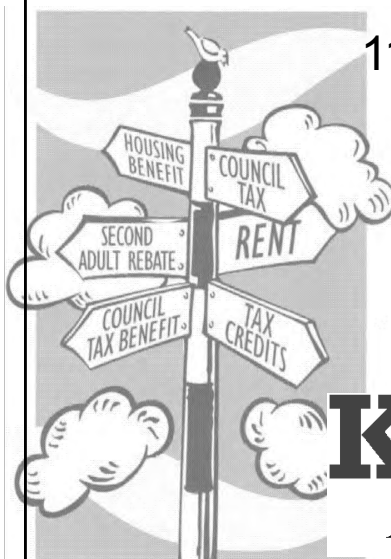
Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and DWP Drop in Surgery in the bar/lounge of The Centre at Mawsley on: 26th April & 24th May

11.30 am to 12.30 pm

Advice given on:

how to claim, benefit entitlement, reporting changes in circumstances, and any other council issues.

We also do referrals for Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit or Disability Living Allowance



Kettering
Borough Council

Next issue out on 30th May

Copy date is Friday 18th May

Adverts and newsletter items to Pat Rowley

Tel: 791881 rowleypj@btinternet.com

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website: mawsleyvillage.co.uk