

THE MAWSLEY VILLAGER

WINTER 2017



THE MAWSLEY VILLAGER

Welcome to the Autumn Edition of The Mawsley Villager, our own newsletter. Leaves are still just about hanging on the trees but Winter is coming...!

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind ourselves of some of the excellent service providers that we have in our village. I think that it is important to recognise the hard work that goes on in order to keep these open and running for the benefit of us all.

Not everybody feels the need to blow their own trumpet, so I would like to give a mention to Mawsley Medical (our village surgery), which was rated GOOD by the Care Quality Council this year. We are lucky to have such an excellent health facility on our doorsteps. I would also like to congratulate the Mawsley Day Nursery (and out of school club) for their GOOD OFSTED rating, received in July this year. For working parents in the village it is good to know that our children are in safe hands and close to home. How lucky we are in Mawsley to have these and other services meeting our needs – just remember to use them or lose them!

Finally, another Halloween has passed spookily by, this time more than 200 village children were counted Trick or Treating at the doors of some wonderfully decorated houses. And a huge thank you to all of the volunteers that gave us an incredible Bonfire night, with fireworks galore.

Keep snug and warm!

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LODDINGTON & MAWSLEY CRICKET CLUB

The cricket club will be running senior teams for the 2018 season in the following leagues:-

- Northamptonshire Cricket League Divisions 1 and 7 on Saturday afternoons
- Rutland League Division 3 West on Sunday afternoons

We also have junior teams in age groups from Under 11 through to Under 15, in the Wilson Browne league.

We have organised coaching sessions, currently held every Tuesday night, at Bishop Stopford School. These are for Under 9's, led by our Senior Coach, Nick Herbert. Senior net sessions are due to commence in early February 2018 at the same venue.

The membership age range runs from youth, with the oldest active participant being in their 60's. The Club embraces both diversity and equality and is keen to recruit new players in all of the above age group categories. If anyone would like to give us a try please contact:

Nick Herbert	Senior Coach	07749 735529
Josh Plowright	First XI Captain	07854 689629
Stuart Coles	Chairman	01536 352910

BANG, BANG INTO THE NIGHT!

What an amazing turn out last night to support the annual MVA Fireworks and Bonfire event. It is always nice to see so many people come out in the cold to watch the display. Thank you Mawsley!

We try, within our budget, to give you the best display possible and we really hope you and all the children enjoyed it.

This event is totally organised and setup by a team of volunteers. All profits made go back into the MVA (Mawlsley Villagers Association) for use by the village for a variety of community based initiatives.

There are a group of people we have to thank and without them we could not put on the event.

So a huge thank you to:

All of the helpers and marshals. Work started on Thursday night and continued through the whole weekend. We had a great turnout this morning at 8am getting the field cleared in time for the kids football.

The lighting team. These guys are the unsung heroes of the night. All of the fireworks are lit by hand and it's a very dangerous job. A huge thank you has to go to Gary, Paul, Simon and Charlie for their work. Well done guys!

The Staff at TCAM. You all did an amazing job keeping the drinks flowing and helping with ticket sales.

Coffee@No9 for putting on the BBQ and keeping you all fed and also helping with ticket sales.

One Stop, the shop always support us and this year sold a huge amount of tickets.

Simon Wisdom, thank you for the PA and music before and during the event.

Tranex Telecommunications for supplying us free of charge radios which are essential for maintaining safety.

Sports Council, we are lucky to have such well maintained pitches in this village. Unfortunately once a year we turn up and try to undo all that work.

There are two other people who need my own personal thanks, Steve Thorpe and Martin Bentley. You both put so much time effort and passion into the event every year. Its 6 months of planning and a lot of meetings! Their dedication is amazing and we've already started discussions about things that can be done to improve for next year.



I'm not going to tag people in this article as I don't want to miss anyone, you know who you are!

Thank you again to all who attended and helped. We look forward to doing it all again next year!



Be Prepared for Christmas with



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Look out for our collection boxes in:-

The Centre at Mawsley
Mawsley Primary School
One Stop Convenience Store
Loddington Primary School
Loddington Village Hall
The Hare, Loddington

Delivering to:-

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Cranford
Cransley

Desborough
Geddington
Grafton Underwood
Isham
Kettering
Little Cransley

Loddington
Mawsley
Newton
Old
Orlingbury
Orton

Pytchley
Rothwell
Rushton
Warkton
Weekly

Address Cards with:-

Recipients Name
Number of house / Name of street
Town
Postcode (if know)

URGENT ROAD SAFETY NOTICE

We have been made aware of a number of 'near misses' on the roads outside the school where children and adults have narrowly avoided being hit by cars due to careless drivers driving too fast, drivers not paying proper attention, pedestrians crossing between parked cars or in other unsafe places or sometimes due to crossing places being blocked by cars parked on double yellow lines or in front of dropped kerbs at crossing places.

ROAD SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY and we all know why. We do not want anyone injured or killed because someone, for whatever reason, chooses to ignore the law and the Highway Code.

PLEASE DO NOT

- Park on the zigzags outside either of the school gates
- Park on double yellow lines or solid white lines
- Park in any other place that causes a danger to other road users or pedestrians or which causes an obstruction or blocks access for residents near the school (particularly on Scholars Row)
- Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off by allowing them to open the car door and get out
- Use your mobile phone while driving

PLEASE DO

- Walk with your child to and from school whenever possible
- Consider the off road 'park and walk' options available if you have to drive, for example, in Barnwell Court
- Find a safe place to cross the road
- Supervise your child closely at all times

Allow time for your journey. If you are in rush you may do something very silly.

Those new to the school may not be aware that governors have made strenuous efforts in recent years to explore all other safety measures that could be put in place around the school. In 2015 we held a series of meetings with Wimpey, the main developer at the time, consulted with Mawsley Medical, parish, borough and county councillors and took advice from everyone including the Highways Authority. All of the appropriate investigative work was carried out on site and the outcome was that we do not meet the criteria for a school crossing of any kind or pavement bollards, flashing warning signs or a lollipop person. We reported to parents at the time to explain the outcome of our endeavours and you can be reassured that this topic will be re-visited when we hear that the financial situation and legal restrictions have changed.

In the meantime, WE CAN ALL DO SOMETHING NOW to make the area around our school and in our village too, a much safer place for all.

Our Police Community Support Officers visit the school regularly and we will be urging them to take appropriate action against offending road users where it is warranted.

Thank you to those of you who have contacted us to let us know of your concerns. Thank you also to those of you who talk to your friends, other parents and villagers who ignore road safety when they are bringing or collecting children from school and therefore put others and themselves at risk.

ROAD SAFETY IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY - YES, EVERY ONE OF US!

The Governing Board

Mawsley Community Primary School



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MAWSLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 5 BLETCHLEY PARK TRIP

A fresh new school year has begun and it is a special new year for us as Miss Harris takes the reins as Head Teacher for the first time! Lots of staff have moved into different year groups and all of the children have done very well adjusting to the new expectations. We have also had several new staff members join our (ever increasing) school family and we wish all of them well for the coming year.

As usual, we have been busy since September!

The school football team have done remarkably well this year and managed to finish 4th in the Kettering School's League, losing only twice in 12 games. Mr Walton and I were again delighted by the attitude and respect shown by all the players and we thank all the parents for your time and efforts transporting them to and from the games.

Kinetic Letters

Kinetic Letters is a new handwriting scheme that we have invested in this year, and so far it has delivered some incredible examples of improvement in the children's ability to write with automation and neatness. If you have children at school, ask them about Curly the Caterpillar or their gorilla positions! Hopefully the children will continue to impress us all with their efforts and achievements - if you want to know more, a quick search for 'kinetic letters' should lead you to the website - if not just ask your child's teacher.

New playground equipment

The children (and adults) have been really enjoying our new playground equipment! We have invested in 6 new piece of apparatus designed to strengthen and improve the children's agility, balance and co-ordination.

In October we had the pleasure of taking year 5 to Bletchley Park, to discover the extraordinary code breaking achievements of the masterful mathematicians of the 40s, who helped to secure victory for the allies in World War 2. Our children had a chance to crack their own codes, which was super exciting and showed how well they can work collaboratively!

Many children were proudly dressed in a range of World War 2 costumes; evacuees, soldiers and airmen, and the effort they made really added to the experience of the day. This effort and their 'superb' behaviour was particularly noted by the manager of Bletchley Park himself who, as well as several other members of staff and various members of the public, complimented our children on their super general conduct, respectable manners and keen interest in learning! The children were extremely proud of their recognition for great behaviour - as were all the staff!



Housing Benefit, Council Tax Support Drop in Surgery on:



**5th December
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

Mawsley Amateur Dramatics organised a pumpkin hunt around Mawsley Village on Sunday 29th October. The group were generously supported by Tesco Extra in Kettering who provided the pumpkins for the hunt.

Residents of Mawsley brought donations of food and household items which are being given to the Kettering Food Bank for distribution this week.

The members of MADS dressed up in Halloween costumes and walked around the village helping youngsters complete the trail.



Cheryl Buckle, one of the member of MADS, said 'the idea came about as we wanted to support the Food Bank with a collection. The idea of dressing up and creating a bit of madness in Mawsley was an added bonus for our lively group.'

MADS are now busy preparing for their Christmas events in Mawsley, which include a Christmas Madness event on Saturday 9th December of stalls and games for the Alzheimer's Society and a Santa Sleigh on the weekend of 16th and 17th December, raising funds for 'Children Are Butterflies'.

Across the UK thousands of Home-Start volunteers visit families at home each week, supporting parents in situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, multiple births, illness, disability or who are just finding parenting a struggle. They provide non-judgemental practical and emotional support and help build the family's confidence and ability to cope. Home-Start runs more services and has more volunteers supporting more families than any other family support charity in the UK.



Home-Start continue to need volunteers to help support our families. They train and support volunteers to spend 2/3 hours a week offering support to children and their families through home visits. They pride themselves in taking care of their volunteers, offering an informal chat to answer any questions you may have, a comprehensive training programme, careful matching with a family and regular ongoing support.

One Volunteer's Story...

I left my full-time job last year after winning my battle against cancer.

After researching many volunteering opportunities, I chose Home-Start because they're all about helping families to give children the best start in life. I am fortunate enough to have two children myself and could see that volunteering with Home-Start would also fit well around them.

I attended the preparation course which was really informative and enjoyable. The course was very informal and covered a variety of topics. I particularly found the discussions around possible scenarios very helpful. I've also attended several other training courses which have benefitted me outside of Home-Start such as first aid training.

I've supported two families so far and have been amazed by how I have actually been able to make a difference. The time that I have spent with the mums and children has been extremely rewarding as well as good fun. I meet up with my co-ordinator monthly which is a great support and she's also at the end of the phone if I ever want to talk something over with her. We also meet up socially with other volunteers which is a great opportunity to share experiences.

In a nutshell I have met and helped some really lovely people, made new friends, had fun and learned loads!

In addition to looking for Home-Visiting Volunteers, they are also recruiting for people to join their Board of Trustees or to join Friends of Home-Start Kettering Area and help raise further, much needed funds.

Home-Start can be contacted on 01536 484318 (9-2pm weekdays)

Mobile: 07935 402179 (and leave a message if necessary)

Email: homestartkettering@btconnect.com

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THE MAWSLEY WI

In October, the Mawsley WI had its Annual Meeting. This was the time in the year that members vote for their new President and a new Committee.



As it has been nearly a year and a half since we restarted The Mawsley WI back in the middle of 2016, I decided to step down as President and let somebody new take over the position. I am therefore delighted to announce that Jane Twisleton was voted in as the new President. I would like to wish Jane all the best in the role and I am sure she is the right lady to continue to grow our WI going forward.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all of my former Committee Members for their support and friendship whilst helping to set up our WI again. We currently have over 30 members from Mawsley and surrounding villages and new friendships continue to be made as we all get to know each other better each time we meet. For me personally, I joined the WI as a way of meeting ladies in the village as I was new to Mawsley last year and it really helped me feel part of the community here. At the same time, I have also learned much more about what the WI stands for, both locally and nationally and although I will no longer be President, I will certainly continue to be proud to be a member.

The WI is open to all ladies or all ages in the village (and surrounding villages) and takes place on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7.30-9.30pm in The Centre. All WI members are welcome and visitors may come along to any meeting for a small charge of £4. Just turn up and pay on the door!

Sandra Fernandes-Neto (Departing President)

MAWSLEY SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

Do you ask yourself as you read our updates "What is Short Mat Bowls and how does it differ to Crown Green Bowls or Indoor Bowls as we see annually at Potters Leisure Village with the glamorous Mrs Potter watching in a different coloured outfit everyday

Well, the answer is the 'Short'. Short Mat Bowls Mats can range from 30ft to 45ft. Mawsley Mats are 45ft long and stored away between sessions

Indoor Bowls have longer Mats that stay in place usually in a purpose built centre Crown Green Bowls are played outside and generally only in the summer months

There is no special clothing for Short Mat Bowls, though Christian Louboutin Stiletto footwear isn't recommended but his Feerica Rete/Nappa or glitter Mini Pumps will add a touch of bling to any session

If you want to know more come along to The Centre between 1pm-3pm any Monday or ring 799466. Three trial sessions are free and there are spare bowl.

MAWSLEY COFFEE CLUB

We meet for coffee each month in the bar area of the Centre, where we either provide our own entertainment or invite a speaker and listen to one of Molly's amusing stories.

We also arrange an outing most months and travel by minibus, with a driver provided by Shire Community Services in Wellingborough, or we venture further afield by coach.

During the lighter summer evenings, we arranged our first local history tour around Kettering town, thanks to Molly's research, and we rounded off the evening with refreshments in Kino Lounge. Tour No 2 has been requested for next year.

We also visited the Pot Belly micro-brewery, to taste the local brews, enjoyed some pub games, followed by a tasty fish and chip supper, returning to the village before lights out and a little later than our usual bedtimes!



We received an invitation from the Mawsley Indoor Bowls Club to try our hand at this sport and this was enjoyed by all who took part. We also enjoyed a cream tea on a warm, sunny Sunday afternoon in the garden overlooking a field full of ripened corn, adjacent to Grafton Underwood village hall.

Our summer outings also included a day trip to the east coast and a visit to Leamington Spa to

see the adorable puppies at the Guide Dog Breeding Centre. We resisted the temptation to bring one or two of those cute little puppies back home with us!

We have also enjoyed a matinee performance of 'Shirley Valentine' at the theatre in Northampton. In December we have our usual coffee morning with carols, mince pies and Santa's sack.



We have also arranged to do some Christmas shopping at Gates Garden Centre near Oakham, where we are told the decorations are worth travelling to see and we also plan to make a return visit to Worcester to the Victorian Christmas fayre.

We're told that we're a friendly bunch of folk. Whatever we do and wherever we go, we aim to enjoy ourselves and have some fun, and we usually find something tasty to eat together.

If you live in the village and have retired or are approaching retirement, do get in touch with us for dates and details of our outings and events by phoning Molly on 790 781 or Jean and David on 799 490.

We aim to provide a varied programme throughout the year and folk come along and join us as and when they can, fitting in as other diary commitments permit.

We're preparing to make plans for our outings and events for 2018.



After over thirteen years as Priest-in-Charge of Mawsley Church, along with Cransley and Broughton, Brian Withington moved on to pastures new at the beginning of September. During that time he has been involved in many aspects of Mawsley village life, from assemblies, parade services and school governorship through to conducting christenings, weddings and funerals for village residents. We wish him and his family all the best in their new parishes.

As we enter the autumn and winter, we have lots of events and services to look forward to with Christmas approaching. We will be hosting a number of events and services throughout December, including another Nativity Craft morning on Thursday 21st December. Last year, we introduced a travelling crib which was booked up really quickly. So this year we will have two toy nativity set travelling around families in the village each night throughout December, along with a nativity story book and carol CD. You then just pass it on to the next family on the list. If you would like to sign up or know more, please get in touch.

Mawsley Church meets at 10.30am on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at the Centre for either a Celebration Service or Communion. There is generally Sunday Club for children at both of these, but there are always activities for all ages. There is also a Communion service at 8am at Cransley Church each week.

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

Revd Nicki Hobbs - 01536 799522 or email revnicki@familyhobbs.org.uk

For more up-to-date information, join us on:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cransleymawsleychurch/>

Website: <https://www.churchesbmc.org/>



**Mawsley Amateur
Dramatics**

Follow us on Facebook
mawsleymads@gmail.com



Coming soon.....

Saturday 9th December 2017

CHRISTMAS MADNESS



2 - 4pm
At The Centre

Come and join us for some
festive fun and games

Saturday 16th December 2017

Sunday 17th December 2017

SANTA SLEIGH



Fundraising for
Children are Butterflies

Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th February 2018

ALICE IN PANTOLAND

Join us to
celebrate our
10th Panto!

Christmas 2017 in Mawsley & Cransley

Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday & Sunday December 2 & 3 from 1-5pm at St Andrew's Broughton

Carol Service

Sunday December 3 at 6pm at St Andrew's Broughton

Angel Festival

Saturday December 9 from 10.30am to 4.30pm at St Andrew's Cransley

Carol Singing

Tuesday December 12 at 6.30pm at The Three Cranes, Cransley

Andy's Christmas Cafe with Carols

Saturday December 16 from 10 to 11.30am at Cransley Village Hall

Nativity Craft Morning

Thursday December 21 from 10am to 12pm at the Centre at Mawsley

Christmas Eve

Live Nativity Service at 3pm at St Andrew's Broughton

Festival of Lessons and Carols at 6pm at St Andrew's Cransley

Carols & Communion at 11.30pm at St Andrew's Broughton

Christmas Day

Said Communion at 8am at St Andrew's Cransley

Christmas Celebration for everyone at 10am at The Centre at Mawsley

For more information call 01536 799522 or visit www.churchesbmc.org





Mawsley Community Primary School

Courage || Determination || Equality || Excellence || Friendship || Inspiration || Respect

Want to Help Make a Difference? **Ever Thought About Volunteering in School?**

Mawsley CP School are looking for volunteers who would like to help make a difference! Our volunteers help in many different ways. You could help a child to learn to read, assist a child to become a better author or help shape the next mathematical mastermind.

In return, our little personalities will make you feel welcome, will try their best for you and will very often make you smile.

As the saying goes, 'It takes a village to raise a child', and the same is true for Mawsley CP School. All our adults in school help to shape our little learners through our positive and nurturing environment and engaging activities which help them to learn.

A little bit of your time can really go a long way, and we are always grateful for a little extra help whether this be working directly with children or more behind the scenes.

If you would like to help in our school, please get in touch with our bursar Helen Smith:

Mawsley Community Primary School, Scholars Row, Mawsley, Kettering NN14 1GZ

[01536 799182](tel:01536799182)

helen.smith@mawsley.org.uk



MAWSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

First, the good news! There has been a vacancy for a Parish Councillor for some while now; but we are delighted to announce that the vacancy has now been filled. Hayley Esler, a young mum Mawsley resident, has come forward; keen to help with tackling the issues facing the village. She will be the sole mother with young children on the Council, so that will add an extra dimension to our combined experience. Welcome aboard Hayley!

The Parish Council has been facing a couple of tricky issues recently; update:

Allotments: I don't use or read Facebook but I gather there have been postings questioning why the Parish Council is considering taking legal advice before taking any further action re finding a suitable site.

The Council is sitting between a rock and a hard place. Many don't want allotments within the village boundary; but there may be no reasonably accessible sites outwith the boundary.

We do have to be absolutely clear as to what the Council's legal obligations and options are; and how to progress them - not least as both the Allotment Society and those concerned about allotments have legal options we know they may consider. Taking legal advice will be expensive, but far less costly than having to defend any actions in Court should we be accused of not following due process etc.. Next step, prior to committing any costs, is to draw up a brief for the legal bods.

A potential site outside, but close to, the village is currently a potential option. The owner of Silverhills (the units just off the C31 down from the Broughton Road entrance to the village) may consider provision of allotments in plans to develop the site.

Bus shelters: in the last 'Villager' there was an article from Tom Sanders around the cost of these and options to fund that cost. This project was

always predicated on finding external funding to cover the vast majority of the cost. Sadly it is clear this is not available other than very small amounts; and yes we have tried the Lottery, bus companies, Kettering Council and the County Council - plus trawling through other potential options.

The Council therefore has therefore agreed to go ahead with one (smaller than originally envisaged) shelter rather than three; to be sited opposite the Medical Centre. The total cost is £5875 and we have £2500 in grants for the project; the balance will come from the Council's reserves.

This is obviously disappointing to those who have worked so hard to get this project off the ground; the only consolation is that the grant situation is constantly changing and options may become available in the future.

Lastly the Council is the landlord of The Centre but does not get involved in day to day running of it. Nonetheless we were aware of some problems there recently; Jane was off sick, the admin. assistant was on holiday and they are very short-staffed anyway. So a very good time for there to be a flood from a burst pipe, problems with the CCTV and the hot water not being so. Steve Thorpe stepped in to stand in for bar shifts and try to sort these problems out - whilst working Police 12 hour shifts. I told him he deserves a mention in despatches - so here it is!

Bob Littler

P.S. next meetings are Mondays 18th December; 15th January. 7:00 at The Centre.

Poppy Print proudly print 'The Mawsley Villager'

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Gardening For All

May saw our members visit 3 gardens in the village. All three were very different and allowed us to share ideas on design, plant selection and dealing with associated problems and issues.

In place of our June meeting at TCAM we visited Cramden Nurseries, Kingsthorpe, Northampton. This nursery specialises in Geraniums and Pelargoniums and grows and sells a vast range of different varieties. An enjoyable evening and well worth a visit.

On Saturday 8th July we had a fantastic day at Mawsley Village Fun Day selling plants and veg, with games for both old and young. The money raised will go directly towards paying for our future club activities. Many thanks to all those who supported us on the day.

July saw us celebrate our 3rd Birthday. We all enjoyed the evening with a light-hearted gardening related quiz set by Tricia and Les and a bring and share supper.

We do not usually meet in August but Sue arranged a visit to a very interesting local garden near Rothwell called Glendon Hall. The garden contained some lovely plants rarely seen thriving in this part of the country and various unusual features. The weather was fine, a most enjoyable evening.

In September we welcomed John Gibson a speaker from Kettering. John gave us an interesting and informative talk on making the most of your bulbs.

Our forthcoming programme up to Christmas includes the following.

On the 11th December we will have the usual Christmas bit of fun with a quiz to be set by Sue and Heather and a Christmassy bring and share supper.

We usually meet at TCAM on the 2nd Monday in the Month at 7:30
Please visit our noticeboard at TCAM for updates.

£2 per person at the door to pay for room hire and includes raffle.

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**No Problems...
Only Solutions!**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the strongest forces operating in the country today to bind local communities and get them pulling together to fight crime and anti-social behaviour.



- ☒ Is there a need to reduce crime and the fear of it?
- ☒ Are you a community minded person?
- ☒ Do you have some spare time and like a challenge?
- ☒ Would you like the opportunity to reintroduce many of the traditional social bonds and values back into your Neighbourhood?

If the answer to any of these questions is **YES!** Neighbourhood Watch is a popular way for people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved in preventing and detecting crime and disorder in the community.



If you are serious about getting involved and would like more information about Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, please contact your local NHW Watch Liaison Officer:

Jane Calcott on 101 ext. 343472 or e-mail jane.calcott@northants.police.uk



The 2017/18 school term looks very exciting from a FOMS perspective. Alongside some of our popular annual events, we will be launching some new initiatives which we hope will excite and entertain both parents and children.

The winter term will see us holding our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 25th November. The Fayre will be held at the school 11am to 2pm and is open to all residents. We will have a mixture of private stalls selling cards, books and gifts and FOMS stalls including food/drink stalls, hair/nails and lucky dip. Father

Christmas will be visiting to check which children have been naughty or nice and handing out some wonderful presents. As usual there will also be the draw of our Christmas raffle which has some excellent prizes this year including a home improvement prize, a spa day and an amazon echo.

On 16th March, in conjunction with Luna Flix, we will be holding an evening for the ladies in the village. Timed the weekend after Mother's Day this provides a perfect gift for those mothers/grandmothers in your life by giving them the evening off to watch "Bad moms" at the school. There will be a bar and snacks on the evening so come along and enjoy the cinema experience in the comfort of your own village.

In the run up to Easter, we will be holding an Easter Fayre on Saturday 24th March. After the success of our Spring Fayre we will be focussing on crafts and activities for this fayre along with our usual chocolate tombola, look out for those eggs. We had lovely weather last year and the children really enjoyed looking at the fire engine and tractor and bouncing on the bouncy castle.

For any budding pirates in the village, we will be holding a family treasure hunt on Saturday 19th May. This will start at TCAM, will take you around the village making full use of the new path and will finish back at TCAM where you can enjoy a BBQ and a celebration drink. All those who have been Pokemon hunting will be completely prepared for this event.

We travel for miles to watch professional circus performers work their magic in the big top, now for the first time ever, Mawsley will play host to Happy Circus's 600-seater Big Top experience, packed with amazing acts from international artists. One of the most ambitious and exciting family events we have ever hosted. Tickets will be sold in various locations around the village so watch the Friends Of Mawsley School Facebook page for further information.

If anyone would like to get in touch with ideas or to offer support towards our events please contact us on Friendsofmawsleyschool@hotmail.co.uk

NATURE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Autumn - Believe it or not autumn is upon us. 'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness' as John Keats would put it. To the birds and mammals of Mawsley and District it means a time of plenty with fruits and seeds now ripe and ready for the picking, hopefully preparing them for the forthcoming winter.

In Autumn look out for:-

Most of our local House Martins, Swallows and Swifts who have had a good breeding season and entertained us with their stunning aerobatics throughout the summer have flown south for sunnier climes. A few young birds may still be seen hanging on if the weather is fine. Many of us will have seen Martins and Swallows gathering on wires and roofs as they prepared for the long flight to Africa.

The Sedge Warbler is a migratory bird that breeds in the UK and can be seen this time of year feeding heavily on berries in the hedgerows along our local lanes. It needs to double its weight from 10g to 20g in just three weeks to sustain it on the flight back to West Africa.

The annual Daddy Longlegs invasion will have happened all around the village evoking distant memories of my return to school, with the playground seeming to be full of them. These insects have an adult lifespan of about 2 weeks. Their Larvae, called leather jackets, spend spring and summer feeding on grass roots to erupt as adult Crane Flies in early Autumn.

With the cooler nights spider webs on bushes and fences will gather dew and sparkle in the morning sun. Many of us will see more spiders in our houses. However, this is not because they are searching for warmth but actually the males searching for mates. Amazingly there are approximately 660 species of spiders resident in the UK.

Rutting displays of deer can be seen and heard in mid Autumn. Not exactly on our doorstep but Bradgate Park to the north of Leicester has herds of both Fallow and Red deer. Their magnificent antlers, which only the stags carry, are formed entirely of bone and are grown in a period of only four months. Each year the multi-pointed antlers are shed in March and new ones grown again. You can watch the amazing spectacle from a safe distance, hear them roar and try to guess the winner.

Mid Autumn will make the late blooming ivy many pollinating friends. Although some consider it a pest plant it rarely harms buildings and trees and when other nectar producing plants have disappeared it supplies hover flies, late-season butterflies and many bee species much needed energy. Take a stroll round the village and see how many species you can see taking advantage of this.

Grey Seals can be seen basking on Blakeney Point and Horsey Gap in Norfolk in late Autumn. Again not exactly on our doorstep but a reasonable day trip from Mawsley. It is a great time to see these fine animals as it is pupping season. The adorable fluffy white pups will suckle for 18-21 days to build up much needed blubber supplies. Watch quietly with binoculars from a respectful distance so as not to disturb these amazing animals.

Please remember bird numbers visiting our gardens to feed in Autumn tend to reduce as they are taking advantage of the seasons rich natural food. Reduce the amount of food you put out to minimize waste and when the winter closes in they will return to delight you.

Some species of birds gather together in late Autumn for safety and warmth. At sunset look out for members of the crow family and starlings flying en masse (in the case of starlings called a murmuration) to their roost.

MAWSLEY FC



Coaches from Mawsley FC recently took part in a training session of a different sort. Rather than putting the players through their paces, the coaches were the ones doing the training - learning how to use the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located on the outside of The Centre At Mawsley and brushing up on their CPR skills.

The session was organised as part of the Weetabix League Heart Start campaign following the tragic loss of a young player who collapsed and died during a match last year. The campaign encourages clubs to install defibrillators and train coaches and club officials on their use. The reason is simple - defibrillators save lives - if used within 3-5



minutes of a cardiac arrest the survival rate jumps from around 6% to 74%.

Mawsley FC were keen to get involved and together with support from TCAM and the Northants Search & Rescue Volunteers who very kindly provided the training, 12 coaches were able to practice their CPR training and learn how to use different types of Defibrillators. Of course everyone hopes that they will never have to use their training in a real life emergency but the more people who are trained in using the AED device then the greater the chance of a happy ending.

Northants Search & Rescue are a group of trained volunteers who are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. They are made up entirely of volunteers and rely solely on fundraising and donations. If you're interested in finding out more or would like to make a donation to help them continue their work then please visit northantssar.org





Mawsley
Touch Rugby



**Mawsley Touch Rugby Club is always looking for new players
16+ Male or female, pro or complete beginner - all are welcome**

Interested? We play on Mawsley sports field Tuesdays at 7:30pm.

E-Mail mawsleytrc@gmail.com, or join our Facebook group for more info.



MAWSLEY VETS FC



Mawsley Vets FC have been formed to allow those that really should know better a chance to strut their stuff one last time! Mawsley FC have kindly helped us to set up a brand new side for anyone over 35 and following a successful facebook campaign and an early season tournament at Cogenhoe United nearly 25 people turned up for the inaugural training session in late July a turnout that was beyond our wildest dreams.

A few hastily arranged friendly games were set up throughout the summer firstly taking on Weedon Vets FC in a well fought contest seeing us race in to a 2-0 lead, although we eventually finished on the losing side it was a great performance for our first ever game.

We then drew at Brixworth United, Northants Police Vets and Kettering FC scoring 2 goals each time.

After at least 10 minutes of negotiation We were at last able to sign our first ever sponsorship deal with South Midlands Plant who kindly purchased us a brand new kit. That gave us the confidence to enter the Northants Sunday Combination Vets League which started in earnest on the 10th September against Spencer Vets. A difficult game against a well-established team saw us 2-1 up only to concede in the dying moments. We were definitely tough to beat, just needed to convert

some chances. After realizing that our striker was wearing boots three sizes too big we went into the next game against Thorplands Club 81 with a little trepidation, which was confirmed when we went 1-0 down before half time with our Centre Half limping off with an old age injury! Two great substitutions in the second half saw us attack with fresh impetus to claim our first ever victory. Deserved 2-1 winners.

With games against Welingborough OGs and Billing United scheduled for October Mawsley Vets currently sit third and unbeaten in the league table and with our number 9 promising to buy a pair of boots that fit we have big hopes for the season ahead.

When we have a home game you can find us huffing and puffing on the pitch at TCAM on Sundays from 10.30am or on Facebook as Mawsley Vets. When we don't have a game we train on the field Sunday mornings at around 10am.

I'd like to say a massive thanks to the committee at Mawsley FC, especially Jim Mortimore and Nick Hughes who have helped us get started. The chaps at South Midlands Plant, the greatest Groundworks company in Northants (contractually obliged) and India 2 Mawsley who have also kindly agreed to sponsor us.

Chris Russell



MAWSLEY FC FUN RUN

It takes more than a downpour to stop the mighty Mawsley Hurricanes! Whilst all of the scheduled games fell victim to the heavy rain on Saturday 4th November, the Under 14 Hurricanes players and families took part in the Kettering Parkrun at Wicksteed Park to raise funds for new kit and equipment.

Despite the weather there was a great turnout with around 25 players and family members taking part - many in their first Parkrun - and with brilliant support from families, friends and sponsors the team managed to raise around £1400 in total.

Perhaps not surprisingly they also decided that the first purchase with the money raised should be rain jackets!

A huge well done to everyone who ran, supported and sponsored and also to the fantastic volunteers and marshalls at Kettering Parkrun.



Michael Poyner



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MAWSLEY BOOK GROUP

Enjoy Reading? Why not join Book Group? We meet once a month to discuss the chosen book, enjoy a glass (or two) of wine together with some delicious nibbles, and a general chat on the state of the nation! For those who prefer there is always tea, coffee or a soft drink, but the nibbles and chat are the same.



Books are chosen in turn by each member who then usually hosts the next meeting. Books chosen over the last few months include '1984', 'The End of the World Running Club', 'The Storied Life of A J Fikry' and 'All the Light We Cannot See'.

For further information call Tricia on 799487

MAWSLEY TODDLERS

Mawsley Toddlers is a popular, friendly group of parents and carers who enjoy time with their children in a safe and exciting environment. Each week there is a craft activity and sensory play based around the theme of the week, and alongside this we offer a variety of toys and books and a snack, as well as a dedicated baby area for our younger members. The Centre offers tea and coffee at a reduced price of 50p per cup.

This term our theme will be "Make Believe" and we will be exploring the world of superheroes, space, pirates, emergency services and pets. We will also have some seasonal activities focussing on fireworks and Christmas.

So get ready to make your own superhero outfit, aliens, puppets, boats, Christmas decorations and more!
We look forward to welcoming back some familiar faces for the new term and meeting some new friends.

Day: Thursday Mornings (term time only)

Time: 9.15am – 11am

Location: the Centre, Mawsley

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

Age: Birth to 4 years old

Join our Facebook page - Mawsley Toddlers - for full details on each week's theme.

Contact one of the volunteers if you would like more information:

Nikki (07432 546409)

Liz (07834 524004)

Nicki (07534 162397)



ARE YOU A CARER?

Why not join Mawsley and Broughton Carers Group?
You will be able chat with other carers over tea or coffee and hear from relevant speakers who understand the challenges you face.

**For more information please ask at
the Mawsley Village Surgery,
School Lane, Mawsley, NN14 1SN
(01536 791300).**

**We look forward to seeing you
there!**





Summer Concert 2017 was a great evening, with almost a full house. The weather was fine so we were all in good spirits.

The performance opened with One Voice by Barry Manilow, featuring a haunting solo from our lovely Lauren. We sang a mixture of songs ranging from the Mamas and Papas Dream a little Dream, Frank Sinatras' New York New York to Vic Copes sterling solo from Mary Poppins, all accompanied by our delightful pianist Emma. Of course none of this would happen without the guidance of our amazing MD Carole.

Polished Brass gave a polished performance. It always amazes me how much wonderful sound comes from so few brass instruments!

The beautiful young solo violinist Maleea delighted us with her performance. She was so calm and professional, what a treat. We all enjoyed a lovely evening, culminating in the Proms style finale as usual. The audience participation was magnificent!

Thank you to choir member Rosie and team for organising the raffle, which raised around £150 for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Well done!

If you wish to join the Choir rehearsals are held in The Main Hall TCAM Thursday evenings 7:30 – 9:30 during school term time.

NEW MEMBERS WILL BE MADE MOST WELCOME!
NO AUDITIONS JUST COME ALONG AND HAVE FUN!

Contact details SECRETARY 07793 386232

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