



# Mawsley News & Views

January/February 2012

## Older children's play area one step closer

We are running towards an older children's play area – with just one (big!) hurdle to go.

The lack of facilities for older children / young people (broadly those over about 10 / 11), is the single biggest failing in the design of the village.

Finding equipment that would appeal to such a wide age range was in itself quite a challenge. Nevertheless a challenge overcome, as we have identified a range of sturdy stainless steel kit guaranteed to both provide hours of fun and also use up the energy of even those most full of beans. It is also attractive and stylish. And yes, for anyone from 10 to 18 - and maybe to 58 !

The plan also extends to re-erecting the basketball hoops & goals, which were on the playing field before the sports pitches were laid, with tarmac areas in front of each.

This will all go in the area beyond the grasscrete, between the football and cricket pitches.

I mentioned a big hurdle – it's the money. The overall cost is £53,600, so finding grants is really the core issue. We have focussed on the grants available from the Landfill Tax, which has the great benefit of normally aiming to fund the majority of a project's costs (most grant schemes do not).

Not unnaturally it is a very competitive process to get that funding but the good news is that we have got through the first stage and have been asked to submit a full application. To be clear, this does not in any way guarantee that the full application will be successful - even for part of the money - but it's a good start.

So 'when?' I hear you ask. The decision will take some weeks once the full application has been submitted, which has to be by the 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

The Maud Elkington Trust has got the ball rolling by kindly giving us a grant of £1250.



An unusual view of the zip-wire included in our plans. *(Editor: It probably looks like this when you're lying upside down on the ground underneath it!!)*



An Aero-Skate, also included in our scheme. A strenuous & challenging piece of equipment. *(Editor: No comment!)*

I would also like to thank on your behalf Kettering Borough Council who have undertaken to inspect and maintain the equipment in perpetuity and to insure it. This is a vital contribution as the expertise and ongoing costs required for this are substantial.

This process has taken a long time and a lot of effort but we are now closer to seeing it come to fruition than ever before. The MVA will make the best case it can in its grant application and I hope to be able to bring you good news in a few months' time.

Bob Littler

# What's in a Name?




Thanks from the editor to:

Frances Allbury, Bob Littler, Richard Meredith, Richard Hoy, Pat Downing and Alan Barron (visitor) for their suggestions, some more serious than others, for a new title for this newsletter. Between them they came up with:

Mawsley Pressads	Mawsley Speaks	Mawsley Melange
Mawsley Times	Northants Northerly	Ay up – Mawsley
Mawsley Newslines	Out & About	Residents' Rubbish
Mawsley Observer	Mawsley News & Views	Community Conscience (or
Mawsley Clarion	Mawsley Mercury	Unconscious)
Mawsley Mail	Mawsley Messenger	Pat's Problems, Placebos and
Mawsley Shemale	Mawsley Meteor	Platitudes
Mawsley News – North	Mawsley Monitor	Mawsley Eye )
Mawsley Newsheet	Mawsley Mosquito	) See letter page
		AMEN )

Some of these were never in with a chance and I am not going to embarrass anyone by attributing them to their authors. Two of the contributors suggested Mawsley Messenger, which I thought was very suitable, but the revamped Four Spires magazine has beaten us to it! I think **News & Views** describes exactly what the newsletter is about and hope you approve.



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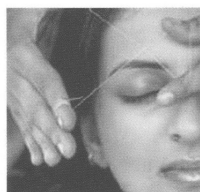
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## **New(ish) to the village?**

Firstly, welcome. I hope you like it here and will enjoy a pleasant stay.

But a part of enjoyment is usually knowing people, making new friends and perhaps taking an active part in community life. "How?" you may say.

Community life here in Mawsley is very active; there are many voluntary groups and pay-for things to take part in. One of the main groups is the Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA), which has been at the forefront of village developments since the start of the village.

The MVA runs Fireworks Night, Fun Day and Harvest Ball amongst other things; currently it also is working on a new play area for older children. The village newsletter is published by the MVA. Also the directors of The Centre at Mawsley are drawn from the directors of The MVA. (Directors because they are limited companies; in effect however they are the trustees).

Anyway enough of the background; my key message to you is that just because the MVA and The Centre are well-established definitely does not mean that new villagers "can't join yet". We don't care whether you have been here for 10 days or 10 years, we welcome your input. We are always keen for new ideas, and to take advantage of your skills, background and experience.

You don't have to commit large amounts of time or take on responsibilities; in fact just get in touch without any commitment, and see what you think.

Mawsley needs your contribution so we can continue to develop as an inclusive and fun community!

Bob Littler  
Chair MVA

P.S. We really do need help re financial issues for The Centre. If, for example, Capital Reserve and Operating Reserve means anything to you please get in touch. We do not currently have a Financial Director, as we have been unable to replace Chris Winter.

### **Panto Sponsors**

MADs would like to thank:

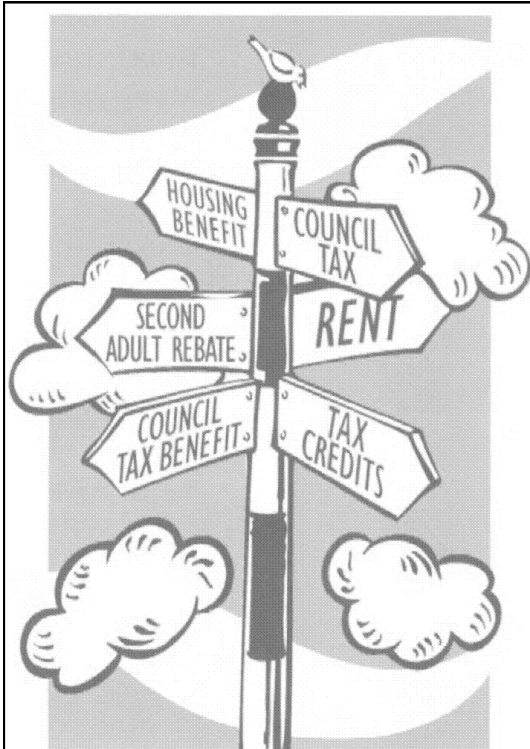
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for their generous sponsorship contributions towards the production  
of *Snow White & the Many Dwarfs*.

## KBC is coming to Mawsley!

Tracey Kennedy, their Benefit Take-up/Social Inclusion Officer, will be running a drop-in surgery once a month in The Centre. Details below.



## Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and DWP Drop in Surgery in the bar/lounge of The Centre at Mawsley on:

2nd February 2012

1st March 2012

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# I am truly embarrassed. The subject of my embarrassment? LITTER.

It all started when my kindly neighbour said I didn't seem to be doing my bit about litter. Now I admit that I wasn't really listening up to that point so had missed the subtlety of my neighbor's remark. Hence I found myself unsure of the meaning.....was I not clearing enough litter or was I not creating enough????? It is important that one understands which is being commented upon!

I was forced to mumble some irrelevant platitude about the weather and rushed off to deal with some previously forgotten important issue.

Thus, I have been forced to consider my position on litter and have concluded that litter in Mawsley is inherently unfair.

The providers of litter (they most definitely know who they are) and the non-providers of litter (the vast majority of villagers) generate litter very unequally.



The whole village suffers litter unequally. It depends where in the village you walk and live.

This very unfair situation must be rectified without delay.

I propose the following solution to litter's inequality in Mawsley.

The provision of a vast array of litterbins should remove the need for casual 'dropping' of litter.

Every household to have a litter receptacle placed on the pavement outside the gate/door. TCAM and the field to be surrounded by 25 such bins.

Each household to guarantee that this receptacle be filled by the last Friday of the month.

On the first Monday of the month, each household to be responsible for emptying their individual bin into the garden of the house two doors to the left. (This should be increased by one door to the left each month.)

TCAM to ensure that the contents of all 25 litterbins from TCAM and the field are deposited in the gardens of individuals whose names/addresses will be drawn by MPC lottery.

My solution has one glaring weakness – there is no reduction in litter around the village.....but it will be pleasing to note that everyone takes their turn in having litter surrounding their property.

G. Grump Esq.

*Editor. What a load of rubbish!*

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# Mawsley Day Nursery

& out of school club

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**Mawsley Day Nursery is a purpose built nursery that is privately owned by Katrina Taylor. After opening the nursery in March 2008 the nursery was only registered for 61 children, but since then we have nearly doubled in size and are now registered for 106 children. We provide care for children from birth up to 11 years and now have:**

- ♦ **two baby rooms providing care for up to 30 under twos**
- ♦ **a toddler room catering for up to 20 two years olds**
- ♦ **two pre-school rooms offering 60 places**
- ♦ **Out Of School Club and Holiday Playscheme.**

As a nursery we understand that a child learns more when they are having fun through a variety of experiences and



making choices in a secure and safe environment, therefore we make this our priority whilst they are in our care. We believe in embedding traditional values, such as manners, respect for themselves and others and basic life skills. We are sure many of you can remember a time with no mobile phones, computers or endless hours of TV, just plain old time spent playing with pots and pans, making dens behind the sofa, climbing trees and general innocent mischief. Although we can't get back to that we try our best to provide a balance of old and new. We also provide a nature playgroup (Willows

Wonderland) which allows children to climb trees, make mud pies and simply spend time running around an open field.

One of the main concerns I had as a parent myself was security, and from feedback from other parents I found that this is a shared concern. With this in mind at Mawsley Day Nursery we have made sure every aspect is covered. Upon entering the nursery you are greeted by a CCTV entry system. Once you have been buzzed in you will enter our secure lobby where a member of the team will personally greet you and your child. We also have the added security bonus of having CCTV fitted within each room in the nursery and in the outdoor areas.

At Mawsley Day Nursery we also understand that food is one of the most important parts of a child's daily routine. We all want to know our children are eating well and you can rest assured at Mawsley Day Nursery they will. By ensuring that our Heartbeat awarded menus are nutritious and well-balanced, and by staff leading the children by good example, we will encourage all the children to enjoy their food!

We also have our Out Of School Club that enables all children to participate in a wide range of activities and thrilling experiences, both inside and outside the setting. With a casual atmosphere we allow the children to make their own choices, whilst allowing them to take risks in a safe and secure environment. We offer a wide range of sessions, and there is no limit on how many you need to use; we will even accommodate ad-hock booking patterns. As well as the before and after school club we also offer a holiday club with full child care from 8am till 6pm.

Please book to come and see for yourself.  
We look forward to hearing from you.



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## Inside the centre of The Centre

*(continuing to look at issues we face in running The Centre)*

Firstly I would like to thank the two villagers who have volunteered their expertise in response to my description of our coffee machine dilemma.

### TAKINGS

All we have to do is to take the money from the till and put in the bank – right?

If it were my business, and my money, then that's probably all I would do. But it's not my business – it's yours. Therefore we have a detailed process to reconcile cash amounts vs. the amounts the tills tell us we have taken vs. bank credits **every day**.

Equally this extends to card takings too. We reconcile the amounts being paid into the bank by the card issuers with the amounts on the till and the amounts advised (by the tills) to the card authorisers. This is sometimes tricky as there is a delay of 3-5 days between the card transaction at the bar and the money appearing in the bank – complicated by takings after midnight appearing on the till for the full day (e.g. Friday) but going into the following day (i.e. Saturday) on the card system.

So checking it takes time, but check it we must, otherwise we would not have discovered as we did recently that bank entries vs. known takings were down by £272.20 across 10 days.

After much investigation we have established that the tills, just before they packed up, were not forwarding some transactions. As the tills have been replaced that information is lost.

However we keep paper copies - the ones the customer signs - of all card transactions; we will be able to use these to prove the transactions to the card issuer; and therefore get the money.

So as you can see, running the finance at The Centre is not quite as simple and a lot more time-consuming for Debs (our Admin Officer), our accountants, and the volunteer Directors, than you may think.

Bob Littler



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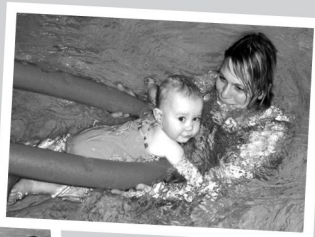
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## Letters to the Editor

### MVA donation to the NKPA

The MVA very kindly and spontaneously offered the £255.00 proceeds of the Christmas raffle at The Centre to the NKPA (Northamptonshire Kidney Patients Association).

It will be put to very good use in contributing to the welfare of those in the County with kidney disease; the effects of which are debilitating and can prevent the patient from gainful employment.

The NKPA assist patients at home across the county with support for medical equipment not always available from the NHS, social evenings and occasionally days out. Additionally we supply items of equipment to the medical renal units, of which there are three – Northampton, Kettering and Corby – that are necessary but which particularly in times of financial constraint, as now, the NHS has insufficient available finance. The MVA contribution is therefore most welcome and is gratefully received by the NKPA in assisting us with our funding.

We are also available to give some advice to those who require it about coping with this medical condition. (If you are or know of someone who may benefit from our assistance please feel free to contact me on 799490)

David Wilson, Chairman,  
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE KIDNEY PATIENTS ASSOC.



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Dear Editor

As a regular visitor to Mawsley I am writing to congratulate the Scout Group on their increase in numbers and the report on their activities in December's Newsletter - well done.

On a separate topic I appreciate the irony displayed by G. Grump Esq - although I rather think it would be totally lost on the type of people who allow their dogs to foul the playing fields and other areas of the village. Perhaps if you get a new photographer they could photograph the offenders and publish one each month in the Newsletter!!

Alan Barron

*(Editor: I'm still trying to find a photographer. Any offers? I do now have a 'photoshop' wizard helping out. )*

### Great British Satire

Ma'am,

How delighted I was to see that the great art of British Satire is alive and well and flourishing in your excellent publication (Dec 2011)!

From the article written by one Mr G Grump in which we are expected to believe that anti-social behaviour is all down to a lack of canine presence in the village to the most amusing piece by Mr Jacobs advising us how we can make an Estate Agent's life even easier..... Oh, how my heart was lifted! I shall indeed improve my windows and general decoration of the house and ensure my kerbs are trim and tidy in order that Estate Agents do not have to work too hard for their fees!

Please, keep up the good work and ensure at least one piece of fresh satirical writing is included per publication.

*Mr R Meredith (address withheld at the Editors discretion).*

### "Noms de Plume"

Ma'am

It has long been held by Newspaper Editors that if a contributor or a letter writer is unwilling to provide a full name and address then their contribution and/or letter will not be published.

Having seen articles in your latest publication (Dec 2011) written by a "G Grump Esq" and a "Bob Littler", can I assume that you do not hold with this policy?

*Mr Avery T. Deacon-Harry (the T stands for Tom)*

*(Editor: Names and addresses of all contributors must be provided to the editor. They may be withheld from publication at her discretion.)*

### Whither Philosophy?

Ma'am,

Your excellent "leader" (Dec 2011) leads me to the even stronger belief that Mawsley is developing as a great centre of Philosophical thinking for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

From the early days of occupation where early settlers were forever asking, or being asked, the question "Why" to some of the significant questions now being posed in your article – "Who makes it tick"; "Should I be helping" and "Have they actually asked me". These are all excellent issues for exploration and, indeed, questions that deserve an answer.

Let us hope someone arrives who can resolve all of these dilemmas!

Faithfully (or is that ever faithfully?),

*John Stuart Mill.*

### What's in a name?

Ma'am,

May I suggest that the Newsletter, in recognition of its cutting edge satire, be renamed "Mawsley Eye"?

*Mr Ian Hislop.*

Ma'am

Reflecting our fundamental Christian beliefs, and without wishing to offend any other global religions, non-conformists or, indeed, Catholics, may I suggest that the Newsletter, in future, be called "AMEN"? This is an acronym and stands for "Advertising Mawsley Entrepreneurs and News".

Might I further suggest that you could include a Music Review section to which I would happily contribute? This could be called "Amen Corner".

*Andy Fairweather Low.*



### Last but not least.

Ma'am,

Traditionally the bottom right hand letter in the Letters Page is comic by nature.

Let this be the exception to the rule.

*Mrs G Grump.*

# Parish Council Report

Happy New Year from the Parish Council. We hope you all had a great Christmas!

## Community Fund

Firstly we'd like to remind you of The Village Community Fund

What is it?

A pot of money provided by the developers for "the maintenance of the community building" and "support for recreational or artistic activities". The Fund belongs to the village, and is managed by the Parish Council. To be clear, it is not the Parish Council's money; simply they consider and decide upon applications for grants from it.

The rules of the Fund are simple:

- The project must be of benefit to the Parish and/or a significant number of parishioners.
- Maximum grant is 75% of the total project cost – i.e. at least 25% must come from the group's own resources, or from other grant sources. Minimum grant is £250.
- Evidence of spend, receipts for both the grant amount and total amount (so the 75% maximum can be verified), is required.
- A business plan is required for applications above £5,000.

To date the Fund has helped:

- The Centre. As the only fittings provided were carpets and curtains the Fund contributed towards equipping the building: - e.g. all the bar, lounge and cellar; all the tables and chairs; shelving in the storeroom / cupboards; till system etc.. Loans have also been made from the Fund to help cover trading losses.
- The Cricket Club, Scouts, WI, Youth Group, Mawsley Church; Baby & Toddler Group and Mawsley Amateur Dramatics have all benefited from grants too.

So if your group would like help towards a project then maybe the Community Fund can help. The first step is to contact the Parish Clerk (Diana MacCarthy [mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk)). The Fund stands at over £30,000 currently, but once it's gone it's gone!

## Future Planning & Development

In November, we received a presentation from Julia Baish of Kettering Borough Council regarding a consultation on future planning and development in and around Mawsley, referred to in the minutes of the November meeting. We are pleased to confirm that emerging policy for Mawsley is that of restraint, with any development in or adjacent to the village being likely to be small scale to meet local community needs. Large scale development would not fit with emerging policy.

## Road markings & Speed Limits

December's meeting saw Cllr Jim Harker and Chris Bond from the County Council consulting with us on road and pavement plans for the village. We're offering our suggestions of where we'd like to see road markings; what sort of signage we feel is appropriate; zig-zag markings by the school entrance; a pedestrian crossing near the entrance to Barnwell Court; and a revision of the newly painted rights of way/road layout round the island outside the Surgery. Any comments or suggestions you may have will be considered and passed on. We can't guarantee we'll get everything we want agreed by the Highways Department, but we can at least make our case.

We are pushing to have more of the lights turned on at the entrances to the village, on safety grounds. The County Council are also discussing plans to make Mawsley a 20mph zone, while reducing the speed limit between the 2 entrances to 40mph, with wooden sign structures at each end to better mark the transition to and from national speed limit. We hope you'll agree, these steps should make our village even safer.

Mawsley Parish Council



## Meetings

The **Parish Council** meets on the first Monday of the month, in the meeting room at The Centre at 7.30pm. Members of the public may attend and there is time at the beginning of the meeting for them to speak to raise issues and ask questions for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

The next meetings will be on :

6th February and 5th March

The agenda for each meeting is posted on the two village notice boards before the meeting and on the village website.

(There is one notice board on Loddington Way close to the cycle path near the second entrance to the village. The other one is on the green at the bottom Sloe Lane at its junction with Hedgerow Lane and Pasture Close.)

The **MVA** meets on third Thursday of the month at The Centre at 8pm.

The next meetings will be on:

19th January and 16th February.



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Em: [willow30landscapes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:willow30landscapes@yahoo.co.uk)

# Quality Time

Your guide to all that is fun filled  
and family friendly in Mawsley.

Happy new year to you all!

I feel like 2011 went so fast and the Brown family's plans for 2012 are well underway with birthdays, holidays and events all being arranged, mapping out another year here in Mawsley village.

In the year ahead there is plenty going on at The Centre – definitely something for everyone. My pick is the MAD Pantomime which this year is 'Snow White and the Many Dwarfs'. It doesn't matter how old you are, it is a hilarious event to share with family and friends. My children love being able to recognise the many faces on stage (some of whom are their friends at school) and I like being able to show my support for an amazing group of residents who work hard to plan, produce and perform each year.

Hope to see you there!

X

Emma

## Mawsley Bumps and Buggies

Meets every Monday during term time in the bar at The Centre from 9am - 11am.  
50p per adult.

Come and enjoy a drink while the babies and children play.

We are looking for someone to run this group. It involves buying the tea, coffee, milk and biscuits, setting out and clearing away the toys and collecting the money.

If you would like to run the Mawsley Bumps and Buggies group please contact Sarah on 790517 or 07776 295848 or call at The Centre on a Monday morning,

## Mawsley Baby and Toddler Group

Every Thursday from  
9.30am until 11.00am at The Centre.



£1.50 for the first child and 50p per child thereafter.

**We have toys, books, play dough, craft,  
a singing session and a snack.**

Tea and coffee can be purchased at the bar.

**Sarah Hart - 790517**

## CELEBRATE!

Maddie  
of Birch Spinney  
Happy Birthday  
on the  
20th January  
Love Lindsay and family

Happy 3rd  
Birthday  
Oliver  
24 January  
Lots of Love  
Mummy & Daddy  
xxx



Happy 2nd Birthday William  
on 9th January  
All our love  
Mummy, Daddy & George.  
Xxx

Happy 4th Birthday George  
on 11th January  
All our love  
Mummy, Daddy William.  
xxx

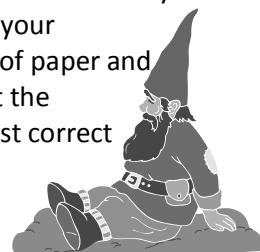


Happy 10th Birthday  
William Brown  
Love from  
Mum, Dad, Maddie,  
Phoebe and Alfie

## How Many Dwarfs?

Watch out! There are dwarfs about! And they're coming to see you in Mawsley on 4th and 5th February.

How many dwarfs can you find in this issue of Mawsley News & Views? Write your answer, with your name and telephone number on a piece of paper and hand it in when you come to see them at the Pantomime. There'll be a prize for the first correct answer pulled out at each performance.



# The Centre at Mawsley

## Wedding Fayre

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
12 until 4pm  
Free entry



Are you looking for a venue for your Wedding?

Come to The Centre and look at the superb facilities we have to offer. Our main hall will be transformed, with the marquee, into a room fit for your Wedding. See our amazing new lasers and mood lighting. Meet our caterer who can provide a delicious wedding breakfast.

There will be many exhibitors who will provide information for all aspects of your big day. Everything you need for your big day can be chosen here at The Centre at Mawsley.

Brides and Grooms – send your details to Jane@thecentreatmawsley.co.uk or fill in the form in the office to enjoy a complimentary glass of bubbly on your arrival at the Wedding Fayre.



## Valentine's Disco

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February  
8pm to midnight  
£5 per person  
Over 18's only.



Tickets available from the bar or in the office.



## January Drinks Promotion

Buy 8 drinks and get the 9<sup>th</sup> free.  
Obtain your loyalty card from the bar at TCAM.

## Pampered Chef Party

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Starts 8pm

Come along and sample

delicious food cooked by our chef.

The Pampered Chef range will be available to purchase and drinks on sale at the bar.

Please ask at the bar or in the office for your complimentary ticket.

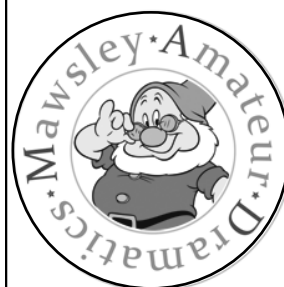


## Christmas Quiz

The main hall was full to capacity for the fantastic Christmas quiz hosted by Robert Castley. The quiz was won by Mawsley Car Valeting. A reminder that the quiz is held in the bar on the last Thursday of each month and starts at 8pm.

The Centre is looking for people to host quiz night. Could you be a quiz master for an evening? Contact Jane Twisleton to find out more!

Thank you to everyone who bought a square in the Christmas raffle. We presented £255 to David Wilson, the Chairman of the Northamptonshire Kidney Patients Association.



present

## Snow White and the Many Dwarfs

at The Centre at Mawsley

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm and 7.30pm

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm

Tickets £4 per seat. (toddlers on laps are FREE!)

Tickets on sale now, available from Tricia Cottington

Email: cottington616@btinternet.com

Tel: 01536 799487

<http://www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk/whats-on>

To purchase tickets - Please drop in at the bar or call us on 799528.



'The Centre at Mawsley'



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**maawsley  
kidz  
kare**

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Hi my name is NICOLA WISDOM, a childcare professional and I am pleased to announce that I have now opened Mawsley Kidz Kare, right in the heart of Mawley Village. My aim in opening Mawsley Kidz Kare was to mix the structure and facilities of a Nursery, with the individual and bespoke care provided by home based childcare.

Please feel free to call for details and arrange to come and have a look round and most importantly see if what I have set up works for you and your child. I look forward to meeting you!!

**Call me on 01536 791640 or 07969 000141**

## Save your milk bottle tops and help the Air Ambulance

A colleague of mine is able to get 5p donated to the Air Ambulance for every plastic milk bottle top she is able to collect.

This is a worthy cause as some in the village can personally attest having been helped by it, and one that is totally dependent on donations; they receive no Government / NHS grants.

This village must use hundreds, possibly thousands, every week; imagine what a difference that would make.

Why not help? Just bring tops either to The Centre, or to me at 12 Loddington Way (opposite the pond). Just leave them by the door if I am out.

So get drinking lots of milk – it's good for you. Might reduce the chances of you needing the Air Ambulance!

Bob Littler

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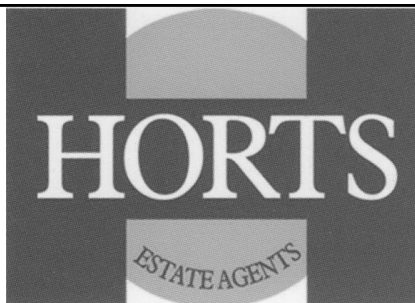
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waiting buyers.

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Mobile: 07970607085

**RAY JACOBS**

As promised, an answer to the  
question.. Why choose a  
Northampton based  
agent to sell my  
house in Mawsley?  
By Ray Jacobs your  
local property  
consultant for Horts  
Estate Agents.



## Selling in Mawsley? Northampton versus Kettering Agents

If you are thinking of selling during 2012 the first  
decision you may want to consider is whether to use an  
estate agent based in Northampton or Kettering.

Although I have made a huge impact recently, eight  
completions in the last six weeks of 2011, board  
presence still tells me that a majority of sellers are still  
choosing Kettering agents. Is that because most of our  
buyers come from Kettering or because Kettering is  
closer to Mawsley than Northampton?

Mawsley, with its excellent facilities has become an  
extremely popular village. I know why I moved here  
with my family. This popularity comes with a premium.  
A Kettering buyer will find it far more expensive to  
move to Mawsley that to stay in the suburbs  
surrounding their own town. My research, over the two  
years I have sold property on our development, has  
shown that almost none of the residents here came  
from the Kettering area. Did you?

Northampton on the other hand has prices that are in  
keeping with ours. Families looking to move from  
Northampton to the Northern villages will be  
considering the usual suspects, Holcot, Old, and  
Walgrave, etc. Although these are very pretty and  
traditional places to live they do not offer the great  
amenities that we have. They are not as family friendly  
as here. My colleagues at our Northampton Town  
Centre branch will often arrange viewings on homes  
that I am selling and these are to buyers that have  
sometimes not even considered Mawsley. We are still  
the 'unknown diamond' of the North!

So selling your property through me, your 'on the  
doorstep personal agent', not only gives you great  
service and unrivalled knowledge but can also spread  
the net and capture an untapped audience - an  
audience that will pay the right money to be here.

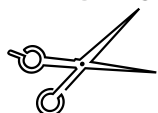
**Unhappy with your current agent? For an unrivalled  
personal service who better than a fellow villager to sell  
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**Still unsure whether to use Horts?**

**Then check what our previous clients  
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# SPACE

Did you find much **SPACE** in the last few weeks?

All over the country thousands of people went to church to find something. Newspapers reported of services with standing room only. Carol services, nativity, Midnight Mass. It seems that in our present climate with economic uncertainty and social uprisings, terror threats and military activity for our own forces, people are wanting to know something is constant, something brings comfort, that there is hope.

And Mawsley was no different. We saw larger numbers than usual at the Nativity the week before Christmas and then standing room only as over 250 crammed into the Parish Church in Cransley for the Christmas Eve Carol Service. Then on Christmas morning over 60 squeezed into the bar area at the Centre to celebrate the birth of Jesus. All these people found **SPACE** to step out from a busy time to reflect on something else.



As we move into 2012 **SPACE** is the theme for us at Mawsley Church. At different times of the week we want to create **SPACE** for people to step off the wheel, **SPACE** to think, to meet others, to support others and be supported and to pray for our village and all who live here.

Perhaps you have a lot to think about or your life seems just too much and the idea of finding some **SPACE** appeals. Please feel free to get in touch or join us at one of the times we meet. See our website [www.mawsleychurch.net](http://www.mawsleychurch.net) email us or phone Richard or Mandy 790140.

We are meeting at the Centre every week at 10:30am. There are children's activities on three of the weeks and an all-age service on the other. For a more traditional church and service there is the Parish Church in Cransley or our sister church in Broughton.

## Services in Mawsley @ 10:30am

### January

15th All-age service  
22nd Communion with Children's groups  
29th Parish Celebration

### February

5th **SPACE** on Sunday - Cafe Church  
12th Celebration with children's groups  
19th All-age service  
26th Communion with children's groups

### March

4th **SPACE** on Sunday - Cafe Church  
11th Celebration  
18th Mothers' Day Celebration

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ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, Parish of Great Cransley with Mawsley

Services in Cransley for January and February

8<sup>th</sup> Jan. Holy Communion @ 9.30am  
15<sup>th</sup> Jan. Holy Communion @ 8am  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. Family Praise @ 10.30am  
29<sup>th</sup> Jan. Parish Service for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
(held at The Centre, Mawsley)  
5<sup>th</sup> Feb. Holy Communion @ 8am  
12<sup>th</sup> Feb. Holy Communion @ 9.30am  
19<sup>th</sup> Feb. Holy Communion @ 8am  
22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Ash Wednesday Holy Communion @ 7.30pm  
26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Family Praise @ 10.30am

Date for your diary: Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> April

*Concert by Corby Male Voice Choir*

Andy's Café, Third Saturday each month 10 – 11.30am:  
Cransley Village Hall

*Free Café serving tea, coffee, bacon rolls, cakes etc.  
with morning papers*

**Everyone welcome : Children's activities at the Family  
Service and refreshments (with cakes)**



*An 'Abba' performance by Church members at a  
previous concert.*



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## A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL !

**Thank you to all** who made the Santa sleigh and Grotto of Mawsley so festive. Santa enjoyed seeing the many children who came out to greet him, some with their letters and pictures, which he has taken home with him to the North Pole. We also had a special guest! . . . . Rudolph!! M.A.D were **raising money this year for Cransley Hospice**, which we feel, is a very worthy recipient in the local community. Thanks for all your kind donations which raised £802!

Thank you to Bob Holland, our soundman, who responded to last year's concerns from residents who couldn't hear us coming! It was very gratifying to receive a 'thank you' card from new residents whose children, aged 7 and 5, are now delighted to know that Santa lives in Mawsley.

Santa's Grotto was in The Centre and it was just like the North Pole in there with the village working and playing together with the clubs of Mawsley each doing a different festive activity for the children (big or small). They also each donated to the charity so thank you. You all made it very festive.

Our intention in running both these events was to bring some festive cheer to the village when Santa came to visit, and we certainly didn't wish to cause offence. The events only run for one long weekend, and we make sure that we finish before it gets too late.

Santa hopes to be back next year, so watch out for him then!

Happy New Year to you all from  
Mawsley Amateur Dramatics Society.  
See you at the Panto!



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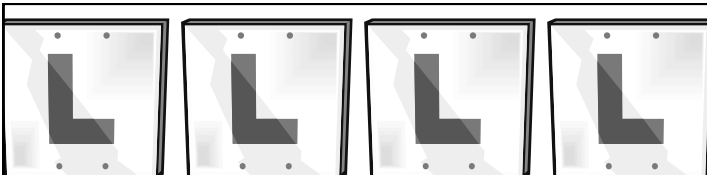
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[Andy@andybdriving.com](mailto:Andy@andybdriving.com)



*A Happy New Year to everyone and we hope you all had a fun festive season.*

*Off we go into another year and although it may bring struggles it will hopefully bring good things too. The WI may be of help with that as we have one or two really informative meetings this year, the first being in February with 'Valentine Cookery' and 'Flowers for the Home' to help with ideas for your flowers whether bought or from the garden. Also in March we have 'Economical Meat Cuts' with Michael from Waterloo Cottage in Great Oxendon. He will give ideas for cheaper cuts and how to cook them and as we are all tightening our belts it could be very helpful. Everyone is welcome to our meetings and it is only £3 with refreshments included.*

*Our January meeting was a very relaxing and informative one with Kirsty Wilcox our resident Reflexologist. If you're interested in alternative therapy do give her a try. We will also be holding a 'Tea Dance' in March so if you're interested let us know as it will be open to all and we need you men out there to come along and give us a twirl! Our posters are always in the notice board and also a programme. If you would like one please call 791186 or 799116.*

**To advertise your business in**

**Mawsley News & Views**

please contact Pat Rowley  
rowleypj@btinternet.com  
01536 791881

The next issue is due out on 7th March  
Adverts to be received by 24th February.



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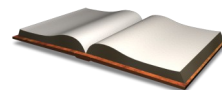
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## Mawsley Book Group



If you enjoy reading why not join us on the third Wednesday of the month for a lively discussion and some light refreshment.

Books we have read recently include 'The Help' and 'A Prayer for Owen Meany'. The book for February is 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks' by Rebecca Skloot. If you would like to come along ring Tricia on 799487.

## Mawsley Art Group



Never mind if you have never painted before, or if the last time you did was at school. If you have a couple of hours free on a Thursday morning, why not join our small friendly group and have a go.

On the other hand, you might be quite experienced – so much the better.

There's no pressure. We learn from each other and some of us have done some work good enough to frame! How many people have original signed water colours on their walls?

Contact Les on 01536 799487 if any of this has struck a chord. Note – there are no costs involved apart from acquiring materials. We can advise on the latter if you are at all unsure.

## Line Dancing

We are a self-help group, meeting to dance at The Centre, on Thursdays from 1pm - 2.30pm., with occasional visits from a dance teacher to keep us on track. Our dances are simple and easy to follow so if the idea of stepping out to country music appeals to you come and join us. We pay £3 per session to cover the cost of the Hall.



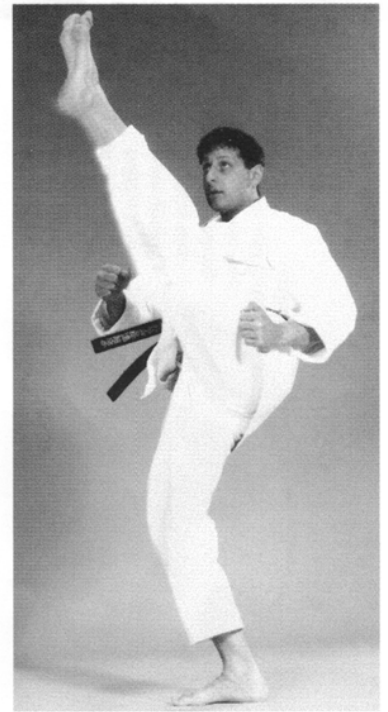
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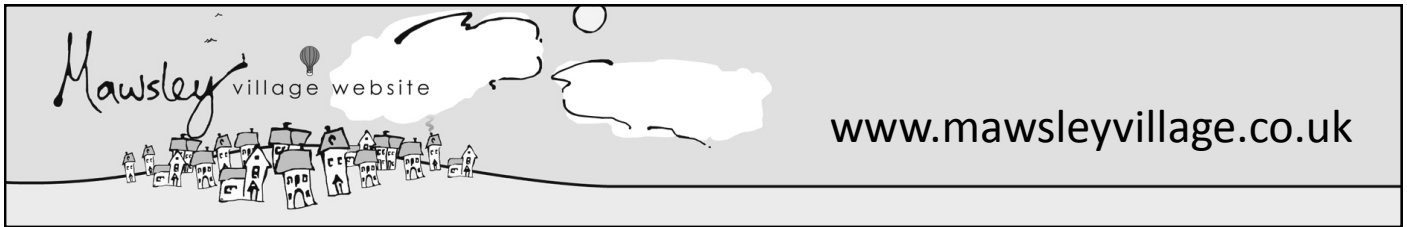
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Duncan Webster is our village webmaster. But he doesn't just look after both the village and TCAM websites for us, he provides them, free of charge, through his company 1PCS Web Design. He has sponsored the village site since 2005. This is a service that is easy to take for granted but is of great value to residents and visitors to Mawsley. How does he do it? Are we making the most of it? I wanted to thank him but also to ask a few questions.

*Sorry to be blunt, but does anyone actually look at it? We live here; we know what's going on anyway.*

In December 2011 the TCAM website had 2000 visits. Half of those were for the big screen TV Schedule and Events page. It's how the people who live here can check what's on at The Centre tonight. Your newsletter is all very well but there comes a stage when it's six weeks old. That's when people need to go on-line. Also they recycle your Newsletter, then remember there was a hairdresser they wanted to try out and need to find the number. There are also people looking for a wedding or party venue and they check us out.

*I'll be blunt again. Sometimes I do check it out and find that some of the items are out of date. That's very annoying!*

Any website is only as good as the content that's provided. The main Mawsley site is still the main portal for TCAM, School, Medical and Dental Centre, Church, Mawsley Village Association, Parish Council and of course the Digital copy of the Mawsley Village newsletter from yourself. All these areas need looking at by the individual parties to view their entry and get it updated for the new year. The section that currently needs the most attention is the Mawsley Interest Groups as some of those sections are really out of date and it doesn't show them off, or the website, in their best light.

*But we're not technologically minded. How do we update our section?*

Well it's a simple case of sending us an email to [news@mawsleyvillage.co.uk](mailto:news@mawsleyvillage.co.uk) and we will do the rest. My company, 1PCS Web Design, sponsors both sites which means it is free to have your sections updated and my team will endeavour to refresh and get your changes done as soon as possible.

*Are there any changes in the pipeline?*

With the success of the TCAM website for driving Events we have decided to redesign the main village website and we would be interested in speaking to any Mawsley residents who have some historic information and photographs about the village in the early years. We want to update the village map as well as create a new map with a timeline facility showing how the village was developed. Please contact [Duncan@1pcs.co.uk](mailto:Duncan@1pcs.co.uk) if you can help or call me on 07977 422220

*Thank you Duncan and your team!*

*This is also a good opportunity to say thank you again to Claire Jones who designed the two village logos and donated them to us many years ago. We have been using the MVA one since 2003 and The Centre one since it opened at the end of 2006. They have certainly stood the test of time and have converted well to mastheads for the websites. Claire is a talented lady who was also responsible for the school and Mawsley Church logos. Thank you Claire.*

TV Schedule - Next Three Events		
Monday, January 9, 2012 FA Cup: Arsenal v Leeds Utd.; KO 7:45 7:30 - 9:45	Wednesday, January 11, 2012 Carling Cup semi-final: Manchester City v Liverpool; KO 7:45	Sunday, January 15, 2012 Newcastle Utd. v QPR; KO 1:30; then Swansea City v Arsenal; KO 4:00



# 1st Mawsley Scout Group



2012 here we come.....

Back in December a lot of Beavers and their parents ventured on to the ice at Beckworth's and hopefully had a great time.

Beavers, along with Cubs and Scouts, ran a stall at Santa's Grotto with guess the number of jelly beans in a jar (no we didn't eat any... honest!), and ice a biscuit (we never knew you could make such red icing!!)

We will be working towards our Explore and Health and Fitness Activity badges this term. So if you see any Beavers with a compass in their hand don't be surprised and hopefully they will be heading the right way!

We have been invited to attend the District Beaver New Year's Party at Kids Play on the 21<sup>st</sup> January where the Beavers will be able to have fun, and the Leaders might be tempted to go on the slides! Also we are hoping to take the 6 oldest Beavers to the District Beaver Sleepover (although sleep might be very hard to come by!!!)

If anyone would be interested in becoming a Beaver Scout Leader (subject to CRB checks) we would love to hear from you.

Hawk, Kingfisher and Kestrel

## 1st Mawsley Cub Pack

A big thank you to our leaders **Phil, Claire and Michelle** for all your support in 2011.

AND..... a BIG WELL DONE to **Josh, Sam and William** who have earned their Chief Scout Silver Awards. Also to **Bethany, Josh and William** who were in the Kettering Gang Show.

Here's to another brilliant year in 2012. Happy Scouting!  
Akela  
Sarah Cobley

*Skating at Beckworth's has clearly been very popular this year. Mawsley Guides also went for an evening there at the beginning of January.*

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## Watching Birds in Mawsley (feathered!)

Is your garden a 'MUST VISIT' place for local birds? It could be if you want it to be. When first we took over our house from the rubble masters, seven years ago, we occasionally saw a daredevil sparrow. We have now recorded 24 separate species in our garden. How has this happened? Firstly this new environment of more than 1000 back and front gardens and yards and the many thousands of window ledges provide a much richer year round habitat for garden birds than did the 10 open fields which were here before Mawsley. Secondly we have managed to control the local cats and, thirdly, we provide year round food for the birds.

Cats are the greatest deterrent here and I will write about how we have managed to keep them away from the birds in our garden in a future article. Perhaps you have suggestions of your own on that subject – please make them via the editor.

Through what we grow in our garden and what we put in our bird feeders we have created year round food supplies for birds; not the Summer/Autumn only seeds of previous times. As birds find these regular stocks they attract more of their species and then birds of similar species. Quite quickly you will find more birds and more of each type in your garden at the same time. If you feed them regularly in a sheltered environment they will return regularly to the free food – birds are definitely NOT stupid.

Once the birds are visiting it's really interesting to watch and learn whether you are 7 or 70; and a marvellous alternative to TV for Mums with small kids to amuse. If you need an excuse to sit for an hour watching the birds in your own garden why not take part in the RSPB's BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH which takes place on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January? Even if you don't fill in the form you will find a very useful and colourful identification chart of the top ten garden birds on their website under the heading *What to look for*.

More next month

Richard Stuart



[rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](http://rspb.org.uk/birdwatch)



**Sat 28th &  
Sun 29th  
JAN**

### BIRDS COMMON IN MAWSLEY GARDENS

SPARROW  
BLUE TIT  
PIGEON  
YELLOW HAMMER  
DUNNOCK  
COAL TIT  
WREN  
MAGPIE  
BULLFINCH  
STARLING  
MERLIN  
MISTLE THRUSH  
CHAFFINCH  
BLACKBIRD  
CROW  
COMMON GULL  
GREENFINCH  
ROBIN  
ROOK  
PIED WAGTAIL  
GOLDFINCH  
RINGDOVE  
JACKDAW  
MEADOW PIPIT

### REGULARS OVER LANE TO LODDINGTON

RED KITE - look up 400 ft  
BUZZARD – look up  
anything to 800 feet

### IRREGULARS

SPARROWHAWK  
FIELDFARE  
REDWING



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## Mawsley Contact Details

Please contact any of the following to make suggestions, ask questions or discuss current issues:

### **Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA)**

[mva@mawsleyvillage.co.uk](mailto:mva@mawsleyvillage.co.uk)

Chair: Bob Littler 791447

Other positions vacant

### **Mawsley Parish Council**

[pc@mawsleyvillage.co.uk](mailto:pc@mawsleyvillage.co.uk)

Chair: Cllr. Peter Thomas 799108

Deputy Chair: Cllr. Clare Farthing 799041

Clerk: Diana MacCarthy

[mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk)

### **The Centre @ Mawsley**

Manager, Jane Twisleton 799528

[www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk](http://www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk)

[themanager@thecentreatmawsley.co.uk](mailto:themanager@thecentreatmawsley.co.uk)

### **Mawsley CP School** 799182

Headteacher: Mrs Elaine Wright

### **Mawsley Medical** 791300

### **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator**

Dave Cross [david.a.cross@gmail.com](mailto:david.a.cross@gmail.com)

### **Kettering Borough Council**

Cllr. Jim Hakewill 01858 467686

[jimhakewill@kettering.gov.uk](mailto:jimhakewill@kettering.gov.uk)

Cllr. Cliff Morton

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Community Development Officer

Tim Bellamy 534355

[timbellamy@kettering.gov.uk](mailto:timbellamy@kettering.gov.uk)

### **Northamptonshire County Council**

Cllr. Jim Harker 01604 236982

[jharker@northamptonshire.gov.uk](mailto:jharker@northamptonshire.gov.uk)

### **MP Philip Hollobone**

0207 2198373 or 07979 850126

[hollobonep@parliament.uk](mailto:hollobonep@parliament.uk)

### **Newsletter & Advertiser Editor**

Pat Rowley 791881

[rowleypj@btinternet.com](mailto:rowleypj@btinternet.com)

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Mawsley website

[www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk](http://www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk)



## *From the Editor*

Thank you for your contributions to this first edition of Mawsley News & Views and for your good-humoured response to some of the irreverent items in the last newsletter. I set a challenge then that we should try to have four new contributors in each issue; even ignoring the several pen names and pseudonyms used this time I think we have just about done it, so I am looking to add another four next time. Please get writing!

It did strike me as I was putting this together that the same names crop up time and again because there are relatively few volunteers doing the many jobs that keep all our facilities running. Thank you for the responses to requests for help made in the last issue; it would be tremendous if a finance person was to come forward to help with The Centre accounting in response to Bob Littler's appeal on page 3.

I love Duncan Webster's idea of having an archive section on the village website. With the amount of technology available to us our new village should be far better documented than any old village. Here is my starter. The Centre at Mawsley on 7th March 2005 seen from the badgers' sett across what is now Meadow Close and the shops and flats at Barnwell Court.



**Next issue out on 7th March**

**Copy date is Friday 24th February**

**Adverts and newsletter items to Pat Rowley**

**Tel: 791881 [rowleypj@btinternet.com](mailto:rowleypj@btinternet.com)**

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website: [mawsleyvillage.co.uk](http://mawsleyvillage.co.uk)