



# Mawsley News



### From the Editor

Welcome to the third edition of the Mawsley Newsletter supported by the Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA).

In this edition we are looking forward to summer in Mawsley and surrounds. Already in 2023 we have enjoyed some successful events in the village – the Coronation weekend there were parties, organised events and a 'Big Help Out' litter pick and Easter saw the children's egg hunt.

The Centre at Mawsley is organising the annual Funday on July 8<sup>th</sup> and aiming to exceed last year's fantastic day. The numerous village user groups have a range of activities throughout the summer, plenty for all age groups to get involved with.

For those looking to stretch their legs there are details of a couple of local walks including some of the wildlife you may see. Time to put on your walking shoes!

Once again this is a sixteen-page, full colour edition of the Newsletter aimed at all Mawsley residents. We hope you find something of interest. If you wish to contribute we would love to hear from you. To submit an article, publicise a club or group, advertise or just have something interesting to say please email editor@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

We are particularly looking for contributions from some of the sporting activities in the village; either team or individual activities and any successes that we can celebrate.

Numerous individuals take part in fund raising activities, we look forward to hearing from you.

The next edition will be in September with a deadline of Friday 1st September.

Note: unfortunately Daniel was not able to finalise the Newsletter on this occasion due to illness. We wish him a speedy recovery and know he is looking forward to editing the autumn edition. John

#### **News from the Surgery**

After 21 years of being the Sole Partner of Mawsley Village Surgery Dr Oliver will be retiring in September 2023.

Mawsley Village Surgery will remain an independent small practice supported by its excellent staff and new partners. The Dispensary will continue to operate as normal.

Dr Oliver started the project of Mawsley Surgery in 2001, he initially moved into a temporary building in Kettering in March 2002. A portacabin was opened in April 2002 to serve the developing village and the current building in June 2006.

Dr Oliver would like to thank all patients for the support they have given him.

I am sure that you would like to join us in a very big thank you to Dr Oliver and wish him all the very best for the future.

Compiled by: Brenda Quinn, Jane Evans and Vic Cope

Dear editor,

I just wanted to mention how much we have all enjoyed the

fabulous knitted creations on the post box for the last few months!

The Queen's Jubilee with Queen and corgi was outstanding then surpassed by a fabulous Christmas ensemble before another amazing Easter offering and then the Coronation!



I just wanted to say how much I, and many others I'm sure, appreciate the time and skill that goes into producing these wonderful, bright and



clever projects - I know as a knitter these were not done in an afternoon!

Can we have an article on who is doing these and how they are created please?

Well done to those involved - they brightened my day.

Jan



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#### A Walk in Wadenhoe!

I am delighted to share this editions walk, courtesy of Northamptonshire Walks. This area is my favourite "go to" walk, to de-stress and recharge in nature. I have always returned from this walk with a massive smile on my face and having seen something different each time. The temptation has been to keep this place as my "secret haven" but it is just too beautiful not to share!

Those who enjoy local walks would most likely have heard of this website, which was set up by Dave Askew. It is crammed with over 200 wonderful walks round the county to explore and enjoy.

This one is "Walk 31" called the "Kingfisher walk" It is a 2.5-mile circular walk of the beautiful village of Wadenhoe. I do have to say, I'm yet to see the elusive kingfisher this walk is named after! I should also mention, there are a couple of stiles and wooded secluded areas. Once in Wadenhoe, head past The Kings Head pub, where there is a small pay car park. The delightful village pub is popular with paddle boarders and walkers alike. I can personally recommend the wonderful tea and cakes, enjoyed best sat in the garden, overlooking the Nene, at the end of this walk!

To start the walk, we head right out of pub and head up the hill past beautiful 'chocolate box' cottages. As we reach the end of the road, we turn right down Mill Lane. Eventually the road bears right and we head towards a beautiful wooden bridge. I would recommend taking a moment to look for the famous kingfisher maybe you will



be luckier than me!! For the photographers a photo of the picturesque water mill is a must!

We head onto Meadow fields, turning left and continuing with the river on our left. As we reach second field, we head diagonally across to the bridge in the distance.

Crossing the bridge, we head through the gate and into next field often full of sheep and head diagonally across the field towards St Johns the Baptist church in

the distance.
The Church is

an interesting building in itself built in 1218. We head out of the church grounds and through the gates the other side. After a few yards, there is a public footpath sign showing the entrance to a wooded area, known as "The Linches". Another ideal place for bird watchers!



We continue to follow public signs through the wooded area and when reaching a junction, we keep left, head down some steps and along the bottom



path. We can just see the river on our left through the trees.

We follow this path and eventually pass a cottage and then reach a small road. Here we turn left, heading over bridge. Just before the traffic lights, we see a stile on the

left and venture across two fields and another stile!

The second field leads onto road, where we turn left and we end up following this road back into the village. As we reach "Dovecote", we head left and then next right, back down towards the pub well deserved beverage!

I hope this walk has "whetted your appetite" to try this and others of the Northamptonshire Walks. For a more detailed breakdown of this walk, please check out their website!

#### **Mawsley Amateur Dramatics Society**

We held our first event of 2023 in March, which was a variety evening in the Hall at TCAM. Thank you to all those who took part and all those who came and watched – it was great to see such a variety of acts from different groups in the village and everyone seemed to have a good time (including the younger generation who came in to shelter from the torrential rain). There were three very worthy winners in the end, as the "clapathon" vote was very tight!



Photos are courtesy of Alan Moore.



We know that each of the acts had put a lot of hard work into rehearsing and preparing for their performances, so well done to everyone and thank you for your efforts to make it such an enjoyable evening for all involved. There was

one impromptu
performance from our
youngest ever
participant who we
hope to welcome back
in the future...

If you participated or came to watch and would like to get involved in MADS, please do get in touch and see details below



of a forthcoming get together.

We will be organising a **get-together in June** for anyone interested in being involved with MADS. Please look out for details on social media and our notice board. The programme of events for the rest of 2023 is as follows:

#### Play in the Park, Summer 2023

We plan to perform a play in the park in summer 2023 (date TBC) with an adult cast. More details to follow.

#### **Punch and Judy, Summer 2023**

We will be performing a Punch and Judy act at Mawsley Fun Day - suitable for all the family.

#### Murder Mystery evening, Autumn 2023

Following on from *Murderous Mayhem at Mawsley Manor* and *Many Murders in Midsomer Mawsley*, we will be back with another mystery in the Autumn suitable for 12s and over. If you would like to be part of it, get in touch!

#### Seasonal family performance, December 2023



In December 2023, we plan to perform a seasonal play – please get in touch if you would like to take part!

#### **Contact details**

If you would like to join MADS or participate in any of the activities below, then please get in touch:



mawsleymads@gmail.com or contact Gareth on 07887 984068 (evenings and weekends) or garethn@hotmail.fr

#### The Bar at TCAM

Team TCAM had, for a while, considered many options for improving both the ambiance and the practicality of the bar area. Following a very successful year in 2022 and with the support of the Parish Council, it was agreed to proceed with plans to refit the bar as part of a general refurbishment of both the customer areas and the server.

#### The Old Bar





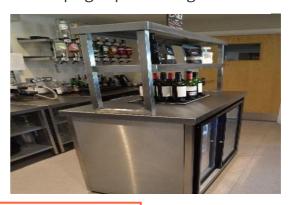




The Team was always conscious that the level of service our customers deserved could not be achieved, particularly during busy periods, with the layout of the servery area including the large island, and more working space was essential to achieve that goal. Many ideas were discussed and evaluated until agreement was reached.

All shelving is now stainless steel (preferred by Environmental Health Officers). Refrigerated units are new and far more energy efficient. New sinks installed, and glasswasher moved into a position that means it does not impinge upon serving area.





The new island storage and display unit is a more compact design to afford more space for the Bar Team to move around, particularly important when the bar is busy with functions and events.

The work completed, thus far, has already made a positive impact and means Bar Team members are able work more efficiently.

During the bar closure for works completion, we took the opportunity to replace the flooring throughout the area.

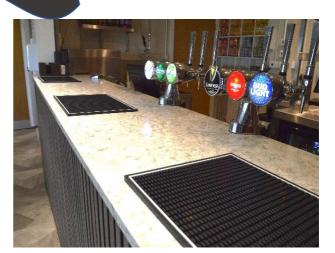
#### **The New Bar**





New quartz bar top and a new bar





The next stage will to be complete the updating of the main bar seating area. Bench seating is to be added in the corners along with new tables and chairs. Redecoration of the two rooms will complete the process. The aim is to have this all finished in August. Take a look at the display in the Centre showing the proposed refurbishment.

To experience the refurbished bar why not come along one evening. There are music events during the year that are always great nights. Joe Corkram is a very popular visitor with his wide repertoire of songs. On Funday evening Jennah will be performing in the bar another event not to be missed.



#### Mawsley Short Mat Bowls Club

We are a friendly club playing at TCAM on Monday afternoons. We have a 2-hour roll-up starting at 1pm with a short break for tea and finishing at 3pm. We also play a series of friendly fixtures against 8 local clubs both at home and away. These 16 matches are not only fun but also help in broadening our knowledge of the game.



Not every member wishes to take part in these fixtures, some prefer to just come along to socialise at our weekly roll ups. If you would like to know a bit more about us either pop in on a Monday afternoon and have a chat or call us on 0779 338 6232.







# **OPEN DAY** 17th June, 10am - 2pm

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## Mawsley WI

Unsure about stepping out of your comfort zone and trying something different? Try our WI for size. We meet at the Village Hall, Mawsley at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Visitors are always very welcome.

The multigenerational magic of the WI works for most women as it is inspirational through gaining experiences, knowledge, and skills - beneficial for mental well-being, and a break from routine daily life. Mawsley WI aims to encourage friendship, experience new interests, enjoy different activities, and benefit the local community. A fabulous way for newcomers to the village to meet people and feel part of the community.

You don't have to be a member to come along to our monthly meetings as we encourage and enjoy welcoming visitors. We offer something for everyone with a varied programme of speakers, activities, coach trips and charitable events so you are sure to enjoy making new discoveries. WI's come in all shapes and sizes and our members can be involved in the way that suits them best. It is what you make of it. Visitors pay £5 per visit, members £46 per annum (pro rata).





Burlesque evening

#### Saxby's Cider trip

#### Shout out loud. The WI

is the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK and is a leading voice on women's issues, as well as national ones. Examples of recent campaigns include *Link together to alleviate loneliness; Help women and girls with ASD and ADHD; No more violence against women; and End Plastic Soup.* 

Our trustees attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26) and are invited to regular drop in events at Parliament. If members wish to participate in these, the national WI can provide training and guidance. Plus, regular updates are published on the NFWI website and in the monthly magazine – which is accessible and free to members.

#### Community spirit. we

support numerous village events such as the village fun day. Visit our stall selling delicious cakes and buy raffle tickets to win a luxury hamper. Pancake day proved popular too, as we sold out!

We enjoy volunteering - serving tea and cakes at the Wellness clinics and we gave assistance staffing the Covid vaccination clinics. We also take our turn making cakes for both Cransley and Cynthia Spencer Hospices - for the enjoyment of patients and visitors. It's not all just tea and cakes - we give donations too! - the lights and baubles for the village Christmas tree; a bench overlooking the village pond; a wheelchair for temporary use by any villager; toiletries for a local women's refuge; and this year, supplies for a local charity foundation. So, ladies come and help make a difference.

Inspirational. This year, one of our ladies came second in a national WI competition to design a scarf linked to the white ribbon campaign. Her success has encouraged us to enter another national competition - to decorate a themed terracotta plant pot. Let your imagination run riot – join in and help us win! In addition to competitions, our recent Mandala painting evening was very popular; many attendees taking it up as a new hobby. As such, we are having additional Saturday events. For details visit us on Facebook @mawsleywi or on our webpage at www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk. It's also educational - we enjoy talks from local historians, entrepreneurs, novelists, podiatrists, herbalists - the list is never ending. We are always on the lookout for new ideas and are now busy planning events for 2024. We hope to see you soon!

## Coming up next -

**June 14** You cannot be serious! – Discover secrets from behind the scenes at Wimbledon!

**July 12** Bedfordian afternoon tea - Mouth-watering and scrumptious way to spend an evening.

**Sept 13** Taster movement session – Light-hearted & fun basic level of keep fit to music.

**Breaking news:** Our coach trip this year is to Stratford Upon Avon Christmas market on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at a cost of £20 per head. Sit back, relax, let us take you there and save energy for shopping!

For further details contact Jane on 07500 019698 or Brenda on 07890 389601.

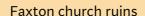
#### Nature On Your Doorstep - Early Summer

A walk from your doorstep in our beautiful rolling Northamptonshire countryside

This is a walk my wife and I thoroughly enjoy because there is very little walking on roads and some superb views. It is about 7 to 8 miles in length and mainly circular. Start the walk almost opposite the Loddington exit from the village. Take the bridleway on the left. No doubt you will immediately hear birds calling from the thick hedgerow on your left especially the distinctive 'a little bit of bread and no cheeeese' call of the yellow hammer.

Having crossed the field follow the path right to Mill Lane. On your right we have seen and heard Lapwings nesting on several occasions. Cross Mill Lane and note the badger and rabbit diggings we have also seen a grass snake sunbathing on the road on one occasion. To your right you will see Kites Hall Farm the residents of which will regularly see Red Kites as no doubt will you.

Continue the walk downhill by taking the byroad, the tarmac runs out but entering the field the route will take you up hill towards the site of the 'lost village of Faxton'. In the Domesday Book Faxton was noted to have a population of 60-80 people and consisted of a church, a rectory, a hall, an aviary, almshouses and ponds. All of which have gone now leaving just one remote house and some church ruins in the copse. In 1901 there is mention of the church and 11 houses. A further account dated about 1920 refers to the church a few cottages and almshouse ruins.





Turn left out of the field and head straight on. Instead of following the byroad take the footpath towards Scaldwell. We have seen Hares, Rabbits, Muntjac and Roe deer along this path and fantastic views over the surrounding hills.





When you reach the Old to Lamport road turn left towards Old. Once in the village follow the road round and take the first footpath on your left signposted village hall. Cross the cricket pitch and pick up the footpath. Careful here as the path is steep and slippery when wet. This will take you back in the direction of Faxton you will now be walking in the valley. You will cross a small stream and in the summer you will no doubt hear the song of warblers including the chiffchaff (named after its call) and black cap (rich warbling notes) coming from the dense hedge rows. As always there will be a robin or two around.







Keep following the path through cultivated fields towards Faxton which goes up hill around a copse. It is in this copse on the left that the ruins of the church can be found. Follow the path towards the only house mentioned earlier and retrace your steps back to your doorstep in Mawsley.

#### **ENJOY**



On Sunday afternoon 16<sup>th</sup> April Gardening for All organised a trip to Geoff Hamilton's 38 garden rooms at Barnsdale near Rutland Water, lovely in any season. The weather was perfect (the cake was good too). Our members enjoyed the scenery on the way there and back. We had a nice stroll round with plenty of benches dotted around to just sit and soak in the atmosphere.

There is a good-sized nursery with some very interesting plants and a gift shop. A very enjoyable trip. We have organised a speaker for the 22nd May meeting and several trips throughout the coming months.

Come along and join us, you will be made most welcome. Check out the noticeboard at TCAM or call on 07840 957339 for more information.







# Save the date Mawsley Firework Display Returns Saturday November 4th



The MVA team of volunteers are actively planning this year's firework event. Surpassing last year's event is a challenge but the team are to it and we are looking forward to another spectacular display.



# **The Four Seasons of Mawsley**































Who: 1st Mawsley Scout Group

**What:** Two sections – Cubs and Scouts. **Where:** Meet in the Main Hall at TCAM

When: Tuesdays (term time) Cubs 18.10–19.25hrs, Scouts 19.30–21.00hrs

Really not sure how we manage to cram so much into a few months, so I start this newsletter update by saying a massive "thank you" to the volunteers (past and present) that work tirelessly to keep the group going and to the parents who help us on a weekly basis. The Group has existed since February 2007 and is only still here due to your commitment.

In March the Cubs went on a "penny hike" around Mawsley – practising map reading and six figure grid references. They also took part in an Easter themed arts and crafts evening (Artist Badge) and worked on their Pioneering Badges - practising their knots – although hopefully not practising at home on their friends and family.

The Scouts had a recap on map usage, basic knotting, safe use of penknives, recognition and treatment of hypothermia, and setting up and using trangias to make hot chocolate. All very useful preparation



for a night away in the Danish Shelters at Fineshade Woods

Whilst our first attempt at this was thwarted by snow, our second attempt went ahead successfully. 11 Scouts and 3 leaders braved the elements for a real experience in the woods. The group mastered their culinary skills to cook bagels, s'mores, pasta, bacon, beans and hot chocolate (not in that order!).

They also practised their survival skills using knives to whittle - making toasting forks and

toothpicks and practised using saws to cut firewood. The leaders kept a central fire going overnight to keep the group warm.

Scouts spent time working and learning about their senses (tasting chilli was a favourite – not), sign language, blind navigation, blind football, and blind feel tests (trying to work out what objects were inside carrier bags).

Both sections enjoyed guided tours of Holy Trinity Church, in Rothwell. It has an incredible history

dating back to Norman times. The tour also included the Bone Crypt containing the remains of 1500 people – some dating back to 1200.

Cubs and Scouts also took part in an informative hike across Kettering including a number of historical sites and landmarks which supported the "Local Knowledge" badge. They also looked at "Road Safety" and practised map/navigation work. As we do like our food rewards – a visit to a chip shop was also part of the itinerary.

In honour of St George (the patron saint of scouting) Scouts across the UK hold some form of celebrations. For Glendon District it involved the Scout Groups parading at Wicksteed Park, a service and it allows our young people a chance to renew their "promise". We had a fantastic turn out from both sections.

We celebrated the Coronation by designing coronation stamps and then spent time decorating cupcakes – which were devoured shortly afterwards. The Cubs then took part in a royal themed quiz and there was an opportunity for the Cubs to have a voice in the future Cub programme input into working on coronation stamp.

As a group we continue to support the village with our community impact acts:

- Cubs, Scouts, the leadership team and parents took part in the tree planting on the eco-field.
- "The Big Help Out" saw the group helping with the Village Litter pick finding highlights: an old scooter, £10.00, a suitcase and a tricycle. Completed with refreshments and biscuits at TCAM.
- We continue to help deliver the Mawsley Magazine

#### And the exciting news?

We wrote last time that we were hoping to host a four-week trial for a new Beaver Scout Colony to supplement our Cubs and Scout Sections.

We held a Beaver Registration Day on 9 May at TCAM and welcomed 9 new members into our fold. We are holding a four-week trial, and based on the fact that a couple of parents expressed an interest in helping the group – we may well see a revival of our Beaver section. Fingers crossed.

As always if you have any children that wish to join our Group - Scout Troop ( $10^1/_2$  -14 years), Cub Pack (8- $10^1/_2$  years of age) or possibly a Beaver Scout Colony ( $5^3/_4$ -8 years of age) drop an email to mawslevscoutgroupenquiries@gmail.com.







# How Long Does it Take to Exchange Contracts on a House?

Exchanging contracts on your property in Mawsley is a significant milestone in the homebuying process, and along with completion, it's the most exciting event for new homeowners.

The exchange of contracts is the point at which the buyer is legally obliged to purchase the property from the seller, and for the new owners it's when they can finally start making concrete plans for their new home, but how long does it take to exchange contracts?

Well, when purchasing a property, the timescales for each part of the process can vary massively between different transactions. It should take only 8 to 12 weeks on average, but this can stretch up to 20 weeks!

#### How can I speed up the exchange process on my property?

In most cases there is very little that buyers and sellers can do to speed up the process as most of the delays are out of their control, such as slow search results and mortgage lenders having to conduct background checks on the buyer.

However, in some cases, these things can help:

#### Use a solicitor you know and trust

If you know a good solicitor, use them. Good solicitors will give you regularly updates. Alternatively see if your estate agent can recommend one. They will then do the chasing for you.

#### Buyers - Have your deposit ready

Buyers, have your deposit ready in advance. One thing that buyers often overlook until the last minute is their deposit funds. These can often be tied up in savings accounts or trusts which aren't instantly accessible, which can delay the whole process by a few days or more. Therefore, make sure your deposit is instantly accessible before getting to the eleventh hour and discovering you cannot get at it! Also, if someone is gifting you some money towards a purchase you will need to satisfy your solicitors antimoney laundering policies, so mention that early in the transaction as this can take a while to sort out.

#### Sellers - Get your paperwork in order

If you're selling a property, then consider the sort of things that buyers will want to know about in advance. Things like double glazing guarantees, boiler service records and electrical certificates may all seem trivial when you're living in a property, but to a new buyer, and their solicitor, these are the sort of things they'll want to know about before committing to the purchase.

#### Be proactive

Be proactive. Sometimes delays can occur because one side is responding slowly to the other's enquiries. If this is the case, contact your estate agent to find out if they can shed any light on the delays, or ask your solicitor to chase the other solicitor. It can often be a minor detail holding up a transaction, which could be nipped in the bud with a couple of phone calls.





#### Mawsley Chase - £480,000

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