



# Mawsley Newsletter



## From the Editor

Mawsley loves its celebrations - the wonderful displays around the village for Halloween, the spectacular firework display and we wait with anticipation for the Christmas lights. Shortly Father Christmas will visit on his super sleigh and the TCAM tree will be illuminated.

There are numerous events at TCAM over Christmas including a Children's party, and don't miss the Christmas Quiz night, which is great fun. The church is holding Christingle at the Centre and there is a Christmas service. And if you fancy a sing song then come along to Wassail.

I have often used this column to talk about volunteers or lack of them. This year we lost 2 key volunteers Paul Richards and more recently Vic Cope, they will be greatly missed. We are also shortly to lose Alan Moore a regular volunteer and Parish Councillor as he is leaving Mawsley. Firework night is only possible through the actions of volunteers. Without volunteers a lot of the events that residents take for granted would not be possible. Both the MVA and TCAM are short of volunteers - why not take the plunge and join in; you may enjoy it!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



**Website:** [churchesbmc.org](http://churchesbmc.org)

**Facebook:** [cransleymawsleychurch](https://www.facebook.com/cransleymawsleychurch)

We would love to welcome you to Mawsley Church one week. We meet at TCAM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month at 11am for about an hour. Most weeks there is also Sunday Club with activities for children. We are linked to Cransley and Broughton Churches, so there are services you can attend every week.

There are plenty of other events happening too - so to be added to our email or postal list please contact our Administrator, Laura Connolly at [bcmchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:bcmchurchoffice@gmail.com) or on 0793 104101.

If you would like a prayer, a listening ear or would like to book a Christening, wedding or funeral, please get in touch with Revd Nicki Hughes on 01536 799522 or [revnicki@familyhobbs.or.uk](mailto:revnicki@familyhobbs.or.uk)



With Christmas on its way, we've got a few extra services and events as well:



### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

**Blue Christmas Service** Cransley Church, 4pm.  
A quiet reflective Christmas service, including candles lit in memory of loved ones.

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

**Christingle Service** TCAM, 11am.

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

**Nativity Craft Afternoon** TCAM, 2-4pm.  
Join us for an afternoon of festive crafting for children. Free entry.  
Please bring your own cup for refreshments

### **Christmas Eve**

**Nativity Service** at Broughton Church, 3pm  
**Carol Service** at Cransley Church, 6pm  
**Midnight Communion** at Broughton Church, 11.30pm

### **Christmas Day**

**Christmas Celebration** at TCAM, 10am



Since the last Newsletter we have lost another of Mawsley's great stalwarts and a village personality. Vic Cope was a Honorary Freeman of Mawsley Village, an honour granted him for all the volunteer work he had performed for Mawsley.

Vic served two terms as a Parish Councillor and with colleagues was responsible for many village projects. Perhaps the largest project was the construction of the Leonard Carrington Memorial on the village green, for villagers to commemorate their loved ones and important family pets. But let's not forget that Vic was also responsible for the time capsule buried somewhere in Mawsley and, if found, to be opened 25 years in the future.

In the early days Vic spent countless hours trying to iron out the many defects in the design and construction of the Centre. From the heating system

to fire safety; from the hall lighting to gutter design and to the availability of storage space. He enjoyed employing his various practical skills, not least in woodworking and joinery; Vic would volunteer for anything that required those skills.

Vic was an active member of Mawsley Amateur Dramatics, the Village Choir and the Bowls Club and was the much loved Santa doing the Christmas rounds on his own designed and built sleigh.

A big man in every way, kind hearted, inclusive, warm and understanding with that rare ability of being able to speak to all generations and backgrounds.

As Richard Barnwell, Chair of Mawsley Parish Council, says: 'We were all privileged to have known and been in the company of our Honorary Freeman, Vic Cope'.

## **Mawsley Coffee Club = friendship and fun**

Mawsley Coffee Club was one of the first groups established in 2005 on the building site, as Mawsley Village was known, during its construction in the early years of the Millennium. We are planning a lunch party in the New Year to celebrate our 20th birthday.



The Coffee Club was established by two neighbours, Molly Short and Pat Ellis, both newcomers to the village, in Pat's home in Hawthorn Avenue, for folk who had retired or were approaching retirement. There were five other newcomers at that first coffee morning. Numbers increased gradually, and those who arrived early at the coffee mornings could claim the best seats! Others sat on the floor, (not sure we could do that now!) or on the stairs. Once The Centre opened in 2006, coffee mornings were held there, which solved the problem of us running out of coffee mugs.

Our members are those who enjoy fun and friendship. In pre Covid days we organised outings to local places of interest, but since then, our get togethers have been limited to monthly coffee mornings with invited speakers. Recently, Rev Huw Yardley, from Broughton, shared with us his previous experience of employment as a Clerk in the House of Commons, and Margaret Burgon shared a personal and poignant story about 'Little Sparrow'.

Our traditional Coffee, Carols and Mince Pie event is planned for Thursday, 12th December, starting at 10am in the bar area and we are looking forward to hearing Rev Nicki Hobbs read the next instalment of the Christmas Story. This year we are looking forward to some musical accompaniment as we sing familiar carols, sustained by warm drinks and delicious home-made mince pies. Santa's sack will be there for those who want to participate and we plan to make a collection of non-perishable goods to donate to the Food Bank in Kettering.

*For further details of our coffee mornings and speakers for 2025, please take a look at the Notice Board at The Centre. If any further info is needed, please feel free to contact:*

Molly Short 01536 790781 or Jean and David Wilson 01536 799 490

## Mawsley Parish Council (MPC)

Our year has, as usual, had highs and lows. Sadly we have lost 2 former Councillors, Paul Richards and Hon. Freeman of Mawsley, Vic Cope - they will both be greatly missed by our community.

MPC continues to support The Centre at Mawsley (TCAM) which provides an excellent serviced facility for the whole Village. The Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA) working closely with TCAM strive tirelessly to arrange functions and events and there is something for everyone, if people wish to engage.

MPC was formed from Great Cransley Parish Council in 2004 and I have had the honour of being a Councillor over the whole period. I am so proud of what Councillors, Volunteers and Residents have all achieved in our "new" Village and the many successes by residents of all ages, in all activities from Sporting to Social. I would say that the community spirit in Mawsley is second to none and that the last 20 years has placed our Village firmly on the Northamptonshire map.

Ongoing issues in our Village include the fact that not all the Village roads, verges, pavements and street lights have yet been adopted by North Northants Council. Some of the Village infrastructure is still maintained by Taylor Wimpy, which leads to misunderstandings by residents as to which organisation is responsible for maintenance matters in their specific area of the Village. MPC is trying hard to produce a map showing adopted areas, which will be updated as things progress. Interesting maps showing much detail about other Village matters are already available on our Website and I do commend them to your study.

The skateboard ramp on our playing field was the responsibility of NNC and this year MPC helped by paying for repair work to enable its retention for the summer season. Sadly in September the structure was found to be beyond any further reasonable repair and NNC decided it was a danger to the Public and it has now been removed.

There is a small dedicated group of councillors, parents and helpers who are striving to raise funds, to either replace the ramp, or if sufficient funds can be found, to provide a larger concrete ramp which will have a much longer lifespan. MPC is completely in favour of the project and we hope further news will be forthcoming in the spring.

If you are interested in becoming more involved with Village issues and projects, there will be an opportunity in May 2025 when there will be elections for all Councils in North Northants. All existing Councillors must stand down and are then able, if they wish, to stand again for re election.

In Mawsley we have 7 Councillors and therefore there will be 7 "seats" available for any elector from Mawsley or a 3 Mile radius of the Parish. Over the last 20 years Mawsley has never needed to hold an election as insufficient numbers of people have put their names forward. If more than 7 people stand for the 7 seats there has to be an election. If this happens, Mawsley Electors will be invited to cast their votes and a count will be held, with the 7 candidates with the most votes being declared "duly elected".

This is often seen as daunting for potential new Councillors, but I want to assure all candidates that it really is not. It is part of the way our democracy works or does not work depending on your point of view. MPC is keen to encourage residents to consider standing for the May elections and if anyone is interested and would like a chat to find out more, please speak either to our Clerk, Fiona Young or a current Councillor for more information.....all our contact details are on the MPC website.

I want to thank all Councillors and Residents for their support to our Village and its Community. By working together and being kind to each other, we can continue to make living in Mawsley, something special and achieve that elusive, yet important, "sense of place".

Finally on behalf of Mawsley Parish Council it is my pleasure to wish all Residents

"A very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year"

Sincerely, Richard Barnwell, Chairman Mawsley Parish Council

## MAWSLEY FIREWORK NIGHT 2024



We certainly lit up the sky this year in more ways than one, and we hope you enjoyed the display together with the late addition of Laser Spotlights for which we would like to thank Nathan Wan / Robe Lighting.

We were a little unlucky with the weather in terms of wind direction, low cloud and mist which led to increased levels of smoke and whilst we cannot control the weather we will certainly look at firework selection and the bonfire in an effort to minimise this next year.

We couldn't do it without the team of volunteers who work so hard, so we would like to thank everyone who helped with the set up during day and all of the stewards who sacrifice watching the display to ensure the arena is safe.

We had a lot of helpers this year, including

- ◆ Northamptonshire Police Cadets and that is amazing.
- ◆ Nicola, Sarah and their team at TCAM for all they do before, during and after.
- ◆ The Sports Council for allowing us have a bonfire.
- ◆ 3 food vendors, it's not easy feeding 1000+ people all arriving at the same time.
- ◆ Tranex Communications for donating the radios.
- ◆ Simon Wisdom for the PA.
- ◆ One Stop & Coffee@No9 for their support in selling tickets.
- ◆ Mawsley Parish Council for their ongoing support to this event.
- ◆ Final thanks go to our lighting team of Steve Thorpe, Chris Waine, Adam Riley, Jake Fisher, Owen Few & Thomas Thorpe. It's a dangerous job and year after year you guys are there. We can't thank you enough.

We need to start thinking about next year and how we can continue improving the event even more for you. With the ever increasing costs of staging this event we will have to address the ticket pricing/structure which has remained at £5 for many years.

Well done Mawsley, it really is a fantastic community.

Event Organisers: Chris Waine, Steve Thorpe, Adam Riley, Owen Few and Martin Bentley

# Gardening For All

On a beautiful sunny day in October a few of our members enjoyed a visit to Oundle to follow a Tree Trail around the town. A leisurely stroll around the streets off the main thoroughfare and through the churchyard pointed out a variety of trees, many with lovely autumn colours. Our final stop was lunch at The Tap and Kitchen.

In November we had two speakers from the National Garden Scheme (NGS), learning about the history of the organisation and their support for Nursing and Health Charities. Individual and village gardens are open to the public throughout the year from Snowdrop time through to the Autumn Colours.

To "Find a Garden" visit the NGS website.

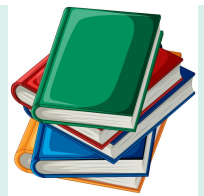
Plans are in progress for our 2025 meetings and visits, and will be on the TCAM noticeboard in the New Year.

For further information on our Gardening Group  
please contact 0779 3386232



## Mawsley Book Club

The Mawsley book club meet once a month at the Centre, Each month we choose a new book to read for discussion at the next meeting. Everyone is welcome and we are sure you will enjoy some exciting new books.



Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month; next meeting is January 15th, 7.30pm to approx 9.00pm.

### Book for January:- Code Name Helene by Ariel Lawhon

A spellbinding and moving story of enduring love, remarkable sacrifice and unfaltering resolve that chronicles the true exploits of a woman. This is a fantastic historical novel about World War II that is even greater because it is nearly true.

## OVEN REVIVE



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# Season's Greetings from Mawsley WI



Wednesday 11 December

@7.30pm

The Centre at Mawsley  
NN14 1TP

Come along and enjoy our Christmas themed meeting where you can make your own table decoration to take home. You bring your own materials and foliage, and we will supply the oasis along with some fabulous ideas, good company, tea, coffee & nibbles. There are also lovely prizes to win in our Christmas raffle.

**Visitors welcome - fee £5.**

To book your place phone Jane on 07500 019698.

Also, a **HUGE** thanks to all our visitors & friends for supporting our events in 2024 – it really does make us incredibly happy – you are amazing! We look forward to welcoming you all again next year. So - to whet your appetite - here is our published programme for 2025. For those ladies who have not yet paid us a visit, we are a friendly bunch who meet at The Centre in Mawsley on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm until 9pm. Our aim is to offer women the opportunity to socialise safely, make new friends and learn new skills, supporting our local community. Follow us on Facebook @**mawsleywi** or check our noticeboard in the Centre for news of events. *Mawsley WI x*

8 JANUARY 2025

### Acrylic - Beach Painting

Escape winter? - learn the craft of acrylic painting. All materials provided. Numbers attending required.

12 FEBRUARY 2025

### WaterAid

Inspirational & informative talk about the work done by the charity - WaterAid by Richard McMahon

12 MARCH 2025

### A.G.M. & Quiz

Annual reports, Financial Statement  
Election of Committee & President  
Followed by fun team quiz

9 APRIL 2025

### Resolutions & Bookmark Making

Members vote on the WI Resolutions, followed by making your own unique bookmark - bring your own materials or use ours.



14 MAY 2025

### Northamptonshire Walks

Get walking! Whether it is with friends or in a group there are around 200 walks in Northamptonshire. Talk by Dave Askew.

11 JUNE 2025

### Honey Bees & Beekeeping

Learn all about bees & the skill of an Apiarist from Julia Wallis. Also Items for sale.

28 JUNE 2025

### Mawsley Village Fun Day

Come and support our cake stall.

9 JULY 2025

### Great Women of Conflict - Lucy Hay

Known for beauty & wit - remind you of anyone you know?

Intriguing talk by Philip York.

NO MEETING AUGUST



10 SEPTEMBER 2025

### Beauty of Natural Soap Making

Demonstration by Yvette Viner. Soaps handmade with love.

8 OCTOBER 2025

### Wool Spinning

Discover the art of wool spinning - demonstration by Maureen Ake

12 NOVEMBER 2025

### Watercolour - Robin Painting

Create a unique Christmas painting. All materials provided. Numbers attending required.

10 DECEMBER 2025

### TBA - Surprise!

Follow our Facebook page & TCAM Noticeboard for additional events throughout the year!



See You  
Soon!

## Skatepark Mawsley Project Update

As many of you may have noticed, the old wooden skate ramp in Mawsley was finally deemed beyond economical repair and had to be removed. This only served to strengthen our resolve to raise funds and apply for grants to build a new, improved skate facility for our community.

We're excited to share that our recent fundraising efforts have been a huge success, thanks to the incredible support from all of you.

Halloween in Mawsley was a fantastic event! Our hot dog and hot chocolate stand was a hit, and we sold out of everything. Both kids and adults enjoyed the treats, and it was wonderful to see the community come together to celebrate.



Bonfire Night was equally successful, with a delicious selection of sweet treats on offer. The children even helped by selling goodies to firework spectators, spreading the festive spirit while raising funds for the skatepark project.

In total, we raised over £600 from these two events — a massive thank you to everyone who supported us! Your generosity is truly appreciated, and it brings us one step closer to making the new skatepark a reality.



As you can imagine, creating a new facility is a significant undertaking, and we need your continued support to make it happen.

We are still welcoming fundraising efforts and donations on our fundraising page - <http://app.goodhub.com/skatemawsleyproject>

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at SkateMawsley for the latest updates and upcoming events.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,  
From The Skatepark Mawsley Fundraising Team

**WASSAIL 2024**  
*presented by*  
**Mawsley Community Choir**

*A FUN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS SONGS AND MERRIMENT TO KICK OFF THE FESTIVE CHEER BRING YOUR OWN 'SEASONAL SUPPER'*

7:30pm  
**SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER**  
**THE CENTRE at MAWSLEY**  
Tickets £7 (under 12 £4)  
from TCAM 01536 799528

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# THE CENTRE AT MAWSLEY

## NEWS FROM TEAM TCAM

**DECEMBER 2024**

As this edition of the Mawsley Village Newsletter was being prepared for printing, Team TCAM were busy ensuring that everything is in place for a great Festive Season at the Centre. Christmas is a time when many people take time out of their busy lives to enjoy social intercourse with family and friends, old and new. What better place to meet up than at the Centre?



### THE GREAT CHRISTMAS RAFFLE NIGHT

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 7.00pm**

This year we are raising money for the **CRANSLEY HOSPICE**  
The evening will begin at 7.00pm with the chance for you to buy your last minute draw tickets and listen to **LIVE MUSIC**.



**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 3.00pm to 5.00pm**  
**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**



### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jackpot Bingo

*Eyes down for your first number at 7.30*  
The more that play, the better the pay!



Don't miss **the QUIZ NIGHT** of the year.  
A fun Quiz for all the family TCAM's **CHRISTMAS QUIZ**  
£2 per person entry Thinking caps on from 8.00pm  
Hosted by **STEVE THORPE AND CHRIS WAINE**



*Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December*

### *NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY TIME*

Bar open from 6.00pm until 1.00am



Recently joined the TCAM Team, Deanna Spafford from Kettering, is our Bar Supervisor. Deanna, more often known as Dee, has over three and half years' experience behind the "Jump", is a welcome addition to strengthen the team and looks forward to meeting more of our customers.

Endeavouring to offer continuity in our wine offering, we are delighted to announce that, as our existing stocks are exhausted, the range will be replaced with wines from VIVA VINO. The wines have been chosen by you, our customers. ENJOY!



Please check our social media and notice boards for opening times during the Festive Season

## Walk and Talk

The Walk and Talk group continues to enjoy weekly walks around the village. After a pretty ordinary summer the autumn weather has enabled us to see the beautiful changing colours of the leaves on the many village trees. We also enjoyed seeing all the amazing Halloween decorations and trying to count them for the school's questionnaire! We are now looking forward to seeing the Christmas decorations some of which must have gone up at the beginning of November.

If you would like to join us, we meet on Mondays and Wednesdays of alternate weeks at 10am at TCAM and afterwards for their 'exceedingly good' coffee and hot chocolate.

So what are you waiting for? Put on your winter woolies and 'geeeet' walking.

For further information contact Rosie on 077677871143

### Future Dates - Dec/Jan

Monday	Dec 2nd
Wednesday	Dec 11th
Monday	Dec 16th
Monday	Dec 23rd
Wednesday	Dec 25th - no walk
Monday	Jan 1st
Monday	Jan 8th
Monday	Jan 13th



## Mawsley Amateur Dramatics Society

We've been a little quiet this year for a variety of reasons, but plan to be back in full force for 2025. Before then, however, we have the Christmas Lights Switch On and Santa's visit to Mawsley on his sleigh in December – see below for more details.

Very sadly, we lost our founder in September, Vic Cope. He was the inspiration behind MADS along with his daughter Lucy and brought much cheer and laughter to the stage from pantomimes to talent shows and more. He was planning for the Christmas 2024 celebrations even in his last few months as was his way.

Vic's family have been overwhelmed by all the well wishes and the wonderful turn out for his celebration of life and would like to thank everyone for their support. Rest in peace, our dear friend.

### Christmas Lights Switch On

This year's Christmas Lights Switch On will take place on **Sunday 8 December at 6pm** outside TCAM. Please come and join us to see Father Christmas help us with the big switch on.

Look out for further details in the New Year of planned events for 2025 when we hope to put on a number of performances.

Get in touch at [mawsleymads@gmail.com](mailto:mawsleymads@gmail.com) or contact Gareth on 07887 984068 (evenings and weekends) or [garethn@hotmail.fr](mailto:garethn@hotmail.fr)

## Santa's Sleigh – coming to Mawsley!

We have had word from the North Pole that Santa will be coming to Mawsley with his sleigh on

**Sunday 15 December from 3.30pm.**

The route is subject to final confirmation, so please check social media and the MADS notice board at TCAM for the latest information nearer the time.

Provisional route and stops are shown below with **STOPS shown in red**:

**Long Breech (bottom end) - Hawthorn Ave - Badgers Lane STOP approx 3.50pm - Hares Run - Sloe Lane STOP approx 4pm - Rosehill Way - Mawsley Chase - The Green - Barnwell Court STOP approx 4.30pm - Main Street (lay by) STOP approx 4.45pm - Loddington way - Old Gorse Way (little roundabout) STOP approx 5.15pm - Old Gorse Way - Warren End (entrance) STOP approx 5.55pm - Birch Spinney (entrance) STOP approx 6.05pm - School Road - Chambers Hill - Netherton Way STOP approx 6.20pm - School Road - Cowslip Hill - Colseed (green) STOP approx 6.45pm - Cransley Rise - School Road - Mawsley Chase - Long Breech (top end)**



Who: 1<sup>st</sup> Mawsley Scout Group  
What: Beavers, Cubs and Scouts  
Where: Meet in the Main Hall at TCAM  
When: Tuesdays (term time) – Cubs 18.10 - 19.25 hrs,  
Scouts 19.30 - 20.45hrs



## 1<sup>st</sup> Mawsley Scout Group

After a six week break over the summer holiday, the Group re-started in September with an evening spent in TCAM refreshing knowledge on fire safety. Young People recapped on the location of the emergency exits and assembly points and understood what to do in an emergency.



The Group held its Annual General Meeting reflecting on the successful programme and activities over the last financial year. This is an important evening where the Group can showcase the Young People's achievements. It was an incredibly proud moment presenting a number of them with their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards – which shows how hard they have worked. The Trustees provided an update on the finances and the programme that the Young People had enjoyed and there was an opportunity for sections to tell the trustees and parents what they enjoyed about scouting.

Food contamination/storage and food preparation formed the mainstay of another informative evening, which culminated in the Scouts producing a stir fry and some noodles.

For Halloween the Group held their own pumpkin carving evening. Cubs and Scouts designed their own pumpkins and then drew the finished design onto their pumpkins. Under supervision they carved their own pumpkins with some pretty stunning results.

Two speakers were welcomed into the Group who spent the evening teaching the Cubs and Scouts how Hindus and Sikhs celebrate Diwali. The Cubs then created their own rangoli patterns and finished off with a Bhangra workshop.



Just before the village fireworks – the sections talked about bonfire night and the gunpowder plot and took part in some apple bobbing and ate donuts on a string. At the village Firework Display the Group sold glow wands and fibre optic wands – in fact anything that lit up and flashed! Thank you to those of you that supported our stall – we had a very successful evening.



Our next Nights Away took place at Overstone Activity Centre in November. The Young People had an opportunity to play many wide games, made multiple fires, cooked meals in a Dutch Oven (homemade bread and gammon slow cooked in fanta-zero for six hours), making s'mores, gutting fish to cook in newspaper, collecting firewood, using sledges on the grass slopes, learning campfire songs, and chopping wood. Scouts perfected their skills using knives and cooking without utensils. We ended the pack holiday by attending the Remembrance service at Mawsley Church.

And recently the Group travelled to Kettering Fire station and was hosted by Fire Fighters who took them through all the elements of their Fire Safety Badge. They had a tour of the station including the smoke house (where they learned how to use the thermal imaging camera), and the training tower. They were also shown how to pass the entrance test and were able to have a full look in the fire engine. The fire fighters carry a lot of equipment, so the Cubs and Scouts were able to see all the equipment, and were able to identify how to use it.

## Mawsley Villagers Association - MVA

Firstly goodbye and big thank you to Martin Bentley. After years of service, he is retiring as a Director of the MVA. Martin has helped with lots of projects, including his work recently on the patio extension at TCAM, and particularly our spectacular annual Fireworks Night.

There was a MVA meeting in October to discuss ongoing projects, including:

- The Fireworks Team were busy finalising their plans at this stage. What a fantastic display they put on – we are very lucky to have such a talented and dedicated group of volunteers in the Village.
- We are planning to run twice-yearly litter picks in the Village in April and September, in conjunction with Rebecca from Mawsley Cleaning Services. We will be looking for volunteers, so please watch the MVA website and Facebook for more news.
- The MVA is continuing to support the great work of the Skate Mawsley Group and the enthusiastic young people involved.
- This Newsletter – thanks to everyone involved, user groups, contributors, advertisers, editor and the delivery team, who all contribute to making this initiative a success.

The next quarterly MVA Meeting is at 7.15pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January at TCAM - All Welcome. If you have ideas for village projects or just want to be involved, please come along.

## Beavers

You may have noticed that “Beavers” was not mentioned in the Scout update.

Unfortunately we have had to take the very difficult decision not to continue with our Beavers section at this time as we did not have a sufficient volunteer leaders/child ratio in the current group.

If you think you have what it takes to be a Beaver Leader – do please get in touch. Our current Beavers now join the Cub Pack

As always if you have any children that wish to join our Group

Scout Troop (10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>–14 years),  
Cub Pack (8-10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years of age)  
Beavers (with Cubs) (5 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> to 8yrs)  
drop an email to

[mawsleyscoutgroupenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:mawsleyscoutgroupenquiries@gmail.com)

## THE TREATMENT ROOM

Beautiful Skin  
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## “India 2 Mawsley”

The “India 2 Mawsley” restaurant is a longtime supporter of the Newsletter so we thought we would share a bit more about the history of the business and the manager Koyes.

“India 2 Mawsley” is a family owned business, a popular long term resident of Barnwell Court, serving traditional Bangladeshi Sylhet style food. This small business employs 5 people and offers dine-in, take-away and delivery services within a 6 mile radius.

Restaurant manager Koyes was born in Bangladesh, but his family moved to the UK when he was only 6 months old. Following short spells in London and Bletchley the family finally settled in Northampton where his grandfather owned a number of restaurants.

Koyes did not initially enter the family restaurant business, but started work at Barclaycard then based in Mayfair in Northampton. A perceptive manager recognised Koyes’ ‘people person’ skills and moved him from a loathed desk job to a customer facing role. It is his love of meeting people that has led Koyes, via a spell as a private taxi driver, into the restaurant business.

In August 2010 Koyes and family opened “India 2 Mawsley” having identified the potential for an Indian restaurant in the village. The restaurant has thrived, banquet nights being particularly popular with customers. Koyes personal favourites are the Rogan and Sag dishes.

Koyes thinks Mawsley is a lovely village, safe and friendly. He values the community and is very appreciative of the customer loyalty and support he received through Covid when many small businesses went out of business. This is recognised in the support he has given the village. Sponsorship of the football under 12s and Vets, and women’s rounders. He supports many raffles, fund raising events and has supported the Newsletter from the first full colour edition.

Koyes is married with 3 boys and any time off is spent with the family. He has no plans to change the restaurant, he just loves being front of house and meeting and talking with customers.

If you haven’t visited “India 2 Mawsley” why not give it a go.

# *India 2 Mawsley*

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Takeaway*

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*Est. 2010*

## Mawsley Football Club

As 2024 comes to a close and Christmas is approaching it is a good time to reflect on our achievements as a club and to remember what playing, coaching or supporting Mawsley Youth Football Club is all about.



Last season on the field we celebrated success across the board with both Girls and Mixed Teams winning cups and reaching finals and semi-finals in various competitions. This season the club continues to challenge itself and the Jaguars U14 Girls are now playing in the Junior Premier League competing against some of the regions biggest clubs. It was great to welcome West Bromwich Albion to Mawsley. I'm not sure that when the club was established this would have been considered!

### Avengers U13s Mixed

The 2024/25 season has started really well for Mawsley Avengers U13s. After a tough end to last season we lost a few established players. We were lucky enough to sign some new girls to add to our mixed squad. We had a very good pre season and summer friendlies. We made it to a semi final at one tournament, which was a massive much needed confidence boost. We have a new kit; thank you to Tailor Made Joinery. We went to Butlins in the spring and were awarded the fair play award, presented by ex Spurs defender, Lesley King. Some players even met ex-England Cricket Captain, Sir Alistair Cook. I would like to thank all the Avengers players for their efforts and parents for all their support.



We are also really excited to develop new young stars and our youngest team, the U6s Tornados have started training. The group is made up of boys and girls who bring a huge amount of enthusiasm to training.

Mawsley FC is more than just football, it is a community which brings young people together from around the county. The Pumas recently got together to go bowling and aren't afraid to get dressed up for Halloween!



It was also great to welcome Poppy back to playing this season. Poppy sustained an injury which meant she had to take 15 months out to rehab, despite this she remained integral to the Tigers team and was cheered on by a huge crowd on her return to playing. This is just one example of how the club has supported an individual during a difficult time and I know there are many more.

Finally we should recognise all the players, parents, volunteers and coaches who continue to dedicate their time to the club this year. Thank you, our success wouldn't be possible without you.



If you want to get in touch please send us a message via the Facebook Group:

**MAWSLEY YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**



# EVERYTHING IS MADE IN CHINA



## Is that the case? And, if so, when did we first trade with China?

During the Medieval period, in the summer of 1288, there appears to have been an attempt to establish relations between England and China when Rabban Bar Sauma, a monk turned diplomat from China, visited France and met with King Edward I of England in Gascony but there is nothing to suggest that any form of trading was established as a result of their meeting.

Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> sent letters to the Chinese imperial court proposing trade. None of those letters arrived but China remained on the minds of English traders, keen to tap into the rich trading prospects of this far-off exotic country. China was largely closed to outsiders. The only Europeans permitted to work there were Jesuits and even they were ordered to leave in the 1720s. Tea was originally sourced from China and first arrived in this country in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century. Tea was so expensive that only the royal family and rich aristocrats could afford to buy it. It is interesting to note that the ceremony and serving of this new luxury from East Asia was copied from the Chinese. Today most tea drunk in the UK is grown in India the result of a maverick botanist, Robert Fortune's audacious intellectual property theft. Fortune, posing as a Chinese traveller in the 1850s, stole tea plants and devised a way to grow them in British-run India.

English traders continued to find it almost impossible to trade with China not helped perhaps by the so-called Opium Wars. That is not to say that our involvement with China was all negative. It is interesting to note that Sir Robert Hart, 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet, (born 1835, died 1911) a British diplomat became the highest-ranking British person to serve as a Chinese official. Hart worked on behalf of the Quing dynasty, running the Imperial Maritime Customs – a unique system responsible not just for collecting import duties for the Chinese government, but also for establishing infrastructures such as lighthouses and for collecting statistics. He was responsible for almost a third of Quing's revenue.

Britain was influenced by the interactions with China, but China too was introduced to key technologies, belief systems and processes of modernity, from railways to ideas around finance and administration. Perhaps it should be more widely recognised today that, without those early days of sometimes difficult interactions, neither country would be the kind of place they are today.

China became open on the world stage throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century and even today, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, China ranks among Britain's largest and most important trading and economic partners.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics show that in 2021 the UK imported £2.5 billion of services from China and in the same period the UK exported £8.2 billion export of services to China.

Trade in goods in 2021 - £63,513 million imported. £18,119 million exported. A trade deficit in goods of £45,394 million. China accounted for 7.3% of our total trade in 2021.

## TWO FORGOTTEN CHINESE IMPORTS?



A young Muntjac Deer

Chinese Water Deer



The Muntjac were imported into Woburn Park, Bedfordshire in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Releases and escapes from Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire led to the establishment of feral populations in England and Wales. Chinese Water Deer were first kept at London Zoo in 1873, and some escaped from Whipsnade Zoo in 1929. Although not as widespread as Muntjac as their preferred habitats include reed beds, river shores, woodlands and fields, they now account for about 10% of the world population.



# Seasons Greetings *from* Ray & Emma



## Thinking of selling or letting?

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