



Mawsley News & Views

January/February 2015

'News and Views' editor to retire

'News and Views' editor Pat Rowley has announced her retirement from this voluntary role after almost twelve years.

For all of that period, (with only one short break), she has not only edited our village newsletter, but also taken responsibility for the advertising which effectively funds its bi-monthly publication and raises as much as £4000 a year for the village. She also deals with all of the content and layout.

In order to achieve this, she keeps abreast of everything that's going on in the village through attendance at Parish Council and MVA meetings, maintaining a watching brief on borough and county websites and by generally keeping her eyes and ears open.

As if that's not enough, she has kept up with the inevitable cajoling and persuasion that generates copy, as well as occasionally having to make appropriate demands so that deadlines are met.

Pat's tireless commitment to our newsletter will be sorely missed but I think 'News and Views' readers will agree that her retirement is well earned after so many years. She has kindly agreed to stay on until the summer, making the May/June edition her last. Of course, it would be ideal if a successor could be found soon so that she can seamlessly hand over the ropes in the interim.

Pat, on behalf of the MVA and doubtless the villagers of Mawsley, thanks for making our newsletter what it is.

Rob Bailey (MVA Chair)

If any of our readers are interested in taking over from Pat, or even taking on just one of her many roles, please see the article on the back page and get in touch.



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Mawsley Parish Council Elections

Every four years all Parish Councillors stand down. This will happen in May this year when all seven seats on Mawsley Parish Council will become vacant and open for election on 7th May. Full details will be published in the next 'News & Views' but we include here an outline of the process and requirements to assist any of you who are considering standing for election.

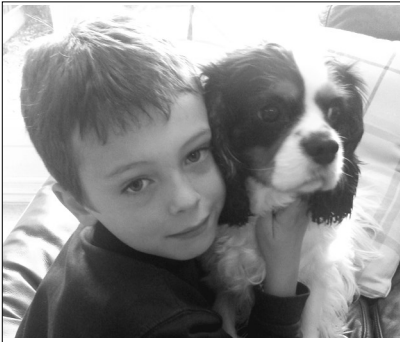
Who can be a Councillor?

To stand for election you must be at least 18 years old, be on the electoral register and either have been resident here or within 3 miles of here, or worked here for the past year. There are also citizenship requirements.

First Steps

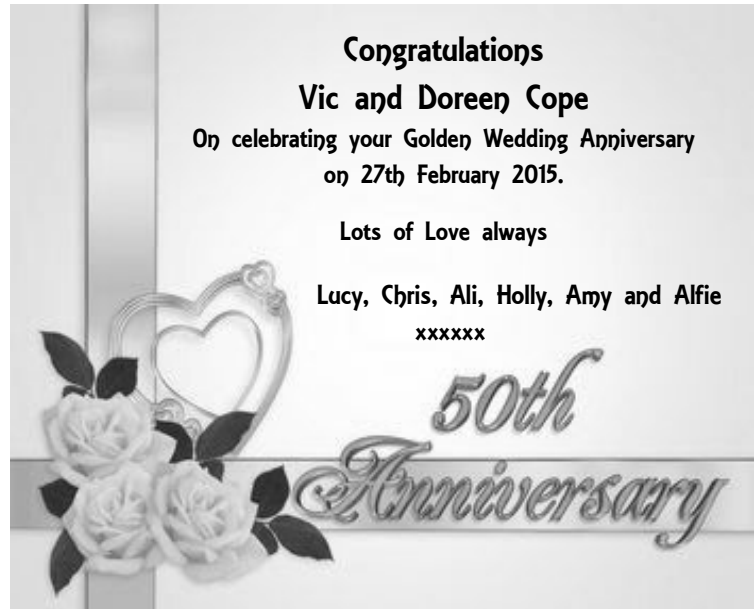
If you decide that you might like to stand as a candidate in an election, you should contact the Clerk, who will give you the necessary forms and guidance documents.

Continued on page 6



Happy 10th Birthday WILLIAM.

Love you to the stars and back.
Mummy, Daddy, Kitty, Max and
Gizmo xxxx



Congratulations

Vic and Doreen Cope

On celebrating your Golden Wedding Anniversary
on 27th February 2015.

Lots of Love always

Lucy, Chris, Ali, Holly, Amy and Alfie
xxxxxx

*50th
Anniversary*

Scott Mechanics has moved

Scott wished to inform all his Mawsley
customers that his new business
address is:

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The Village Retreat

One of our longest running
adverts has been missing for the
last couple of editions.

Nettie Lumsden decided to retire
and close her beauty business late
last year. The Village Retreat
opened for business 9 years ago
and offered its clients relaxed
beauty therapies in a professional
studio at a time when there were
no shops nearer than Broughton.
Over the years, it has welcomed
more than 500 customers, many
from villages all around Mawsley.

**Happy retirement, Nettie, and
thank you for supporting the
Mawsley newsletter for all those
years.**

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Many of you will already have met Dale Cheney, our new Bar Manager but if you haven't please do introduce yourself to him. He has already made some operational changes behind the bar to help improve our processes behind the scenes and to improve our levels of customer service. He will continue to focus on improving this even further and following our initial meetings I am able to make some positive announcements, details below!

EVENTS CALENDAR

I have published a calendar of events for 2015 on our website which will develop as the year progresses but I am pleased to confirm that during January we will be running our Loyalty Scheme once again where customers can get 1 drink free for every 8 they buy. Additionally the regular Children's monthly film night will recommence on Saturday 17th January and the first of our regular quiz nights will be held on Thursday 29th January.

On Friday 20th February we will be holding a Youth Disco for 13 to 17 year olds starting at 7pm until 11pm. Entrance will be by ticket only priced at £2 each and will be valid for the whole evening so you can come and go as you please. Big Bopper will be providing the music for the event. If you want to get involved in organising the event in any way, shape or form please get in touch.

In February we will be holding the first Mawsley Cask Ale Festival which will run from 26th February until 2nd March which I hope will become an annual event. The festival will coincide with our regular monthly quiz on the Thursday night; there will be a Race Night on the Friday evening and there will be live music in the bar with Tommy Hall on the Saturday evening, following his performance here at our Bonfire night celebration.

FOOD REVIEW

In one of my first articles for the newsletter I said that I would be carrying out a review of our food offering and following completion of this I am pleased to be able to announce that a limited snack menu will be available initially at all our future film and quiz nights, starting with those in January. I will monitor the response to the

snack menu and hope that I will be able to extend the food offering both in terms of the menu and its availability.

PRICES HELD

I have now received notification of wholesale price increases from our suppliers which are in the region of 5 to 7%, effective from January 2015. Despite this I will, as promised, hold our bar prices for the whole of 2015 which means that prices at TCAM Bar will not have increased for two years. In the current wholesale climate this represents a significant achievement which any pub or bar would be proud of.



Please take a look at our "What's On" section later in the newsletter for details of the confirmed events and check our website and TCAM Bar facebook page regularly for further updates about our Events Calendar.

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who supported TCAM over the Christmas and New Year period and to all the staff who ensured that we opened every day of the holiday period. I hope that you all had a great Christmas and wish you a happy and peaceful 2015.

Best wishes
Hugh

**For details of all events
at The Centre and
Xmas & New Year Opening hours**

- ◆ **see pages 14 & 15 for 'What's On'**
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Mawsley Villagers Association

Mawsley Villagers' Association Annual General Meeting

This took place on the 7th December. The full minutes are available on the MVA website but there are a couple of agenda items that are worth highlighting:

- It was acknowledged that the structure of the MVA and TCAM boards is somewhat complex and that this might put some villagers off the idea of becoming involved. However, the structure is a necessary bugbear if village assets and the management of The Centre are to run with efficiency and propriety. After all, The Centre is not merely a Village Hall, but a dynamic not-for-profit business established for the benefit of all of us.
- The MVA is aware that its communication with villagers could be improved, despite the fact that minutes of all of our meetings are published on the MVA website. To this end, a Mawsley Special Delivery flier will shortly be circulated to all households. It will include invitations to take part in discussions on the development of The Centre and how to accommodate our growing adolescent population. There will also be an invitation to run your own village event with the offer of funding support.

The MVA would like more feedback on the future of the village so what do you think are the issues facing Mawsley? Your thoughts and ideas are valuable to us.



Our theme for last term was famous people (from a toddler's perspective of course), we looked at The Queen, Mr

Tumble, Rudolf and all, ending with the most famous, Father Christmas. Which leads me to our first big 'thank you'; Father Christmas took time out to pay us a visit; this was a great surprise for all the toddlers and we thank him very much. The second big 'thank you' goes to all the parents and carers who come along every week and support our fantastic group; huge thanks to you all.

Have you ever wondered what to do on a Thursday morning? Need to get out of the house and meet people in the same situation as yourself? Then pop along to our fun-filled mornings; there is always plenty to do and something to suit everyone. For

Baby & Toddler Group

toddlers who like dressing up, jigsaws, cars, role play, crafts, colouring, play dough, we have it all and much, much more. For babies we have a soft area, with lots of age appropriate toys, baby gyms, bouncy seats etc. Come along and see what it's all about and maybe meet new friends among the fabulous people who regularly drop in. This term we're going to be exploring some traditional nursery rhymes, so if you fancy making Mary's Little Lamb or the mouse from Hickory Dickory Dock, call by for a play.

We meet on Thursday mornings during term time from 9.15-11.00am. We welcome all parents and carers of babies and children from birth to 4 years. The cost is £1.50 for the first child and 50p for each child thereafter; this includes a snack. The Centre also provide tea and coffee for the adults at a fantastic price of 50p per cup.

Youth Club

Youth Club meets every Wednesday evening in term time from 6.30—8.30 pm at The Centre. Entry is £2 per child. There is a tuck shop.

To find out more, or to offer help, please contact Vicki Waine on 07525 488906

Bonfire/Firework Night – postscript

Despite the weather, Mawsley's Bonfire / Firework Night continues to be a popular village event with attendance last year of 936 paying adults. The event made a profit of £1,470 plus the donation from Barclaycard of £1,335 which all goes into MVA funds for the village.

To all of you who attended, thank you for supporting the event and we hope to see even more of you joining us this year (Nov 7th 2015).

Martin Bentley

Can we help?

Are you thinking of setting up a new group in the village or running an event? Talk to the MVA and we may be able to assist you with some funding .

Join our Facebook page - Mawsley Toddlers, for full details of the theme each week, including what we will be doing at the craft table and what will be in the sensory tray.

As always we continue to look for more fundraising ideas to contribute to toy maintenance and the cost of the hire of the hall; all suggestions are welcome.

Still unsure? Then do not hesitate to contact one of us on the numbers below if you want to find out more, we look forward to hearing from you.

Hope you can join us, we would love to see you there.

Krista Alford (07742 601100)
Anthea Crane (07596 022525)
Sam Eggleton (07818 408911)
Shelley Brown (07887 792673)

Mawsley Parish Council

In the September/October News & Views the Parish Council talked about current spending, and the timetable for setting the 2015-16 budget. This culminates in the budget, and therefore also the precept, being determined at our meeting on the 19th January.

As the major area of expenditure for the Parish Council relates to The Centre it would be useful to explain again exactly what the Parish Council's relationship with The Centre is. There are four aspects:

1. The Parish Council owns the building and is therefore the landlord. It is leased to the MVA (a copy of the lease is now on the Parish Council website). We work closely with the MVA and TCAM to ensure the building is kept in good condition. In addition there is a formal annual landlord's inspection, and any necessary maintenance or remedial work is agreed between us; responsibility for carrying this out/paying for it being as per the terms of the lease.

As we have explained before this is a very expensive building to maintain. We will agree the maintenance budget on the 19th, but the Council is likely to allocate c. £10,000.

2. To help cover The Centre's annual losses. Not only expensive to maintain, but also expensive to run. The Parish Council has discussed the business model with TCAM on many occasions and is satisfied that the current approach is the best way; it is not - and cannot be - a village hall, where users collect the key from Albert or Nelly.

Nonetheless we all recognise that currently it makes a loss each year; and that loss has to be covered in some way. Let's be clear where this loss arises; it is on provision of facilities for the Community. The costs of these are far higher than user groups (e.g. Scouts; Line Dancing; Youth Club etc. etc.) could ever afford to pay.

Let's be clear also; the bar makes a (substantial) profit. So it is the profits from the bar, and a revenue support contribution from the Parish Council, that covers these losses. In other words quite the opposite of the Parish

Council subsidising drinkers in the bar, as some perceive to be the case, the drinkers subsidise Community usage. TCAM came to the December Parish Council meeting and asked for a Council revenue support contribution of £24,000 for next year, *with the proviso that* if the annual losses are less than £24,000 the full unspent balance will be returned to the Council.

3. To help with capital expenditure: as long as the business is not profitable then major capital expenditure is unaffordable. The Parish Council has agreed in principle to cover the costs of major items. At the December Council meeting TCAM indicated that £8-10,000 was likely to be needed next year; this includes £5,500 to replace the carpets.

4. To ensure that TCAM operates in accordance with the lease, providing essential facilities for the village.

So the monetary implications of the first three points are substantial. In view of this representatives of the Council attend TCAM Board meetings. The Parish Council is well aware of the strenuous efforts TCAM are making to both increase revenue and reduce costs.

We should remember though that we have a community building that is possibly the best in the County, and the envy of many, many villages. Keeping it so will always be expensive; the Council is building up reserve funds to ensure that any major issue can be addressed quickly - i.e. so we won't have to wait, and maybe close part/all of The Centre in order to raise the necessary funds. If expenditure on maintenance, revenue support and/or capital replacement is less than budgeted the surplus will be added to that fund. Once it has reached a satisfactory level we will be able to reduce the precept.

Not happy? Please tell us; any ideas for ways we can improve any of this are welcome. Of course the option is there for you to do it better; all Councillors are up for re-election in May. You can stand for election then; frankly I wish more people would, as that is the essence of democracy.

Bob Littler

Parish Council Meetings

The next meetings will be at 7pm at The Centre on:

19th January,

16th February,

16th March

Continued from page 1 Parish Council Elections

The timetable is very important. **Notice of Election will be posted not later than 30th March 2015 and nomination papers can be hand - delivered only to the Borough Council offices by 4pm on Thursday 9th April 2015.**

Becoming a Candidate

To stand for election you need to complete a nomination paper and get two other electors for the Parish to sign it. For more information about being a candidate visit the Kettering Borough Council's website at

www.kettering.gov.uk

or the Electoral Commission site at www.electoralcommission.org.uk

Parish Council News Round -Up

Wind turbine

Yes, the one that has appeared by the C31 access road was a surprise to us all. It sits within Daventry Council's area; and they had not advised us of the application. We are still unsure as to whether Kettering Council had been advised; certainly Kettering and ourselves need to establish a better working relationship with Daventry to head off such things happening in the future.

Best Village Competition

We will enter again this year. We won the Newcomers Cup last year and came third in the large village section. Our aim this time is, of course, to win it. Do you want to help? The application form is likely to be the same as last year, so we need new thinking if we are to present a fresh view. Drop me a line (boblittler@btconnect.com) if you are interested.

Taylor Wimpey:

Chris Leeson, Project Director at Taylor Wimpey, came to our December meeting to update us. Key items were:

Roads: these are completed to adoption standard but cannot be adopted by County Highways until the drains and sewers have been adopted by Anglian Water. Unfortunately this is held up by a dispute with a land-owner. Even if that dispute were to be resolved immediately it would be c. 18 months before road adoption could be completed. This in particular affects the ability of the Police to enforce parking and speeding issues.

Open Spaces: all the major open spaces have now been adopted by Kettering Council; these include the eco-meadow opposite the school; the woodlands; the village green; the playing fields and the pond. The areas remaining are smaller patches within / alongside roads.

N.B. both the above exclude the David Wilson area, which is being covered by DW themselves. We are unable to get an up-to-date picture on this; the last we heard re open spaces is that DW and Kettering Council are unable to come to an agreement.

Pub Site: Chris apologised for the delay in clearing this properly and promised it would be started by mid-January (in fact work has now started). Once cleared up however ongoing responsibility will lie with the owners of the site, Mawsley Taverns.

School crossing: this project sits with the school, with support from the Parish Council. Progress is proving difficult, however it was encouraging that Chris accepted that TW have a responsibility to ensure roads under their control (i.e. not yet adopted) are safe; and therefore they will help with some interim measures.



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For further details please contact a member of our team on:

Email: creditunion@kettering.gov.uk

Telephone: 01536 534247

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17th February
17th March
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Mawsley Community Primary School

Have you ever thought about becoming a governor of our village school?

Our school recently celebrated its 10th Birthday and it is always seeking to improve its performance and to provide the best possible educational opportunities for all of the children.

Governors work with the Head and her colleagues as critical friends to ensure that the school goes from strength to strength and recently the government has required all governing bodies to become reconstituted. We can now co-opt governors with specific skills to join us on the governing body. At this time we are looking to co-opt someone from the world of finance, business or the legal profession.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor and/or wish to be considered for co-option please email your CV/pen portrait to nwatts3@mawsleycpschool.northants.sch.uk or drop it into to the school office with your contact details.



Hair by Chris



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There is lots of information on the internet about what being a governor involves and the school's website may also help you decide whether this opportunity is for you.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Pat Downing
Chair of Governors

Elaine Wright
Head

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Letters to the editor

Dear Editor

Living in Mawsley is like living on a roller coaster - you are up in the air rejoicing one moment and then down in the dumps the next. What makes it like this, in my opinion, is PEOPLE. Many of them work hard for the good of the Village and in the main that is appreciated. That is the up side.

The down side is that having achieved a 20 MPH speed limit through the whole village SOME PEOPLE have a total disregard for it. The County Council hums and ha's about crossings and the Police have their hands tied so some drivers do what they like; they park where they like and drive at what speed they like. One day in the A&E Dept might make them think. What is it going to take to make you realise that THE SPEED LIMIT IN MAWSLEY IS 20 MPH? Don't let it take the death or injury of one of our residents, old or young, to make the point.

Please keep 2015 safe for all of us. Thank you and a happy and safe new year

Vic Cope

Dear Editor

It is with some amusement that we have been reading **Mawsley, The Nearly Village - Not a Social History** articles in the Mawsley/News and Views. A satirical misrepresentation of our family name and history has been quite interesting and funny to read.

Thank you Professor Ed Case. There are still Somervilles alive and kicking in the village!

Catherine, Andrew & Iris Somerville

Editor: I asked Prof Ed Case to reply.

Catherine,

The Professor is a busy man and has asked me to respond on his behalf.

He is delighted that you have found the articles enlightening, but has asked to point out that these are serious articles based upon fact and he struggles to see why they should be found funny. He does, however recognise that whilst they are based on fact, the interpretation of those facts is somewhat unique and, as he says constantly, "never let truth stand in the way of a good story"!

As you will have spotted, proper research has never been high on the Professor's agenda either but he is delighted that there remain Somervilles in the village (a correcting note will appear in a future edition)!!

Copies of the complete works of the Professor are available from all good booksellers and I can wholeheartedly recommend his work "Tea – A Drink With Jam And Bread" the follow up to the award winning "Ess – The Once And Always Capital of Spain".

I trust future articles will continue to meet with your approval.

Kind Regards

R.....

For, and on behalf of Professor Ed Case, FRS

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A Special Christmas Reunion

Специальный Реюньон

Irina Brooks left her family and friends in Russia, some 7 years ago and has settled in Mawsley with Vlad and Neil. Having not seen her family for some considerable time, this Christmas was made special with a reunion with her twin sister, Julia and her lifetime friend, Larisa plus members of their families.



Left to right Julia, Larisa and Irina



*Front row: Julia, Patina, Neil. Middle row: Irina. Vlad, Stephan.
Back row: Julia, Alex, Louisa*

The party left Moscow with temperatures at minus 14 and enjoyed the difference in Mawsley of 6 degrees and just a heavy frost!

Irina and Neal, responded to their visitors' 'wish list' with trips through the English countryside and as a contrast to a trip to the sea from land-locked Moscow, [a two hour flight to the nearest coast]...a car journey to our south east coast and the seaside. Lunch at a typical Northamptonshire pub and canal boat voyage at Stoke Bruerne was followed by the obligatory day out in London.

**Хаппи Нев Еар!
Happy New Year!**

Happy ReunionsFrom Mawsley to New Zealand

Sue and Helen Walker decided, following a difficult period of over 15 months due to a serious illness experienced by Sue, and that they missed out on a honeymoon after their recent wedding, that they needed a break. Given the circumstances, it had to be special and to catch up with family and friends who were not able to attend the wedding and who they had not seen for many years. With very little debate, Christmas, sunnier climes and the chance to visit exciting New Zealand, was quickly decided upon.

The trip started on Christmas Day and they arrived in the North Island of New Zealand on December 26th with average temperatures at 24 degrees.....and they then took in the main tourist routes around the island...plus the mandatory bungee jump by Helen !

We understand from the last contact that Sue and Helen are thinking of returning home, at the end of January!



Helen with her Aunt and Uncle from Nottingham, with cousin Pam and husband Robyn ...reunited after 12 years.



A 5 year reunion with friends Frank and Jackie



Helen, on a bungee jump

What's On

Gardening for All

Forthcoming Meetings at The Centre

Monday 9th February 7:30 pm
Topical Tips, Fruit growing talk,
Introduction of new design project and
more.

Monday 9th March 7:30
'Home Grown' meeting.
Ongoing design feature, tips and plant of
the month
Open discussion and much more.

All Welcome
£2 per person at the door
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PARTY PANTS

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8PM – LATE

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Happy New Year to all of you, from everyone at The Centre at Mawsley!

Over the next few months we are pleased to be able to offer a wide variety of events and services for you to enjoy and the whole team hopes to welcome everyone from Mawsley up at The Centre.

Be the first to know what is happening, by checking our website or in the follow ways:

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Facebook: TCAMBar

JANUARY PROMOTION

Come and join us at The Centre at Mawsley this January and for every 8 drinks purchased you will receive one, **ABSOLUTELY FREE!*** Terms & Conditions Apply

Children's Film Night

Saturday 17th Jan
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"My Neighbour Totoro"

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QUIZ NIGHT

Thursday 29th Jan
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Hosted by Sarah & Rachael
Snack menu available

YOUTH DISCO

Friday 20th February

7PM – 11PM - £2 Entry

13-17Year Olds

Join us for a mocktail or two away from Mum and Dad!



This February we welcome the 1st Annual Real Ale Festival to Mawsley. So why not come and join us for a pint, whoever and wherever you are!

Thursday 26th February
Monthly TCAM Quiz Night
8pm till Late - £1 Per Person

Friday 27th February
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Saturday 28th February
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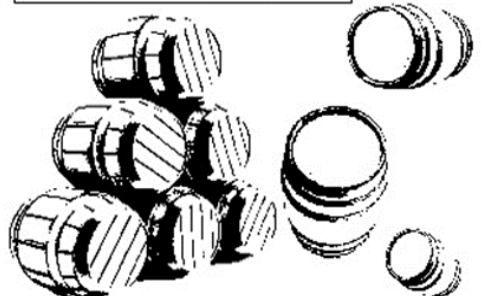
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Mawsley News & Views

is brought to you 6 times a year by the MVA. Its purpose is to keep you informed about events and decisions in the village and to provide space for your ideas and views. Don't keep them to yourself! The editor welcomes letters, articles and pictures from Mawsley residents.

The next News & Views is due out on

18th March 2015

Please send your articles etc. to the editor by

Friday 6th March

Pat Rowley

rowleypj@btinternet.com

791881



Wishing all choir members and villagers a happy and healthy New Year

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Christmas events, we hope you enjoyed them as much as we did. Last year was a busy and successful one for the choir. This year we are looking forward to working hard and having fun rehearsing for our forthcoming competitions and the Summer Concert.

Friday 13th March

We will be taking part in the Milton Keynes Festival of The Arts for Dance, Music & Drama again where last year we won our first award (3rd place in our category — see certificate on notice board in TCAM).

Saturday 14th March

Another competition we will be competing in this year will be The Kettering & District Eisteddfod at the Salvation Army Citadel. Due to our great success in coming 1st in our category last year we have been given the honour of opening and closing the evening concert as well as competing again during the day (as above see certificate).

What a busy weekend!

Saturday 21st or Sunday 22nd March

The choir will be travelling to Stratford-upon-Avon to take part in The Community Choirs Festival (a full day workshop) where we expect to learn some new pieces and techniques. Last year we found this day to be a very enjoyable and uplifting experience singing along with

around 500 other choristers! At the end of the day all the participating choirs will perform their own pieces in a concert to round the day off. Amazing!

All support is gratefully received. We are sure you will all wish us good luck for the year ahead as we represent our village in these competitions.

We are keen to attract new members; you need no experience, just a passion to sing!

Rehearsals are held on Thursday evenings in term time at TCAM from 7:30-9:30pm (and 7-9pm on Quiz Night which is the last Thursday of the month).

If you would like more information please contact-Sue on 07793386232

***Sing – Make friends – Spread happiness
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Eve Richards



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Mawsley Coffee Club2005 & beyond

From little acorns



In the beginning Mawsley village was a building site; new homes were being established and Hawthorn Avenue was the furthest extent of the village, with green fields beyond. Mawsley is renowned for its community spirit and, from the very start, several newcomers had the vision to establish a community in the village. Moving to a new area can be a lonely experience, especially for those who have retired and are at home all day. Just over ten years ago, coincidentally on the same day, Molly and John Shortt and Pat Ellis moved into their homes next door to each other in Hawthorn Avenue. In January 2005, once they had settled in and introduced themselves, Molly and Pat organised a leaflet drop around the village and invited Mawsley residents who had retired to a coffee morning at Pat's home to provide an opportunity to meet and get to know each other.

Seven people attended that first coffee morning and they included Brenda, Carol, Denise, Joan and Margaret. These seven ladies found that as other groups, such as the WI and Gardening Club, became established in the village, they had already formed their own social network of support. Although, in the days before The Centre was built, attending these meetings, especially on dark winter nights required a powerful torch and a certain level of agility in negotiating the unmade and unlit paths and roads.

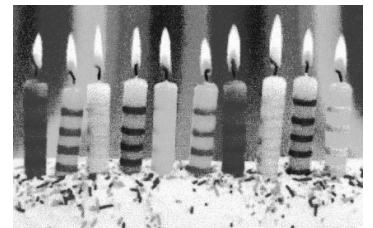
Since that time Mawsley Coffee Club has provided friendship and support for its membership, which has

grown steadily over ten years, and now includes almost seventy ladies and gentlemen who have retired, or who are approaching retirement. As numerically it is no longer possible to meet in members homes for coffee mornings, these are now held in the bar at The Centre. Occasionally a speaker is invited, and we use our own transport, local bus or coach services to visit various other places of interest. Our aim is to provide a regular and wide ranging programme of social events and outings to look forward to. Eating out for breakfast, lunch or afternoon tea always seems to be a popular choice. On average about twenty or so people attend various outings to places of interest, including garden centres, theatres, concerts etc. From time to time we hold fund raising events for various local and national charities. Basically, having fun together is an essential element of our Coffee Club get-togethers.

To commemorate the Coffee Club's tenth anniversary, a celebratory lunch has been arranged at the Red Lion in Broughton, when all seven of the founder members, plus an additional thirty or so members plan to be present.

Details of our programme and dates of future meetings can be obtained from Molly and John on 790 781 or Jean and David on 799 490. Do get in touch if you want more information. A warm welcome is assured.

Ten candles for Mawsley Coffee Club



At Mawsley Church we had lots of fun celebrating the birth of Jesus over the Christmas period! It was great to welcome lots of you to our special services, where we made Christingles, put on a live nativity, and sang carols at Mawsley's first carol service.

As we move into 2015, we'll be meeting for our services, as always, every Sunday at The Centre. Our services last about an hour, in a relaxed, informal setting and always include activities for children.

On 15th March, we'll be holding a special Mothering Sunday service, with the uniformed organisations invited along to parade.

If you would like to find out more about Mawsley Church please contact either:

- Canon Brian Withington 01536 791373 or
email revdbrian@uwclub.net or
- Revd Nicki Hobbs 01536 799522 or
email revnicki@familyhobbs.org.uk

Regular Services at The Centre

- 1st Sunday 10.30am SPACE Tea, coffee and bacon rolls with children's activities all in the main hall
- 2nd Sunday 10.30am Service with children's groups
- 3rd Sunday 10.30am All age service
- 4th Sunday 10.30am Communion service with children's groups

SUCCESS AT THE CIRCUIT AND THE POOL!



Mawsley year 5 pupil, Robert Taylor, has been making more sporting waves recently.

After finishing 5th in the county swimming finals and winning several under-11 championships at Corby, Robert finished runner-up in the recent Kettering Sports Awards.

Robert also qualified for the national final of the Formula Kart Stars competition to be held at the NEC and qualified in the final 5 drivers after beating competition which included the British Open Cadet champion.

Robert finished runner-up after being interviewed by a panel of motorsports legends, including Anthony Hamilton (Lewis' dad) and ex-F1 driver Mark Blundell.

Photos can be seen on www.RTRacing.me.uk and Robert would particularly like to thank Mawsley Dental Clinic, Jigsaw Wooden Products, PMA and Mawsley Maintenance Man for their support.



There are currently 28 children attending the 1st Mawsley Cubs Scout Pack which meets every Tuesday during term time at TCAM. We try to keep them very busy and entertained - last term was no exception!

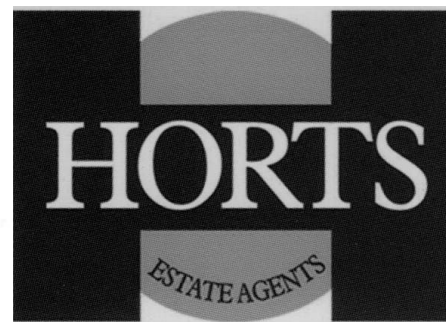
The highlights included:

- A talk and visit from the St Jude's Foodbank (many thanks to the children and parents for the generous donations).
- A night hike along Brampton Valley Way (followed by hot chocolate and treats!)
- A fundraising "bag pack" at Sainsburys for the 1st Mawsley Scout Group.
- A night out at Laserzone in Northampton where the children tested their "zap" a Scout Leader skills.
- Attendance at the Mawsley Church Remembrance Sunday Parade. Some of the Cubs assisted by reading part of the sermon during the Service.
- A pack holiday at the Woodcroft Scout Centre which included a visit to the Kettering Gang Show, and Wicksteed Park.
- A memorable outing to Cadbury's World where a lot of chocolate was consumed.

This coming half term the children will continue to work towards their badges. We will be concentrating on:

- Global Challenge (recycling - what should go in that blue bin?);
- Astronomer (Is there a budding Patrick Moore out there?);
- Map Reader (using OS maps);
- Getting tied up in knots in order to complete the Outdoor Challenge; and
- Chef's Badge (yum yum - Shrove Tuesday).

Many thanks to the parents who continually provide their support to the Group.



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Mawsley Short Mat Bowls Club

Short Mat Bowls is an indoor sport developed in the 1980s. It is broadly based on Lawn Bowls using the same bowls and flat soled shoes but is played on a rink mat that can be rolled up and stored. This makes it possible for small communities to play in village halls and the like.

Mawsley Short Mat Bowls Club was set up by a few enthusiastic founder members in 2011. We now have up to 24 players attending club roll ups on Monday afternoons. We also compete in friendly matches against local clubs. Initially results were disappointing but we enjoyed the competition, gradually improving our skills by watching and learning. In 2014 our patience was rewarded as results improved ending the year with winning 2 matches. We then celebrated with an enjoyable Christmas lunch and get together at the Red Lion Inn at Broughton to round off the year.

We all look forward to 2015 and welcoming some new members. You will need no special equipment, just flat soled shoes and a sense of humour.

We meet on a Monday at 1pm in the hall at TCAM to start playing 1:15. We finish at 3:15 giving you plenty of time for the school run if needs be. By the way the first three Mondays are free then £2.50 per session.

Santa's sleigh and Panto.

Hello from me, Santa. I was very pleased to see so many people supporting MADS' events this year! Both were a great success.

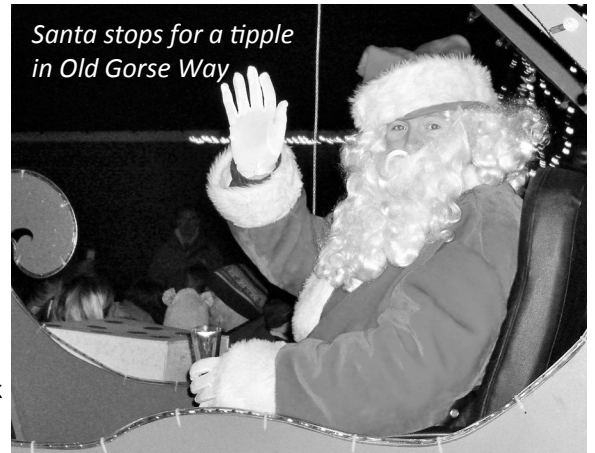


Panto

The Jack and the Beanstalk cast, although young, were fabulous. It was a fun evening out for the whole family. Thank you to everyone who helped in any capacity on or off stage as it can't run without you. Also to the various Mawsley businesses who generously donated to the raffle.

Sleigh

My sleigh visit, with Frosty, was lucky to have very good weather which brought you all out in good spirits. It was lovely to see you all. Thank you for donating to this years charity ORCHID, a male cancer charity. You raised £645+. To those who also provided refreshments and merriment on the journey as I went round thank you very much; it was appreciated!



Look out for further productions by MADS in the near future but until then. . . Happy 2015.

Santa, Frosty and MADS x

Gardening For All

I hope all you gardeners out there had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now it's time to get out in the garden, don your wet weather clothes and work off your excesses. So far the weather has been fairly mild but I am sure mother nature will have a few surprises up her sleeve to keep us on our toes.

We closed off the first year of Gardening for All meetings with a light hearted Christmas Gardening Quiz evening presented by Tricia and Les Cottington. We all had great fun and lots of laughs. Worthy prize winners were 1st place Marisa Holton, 2nd place joint winners Sue Butterworth and Heather Mallinson, 3rd place Alan and Barbara Pritchard.

We have a lively calendar lined up for 2015 with topics covering all aspects of gardening with regular topical features and occasional speakers, a veg growing competition, talks on fruit growing with

visits to a nursery and vineyard planned, bulb and plant sales. We will be opening our gardens in late June and fund raising at the Mawsley Fun day in July. Outside of our meetings we will continue work with village groups including Mawsley School Gardening Club, Pond Conservation team and Last of the Summer Wine. We are also working on a variety of 'Home Grown' ideas and features.

Our usual meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month in the committee room at The Centre and are open to all. Please feel free to bring along a friend or two as always. £2 per person at the door (includes raffle ticket)

All Welcome
Informal Friendly Informative

Contact : Paul Richards on 01536 791898 or eandp68@gmail.com

Loddington and Mawsley Cricket Club 2015 Season

This season's fixture list gives the First XI a tricky start with a visit to newly promoted Wellingborough Indians on Saturday 25th April. This is then followed by a home meeting the next weekend with odds on favourites for the Division One title Burton Latimer Town. The Second XI find themselves competing in Division 7 again this campaign, starting with a home fixture with East Haddon on the last Saturday in April.

A breakdown in contract negotiations with Australian all rounder Ben Bryant saw the club withdraw their offer. However Scott Sanderson an exciting prospect from Perth now looks likely to join for the season. Coupled with all last season's squad and the expected return from injury of Grant de Kock should see the Club progress and hopefully challenge for honours.

Fund raising continues towards the new wicket covers for Loddington. Numerous social events are planned throughout the season commencing with a Quiz in late March along with Karting, Golf, Paint Balling and a proposed Poker Tournament.

The club is actively seeking players capable of competing in Division 1 and 7 of the Northamptonshire Cricket league or Rutland League Division 5 on a Sunday. Players with wicket keeping experience would be especially welcome.

The club also needs a groundskeeper for Loddington. Experience although not a necessity (as training can be given), would be welcome and the post does carry a small remuneration.

Net sessions are due to commence Monday 19th January at Bishop Stopford School, The Headlands, Kettering. Under 11/13 Coaching will be from 7.00pm to 8.00pm and the Senior Net Session follows on from this at 8.00pm onwards.

If you are interested in joining or would like more information please contact either First XI Captain Nick Herbert Mobile 07889 038138 (Nicholas.herbert@study.beds.ac.uk) or Youth Co-ordinator Karl Sanders on Mobile 07903 954360 or visit our website at the following link at www.pitchero.com/clubs/loddingtonmawsleycricketclub/

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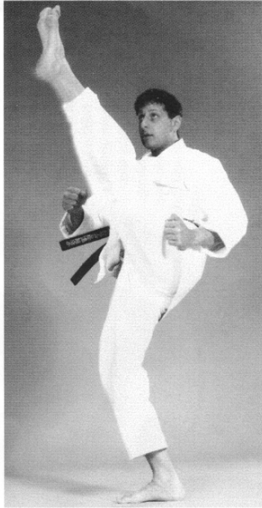
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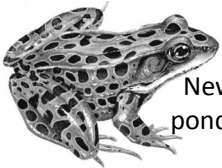
Nature on your doorstep

A stroll round Mawsley and district with Les, Woody and Paul on 7th January 2015

Paul

As the day dawned frosty pink the full moon set behind a thin layer of cloud. A small group of starlings were silhouetted leaving their roost on the way to their feeding grounds. The evening before I had watched dozens of small flocks of gulls flying south west over Mawsley. They were no doubt on route from feeding in fields and on local reservoirs to join the massive winter gull roost at Pitsford Reservoir. Numbers of gulls often reach 20,000 or so on winter evenings and can usually be clearly seen from the causeway. In the morning I didn't spot any gulls flying north east as I had on other occasions, maybe I'd got up too late! However, returning home from our stroll I spotted a Buzzard being harried by a lone Lesser Black Backed Gull above Hawthorn Avenue.

Les and I met at the pond. As we stood there gazing into the lifeless murky depths we both agreed it was not a very inviting place to live. However, even though we couldn't make out any living things, they certainly were around. Nymphs of dragonflies, mayflies and stone flies are active, feeding and growing in the water often under ice to emerge in spring and early summer as adults. So what of our frogs, toads and newts? Male frogs often bury themselves in the mud at the bottom of the pond



whereas female frogs and toads choose a cosy ditch or hedgerow. Newts overwinter on land returning to the pond for breeding in early spring to mid summer. They then live on land in damp places usually under rocks, logs or debris.

Taking the tarmac path down Loddington Way whilst discussing how healthy the hedge looked we heard the unmistakable sound of tits foraging. A small group of 4 Coal Tits and one Great Tit came into view, an unusual sighting as they are often solitary birds. Further down looking left onto the grassed area two Pied Wagtails were feeding frantically. These sprightly black and white birds are resident in Mawsley but can be joined by birds from further north on passage from Scotland in autumn and winter.

Les reported sighting a Barn Owl flying along a ditch at the side of the Old to Mawsley lane last week. It landed on the hedge and looked at him for a while. There have been several other recent reports in the area possibly due to 2014 being an exceptional breeding year for Barn Owls. These wonderful animals can be observed hunting in daylight during colder snaps of weather when food is in short supply. I have been told Barn Owls were a common sight quartering the fields at dusk hunting for field voles where Mawsley now stands; in fact I recall we used to hear them screeching at night when we first moved here 10 years ago.

If you are interested in Barn Owls then please take a look at the British Trust for Ornithology web site www.bto.org where you will find details of monitoring and Conservation of Barn Owls. Also www.barnowltrust.org.uk where you will find details of the Northants Barn Owl project.

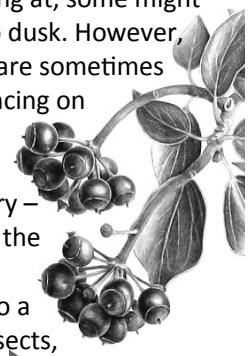


Les

At the time of our walk, the ground underfoot was quite wet after the recent prolonged wet weather. This, combined with relatively mild weather over the last few months, made me notice that the grassy areas and lawns of Mawsley look healthily green. Enough to tempt me at least to give my own lawn a light trim, with the blades set high, to make it look presentable through to the spring. Obviously, do not do this in frosty or very wet conditions. And on no account set the blades too low. This will just encourage moss and all the attendant eradication problems, most of which involve backache!

How often do we say how one season's plant growth is so different from the year before? No more so than this year, I couldn't help reflecting, and you would be quite right in thinking that it's inconsistent weather that's responsible. This year, for example, no snow, and not many frosts (so far!), which means that the cold loving, highly scented shrubs such as mahonia, winter jasmine and the pink flowering viburnum bodnantense have not done well. At the same time, we notice how the leaf spears of spring flowering bulbs like daffodils, are vigorously pushing up and the first snow drops are already abundant, taking advantage of this year's more temperate conditions.

Normally, in mid-winter, the fields around Mawsley planted with oil seed rape, flock with wood pigeons, which find the green leaves of the plant tasty and easy to get to. The damage they do can be quite serious for the poor farmer, which is why we see the scarecrows in the fields and possibly gas guns detonating at, some might say, annoying intervals from dawn to dusk. However, these same birds, in smaller groups, are sometimes seen, flapping and precariously balancing on the ivy vines growing up trees and walls. They are after one of the last edible fruits of the year – the ivy berry – growing in black clusters throughout the bush. Ivy is also perfect as warm roosting territory for birds, and is also a late source of pollen for countless insects, including moths.



Mawsley Open Gardens 2015

With the support of Gardening for All an Open Gardens event will return to Mawsley this year on the weekend of 21st/22nd June. (Which day—or both still to be decided.)

We are in discussion with The Centre to combine the gardens with an event there as well so that visitors and residents will have more than one reason to be out and about in Mawsley over that weekend.

It might seem rather early to be announcing this but my purpose is to ask you to think now about whether you could join in by opening your garden that weekend. It does not have to be grand or designer—we promote the event as a collection of small, new gardens opened to share ideas of what can be done in a small area on clay and in wind and we remind visitors that some are still work in progress.

What is the point of opening? For me there are two reasons: firstly I love my garden and like to share it with others and secondly it makes me get all the necessary work done early in the season so that from late June onwards I can just sit back and enjoy it. Without that deadline I would still be getting round to it in September!

If you would like to join in, or know more, get in touch with me on rowleypj@btinternet.com or 791881. Thanks.

Pat Rowley

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Mawsley, The Nearly Village – Not A Social History, Part V.

By Professor Ed Case, FRS

History on our doorstep

With apologies to historians

Tara M’Duc.

Having declared himself King of France at the start of the Hundred Years War, Edward III turned to some of his most loyal Dukes to raise forces to fight the French on their home soil and, by 1338, a mighty force was assembled to invade Northern France. However, due to a blockade of the port of Calais by French fishermen¹ the invasion was thwarted. The King then turned to his less loyal supporters and asked the Duc de Grangepuit if he wouldn’t mind nipping over to Normandy, with as many locals as he cared to take with him, and just check how things were in that part of the country. Knowing the residents of Malasleau were more keen to partake of alcohol than anyone else in the country, the Duc



1 A French Fisherman who might have been blockading Calais.

merely had to mention the possibility of a glass of Normandy cider and very quickly a force of some 50 local men was assembled. In carts provided by the Knights of Old, the force left in early 1339 with cries of “it will be all over by Mid-Winter’s day!” and plaintive cries from the women folk of “tara me duck” (a local bastardisation of the greeting usually given to the Duc de Grangepuit of a fanfare of trumpets whenever he entered a room).



2. A Knight of Old helps a weary Malaslevian on the journey to Normandy

The journey to Normandy was, by all accounts, uneventful – the carts provided by the Knights of Old proved sturdy and the boats procured on the south coast of England ferried carts and travellers safely to northern Normandy². What greeted the Duc and his men was, however, shocking – in the years of absence of the Grangepuits the French peasantry had been revolting but, one may argue, had they ever been anything else? The Duc’s property had fallen into disrepair and the Chateau de Grangepuit was now a home for cattle and a public urinal³. As they moved further inland there were similar scenes at other once mighty properties held by other Duc’s of Normandy. In a moment of despair the Duc renounced his title in a hastily composed letter to the French King



3. A contemporary painting of the Duc de Grangepuits estate in Normandy, 1339

(not Edward III) advising him of the same. He also determined to change his name. Taking aside a few of his loyal troops from Malasleau the conversation is reputed to have been as follows:

Duc (pointing at a building): “*En Francais, ca c’est un Grange*”. *Et, en Anglais?*”

Malasleavian: “*Well me old Duc, I b’aint got a clue what you are talking about, but why are you pointing at that there barn?*”

Duc (pointing at a hole in the ground): “**Et ca, c’est un puit**”.

Malasleavian: “*And now he be pointin’ at that well over there.*”

Duc: “*Bien, a ce moment le nom de mon famille est Barnwell*”, *est, avec le nom de le reigne, je suis Edward Barnwell*”.

And with that, he was off, followed by 50 very confused Malaslevians desperate to find some Normandy cider “a vendre” so they could fill their carts and return home.

Ol de Groosvey

In turning his back on all things French, the residents of Malasleau were soon to find that Edward Barnwell had found much enlightenment during a short excursion to Flanders during a less than direct journey home. He became particularly enamoured of the work of a windmill builder called Ol de Groosvey and determined to build a series of windmills between Malasleau and Broughton which could be used by the locals for the grinding of, well, whatever needed grinding – wheat had yet to be invented. However a windmill⁴ was built in the late 1340’s by the hamlet of Middletown (now Middleton) half way between Malasleau and Broughton. It was unexpected and not part of Edwards plans, Malaslevians and residents of other locales were “not happy”, but what could be done?



4. The type of Dutch Windmill erected by the hamlet of Middleton

Could you be our newsletter editor?

Following our front page news of the well-deserved retirement of Pat Rowley our existing newsletter editor, it now falls to The Mawsley Villagers Association, who are responsible for publishing your 'News and Views', to recruit a new editor to start from the summer.

Are you somebody interested in or has worked in publishing or are you thinking of a career in journalism? Do you have experience in copy writing or are you a keen amateur who would like to learn new skills? Whatever your level of experience is this could be a fantastic opportunity to get involved with something at the heart of your village and community. It is also an excellent way to get to know others in the village and understand more about how the village operates and what is going on.

The new editor will have flexibility to bring in new ideas, totally changing the format if they choose to. Currently we feature a selection of adverts as well as interesting editorial articles from a range of contributors, and produce an edition 6 times a year. Whoever takes charge will be welcome to bring in their own ideas and way of doing things, including changing the format or the editorial coverage and adding electronics delivery .

The printing is done by an external Company, and the distribution is organised by other volunteers so the role is really focused on formatting the newsletter for print as well as working with our advertisers to collect payments and adverts to be included in each edition. It is possible that the advertising part of the role could be split so that 2 or more people could work as a team to bring each edition together.

Pat will be on hand to give you advice to get things going, and the Mawsley Villagers Association has access to experts who can provide support and guidance. In addition we will invest in software, if necessary, and any other tools required to get you up and running. If you would like training in anything related to the newsletter we can organise this also, so it could be a great way of adding to your CV!

To find about more about this exciting opportunity please contact: Rob Bailey, Chair of the MVA,
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or Pat Rowley - rowleypj@btinternet.com



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**Next News & Views will be out on
18th March 2015**

Copy date is Friday 6th March

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