



Mawsley News & Views

May & June 2012

Join our Diamond Jubilee Celebration

Monday
4th June

Open Gardens 11am - 5pm

Begin this Bank Holiday with a walk round some Mawsley gardens. Get some ideas for your own garden and see various ways of coping with clay and wind. Ten gardens are open, including the School.

£2.50 per adult for all the gardens. Begin and pay where-ever you see an 'Open Garden' sign.

Scarecrows, on the themes of Royalty and Olympics, all round the village.

Let's fill the village with scarecrows! Make one yourself and put it in your front garden. Or take a stroll around the village to admire the efforts of others.

(See page 2 for suggestions for your own scarecrow.)

Festivities at The Centre and playing field from 11am

BBQ, Cream Teas, Bouncy Castle,

free Jubilee craft activities and Jubilee Treasure Hunt

Dress in red, white and blue and come and join the party! Meet your neighbours at The Centre for a relaxing afternoon and evening. Why not set up a base camp on the field for the day, visit some gardens then have lunch and tea while the children join in the free activities?



Congratulations ..

to Kettering's new Mayor and Mayoress,
Councillor Jim and Mrs Christine Hakewill .

Jim has been councillor for Slade ward for as long as Mawsley has been here and he has been a very good friend and spokesman for the village. We are delighted that he is now a friend in high places. We wish him and Christine a very rewarding year.



Regular Events at The Centre

Curry Night

First Tuesday of the month.

£6.50 per person for a delicious homemade curry and a pint. Served 6pm until 9pm.

Quiz Night

The last Thursday of every month.

Starts 8pm in the bar.

Lunch on a Tuesday

Served every Tuesday from 12noon until 1.30pm.

Delicious home cooked lunch.

£3.50 per person.

Further details on all events at The Centre can be found by visiting www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk or telephone 799528.

Inside the centre of The Centre

The sound system in the bar / lounge has gone wazzy. The bad news is that, as it is a commercial system, repairs won't come cheap. Mind you it has been running for around 12 hours a day for 5½ years – that's about 24,000 hours.

The real significance of this is that this is only one of a range of equipment that was bought when The Centre opened; there is a whole suite of kit in the bar / cellar. All this has been running for all that time, so the prospect of hefty repair and replacement bills sometime soon looms.

I talked in the last edition about the issues we face in trying to run The Centre as close to profitability as possible; capital expenditure merely adds to the problem.

We have opened a dialogue with the Parish Council re funding over the next few years and have said we need to consider capital replacement within this.

I just want to make clear that if the glasswasher packs up I'm not putting Marigolds on.

Bob Littler

Tel: 01536 799528



'The Centre at Mawsley'

A special offer from The Centre

Are you planning a party or looking to celebrate an event?

Free Friday Night main hall hire from Friday 1st June until Friday 28th September 2012.

Telephone 799528 for further information and to make your booking.

Scarecrows

Please make a scarecrow for your front garden this weekend for our jubilee celebration,

then show it off again at the Mawsley Fete on 14th July. (For the fete bring your scarecrow to the playing field and we'll set them up all round the edge.)

There are lots of websites showing you how to make a scarecrow - just search 'make a scarecrow'.

Decide how you are going to make it stand up before you begin! The best method is to start with a 2 metre tree stake or strong cane which you bash into the ground. Then attach cross bars for the arms and waist and hang the clothes on them. It will then stand up on its own even if you don't stuff it, although some stuffing of newspaper, bubble wrap or old clothes will improve the look. Don't bother about hands and feet - just have some straw sticking out. Stuff the end of an old stocking to make a head and tie it over the top of the stake. Stick on a hat and some straw hair and you're done!



Our themes are Royalty and Olympics so this should give you some idea for characters and outfits.

We look forward to seeing YOUR scarecrow in YOUR front garden this weekend.

Parish Council Update

We still need a new Parish Councillor to replace Bob Holland who resigned in April. No one came forward in response to our request in the last News & Views. Please think about it if you are interested in how the village is run.

There won't be a formal election, because not enough people asked for there to be one, so there won't be any need to campaign for votes. We'll co-opt, meaning we'll select from prospective candidates. So please, anyone who wants to get involved in village life in a constructive and meaningful way, why not let our clerk know you're interested? If you have skills and knowledge you think will be useful in dealing with the various challenges such as:

- talking to Borough and County Councils,
- assessing priorities from limited budgets,
- communicating with villagers to identify their requirements,
- keeping sight of the bigger picture while also dealing with the minor details

then get in touch. You can e-mail our Clerk, Diana MacCarthy on mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk.

We meet on the first working Monday of each month, communicate mostly by e-mail the rest of the time, and have occasional extra meetings. But the time commitment isn't huge and daunting. If you sit and watch the soaps on a weeknight, then imagine missing two or three episodes a month. That will probably free up plenty of time, and you'll still be able to keep up with the story-line!

Councillor Peter Thomas, Chair

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 11th June at 7.30pm at The Centre. All residents are welcome.

Litter picking equipment

Following the report in the March issue of News & Views that Wendy Andrews regularly clears litter in part of the village other residents approached the Parish Council offering to do the same.

The Council has therefore bought some equipment which is available for any resident to borrow for this purpose at their own risk.

There are six 'pickers', six hoops and a supply of plastic bags. Please ring me to borrow them.

Councillor Vic Cope
01536 799643

Parish Council Annual Meeting Held on 14th May *Report by the Editor*

This part of the meeting was attended by 11 residents and 3 Parish Councillors and heard reports from just two village groups, the Bowls Club and MADs.

The Annual Meeting was followed by the normal monthly Parish Council meeting. This was attended by 17 members of the public and five Parish Councillors. Residents were invited to raise any issues of concern.

The first was concern about street parking throughout the village, but particularly on Main Street and Broughton Road by the pond. A majority of those present considered much of the parking to be irresponsible, inconsiderate and, in some cases, dangerous. Residents wanted to know what the Parish Council was doing about it. Councillors were divided as to whether it was a problem or not, but in any case advised that it was a matter for the County Council and the Police, whose powers were restricted by the fact that the roads had not yet been adopted by Northants CC Highways Dept.

Other issues raised by residents at this meeting were: the lack of maintenance of the verges and hedgerows and the land known as the Eco meadow. See pages 6 - 8 for further coverage of these topics.

Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and DWP Drop in Surgery in the bar/lounge of **The Centre at Mawsley** on: **28th June & 2nd August**

11.30 am to 12.30 pm

Advice given on:

how to claim, benefit entitlement, reporting changes in circumstances, and any other council issues.

We also do referrals for Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit or Disability Living Allowance

Kettering
Borough Council

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

The village needs to have its solitary POST BOX re-sited. It would be difficult to find a more dangerous, inconvenient and useless spot than the blind, busy junction on which it now stands. It was perhaps ideal for 30 houses. Doubtless, at the time it was installed, placing mail in it was in itself a village occasion, reported in Mawsley News and recorded in Parish Council minutes, so little danger of inconvenience. But not so now.

Further, as the village has become a small town with Kettering Borough Council trying hard to make us their dormitory and thereby solving their housing overspill problems, now is also the time to insist we need a second POST BOX.

Will villagers please email me (richardhoy@rhinterproof.com) suggesting where the two boxes ought to be located. I understand that a resident has already campaigned for a new post box without success. I would very much like to hear from that person as well.

Yours etc
Richard Hoy

MS Evening

We would like to say thank you so much to all those who helped and participated in a very pleasant evening for all those concerned. The end result was a donation to MS in excess of £200.

Pam, Suzie & Lucy

Farewell to Mawsley

After 9 years & 11 months, time has come for us to move to pastures new, but not too far away.

We have enjoyed and shared some wonderful moments with friends during our time in the village and hope that there will be more to come, even if the journey home is a little further.

Best wishes to all our friends.
Gary, Laura & Mackenzie Eldershaw xx

Dear Editor

May I ask you to pass on to Messrs Wimpey our sincere and heartfelt thanks for their very successful work in the village over the last 6 months in developing the new facilities we've all been able to see.

First the asphalt alps opposite the post box which nicely obstructed the carriageway and helped our tyres to redistribute tar all over everywhere;
then we've got the new special width roads designed so heavies and buses can't make the curves and can make their own curves to wreck what has been down for at least two months;
then there's the special Adult Open Space which used to be a very pleasant green play/walk area - you know, sometimes called the Pub Site. Well now it's been made really special for us all - spoil heaps, broken concrete piles, old tarmac lumps, degraded sand dunes, weeds, mobile toilet, just a ghastly wreck.

Yours ...
Richard Hoy

Editor: I passed some of this message to TW who promptly arranged for the verges to be mown. No luck with the dump, I'm afraid. See their full report on page 12.

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and book a free initial 20 minute chat. Bring this advertisement to get 10% discount on you first session.

To advertise your business in
Mawsley News & Views

please contact Pat Rowley
rowleypj@btinternet.com

01536 791881

The next issue is due out on 30th May
Adverts to be received by 18th May

Awash

Ma'am,
I have recently been seeking to renew my household insurance and was mortified when I was quoted a 400% increase in premiums. When I queried the increase I was advised that – due to the successful lining of the Village Pond and recent heavy rain – certain areas of Mawsley are now designated as being in a Flood Plain. Currently I am advised this designation applies to properties 1 – 19 on Main Street together with all properties on Broughton Road and Loddington Way. It appears that if nothing is done to stop the pond filling, the extent of the Flood Plain will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Therefore, I shall be taking the issue to the next Parish Council meeting and seeking some financial support from them for the fitting of a drain plug or an overflow pipe to the Village Pond. If other residents have faced a similar problem I would be grateful for their support in making a case for funding from the Parish to ease our plight.
Mr Ni Eve.

Flag Protocol

Ma'am,
How delighted I was to see that the Village took the opportunity to demonstrate their loyalty to Our Beloved Royal Family and, in particular, Her Serenity Queen Elizabeth II (God bless her and all who sail in her) by flying a Union Flag from the Village flagpole on the occasion of her recent 97th Birthday. I trust that this was not an isolated incident and that we will continue to demonstrate our love and unceasing devotion to all members of the Royal Family by following the designated Flag Flying Days set out at the most excellent interweb site:
http://www.culture.gov.uk/what_we_do/honours/7126.aspx
Mr. "Duke" Edinburgh

Global Warming

Ma'am
Is it just me or do others feel that whilst our Politicians talk a lot about Climate Change they never seem to do a lot about it?
I have therefore taken my own "steps" to do my bit and I could not believe how simple it was - I have stopped using "Odour Eaters" (the charcoal based foot freshening device). As a result, when I now put on my shoes and sally forth I am not leaving a tell-tale trail of carbon behind as the charcoal breaks down absorbing the detritus from my feet.
Based on my calculations of taking around 5,000 steps a day, I am removing over 1.8M Carbon Footprints a year – the equivalent of 5 Coal Fired Power Stations! Imagine the impact on the world if we all did the same!!
I trust, therefore, that the Village will support my application for a Power Station to be built between Mawsley and Broughton in place of the recently mooted Wind Turbine Farm.
Mr. E. ON

Keeping Warm

Ma'am
May I say how delighted I am that you have, so far, eschewed the current trend to produce your excellent magazine in an "iPad" version. Long may you stick with "tradition"!
It is exceedingly difficult to make recycled paper logs from an e-version of any newspaper.
Mr V. Green

No word

Ma'am,
For those concerned residents, there is still no word from the other half.
Mrs G Grump.
Editor: Mr Grump, never mind Mrs Grump we are all missing you!

Kettering Domestic Cleaning

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Cleaning your house after a long day at work is probably the last thing you need. You deserve to come home & find that everything is clean, tidy and welcoming. Kettering Domestic Cleaning is a reliable team of efficient, honest & hardworking Cleaners with years of professional experience in housecleaning for domestic residences. We can do a one-off clean or a weekly or fortnightly schedule to suit you.

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Face to face with Peter Thomas

Last week, at the Parish Council Annual General Meeting, Peter Thomas was re-elected as Chair for a further year. This seemed a good time to ask him a few questions about what the Parish Council has been doing. Les Cottington had already contacted News & Views to say that there were a few issues he would like to put to Peter Thomas so we (that's Les and me, the Editor) decide to quiz him together.

Upkeep of the verges has been very poor this year. Consequently the village looks a mess. Why aren't they being dealt with?

Verges aren't the responsibility of the Parish Council. Most of them still belong to the builders and I am sorry to say that those belonging to Taylor Wimpey were left for far too long this year. You have probably noticed that the David Wilson Homes land is being well maintained. The areas at the two entrances to the village have already been transferred to local authority ownership I think, and they are regularly mown.

There were weeds and grass up to two feet high on some of the verges until last week. Surely there was something you could have done sooner to make sure that Taylor Wimpey got the job done.

The Parish Council has made representations to them but we have no leverage. They have a maintenance programme/contract in place, but they've finished building and selling their houses here so I guess they no longer have the same incentive to keep the village looking smart. The weather can't have helped – last year's dry conditions meant growth was slower, maintenance requirements less. This year.... well! Look at it! I suggest that residents direct any concerns to Chris Leeson, Regional Engineering Manager at Taylor Wimpey, on 0116 281 6000.

Will we have this problem every year from now on?

No. In due course Kettering Borough Council (KBC) or Northants County Council will adopt the open spaces and verges and it will be their responsibility to maintain them. They are geared up to carry out this sort of maintenance work and we expect they'll operate to an acceptable timetable. KBC already look after the playing field quite well for example.

Why don't they own them already? The village was started 11 years ago, so this is taking a very long time.

Local authorities won't take on ownership of the land until it has been brought up to the required standard. Work is being done at the moment to reach that standard and to deal with legalities, because obviously the developers don't want to be hanging onto it for a moment longer than necessary.



So you are going to give us the same answer for the state of the roads, aren't you?

Afraid so! The roads and verges will become the responsibility of the Highways Department at the County Council once they have been approved for adoption. I recently walked the roads on an inspection with representatives from Taylor Wimpey and the County Council & other Parish Councillors. We saw how particular Highways engineers are about the standard that has to be reached. I think while Loddington Way is still in an awful state, the roads that have been finished, such as Main

Street, look quite good. I'm not happy with the slow pace of getting the work done but I do know that the County Council is keeping the pressure on the developers over this, while also recognising the commercial pressures that they are under. Remember, Mawsley was started 11 years ago, but bits of it are yet to be completed. Putting the final surface on roads used by construction traffic would never have been a good idea. So it was always going to take some time, but I doubt any of us thought it would take quite so long.

'Wait for adoption' seems to be the answer to everything. Will that also get the 'Eco Meadow' opposite the school sorted out?

This has been a sorry saga and the state of that field now, full of perennial weeds (mainly Sow Thistle) is in my opinion, entirely down to delay by TW and KBC. It is one of the village open spaces, which KBC will take over from the developers in due course. Four years ago it was relatively devoid of weeds and if the annual work which was recommended by a Turftrax survey had been carried out at the time it could now have been a pretty decent wild flower meadow. But it was left for the unwanted weeds to set seed and it will now take several more years, provided that a proper programme of work is implemented, to get it to an acceptable state. There are a few areas there that local residents have been mowing themselves for many years now and the condition of those is really good. Just shows what can be done with the proper action, and we're doing what we can to make sure the right course of action is taken, before it's adopted by KBC.

Who decided that it would be an 'eco meadow'?

My understanding is that the KBC planners made that decision. The field has poor soil, with subsoil from building work then dumped on it, ideal conditions for wild flowers.

cont'd ↗

A group of residents has been hoping to create a pocket park there, which might include a wild flower area but would also have some woodland. Will that be possible?

I'm sure that if a volunteer group offered to maintain that land as a Pocket Park, then KBC would be happy to let them do so. But the time for considering detailed proposals for that will be when we have a better idea of when it is going to be ready for hand-over. Plus we need to be sure it's what enough of the village want when the time comes. We will need to ask them.

We must be careful that the village doesn't finish up with the costs and responsibility of maintaining land beyond its means. As I said before, KBC has the equipment and personnel for that. We don't.

Is anything happening to sort out the 'Berlin Wall' on the cycle path?

I take it you mean the fence that blocks off the cycle path just beyond Birch Spinney. Well, there is good news on that front. We've just been informed by KBC that Taylor Wimpey are going to remove it. We will need to discuss/ensure that they then link up the woodland path with the cycle path. The break in the cycle path at that point is a great disappointment to us all. On the original village plans it was shown as continuing behind the houses in Birch Spinney, but planning permission was later granted for two house plots which then blocked the route, despite objection at the time from Mawsley Parish Council. It's easy to see these things get 'missed' in the adoption process, which would be a real shame for residents, so we're making sure such areas are on the agenda of those working on the adoption process.

Does the Parish Council have a collective view on the prospects for the Pub Site now that it is on the market? There have been comments that people are naïve if they think there will ever be a pub there.

There is one school of thought that the site will never attract a pub operator. But I regard the defeat last year of Taylor Wimpey's attempt to put houses on the site as one of our greatest successes. We saved the site so that the village could have a pub. I think it's significant that in his decision the Inspector ignored all the practical considerations about the suitability or otherwise of the site for houses, latching on to just one issue, which was that it should be preserved for a community facility. Personally I don't believe there will be a pub there any time soon but I'm confident that the land is safe for community use.

It doesn't look much like a community facility at the moment!

No. It's a disgrace. A real eyesore. The Parish Council did object to Taylor Wimpey when they moved their compound to this prominent site. We felt there were plenty of other, less conspicuous areas of land they could have used while they finished the roads.

Some of your answers today have come as a surprise but I think you assumed we already knew them. Do you recognise that there is a communication problem between the Parish Council and residents?

If there is it's not deliberate. But it's also a comment we've heard before, so we can't ignore it. Our meetings are open
cont'd



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to the public and, although there are strict rules about public participation in Parish Council meetings, I interpret those in a very relaxed way, because I welcome public involvement. We've had good public attendance at the last two meetings and that is how I like it. For people who don't or can't attend I try to report the main issues in this newsletter – but it's a difficult balance between writing too much and leaving stuff out.

Personally I've really enjoyed the format of this discussion. I'd like to be able to have discussions like this with more residents. Perhaps there's scope for a regular Councillors' Surgery in the bar from time to time. Just a thought...

There is a perception across the country that most Parish Councillors are approaching or beyond retirement age. Mawsley is quite different from that with younger Councillors but I suspect you are the youngest. Do you have political aspirations?

I suppose, at 42, I could be considered quite young to be Chair of a Parish Council, but I think I've left it too late to start a political career. I came to Mawsley three years ago and joined the Parish Council because I wanted to get involved in the village, not in politics. I wanted to step up and do something to help make Mawsley a good place for my family. I don't believe in sitting back and watching others do it. And now that you've asked the question - I think I'm at exactly the right level of local politics to be able to make a difference where I want to make it.

Thank you to Peter for giving his time for this discussion and thank you to Les Cottington for making the suggestion. Do you have questions you want to put to anyone about the running of the village? Let the editor know and we'll see what we can do.

Mawsley News & Views relies on:

your articles

your pictures

your announcements

your letters

to keep the rest of us informed, challenged, interested, amused, incredulous and annoyed.

If you have reacted to anything in this issue, or have another Mawsley topic to raise, please add to the discussion by contacting the editor (details on back page) before 29th June.



Loddington & Mawsley Cricket Club

What could be more English, or more villagey, than cricket on the playing field on a lazy Saturday afternoon? Do come and cheer us on .

Our 3rd and 4th XIs play regular home matches at Mawsley from 1 or 1.30pm. The next Mawsley fixtures are:

2nd June 3rd XI v N'hampton Saints CC

9th June 4th XI v W'borough OGs CC

16th June 4th XI v Bold Dragon CC

23rd June 3rd XI v Gumley CC

30th June 4th XI v Grendon & Prims CC

7th July 4th XI v Brixworth CC

The club is keen to recruit new players because we field four teams every week. Our first XI is currently undefeated and top of Division 1. If you are interested in playing with us please contact:

Grant De Kock (1st team skipper)

Nathan Coombs 0790777199

Karl Sanders (Youth Co-ordinator) 07903954360

Richard Baker (Chairman) 07540832748

Ian Holliday (Secretary) 07759308943

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MAWSLEY VILLAGE FETE & CIDER FESTIVAL



SAT. 14TH JULY

12 - 4PM

FREE ENTRY

- * **MAIN ARENA DISPLAYS**
- * **PUNCH AND JUDY MAN**
- * **ICE CREAM VAN**
- * **RAFFLE**
- * **STALLS**
- * **GAMES**
- * **BARBECUE**
- * **FACE PAINTER**



Theatre and Entertainment

Alterego Theatre Company—Cinderella

Broughton Village Hall Tuesday 24 July 10am
The Centre at Mawsley Friday 27 July 2pm

Bangers and Mash Theatre Company —Pied Piper of Hamelin

Broughton Village Hall Tuesday 31 July 10am
The Centre at Mawsley Friday 3 August 2pm

Banana Brain Fun and Magic Show

Broughton Village Hall Tuesday 7 August 10am
The Centre at Mawsley Friday 10 August 2pm

Kevin Burke Bear Faced Cheek Magic and Laughter Show

Broughton Village Hall Tuesday 14 Aug 10am
The Centre at Mawsley Friday 17 August 2pm

Duration: Approx 50 minutes

Age: Aimed at children aged 8 years and under. Must be accompanied by an adult.

Cost: £2 per person, per session

How to book: No booking needed, just turn up on the day

For further information please contact: Tourist Information Centre on 01536 315115

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FRIDAY 15th JUNE

2.30 - 4.30PM

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ALL WELCOME

Experience the Works of Gervase Phinn

Wed 20th June 8-9pm

The Centre Meeting Room

You are invited to an introduction of a
reading from the works of Gervase Phinn

*Oh Dear! Dear! Dear! what fool would put himself up
for this! OK folks its me Steve Draycott. Anyway do
come along. Could be fun but probably not.
£1 entrance per person profits to M.A.D.
Hope to see you there. Stevie*

CRANSLEY VILLAGE FETE

Sunday 8th July 2 - 5pm

*In the Hall Grounds by kind
permission of Mrs. Eades*

MAWSLEY BIRD WATCHING - 3

We've had the mildest Winter on record here in the East Midlands/ West Anglia - some deciduous trees and shrubs have kept their leaves since last year, which is really surprising. Birds have been able to shelter in the foliage throughout the period November - February in some gardens so that there have been many more of them than usual. I expect that lots more small birds have survived in Britain this Winter than ever before. As a result they've been emptying the birdfeeders more quickly - but strangely, because the weather has been milder, the starlings, blackbirds and thrushes didn't strip the red and orange berries from the firethorn (pyracantha), until much later. Clearly there has been food available in the fields and hedges too. Did you noticed that some of the tits were encouraged by the milder weather to start looking in boxes for nesting sites in early March!

There has been a lot of Ring Dove activity in gardens throughout Mawsley - they are the birds similar to Pigeons but less heavy, often beige or pale blue or pale grey plumage, nearly always in pairs with a very distinctive dark ring around their necks, also called Collar Doves. They land and perch on any solid surface - ground, bench, fence, roof, and eat on the ground or from any open container - bread/crumbs/seeds/toast etc. Not normally from bird feeders. Like all members of the Pigeon family they are extremely greedy so don't let them Hoover up all of the ground food you may have put out for sparrows and other small birds. Shoo them away - they will come back ! It is quite astonishing when you look at the bulk of Pigeons to realise that in level flight they can reach the same speeds as Falcons and Sparrow Hawks - 75 mph plus !

Remember to keep your bird bath clean as birds wash in it and leave feathers and worse behind them so that rapidly it becomes sour. All birds need to drink little and often. Rain water is not self cleaning



Buzzard

It was good to read recently of sightings of other bird species in Mawsley gardens: Long Tailed Tits and Reed Buntings! Its really good to hear of them so please contact the editor with your news.

Our Mawsley Buzzards over the Loddington Lane area are now being sighted quite often; they really are handsome birds, quite like Eagles and they are very efficient in removing the unsightly victims of 'roadkill'; keep an eye out for them - in the air, picking up or on the road itself.

Now is a good time to re-site your birdfeeders if you want a better view of the birds themselves whilst feeding; early evening is the best time to move them when the birds have gone off to roost. Try to site them where you have a clear view but the birds do not have a view of your whole face.

More next issue.

Richard Stuart

Letter to the Birdman

To Feed or Not to Feed, that is the Question ! *(This one is not for the squeamish!)*

Twice in the last ten days a sparrow hawk has visited our bird table and helped itself to an unsuspecting sparrow each time. On both occasions the hawk called at about 5pm.

Be prepared it may come a calling at your table soon !

5, Main Street

Editor: Perhaps you need a scarecrow!



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Older play area – update

Nothing to get too excited about I'm afraid.

Biffaward, the main potential funders to whom we put in a grant application some weeks ago, have advised that we won't get a decision until late August.

If we are successful we will be required to go through the whole quotation process all over again; so it is unlikely work could start until late this year at the earliest.

Mind you, when the next generation but one is playing on it in 30 years' time I suppose they won't be too bothered!

Bob Littler

Editor. At the Parish Council Annual Meeting a resident made a request for swings for adults to be included in the design. I hope due note has been taken!

Howard Smith Paper Commercial Print

Thank you to Howard Smith Paper who have donated the paper for Mawsley News & Views.

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Cheated Dancers

We reported in the March edition that dancers from Mawsley, from Miss Katy's classes, had been selected, with others, to take part in the closing Olympic ceremony. You may have seen in the national and local press that, sadly, the three dance schools involved have been the victims of an alleged scam and that Stephen Moonesamy, the man who recruited them, has no connection with the Olympic organisers.

Our sympathy goes to Miss Katy and the dancers whose hopes were so falsely raised.

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Taylor Wimpey reports no let-up on village works

Taylor Wimpey is pressing on with its efforts to ensure Mawsley's public facilities and infrastructure are concluded as soon as possible.

Sewage & Drainage

The developer is pleased to report the underground foul infrastructure system has been transferred to Anglian Water, which is now responsible for its ongoing maintenance. On top of this success, negotiations are progressing well for the foul water pumping station to be handed over to Anglian Water, while talks are due to be held in the near future over the adoption of the storm water lagoon located to the north of the estate. Chris Leeson, Taylor Wimpey Project Manager, says: "It is essential the drainage system is fully checked and made good for adoption prior to the final topping of roads. This will prevent the need to dig up newly-finished roads in the future."

Roads

Progress is being made towards finishing off the village's roads, in preparation for adoption by Northamptonshire County Council. Taylor Wimpey has invited tenders for the contract for the remaining works, which include Cransley Rise, School Road and Loddington Way.

Taylor Wimpey has held discussions with parish council members and the County Council's highways department to formulate designs for the final street marking system, in particular for the spine road islands and next to the school.

Pub Site

It is anticipated the pub site will continue to be used as a temporary compound to store materials and equipment for the duration of the works, and this area will be fully cleared and left tidy upon conclusion.

Verges

High rainfall levels during March and April hampered Taylor Wimpey's efforts to mow and weed verges and other public areas, and as a result, landscape contractors have been mobilised to complete the work when weather permits.

Eco Meadow

Maintenance work has taken place on the wildflower meadow, in anticipation of Kettering Borough Council, then subsequently Mawsley Parish Council, taking possession of this land. The handover may be delayed after the recent bad weather, but in the meantime, Taylor Wimpey has commissioned a specialist landscaper to bring the meadow up to the required standard.

Any Complaints?

To report local issues or discuss any matters relating to the public works, please contact Taylor Wimpey's Regional Engineering Manager Chris Leeson on: 0116 281 6000.

Taylor Wimpey supports helpful Scouts in sprucing up the village

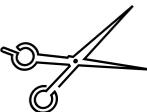
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have tackled a number of maintenance and repair tasks in Mawsley, with help from Taylor Wimpey. The leading local housebuilder supplied all the funds for nails, staples and wood – plus dozens of chocolate bars, fruit and drinks – the Scouts needed for fixing a fence around the village pond.

Helped by Tom Sanders from the village, the 1st Mawsley Scout Group approached Taylor Wimpey when they were preparing for their Community Work Week in May, and asked if there were any tasks they could take on to help their village. The children also cleaned the pond area, planted bulbs and carried out general maintenance duties around Mawsley Village's public spaces.

by Taylor Wimpey

Hair by Chris

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SCOUT COMMUNITY WEEK

Scout Community Week, where Scouts everywhere can get involved with their community, saw all three sections Scouts, Cubs, and Beavers out and about in the village working with other members of the community for the community.

- ◆ **Cubs** kicked off the events, planting, painting and pond tidying.
- ◆ **Scouts** continued in the pond area laying paving slabs, clearing unwanted rubbish and weed from the pond and painting some areas around the pond (those the weather would allow!).
- ◆ **Beavers** finished off with carrying out a pond survey to pass on to the Pond Conservation group in Oxford, so that we can monitor the progress of the wildlife in our pond.



We would like to thank Taylor Wimpey for supplying the materials for the evenings, Tom Sanders and his band of merry men and women for all of their help to organise the event and then help the children learn new skills, including slab laying.

Frank you're a good teacher but I think it helped that you had a very willing pupil, "Ben the Builder".

Thank you to all who helped.

From All of the Scout, Cub and Beaver Leaders.

PS Now we need to work out how to top it for next year! (Perhaps we need to book better weather!)



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Thomas and Doris Corcoran at the Coffee Club Christmas Lunch in 2010.

It is with much sadness that we have had to say a final farewell to one of our members Lord Thomas Corcoran. Thomas and his wife Doris (who sadly passed away last September) joined the Coffee Club when they moved to the village and were very faithful members, joining in most of the coffee mornings and outings as they were able. He will be sadly missed.

Mawsley Coffee Club

Do you ever wonder what Mawsley Coffee Club is all about? Wonder about who it is for and what does it do? Well let me explain.



We are a group of folk, men and women, who are retired or are nearing retirement who meet together for coffee and chat in various places in the village and farther afield. We enjoy a number of outings (transport is provided if you do not have any), visits to the theatre, shopping outlets and other places of interest.

We are a group that is growing and are always pleased to have more people join us. We make every effort to be a group who look out for each other and help when we can.

In the coming weeks and months we are looking forward to a trip to the Old Dairy Farm Country Shopping & Craft Centre and in the summer we are hoping to go to Burghley House & Gardens of surprise. We also have bus trips to the Portobello Road Antiques Market, Springfields Shopping Centre and Buckingham Palace.

In June we will be having our Jubilee Coffee Morning at Cransley Village Hall. A time of celebration and of course coffee and cake. Maybe you would be interested in talking to us and finding out more. Please feel free to telephone either of the names at the bottom of this article and we will get in touch.

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What a month May has been! Our claim to fame is the WI Baton relay which is travelling all over Northants.

Broughton WI brought it to us on the 14th and we treated the ladies to lunch at The Centre after a very warm welcome from Councillor Vic Cope. The following day we travelled in style in a 'Charabanc' [for the young ones that's an old style coach] to take the baton to Desborough which was brilliant.

Thanks to the very welcome donation from the MVA, we were able to purchase specially printed T-shirts and with all the ladies in joggers and a medal no less, we looked as though we had just come off the track!!! On arrival, we passed on the Baton and after a 'photo shoot' we were treated to a very nice tea in the Desborough Heritage Centre which is a most interesting place.

One thing about the WI that I have always found to be most important is friendship. Everyone in the WI from branches, up to Federation, always welcomes one another and offers friendship whether at a meeting or at Denman College which is the best because even if you go alone it really doesn't matter.

So if you are on your own, new to the village or just want to come as and when, feel free. There is always a smile and most importantly a cuppa.

June will see our 7th Birthday meeting. We will also of course be celebrating the Jubilee. We do hope the sun will shine so we can hold it outdoors. The wine and cake have been ordered and we have a NAFAS Flower arranger, Sally Gee, showing us how to make the most of our garden flowers and that lovely bouquet we sometimes receive [if we are lucky].

July will be very busy, first with Mawsley Fete where we will be with our very popular 'Pick a Jar' and of course lots of cakes, so come along and buy one for your tea. Then we have our meeting on the subject of 'Folk Art' which should be very interesting and anyone is welcome to come along. Then of course we have our great annual Coach Trip which this year is to the Sandringham Flower and Craft show which is always popular.

For any information on the WI please call 01536 791186.



Brenda Quinn, centre, receiving the baton from Broughton WI before lunch at The Centre.



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Due to another bumper month of sales in Mawsley I am running out of property to sell! If you are considering marketing your property for sale please contact me on the numbers provided, the valuation service is free and I will give you an ACCURATE guide to your properties value. You are under no obligation to use Horts afterwards but I think our results speak for themselves. Some examples from the last month in Mawsley and Broughton.

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3. 3 Bed Semi, Long Breech. SOLD 97% ASKING PRICE!
4. 4 Bed Detached, Donaldson Avenue. SOLD 97% ASKING PRICE!
5. 3 Bed Semi, Padmans Close. SOLD 95% ASKING PRICE!

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2. Our marketing is second to none! We advertise on ALL the main internet portals, Rightmove, Prime Location, Find A Property etc. I know my two main competitors in Mawsley, who are large Kettering based agents, advertise on Rightmove ONLY! Are they really offering value for their fees when they are restricting the amount of potential buyers to your property?

3. Accurate and honest asking prices are another key feature as to why Horts sell so successfully. Once again I have seen numerous cases in Mawsley of an agent overvaluing a property just to win the business. This just leads to frustration for all parties as there are few viewings and certainly no offers! The agent then badgers the vendor to drop to the realistic marketing price that it should have been in the first place, blaming everyone but himself. Personally I would rather turn down business than win it by overvaluing. It really is a waste of time for all concerned, and gives all Estate Agents a bad reputation.

4. Personal service is another key feature of how we are different. If you instruct Horts you get one dedicated agent (ME!) dealing with your sale from start to finish. That means you and your buyer can speak to me directly SEVEN days a week, which is obviously much better than trying to communicate with a faceless person in an office who may, or may not, get back to you or your buyer in a few days. This service is THE reason we sell so many houses and have such a good reputation. Check out what our previous vendors and buyers have said about us on www.allagents.co.uk. There are 9500 agents in the country and Horts is currently ranked in the top 15.

5. I live in Mawsley and know the village inside out. Who better to sell your house and our lovely village than someone passionate about the area? Also part of my fee goes to Friends Of Mawsley School raising funds for our fantastic Primary School.

Still unsure whether to use Horts? Then check what our previous clients said about us on the independent website www.allagents.co.uk.

Mawsley Community Primary School



It seems that in our ever increasing school we are becoming ever busier! Our Year 3 children just returned from their residential trip to Beaumanor Hall in Leicestershire. All the children had a great time trying new activities and experiences – mostly staying away from home for a night! The children took part in all sorts of physical and challenging activities and the adults were very impressed with the behaviour and attitude of all who attended (even the staff!). So a big 'well done' goes to Year 3 and all who helped.

Our Year 5 children have been utilising their ICT skills this week by filming and editing their own videos to promote the school. We are consistently impressed by the abilities of the children to adapt and develop new skills, even skills as advanced as video production! So don't be afraid to ask your child for some tips next time you find yourself threatening to destroy your home computer!!

Our Year 6 children are right in the middle of the most stressful time of the year at the moment. They are currently revising and taking their SATS exams. All the staff would like to say how impressed they are with the children's resilience and determination over the past month, and of course a special word goes to the teaching staff who put in an equal amount of hard work to ensure their experience is as stress free as possible. They will certainly deserve their trip to Drayton Manor theme park that is coming up!

Sports Day update:

Our school Sports Day will be held on the 12th of July this year, and it will take place at Kettering Leisure Village Area.

Key Stage 1 will take place in the morning with Key Stage 2 during the afternoon. Parents are welcome to attend and we will provide tiered seating as well as the viewing platform currently available.

Mawsley CP School Football Team:

The superb form continues! Our team remains unbeaten over the previous 4 games and has yet to concede a goal having scored 17 in total.

We are also playing in a regional tournament at Broughton Primary School on the 25th May, where we aim to continue our excellent start to the season. The team is desperate to bring back a trophy for the school as it has been a long time since the last one (if ever).

Gareth Weston



Rebecca Clegg, a member of Broughton WI, invited some of her class at Mawsley CP School to help hand over the WI baton to Mawsley WI.



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Mawsley Gardening & Wildlife Club

The next 3 club visits are:

- ☼ **Sun 10th June**
Harpole Open Gardens meet 1pm
- ☼ **Sun 1st July**
Arthingworth Open Gardens meet 2pm
- ☼ **Sun 19th Aug**
Holdenby House meet 1pm

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Tip of the month

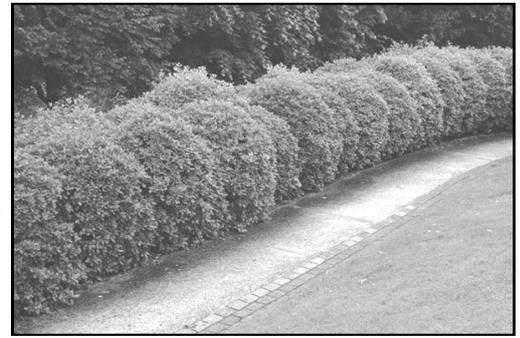
Do you have a lacy hedge?

If so, you are one of many who have a hedge made up of the shrub variety *viburnum tinus*. This is very popular in Mawsley and it is a useful hedging plant because it has attractive spear-shaped evergreen leaves and clusters of white flowers when the hedge is allowed to grow out.

There is a little beetle whose lava and adult stage attack the plant during the summer, reducing them to a lacework of damaged leaves. There are not many hedges of this type in the village which have escaped these attacks, and there is not a great deal that can be done about it. Most of the damage actually occurs during late spring to early summer when the creamy-yellow black-spotted beetle lava, about 7mm long, are browsing.

A spray exists that can be applied in late spring, but if it was me I would leave it for nature to take its course, as most of the hedges damaged in this way seem to recover partially, if not completely.

Les Cottington



See me at the Fete
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Mawsley Ladies' Rounders Team

Sponsored by *India2Mawsley*

If you're wondering what all the shrieking and much hilarity is on a Thursday night up at the playing field, then we had better let you know that the Ladies Rounder's season is back underway for another year. With two home matches already played we are well on our way to fight for our middle of the league position!

We have come up against stiff competition, losing to Titchmarsh Ladies 11 – 1 ½ and then Christies 21 ½ - 8 ½ . With everyone contributing to the score line and some good catches (and some good near misses) taken we have performed well against teams that have been together for 20+ years.

This Thursday, 31st May, at 6.30pm we are playing SWAGs at home so please come and cheer for us. Bring pom poms!

If you are at all interested in joining us ladies then we play on Thursdays from 6:30 and train Sundays from 3:00. Contact Clare on 07976828032 for more information. Kirstie (Newly Appointed Rounder's Reporter)



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9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 17th June

8am Holy Communion

Sunday, 24th June

10.30am CRANSLEY FAMILY PRAISE

Sunday 1st July

8am Holy Communion

Sunday, 8th July

9.30am Holy Communion

Sunday, 15th July

8am Holy Communion

Sunday, 22nd July

CRANSLEY FAMILY PRAISE

Sunday, 29th July

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Space



Services in the Centre this month all starting at 10:30am:

June 3rd	Diamond Jubilee celebration
June 10th	Family worship service with children's groups
June 17th	All-age service followed by shared lunch
June 24th	Family communion with children's groups

Diamond Jubilee weekend is a national party and we are pleased to have a village service on Sunday June 3rd at 10:30 with the uniformed groups, and other village groups represented.

When the Queen was crowned she received, among other things, a Bible. We are pleased to be able to give a Bible to every child in Mawsley school as a souvenir of this once in a lifetime celebration.



We have recently started a new group for year 3 and above children at school. *SPACE @ School* was requested by some of the children and we are meeting to consider questions they have asked. For example, why was I born? Why does mum always say no! Why are there no dinosaurs in the Bible? Why do animals go extinct? Why do some people boast so much? As you can imagine we are looking forward to some challenging and interesting discussion. We are pleased that the school already has a focus on philosophy and the children are encouraged to think about things and voice their views and explore ideas.

We also try to do this at our small group gatherings during the week and in some ways on Sundays too.

On Saturday June 30th Mandy Priestley will be ordained priest in Peterborough Cathedral and the following day Sunday July 1st she will lead a special service of communion on the field followed by a picnic (weather permitting).

Now taking pre-school registrations for September 2012 government funded sessions.

We are filling up quickly! We recommend booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Mawsley Day Nursery & out of school club

We may be small but together we make a BIG difference



01536 791609

Free Registration for under two's!

Wow, Have you seen our new baby room? We can now offer up to 26 places for children aged between birth to two years. If you would like more information come and have look. If you register your child before the end of June 2012 there is no registration fee! New registrations only.

Holiday Playscheme

From Wednesday 6th June –Friday 8th June 2012

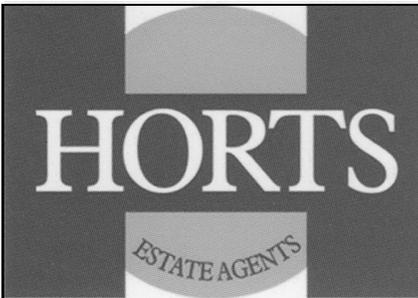
Come along and play for either a full day, school hours or just the morning or afternoon. You don't have to book a session pattern; ad hoc sessions can be booked.

Activities will include

Wednesday=Jubilee Celebration, making picnic lunch and spending the day at the park!

Thursday=Science and Technology Day, experimenting and fixing!

Friday=Forest Trip, toasted marshmallows, climbing trees, jumping the stream, making bases!



Office: 01536 790118
 Mobile: 07970607085
 Email: ray.jacobs@horts.co.uk

RAY JACOBS
 ..your local property
 consultant for Horts
 Estate Agents



A selection of houses available in Mawsley and surrounding areas

5 Bedroom Detached House with annex in Birch Spinney, Mawsley. £399,950. Lovely, large family home.

5 Bedroom Three Storey Detached House in Old Gorse Way, Mawsley. £325,000. Quiet location..

5 Bedroom Three Storey Detached House in Padmans Close, Mawsley. £299,950. Large plot, with impressive rear garden.

5 Bedroom Three Storey Detached House in Chambers Hill, Mawsley. £265,000. Deceptively spacious family home.

3/4 Bedroom End Terrace in Symonds Way, Mawsley. £179,950. Four bedrooms at a fantastic price.

3 Bedroom End Terrace in Old Gorse Way, Mawsley. £179,950. Three double bedrooms with built in storage.

We also have a huge selection of other property all over Northamptonshire, some other local examples are;

Grade Two listed 1 Bedroom Cottage in Main Street, Sudborough. £147,950. Loads of character features in great location.

4 Bedroom Detached House in Sandy Close, Wellingborough. £235,000. Quiet cul-de-sac a short walk from town.

5 Bedroom Detached House in Rowen Close, Desborough. £259,950. Large family home with lovely views.

If you have friends, neighbours, family or work colleagues looking to buy or sell a house, please direct them to Ray Jacobs at Horts on the numbers above. Please contact me anytime for further information, or should you wish to view any of the properties mentioned or on our website. www.horts.co.uk

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01536 790901



As we move towards the summer months and the warmer dryer weather there is always the temptation to leave vehicles and property insecure. Many people leave their vehicle windows open and leave valuable items on display on the seats. Even a coat or jacket left lying on the seat can be a target.



The same applies to your home. Please make sure if you're leaving the property that you lock and secure all your windows and doors or if you're leaving a room with valuables in it, you lock and secure the doors and windows. There have been incidents in other areas where a laptop has been left in a room downstairs while the victim is upstairs. The offender has entered the property via an insecure back door and taken the laptop. Many burglaries and thefts are due to insecurities. Let's not make it easy for them!!

A word about parking issues in Mawsley. Please can I remind people to park vehicles responsibly, especially outside the school at pick up and drop off times. The Police can issue parking tickets for unnecessary obstruction and other offences, even though the roads are not adopted by the County Council. Hopefully I will not have to take this type of action. I will be visiting Mawsley and the school to check on the parking issues.

PC 1243 Martin Penhallow
 Telephone 03000 111 222, 101 or 999 in an emergency
 Email: martin.penhallow@northants.pnn.police.uk

Mawsley Cherokees Walking Club



The next 3 walks are:

- Sun 17th Jun** Becket's Park/ River Nene Cir. 5 miles
- Sun 22nd July** Kinewell Lakes/ Woodford Cir. 5.5 miles
- Sun 26th Aug** Cransley Thorpe Malsor Cir. miles

Please meet at the Broughton Road Lay by 9.25 am

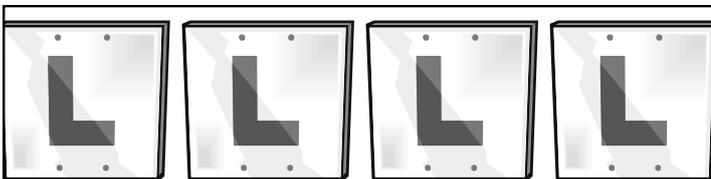
Steve & Pam Draycott Phone 01536 791681

Need a babysitter?

Then contact Georgia

- Local living in Mawsley
- Flexible week and weekend hours
- Reliable and friendly
- References available upon request

Contact after 5pm:
 Mobile: 0795928771
 Home: 01536799470



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 NORTHANTS NN14 1GA**

Mawsley Contact Details

Mawsley Villagers Association (MVA)

mva@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Chair: Bob Littler 791447

Other positions vacant

Mawsley Parish Council

pc@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Chair: Cllr. Peter Thomas 07809 074469

Deputy Chair: Cllr. Clare Farthing 799041

Clerk: Diana MacCarthy

mawsleyclerk@tiscali.co.uk

The Centre @ Mawsley

Manager, Jane Twisleton 799528

www.thecentreatmawsley.co.uk

themanager@thecentreatmawsley.co.uk

Mawsley CP School 799182

Headteacher: Mrs Elaine Wright

Mawsley Medical 791300

Mawsley Church

Rev'd Richard Priestley &

Rev'd Mandy Priestley

rpriestley@mac.com 790140

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

Dave Cross david.a.cross@gmail.com

Kettering Borough Council

Cllr. Jim Hakewill 01858 467686

jimhakewill@kettering.gov.uk

Cllr. Cliff Morton

cliffmoreton@kettering.gov.uk

Community Development Officer

Tim Bellamy 534355

timbellamy@kettering.gov.uk

Northamptonshire County Council

Cllr. Jim Harker 01604 236982

jharker@northamptonshire.gov.uk

MP Philip Hollobone

0207 2198373 or 07979 850126

hollobonep@parliament.uk

Taylor Wimpey

Chris Leeson 0116 281 6000

Mawsley News & Views Editor

Pat Rowley 791881

rowleypj@btinternet.com

Mawsley website

www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk

We've included a few moans and groans in this issue. So I've been thinking...

It would be very easy to take everything we have here in Mawsley for granted. This was a new village at a time when few of us had ever heard of such a thing and certainly had no idea how it would turn out. I lived in a traditional village just a few miles from here and used to be joint editor of their newsletter. We felt threatened by Mawsley and I recall our headlines about 12 or 13 years ago being along the lines of 'Blot on the Landscape' and 'Wrecking our countryside'. Well, those fears proved to be unfounded and I now regularly meet my old neighbours from that village in our shop, at the Medical Centre, in our bar and playing football and cricket on our fields. On the whole they envy us our facilities and do not feel that we have encroached on theirs at all. They are also pleased to see us still using their pub! Mawsley isn't perfect (where is?) but given that it was simply plonked in the middle of a field I, for one, think it feels pretty special.

We can't be complacent about it, otherwise standards will fall and things won't get finished properly. We need to keep reminding those who are responsible for completing or maintaining it all, whether they be County Council, Borough Council, Parish Council, Developer or fellow residents of what still needs to be done but let's not lose sight of all the achievements to date and all the individuals in those organisations who have actually made a difference already.

I think the sunshine must have gone to my head - so I'll move on to more practical matters.

At last it feels like summer! Our gardens and the playing field are beginning to dry out, we can shed our winter woollies, turn off the heating and get outside to meet our neighbours and enjoy the long days and evenings.

If you need an excuse to go and sit on the field or patio then the Ladies' Rounders team would welcome your support at their match on Thursday 31st May from 6.30pm. And there will be cricket fixtures on the field every Saturday from 1 or 1.30pm. (See page 8 for details.)

We have a four day weekend coming up and we look forward to seeing you all out and about, especially on Monday 4th June. Some very brave gardeners are inviting you to enjoy their garden with them at our Open Gardens event and we invite you to help decorate the village in Jubilympic fashion with a scarecrow in your front garden. Then go and relax at The Centre and on the field. See you there!

Next issue out on 11th July

Copy date is Friday 29th June

Adverts and newsletter items to Pat Rowley

Tel: 791881 rowleypj@btinternet.com

MAWSLEY NEWSLETTER & ADVERTISER is produced, on a voluntary basis, for Mawsley Villagers Assoc Ltd. It is distributed to almost 900 homes in Mawsley. All profit goes into village funds. You can also read it on the village website: mawsleyvillage.co.uk