



Mawsley Villagers Association

Newsletter

March 2007

Samantha keeps asking me "how do I get involved in all this MVA stuff, and influence what is going on? How can I have a say in how The Centre and other village matters are run?" I know others are asking the same question.

So I am going to try to explain how things are organised and indeed just how people can become involved. And let's be clear about one thing; **your involvement, at whatever level big or small, is welcomed and necessary.** At the moment there are just a few people doing loads of work and making a lot of decisions.

Let's go back to the basics of the various organisations, not including the parish council. (You will see an article on page 2 asking you to get involved there too, as elections are coming up in May).

Essentially there are two main organisations:

- **Mawsley Villagers Association Ltd. (MVA Ltd)** This is a new company to which the assets of the old Mawsley Villagers Association (old MVA) are being transferred.
- **The Centre at Mawsley Community Interest Company** (similar to a limited company).

MVA Ltd.

MVA Ltd. is a charity. Its **structure** is dictated by Company Law, and is different from the old MVA, which was not a company, which it has replaced.

Directors: These are broadly equivalent to Trustees within the old MVA. In effect these form the MVA Committee.

Members: These have the same voting rights as Members of the old MVA (i.e. they can vote at General Meetings), but a more formal sign-up is required including purchase of one "share" at a cost of £1.

Associates: have registered their interest with MVA Ltd. but have not purchased a "share". They have no voting rights.

Other villagers: in the same position as other villagers within the old MVA (i.e. they were not in the MVA !).

Directors: most of the current MVA Committee (trustees) have chosen to transfer into MVA Ltd. and become directors. They are: Cheryl Buckle Mary-Rose Dolan-Holland John Holton Richard Hoy Graham Leah Bob Littler Allan Macdonald Chris Winter

In future, directors will be elected by the Members. Directors must be Members of MVA Ltd..

Members: any adult resident of Mawsley can become a Member of MVA Ltd.. A Member is broadly equivalent to a shareholder in a company except that a Member is expected to be (but not required to be) directly involved in MVA Ltd. activities. Members are expected to give support and guidance to the Directors in managing the Company.

The legalities require applications to be in writing to the Directors who may not unreasonably refuse membership. There is no limit on the number of Members. If you would like to be a Member of MVA Ltd. just drop a line to: The Secretary, MVA Ltd., c/o 12 Loddington Way.

Associates: any adult resident of Mawsley can become an Associate of MVA Ltd..

Other villagers: have no connection with MVA Ltd.. Please note that this infers no less right to benefit from the work of MVA Ltd..

The objective in setting up this structure is to ensure that any villager can follow a path that leads to them becoming a director of MVA Ltd. (and of The Centre - see below).

Of course within all of this anyone can help with any aspect of what is going on without having to be formally registered as being an Associate, Member or Director. Helpers are always needed and always welcome.

The Centre at Mawsley CIC(TCAM)

TCAM is also a limited company and has been set up because a charity (i.e. MVA Ltd.) cannot in law run a trading company. Legally TCAM is completely separate from the MVA Ltd.. This could mean that TCAM, although nominally controlled by MVA Ltd., could in fact go off and do its own thing.

This is prevented by the fact that we have implemented the rule in TCAM's Articles of Association that the directors of TCAM must be drawn from the Members and Directors of MVA Ltd.. So in order to become a director of TCAM, you must first become either a Member or a director of MVA Ltd..

The current directors are: John Holton
Graham Leah
Bob Littler
Chris Winter

For both organisations there is a legal requirement to hold Board meetings (we will do this monthly) and an Annual General Meeting. Minutes of all meetings will be available to all residents of the village.

(Continued on page 3)

The parish council elections are being held on May 3rd. Here is some information about the parish council's responsibilities and how you can stand for election.

What is a Parish Council ?

Parish councils have a number of basic responsibilities, including: representing the whole electorate within the parish; delivering services to meet local needs; and striving to improve quality of life in the parish. They can be responsible for providing a range of community services such as Street Lighting, rights of way and recreation grounds. Although this is not the case in Mawsley at present, the responsibilities of the Parish Council will grow as the roads become adopted.

Many county and district councils are responsible for providing and maintaining services. Residents, however, may prefer to contact their parish council in regards to such local matters because of their smaller, less intimidating size and because they may be more in touch with their community's needs.

The council is also the first point of contact for aspiring local projects. It is their responsibility to help get schemes underway by providing initial funding and space for public use, for example for the local scout troop or a one-off jumble sale.

The parish council must be notified of any planning application or highway development planned for the area if they so wish. On some occasions the council's approval is also needed for any work to go ahead.

What can I do ?

The parish council is an **effective way to get involved in community life**. It deals with local people and local matters on a day to day basis and **welcomes help and interest**. One way to get involved is to stand for election to the council.

Parish councillors are elected by the public and serve four-year terms. Following elections, councils appoint a chair.

To be a parish councillor requires time and commitment. A councillor will usually spend a couple of hours a week on parish business. It is a very rewarding way of putting something in to your own community.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU !!!!

In May of this year the parish council elections will take place. All positions will be up for re-election.

We would welcome applications, so if you have a couple of hours to spare and would like to become more involved in the community please contact one of the parish council, the clerk or come along to one of the meetings. Meetings are generally held on the first Monday of the Month at TCAM at 7pm.

Nominations are open between Tuesday 27th March – Wednesday 4th April at noon.

Elaine Cawthorne
Clerk to Parish Council

The Parish Council

usually meets on the 1st Monday of the month but the April meeting is being brought forward to
26th March. 7.30pm at the Centre.

The MVA

will meet on **Thursday 15th March and 19th April at 8pm**, also at the Centre. Future meetings will be on the third Thursday of each month.

MVA Secretary

The MVA is grateful to Amanda Harris who volunteered to be the new MVA Secretary in response to the appeal in the last newsletter.

You can contact her on 07979 331684 or
amandaharris25@aol.com

Contact Details

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

MVA Officers

mva@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Chair: Bob Littler (791447)

Dep.Chair:Graham Leah (799200)

Treas. Chris Winter (790375)

Sec. Amanda Harris (07979 331684)

Mawsley Parish Council

pc@mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Cllr. Bob Littler (Chair)

Cllr. Chris Winter (Deputy Chair)

Clerk: Elaine Cawthorne (791277)

Kettering Borough Council

Cllr. Jim Hakewill (01858 467686)

jimhakewill@kettering.gov.uk

Cllr. Michael Harrison (K 712888)

michaelharrison@kettering.gov.uk

Our Community Development Officer
at KBC is Tim Bellamy 534355

Newsletter

Pat Rowley, 791881,

pat.rowley@tiscali.co.uk

Neighbourhood Watch

Co-ordinator

Keith Powell 790439

MP Philip Hollobone

0207 2198373 or 07979 850126

hollobonep@parliament.uk

Website: www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk

Samantha has read all this and wants to know:

Isn't this all a bit heavy and formal?

As limited companies we are governed by company law. We have tried to keep the structures as simple as possible and - most importantly - to ensure that any resident of Mawsley can get to be involved at any level if they so wish. Remember also we are talking about serious amounts of money. TCAM's turnover could be around £200,000 in its first 12 months. MVA Ltd's turnover will be around £10,000.

Isn't a bit pretentious to have directors?

This is implicit in having a limited company. Please note that all directors are unpaid, draw no expenses and have no privileges.

So to summarise we are seeking your active involvement; please don't be put off by all this organisational stuff. We all want to see, I think, the same thing - that Mawsley is a vibrant, fun and inclusive community. We will only get to that by getting stuck in to help make it so.

Bob Littler
Chair, MVA and Parish Council

(If you would like to read more of the background to this two company structure please see page 3 of the July 2006 Mawsley Newsletter which is available at www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk or from the editor.)

MAWSLEY POND

As Mr Burns had it ' The best laid plan of mice, men and pond reconstructors ' etc..... I expect you will all have noticed that the hole in the ground (aka 'the pond') suddenly enjoyed a small inundation in early February. Clearly the Mawsley watersprite took umbrage at our plans and decided to take action himself. More prosaically I suspect that the substratum beneath the pond became sufficiently cold and solid that the rainwater stopped leaking and leaching away and, coupled with heavy rain, we again have pooled water.

So our original plan to seal the bottom of the hole so that we would always have water in the pond is on hold until the summer once more parches it empty. Then, in Autumn I would propose that we do what we planned; in the meantime I would like to tidy, prune and record our current flora and the pond area and will call those of you who have volunteered during the next couple of weeks.

Richard Hoy
(07815986380 if anyone else wishes to be involved)

Welcome Packs

The MVA has a policy of welcoming new residents to the village. They have developed a Welcome Pack in conjunction with KBC and Mary Rose visits to offer a personal welcome to newcomers, giving them information about the village and the area.

She is usually able to keep track of new arrivals moving into brand new houses but not new arrivals who have bought from previous owners. If you have recently moved in and would like a Welcome Pack please contact any MVA Committee member or Mary Rose on 790349.

Please Think Before You Park!

Northamptonshire County Council Fire & Rescue Service is asking everyone who lives in Mawsley to think before they park.

A problem has been highlighted recently where overnight car parking in the village is restricting emergency service access.

It is important that fire crews can arrive as quickly as possible in the event of a fire, they need a 3 metre gap to access a road. Inconsiderate parking can restrict access and mean the difference between life and death for someone trapped in a house fire.

District Liaison Officer Lisa Bryan, said "I would urge each resident of Mawsley to think before they park, checking that they are leaving enough room for a fire appliance to get through in the event of an emergency. It could be their home that we are called to in the middle of the night and even a small delay could have fatal consequences".

For further information on fire safety issues please contact the Community Fire Safety department on 01604 797150.



Mawsley NHW Alert!

There has been a significant increase in vehicle crime around the village over the past couple of weeks.

It would appear vehicles with Satellite Navigation systems are being targeted and a number of systems have been stolen and vehicles damaged.

Can we please remind all villagers not to leave anything on display in their vehicles and to take all their belongings out of the vehicle before leaving it.

If you do see anything suspicious or maybe witnessed one of the recent incidents then please do not hesitate to contact the local police.

For emergencies or crimes in progress call: **999**

To report suspicious incidents, crime details or the details of suspicious vehicles call:

01536 400 400

YOUTH NEWS

Mawsley Youth group

We meet every Wednesday at The Centre from 7pm - 9pm during term time for 14+ years.

We have 2 table tennis tables, board games, badminton, table football, television and most of all good company. Come and join us!

The Mawsley Youth Group will visit the **Houses of Parliament** and another London location, possibly the shops, on **Monday 16th July 2007.**

You must be 14+ years old to come and places are limited so please let me have your details:

Name,
Address,
Tel Number,
DOB to book your place.



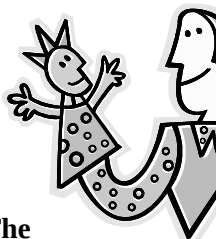
Puppet Show

Yes, we are going to put on a puppet show!

If you are 11+ and would like to be involved these are the three dates you need to be aware of.

Wednesday 21st March 7 - 8pm

Please bring an old sock, some buttons, scraps of material, needle and threads etc for **making your own puppet.**



On **Wednesday 28th March at The Centre, 7 - 9pm**, we will hold a **puppet workshop**, run by a Northampton Puppet group. This will involve some role play and how to put together a show.

Saturday 14th April 2007, in The Centre 2pm - 4pm. We are going to put on a **puppet show**. The first hour will be a workshop when youngsters can bring along a sock and some other bits and bobs and make a puppet of their own and then from 3 - 4pm we will put on a show.

All ages are invited to attend and the Mawsley Youth Group will provide expert advice on how to make a puppet. The cost will be £2 each to join in the making and then enjoy the show. Parents will also be charged if they wish to join in and watch the show.

Tickets will be on sale soon.

We are desperate to find someone interested in running a **Table Tennis club** and possibly entering a team in the local league.

Also there are sufficient now to form a youth **football** team. A couple of volunteers would make a huge difference to the provision within the village. We are excited at the prospect of forming a **cricket club** and with the help of the older ones who we hope will provide coaching for us possibly a team next year in the local league. We have sufficient interest for under 15's, under 13's and under 11's, so the sound of wood on willow may yet be heard in Mawsley.

Thank you

Thank you from the youth of the village to **Mary Findlay** who has been at the helm in forming the 1st Mawsley Scout Group. Of course a number of others have volunteered along with her but I believe without Mary this would not have happened yet. Already this is a provision for over forty youngsters and within a year, when older scouts are added, this will provide for over 70. Well done Mary and team.

We should also not forget that single handedly and without experience of running a previous group, **Anne Whittaker** has formed the Guide Group. This is some achievement. Keep it up and thank you, Anne.

Allan Macdonald has kindly donated two TVs to the Youth Group, what a star! Thank you.

The Youth Group are looking to make a donation of 2 Basketball nets to the Mawsley Community School for the use of the school and the wider community.

There are a number of possible coaching schemes available now that we have this equipment so not only the older youth but Primary school children can also benefit. These have now been acquired along with a lot of other quality play equipment, most of which will be stored in the Centre.

Until the grass grows on the newly laid Mawsley playing fields it is hoped that family rounders, short cricket and basketball will become a regular feature on the school playing fields on the warm Friday evenings soon to come. This of course will be followed by a gathering at The Centre for refreshments. I need a number of people, hopefully some of the school Governors, to make up sufficient adults on a rota to make this happen, so please consider this.

We will be putting on another disco and a couple of bands and are hoping to fix a date very soon.

The Mawsley Youth Group is entering a new phase and has found new enthusiasm now that it has somewhere to meet. I'm sure you will agree that given the chance the youth of the village can make a positive contribution to village life.

For more information or to get involved in any way please contact me, Aidan Piper, on 01536 790419

MVA Under 5s Group

Phew!! It's been a busy start to 2007
for the Under 5s Group.

We had the fantastic Children's Fun Day on 20th January. It was a great success with 120 children attending plus parents. A great afternoon was had by all. Fancy dress prizes were distributed to lots of children for their fantastic costumes plus there were lots of craft activities for them to make and take home.

A huge thank you to Wimpey for their kind donation and to KBC for the loan of the bouncy castle. Mr Mudge was fantastic and a real hit with the children. A special thanks to TCAM and to all those who helped set up and clean up for the event.

We hope this fun day will be a regular fixture at The Centre throughout the year.

The Under 5s Parent and Toddler group runs every THURSDAY during term time from 10.00am until 11.30am. The aim of this group is to provide a place where the children of Mawsley can have fun whilst getting to know one another and will also help parents meet other villagers. There will be:

- ☺ Free play with a good selection of suitable toys available
- ☺ A dedicated baby's area with soft play and suitable toys
- ☺ Coloring and drawing table
- ☺ Specialist craft and activity table
- ☺ Song time.
- ☺ Biscuit and juice for the children

Teas and coffees will be available to purchase at a special Under 5s price of 50p. The cost will be £1.50 per child plus 50p for any additional children.

The weekly fee will be used to pay for the hall hire, craft activity, biscuits and juice and to subsidise the adults' drinks.

We look forward to seeing you.



Bubble time



Jack Sparrow
one of the winners



One of the children enjoying the day with a balloon puppet made by Mr Mudge

The MVA under 5s Parent and Toddler Group commenced on Thursday 25th January. We have held three sessions at The Centre (with one cancelled due to the snow). It has certainly been a learning curve for the group since moving there and we have experienced a new set of problems and issues. Our main problem is the high cost of running the group at The Centre. This has increased dramatically and we are currently meeting to discuss these issues.

We received complaints about the price of the teas / coffees and why we were not able to provide refreshments for the parents. After discussions with Penny (who has been a great help) hot drinks are now provided in jugs, the price has been lowered and is being subsidised by the group.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and children who help to clear away at the end of the session. Their help has

For further information regarding the under 5's group or committee please contact Rebecca Simmons on 799311 or Yvette Sanderson on 799145

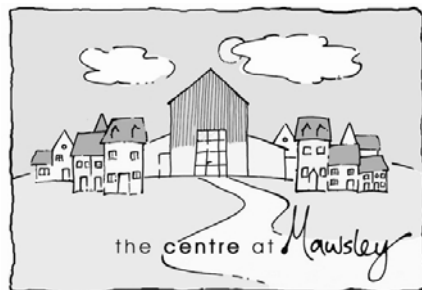
The Centre at Mawsley - 01536 799528

Since the last newsletter, so much has happened.

As you are probably aware the **Quiz Nights** held on the last Thursday of the month are huge successes. With a turn out of around twenty teams, fun is had by all, with great questions set by our quiz master Steve Buckle. Fun, banter and my favourite 'pound a round service' all night. If you haven't managed to enter yet, then why not pop down for the next one on **Thursday 29th March**. A great night out, not to be missed.

And don't forget **Race Night, on Saturday 31st March**. The one we had a couple of years ago has gone down as the best night in Mawsley's history; so let's make this one even better! Tickets are available from The Centre and cost only £5, including sausage and chips.

Great News. We are now able to accept **Credit and Debit Cards**, which of course makes your evening even easier. We accept all of the major cards.



I am pleased to say (with the exception of Scouts) we now have all of our listed clubs up and running, though we are still looking for some kind of Adult fitness group or Dance Class for Sunday evenings after 5pm and/or week nights after 9pm. If any one is interested please contact me on 01536 799528.

We are all getting very excited with Easter approaching. You will be pleased to hear that the Centre will be open from 3pm every day of the holidays and of course from noon at the weekends.

Celebrity Guaranteed.

A date for your diary – **Saturday May 5th** when we will have our **official opening**. There will be fun for all the family with a party and entertainment during the day and a formal function in the evening for the adults only. More info will soon be available on our website www.mawsleyvillage.co.uk on The Centre at Mawsley page.

I would like to say a very big thank you to Tracey & Neil Baker and Glynnis for the donation of the fridges.

We are now on the look out for paving slabs! Yes those big grey 'things' that most of us have in our back gardens. If you have any that you would like to donate please could you email penny-tcam@btconnect.com or call 01536 799528.

On a serious note, I have been asked by the authorities to enforce the 'No Children after 9pm' regulation, this applies to the whole building, not just the bar. Obviously there are some exceptions to the rule like a private function. But I now ask that all children under 14 are out of the building by this time. Thank you.

Finally lets talk FOOD! I have had a lot of conversations with regards to the serving of food in The Centre. The Centre is quite keen to pursue this so I would therefore be interested to get some feed back from you all as to what kind of thing you are looking for. Are we talking 'Pub Grub'? 'Sausage and Mash, Scampi and chips, pie and pots, with a trendy kids menu? Or what?

I look forward to seeing you all soon.
Penny Feasey, Centre Manager

New Mum?

Want to get out of the house and meet more Mawsley Mums?

Why not come along to the Mums & Babies 'drop in' group? This runs from 2 till 3.30pm on the second and last Tuesday of every month at the Surgery. We look forward to seeing you there. This group is suitable for all babies who are not yet mobile. For more information contact Audrey (791300), or just come along.

Mawsley's 'Mums and Tots' group meets at Kids Kingdom, KLV, on Monday mornings from 10.30 am in term time.



There is a special concessionary rate for us of £3.50 for parent and child (and 50p for each additional child) to include use of all the play equipment and drinks for all.

Because Kids Kingdom is very quiet on a Monday morning it is suitable for babies and children of all ages.

Come and join us! Just turn up or contact
Sue Owens 791514 for more information

Letter to the editor

M'am,

May I congratulate the MVA on opening the first licensed crèche in the County!

Could I ask when they will seek to employ qualified nursery staff to act "in loco parentis" for those children who roam freely around the Centre, often at great pace and always at great volume, oblivious of other Centre users?

Yours faithfully,
Richard Meredith

Quiz Night

January

What a fantastic night! 22 teams battling it out to win 1st prize. There was laughter, confusion and some very busy bar staff!!! Thank you to everyone who came to support the event. We raised £175 for the MVA with the entry fee, raffle and auction. Some of the cash has been spent on games for the bar so please use them when you're in there.

The winning team for January was
Team Number One! Well done!!!



February

Another fantastic night with a tie-break question to decide the winning team. We raised £70 for MVA funds so thank you to all those who came to support.



The winning team for February were
The CCs! Well done!!!

The next Quiz Night is Thursday 29th March,
8pm at The Centre.

Guaranteed to be a fantastic night as the cash rollover prize of an estimated £110 will definitely be given to the highest scoring team in the general knowledge round.
You've got to be in it to win it!!!

The MVA is
Going to the Dogs!!!!



Wednesday 2nd May 2007

£20 per person

Price includes:

- * Admission to Peterborough Greyhounds
- * Programme
- * 2 pints or 2 spirits + mixer
- * Basket Meal ~ Chicken/Scampi/Veg option + chips
- * £2 TOTE bet
- * Return transport

Strictly over 18yrs only

Coaches leave village at approx. 6pm and arrive back at Midnight (Exact times TBC)

Tickets available from The Centre or
Steve & Cheryl on 799107

Mawsley Events Team present their Events Calendar 2007

Put these dates in your diary now!!!!

Sat 31st March ~ Race Night

Sat 7th April ~ Eggstra Special Easter Fun Day

Monday 9th April ~ Easter Egg Hunt

Sat 5th May ~ The Centre's Grand Opening

Wednesday 2nd May ~ Trip to the Dogs

Saturday 14th July ~ Mawsley Fun Day and

Family Olympics

Saturday 6th October ~ Harvest Ball

Sat 3rd November ~ Fireworks Extravaganza

Friday 30th November ~ Wine Tasting

Race Night at The Centre

31st March 2007



Doors Open 7.00pm

First Race 7.30pm



**Come and enjoy a night
at the races!!**

**Tickets only £5.00 to include
sausage and chips supper**
(Tickets are NOW on sale at The
Centre but are selling fast - so
don't miss out)

Buy a horse for only £10.00

EGGSTRA SPECIAL EASTER FUN DAY!

Saturday 7th April 2007

10am ~ 1pm

at The Centre

Bonnet Making Raffle

Easter Crafts

Colouring Competition

Play Area Refreshments

50p per person

Fun for all ages

Easter Fun continues on Monday 9th April
with Egg Hunt, Easter Bunny, Bonnet
Parade & Prize Giving

1st Mawsley Girl Guide Unit

We meet at The Centre on Thursdays from 7pm to 8.30pm. Guides is open to all girls aged 10 and over. We currently have 25 Guides in our Unit and we cover a very wide range of activities and have a lot of fun. As we are approaching capacity, could you please contact me as soon as possible if you would like to join now or would like to put younger girls names on the waiting list for future years.

Due to our growth in numbers, we would really appreciate any adult helpers who could spare a couple of hours on Thursday evenings to help out at the meetings. I am sure that you would find being involved in our Unit fun and rewarding.

Further information from Anne Whittaker - tel 791163



1st Mawsley Scout Group was launched on Tuesday 20th February with a successful Open Evening for the parents of Cubs and Beavers. Representatives from Kettering District supported the Group, that night, with information about Scouting. We feel privileged that we have been able to open our Scout Group, within the village, during the year in which Scouting is celebrating their Centenary.

The Cubs and Beavers met for the first time last week in the main hall of The Centre ably supported by a group of adults who have volunteered to be the leaders in each section. With 24 Cubs, 24 Beavers, Leaders and an elected Group Executive we feel we are in a very good position to provide positive Scouting for the young people in our Community.

The Group hopes to open the Scout Section towards the end of the year; we still need people who think they could commit to being a leader or help on a regular basis. If you would like more information please contact Shaun, Ian or myself.

If your child is interested in joining please contact me. There is a waiting list in operation for each section at the moment but young people will be moving on at different times of the year to the next section.

Mary Findlay Group Scout Leader

Contact:-

Group Scout Leader	Mary Findlay	01536 791228
Asst Group Scout Leader	Shaun Thompstone	01536 791567
Group Chairman	Ian McNeill	01536 791067

MAWSLEY CRICKET CLUB

Summer 2007

With the Ashes debacle behind us and as summer draws nearer it is time to start thinking about cricket again. The cricket square has been laid but will not be in use this season, so yet again we will travel to play our fixtures. Four fixtures have already been finalised with another three awaiting final confirmation. The full fixture list will be published in the next edition.

So if you would like to have a bat or fancy turning your arm over then please get in touch. It would be great if we could get a good core of cricketers (to add to the stalwarts of last season) of varying ages and abilities.

Thinking ahead to when we have our own facilities, a small committee has been set up with the sole aim of raising money to put towards facilities that are vital when setting up a successful club. Any ideas or help with this would be most welcome. Apart for the obvious costs of putting up Nets and buying cricket equipment, we need money and expertise to look after the pitch itself. If you have experience in this please get in touch, the more involved in this venture the better.

I am assuming that those who played last year are available and have their contact details. If you didn't get a game and would have liked one then please contact me with a gentle reminder. If you have decided that you would like to volunteer for the first time then please email me at ndo@maidwellhall.co.uk

Nick Owens

Mawsley Village Multi-Sport/ Running Club

Are you a pontificator about getting fit, losing weight, leading a healthier lifestyle, but just can't quite get motivated to do something about it, or are you super fit and looking for the next athletic challenge?

Well whichever group you fall into or half way between, I hope that this might just be what you are looking for. With the Centre finally open, offering a possible base for a Multi-Sport/Running Club to get up and running (pun intended), and a growing number of Mawsley folk donning running shoes etc to brave the elements, we are going to try and set up a village based group that will support and cater for all ability levels. To do this we need regular runners/joggers/walkers and multi-sport athletes to both join in and also help with the organisation.

The plan is to meet regularly on a weekly basis for group sessions (coaching, training support advice will be available) and then for those who want to, to take on the challenge of either local or national events (whether it be a local charity 5k, the London Marathon or maybe a Triathlon). All abilities will be very welcome and sessions will be grouped appropriately.

Come and join the first session or register your interest by contacting: Richard Smith Mawsley: 01536 790421 or mobile: 07768 552653. First Session: Thursday 22nd March 7.00pm meet at the Centre if you want to run, 7.45pm if you just want to have a coffee/drink and meet to discuss the group and its plans.

Acoustic Music Club

February/March

Next session: this Friday 9th March!

Many thanks to our guests from Cransley Folk Club who provided us with some wonderful pure folk songs including the Battlefield Band music from East Lothian to Cornish song from way down south. Cransley Club meet on the 3rd Friday of the month and details are on the www.mawsleyvillageforum.com site.

Add to this some jazz piano and a spirited rendition of Guns and Roses (!), a touch of Lionel Richie, romantic mandolin music, plenty of Bob Dylan and some completely original material ... well, we could say there really is something for everyone at the Acoustic Music Club

We are trying a couple of Live Music sessions in the Bar very soon, so come on down and sing, play or just enjoy...

Look out for dates on "What's On" on the web site.

PS There's loads of helpful stuff, including some brilliant video downloads of great artists, for budding players and aficionados under "Acoustic Music Club" on the Forum site. Check it out!

Jamie

(If you want more info call me on 07710 423412)



Walking group

Hi Ramblers

It's been a good start to the year with four walks under our belts so far, We've had Cransley, Grafham, Warmington, & Fineshade, all good walks of 7-9 miles. The weather has held up & so far we have not been TOO lost; still that's part of the fun.

I was unable to go on the last one due to pressure of work. A very fond thank you to Mark for taking the helm on that occasion. This is what our group is all about, sharing the workloads & enjoying the fresh air in the process. Mark I owe you one .

Another thank you to one of my work colleagues Kelvin & his wife Shirley for coming all the way from Deanshanger in Bucks to join us last time. The word's spreading!!!

As to our ongoing programme the next three walks are

Sunday 1st April Spectacle Lane; a circular of Pitsford, Holcot, Moulton. Approx. 9mls

Saturday 28th April Merry Tom Crossing circular of Brixworth Park, Pitsford, Broughton and Brixworth. Approx. 8mls

Sunday 27th May A Blue Bell Walk Venue and distance tba

Also please do not forget we will be starting evening walks every Wednesday as soon as the light returns. These may suit more of you as they will be 2-4 miles. & generally very local; perhaps we could even venture into a pub or one; that'll be a change

Steve & Pamela Draycott 01536-791681 slduk@f2s.com

Mawsley Allotment Association

Thank you to all those who have renewed their membership for the coming year, the response has been fantastic. We have a few outstanding renewals and would be grateful if these folks could please forward their subscription (£2) to Teresa at The Saltings, Sloe Lane.

It is becoming increasingly important that we have an accurate estimate of the level of demand for allotments in Mawsley so if you wish to renew (or indeed join the association) please do so ASAP. If you are no longer interested, it would be very useful if you would let us know please. Thank you.

For any allotment enquiries please contact Tony (791162).

The Reading Group...

still meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (although the March meeting is on 21st).

The books for the following few months are

MARCH - We Need To Talk About Kevin/Lionel Shriver

APRIL - Of Mice and Men/John Steinbeck

MAY - Innocent Traitor/Alison Weir

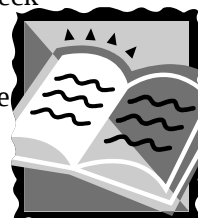
JUNE - The Lemon Tree/Sandy Tolan

JULY - The Secret River/Kate Grenville

AUGUST - Little Face/Sophie Hannah

Contact Elaine Cawthorne on 791277

for details



Mawsley WI

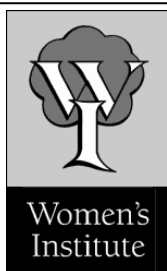
A great evening was enjoyed by about 40 members and visitors at our meeting in February. The topic of the talk was "Belly Dancing" and it was very interesting to hear how young girls are taught the art and the reasons why. We then enjoyed a demonstration of the dancing and all those present were invited to join in and 'have a go'. It was a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

Next month on the 13th. March we are joined by the President of the Northamptonshire Federation of Women's Institutes, Diana Birch, who will be speaking about her cycle ride in Cuba to raise money for charity. This promises to be a very interesting talk (with slides) and we would welcome any ladies in the village to join us at The centre at 7.30pm. Visitors fees remain at £2.50 for the time being and this includes some refreshments or alternatively you can enjoy a 'tipple' from the bar.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Molly Shortt - President.

790781



Mawsley Community Primary School

Our school continues to grow in numbers, with regard to both children and adults who work here. We now have 179 children on roll. Building work to provide two Foundation Stage classes for September 2007 is due to begin in April.



As always the children and adults have been busy working on many aspects of the curriculum and school development. Some of these are listed below:

- Children in Years 2 and 5 have been able to go to Montsaye School in Rothwell for swimming lessons.
- Miss Franklin has started a school orchestra which meets each Tuesday and helps to develop the skills of those children learning instruments in school e.g. flute, clarinet, saxophone, guitar and violin.
- We have recently held a Book Week, organised by Mrs Wonfor. Each class has studied stories from a different country from around the world. These included China, America, Australia, France, India, Greece and Afghanistan.
- Year 4 travelled to Sulgrave Manor, as part of their History work, to learn more about the Tudor way of life. The children were able to dress in Tudor costumes for the day.
- On 2nd February children and parents made donations towards the UNICEF Day of Change to help support schools in Kenya. During the week the children were able to compare schools in England with those in Kenya.
- Year 6 have worked in groups to create presentations on projects they would like to work on to improve the school grounds.
- Miss Hall and Miss Harris have set up a weekly Newspaper Club for children to create their own school newspaper.
- Year 1 and 2 invited Fr. Paul to come into their class and talk about his life as a vicar, as part of their RE work on "People in Christianity".
- 4 boys and 4 girls from Year 2 represented the school in a Mini-Tennis tournament at Guilsborough School. Both groups were very successful.
- A paramedic visited our Reception class to talk about his job as part of their work on "People Who Help Us".
- Year 2 went on a one night residential trip to Beaumanor Hall in Leicestershire. The children (and adults) took part in a variety of interesting and fun activities.
- Year 5 have recently spent a morning learning about First Aid skills from a member of St. John's Ambulance.
- Year 1 have made a giant ship with help of a visiting artist to their class for a day. The ship is a copy of one sailed by Christopher Columbus and links to their History unit of work.
- A meeting has been held with a member of the LA Extended Schools Team to bid for funding to provide a room to enable the school to offer "wrap around" care.

Information Evening

The school will be holding an Information evening for parents on the subject of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) on Thursday 26th April from 7.00p.m. - 8.00p.m. Any Mawsley residents who are interested in attending this meeting are very welcome to come along. The evening will be led by a representative from the British Red Cross. If you are interested in attending please contact the school to let us know on 01536 799182.

Back, by popular demand... ..

Easter Eggstravaganza



Tuesday 27 March 2007
From 3.15 to 4.30 pm
At
Mawsley Community
Primary School
In the School Hall

Chocolate Tombola, Raffle,
Cakes, Games and lots of
prizes to be won.
Come and indulge in a
Chocolate Festival!!

MAWSLEY **EASTER EGG HUNT** **MONDAY 9TH APRIL** **11.00AM @ WARREN END**

**Come and join the fun and meet the
Easter Rabbit**

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

For adults and children
ENTRY IS FREE
All you need to do is turn up on the day
with your Easter Bonnet –
the more outrageous the hat the better
Hats judged on the day

EGG AND SPOON RACES

For children of all ages
FREE ENTRY

EASTER EGG HUNT

50p per child
Join in the search for hidden eggs

For more information contact
Ali Williams on 799190

Spring into action with Mawsley Church!

SPRING CLEAN

Fed up with the litter which blows through our streets and gets stuck in the hedgerows? We'd love to hear from anyone interested in cleaning up our village with a **SPRING CLEAN**, probably Saturday 5th or Sunday 6th May. *Mawsley Church* will be joined by the Guides and hopefully lots of other volunteers in the village in collecting litter to make Mawsley an even nicer place to live. Please get in touch on 790140 as soon as possible if you're willing to help or if you have past experience of such events. Thanks.

MUSICIANS

Our growing worship team meets on a fortnightly basis at the Centre and would love to hear from those of all ages interested in joining them. Please contact Steve on 799022 for more information.

CAFÉ CHURCH

Mawsley Church meets for morning services at the Centre on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month at 11.00am; so this month's will take place on **11th March** and **25th March**. On 1st & 3rd Sundays we meet at the Centre in the afternoon from 3.30pm-4.15pm for a more informal time of discussion, questions and coffee. There is no crèche available yet but there are activities for children of primary school age. All are welcome.

MEN'S LUNCH GROUP

Would you be interested in a monthly weekday social get together for men, including a meal at a local pub? If so please email David Wilson at jeadv01@waitrose.com giving name, tel. no., email, preferred day & time (am/pm) or phone David on 799490.

Little Lights

It's interactive, it's  musical, it's homely! Our group for under-5s seeks to introduce little people to God's love through songs, activities and friendship. In March we'll be meeting on Tuesday 6th and 20th from 1.30pm at 15, Loddington Way. All welcome.

EASTER 2007

There are lots of different services taking place in our local churches. They include:

Palm Sunday

Cransley Praise 10.30am at Gt Cransley &

Café Church 3.30pm at The Centre;

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

7.30pm at St Andrew's, Broughton;

Good Friday Service & Meditation

7.30pm at All Saints, Thorpe Malsor;

Easter Day Celebration & Holy Communion

11.00am The Centre.

Small groups are a very important part of the Church; several meet in homes across the village on a regular basis to explore the Bible, share experience, questions and friendship. If you would like more information please contact myself or another member of the Ministry Team.

As always, if you have any questions please get in touch.

Rev'd Paul Seaton-Burn
790140, seaton-burn@tiscali.co.uk

25 Reasons to love Mawsley

Ideas from the users of
www.mawsleyvillageforum.co.uk.

1. Great Neighbours
2. Friendly Villagers
3. Lovely dentist
4. No need for a by pass to avoid HGVs
5. Your missus will never complain you spend too long in the pub!
6. During the winter months being able to re-enact the 1800's frequently when water supplies and electricity are cut off.
7. The ear shattering silence
8. A packed and informative newsletter
9. It's like playing Hide & seek when friends + family come to visit....without the effort of trying to hide!
10. You can always get a doctors appointment when you are actually still ill.
11. The school is absolutely excellent! (and they opened it when they said they would)
12. You learn how to put fences back up when the wind blows them down
13. You can hang out of your window and watch people trying to stop their fences blowing down
14. Free air shows during the summer
15. You don't need a hair dryer to dry your hair. Just step outside!
16. Tastefully (generally speaking) decorated houses at Christmas.
17. You don't see many learner drivers!
18. No abandoned motors anywhere.....
19. As a Dad, having the chance to collect your child from the school!
20. We are usually the very first and the very last people (sometimes the only people) in the Northamptonshire area to get decent snow in the winter to play in
21. The village forum
22. Our sense of identity (Mawsleyites?)
23. The wind at Mawsley, as it will clear any headache or hangover.
24. The Centre at Mawsley.
25. Great social events for all ages.

Edited by Cheryl Buckle

Open Gardens 2007, with Scarecrows

Now in its third year Mawsley Open Gardens will take place over the weekend of 9th/10th June.



As before our Open Gardens will be different from most; we have no historic plots, rambling acres, orangeries or croquet lawns. Our gardens are small, real, everyday, family plots newly created in solid clay, competing with vicious winds and leatherjackets. This is your opportunity to see what your neighbours have done with theirs, or to open yours to share the results of your enthusiasm and hard work.

If you are pleased with your garden then others will enjoy it too. To be included in the programme please contact Pat on pat.rowley@tiscali.co.uk or 791881.

Or join in simply by making a scarecrow (theme to be announced) for your front garden.

Gardening Club

This is a new year, the start of a fresh growing season and now The Centre is open and available to us it's a good time to get Gardening Club up and running again.

Let's meet in the bar on Wednesday 28th March at 7.30pm to discuss what we want from our Gardening

Calling all budding journalists

The editor has been putting the Mawsley Newsletter together for nearly four years, and now suggests that it needs some new blood, new ideas and a new look. Perhaps it should become more of a team effort. There are usually plenty of articles, announcements and reports submitted to fill the space available but inspiration is now required to give it a fresh look.

Would you like to get involved? Do you fancy yourself as a roving reporter? Could you produce a Youth section? Could you produce illustrations for some of the articles? Or are you just a whiz at desk top publishing? If you think you would like to help on a regular basis then please get in touch.



Watercolour Group

Would you like to join the Mawsley Watercolour Group which has tuition in Thorpe Malsor on Thursday mornings? Beginners welcome. Come and join in and have fun with paint.

For more information please call Joan on 791661 or Jean on 791675.

**The next Newsletter is due out on 20th April.
Why not have your say on any village issues?**

All contributions to the editor by Friday 13th April at the very latest.

Pat Rowley, Editor

pat.rowley@tiscali.co.uk and 791881

Dog Fouling

The volume of correspondence the editor has received recently on the problem of the few dog owners who do not clear up after their dogs is increasing. The Parish Council will have discussed this with the Borough Dog Warden earlier this week - but too late to report in this issue.

Here are some of the most recent complaints and suggestions.

'Do Dog Owners read the Newsletter?'

Some certainly do not! Otherwise we would have seen at least one letter offering an explanation as to why dog poo should be left where it falls. Leaving it where it drops must fit in with some rationale, so let's hear it for why leaving it is right/better/natural/whatever. Come on you dog owners with this special insight into responsible pet ownership let's hear why the majority should accept this fouling of public spaces.'

Another writes:

'I would be grateful if resident dog owners could be reminded via the newsletter that plastic bags are neither heavy nor cumbersome. They fit very nicely into pockets. People are often seen carrying these bags with their dogs deposits in, but even so, Mawsley is turning into an obstacle course of dog mess. Just because a dog is walked at night doesn't mean you don't have to clean up after it. Remember, there are dark corners where an innocent victim can be caught, and what is worse than dog mess on shoes? In the dark, carrying a torch helps. And the dog that has left a pile on my flowers is obviously misguided if thinking that it will act as manure!'

And another:

'I see many responsible owners walking their dogs round the village, (they are easy to spot. They are the ones with a lead in one hand and a lopsided plastic carrier bag in the other). So who is leaving their dogs mess laying around and how do they get brought to book?

Well, as the days get lighter and the nights get longer more of us will be walking and cycling around the village, so why not take a camera with you and the next time you find a dog-owner leftover, take a picture of it, preferably with the dog owner in shot, and submit it for publication in the newsletter and help to flush out the offenders.'

The editor is not encouraging a dog poo photo competition but would welcome any suggestions for eradicating this nuisance.

Walgrave Open Gardens

'The Spring Collection'

14th and 15th April, 1 - 5 pm

Teas in the Chapel