



# Gawsworth Gazette

February 2024 | FREE

The Gawsworth Gazette is published monthly by Gawsworth Parish Council. It is funded by the Parish Council and the Gawsworth Hub.

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## Pantomime a triumph!

**Writer and director of the Gawsworth Pantomime, Charley Oliver, spoke of his pride at the success and performers in the production of Jack and the Beanstalk which was performed in the village hall in January.**

Charley told performers he hoped they shared his pride in what they had achieved together over the four performances.

"It has been as I wanted it to be: good fun. There have been no prima donnas, nor annoying egos, no tiffs nor falling out. Plenty of effort and dedication, yes; it is not easy to learn all those words, but you did it. I watched the audiences from the back of the hall, and seen them more



clearly than you did. They had a blast."

"One thing has given me special pleasure in this production, and that has been the involvement of our younger actors. From day one Lewis set a high standard for the all the cast in his delivery, and succeeded in being a plucky hero and a noble-minded son and citizen. Daniel, yo-yo maestro, had the strength of character to step up to the mark when the most unglamorous of roles, the

back end of a cow, was needed. Alice and Ellie were the very embodiment of cuteness and personality. William has grown from the most nervous of dancing chickens to the most outrageous. I think the rest of us should applaud our youngsters."

These sentiments were shared by the audience too, with one review praising the panto's return. "What a wonderful pantomime we were treated to at the Village Hall this weekend after 4 years' absence. What a way to take away the January blues!"

## Re-launch of the 200 Club

**Originally launched in 2002, the 200 club ran for almost 20 years raising around £15,000 for Gawsworth Church.**

The club was run by Ray Bowers for 18 years until the last draw in February 2020 when it was suspended with the COVID lockdown.

Four years on the first draw takes place this month, now under the stewardship of Ken

Williams. Anyone can join the club for a chance to win £15-£35 (depending on the number of subscribers) whilst supporting St James' Church.

To join, simply send a cheque for £12 (or multiples thereof for more entries) to 8 New Street Havannah, Congleton, CW12 2NF or to a Church Warden. Include your name, address and telephone number.

"There was some amazing acting, singing and comical acts.....as well as the yo-yo skills of the multi character performing Daniel! Idle Jack was definitely not true to that description, acting from the beginning to the end of the Panto!"

"Hats off to the costume designers and makers, the lighting/sound and scenery teams, the live music performers and the directors to keep it all on track!"



## Opening Hours

Monday	08:00 – 13:30
Tuesday	08:00 – 13:30
Wednesday	08:00 – 13:30
Thursday	08:00 – 16:00
Friday	08:00 – 16:00
Saturday	08:00 – 16:00
Sunday	08:00 – 10:30

# News from the Hub

***Eighty-four Gawsworth residents welcomed in the new year in style with a fabulous New Years Eve party in the Village Hall.***

There were decorations, a DJ, hotpot, homemade apple pie, a quiz and lots and lots of dancing. A huge thanks to everyone who helped deliver the event making it a fabulous night to remember.

January has been a quieter month so far for activities at the Hub. The repair café went well on the 6th January. Don't forget we now have a volunteer who can fix

laptops and PC issues. The watercolour course starts again on the 24th of January for four fortnightly sessions and silk painting is booked for 30th Jan and 27th February. These are all now fully booked but please get in touch if you're interested in future sessions and leave your details for us to contact you.

### **Bridge and Mahjong**

We have been donated equipment to set up a bridge club and were hoping to start in January. This is currently on hold but if you would like to learn how

to play, we could look at getting a beginners group up and running. This is also the case with Mahjong. A few have shown interest in playing this game originating in the far east. Please get in touch with Lorinda at the Hub if you are interested.

The next Village Night Out will be on Saturday 27th April - a Supper Night with Quiz, so please put it in your diary. There are several other Nights Out and events being planned so watch out for details of these too.

If there are any events or activities you would like to see or help with then please get in touch at [volunteering@gawsworthhub.co.uk](mailto:volunteering@gawsworthhub.co.uk).

## Lend a hand with Ranger Mark

***In February there are two opportunities to get your hands dirty and help make little changes to Gawsworth with Parish Ranger Mark.***

On Saturday 10th February (10am) Mark will be siding out the hedge in front of the village hall clearing the build up of soil from both sides to reduce its encroachment.

Then on Saturday 24th (10am) he will be creating a wildflower meadow on the large verge on Woodhouse Lane.

If you can join him to make these jobs take less time, we would be extremely grateful!

## Gawsworth Diary

***Here's the run down of what's going on in Gawsworth in February.***

Every Thursday (exc. 15th)  
Methodist Church Coffee Mornings, 10am

Every Thursday 7pm  
Gawsworth Scouts

Every Monday  
Gawsworth Beavers 6pm  
Gawsworth Cubs 7pm

Every Tuesday 6pm  
Girls Brigade @ Methodist Hall

Saturday 3rd 2pm-4pm  
Repair Cafe @ Gawsworth Hub

Tuesday 6th 7:30pm  
Gawsworth WI @ the Village Hall

Wednesday 7th & 21st 2pm-4pm  
Watercolour painting workshop @ Gawsworth Hub\*

Wednesday 14th 2pm-4pm  
Knit & Knatter @ Gawsworth Hub

Thursday 15th 10am  
Luncheon Club @ Methodist Hall  
Call 01625 433 239 to book

Saturday 24th 10am  
Garden Club visit to Dunham Massey Winter Garden. Meet @ Hub for car share.

Tuesday 27th 2pm-5pm  
Silk painting @ Gawsworth Hub\*

\* See Diane @ Gawsworth Hub to book.



# Parish Council Budget

**Gawsworth Parish Council set its 2024/25 budget in January. Here's what it means for residents.**

Every January, Gawsworth PC sets a budget and determines how much it needs to raise through council tax for the new financial year (which commences on 1st April). All parish councils are able to raise a precept – this is an amount it tells the principal council (in our case Cheshire East) to collect on its behalf as part of the total council tax.

From 1st April the Gawsworth precept increases by £3,944 to £33,134. This means a Band D property will pay just £40.27 per year to fund the parish council, an increase of £4.92.

The precept funds 93% the council's activity: this includes maintaining the park and Nancy's Wood, funding the parish ranger service, providing Christmas lights, maintaining its four streetlights, and delivering on its strategic plan to improve the parish.

The council's budget is available to review on the Gawsworth Life website and the council is happy to answer any questions residents may have.

If you have any queries about the budget, just email the clerk on [clerk@gawsworthpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gawsworthpc.org.uk)



# Village Hall gets AV system

Our Village Hall has a brand-new audiovisual system which opens up new possibilities for events at this popular village venue.

Hirers can Bluetooth music from their phones to the system and speakers at meetings can use a microphone so they can be easily heard.

The digital projector opens up the possibility of film nights and

## Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on Thursday 1st and 22nd February.

streaming live TV.

Village Hall Chairperson Clair Dempsey said "We are pleased to offer this fantastic new facility for the community and are very grateful to the John Upton Charity for their generous donation towards the cost".

The installation was undertaken by Bailey Audio Systems.

# Cheshire East Boundary Review

**The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has commenced its review of Cheshire East.**

Similar to the review undertaken of parish governance recently, a review is now taking place of the electoral governance of Cheshire East and the LGBCE is seeking initial views from residents to help shape its initial proposals.

The review expects to retain the current number of councillors (82) but will ensure they are distributed commensurate with the population. The last review,

when Cheshire East was created, saw the creation of Gawsworth Moss as a parish ward and its placement in the Macclesfield South ward of Cheshire East.

Under proposals being put forward by Cheshire East Council, this area could be placed back into the Gawsworth CE ward with other minor changes to the Gawsworth CE ward. The Parish Council will discuss the review at its February meeting.

You can find out more and provide initial input at: <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/cheshire-east>

# Gawsworth's Mobile Library Service

**Villagers queued up to return their books and pick up their next read when the Cheshire East mobile library visited Gawsworth in January.**

The mobile library service visits rural communities on a three-weekly rotation and is in Gawsworth on a Thursday from

3:45pm to 4:10pm. The next visits are 1st and 22nd February and you'll find the bus on Church Lane, opp. Warren Drive.

A broad range of books are stocked for children and adults and if you are not already a member of the CEC libraries service, you can join on the bus!



## Latest Planning Applications

You can view details of planning applications at: [planning.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://planning.cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**23/4775M - Green Acre, Congleton Road** Certificate of lawful proposed development for single storey rear extension and rear dormer.

**23/4783M - Beech Cottage, Church Lane** Proposed single storey rear extension, proposed new front porch and proposed PV arrays.



## Parish Council Online

*The Parish Council thinks open and easy access to its meetings is very important and many residents who can't attend the village hall in person regularly tune in to watch via Zoom or Facebook, there comments can also be made on what is discussed.*

The council invested in good quality streaming equipment wanting to ensure that as many people as possible could listen in and contribute to council meetings.

We have had some reports of technical problems with the Facebook audio stream but it's not clear what the problem is. The old trick of switching your device off and back on could solve it or connect through Zoom. The stream is constantly monitored by the clerk and if you think there's a problem at the council end you can send him a message through Facebook comments.

The next Parish Council meeting is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th February.

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## Footpath survey commences

*A Parish Council led project to survey Gawsworth's public rights of way has commenced with volunteers surveying the first six paths.*

The aim of the survey is to identify where improvements to public rights of way can be made - such as through better waymarking or repairing gates and stiles.

The surveys are being undertaken by councillors and residents on the council's Footpaths working group. The group is tackling all 35 footpaths and bridleways in the parish.

The group will then be pulling the data together to create a footpath improvement plan and the council will work with Cheshire East Council and landowners to deliver improvements.

Later in the year the group will begin exploring how the network of PROW could be enhanced with permissive paths or the registration of missing footpaths.

**07889 784624**

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