



Gawsworth Gazette

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Christmas Crackers a Triumph!

The Christmas Crackers event on the 7th December at the Village Hall was another triumph for the team that promotes events for the Hub.

The proceeds raised were for the Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal, the Hub and the Hub's volunteer social fund.

The hall was filled to capacity with an enthusiastic audience who were treated to a wide range of entertainment from many different age groups.

Presented by two dapper comperes, we had a masterclass yo-yo demonstration, recitations about a love for Bruce Springsteen, a reflection on hats, a Victoria Wood Christmas poem and the ever popular "The Lion and Albert".

We had a special comedic



interpretation of the news, a version of Morecambe and Wise's breakfast sketch and the ever-popular Interlude song revived from the pantomime in January.

Musically, there was a hilarious version of Barry and Freda, a foot tapping rendition of the Dark Strutters ball, the amusing Christmas Waits, a surprise

appearance from Tom Jones and two dramatic performances of songs from Shrek and the Lion King. There was also audience involvement singing Christmas songs and carols accompanied by the wonderful band.

Thanks to everyone involved and who helped on the night.

'The council'

There's much talk in the press about local government, possible reorganisations and proposed new ways of doing things.

We want the potholes fixed, the gulleys flushed clear and to be able to walk along the pavements without having to step out into a busy main road. 'The Council' is responsible for all that and more,

but which council?

Who represents us? What is the difference between 'Gawsworth' ward at Cheshire East and 'Gawsworth Parish', which is your ultra local council?

Well, the responsibility for maintaining our local infrastructure rests with Cheshire East Council and we are represented by our 'ward councillors'.

Cllr Lesley Smetham represents 'Gawsworth' which covers Gawsworth village and the wider rural area of the parish as well as several other villages between Macclesfield and Congleton.

Two more, Cllrs Brian Puddicombe and Fiona Wilson cover 'Macclesfield South' ward, which includes the Penningtons Lane part of Gawsworth.

You can contact them and [cont...]

Consultations

Letting councils know your views is an important part of our democracy.

Of course your opinion may not prevail, and there won't be enough money to do everything we'd like them to but they need to know our views if they are to act in our interests.

You can always contact your Cheshire East or Parish Councillors to discuss issues that concern you but responding to formal consultations is also important.

The Parish Council is planning a consultation on Gawsworth matters in 2025 and Cheshire East runs a variety of consultations that you can access on their website.

Current Cheshire East consultations that you might be interested in contributing to are:

Cheshire East Council Budget Engagement for 2025 to 2029

Residents are being asked to share their views on the council setting a budget that safeguards essential services it is required to provide by law such as children's and adult social care.

What do you think the council should prioritise when making its financial decisions?

Draft Housing Strategy

How are you and your family served by the current choice, quality, and supply of housing in Gawsworth? Are the options for older people and those starting out adequate?

The Parish Council will be considering its response to this consultation at its January meeting.

Pharmacy Needs Assessment

A community pharmacy or chemist is where you get a prescription dispensed, buy medicines, or ask a pharmacist for advice. You can complete an anonymous survey about your own experience and views which will help produce an assessment of local pharmaceutical services.

Home Repairs and Adaptations Policy Consultation

This policy sets out several ways the council helps disabled and vulnerable residents to manage their own care and wellbeing at home, by funding repairs and adaptations to their homes. Cheshire East is proposing to amend this policy so it can meet the severe financial pressures it faces. It proposes to focus resources on statutory services, and on the most vulnerable residents.

What do you think?

'The council'

[continued from cover] ask them to take up matters on your behalf. The easiest way to report issues such as potholes, overgrown pavements, road safety concerns, flooded roads, fly tipping and posters, planning approval comments etc. etc. is using the Cheshire East Council website.

Gawsworth Parish Council covers Gawsworth parish. It comprises nine parish councillors and a part time clerk and is much, much smaller than Cheshire East Council! The parish council is only responsible for Gawsworth park, the Pleasance/Memorial Green and Nancy's Wood. It is the parish council that is managing the major refurbishment of the park play area that's coming in

2025. The Parish Council can also represent the interests of local residents and try to influence decisions made in the higher tier. So, it was the Parish Council that pushed for Cheshire East Highways to visit Gawsworth and share the plans for safety work at Gawsworth Crossroads creating the opportunity for residents to air their views and experiences.



Litter Picker Luke

Luke wanted a litter picker for his birthday and put it to good use in December when he went out litter picking with his grandparents!

Luke, along with grandma Anne and grandpa Paul, picked litter from a section of Congleton Road from Maggoty Lane to the Harrington Arms.

Grandpa Paul shared the picture on social media with many taking time to express their thanks.

"What a very special boy, well done Luke" commented Edith Moores.

Gawsworth WI Report

For their last meeting of 2024, the WI was entertained by the Bear Town Ukés.

They have played for the WI before and they were just as good as last time.

Audience participation is all part of the fun and we were foot tapping, clapping and singing along. There will be no WI meeting in January but they



start again at the beginning of February.

In December, Ladies that Lunch visited the Aviator, Woodford.

The Christmas Fayre held in

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on Thursday 23rd.

November raised £871.79 for the WI which will go towards running the WI for another year.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported them on such a dreadful wet and windy day.

Fatal Accident

The Chester Courant reported of an accident that took place as a Thomas Green of Gawsworth was returning from Macclesfield Market.

It was 23rd September 1817 when Thomas was returning in his market cart along with his wife. Isaac Broadhurst, servant to Mr Amos Slater, of Gawsworth, was driving his master's cart and "came in contact with that of Green" whilst Thomas had stopped to pay the toll at the Moss bar.

The collision was "with such violence that Green was thrown out, whereby his head was fractured, and in consequence of it he died on Tuesday last." After a coroner's investigation of two days, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Broadhurst, who was committed to Chester Castle ahead of his trial at the next assize.

Our thanks to Lorinda Sutton for sending us this snippet from the past. Amos Slater and Thomas Broadhurst both feature in her family tree.

The Courant started as Adams's Weekly Journal in 1732, and following its name change in 1793 was published until 1984.

Gawsworth welcomes 2025

At this time of New Year Resolutions it's worth a pause to see how we, as a community, are progressing towards our aims.

The Parish Council set out the latest strategic plan for Gawsworth in 2023 and it will run through to 2027 when the next scheduled elections take place.

Read the full details on the new Gawsworth Life Website in the Parish Council Section.

The vision for Gawsworth talks of a better cared for parish, an enhanced natural environment supported by community-wide initiatives. It hopes for a healthy and resilient community, access to affordable housing and improved active travel networks and accessibility across the parish.

It also refers to influencing planning and of a welcoming rural feel across the entire parish. The vision sees a strong civil society with an actively engaged community and partnership

working across our various organisations.

The plan sets out strategic aims and each year the Parish Council reviews progress and sets priorities for the coming year. Back in May a challenging list of 16 actions was set for 2024 - 2025 (read them in the May minutes on the website).

The improvement scheme for the park must be the highlight achievement with the consultation being completed and, exceeding the goals, grants and funding obtained for the major refurbishment to get underway in a few months time.

Other actions are underway, but not yet completed, like the Public Rights of Way and Green Gawsworth work and establishing improved working between the Parish Council and community groups.

So, still plenty to set our minds to in 2025 towards the vision for Gawsworth.

Can you imagine a Gawsworth without the Hub?

As we look back on the year at the Hub, we are pleased to have had another successful year.

Many people will not be aware of all the tasks and work that is carried out to ensure that Gawsworth continues to have a Hub which provides a shop, café and meeting place.

Apart from the people you see serving in the shop and café there are others that carry out many other unseen tasks.

Volunteers arrive early in the morning to sort out the newspapers and early morning deliveries before the shop is

open. After closing, the floors have to be swept and mopped, dishes and cups washed and put away and the kitchen cleaned, unsold papers are returned. Orders have to be placed for stock and some has to be collected from various suppliers. The stock has to be put away and stored, entered into the Epos system and shelves replenished.

There are people working on the accounts, marketing the Hub, maintaining the premises, ensuring all the bills are paid. There is a board of directors ensuring the Hub continues to be run in the best way.

Hub 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

So please continue to use the Hub, it ensures that we continue to have a place where people can meet and say hello. Better still, if you would like to volunteer, please let us know.

Can you imagine a Gawsworth without the Hub?

Next Council Meeting

The next meeting of Gawsworth Parish Council will be Tuesday 11th January at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

As ever, the meeting starts with a period of public speaking for residents to raise any matters.

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