Gawsworth Gazette

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Chief Constable visits Gawsworth School



Gawsworth Primary School recently welcomed Chief Constable Mark Roberts and colleagues from Cheshire Police for a special visit as part of his retirement celebrations.

The visit came about thanks to Florence in Year 2, who wrote to Mr Roberts inviting him to the school. Staff and pupils were delighted when he accepted and included Gawsworth in his retirement tour.

During an assembly, children learned about the important work of Cheshire Police and heard about the wide range of careers within policing. The excitement continued with opportunities to meet officers, try on police uniforms, explore police vehicles and meet the police dogs.

The visit also gave the school a chance to celebrate Chief Constable Roberts' 33 years of dedicated service. Pupils presented him with a retirement card filled with messages of thanks and best wishes.

A huge thank you to Chief Constable Mark Roberts and his team for making the day so memorable, and well done to Florence for showing how one thoughtful letter can create an unforgettable opportunity for an entire school community.

Bingo's a hit

Gawsworth Hub brought 132 players together for an evening buzzing with excitement, laughter and a fantastic community spirit at Gawsworth Scout Hall.

The evening was packed with fabulous prizes for the Line and house games, raffle and golden ticket, including some very generous high-value vouchers for local pubs and meals out. Maud and Sybil certainly stole the show in their extravagant, brightly coloured costumes, keeping everyone entertained, while Russell, our bingo caller, kept us all on our toes!

One of the highlights of the evening was undoubtedly the auction of a bottle of craft gin generously donated and personally signed by Katherine Jenkins. This very special prize helped raise money for the West Warriors and their MND fundraising a truly worthy cause. It was also special that Janet won the golden ticket prize, being close to a big birthday celebration.

A huge thank you goes to James Walker for sourcing so many wonderful prizes, and to everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a success. We raised a significant amount towards plans for the new kitchen at the rear of the Hub.

This exciting renovation will create a larger, more practical space for our volunteers and help us serve both our café customers and takeaway trade more efficiently.

It was a fantastic night of fundraising, fun and village spirit. Thank you to everyone who played their part!

Produce Show wows judges

Organisers praised the amazing turnout for the annual produce show in September.

Despite the drought, resident growers, makers, bakers, snappers and painters entered some stunning exhibits which presented our judges with their toughest challenge yet to decide on who should carry off the awards this year.

New categories revealed some incredible talent, Dy Mitchell winning the art category with her delicate watercolours, Gill Biddulph scooping up the prize for her Chocolate Cake and Diane Lynch winning over the photography judge with her entries.

Daniel Thornicroft took home the Vegetable Cup, Joyce Venables the Houseplants Cup, Edith Bullock the Floral Cup and Jenny Thompstone was awarded the Cup for Miniature Garden on a Plate.

As ever, the Children's categories were great fun and so inventive: Lucy Hughes took the 4-7 years prize for a Bug Hotel and Alice Bailey's decorated cakes won a well-deserved 8-12 yrs Cup. The popular spread of preserves, from chutneys and jams to marmalades and curds was won by Sue Mealor, with Rachel Tandy taking home the prize for the classic show piece, the Victoria Sandwich.

Overall win on points for the Best in Show was awarded to Brenda Hughes for her outstanding



entries of fruit and vegetables. Refreshments were popular as usual, specially baked cakes were provided by Baked by Bean.

Gawsworth Gardeners will be planting bulbs around the village. Enquire at the Hub if you would like to join them.

Churchyard Extension moves forward

Plans to ensure continued provision of burial space in Gawsworth took a step forward in October.

The Diocese of Chester has agreed to sell Gawsworth Church of St James land for an extension of the churchyard for £30,000, with the costs being part funded by a resident donating £25,000 to the church.

In October, Gawsworth Parish Council discussed a request from the Church that it undertake to fund the maintenance of the churchyard to facilitate an extension.

Rector of St James Church, Rev Colin Wilson, attended the Parish Council's October meeting on behalf of the Parochial Church Council. It was stated that the PCC would continue to be responsible for maintaining the existing churchyard and would bear responsibility for funding and securing planning permission and necessary consents for the extension.

Rev Wilson highlighted that the churchyard operates at a deficit but the PCC had agreed to extend the churchyard if the Parish Council committed to underwriting the costs of maintaining the extension.

The Parish Council agreed, subject to a formal agreement being approved, to give a perpetual undertaking to fund the maintenance of the churchyard extension subject to the agreement setting out that the specification and costs shall be reviewed from time-to-time by the Parish Council and Parochial Church Council and set by mutual agreement with both parties acting reasonably.



Christmas Lights Change

The Gawsworth Arch will not be making a return for 2026.

At its October meeting, Gawsworth Parish Council decided it was not cost-effective to replace lighting arch over Church Lane.

The lights were last installed in 2024 and were defective through most of Christmas 2025. The arch lights had previously been reinstalled in 2021. The lights, which were wrapped around the trees, suffer damage from squirrels, wind and tree movement.

The damage required a complete replacement at a cost of around £2,000 – with the possibility that they would only last one or two seasons.

Instead, the Parish Council will be buying an increased number of lights for installation around the Pleasance, to ensure the village continues to have a striking festive display.

This year the Penningtons Lane Christmas Tree will also be mains powered, enhancing the display throughout the festive evenings.

Mobile Library

The mobile library will be on Church Lane from 3:45 to 4:10 on 5th and 26th November.

Christmas Lights Switch On

The Gawsworth Christmas Lights will be switched on at 5pm on Saturday 5th December.

A competition will be running for children to win a chance to switch on the lights with information being shared via the school, Scouts and Hub.

After the switch-on, the Gawsworth School choir will perform a couple of Christmas songs at the village hall, followed by a Christmas sing-along with the Bear Town Ukes ukulele band.

Peak Cluster Consultation

A consultation on the revised Peak Cluster Pipeline plans starts on 12th November.

The company is seeking feedback on updates to the area within which it proposes to build permanent infrastructure in the consultation which runs until 18th December.

This includes seeking views on the revised route, location of above ground installations, block valve stations and temporary access areas.

Changes to the route were announced in September.

A consultation event is being hosted in Gawsworth Scout Hall on 20th November.

Each session will start with a presentation on the project followed an opportunity to ask the project team questions.

The sessions are scheduled for 0945, 1215, 1515 and 1815. A webinar is also being hosted for Cheshire on 30th November at 1830.

Booking is required for all sessions, visit the Peak Cluster consultation website for more information.

Christmas Crackers Returns

The village entertainment celebrating the Christmas season is back, with songs and sketches performed by members of our talented community.

There will be old familiar songs for the audience to sing along with, as well as some less well-known ones, and plenty of laughs from the sketches, all written specially for the occasion. Our regular 6-piece band will be there, with familiar faces from the pantomime, and some new ones!

The proceeds from the show will be divided between the Hub and the Salvation Army's Crisis at Christmas Appeal.

The event takes place on Saturday 12th December at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Tickets are £12 for adults and £6 for under 16s. Tickets include a glass of wine, or soft drink, and a mince pie at the interval.

Make a note in your diary and get your tickets from the Hub this November.

Santa plans visit to Gawsworth

Get ready for some festive Disney magic as Santa and his Disney pals visit Gawsworth.

All children are welcome, and we'd love to see them dressed as their favourite Disney character. Every child will receive a sweet treat from Father Christmas, with festive fun for all the family.

The Tractor run takes place on December 13th from 2pm. More details in the next edition of the *Gawsworth Gazette*.

Festive Events and Updates at Gawsworth Hub

The festive season is officially on its way, and our community-owned Hub is packed with wonderful events, workshops, and activities to help you get into the holiday spirit while supporting a great local space.

Art Exhibition & Christmas Shopping Extravaganza

Visit the Hub on November 20th from 5-8pm to admire fantastic artwork by our local watercolour group - with the opportunity to purchase your favourite pieces!

While you're there, browse the Hub for early Christmas gifts and hampers to help you beat the holiday rush.

Wood Whittling Workshop

Looking to try something unique this season? On November 30th go along for a hands-on afternoon of creativity where you can learn new skills and carve your very own Christmas mouse.

New Year's Eve Party

Celebrate the ringing in of the new year! Our traditional New Year's Eve Party will be held at the village hall, and tickets will be going on sale soon at the Hub.

Seated Exercise with Liv

There are still spaces available for Liv's seated exercise class on Mondays from 2-3pm. This class combines physical movement with engaging brain exercises to challenge both body and mind, all while enjoying great company. To join, contact Liv directly at 07717048935.

Festive stock and seasonal treats will be arriving in the shop soon! Plus, make sure to plan your holiday meals by keeping an eye out for details on how to order your Christmas turkeys from Platts Farm.

Don't forget to purchase your raffle tickets! This special event directly supports the volunteer social fund, allowing the Hub to say a heartfelt thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who keep our community thriving.

Whether you pop in for a coffee at the café, pick up your groceries, take part in an activity, or attend a fundraising event, your support helps us continue to grow and provide a warm, welcoming space for everyone in our village.

Shop 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 - 13:00
Sunday	08:00 - 10:30

Walking group visit Biddulph Grange Gardens

Gawsworth Hub volunteers' walking group enjoyed a lovely social outing at the end of September, with 11 heading to the beautiful Biddulph Grange Gardens.

There was plenty to explore as they wandered through the gardens, identified flowers and admired the spectacular dahlia displays.

They also enjoyed discovering the kitchen garden and the fascinating stumpery, before taking a look at the archaeological exhibition.

Naturally, no outing would be complete without refreshments, so they finished the visit with a well-deserved cup of tea and cake at the National Trust shop. It was a lovely opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, spend time together and discover somewhere special right on our doorstep.



Remembrance Display

St James Church is hosting a striking Remembrance display.

Visit the church to see the display created by the congregation, with thanks to Tom and Isobel and team.

