

Contacts – Village Organisations

ORGANISATION & MEETINGS		Contact	
1 st Gotherington Beaver Scouts	Fri	Ady Joy –	(07795 097704)
1 st Gotherington Cub Scouts	Thu	Sarah Phillips –	(07899 885294)
1 st Gotherington Cub Scouts	Fri	Michelle Rails –	(07748 536510)
1 st Gotherington Scout Troop	Fri	Craig Sprigmore –	(678423)
Membership/waiting list enquiries		membership@1stgotherington.org.uk	
1 st Gotherington Brownies	Mon 6.00pm	Kirsten Stillman (673218)	
1 st Gotherington Rainbows	Mon 3.30pm	Kirsten Stillman (673218)	
Cricket Club		Colin Ralph (673046) / Brian Cosgrove (676216)	
Church of England Churchwardens (Woolstone)		Richard Reakes (675559) richard.vicarage@gmail.com Sarah Whitehead (674489) / Michael. Bower (672900)	
Football Club (Junior)		Rob Sharp (678057)	
Gardening Club	3rd Wed 8pm	Rob Cronin (321644) / Pam Howell (673015)	
Gotherington Singers	1 st , 3 rd & 5 th Mon 8pm	Sue Adamson (676087) sueada@icloud.com	
Local History Society	4th Tue 8pm	Caroline Meller (677489) / Jill Collins (672848)	
Parent and Toddler Group	Tue, Fri 9.30am	Katie Tuffery 07793 885847	
Neighbourhood Watch		John Hicks (676848) / Mary Manders-Trett (674592) Howard Samuels (672492) / Phil Smith (672970) Les Howard 677949 / Berian Thomas 674397	
Oxenton Village Hall Oxenton Village Bookings		Chairman: Simon Doble (678179) / Secretary: Linda Howard Valerie Martin (673233)	
Parish Council	2nd Tue 7.30pm	David Hearn (674408) david@hearn.demon.co.uk Jules Owen (07850 505058) gotheringtonpc@gmail.com	
Parochial Church Council Secretary		Sarah Whitehead (674489)	
Playing Field/Rex Rhodes Building Bookings		Bev Osborne (675741)	
Petanque Club	Sun, Wed, Fri	David Ward on (675080)/Christine Godsell (672821)	
Rec. Club (For Nov 5 th Bonfire)		Gary Thompson (676708) / Robert Swinson (675693)	
Tennis Club		Ian Donnelly (674404)	
Village Hall (Gotherington)	Committee Secretary Bookings co-ordinator Treasurer	Peter Price-Thomas / Bev Osborne (675741) Christine Godsell (672821) Bev Osborne (675741) Howard Samuels (672492)	
Village Hall Coffee Mornings. 1st Sat excl Jan & Aug		Christine Godsell (672821)/ Bev Osborne (675741)	
Wine Club	Chairperson 3rd Tue 8pm Secretary	Howard Samuels (672492) hsamuels@btinternet.com Christine Godsell (672821) candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk	
W.I.	4th Wed 7.30pm President Secretary Treasurer	Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sall.newbury@gmail.com Sue Freeman (01242 679518) - kingslea@fsmail.net Myra Card - myracard123@tiscali.co.uk	



Gotherington Topics Summer 2017

YOUR VILLAGE REFERENDUM

It is everyone's responsibility to protect our village.

Be sure to vote on 20th July.

The Editor

Proud sponsors of Gotherington Topics

- Experienced and friendly staff
- Specialist mortgage advice
- Extensive advertising
- Superb display facilities
- No Sale, no fee

Andrews

T: 01242 675491

E: bishopsleeve@andrewsonline.co.uk

GOTHERINGTON TOPICS SUMMER 2017 INDEX

<i>Brownies</i>	<i>Page 4</i>
<i>Church Of England - News From The Vicar!</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
<i>Cricket Club</i>	<i>Page 6</i>
<i>Gardening Club</i>	<i>Page 7</i>
<i>Gotherington Nurseries</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
<i>Gotherington Primary School</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>Gotherington Singers</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
GOWNS	<i>Page 15</i>
<i>Junior Football Club</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
<i>Local History Society</i>	<i>Page 11</i>
<i>Neighbourhood Development Plan – Village Referendum</i>	<i>Page 3</i>
<i>Neighbourhood watch</i>	<i>Page 15</i>
<i>Parent and Toddler Group</i>	<i>Page 14</i>
<i>Parish Council Report</i>	<i>Page 13</i>
<i>Petanque Club</i>	<i>Page 16</i>
<i>Teenage Cancer Trust</i>	<i>Page 12</i>
<i>Tennis Club</i>	<i>Page 17</i>
<i>Village Hall Coffee Mornings</i>	<i>Page 19</i>
<i>Village Hall Committee Report</i>	<i>Page 18</i>
<i>War Memorial Summer Planting</i>	<i>Page 16</i>
<i>Website Update – Village & Parish Council</i>	<i>Page 9</i>
<i>W.I.</i>	<i>Page 20</i>
<i>Wine Club</i>	<i>Page 21</i>

TOPICS OF INTEREST

Topics is distributed to everyone in our three villages in Spring, Summer, and Winter.

The next edition (Autumn 2017) is due out during the week starting 23rd October 2017.

You can find the most recent edition of Topics on the village website at www.gotherington.org.uk

Contributions for Topics should be emailed to the Editor at gotherington.topics@gmail.com

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Rodney Churchill	662837
Les Howard	677949
David Hearn (Chairman)	674408
David Ward	675080
Caroline Ryman	673707
Sylvia Stokes (Vice-chairman)	674310
Beverley Osborne	675741
Howard Samuels	672492

Contacts – General

Gotherington P.O. & Stores	(672249) www.gotheringtonvillagestore.co.uk
Gotherington Nurseries	(676722) www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk
The Shutters	(01242 673122)
Gotherington Primary School	(675454)
Doctor's Stoke Road	(674676)
Doctor's Greyholme Surgery	(672669)
Out of Hours Medical Services	(08454 220220)
Hospital Transport (Gill Lofts)	(674129)
GOWNS	(07752 152485)
Village Agent	(07810 630244) or 01452 426868
Borough Councillor Mel Gore	(07970 429832) melgore33@btinternet.com
County Councillor Rob Bird	(07711 269 096) robert.bird@gloucestershire.gov.uk
Garden House Nursery School	(07913256364/01386 81886)
Creative Writing Classes	(677170) amanda.reynolds@live.co.uk
Yoga [Tuesdays] Sarah Martin	(269765) sarahmartinyoga@hotmail.co.uk

AND FINALLY, IF YOU'VE MADE IT THIS FAR.....


Then you deserve a prize for your commitment and dedication!

What's more, you probably don't need this final reminder to vote in the Village Referendum.

However, the same commitment and dedication that brought you to this page means that you are the ideal type of person to remind your friends and neighbours on 20th July to get out and cast their votes with you.

There will be some in the village who will say - "Oh no, not another election". Well, we heard that on the BBC News not so long ago and look where that got us!

**Don't be like Brenda in Bristol.
Yes, we know it's another Election
But this one is really important!**



CAST YOUR VOTE ON 20TH JULY

GOTHERINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

*I am sure that you are all aware that our NDP has now successfully passed the inspection stage and moved to the referendum stage. The Referendum will be organised in the same way as local government elections with voting taking place in the Village Hall on **Thursday 20th July**.*

During the inspection stage, the following changes were made:

- i) The Inspector recommended that the Settlement Boundary be updated to show the sites where planning permission had already been agreed by Tewkesbury Borough Council. These sites are:
 - a) Land to the north of Gretton Road for 10 dwellings. (This number could increase).*
 - b) Land to the south of Malleson Road for 50 houses*
 - c) Land to the north of Malleson Road for about 6 houses.**
- ii) The Inspector ruled out the Meadow as a Local Green Space leaving Freeman Field as our only "local green space"*

The latest version of the GNDP is available at the Village Stores, the Village Hall and the Shutters. Please examine these documents to assure yourselves that its contents fulfil your vision for the future of our village.

The referendum is very important because, if more than 50% of those voting are in favour, it will have "full weight" and become part of the Tewkesbury Borough Plan. This would mean it must be considered in any planning application.

SO PLEASE VOTE ON THURSDAY 20TH JULY.

If anyone requires transport to the Village Hall on Referendum Day, please contact GOWNS on 07752 152485 and they will be happy to help.

*The final stage will be for our NDP to be formally adopted by the TBC which will take place around 19th September 2017. However, the NDP will have **full weight** immediately after a successful referendum.*

David Ward, GNDP Chairman

GOTHERINGTON BROWNIES

Contact Kirsten Stillman tel 673218 or email gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk

We have been celebrating our 50th year with a party, an adventurous PGL weekend where the girls (and leaders) had a go at abseiling, climbing, fencing and archery to name a few of the exciting activities. We have had a special badge made, designed by Millie who won our design competition. Lots of fun activities have been completed to earn our Boomps A Daisy badge, including making hobby horses and a race course out of recycled materials, creating Eton Mess and mocktails, and lots of fun games.

Brownies meet on Mondays in the village hall from 6-7.30pm and we welcome all girls between the ages of 7 and 10. We currently have a full pack, but we hold a waiting list so if your daughter would like to join, please contact us on the email address above.

Kirsten

GOTHERINGTON RAINBOWS

Contact Kirsten Stillman tel 673218 or email gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk

We have some new Rainbows who have just made their Promise bringing our numbers up to 20. The girls have enjoyed collecting natural materials to make a collage, have learned new cake decorating skills as well as playing new games and learning songs which have earned them some lovely badges.

Rainbows are aged 5-7 years, and we meet in the village hall from 3.30-4.45pm on Mondays. We hold a waiting list, and it's a good idea to get girls' names down early to ensure that they can start when they turn 5. Please give me a call if you would like further information.

Kirsten

WINE CLUB

Contact: Christine Godsell on 672821 or candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk
www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club

The summer is upon us and that means the annual outing in August which will be a coach trip to Blenheim Palace on Tuesday 15th August.

We also plan to have a BBQ evening on Tuesday 18th July at the Sports Pavilion - a time for reflection and plenty of wine!

Don't forget that every 3rd Tuesday at 8pm at the Village Hall, the Wine Club meet to enjoy different wines, often with guest speakers who share their experience and bring along some unusual wine for us to taste. The evening finishes off with a ploughman's supper, more wine, lots of chatter and possible sore heads next morning!

Since the last Topics we have had the Supermarket Challenge between Marks & Spencer and Waitrose and it was very close who came out as winners. Waitrose just pipped it.

In April, we had the 'Murder Mystery Evening' - another lovely event with plenty of laughter and a big thank you to those who played the suspects. In May, we had Ken Sheather talking about Romanian Wines - a fascinating evening, and the wines that Ken brought along for us to sample were all very good.

Before the BBQ in July and the outing in August we have our June meeting which we have called 'Dessert Island Discs' and instead of ploughman's we are having lots of homemade desserts with fruit wine. I'll let you know how that went in the next edition of Topics.

On September 19th we resume in the Village Hall with 'Fizzy Wines' - you'll need to come along and find out what that is all about...!

We have a web site and a facebook page with up to date information so please have a look at that and if anything takes your fancy we would be very pleased to see you at one of our club sessions.

Howard Samuels, Chairperson

GOTHERINGTON, WOOLSTONE & OXENTON W.I.

Contacts President - Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sall.newbury@gmail.com
Secretary - Rachel Slater (07884343612) - rachel.slater@btinternet.com
Treasurer - Myra Card - myracard123@tiscali.co.uk

Earlier in the year we heard about the history and service of the Sue Ryder Hospice from Alicia Cameron Price, an enthusiastic speaker who stressed that the hospice is a sociable place, full of laughter and hope. And Malcolm Sadler spoke to us about the history of surnames and how to trace a Family Tree, which may be getting more difficult as more people enter into relationships without getting married. We had our usual lovely birthday party in April, with delicious food and fun and games. In May, we learned how to Belly Dance our way through the housework! Belly Dancing actually improves flexibility and balance and strengthens the core muscles. On a very warm evening, many chose to remain seated but all joined in, smiling, laughing, performing the moves and generally having fun!

We have enjoyed a trip to the Everyman and a skittles evening at The Shutter to practise for the GFWI Skittles Tournament. Two teams took part in the GFWI Quiz Competition, one going through to the next round. The Annual Council Meeting in the Town Hall included two excellent guest speakers – Lady Bathurst and the historian Lucy Worsley. Courses on making willow garden structures and building a bug house produced impressive results. Monthly pub lunches are well attended and lunches have also been enjoyed at Rosie and John's. Weekly art sessions are held in Oxenton Village Hall. We are not experts but enjoy painting for pleasure and any members who would like to join in would be most welcome. Future meetings will include a Garden Meeting in Oxenton and talks entitled 'To Cornwall and Back', Work of the John Moore Museum' and 'The History of Aromatherapy' in July, August and September.

We meet in Gotherington Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday of the month and new members and visitors are always very welcome – we look forward to seeing you!

Jill Parsons

NEWS FROM THE VICAR!

Contact: email: richard.vicarage@gmail.com or phone: 01242 675559
Churchwardens (Woolstone): Sarah Whitehead (674489) / Michael. Bower (672900)

Dear Friends

We all enjoy a break from the run of the mill, day-to-day routine of our lives, which is why holidays are important for us. It is also the reason why God created the Sabbath. He knew that if we were to work for long hours seven days a week, it would do us no good - we would burn out and collapse in a heap from exhaustion. So it is a biblical principal to take a regular break.

Jesus himself practised the principle in a very simple way. When you read the Gospels it tells that Jesus would often take himself away from the crowds and even his disciples and go and spend time with God in prayer. He too needed a break from the everyday tasks of his ministry, the healing of the sick, the telling of parables and generally being with people.

So taking time out, having some time away and doing something different is very important to us as human beings. For that is what we are, as Dr Wayne Dyer reminds us: 'We are human beings not human doings.' We must remember to take time to 'be', not consumed with the need to 'do.'

So I hope you will find time away from the hum-drum of everyday life, experience something different and come back refreshed with a renewed vision of what God wants you to be.

With my kindest regards.

Richard Reakes, The Vicarage, Malleson Road, Gotherington

CRICKET CLUB

www.gotheringtoncc.org.uk

Contact: Brian Cosgrove on 676216 or info@gotheringtoncc.org

The season is taking shape with the u13 side winning 4 out of 4 under the guidance of Brian Cosgrove, and the u15 side winning 2 from 2, with Craig Sprigmore coaching the side. Youth cricket is thriving and we have Saturday morning coaching run in conjunction with Gecko coaching that is very well supported.

As I write in mid-June, we have enjoyed some excellent cricket, including a good win against Woodmancote and another against St Stephens, whilst Eckington and Corse Lawn have pipped us to the post in close games. We have already used 20 players and appreciate that it is sometimes hard for players to commit to a whole season, but even if you are only available for a few games please contact us as we can accommodate a range of abilities and availabilities.

We are due to play the Royal Household Cricket Club at Windsor Castle on Saturday 17th June and a coach will be leaving from the Shutter for our much anticipated third game against the RHCC. Also, there is an end of season tour game against Abbotskerswell in Devon in September.

We are very grateful to the Parish Council for ongoing support in purchasing new equipment and maintaining the facilities. Brian Cosgrove continues to do the job of several men: tending the ground, running the u13 side, organising coaching and being Treasurer. He is more than ably supported by Yvonne and they both put a huge amount of time into the club.

Finally, we are grateful to the Shutter for their generous support and the opposition are certainly pleased to have the pub open again for a well-earned post match drink.

Rob Sharp, Chairman GCC

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

Contact: Christine Godsell on 01242 672821 or email candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk

I missed the coffee morning in June – but in all honesty I am not too sorry. I was enjoying a perfectly wonderful time in Croatia! Now I am back to find I have only a few hours to submit this and other Topics entries. Where do the months go?

So far this year, Coffee Mornings have done well. May was a little quiet but still well supported – thank you all. I have absolutely no idea yet about June but as it was the Garden Club's turn for cakes and they were selling plants, I expect it was pretty busy.

One thing did occur to me while I was away. We have been running now for over 10 years and followed the same format throughout. It is becoming increasingly difficult for me to find craft people to come. How would you feel if there were none? We would still run the books, though. And is there anything else you would like us to do? Any idea is a good idea as, even if it may sound impossible to you, it could lead us to think of something else.

So, at the July and September Coffee Mornings I am going to leave a simple questionnaire on the tables. PLEASE fill it in – no names, no pack-drill, just your views. We don't have to change anything – unless YOU want it. They are YOUR mornings, not ours and we want you to continue to enjoy coming.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon

Christine Godsell

VILLAGE HALL

Contact: Peter Price-Thomas (Chairman) 07740 871987/ Bev Osborne (Bookings) 675741

gotheringtonvillagehall.btck.co.uk

Gotherington Village Hall continues to enable the village community to thrive - users vary in age from a couple of months old to those in their nineties, with virtually every age group in between catered for. The Hall provides the venue for so many of the clubs and societies that make Gotherington such a vibrant place to live.

However, we are at a point where we need new people to join the committee that runs the Village Hall. A number of Trustees, including Peter Hulme, Kirsten Stillman and Paul Hughes have recently stepped down after years (and in Peter's case decades) of service. We are in need of a Secretary and a Maintenance Co-ordinator in particular. The roles are not onerous, with meetings taking place every two months and occasional discussions in between. Should you be interested in either of these roles, or in becoming a Trustee, please don't hesitate to be contact me.

On a practical note, the new radiators have been installed and the redecoration will be taking place soon. In addition, the new online booking system is working well. Please go to www.gotherington.org.uk and select the 'Bookings' tab if you wish to make a booking for the Village Hall, Rex Rhodes Building or the Pavilion.

As I've already explained, the Village Hall enables Gotherington to flourish. Please help us to make sure that continues.

Peter Price-Thomas, Chairman

GARDENING CLUB

Contact: Rob Cronin (321644) / Pam Howell 673015

www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club

Now is the time to lift and store tulip bulbs, support tall growing perennials like Hollyhocks and Delphiniums with strong support when needed, keep watering your summer bedding plants, and cover ripening fruits (raspberries etc) with netting to stop the birds. Runner beans need to be watered in dry spells to keep the crops coming and spray with soap-based product to keep the aphids at bay. Also, look at your roses for signs of black spot, remove and burn affected leaves and also spray for aphids. In the greenhouse, pinch out the side shoots on the tomatoes, water daily and spray for green/white fly. Of course you also need to keep weeds down in the greenhouse and feed plants with a good tomato feed.

Keep your garden in good condition by keeping the garden hoe going to keep the weeds down (do not forget "one years seed is seven years weeds"). Also, it is a good idea to clip hedges regularly to keep them tidy and of course the lawns still need a regular mowing.

In August, collect ripened seeds from your favourite plants and vegetables. In September, prepare the lawns for winter, clean out the old thatch and aerate.

Gotherington Gardening Club meets at 8:00 in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month except August. We have a varied and interesting programme of speakers with several special events. Guests and visitors are always welcome.

Happy Gardening.

Graham Teale

NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk

Contact: Phone 01242 676722

With the mixture of beautiful sunshine and rain, everything is looking very lush. The glasshouses and the outside plant area are looking beautiful with an array of different colours. The nursery is a hive of activity from seed sowing to potting on, and re-stocking the glasshouses to supplying our Garden Centre at Toddington. The glasshouses have been full of many different varieties of bedding plant and a tremendous range of basket and patio plants. We have been very busy making up customer orders for planted hanging baskets and containers as well as ensuring there are plenty available for sale in the glasshouse. Due to increasing demand for our plants, we have employed Heidi to add to our team.

In the planteria, the wide variety of cottage garden plants provide instant colour. They offer good value for money and are a great way to fill a space in a border. We also have a good choice of shrubs, roses, trees, conifers, climbers, vegetable plants, herbs and soft fruit bushes.

The shop is well stocked with a range of gardening goods including tools, Hozelock products, plant & garden care products and outdoor leisure products too.

Bulbs for autumn planting will be making their way to our shelves during August. The production of the autumn bedding plants has started already! We are in the process of finalising our new website so hopefully it will be going live shortly. Find us at www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk and check our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/gotheringtonnurseries for regular updates.

Just a reminder that we are open Monday to Saturday 9 am until 5 pm each day and 10 am – 4 pm on Sundays.

We wish you well for the season ahead and thank you for your continued support.

Happy gardening!

Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries

The Village Referendum is on 20th July



**If you'll be away or on holiday
register for a postal vote**

GOTHERINGTON TENNIS CLUB

Contact: Andrew Harrington 677039 or Ian Donnelly on 674404

<http://www.gotherington.org.uk/tennis.asp>

The club has continued to attract new members over the early summer months as well as welcoming back some returning members. It's always pleasing to see new faces down at the club. We welcome players of all standards and can guarantee both club and match play.

League tennis is now well underway. Despite some fierce battles, both Men's teams are struggling with the Men's A finding it tough playing in a higher league this year. The Lady's teams have fared better with good wins against Frampton and East Glos to sit comfortably in mid table.

Club coaching continues to be very well received (indeed oversubscribed) and it's great to see the courts full on a Wednesday night with the positive side effect of Monday night social tennis also being well supported. The new John Woolley Pavilion has definitely given the club a lift, so with good weather forecast and Wimbledon just round the corner, why not dust off that old racket, come down to Gotherington tennis club on a Monday or Wednesday evening and see what we're all about.

Ian Donnelly

GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB

Contact: David Ward on 675080 or Christine Godsell on 672821
www.gotherington.org.uk/petanque

And here we are again – another season well under way! Well, I say 'season' because there is so much happening in the club during the summer, but of course, if you are thinking of joining us, there is no 'season' – we play all year round.

Our own competition to find the best "Singles" player (male or female) is now in full swing. It will be followed by the "Pairs".

In between, we have our BBQ day, a fun mêlée followed by Cream Tea, a Triples competition, and an ambitiously titled 'Skills' evening (which is more Pimms than skills!). On that evening, we will also share food in the Rex Rhodes and hold the World Championships for Soft Boules. You see, never a dull moment and any opportunity for some extra fun will find us keen to be involved.

We have had a few new players this year and several people have expressed an interest in playing. Don't be shy – please come along to one of our regular sessions. The details are on the back of Topics or you can call a committee member for more information. We would love to see you.

Enjoy your summer and SEE YOU ON THE PISTE!

Christine Godsell Secretary

THE WAR MEMORIAL

I recently finished the "Summer Planting" at the War Memorial and would like to once again say a big thank you to Liz & Mark at Gotherington Nurseries for their generosity in supplying all the top quality plants.

Kate Button

GOTHERINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Contact: schooloffice@gotherington.gloucs.sch.uk Tel: 01242 675454
<http://www.gotherington.gloucs.sch.uk>

The summer term is always action-packed and this term is proving to be no exception. There are a large number of events planned with the highlight being our Sport's Day and Summer Fair on Friday 14th June 2017. As ever, it would be really good to welcome the local community.

We have had real success with our sport and have been nominated for a 'Gloucestershire School Sport Award'. We are really proud to have been recognised in this way for the promotion of sport throughout the school.

Residents will hopefully have seen our new 'Safe parking' sign. The aim of this poster is to provide a strong visual reminder to parents of the importance of safe driving and careful parking. I have also been in regular contact with Gloucestershire Police who have promised to send some uniformed officers to monitor parking at both the start and end of the school day.

The school also held a really special fundraising day to raise money for the 'Pillows for Bristol Children's Hospital' cause. We were delighted to raise £300.00 which will hopefully go some way to providing some much needed comfort to both parents and children when they are in hospital.

Ben Jordan, Headteacher Gotherington Primary School

VILLAGE WEBSITE

The transparency code requires all councils to publish information including Minutes, Agendas & Financial documents. We now have a new Parish Council website which contains only items pertaining to the Council including the NDP (gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk).

The existing web site (gotherington.org.uk) will be maintained and will still contain all the clubs and societies news but no council information. Please log on to these sites and find out what is going on in the village.

Howard Samuels

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Contact: Rob Sharp on 01242 678057 or rob_sharp100@hotmail.com

The 2016/17 season ended with our u15 side clinching the league title - well done to Rich Major and his squad on a marvellous achievement.

Congratulations to the u12 side who won their division under Rich Alder and the u13s managed by Rob Elvidge and Ian Donnelly who reached a cup final and gained promotion. The u18's were awarded the sportsmanship award and achieved some very good results as well. The u16 side completed a good season, the 10th and final one for Manager Paul Gordon who leaves with much appreciation for all his efforts.

Next season we will have teams from u6/7 to u18 again and we are grateful for the ongoing support from Mr Jordan for hosting the youngest age groups at the school on Saturday mornings.

The club has maintained FA Charter Club status and continually strives to improve the coaching levels we provide to players. We have appointed Glen Murphy as schools liaison officer. All coaches and assistants are CRC checked and have to complete Child Safeguarding courses alongside their First Aid and coaching qualifications.

The presentations/fun day is scheduled for 8th of July with a welcome break then before the season starts in September.

Rob Sharp, Chairman and Secretary GJFC



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

www.gotherington.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch

Contact: John Hicks (Long Furlong Park) 676848
Mary Manders-Trett (Malleeson Road) 674592
Howard Samuels (Shutter Lane) 672492

Report a Crime - Contact the Police:

Reporting an emergency 999 or 112 Reporting non-emergencies 101
Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

Gotherington has recently seen a small increase in burglaries and anti-social behaviour. Homes with no security measures in place are five times more likely to be burgled than those with simple security measures. Good window locks and strong deadlocks can make a big difference.

Distraction Burglary - If you are not sure who is at your door, don't open it. Check the identity of the caller by calling the company they claim to be from (i.e. gas, eater, police)

Going Away on Holiday - make sure your home looks like someone is living in it. Use automatic timer switches to turn your lights and radios on when it goes dark. Tell your neighbours and ask if they will help with the post and perhaps close and open the curtains.

If you spot suspicious activity or have been a victim of crime yourself, report it to Action Fraud (actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040.

Howard Samuels

GOWNS

Contact: 07752 152485

The Gotherington, Oxenton and Woolstone Neighbours Scheme always welcomes additional volunteers, especially those with specific skills to offer. At present we have a vacancy for a co-ordinator to match requests to volunteers by keeping the mobile phone in rotation for a week at a time. It is on the O2 network which successfully covers much of the parish. The team currently numbers six and members liaise via email when necessary. For more information please call the GOWNS phone number.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: *Katie Tuffery* on 07793 885847

gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk

Since the last edition the Toddler Group has again been very busy. The group continues to thrive and we see lots of new faces and regulars on a weekly basis. Everybody had a lovely time at the Easter Party where the children were entertained by Boogie Beat and there was a "name the bunny" competition, a basket making craft and party food. The Easter Bunny also gave up his time to meet the children who had lots of fun finding chocolate eggs and carrots (the healthy option!) in the playground.

We will soon be going on our annual summer outing to Cotswold Wildlife Park which is proving popular and being eagerly anticipated. Over the summer months we will be meeting at playgrounds around North Gloucestershire on Fridays so that we can enjoy the summer sun (hopefully!) and also continuing to meet as usual in the hall on Tuesdays.

Over the next few months a number of people, including myself, will be stepping down from the committee. It has been a wonderful opportunity for me this year to contribute to the running of the group and meet all the lovely children, parents and carers that attend. I will be handing over the reins to Rachel Evans who is very enthusiastic and will do a brilliant job. We are very lucky in the coming year to have a full complement of volunteers for the committee posts and this should see the group continue to go from strength to strength.

*Thank you to everyone who has supported the group this year and particularly to Julie Panthin, Jacinthe Mainguy, Sarah Howells and Kim Rhodes who have been on the committee this year. We continue to meet in the Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30 - 11.30 for free play, craft, stories, singing, snacks, drinks and lots of chatting. We can be contacted via our Facebook page or by emailing *gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk**

Katie Tuffery

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: *Caroline Meller* (677489) / *Jill Collins* (672848)

www.gotherington.org.uk/history-society/

World War One Centenary - William James Long

This month marks the 100th anniversary of the death of William James Long. He lived much of his life in Gotherington but also had connections in Birmingham where he was born in 1880. By the following year he was living at Baldwin's Farm in Gretton Road with his parents, James and Eliza, plus his elder sister, Eliza Jane. He soon had two brothers, Tom and Gilbert, born 1883 and 1885.

By 1901 William was described as an "Under Gamekeeper". Soon after, he moved to Birmingham where his sister was living, having married in 1903. The remaining family in Gotherington also moved a short distance to Hillview in Manor Lane. In 1910 William, now a railway porter, married a girl from Great Rissington, Maud Howard; they had a son, also named William, in 1912.

They stayed in Birmingham through the war years. Although we lack full details, it seems likely that William was conscripted into the army in 1916. He joined the Royal Artillery and, by the summer of 1917, was serving on the Western Front in the days leading up to the Third Battle of Ypres.

While off duty, he and three other men were asleep in a cellar when an artillery shell exploded in the entrance, wounding William badly in the legs. Although taken to hospital, he died on 3rd July. His commanding officer spoke of William's death as 'a severe loss' to the battery. William is buried in a Commonwealth cemetery in the small French town of Steenwerck, close to the Belgian border. His gravestone carries the words: "Death Divides But Memory Will Ever Cling. His Loving Wife And Son". He is also remembered on the memorials here and in Bishop's Cleeve.

Caroline Meller Chair, Gotherington and Area Local History Society

TEENAGE CANCER TRUST

David and Jill Ward and their family would like to invite you all to a

CREAM TEA and "OPEN GARDEN "

at Ambleside, Lawrence's Meadow

on Sunday 20th August, 2:30pm until 4:30pm.

Raffle and cake sale.

Entrance £5 to include cream tea.

All proceeds to Teenage Cancer Trust.

Everyone welcome

GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

We are a ladies choir formed 50 years ago in Gotherington. If you'd like to join us, come along to one of our rehearsals and see how you like us. We are a very friendly group performing a wide range of music, and we will give you a warm welcome! Previous experience is not necessary.

We practice on Monday evenings 7.45 pm - 9.30 pm, alternating between Gotherington Village Hall and Bethesda Methodist Church, Cheltenham. Our next performance is our Christmas Concert, Wednesday 20th December, 7.30 pm at St Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, Cheltenham.

For more information call Vivien on 01242 523168, or visit our website.

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Contact: David Hearn on 674408 or clerk@gotherinton.org.uk

gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

I am pleased to welcome Lewis Harmer to the council which means we now have a full complement again. Lewis brings with him experience in planning and finance which will be very valuable.

Once again, the major concern of the village over the past six months has been the threat of housing developments. The application for 50 houses at the western end of Malleson Road has been approved, but cannot start until the junction with the A435 has been resolved. This is in the hands of the County Council Highways Department and cannot be influenced by the Parish Council. On a happier note, the appeal for the development of the Meadow has been declined, due in no small part to the current strength of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, of which more elsewhere.

However, we now have the threat of an additional development of 500 houses adjacent to the existing Clevelands development. We strongly urge you to resist this by contacting the TBC; the reference is 17/00399/OUT. (Editor's note – you can do this online by searching for 17/00399/OUT at <http://publicaccess.tewkesbury.gov.uk/online-applications/>)

The Gotherington NDP has now reached the referendum stage. This is covered elsewhere and I urge everyone to vote on 20th July.

The promised Vehicle Activated Signs have arrived and the two devices will be moved between six locations to help control speeding in the village.

The decision has been taken to acquire and refurbish the Church Building. The Parochial Church Council has contributed significantly to the purchase, which was supported by a Village Survey. This project is now managed by a Steering Group with the minutes of its meetings being published on the new Parish Council Web Site.

gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

David Hearn, Chairperson