

Contacts – Village Organisations

ORGANISATION & MEETINGS		Contact	
1 st Gotherington Beaver Scout	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	
1st Gotherington Brownies	Mon 6.00pm	Kirsten Stillman (673218)	
1st Gotherington Rainbows	Mon 3.30pm	Kirsten Stillman (673218)	
Cricket Club		Colin Ralph (673046) / Brian Cosgrove (676216)	
Church of England		Richard Reakes (675559)	richard.vicarage@gmail.com
Churchwardens (Woolstone)		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	rachel@avasoft.co.uk (07769 854004)	
Neighbourhood Watch		John Hicks (676848) / Mary Manders-Trett (674592) Howard Samuels (672492) / Phil Smith (672970) Les Howard 677949 / Berian Thomas 674397	
Oxenton Village Hall		Chairman: Jenny Lockwood (676597) / Secretary: Linda Howard	
Oxenton Village Bookings		Valerie Martin (673233)	
Parish Council	2nd Tue 7.30pm	David Hearn (674408) david@hearn.demon.co.uk	
Parish Council Clerk		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	Peter Price-Thomas / Bev Osborne (675741)	
	Secretary	Christine Godsell (672821)	
	Bookings co-ordinator	Bev Osborne (675741)	
	Treasurer	Howard Samuels (672492)	
Village Hall Coffee Mornings. 1st Sat excl Jan & Aug		Christine Godsell (672821)/ Bev Osborne (675741)	
Wine Club	Chairperson	Howard Samuels (672492)	hsamuels@btinternet.com
3rd Tue 8pm	Secretary	Christine Godsell (672821)	candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk
W.I. 4th Wed 7.30pm	President	Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sally.newbury@gmail.com	
	Secretary	Sue Freeman (01242 679518) - kingslea@fsmail.net	
	Treasurer	Myra Card - myracard123@tiscali.co.uk	



Gotherington Topics

Autumn 2017

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL		
Tewkesbury Borough Council		
Neighbourhood Planning Referendum		
for the Gotherington Neighbourhood Area		
on Thursday 20 July 2017		
I, Mrs Linda O'Brien, being the Deputy Counting Officer at the above Referendum, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded at the said Referendum is as follows:		
Question		
Do you want Tewkesbury Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Gotherington to help it decide planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area?		
	Votes Recorded	Percentage
Number cast in favour of a Yes	499	93.10%
Number cast in favour of a No	37	6.9%
The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more than one answer	0
C	writing or mark by which the voter/proxy could be identified	0
D	unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	0
Total		0
Electorate: 848 Ballot Papers Issued: 536		
The total number of votes recorded represented 63.20% of the registered electors.		

*We did it.
What a great result.
Well done to everyone who voted.
And thank you to the GNPD Steering Group for all their hard work!*

The Editor

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Andrews

T: 01242 675491

E: bishopsleeve@andrewsonline.co.uk

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TOPICS OF INTEREST

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

The next edition (Spring 2018) is due out during the week starting 19th March 2018.

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
Brian Cosgrove	676216
Lewis Harmer	671050
David Hearn (Chairman)	674408
Eddie McLarnon	673079
Beverley Osborne	675741
Caroline Ryman	673707
Howard Samuels (Vice Chair)	672492

Contacts – General

Police	(0845 0901234)
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)
Yoga [Tuesdays] Sarah Martin	(269765) sarahmartinyoga@hotmail.co.uk

GOTHERINGTON BROWNIES

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

This term the girls are working on their Collectors and Hobbies Badges, so we are looking forward to learning more about each other. We are also completing a variety of science and technology activities as part of the Clever Cogs Challenge. After half term, the girls will be learning First Aid and getting ready for Christmas with some fun crafts and activities including decorating pottery and attending the pantomime.

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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.

GOTHERINGTON RAINBOWS

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

We have only had a few meetings since the start of term to date, but we have a lively bunch of girls who are enjoying the activities we have been doing to earn our Festivals badge. So far we have made some leaf pets, learnt some new games and decorated a tree all about us! We will be doing lots of Christmas crafts as we explore Christmas around the world after half term and are already getting excited about our trip to the pantomime. Rainbows are 30 years old this year and we will be celebrating with a party and exchanging birthday cards with other units around the country.

We really need another adult to join our leadership team. If you have some free time to help us then please do give me a call to discuss it.

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

NEWS FROM THE VICAR!

Contact: email: richard.vicarage@gmail.com or phone:01242 675559

Churchwardens (Woolstone): Sarah Whitehead (674489) / Michael. Bower (672900)

Dear Friends,

I like a good read. I enjoy a mix of crime fiction, thrillers and historical books. I also have to read a lot in order to prepare for sermons, to get inspiration for new projects and to increase my theological knowledge. I love to learn new things!

Can I ask how you learn? Do you “clear the weeds” first, to have an open mind? Can you take in a scattering of facts, or does knowledge have to be drilled into you? The writers of the four Gospels have very different approaches to explaining the Good News of Jesus....

- *If you enjoy history books, then Matthew’s Gospel is a good read; he was a Jewish tax collector who carefully explains Jesus’ place in history.*
- *If you like adventures, then read Mark. He was a young man at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion and his Gospel is the shortest and most action-packed account of Jesus’ life.*
- *If you’re the analytical type, then Luke’s Gospel will appeal. He was a Doctor, and at the start he says that his plan is to set down “an orderly account” of the events.*
- *And if you’re a romantic, then you’ll see John’s Gospel, written by Jesus’ closest disciple, as glorious prose in praise of Jesus’ commitment and love.*

Whichever Gospel you open first, you’ll meet Jesus who understands our way of life – and not just because of his rural roots, although that helps! If He, someone else or even these thoughts have sown a seed of faith or enquiry into your mind, why not feed it – by reading the Bible or at least a good book!

Richard Reakes, *The Vicarage, Malleson Road, Gotherington*

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## CRICKET CLUB

[www.gotheringtoncc.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtoncc.org.uk)

Contact: Brian Cosgrove on 676216 or [info@gotheringtoncc.org](mailto:info@gotheringtoncc.org)

*The season turned out to have a number of noteworthy highlights. Our u13 team swept all before them to win their league with 12 wins out of 12. This was a tremendous achievement under the guidance of Brian and Yvonne Cosgrove and the skills development from Gecko the company who we use to provide specialist coaching on a Saturday morning. These coaching sessions are attended by the younger ages as well and will hopefully lead to more cricketers staying involved with the game. Our u15 side had a good season and finished runners up in their league narrowly pipped by Tewkesbury for the title. Thanks to Craig Sprigmore for all his hard work.*

*The senior team had a good season overall with some outstanding performances including a win at Windsor Castle against the Royal Household Cricket Club. We were looked after with a superb post match BBQ of the standard you might expect at such a prestigious venue. We look forward to hosting the RHCC in Gotherington in 2018 for our 4<sup>th</sup> fixture against them. We also hosted and unexpectedly secured a win against the Standard Athletic Club of Paris. It was an excellent game and particular thanks to Bev Osborne for stepping in and sorting tea and also the Shutter Inn for arranging curry afterwards. We have been invited to Paris for a return fixture which would be a new adventure for the club.*

*We used 49 players this season in the senior side, so please let us know if you can commit to even a few games next season as we will need a big squad to ensure we can fulfil all our fixtures. The support of the Parish Council is much appreciated and is crucial in keeping cricket in the village.*

*Our end of Season dinner is at the Shutter Inn. The end of season ground work has been done by Brian Cosgrove so hopefully, by the time we play our next game, England will have retained the Ashes in Australia and the long term weather forecast will look like 1976 - in the closed season, optimism reigns supreme in cricket!*

**Rob Sharp, Chairman GCC**

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## GARDENING CLUB

Contact: Rob Cronin (321644) / Pam Howell 673015  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club)

*This is the time of the year to lift up the cutting blades on your mower so as not to cut the lawns too short – remember, an early frost can cause damage to your lawn. Also, it is time to get ready to plant Broad Beans. I always plant on the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday and my favourite variety is Aqua Dulce.*

*While you're doing that, it's not too late to plant spring onion seed – the usual time to plant this is between August and October and the variety I'd recommend is White Lisbon Winter Hardy. And if you grow sweet peas on the cordon system, the end of October is the planting time favoured by exhibitors although I plant mine at the end of November.*

*Another job to do now is clean out any old tomatoes, weeds etc from the greenhouse and do a general good clean ready for next spring.*

*Forthcoming speakers are: **November 15** "Villa Gardens of the Italian Lakes" illustrated and given by Robert Bryant who is a retired garden designer and keen photographer; **January 17** "Weeds" by Roger Umpelby, Entomologist and Photographer.*

*And of course on **December 20** we will be having our "Christmas Party" (tickets will be available at the November meeting). So, although I realise it is a bit early, on behalf of Gotherington Garden Club may I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Good Healthy New Year.*

*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, several special events and guests, and visitors are always welcome.*

*Happy Gardening.*

David Adamson

## WINE CLUB

Contact: Christine Godsell on 672821 or [candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club)

*Summer seemed to have come and gone without much to show for it, although the Wine Club has had an event each month including two outdoor events, one at the Sports Pavilion and the other a lovely trip to Blenheim Palace. The September meeting covered the subject of 'Fizzy Wines', which was a lot of fun - we tasted sparkling wines from Martini Asti Spumante to Champagne and we managed to get through 18 bottles! This was one of our in-house events which are always popular with members.*

*Forthcoming events include a presentation by Majestic Wines on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October and at our November meeting we have our "Wine Taster of the Year" event - the winner of this very prestigious event carries the title for a year and their name is engraved on the Gotherington Wine Club shield.*

*The Wine Club Christmas Party is once again being held at The Shutters and we are again being entertained by Brian Black following last year's success.*

*So please think about coming along to one of our meetings - you will be made to feel very welcome. We meet every 3rd Tuesday at 8pm at the Village Hall. Normally six different wines are on offer to taste followed by a ploughman's supper and a time to relax and chat.*

*We do 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](mailto:sall.newbury@gmail.com)  
Secretary - Rachel Slater (07884343612) - [rachel.slater@btinternet.com](mailto:rachel.slater@btinternet.com)  
Treasurer - Myra Card - [myracard123@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:myracard123@tiscali.co.uk)

*Do you remember the June heatwave? Our garden meeting fell on a cool and overcast June evening after one of the few damp and drizzly days! But, we put on our coats and enjoyed an evening of food and chat in Jenny and Martin's lovely garden in Oxenton, while being entertained by the lady musicians of 'Bags of Brass'. Rosemary Prosser paid us a return visit in July with a very amusing talk on the trials and tribulations of moving her home, young family, pets and entire dairy farm from Worcestershire to Cornwall. The cows needed milking before leaving and again on arrival in Cornwall, by which time the milking machinery needed to have been dismantled and transported there. Despite a burst tyre on one of their cattle trucks causing a hold-up on the motorway, it did all happen! In August, we heard about the John Moore Museum in Tewkesbury from Simon Lawton. There are three parts: a countryside collection; a restored Tudor shop and home; and a 15th Baptist Chapel – and is well worth a visit. We came fourth in the County Quiz Competition and our Skittles team made it to the third round of their competition, after some very sociable evenings. Weekly art sessions and monthly pub lunches continue to be well attended. The Autumn County Meeting will be held in Pittoville Pump Room with Heather Jacks, winner of the Great British Sewing Bee, as guest speaker. Then the Christmas will be upon us, starting with the Carol Concert in the Town Hall with Wynne Evans ('Go Compare') as the guest singer.*

*Future meetings will include Jan Long 'Life as a Churchwarden', our Annual Meeting where Pam Howell will show us how to 'Decorate a cake in half an hour', our Christmas Party on 13th December in Oxenton Village Hall and Sandra Ashenford's 'Mystery objects' in January.*

*We normally meet in Gotherington Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. New members and visitors are always!*

**Jill Parsons**

## NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

[www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk)  
Contact: Phone 01242 676722

*During the summer we have been busy getting ready for the Autumn. We have an amazing choice of homegrown autumn and winter bedding plants including pansies, violas, wallflowers, polyanthus, basket and container plants and cyclamen. Seasonal hanging baskets are also available.*

*Spring flowering bulbs are in stock now ready for Autumn planting. They offer great value for money and are a lovely way to brighten up the garden. Plant them in containers with your winter bedding plants to provide some extra colour in the Spring.*

*Autumn lawn care products are available now for treating your lawn before the winter comes. Please don't be tempted to use up lawn feed products from earlier in the year as this will cause soft, new growth which will be affected by the frost and consequently damage the lawn.*

*In the shop, we have tools for the garden, ideal for those Autumn jobs such as clearing leaves, planting bulbs, harvesting fruit and pruning. Don't forget those gifts for the keen gardener or National Garden Gift Vouchers.*

*Now is the time to plant shrubs, soft fruit bushes, ornamental and fruit trees so they have time to get established before the colder weather arrives. Raspberry canes and bare root hedging will be available after the first frosts have arrived - near the end of November. We have a good choice of shrubs, roses, conifers and climbers for autumn and winter colour.*

*A reminder that we are open 9am – 5pm Monday to Saturday and 10am – 4pm on Sundays and please take a look at our updated website at [www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk) and look on our Facebook page for regular updates and pictures.*

*We wish you well for the season ahead and thank you for your continued support. Happy gardening!*

**Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries**

## **GOTHERINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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

*After a very relaxing break we all returned to school feeling recharged and excited for the new term ahead.*

*Although the break was a pleasant one, there was plenty of activity in school during the summer. We have had a new perimeter fence fitted on one side of the school field, the toilets in Years 3 and 4 have been refurbished and the staffroom has been redecorated. All of these changes have made a real difference to the way the school looks.*

*We welcomed our new Reception class and have been delighted with the way that the children have settled into school life. They are certainly making the most of their new environment and are really enjoying their first topic - 'Superhero Me'.*

*The busy start to the term has already included some early highlights:*

- *a group of children have visited Belmont School to teach the pupils there how to play Samba drums;*
- *our Year 6 pupils have learnt what it was like to be evacuated in World War II by taking part in a mock evacuation from school, complete with a ride on a steam train;*
- *and Year 5 completed a very wet but exciting trip to the Malvern Hills!*

**Ben Jordan**, Headteacher Gotherington Primary School

## **VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS**

Contact: Christine Godsell on 01242 672821 or email [candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:candegodsell@tiscali.co.uk)

*Hello all. Not a bad summer, was it? Until the monsoon season hit us. I escaped to Normandy for 3 weeks and it was lov...Well OK, it rained every day! Yes, I know, I should have stayed here and gone to Coffee Mornings!*

*Do you remember the questionnaire to gauge how well we are doing and to ask if there is something else you might like. Thank you for all your comments but I need to respond to a few queries: hot chocolate is available for £1 per mug - please ask if you want it. And what about the queues? - sadly, we are limited by space and equipment, the bacon is cooked to order to be hot and fresh, and we only have one urn and a small serving area - but if you are in a hurry or cannot stand for too long, come and find me and I'll try to get you served quickly. Some would like us to serve soup - there would be some issues keeping it hot and serving it, but we will look into it. Finally, for the person who requested dancing girls - I am so sorry, we cannot supply them, but for a costly sum and by special request only, I could be persuaded to do a light fandango - it's always worth asking!*

*I have a constant struggle now to find table holders to interest you. When they come, please give them a fair chance and have a good look at what they offer. They will not come if they do not make any sales, and if there is something you might like, please feel free to ask them if they can supply it. Some of you suggested other events we might like to offer. I promise we will give them serious consideration. Any suggestions for a social event will always be appreciated and if it is achievable, we will do our best to make it happen. But for that - we need volunteers - so don't be shy!*

*We must be doing something right, because you just keep coming. Long may that continue because we love to see you enjoying yourselves. So, here's to our 10<sup>th</sup> year - yes, I did say 10<sup>th</sup>! Amazing.*

*Thank you! Looking forward to seeing you all soon*

**Christine Godsell**, Gotherington Village Hall Coffee Mornings



## VILLAGE HALL

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

[gotheringtonvillagehall.btck.co.uk](http://gotheringtonvillagehall.btck.co.uk)

*I am very pleased to say that a number of people have volunteered to become Trustees and we now have a full complement on the Committee - thank you. Deserving of particular mention are Ben Jennison Phillips, who has become the new Secretary, and Kevin Gowing, who has become the new Maintenance Co-Ordinator.*

*During the summer months, the Village Hall has been repainted and some of the electrics, including the fuse board, have been replaced. We have also been looking into the possibility of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO). This would perform exactly the same role as the Committee currently does, but brings a number of benefits including the limiting of liabilities.*

*If you are interested in knowing more about what we have been discussing at the Committee meetings, the minutes will soon be available on the Village Hall website.*

*As a side note to that, I have been asked a number of times about the Village Hall's position regarding the redevelopment of the Church Centre. It is important for me to state that the Village Hall Committee is completely neutral on the matter. As individuals, some Trustees support the redevelopment of the Church Centre and some trustees oppose it, but as a Committee we are completely impartial.*

*If you would like to book the Hall for any event, please go to [www.gotherington.org.uk](http://www.gotherington.org.uk) and select the 'Bookings' tab.*

*And of course, we hope to see you at the next Coffee Morning.*

**Peter Price-Thomas, Chairman**

## GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

[www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk)

*We are a ladies choir formed 50 years ago in Gotherington. If you are interested in joining us, come along to one of our rehearsals and see how you like us! We are a very friendly group performing a wide and varied 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 20<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30 pm at St Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, Cheltenham.*

*We are also singing at the RNLI Carol Service, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 6.30pm, Cheltenham College Chapel (Note – this is Cheltenham College, not Cheltenham Ladies College).*

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

## TEENAGE CANCER TRUST CREAM TEA

*Jill and David Ward and family would like to sincerely thank everyone for their wonderful support at their cream tea for the Teenage Cancer Trust.*

*We raised the amazing sum of £1532 . Thank you so much for your generosity, it is very much appreciated.*

**Jill and David**

## GOWNS

Contact: 07752 152485

### What is GOWNS ?

(Gotherington Oxenton and Woolstone Neighbour Scheme)

|                      |
|----------------------|
| <b>G</b> otherington |
| <b>O</b> xenton and  |
| <b>W</b> oolstone    |
| <b>N</b> eighbour    |
| <b>S</b> cheme       |

**GOWNS** is a voluntary 'good neighbour' initiative run by residents of the three villages with financial backing from the Parish Council and the Parish Church.

Its aim is to provide help to **any** resident of the three villages, **whatever their age, whatever their circumstances**. This could be by providing transport to the shops, doctor, hospital or to local social events; small DIY tasks, help with minor household problems, official form filling, emergency childcare or carer illness, recuperation after illness or treatment; or just simply a chat; in fact, anything of an occasional or emergency nature. This is not an exhaustive list, tell us your need and we will try to fulfil it! Please note that GOWNS is not intended to replace Social Services or provide long term care or assistance.

A volunteer duty Co-ordinator will take requests for assistance by telephone, match them with a volunteer offering the necessary skills and arrange for the task to be done. There is no charge for this service, but clients can be asked to cover expenses incurred and pay for such things as car parking, shopping, etc.

**If you need assistance or just want to know more about GOWNS, telephone the Duty Co-ordinator.**

**The contact number for the  
Duty Co-ordinator is:  
07752 152485**

*(All volunteers are CRB checked and fully insured)*

## GOTHERINGTON TENNIS CLUB

Contact: Andrew Harrington 677039 or Ian Donnelly on 674404

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

*Well, a mixed season is just about coming to a close. The Ladies A Team retained their position in division 3, finishing a creditable fourth in a very competitive league. The Men's 'A' Team had the ultimate season of two halves in league 3B. After 6 games they were well adrift at the bottom of the league, but then had something of a resurgence only to lose a 'winner take all' last match resulting in division 4 for the boys next season. Relegation also looks on the cards for the Ladies 'B'. The self-proclaimed 'most social team in Gloucestershire', didn't have the best of seasons on the courts but had a fun time off it! More promising news for the Men's B who secured their highest points total so far and blooded a record number of players. The only way is up Gents!!*

*Summer Play Club sessions (aided by the good weather and of course the new JWP) were generally well supported on Monday and Wednesday evenings, with Friday afternoon remaining popular with a core group of members. Sundays were less well attended and it is something we will be looking to address next season.*

*Winter Play will continue on Fridays from 1 to 3:30 pm and on Sundays from 9:30 am until 12:30pm. The club has specifically requested these times so as to be more family friendly and we are thankful to the Parish Council for making these slots available –so let's make use of them!!*

*Finally, for all you youngsters out there, the club is looking to reinstate junior coaching. Currently we are negotiating timings and court time with an excellent coach and hope to announce something in the New Year, so watch this space and/or our Facebook page.*

**Ian Donnelly**

## POPPY APPEAL

Contact: Brian Cosgrove on [yvonnecosgrove@btinternet.com](mailto:yvonnecosgrove@btinternet.com)

*This year Remembrance Sunday will be on 12<sup>th</sup> November. This is an occasion to remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country. It is especially poignant in a year that marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Passchendaele (also known as the Third Battle of Ypres) one of the most notorious battles of the First World War.*

*Whilst we remember the fallen in the First World War, we must not forget those who lost their lives in subsequent conflicts and their surviving families. The welfare support given by the Royal British Legion to ex-servicemen and their families costs a significant amount and the Poppy Appeal aims to raise funds to help keep this support going. The Legion spends £1.4 million per week delivering welfare support to serving and ex-service people, young and old, and their families.*

*Neither should we forget those who, though surviving, have been left severely mentally scarred by their experiences. We should remember that members of the armed services pledge to serve the Crown in the defense of this country and to go wherever they are sent by the civil power.*

*During the run-up to Remembrance Sunday, volunteer collectors will be calling on houses in the village and collecting boxes will be in place in local businesses. Any donation you can make will be greatly appreciated.*

*Thank you to everyone.*

**Brian & Yvonne Cosgrove**

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

Contact: Rob Sharp on 01242 678057 or [rob\\_sharp100@hotmail.com](mailto:rob_sharp100@hotmail.com)

*The 2017/18 season is just underway and we are pleased to see continued interest at the younger age groups which will ensure that the club continues to thrive. Matt Charnock is stepping in to take the u6 age group who will be based at the junior school along with the u7 and u8 sides.*

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

*We will have around 170 players attached to the club this season and many of our u18 side have played all the way through from u7's. The aim is to develop players and also produce competitive teams that play the game in the right spirit.*

*Over the last 19 seasons since the club was renamed as Gotherington Juniors from Gotherington Youth Club, we have picked up a lot of league titles, cup wins, and even a county cup.*

*We have also had plenty of teams who, whilst not winning titles, have played well and competed in the right way which is what we will continue to promote.*

*We are in the process of creating a new online shop, a new website, and a number of other initiatives to help keep the club moving forward.*

**Rob Sharp, Chairman and Secretary GJFC**

## LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Caroline Meller (677489) / Jill Collins (672848)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/history-society/](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/history-society/)

*The new season began last month with a talk by Dr. Nick Humphris about the history of Chedworth Roman Villa. Nick highlighted several of the archaeological digs there during the past ten years as well as detailing what the villa would have been like during the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. A new state-of-the-art, lottery-funded building now protects one wing of the villa from the weather so visits are well worthwhile.*

*Other talks organised for the Winter and Spring include: the life and work of the eminent landscape garden designer, William Kent; a look at Anglo-Saxon boundaries (Gotherington is still defined by these); and the history of Gloucestershire's brewing industry. Visitors are always welcome and the entrance is £2 but if several of the talks appeal to you then it is cheaper to become a member! The full programme can be viewed on our web page.*

### **Evening Classes**

*As well as the monthly talks, Dr. Steven Blake and David Aldred will be running 6 evening classes on the theme 'Lost and Found in Medieval Gloucestershire' beginning on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, at 7.30pm, in Oxenton Village Hall. Please contact Jill Collins to have your name added to the list.*

### **Publications**

*There is a wealth of information about our village history. Local books for sale at the village shop include: Geoff Newsum's set of four guide books (re-printed several times); Bryan Nicholls' story of a railway station 'reborn'; and, more recently, 'Aspects of Community Life during the Great War' by David Griffiths, Caroline Meller, and Jacquie Waine, describing life and events that occurred locally during that turbulent period.*

*The Local History Society and Bishop's Cleeve libraries hold a variety of publications from years gone by. See the LHS web page for a full list.*

*Caroline Mellor Chair, Gotherington and Area Local History Society*

## GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB

Contact: David Ward on 675080 or Christine Godsell on 672821  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/petanque](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/petanque)

*Hello all. I need to open this newsletter with a sincere apology. Last time I was very remiss and failed to update you on the Petanque Shelter. Having told you it was all happening, I completely forgot to share with you the club's delight at completing the shelter and work on the piste. More importantly, the club appreciate the help in financing the project from the Parish Council and from Pat Herbert. Many of you will have known Dennis who was a founder member of the Petanque Club and, following Pat's generous contribution in his memory and everything he did for the club, we are proud to name the shelter after Dennis. Pat and her family attended and formally opened the shelter, in front of representatives from the Parish Council and the contractor, as well as members of the club. It is ideal for our purpose and has been used a few times already.*

*Our club has gained some new members recently, who are enjoying getting to grips with the boules as well as the rules and nuances of play. New members are always welcome – so come and see what we are about. There is probably more to it than you realise and it can be very addictive and certainly a lot of fun!*

*Most of our internal competition and social events have now finished but we still have the Autumn Averages to play. It's like a 10 week melee – we play our normal games but record the results, so it is very random and sometimes the results are very surprising. Awards and medals are given out at our AGM, when some of us have forgotten who won. So it's like a double whammy and celebration!*

*Come and see us – times and contact numbers are on the back of Topics.*

**SEE YOU ON THE PISTE!**

**Christine Godsell** Secretary

## GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Firstly, I'm sad to report the resignation of Sylvia Stokes from the Gotherington Parish Councillor and her position as Vice Chair. Her efforts in all aspects of Council business, but most particularly in Planning and Environmental issues, will be sorely missed. On a personal level, I will miss the reassuring support and assistance she has given me over the past eight years. With Sylvia's approval, I include below the reasons given for her departure using extracts from her resignation document;

*"Unfortunately in recent months I have been deeply saddened by the efforts of a few villagers to undermine the confidence in, and appreciation of, the work carried out by the Council, which is held by the majority of the residents. I do not see my role as a Councillor as spending considerable time and energy countering false rumour and innuendo when other important issues need to be attended to. I offer my support to the Council in its endeavours to purchase and refurbish the Church Centre to provide a further community building fit to meet the requirements of future generations."*

*The process of obtaining the full and accurate costs of the purchase and renovation are nearing completion. Invitations to tender for the refurbishment work will be invited soon and once the responses have been received, analysed and negotiated and the proposed loan has been approved the issue will be put before the Council for approval.*

*The NDP has now been approved, ("made"), by Tewkesbury Borough Council. Gotherington Parish Council appreciate the work undertaken by the Steering Group over the past three years to achieve this on our behalf. In addition, we must acknowledge the contribution to the NDP given by the Parish Council for their help and support, both financial and moral, in this achievement.*

**David Hearn**, Chairperson

## NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

*Our Gotherington Neighbourhood Development Plan was launched in September 2014 when all parishioners were invited to attend a seminar in the Village Hall. Elin Tattersall from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council explained what was involved in creating our NDP and many people volunteered to help. I offered to be the NDP Chairman and our application to Tewkesbury Borough Council to designate Gotherington and Gotherington Fields as a Neighbourhood Area was acknowledged.*

*In October 2014, we held a Seminar in the Church Building with 15 attendees. A steering Group comprising the following people: Iain Angus; Phil Aplin; Paul Hughes; Caroline Ryman; Howard Samuels; Simon Tarling; David Ward (Chairman). During the last two and a half years, the Steering Group held a total of 32 Steering Group meetings, some with TBC Planners, and organised a series of events to which all residents were invited.*

*We held a 'Public Event' in February 2015 and a 'Public Open Weekend' in July 2015 with the aim of ensuring we had the backing of the majority of Gotherington residents. We also liaised with our Consultants, Kirkwells, and attended meetings with interested developers following our 'Call for Sites'. The Steering Group has shown tremendous commitment and dedication during the last three years and their hard work culminated in the Village Referendum held on 20<sup>th</sup> July at which a total of 536 people cast their ballots and 499 voted "Yes". So 63.2% of registered voters took part and 93.1% were in favour of the Neighbourhood Development Plan – an impressive result!*

*The formal ratification of the Neighbourhood Development Plan by Tewkesbury Borough Council took place on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The Steering Group will now maintain a watching brief and be ready to consider what further action may be needed if any developers mount any challenges. We must now all trust that the GNDP will protect us in the next 15 years from all unwanted development.*

**David Ward**

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

[www.gotherington.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch](http://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*

*There are many different levels of crime and here in Gotherington what little crime we have is normally classified as anti-social behaviour. However, there have been some burglaries recently and we all need to be extra vigilant. We need to be watchful and if anything seems suspicious, pick up the phone and report your concerns.*

### *Feeling Safe in your home*

*Bogus callers (sometimes called distraction burglars) usually prey on elderly or vulnerable households. The effect of their deception can be devastating. Some of the most common ruses used are for someone to turn up uninvited on your doorstep and claim to be from a utility company or someone who needs to check your property.*

*Often you don't want to appear rude by asking them to leave but it is your home and you have every right to ask people to leave.*

*So the following advice applies:*

- before you answer the front door, make sure the back door is locked.*
- if you're not sure, don't open the door!*
- ask them to leave and then call the police on 999.*
- never leave someone inside your house while you go to check anything they've said to you.*

**Howard Samuels**

## PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: [rachel@avasoft.co.uk](mailto:rachel@avasoft.co.uk) (07769 854004)

[gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk)

*It's been a busy start to the school year. It has been lovely to see the return of many familiar faces and I would like to welcome the new parents and children that we have been seeing and hope that they are enjoying the group. The vibrant nature of the group allows the children to build confidence outside the home environment and to form early relationships with peers while parents enjoy a cuppa and a chat.*

*During the summer, as well as continuing the Tuesday sessions in the Village Hall, on Fridays we visited playgrounds around North Gloucestershire. This was a lovely opportunity for the children to play outdoors and visit some new and not so familiar places. Luckily, the weather smiled on us and no sessions were rained off.*

*At our committee meeting in August, we discussed the forthcoming year and began planning for the Christmas Party. There have been major changes to the committee this year: myself taking on the role of Chair ; Kate Carver as Vice-chair; Helen Harrison as Secretary; Hannah Fraser for Events; Mandy Davidson-Smith for Crafts and Wendy Xu for Provisions. I am thrilled that Margaret Everitt will be continuing her good work as Treasurer. Also, many thanks to Katie Tuffery for all her hard work over the last year which has ensured that this invaluable community group has continued to thrive. And thanks also to Kim Rhodes and Julie Panthin for their contributions as they have also stepped down from the committee.*

*We continue to meet in the Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30 - 11.30am. As a parent-run group we rely on volunteers to make sure the sessions can take place each week. We have some very dedicated parents and carers who regularly commit to volunteering and I would like to thank them all for their continued support.*

**Rachel Evans**