

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	
Baby and Toddler Group	Tue, Fri 9.30am	Clair	gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk
Brownies	Mon 6.00pm	Kirsten Stillman	(673218)
Cricket Club		Rob Sharp	(678057) / Brian Cosgrove (676216)
Church of England		Richard Reakes (675559)	richard.vicarage@gmail.com
Churchwardens (Woolstone/Oxenton)		Sarah Whitehead (674489) / Michael Bower (672900)	
Parochial Church Council Secretary		Pauline Bower (672900)	
Football Club (Junior)		Rob Sharp	(678057)
Gardening Club	3rd Wed 8pm	Kirsty Buxcey	(675175)
Gotherington Singers	1 st , 3 rd & 5 th Mon 8pm	Chair Sally Newbury (317276).	
		Secretary: Lesley Nicholls (222853)	
Local History Society	4th Tue 7:30pm	Caroline Meller (677489) / Ken Ascroft (673192)	
Neighbourhood Watch		John Hicks (676848) / Mary Manders-Trett (674592)	
		Howard Samuels (672492)	
		Les Howard 677949 / Berian Thomas 674397	
Old Chapel Bookings		Bev Osborne (07974101659)	oldchapelbookings@gmail.com)
Oxenton Village Hall	Chairman:	Jenny Lockwood (07789 818361)	
	Secretary:	Linda Howard	
Oxenton Village Bookings:		Lorraine Dodd (352258)	
Parish Council	2nd Wednesday 7.30pm	Howard Samuels (672492)	chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Parish Council Clerk		clerk	clerk@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Freeman Field/Rex Rhodes Building Bookings		gotherington.org.uk/bookings/	
Petanque Club	Sun, Wed, Fri	Mary Manders-Trett (674592) / 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	Rotating Chairman	
	Secretary	Kevin Gowing (672240)	
	Bookings	gotherington.org.uk/bookings/	
	Treasurer	Howard Samuels (672492)	
Village Hall Coffee Mornings. 1st Sat excl Jan & Aug		Christine Godsell (672821)	
Wine Club	Chairperson	Howard Samuels (672492)	hsamuels@btinternet.com
3rd Tue 8pm	Secretary	Christine Godsell (672821)	cgodsell1967@gmail.com
W.I. 4th Wed 7.30pm	President	Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - s.all.newbury@gmail.com	
	Secretary	Rosemary Bishton (01242 677290)	

GOTHERINGTON TOPICS

Summer 2021 Edition



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Andrews

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G-FEST 3 DAYS OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

Email: gfest2021@gmail.com

Thank you to the many people who came along to not only support the event but also to meet friends and have a good time. Saturday afternoon was organised by FOGS (Friends of Gotherington School) with lovely weather and a large crowd which set the theme for the rest of the weekend.

We had some wonderful performers and Saturday showcased local talent and how lucky we are in the Village as they all put on such a great show. Sunday night was wonderful and it was great to see young Sam Strachan return to the Village. Jon Clare finished the evening off and the dance floor was full of people enjoying themselves.

Saturday night was a BBQ and Sunday a hog roast. All the food was prepared by The Shutters and supplied by Andy Hill (Bishops Cleeve). Monday afternoon was a little more relaxed with cream teas at the Pavilion, a Pizza Van and Mr Whippy - all very popular with all ages I might add.

We enjoyed some wonderful performers to entertain us all and something extra with Amanda being covered in baked beans in aid of her charity.

We would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who helped set up before and then helped tidy up after the festival. And those behind the bar serving all the thirsty drinkers and those helping with serving of the food - thank you all for your help - a real team effort.

The Event team have all worked very hard over the past few months to put on this event. We have had a lot of fun organising it (in spite of a few hiccups along the way) and the feedback has made it all worthwhile.

We have opened a Gotherington Events bank account to hold the profits from this year's event which will be used for future events and hopefully accrue over the years for the benefit of all. Thank you again from the Event Team for your support and wonderful feedback.

Christine Godsell
Linda George

Coral Patel
Ray Chase

Jenny Ross
Howard Samuels

TOPICS OF INTEREST

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

The next edition (Autumn 2021) is due out during the week starting Monday 6th December 2021.

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

As at September 2021

Name	Role	Phone	Email
Jessica Beddows		07435963269	cldr.beddows@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Matt Dean			cldr.dean@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Beverly Osborne		675741 07974101659	cldr.osborne@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Mavis Rear	(Vice Chair)	674470	mavis.rear@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Howard Samuels	(Chair)	672492 07707467736	chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Contacts – General

Police	(01452 726920)
Gotherington P.O. & Stores	(672249)
Gotherington Nurseries	(676722) www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk
The Shutters	(01242 300100)
Gotherington Primary School	(675454)
Doctor's Stoke Road	(674676)
Cleavelands Medical Centre	(672669)
Hospital Transport (Gill Lofts)	(674129)
GOWNS	(07752 152485)
Village Agent	(07810 630244) or 01452 426868
Borough Councillor Mike Dean	councillor.dean@tewkesbury.gov.uk
County Councillor Rob Bird	(01242 663709) councillor.hollaway@tewkesbury.gov.uk
Garden House Nursery School	(07913256364/01386 81886)
Yoga [Tuesdays] Sarah Martin	(269765) sarahmartinyoga@hotmail.co.uk

GOTHERINGTON, WOOLSTONE & OXENTON W.I.

Contacts President - Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sall.newbury@gmail.com
Secretary - Rosemary Bishton (01242 677290) - rosemary.bishton1@btinternet.com

During the past months, our WI members have continued to keep in touch and enjoy some interesting speakers on Zoom and also by meeting up in small socially distanced tea parties in each other's gardens.

In July, we were all able to have a lovely get together in Rosie and John Bishton's beautiful garden for a buffet lunch. On a hot sunny day, there was plenty of shade beneath the trees and it was so good to see everyone. We treated ourselves to an outside caterer – Home Flair Catering – who brought individually covered plates of tasty savouries followed by a cupcake. Drinks were kindly provided by Rosie and John.

Our meetings at the Village Hall started in August when we welcomed David Cramp who gave an interesting and beautifully illustrated talk about Garden Birds and we are looking forward to a full programme of speakers and events over the coming months.

Our Thursday Art Group in Oxenton Village Hall started again on 2 September and we plan to resume our monthly pub lunches soon. Carol recently organised a small card making class and may do more. We are also looking forward to arranging other craft activities and outings before too long.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. at Gotherington Village Hall and always welcome visitors and new members. Do come along or go to our website to find out more about our WI – www.gwowi.org.uk.

Jill Parsons

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Contact: Clair Henebury
gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk

We have been delighted with how popular the group has become since returning after a break. It has been wonderful to see the children interacting and playing together again as well as the adults having a chance to chat!

We meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday mornings 9.30 - 11am. Families are welcome to drop in anytime when nap times allow! Our group welcomes babies and children up to pre-school age.

We are still using our booking system and the details are shared each week on our Facebook and Instagram pages as well as our weekly email.

We only charge £2 per family and provide snacks for the children as well as teas and coffees for the adults. Our sessions are mainly "free play", offering children the chance to play with a variety of toys and resources. We have a snack time together and enjoy singing some of our favourite songs to finish.

The group is run by parents and we are looking for extra help from anyone who could help us on a regular or occasional basis. If you think you could help, we would love to hear from you.

If you would like to get in touch with us you can email us at gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk or follow our Facebook and Instagram pages 'Gotherington Toddlers' for regular updates and ticket booking.

Clair Henebury

GOTHERINGTON BROWNIES

Contacts: Amy Steger 07972264578
gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk

Gotherington Brownies are looking forward to returning to face to face meetings this term. The Brownies have been meeting virtually for the last 18 months and have had a great time completing lots of challenges and badges.

I will be taking over from Kirsten while she is away, and the team and I really look forward to welcoming the Brownies back in person.

Having seen all the amazing activities and achievements they made on zoom, it will be exciting to get together and celebrate these. We will also be looking forward to the year ahead, and finding out what the Brownies have been up to over the summer holidays.

We have lots of activities and events coming up over the next term, including Parliament Week and Remembrance, as well as completing interest badges and continuing to work towards Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

Brownies usually meet on Monday evenings in the Village Hall for 7-10 year old girls. We have spaces at the moment, and if your daughter is not yet 7 and you would like to add her to the waiting list, or if you know anybody whose daughter would like to join, then please do get in touch.

Extra help is always appreciated, so if anyone would like to come and support as a leader regularly or occasionally then please do contact me.

Having been involved in Brownies for a number of years, I am really looking forward to leading the Gotherington Brownies while Kirsten is away. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Amy

GOTHERINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Contacts: Kevin Gowing - Secretary (01242 672240 e: kevin.gowing@gmail.com)
Howard Samuels - Treasurer (01242 672492 e: hsamuels@btinternet.com)

Trustees: C. Godsell, K. Rhodes, K. Gowing, H. Samuels, B. Osborne, M. Manders-Trett

Bookings: gotherington.org.uk/bookings

Website: <http://www.gotheringtonvillagehall.btck.co.uk>

It's wonderful to see so many groups now back using the hall. We're pleased to have new classes starting up and very happy that coffee mornings are planned to return from 2nd October. Details can be found on the page opposite.

Since our last update, we've been making several improvements to the exterior of the hall – including freshening up the paintwork, and installing new noticeboards. We are also sending out a big plea for volunteers to help with the running of the hall. Later this year Kevin Gowing will be stepping down from the Committee, and will be sorely missed! We meet once every 2 months and have several posts that need to be filled on the Committee.

In particular we are looking for people who can help us with the following:

Maintenance – dealing with maintenance issues and organising tradesman as needed.

Secretary – scheduling meetings, taking minutes and maintaining records.

Bookings – managing bookings using our online diary

If you feel you could help out with any of these tasks, or would just like to get involved, please do get in touch!

We plan to hold our A.G.M in October and new members will be welcomed.

More information on the Hall and making a booking can be found on the website.

Kim Rhodes (Acting Chair GVHMC)

VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

Contact: Christine Godsell cgodsell1967@gmail.com / tel 672821

Well – zippedeedoodah!!! We are opening again on October 2nd – usual time 10:30am until 12noon. And I, for one, can't wait. So exciting!

I know you have missed our coffee mornings so we hope to see many of you back again for the usual delights. We have decided not to have any craft tables so that we will have more room for you.....but we will still have the books and the hosts may have a table too.

For October, The Local History Society are going to make cakes for us, and we shall have our bacon rolls back as well. So there is a lot to look forward to.

If you are new to the village, I want to let you know that we make no charge to enter, have no raffles, and our prices are ridiculously low. We have home-made cakes and well-filled bacon rolls. Tea, coffee and biscuits – and, of course, it wouldn't be Coffee Morning without catching up with old friends and making new ones. Children are very welcome and we have a little table for them to chat and do some colouring.

If you or your children are in the field playing football or cricket, we can supply you with take-away cups. Or, bring them in without their boots for a hot drink and bacon roll when you finish.

Due to the very nature of the hall and of our coffee mornings, we shall find it difficult to keep people socially distanced, so please be aware of that before you come. If you feel uncomfortable about it, then perhaps wait a little longer before returning. But we can all take sensible precautions, clean hands (there is gel at the door and in other places) and please, don't come if you are feeling unwell or believe you have been in close contact with someone who has Covid-19. That way we can all look after ourselves, keep everyone safe and continue to enjoy our social activities.

Christine Godsell

NEWS FROM THE VICAR!

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

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

Dear Friends

By now, most of you will know that Claire and I have moved from Gotherington and now live eight miles south of Leicester in a large village called Countesthorpe where I have been appointed Rector of four churches of The Four Saints Benefice.

It was a hard decision to move from a place which we loved and were made so welcome and spent seven very happy years.

I am so grateful to be given this opportunity to thank all those who made our time in Gloucestershire so special. Unfortunately, the pandemic meant that we were prevented from saying goodbye to a lot of people, but I hope this short message will act a small token of our appreciation and we offer you our thanks for all the lovely messages and gifts we received.

There are several highlights that come to mind of our time in Gotherington, including the garden parties that Claire and I held in our garden at The Vicarage, the renovation and restoration of The Old Chapel and also helping with the online bingo sessions and quizzes that the Trustees ran during lockdown, Open The Book assemblies in Gotherington School and there are so many more that I could mention.

But Claire and I knew that at some point we would have to leave the village and move on and it was during these recent few months that we felt God calling us to pastures new. We will miss you all and we look back, as I have said, with many fond memories.

Please be assured that we continue to remember you in our prayers.

With our sincere gratitude.

Richard and Claire

GARDENING CLUB

www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club

Club Zoom talks have included two brilliant presentations:

Plant Hunters in the 21st Century by Sophie Leguil who stressed the importance of botanical gardens, research and conservation and

Secrets of the wildlife garden by Nick Martin who shared an enchanting photographic journey through his suburban garden.

Our annual plant sale on the playing fields raised modest but much needed funds and gave us a chance to meet members in the open air. Our first “members’ open gardens” was very popular thanks to nine very different and inspiring village host gardens. This was arranged (due to Covid) instead of the Annual Garden Party but may be repeated in future.

Upcoming Events (also see village Facebook) to which guests & the curious are always welcome:

Sept 7: Group Visit to Ampney Brook House Gardens, Glos

Sept 15: An Evening with Reg Moule, Gotherington Nurseries (thank you Mark & Liz); our first face to face meeting since Feb ‘20

Oct 20: Classic, Rare & Unusual Bulbs, Gill Hazel, village hall

Nov 17: “Of Mead & Flowers, an Appreciation of Medieval & Monastic Gardens”, Nathalie Mignotte, village hall

Dec 15: Club Christmas Party, to be confirmed

Note: We meet the 3rd Wednesday evening of the month

Kirsty Buxcey

GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB

Contact: Christine Godsell cgodsell1967@gmail.com / tel 672821

Apart from that incredibly hot weather we’ve had, when it was almost too hot to play, we have not enjoyed the best weather this Summer. But it hasn’t stopped us playing and we have had a really good turnout on some occasions. Yes, we are still taking some precautions so that we don’t handle each other’s coches or boules, and we are allowing space for players to retrieve their boules safely without crashing into each other. The system is working, so we shall stick to it for the time being.

We had a great competition last month – not too many entrants, but such a lot of fun, prizes and picnic to boot!!! What more can we ask?

As usual – if you have not played before, maybe you are new to the Village and want to know what it’s all about, then please do get in touch. All the details are on the back page. Don’t think you will be hopeless – we all were when we started and it really does not take long to get into the swing of it – quite literally! We have some spare boules you can borrow and you do not need to come with a partner. We can play with odd numbers – no problem, and we mix up anyway.

We are a light-hearted bunch and try not to take things too seriously. So – if you want some gentle exercise, fresh air, great company and fun – come and find us.

SEE YOU ON THE PISTE!

Christine Godsell

GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

www.gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk / Facebook: @GPCNoticeboard

Contact: Howard Samuels 672492 / 07707467736 or

Contact: Clerk@gotherringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

The Parish Council are back in the Rex Rhodes Building (RRB) for their monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

The Manor Lane (Truman's Farm) application went before the TBC Planning Committee on the 17th August and was refused by a unanimous decision. Very good news indeed. The other major proposed development on The Meadow went to the High Court as a planning statutory review but at the time of writing we have been informed that the judgement in this case has been reserved to a later date. Date not currently known.

We have installed a new "Vehicle Activated Sign" just before the entrance to The Grange on Malleson Road. This now means we have three of these signs in the Village. This new sign has a smiley face if you drive within the speed limit (30mph). Hopefully this is what you'll see as you approach it!

Many residents have seen Airband (high speed internet) working in the Village. Airband realise that customer relations have not been good so hopefully you have all received letters from them explaining their position.

We feel that all of our community buildings are in need of broadband and WIFI. Access is almost impossible particular in areas such as within Freeman Field and I'm sure many other areas as well. The aim is to have all those areas that suffer from poor WIFI reception to be covered in future.

This now brings me to the significant problem that the Parish Council faces in carrying out all of these tasks - and this is the lack of Councillors. We currently have 5 councillors out of 9. Being a Councillor is a voluntary position and we need more to enable us to do everything that is required. If you feel that you will be able to help and get involved, then please contact the Clerk for more information or give me a ring if that is easier.

Howard Samuels, Chair of the Parish Council

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NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk

Contact: Phone 01242 676722

For Autumn, we have an amazing choice of home-grown autumn and winter bedding plants including pansies, violas, wallflowers, polyanthus and cyclamen. Our range of basket and container plants are grown for their beautiful foliage and add interest to baskets and containers. Seasonal hanging baskets and containers are available too.

Our Spring flowering bulbs are 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 left over lawn feed products from the Spring as this will cause soft, new growth which will be then affected by the frost and consequently damage the lawn.

In the shop, we have hand tools ideal for those Autumn jobs such as clearing leaves, planting bulbs, harvesting fruit and pruning. We've taken delivery of our new stock of shrubs for Autumn colour, heathers, soft fruit bushes, potted hedging plants, ornamental and fruit trees. Plant now so they have time to get established before the colder weather arrives. Bare root hedging will be available late October. Our bird care is stocked up with specialist feeds, feeders and bird tables. And don't forget those gifts for the keen gardener or birdwatcher including National Garden Gift Vouchers.

A reminder that we are open 9am – 5pm Monday to Saturday and 10am – 4pm on Sundays. View our website at www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk and see our Facebook page and Instagram for regular updates and pictures.

We wish you well for the season ahead and thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and happy gardening!

Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries

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GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

Secretary: **Sally Newbury** (Tel. 317276)

www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk

After meeting on Zoom for over a year, we are very pleased to be able to resume rehearsals and welcome our new Musical Director, Maddie Kirby.

We are a friendly and sociable women's choir, meeting on Mondays in term time at Gotherington Village Hall – 7.45-9.45 pm. New members are always welcome – whether new to singing in a choir or experienced. Why not come along for a free trial? You will be made very welcome!

During the Autumn Term, we will be preparing for our Charity Christmas Concert to be held at St. Michael's in Bishops Cleeve on Saturday 11 December at 7.30 pm. For more information about us, please telephone 317276 or see our website gotheringtonsingers.co.uk

Catherine Newbury (Chair, Gotherington Singers)

GOTHERINGTON HEDGEHOG TRAIL

Contact: Jenny Ross 317536 hedgehogtrail@gmail.com

www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk

The Hedgehog Trail is back! Thank you to all our wonderful artists in the village and to everyone who has given a home to a hedgehog this year.

We have 186 wonderful hedgehog designs hidden around Gotherington and Woolstone for families to find. The map and Trail Guide, which has pictures of ALL the hedgehogs you're looking for, can be picked up from The Shutters and Gotherington Nurseries this year, for a suggested donation of £10 per family. Our thanks go to Adelfi Care Services who are our 2021 Sponsor. Their sponsorship means that 100% of your donations will go directly to the three local charities that are supported by The Hedgehog Trail: Vale Wildlife Hospital, The Old Chapel Community Project and Friends of Gotherington School (FOGS).

This year our Hedgehog Trail is running up until Sunday November 7th when all the hedgehogs head into hibernation!

Jenny

THE OLD CHAPEL

Contact: gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com

www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk

The summer has flown by for those involved in the refurbishment of the interior of the Old Chapel. Special thanks goes to trustees Brian Davies, Eddie McLarnon, Rod Churchill and Phil Aplin for their sterling work, as well as others who have rolled their sleeves up to progress the refurbishment. At the time of writing it is all go – we have a fantastic new chandelier, new chairs are being ordered, and LED lighting is being fitted behind our beautifully refurbished coat rails.

I'm sure that you will be pleased to know that the refurbished Old Chapel will be unveiled soon. We are aiming for an open day launch in October. On reopening, the Old Chapel will once again be a community hub for the village – for groups, coffee and craft mornings, after-school clubs and of course welcoming the return of the ever-popular Film Club.

The Old Chapel will be available to hire as soon as our renovation is complete. If you are interested in hiring the space for regular bookings or private events, please call the bookings secretary on 07994101659 or email oldchapelbookings@gmail.com

Finally, I'm passing on the baton for writing the Old Chapel Topics entry, as I'm moving out of the village for a couple of years – Jenny Ross will be a more than capable replacement.

Andy

GOTHERINGTON FILM CLUB

Contact: Peter Rhodes gotheringtonfilmclub@gmail.com

www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk

As The Old Chapel nears re-opening, we are busy getting new equipment ready to invite you back to the Film Club to enjoy more family and evening films! We hope to be fully up and running before Christmas and can't wait to share a drink and an interval ice-cream with you very soon!!!

Pete & Alan

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

www.gotherington.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch

Mary Manders-Trett (Malleson Road) 674592

Howard Samuels (Shutter Lane) 672492

Report a Crime - Contact the Police:

Reporting an emergency 999 or 112 Reporting non-emergencies 101

Bogus Callers 0300 123 2040 Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

What is a scam?

Scams (a slang term for personal fraud) are crimes where the perpetrator tries to swindle the victim out of money or out of personal information to steal their money later.

We've looked at the psychology around why people fall victims to scams, to help people protect themselves against the huge number of scams that are happening every day.

We also know that victims of scams often report that in hindsight they felt something wasn't quite right at the time. We are raising awareness of the tactics scammers use, and encouraging you to 'stop and think' if something doesn't FEEL, SEEM, LOOK or SOUND right, allowing time to trust your gut instinct and help prevent you from becoming a scam victim.

Any of us can be caught out by scammers. They deliberately target our better natures and use psychological tactics, like being overly friendly or pretending to do you a favour, making you a limited-time offer, telling you everyone else has done something or trapping you into doing little tasks for them. If you sense something's not quite right, give a clear, firm "no". Politeness and fear of offence can make us more vulnerable – so we want to tell people it's ok to be firm in telling scammers you are not interested

Howard Samuels

WINE CLUB

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

www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club

www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub

Did you know that Oenophobia is the fear of wine? It might be hard to believe but for some people, seeing or coming into contact with wine can induce paralyzing fear.

Taking that to one side for the moment, Gotherington Wine Club provides Village residents and beyond informal monthly meetings at which we taste wines relating to a particular theme.

We had a very enjoyable summer evening in July at the Pavilion where we enjoyed our own picnic, glasses of Pimms and a sing song with our resident crooner and it was just so nice to be together again.

The meetings are intended to be informal and inclusive, providing an opportunity for members to socialise and to welcome newcomers to the Village

We typically meet in the Village Hall on the third Tuesday of the month, except for December when we have our Christmas party and July is our picnic at the Pavilion and August our summer outing.

Meetings start at 8pm (doors are open from 7.00pm) and include a wide range of topics.

Our normal evenings consist of a specialist speaker or an inhouse evening, always with a selection of wines to taste. This is followed by a ploughman's supper and lots of wine and laughter.

You can keep up to date with the latest Wine Club news on our Facebook page and our web site.

Howard Samuels, Chairperson

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

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

We provide a safe environment for all players, spectators and coaches and this has become even more important with the advent of Covid-19.

It has proved to be an excellent season so far across all age groups, despite the elongated breaks, especially the third Lockdown from December to April. Several sides reached cup finals and mini leagues.

As previously reported, the Girls section has grown incredibly this year with over 40 players involved and we are likely to be fielding as many as 4 sides next season with between 50-70 girls playing. Stewart Peters has done a wonderful job and will need support to maintain the momentum.

Abygail Punch organised a wonderful funday in July with awards across all age groups including most improved and players' player awards as well as manager's player. Also, all players received a Gotherington Juniors water bottle and were able to enjoy the funday matches alongside bouncy castles, assault courses and external catering.

This was all topped off by having England legend Sir Geoff Hurst along to hand out all the awards. A huge thank you to Sir Geoff and Andreas for inviting him along.

The new season commenced in September and we look forward to another year of positive sporting activity. We have a hard working Committee with several new additions.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any club, from marking the pitches, raising funds, and behind the scenes admin to running coaching sessions and matchdays. If your son or daughter is involved in the Club please look for opportunities to help with some of these tasks as it will be greatly appreciated.

Rob Sharp, Chairman and Secretary GJFC

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Pat Sory (620681) / Caroline Meller (677489)

<http://gotherington.org.uk/history-society/>

Autumn Talks

Our new season of talks gets under way on Tuesday 28th September, 8pm, when Philip Ashford will be speaking about the Berkeley Plantation in Virginia, 1619-1622. This will be followed in October by a talk given by Dr. Simon Draper called 'Making a Living on the River Severn'. In November, John Reid will give an insight into the world class sculptures that can be found in many of our Gloucestershire Churches, and then at our Christmas meeting, which takes place one week earlier than normal on December 14th, Kirsty Hartsiotis will tell some winter tales to get us into the festive spirit.

All our meetings take place at the village hall and visitors are always welcome if you see a particular talk that appeals. Please note that the first three meetings will start at 8pm rather than 7.30pm. Check our web page if you want to see more details.

Just Monthly Coffee Morning

The LHS will be the first group to supervise the village coffee morning on Saturday 2nd October. It's hoped that, as pre-pandemic, many of our cakes will have been baked from recipes of the past. This will also be an opportunity to purchase (cash only) a variety of second-hand local history books. All proceeds will go towards supporting local history events.

40th Anniversary

If you have any ideas as to how the LHS should mark this special anniversary next year please get in touch.

Caroline Meller, Local History Society Secretary