

## Contacts – Village Organisations

ORGANISATION & MEETINGS		Contact
1 <sup>st</sup> Gotherington Beaver Scout)	Fri	Ady Joy – (07795 097704)
1 <sup>st</sup> Gotherington Cub Scouts	Thu	Sarah Phillips – (07899 885294)
1 <sup>st</sup> Gotherington Cub Scouts	Fri	Michelle Rails – (07748 536510)
1 <sup>st</sup> 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		
Churchwardens (Woolstone/Oxenton)		Bob Wickens (679345)/ 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 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> 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 Book Club		Linda Pawley (0124236153) linda@thepawleys.co.uk
Old Chapel Bookings		Emily (07855279778) 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@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 <sup>th</sup> Bonfire)		Gary Thompson (676708) / Robert Swinson (675693)
Tennis Club		Ian Donnelly (674404)
Village Hall (Gotherington)	Committee	Rotating Chairman
	Secretary	Caroline Meller gotheringtonvhsecretary@gmail.com
	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) - sally.newbury@gmail.com
	Secretary	Rosemary Bishton (01242 677290)

# GOTHERINGTON TOPICS

## Winter 2021 Edition



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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 2021 is due out during the week starting 14th March 2021.

You can find the most recent edition of Topics on the village website at [www.gotherington.org.uk](http://www.gotherington.org.uk)

Contributions for Topics should be emailed to the Editor at [gotherington.topics@gmail.com](mailto:gotherington.topics@gmail.com)

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

As at September 2021

Name	Role	Phone	Email
Jessica Beddows		07435963269	<a href="mailto:cllr.beddows@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">cllr.beddows@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Matt Dean			<a href="mailto:cllr.dean@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">cllr.dean@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Beverly Osborne		675741 07974101659	<a href="mailto:cllr.osborne@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">cllr.osborne@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Mavis Rear	(Vice Chair)	674470	<a href="mailto:mavis.rear@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">mavis.rear@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Howard Samuels	(Chair)	672492 07707467736	<a href="mailto:chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>

## Contacts – General

Police	(01452 726920)
Gotherington P.O. & Stores	(672249)
Gotherington Nurseries	(676722) <a href="http://www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk">www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk</a>
The Shutters	(01242 300100)
Gotherington Primary School	(675454)
Doctor's Stoke Road	(674676)
Cleevelands Medical Centre	(672669)
Hospital Transport (Gill Lofts)	(674129)
GOWNS	(07752 152485)
Village Agent	(07810 630244) or 01452 426868
County Councillor Alex Hegenbarth	(07872533228 ) <a href="mailto:alex.hegenbarth@gloucestershire.gov.uk">alex.hegenbarth@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a>
Borough Councillor Mike Dean	<a href="mailto:councillor.dean@teWKesbury.gov.uk">councillor.dean@teWKesbury.gov.uk</a>
Borough Councillor Keja Berlina	<a href="mailto:councillor.berliner@teWKesbury.gov.uk">councillor.berliner@teWKesbury.gov.uk</a>
Garden House Nursery School	(07913256364/01386 81886)
Yoga [Tuesdays] Sarah Martin	(269765) <a href="mailto:sarahmartinyoga@hotmail.co.uk">sarahmartinyoga@hotmail.co.uk</a>

## **GOTHERINGTON BROWNIES**

*Contacts: Amy Steger 07972264578*

*gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk*

*Gotherington Brownies have really enjoyed returning to physical meetings this term and have also welcomed new Brownies and a new unit helper.*

*This term we have worked towards some of our theme awards and took part in Parliament Week, which is a nationwide activity available for all young people and youth groups. The Brownies had some fantastic discussions and ideas, especially about climate change.*

*We have lots of activities and events coming up next term including Thinking Day. This is a special event for Girlguiding held each year where we think and learn about Girlguiding around the world.*

*We will also be completing badges and working 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, but 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.*

*Help is always appreciated, so if anyone would like to come and support as a leader regularly or occasionally then please do contact me. Without the support of our volunteers, we would be unable to run Brownies.*

**Amy**

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## NEWS FROM THE PARISH CHURCH

Contact: Bob Wickens (679345) / email: [rwickens242@gmail.com](mailto:rwickens242@gmail.com)

Churchwardens (Woolstone): Bob Wickens (679345) / Michael. Bower (672900)

*Our vicar, Richard Reakes, left this Parish in July to become a rector in Leicestershire. It was sad that circumstances meant that it was not possible at the time to say goodbye to him and Claire as we would have wished.*

*Our Parish, comprising our three villages, is part of a benefice with Bishops Cleeve and Southam. The post of Team Vicar in that benefice is now officially 'in vacancy'. Things are underway to appoint Richard's successor but the process will take several months. In the meantime, the Parochial Church Council (PCC), including the two churchwardens, has been working hard to ensure services continue at Woolstone and Oxenton Churches and that Café Church can return to the Old Chapel in Gotherington in the New Year.*

## JOIN US TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> December:** 'Carols for Christmas', Gotherington Village Hall at 4:00pm. Well-known carols, poetry and prose, followed by Mince Pies and Mulled Wine. Join us for this village tradition for all the family.

**Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December:** 'Carols and Traditional Readings' at Oxenton at 4:00pm.

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> December:** 'Crib Service' at Woolstone at 4:00pm. This is a service suitable for small children and their parents to begin Christmas. We welcome the arrival of baby Jesus in the Crib with songs, a story, and a percussion band.

**Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> December:** Welcome Christmas Day and the Holy Birth at Midnight Holy Communion at Oxenton at 11:30pm.

**Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> December:** Share the joy of Christmas with Holy Communion at Woolstone at 10:00am.

**Bob Wickens, Churchwarden**

## WINE CLUB

Contact: Christine Godsell on 672821 or [cgodsell1967@gmail.com](mailto:cgodsell1967@gmail.com)

[www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club)

[www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub](https://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub)

*The age of drinking wine was being determined ages ago by the Greek philosopher Plato. He wrote that the minimum age to consume the wine should be 18. After 18 years of age a person should drink moderately up to the age of 31. He then advised that you should later drink as much as you can to fight the crabbedness of the old age.....*

*In October, Tivoli Wines came to the Village Hall as our guest speaker and introduced us to several wines that were new to most members so we were all scribbling down the names to buy bottles ourselves. In November we have our annual wine tasting competition - Wine Taster of the Year — a most prestigious award and eagerly competed for by members.*

*Our Christmas Wine Club party is held again at The Shutters on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and we are lucky enough to have Jon Clare playing for us again.*

*We are in the process of finalising the Wine Club calendar of events for 2022 and it is looking to be an eventful year. We start off in January with the AGM followed by what we call the 'Chairman's Choice' - always a fun evening and a good time for new members to come along to find out all about us.*

*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 and meetings start at 8pm (doors are open from 7.40pm) and include a wide range of topics, lots of wine and laughter, and a ploughman's supper.*

**Howard Samuels, Chairperson**

## GOTHERINGTON, WOOLSTONE & OXENTON W.I.

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

*It has been lovely to be back in the Village Hall for our meetings, albeit with some restrictions, and we were very pleased to see our friends again and to welcome several new members.*

*Our County Chairman, Janice Cole, visited us in September and told us about events, courses and trips planned by the Gloucestershire Federation of W.I.s. During the evening, we all enjoyed a demonstration of Indian Block Printing. Our speaker, Clare Walsh, explained the origins of the craft and showed beautiful slides of the patterns, which were all hand carved into wooden blocks. Individual blocks and dyes were on sale afterwards and one member's granddaughter was very pleased to add something to an A Level Art project!*

*In October an excellent speaker, Matt Johnson, who had been a London policeman, explained how he became an Author. Experience of horrors such as the Hyde Park bomb gave him Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Counsellors suggested that he wrote about the things that he'd experienced. This evolved into combining his experiences into bestselling novels.*

*We are enjoying our monthly pub lunches, weekly art group and card making group. There are plans to expand the art group into an Art and Craft Group so that members can either paint or work on their craft activities together. Recently, some members took part in a Glass Fusion workshop and were very impressed with their results.*

*We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. at Gotherington Village Hall and always welcome visitors and new members. Our programme for 2022 has been compiled and covers a wide range of subjects.*

*Do come along or go to our website ([www.gwowi.org.uk](http://www.gwowi.org.uk)) to find out more about our WI.*

*Jill*

## COBALT CHRISTMAS CARD COLLECTION

Contacts: Abby Punch  
[abygail.punch@gmail.com](mailto:abygail.punch@gmail.com)

*After another fantastic response last year for the Cobalt Christmas card collection I will do the same again this year - so please keep hold of those Christmas cards! Keep an eye out on the village facebook page nearer the time as to the locations and last collection dates. Also, a quick reminder - if you have Birthday or Anniversary cards we can collect those too but please pop them in a separate bag to keep them separate from the Christmas cards.*

**Abby Punch**

## GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

Secretary: Sally Newbury (Tel. 317276)  
[www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk)

*We have enjoyed getting back together to resume singing with our new Musical Director, Maddie Kirby. During the Autumn Term we have been preparing for our Charity Christmas Concert, which will be held at St. Michael's in Bishops Cleeve on Saturday 11 December at 7.30 pm. Our soloist will be Flautist Judith Scholes, and our accompanist will be Alex Fishburn. We will be singing a wide range of Christmas music and Carols, which our audience will be invited to join in with. Tickets are £8 to include seasonal refreshments and we will be supporting the James Hopkins Trust. We look forward to seeing you there. For tickets, contact: 01242 620775, or 317276.*

*We are a friendly and sociable Women's Choir, who meet on Monday evenings in term time at Gotherington Village Hall from 7.45 to 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 period? You would be made very welcome! Our next term starts on Monday 10 January 2022.*

*For more information about us, please see our website [gotheringtonsingers.co.uk](http://gotheringtonsingers.co.uk) or telephone 317276*

**Catherine Newbury, Chair, Gotherington Singers**

## 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 2021 Season turned out to be excellent. The senior side won 16, lost 2 and hosted an incredible draw against the Royal Household Cricket Club.*

*The u11s won their league and cup, and the u15 side also won their league.*

*There has been considerable interest from new players, and our fixture Secretary Edward Gillespie has done an excellent job again to make sure there are plenty of opportunities for the senior and junior players with several stepping up from u15 to play for the senior side.*

*Brian and Yvonne continue to oversee the ongoing development of youth cricket with unstinting enthusiasm. They have a full programme of league and Friendly fixtures in place and coaching session every Saturday. They were also nominated for a lifetime achievement award with 27+ years of service to the Club and were invited along with the other nominees to an International game. They were subsequently nominated and won the County award for Outstanding Contributions to Coaching and will be at the National awards in Derbyshire along with the other County winners.*

*For the first time, the Seniors side used Gecko to run coaching and training sessions in April, as well as nets at Bournside School organised by Joint skippers Olly Mallory and Andrew Shakespeare.*

*There was an end of season Cricket Festival, and a Dinner at the Shutter which was attended by guests aged from 3 to 96 ( David Price). New recruit Simon Padley was persuaded to grab his guitar and with a nod to cricket dinners reported in the echo in the 1930's led some enthusiastic singing. There was also a Juniors presentation evening as well.*

*Anybody who is keen to get involved as player, administrator, umpire, scorer, groundsman, fundraiser, coach or supporter is more than welcome as any additional help is always appreciated and it can be a lot of fun.*

**Rob Sharp, Chairman GCC**

## GOTHERINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Contacts: Caroline Meller - Secretary [gotheringtonvhsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:gotheringtonvhsecretary@gmail.com)  
Howard Samuels - Treasurer (01242 672492 e: [hsamuels@btinternet.com](mailto:hsamuels@btinternet.com))

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

Bookings: [gotherington.org.uk/bookings](http://gotherington.org.uk/bookings)

Website: [www.gotheringtonvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtonvillagehall.org.uk)

*Following the AGM in October, Kevin Gowing stepped down from his combined role of GVH Secretary and GVH Maintenance.*

*We would like to thank him for the conscientious work he did whilst a Trustee and in both of the important positions he undertook whilst with us. We wish him well in the future.*

*Caroline Meller has now taken on the Secretary role of GVHMC.*

*It is good to report that all of our regular users are back hiring the Hall with new users starting up as well. The size of the Hall plus the extensive facilities makes it an ideal venue for parties.*

*We would also like to mention that hire charges remain the same for yet another year.*

*Our new website is packed full of useful information, so please have a look to find out more about the goings on at the Hall.*

*Christmas is nearly upon us and we will be having the Christmas Tree outside the Village Hall glittering away as usual and a tree with colourful decorations in the Hall.*

*The Village Hall is the hub of the Village and it is run by a group of volunteers. We are always keen for new faces to join us in the running of the Hall and if you feel that you would like to get involved then please get in touch. We meet once every 2 months for a couple of hours.*

**Howard Samuels, Acting Chair GVHMC**

## VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

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

*We are back! It has been so lovely to see you all again and you have told me how much you have missed our get-togethers.*

*The Hall User Groups are bringing along some delicious home-made cakes and helping to man the kitchen. We really appreciate it – we cannot run without that help. We are frying the best bacon we can source for rolls and you can now add a slice of Brie and some cranberry for a special treat.*

*We have tea and coffee, including de-caffeinated of both, and also hot chocolate. We have take-away cups so you can take hot drinks onto the field. And, of course, we have our book table with paperbacks of all descriptions for only 50p. Children can come and colour at their own table and make new friends. If there is anything else you would like us to do, please speak to one of the team.*

*For payment, we can only accept cash at the moment, so please bring enough with you so you can indulge yourselves and your children.*

*You can certainly rely on a warm and friendly reception. If you are new to the Village, come and say hello and encourage your neighbours too. For the longer-term residents, keep on coming – it's great to see people out and about again and enjoying each other's company.*

*Entry is free so why not come in and sit down. Our prices are incredibly good and we will never ask you to put your hand in your pocket for a raffle etc. If all you want is a chat and a cup of tea – that's fine by us. Remember, all our profits go towards the maintenance of the Village Hall.*

*We look forward to seeing you.*

*Take care, stay well*

**Christine Godsell**

## GARDENING CLUB

Contact: Kirsty Buxcey (675175)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club)

*YES, YES, YES! Real, live talks have resumed including from the one and only **Reg Moule** who spent an evening with us at Gotherington Nurseries solving our gardening conundrums. We've booked him again!*

***Gill Hazell** was our 1<sup>st</sup> speaker back in the Village Hall enlightening us on classic, rare and unusual bulbs. She also proved that tractors are easy to buy on eBay: it can be done!*

***Nathalie Mignotte** gave a brilliant historical and botanical presentation with super slides discussing the relevance of medieval gardens in the development of gardens for production and pleasure; those walled gardens kept out wild animals!*

***Upcoming Events (also see village Facebook)** guests & the curious always welcome*

***Dec 15, 7pm: Christmas Social for members** (limited tickets)*

***Jan 19 2021: Plants that changed the Course of History, Bill Laws***

***Feb 16 2021: AGM** (speaker to be confirmed)*

***March 16 2021: Plants for Awkward Corners** (ideas for tricky spots): **Julie Ritchie, Hoo House Nursery***

*Note: We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evening of the month at 7.30pm in the village hall.*

*Finally, work continues with the children at Gotherington School establishing a wildflower garden & revamping the front border: thank you to all who have donated time, tools and equipment, plants, money and wisdom.*

**Kirsty Buxcey**

## NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

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

Contact: Phone 01242 676722

*Christmas has arrived at the Nurseries with freshly cut and potted Christmas trees, freshly made wreaths, beautiful Christmas decorations, lights, tree holders and cards. Amaryllis gift packs, planted containers and houseplants are adding colour to the shop and making lovely gifts for family and friends or why not simply treat yourself! Our home-grown Winter bedding plants, hanging baskets and containers are still available. Hellebores, heathers, trees, shrubs, bare root hedging plants and soft fruit plants including raspberry canes are also available now.*

*There are great gift ideas at the Nurseries for the gardener or bird watcher in the family, from hand tools, propagation equipment and bird care products to shrubs and trees. If you are stuck for an idea why not buy National Garden Gift Vouchers, redeemable at many garden centres nationwide including Gotherington Nurseries.*

*As the colder weather and frosts arrive, we have fleece and bubble wrap to protect outside pipes and plants. And remember the birds too with our great selection of specialist bird feeds, feeders and bird tables. Logs and kindling wood are available now.*

*January will see the arrival of seed potatoes and onion sets, with Summer flowering bulbs in February and baby bedding plants arriving in March.*

*A reminder that we are normally open 9am – 5pm Monday to Saturday and 10am - 4pm on Sundays. As usual, we will close the Nurseries at **2pm** on Christmas Eve and **re-open 9am on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022**. And remember that real Christmas trees can be recycled at the Nurseries in the New Year.*

*We would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and New Year and thank you all for your continued support.*

*See us on Instagram and Facebook for regular updates.*

**Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries**

## GOTHERINGTON TENNIS CLUB

Contact: Andrew Harrington 677039 or Ian Donnelly on 674404

[www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/GotheringtonTennisClub/](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/GotheringtonTennisClub/)

[www.facebook.com/GotheringtonTennis](https://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonTennis)

*As, for many of our local sports clubs, 2021 was something of a stop start season down at the Club, with a focus on consolidation and rebuilding the Club in readiness for a full season next year. We are very grateful to our loyal members who stood by us despite us not being able to offer a full membership package of benefits this year. However, we did offset that with reduced membership fees, new family orientated membership packages, and discounted court hire rates for our members.*

*As the season progressed and restrictions eased, we were able to return to something resembling normality. Team tennis restarted, with both Men's and Lady's teams enjoying some incredible battles. Indeed, if the men knew how to win a championship tie-break they could well have been promoted – maybe a sports psychologist could be required for next season!!*

*Many thanks to our coach, Liam Gough, for the summer sessions he put on at the Club. Lady's night always seemed to be the most popular for some reason!! Liam also continues to run junior tennis on a Sunday as follows:*

*Ages 5-8 9:00 – 9:45*

*Ages 9-12 10:00- 11:00*

*We will continue to run these as long as weather conditions allow and please note there is still availability for the later session so please check our website for further information.*

*Outside the Club, one of the pleasant surprises coming out of restrictions was how busy the courts were during the Summer and Autumn months. This followed a national trend for tennis and it was great to see families coming down to the courts and enjoying our great sport in an amazing location.*

*Please see our website or Facebook page more details.*

**Ian Donnelly**



## POPPY APPEAL

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

*The Poppy Appeal is the Legion's biggest fundraising campaign and after a difficult time last year we were able to have the door to door collection and boxes in businesses around the village again this year.*

*Many thanks go to all the volunteers who collected door to door in Gotherington, Woolstone & Oxenton and to the businesses who had a box for the collection.*

*At the time of writing we have collected £1860 and we are still awaiting a few donations for the Poppy Wreaths. This is slightly more than 2019 (the last time we were able to have a collection).*

*Finally, it was good to see so many attending the service on Remembrance Sunday. We would also like to thank everyone who attended or who has contributed this year.*

**Brian & Yvonne Cosgrove**

## LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Ken Ascroft (673192) / Caroline Meller (677489)

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

### Outside Toilet Quest

*Does anyone living in an older property in the village still have an outside toilet? A group of local historians have been researching the history of water in the area and a photograph of any such building would surely be a worthwhile addition. Please contact me if you can help.*

**Caroline Meller**

## JUNIOR FOOTBALL

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

*Girls football in Gotherington continues to thrive, with between 60 and 70 players now involved across 4 teams. Stewart Peters has done a wonderful job taking this initiative forward, well supported by an ever growing team of coaches. He has also been offering the older girls the chance to help with the coaching and we hope that this will lead to more female coaches in the future. In addition to last Season's success, there has been more silverware for the Girls who beat Rodborough 4-1 to secure a cup final win.*

*The u11 boys side have also won their first medals, winning the u11 mini league that finished in November.*

*We now have an u6 (year1) side with Greg Ryan taking that side. As it stands, we don't have u7 or u8 sides but we know there is interest so please get in touch if you would like to help take one of these age groups.*

*More than ever it is important that we continue to provide a Covid-compliant and secure environment for children (and parents, guardians and family) to be outside getting exercise.*

*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.*

*We are aware that on some occasions when there are an unusual number of teams playing or training at home that inconsiderate car parking can be frustrating for local residents. We are working to improve the situation and liaising with the Parish Council.*

**Rob Sharp, Chairman and Secretary GJFC**

## LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Ken Ascroft (673192) / Caroline Meller (677489)  
<http://gotherington.org.uk/history-society/>

### Winter Talks

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, the LHS will be welcoming back Kirsty Hartsiotis to tell some more Gloucestershire Winter Tales. As this is our Christmas meeting, it's hoped that festive refreshments can be served subject to the rules and regs of the moment.

Andy Meller will be giving his talk Magic, Mystery, and John Nevil Maskelyne on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January which will include a few practical demonstrations, but he's promised that no one will actually be sawn in half!

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, Dr. Steven Blake's focus will be The Cotswold Way: 100 miles of History, perhaps giving us all inspiration to walk at least some of the trail in 2022.

Finally, on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, the story of women's suffrage, Militant Women of Glos.: their Fight for the Vote, with perhaps a nod to Mabel Malleson, will be told by Sue Jones.

All local history meetings are held at the Village Hall, starting at 8pm. Membership is £12 a year. Alternatively, non-members are welcome to come along to any talk that appeals (admission £3).

### And on Social Media

Gotherington History on Facebook aims to promote and take pride in our local heritage. Beneath our feet is evidence of 2,500 years of those who, just like us, chose to make Gotherington their home.

We also occasionally tweet on Twitter, @GotheringtonLHS, primarily to publicise our events.

**Caroline Meller, LHS Secretary**

## GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB

Contact: Christine Godsell [cgodsell1967@gmail.com](mailto:cgodsell1967@gmail.com) / tel 672821

*Hello everyone! There is not a huge amount of news to tell you at the moment. Except.....we are still playing (with Covid safety regulations in place) and having fun as usual. A lot of chatting goes on, which is lovely, but we somehow find time to put in a good few shots (with boules, not the alcoholic kind!)*

*On a Sunday morning, with glorious views over Woolstone and the sun shining on the fields highlighting a patchwork of colour, shape and size, we are happily throwing steel boules at a tiny wooden ball. In the field, the girls are playing football and dozens of parents and grandparents are there to watch. So.....next time you come, wander over to our piste and see what we are all about. You will be most welcome and any of our members will explain the rules and strategies of playing. You will be welcome to join us and give it a try. We can supply the boules so all you need is the arm to throw it! And remember – we were all rubbish when we started!!!*

*We play on Wednesday afternoons as well, for those of you who don't work or who can fit it in with your 'working from home'.*

*Next year we plan to go back to our usual programme of events – playing and social – and hope to put in a team for the Cotswold League. We have missed all that over the last 2 years.*

*We play when the sun shines, when it's cold and blowy, even when it drizzles with rain – but not when it pours down. We also play if there is snow on the ground (a rare treat) – so, no excuses.....come and give it a try.*

**SEE YOU ON THE PISTE!**

**Christine Godsell**

## GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

*www.gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk*

*Facebook: @GPCNoticeboard*

*Contact: Howard Samuels 672492 / 07707467736 or*

*Contact: Clerk@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk*

*Very disappointing news on The Meadow as the Judge did not agree with Tewkesbury Borough Council and therefore the Planning Inspector's decision to permit planning still stands.*

*The Council is currently involved in several large projects and these include the renovation of the tennis courts and the renovation of the play area within Freeman Field. We are also looking to install electric vehicle charging points within the Village and The Shutter's car park might well be a possibility.*

*Solar panels on the RRB are in early stages of discussions but in the present climate this is something that should be considered and examined closely.*

*Our footpaths are in need of some urgent TLC and extensive work is ongoing regarding improvements together with more user friendly stiles.*

*Other work includes replacing the gazebo in the bottom corner of Freeman Field. The last inspection of this shows that repairs would cost a lot of money and there comes a time when replacement is a more sensible solution.*

*We have been given 2 oak saplings from The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and thoughts as to where these can be planted are still up for debate!*

*There is also a need to bring more colour into the Village such as flower boxes and perhaps giving Shutter Island a make-over etc.*

*We have an awful lot going on at the moment and we do need help in carrying out all of the tasks that the Council are involved in. So, if you feel that you will like to help and get involved then please contact the Clerk for more information or give me ring if that is easier.*

**Howard Samuels**, Chair of the Parish Council

## GOTHERINGTON'S LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

*Contact: Lucy Barbour on 07821580995 or email [lucyannbarbour@gmail.com](mailto:lucyannbarbour@gmail.com)*

*You might have noticed a buzz in the village each night at 6pm. You may even have seen some houses with beautiful window decorations. If so, you have probably seen Gotherington's 3rd Living Advent Calendar in action!*

*The Living Advent Calendar is an idea that has been lighting up Communities for several years. It is a creative way to bless a Community and mark the countdown to Christmas. In the past two years, Gotherington has taken on this challenge in wonderful and creative ways.*

*Each night for the first 24 days in December, houses and hubs in the village will illuminate their windows with festive decorations. From the 1st to the 24th December, a window will be 'opened' each night at 6pm to help us countdown to Christmas. At 6pm there will be a small gathering on the pavement. Sometimes this might be accompanied by an offering of chocolates, minced pies, squash or even mulled wine.*

*You don't need to know people personally – instead you are all welcome to turn up and enjoy the windows together.*

*If you would like to receive a copy of the Advent Calendar which tells you where to visit each night, please get in touch with me on the contact details above.*

*Alternatively, you can find out all the dates and addresses, as well as see images and videos from each night, on our Facebook and Instagram page at:*

*[www.facebook.com/gotheringtonadvent](https://www.facebook.com/gotheringtonadvent)*

*and*

*[@living\\_advent\\_gotherington](https://www.instagram.com/living_advent_gotherington)*

*We look forward to sharing this countdown to Christmas with you!*

**Lucy**, Trainee Pioneer Minister

## THE BIG JUBILEE LUNCH - JFEST

**Save The Date – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Email: [gfest2021@gmail.com](mailto:gfest2021@gmail.com)

*As we all know by now, next year there will be an extended bank holiday from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June with 4 days of celebrations to celebrate the Queens's 70 years of service.*

*We felt that we in Gotherington should play our part in these celebrations and initial thoughts are to have 2 days of activities.*

*On the Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June we plan to have a hog roast and bar and music performed by professional singers.*

*On Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June it is **The Big Jubilee Lunch** and we aim to have our own party in Freeman Field where we can all come together in a spirit of fun and friendship.*

*We will again have live music and many other activities such as Gotherington through the ages and lots more besides.*

*These are only rough ideas at the moment but we really do welcome any suggestions and thoughts and of course help as well.*

*The Events Team of Christine Godsell, Ray Chase, Linda George, Cora Patel, Jenny Ross and Howard Samuels look forward to hearing from you as to ideas that you feel could be included to make this event extra special.*

## THE OLD CHAPEL

Contact: [gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com](mailto:gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com)

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

*The Old Chapel was officially re-opened by Rev Norman Lloyd and Vera Goodhind on October 16<sup>th</sup> and has since seen many visitors at the weekends for The Hedgehog Trail, and on Wednesdays at our new group 'Chat at The Chapel' where you can meet for a cuppa and spot of crafting.*

*It is great to see people back in the building, enjoying the space and additional facilities – there is now a fridge-freezer and microwave in the kitchen and baby changing unit in the bathroom.*

*With Christmas just around the corner, we are expecting a very special visitor to set up his Grotto on our mezzanine once again! If you would like to visit Father Christmas at The Old Chapel we will be welcoming families on the afternoon of December 11<sup>th</sup>, so do drop us an email to book a time slot!*

*This year the elves will also be helping to collect any letters you may have for Father Christmas so that he can leave his replies for us to deliver before Christmas. Whether you want to greet him in person or just leave a letter with the elves at the door, we look forward to seeing you and spreading a little Christmas magic in the village.*

*As well as all the Christmas excitement, we are busy making plans for the New Year. Our survey feedback showed an enthusiasm for arts & craft workshops so we are looking to set up a few courses for you to try out!*

*If you would like to hire The Old Chapel for your own event or are interested in running a course yourself, please call our bookings secretary Emily on 07855279778 or email [oldchapelbookings@gmail.com](mailto:oldchapelbookings@gmail.com).*

**Jenny**

## THE OLD CHAPEL BOOK CLUB

Contact: Linda Pawley, 0124236153, email [linda@thepawleys.co.uk](mailto:linda@thepawleys.co.uk)

*During the combined challenges of lockdown and the Old Chapel refurbishment, we have managed to carry on meeting either remotely by Zoom or in gardens and conservatories. So it was lovely to be able to meet again at the Old Chapel on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.*

*This was our first meeting there since before the pandemic started and we discussed "Tidelands" by Philippa Gregory. The general opinion was that it was a well written story giving us a vivid – though sometimes dark– insight into life of poor people, especially women, during the Puritan period under Oliver Cromwell. The characters were well-developed and the average of our scores was 8 out of 10.*

*Our next book to read is "The Secret Scripture" by Sebastian Barr, which will be discussed at our meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> December.*

*After that we will read "The Giver of Stars" by Jojo Moyes, for review at our meeting in February.*

*Our regular gatherings are held on the first Tuesday of each month (except January) from 7pm – 8pm at the Old Chapel.*

*We are a group of about eleven at the moment and we would welcome new members. Anyone who might be interested in joining us is very welcome to come along for coffee/tea and biscuits and try us out.*

**Linda**

## GOWNS

### *Gotherington, Oxenton and Woolstone Neighbourhood Scheme*

Contacts: 07752 152485  
<https://gotherington.org.uk/gowns/>

*Do you need help with:*

- transport to the shops, doctor, hospital or to local social events*
  - small DIY tasks, internet usage, help with minor household problems*
  - official form filling*
  - emergency childcare or carer illness*
  - recuperation after illness or treatment*
- or just simply a chat or anything of an occasional or emergency nature?*

*Or do you know someone who does?*

*GOWNS is a voluntary good neighbour initiative, set up 12 years ago and run by local residents. Its aim is to provide help to any resident of the three villages, whatever their age and circumstances and particularly those who are older or disabled.*

*During the Covid restrictions, our services had to be limited to helping with shopping and a few lifts for medical appointments. However we are now available to give our full range of support, subject to any social distancing requirements.*

***If you need assistance or just want to know more about GOWNS, please telephone the Duty Co-ordinator: 07752 152485***

*Volunteers are Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checked and insured. There is no charge for this service, but clients can be asked to cover expenses incurred and pay for such things as car parking, fuel costs, shopping, etc.*

## ***SORRY, YOU'RE BREAKING UP - I CAN'T HEAR YOU!***

*(Gotherington's poor mobile phone reception)*

*No Mobile Phone Signal? Poor Reception? If you suffer from this problem, then let's come together to try and get this important issue resolved.*

*In January a small band of volunteers will be knocking on doors and gathering information about your mobile phone reception. They will clearly identify themselves and explain the purpose of their visit.*

*These are the questions they will ask and you will also be asked if you agree for us to petition the mobile phone providers on your behalf to erect a mast to improve mobile phone reception in the village.*

- ***House Name / Number:***
- ***Street / Road:***
- ***Name:***
- ***Signature:***
- ***Reception:*** Please mark out of ten (with 1 being very poor / non-existent – 10 being excellent)

*This is entirely voluntary, and you don't have to answer any questions if you don't wish to be involved.*

*We already have a possible site, in a wooded area, on private land and we hope to have the mast disguised as a tree so that the visual impact would be minimal.*

*And please remember – the reception we need to know about is when your phone is NOT connected via wifi / broadband.*

***Cora Patel***

## ***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 Antisocial Behaviour?***

*Antisocial behaviour is defined as 'behaviour by a person which causes, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to persons not of the same household as the person.'*

***There are three main categories for antisocial behaviour, depending on how many people are affected:***

- *Personal antisocial behaviour is when a person targets a specific individual or group.*
- *Nuisance antisocial behaviour is when a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community.*
- *Environmental antisocial behaviour is when a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings*

*If you have any information on any incident, please contact the Police on 101*

### ***How to join a Watch scheme***

*Go to Neighbourhood Watch ([www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)) to find out what groups are active in your area and to register to join.*

*You can also find and contact your local Neighbourhood Watch Association or Scheme Coordinator via the same website for:*

*more information on how these schemes work and the benefits of the schemes.*

***Thank You and Please Stay Safe***

***Howard Samuels***