

## 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 Julie Jukes (07929 767113) and Gemma Carlisle
Brownies	Mon 6.00pm Kirsten Stillman (673218)
Cricket Club	Rob Sharp (678057) / Brian Cosgrove (676216)
Church of England Churchwardens (Woolstone/Oxenton) Parochial Church Council Secretary	Richard Reakes (675559) richard.vicarage@gmail.com Sarah Whitehead (674489) / Michael. Bower (672900) 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 Bookings	Bev Osborne (07974101659 oldchapelbookings@gmail.com)
Oxenton Village Hall	Chairman: Secretary: Jenny Lockwood(07789 818361) Linda Howard Valerie Martin (673233)
Oxenton Village Bookings	
Parish Council Parish Council Clerk	2nd Wednesday 7.30pm Howard Samuels(672492) chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk 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 Secretary Bookings Treasurer Rotating Chairman Kevin Gowing (672240) gotherington.org.uk/bookings/ Howard Samuels (672492)
Village Hall Coffee Mornings. 1st Sat excl Jan & Aug	Christine Godsell (672821)
Wine Club	Chairperson Secretary Howard Samuels (672492) hsamuels@btinternet.com Christine Godsell (672821) cgodsell1967@gmail.com
W.I. 4th Wed 7.30pm	President Secretary Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sall.newbury@gmail.com Rosemary Bishton (01242 677290)



# Gotherington Topics

**Spring Bank Holiday 2021**

*It is with great pleasure, considerable relief and growing optimism for the future, that I am able to offer you this Spring Bank Holiday edition of Topics. The eagle-eyed among you might have spotted that the Spring 2021 edition had been due out in March - but then it was simply too early to be sure of what, if any, events and activities might be possible as the rest of the year unfolded. So, rather than cancel the first edition of 2021, I decided it was better to delay in the hope that our Clubs and Organisations would have more to write about after Easter - and that has proved to be the case.*

*As you read (and hopefully enjoy) the following 24 pages, you'll see that plans are in place for a gradual return of many activities and meetings. You'll also find details of a 3 day community musical event (aka G-Fest) which has been carefully designed to appeal to all age groups and will provide a splendid opportunity for everyone to celebrate the special community spirit that has helped guide us through the last 12 months.*

*Having said all of that, I'm afraid that these plans remain dependent on lockdown restrictions being eased as planned. So, let's hope and pray that things continue to improve and keep in mind that we are all individually responsible for keeping ourselves and each other safe at all times!*

**The Editor**

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## TOPICS OF INTEREST

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

The date for the Summer 2021 edition will be decided when lockdown restrictions are updated.

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 May 2021

Name	Role	Phone	Email
Matt Dean			<a href="mailto:cllr.dean@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">cllr.dean@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Beverly Osborne		675741 07974101659	<a href="mailto:bev.osborne@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">bev.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)
Cleavelands Medical Centre	(672669)
Hospital Transport (Gill Lofts)	(674129)
GOWNS	(07752 152485)
Village Agent	(07810 630244) or 01452 426868
Borough Councillor Mike Dean	<a href="mailto:councillor.dean@tewkesbury.gov.uk">councillor.dean@tewkesbury.gov.uk</a>
County Councillor Rob Bird	(01242 663709) <a href="mailto:councillor.hollaway@tewkesbury.gov.uk">councillor.hollaway@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>

## **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)  
[www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub](http://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub)

*Wine is the UK's favourite alcoholic drink – ahead of beer and spirits! – and is enjoyed by millions of hard-working people, particularly in Gotherington apparently!*

*So, not much to say about the past year but we are all looking forward and the Wine Club Committee has been meeting to discuss future events.*

*The Annual Summer Picnic at the Pavilion will be our first event and that is on Tuesday July 20<sup>th</sup> 2021. We would normally go on a Wine Club outing in August but this year we've decided to give it a miss.*

*Having said that, we do hope to have a meeting in September (Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> in the Village Hall). This event will be "in house" and will be our "Fish 'n Chip Supper " evening with a few glasses of fizz.*

*Other events for 2021 are still being planned and will be advised shortly.*

*We have a strong membership at the Wine Club but there is always room for more and new members are guaranteed a warm welcome. As we have always said in the past, please come along and try us out. It is a great way to meet and make new friends*

*Our normal evenings consist of a specialist speaker or an inhouse evening, 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**

## **BABY AND TODDLER GROUP**

Contact: Julie Jukes (07929 767113)  
[gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gotheringtontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk)

*Having missed our weekly get-togethers for so long, we were very excited to finally restart the group in April. For some babies born over the last year it has been their first opportunity to meet other little ones! We have had a fantastic response from new and existing villagers with young children, along with families from surrounding areas, all of which is really encouraging for the future of the group.*

*Whilst we currently have to operate a bit differently in order to stay within Government guidelines, our sessions still offer a great opportunity for children to engage and explore whilst adults have a much-needed chance for a chat!*

*We meet in the village hall on Tuesday mornings 9.30 -11am and all with babies and children up to pre-school age are welcome. We have introduced a bookings system as numbers need to be limited for the time being.*

*The cost is £2 per family and we provide a large selection of toys and a weekly craft activity. We finish each week with a story and singing session. Drinks and snacks are currently BYO but we hope to be able to offer you a cuppa again soon!*

*The group is run by parents on a rota basis but we are always appreciative of any extra support so please do get in touch if you might be able to help out on a regular or occasional basis – we'd love to hear from you!*

*If you would like to get in touch please email us at [gotherintontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gotherintontoddlers@hotmail.co.uk) or see our Facebook or Instagram pages 'Gotherington Toddlers' for updates.*

**Julie Jukes**

## **GOTHERINGTON BROWNIES**

Contact: Kirsten Stillman 673218  
gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk

*Gotherington Brownies have been meeting on Zoom for over a year now, with the girls having lots of fun and gaining plenty of badges. We have delivered bags of craft resources and worksheets each term so that girls can join in with activities at home. And thank you to all of the parents who have become honorary Brownie Leaders during lockdown! We have recently done marble printing using shaving foam, decorated eggs for Easter, celebrated Earth Day and completed a crazy sock challenge!*

*We hope to be able to meet again face to face over the Summer months and back in the hall in the Autumn term. If anyone would like to come and help out as a Leader regularly or occasionally then please contact me. Brownies usually meet on Monday evenings in the Village Hall and is for 7-10 year old girls. We have spaces at the moment, and if your daughter is not yet 7 and you would like her to the waiting list, then please get in touch.*

**Kirsten**

## **GOTHERINGTON SINGERS**

Contact: Sally Newbury (Tel. 317276)  
Secretary: Fran Rogers (Tel. 07533 577623)  
www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk

*Although we have been unable to meet and sing together for over a year now, we have continued to get together weekly via Zoom and enjoyed singing, social evenings, quizzes and bingo – who knew this would be such a widespread method of communicating! We rehearse in Gotherington Village Hall on Mondays between 7.45 pm and 9.45 pm and plan to restart in September. We are a very friendly and sociable female voice choir and welcome new members who enjoy singing - and you do not have to be able to read music!*

*Come and sing with us for a free 3 week trial period! For more information, check out our website or ring me to find out how to join us.*

**Sally Newbury**

## **VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS**

Contact: on 01242 672821 or email cgodsell1967@gmail.com

*Hello everyone and welcome to the newcomers in the Village! I don't know about you, but I have really miss our monthly Coffee Mornings in the Village Hall. You may be wondering if they will ever go ahead again.*

*Well, the plan is that they will continue, but not just yet. The last thing we want to do is limit numbers attending – it wouldn't be the normal happy social get-together if we weren't packed in, chatting freely and creating an almost deafening noise!!*

*But.....as soon as we feel it is safe to open our doors to unlimited numbers, we will be back in action. Hopefully, that will be before the end of the year.*

*Until then – stay safe, fit and active. Meet up in small groups and practice for a full blown Coffee Morning !!*

*PS If you need access to the books, just give me a call and I will meet you at the hall.*

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

### **G-FEST - AUGUST 28TH, 29TH & 30TH**

*Saturday - the "Village People" event.*

*Sunday - professional singers, hog roast, BBQ, fire pits.*

*Monday afternoon - picnic in the park with live music*

*Tickets are only £3.00 /adult, children free, and cover the full 3 days.*

## 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](http://gotherington.org.uk/bookings)

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

*Happily, the Village Hall is gradually opening again to more groups in line with the current Government directions and these arrangements will be updated as appropriate for the ongoing situation.*

*It is good to see that we now have several "children's groups" booked in to regular slots but many of the established Clubs will not return for regular meetings for some time until restrictions on numbers are eased.*

*Work continues to allow the Management Committee to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation but this is proving to be more complicated than first envisaged.*

*Rigorous safety measures continue to take place and several maintenance issues have been attended to. A street number and secure letterbox have been installed at the front door and the water heater in the toilets will be updated ASAP.*

*There are still plenty of slots available for bookings and there has been interest from potential hirers who have been impressed with the facilities. If you would like to help in running the Village Hall as a representative of a user group or as a Trustee, please contact us for further information.*

*We hope to hold our A.G.M in July when any new members would be welcomed.*

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

**Mary Manders-Trett** (Acting Chair GVHMC)

## NEWS FROM THE VICAR!

Contact: email: [richard.vicarage@gmail.com](mailto:richard.vicarage@gmail.com) or phone: 01242 675559

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

*As I write this letter, the Church has just celebrated Easter, a season of hope, new life and resurrection. I think this year, more so than ever, we can all truly have something to look forward to as we, in this country, seem to be resurrected from the darkness of the pandemic.*

*For many of us, receiving our vaccines came with a sense of relief - there is light at the end of the tunnel. People can now meet up with family and friends, go for a pint or a meal (although sitting outside in the cold might not appeal to everyone!).*

*This gradual return to some sort of new way of living has got me thinking. Do we want to return to how things were back in early 2020, all the rushing around, and the hectic pace of living? There have been many joys that have been discovered over the past year: working from home has added a new dimension to family life (although home-schooling has brought its challenges!); the roads have been quieter and going for a walk or a cycle has been more pleasant; people have been more aware of their neighbours, often helping with shopping and the list can go on. These are things we want to continue, but the pull to return to 'just how things were' is tremendous and needs to be resisted.*

*The Church is starting to adapt to finding a new way of being. With some people reluctant to come back to in-person attendance, they still want to feel connected so they join the various online services that we are holding. In fact, the numbers attending worship shot up over the past year, something I don't think would have happened if it wasn't for the pandemic! I am sure this will continue for the foreseeable future.*

*With kindest regards*

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

## 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 is shaping up very positively despite the Covid-19 restrictions which will continue to influence how cricket is organised and played until at least June 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*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 players with 25 games scheduled mostly on Sundays but also with several midweek evenings and one Saturday fixture.*

*Brian and Yvonne continue to oversee the ongoing development of youth cricket with their unstinting enthusiasm and have a full programme of League and Friendly fixtures in place, as well as coaching sessions every Saturday morning which are extremely well attended.*

*The Senior side has also for the first time used Gecko to run coaching and training sessions in April and these have been very well attended as well as nets at Bournside School organised by joint skippers Olly Mallory and Andrew Shakespeare*

*Brian Cosgrove has also done a huge amount of work as groundsman and with his Treasurers hat on as well. We owe a "Thank You" to Rich Leeson from the Football Club for his professional surveying skills which he used to help Edward, Brian and Brian Gardiner mark out the square.*

*We will continue to adopt the appropriate Covid-friendly measures, which include regular breaks to sanitise hands and the ball every 6 overs, no sharing of equipment, "bring your own teas", and maintaining social distancing.*

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

**Rob Sharp, Chairman GCC**

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonTennis)

*After a year in enforced hibernation it's GREAT NEWS that Gotherington Tennis Club is now back open and ready for the season ahead. Inevitably it will be a season of rebuilding for many clubs like ours. So, with the Parish Council's backing, we have been able to offer a number of new incentives this year, to thank existing members for their ongoing support and encourage others to take a look at what our club has to offer: These include:*

- *A reduced annual membership fee*
- *New Family orientated Membership Packages*
- *Discounted court booking rates for members on Clubspark*
- *Free targeted coaching sessions with club coach Liam Gough. Our 'Lady's Night' has proved to be by far the most popular .....so good luck with that one Liam!*

*More good news is the reintroduction of Junior tennis sessions on a Sunday morning as the Club continues putting its emphasis on the children of the village. There are 2 age brackets with details as follows:*

*Ages 5-8      9:00 – 9:45*

*Ages 9-12     10:00- 11:00*

*There is still availability for the later session so please check our website for further information.*

*Our Club caters for all standards of players with the emphasis on fun and enjoyment for all (although if there is a budding Andy Murray out there....), so after being cooped up for so long, why not come down and give us a go?*

*For further details and for all things Gotherington Tennis, check us out on our updated website or follow us on Facebook.*

**Ian Donnelly**

## **GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB**

Contact: Mary Manders-Trett on 674592 or Christine Godsell on 672821  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/petanque](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/petanque)

*Happy Christmas!*

*Happy New Year!*

*Happy Valentines Day!*

*Happy Easter!*

*Happy, happy, happy vaccination!*

*My goodness – how the time passes with all this excitement.*

*And now – we are so pleased to have started our Petanque again. Yes, we have fewer players at the moment. And, yes, we are having to take extra care, but nothing that spoils our games and the fun we have. Any time soon we are hoping to hold one of our competition days – just to give us all something to look forward to.*

*Since the Club was last 'full steam ahead', we have had a lot of newcomers to the village. Welcome to you all and here is a brief description of the game, if you don't know already. Teams of 2 or 3 players all throw steel boules (balls) at a little coche (cochonnet, little pig, jack) to see who gets nearest! That's it! But we have a lot of fun and laughter doing it and it can get very competitive or not depending on your view of things.*

*If you are interested, the contact details are on the back page. No special skills required, all genders and ages over 16 and under 103 can play. You can come on your own or with a partner.*

*To our regulars – yipee! Back to playing!*

***SEE YOU ON THE PISTE!***

***Christine Godsell Secretary***

## **GARDENING CLUB**

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

*Garden talks by Zoom have become increasingly popular since the Club's first online AGM in February. We welcome guests and anyone interested in joining meetings/ talks which have included:*

- *Vanessa Berridge, Glos NGS County Organiser inspired us with her presentation on the history of the NGS & special Cotswold gardens*
- *George Lockwood gave a down to earth talk on Early Flowering Summer Plants (with organic gardening tips)*
- *Mandy Bradshaw: a journalist's inside view of Chelsea on Press Day was most entertaining*
- *Our very own Mary Manders-Trett has just opened her delightful spring garden to raise funds for the NGS.*

### ***Upcoming Events (also see village Facebook)***

- *May 19: Sophie Leguil: Plant Hunters in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: the History, Practice and Relevance Today.*
- *Saturday June 5: Annual Plant Sale on the playing field: any contributions gratefully received eg veg seedlings & divided plants*
- *Weds June 16 3-5pm: Members + guest invited to a village Open Gardens Event by timed ticket (instead of the annual summer garden party)*
- *July 21: Secrets of the Wildlife Garden by Nick Martin, wildlife photographer.*
- *Depending on restrictions we hope to meet face to face in the village hall by September.*
- *We're hoping to have a September group outing to a local county NGS Open Garden (own transport) instead of the twice postponed group trip to Winterbourne House & Gardens, Birmingham (now scheduled for June 2022).*

***Kirsty Buxcey***

## NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

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

Contact: Phone 01242 676722

*This year we have been blooming for 30 years! In that time there have been many challenges along the way although none so like the past year. We are grateful to our incredible staff, who continued to work during lockdown and the invaluable help we get from our volunteers and family members. A big thank you to the wider community for supporting us by placing orders.*

*We are busy with production of the summer bedding plants and planting up hanging baskets and containers. The glasshouse is a mass of different colours. In the plant area, the wide variety of cottage garden plants provide instant colour. They offer good value for money and are a great way to fill a space in a border. We have a good choice of shrubs, roses, conifers, climbers, rockery plants, herbs and vegetable plants. Our expanded tree area has a great range of ornamental and fruit trees.*

*The shop is well stocked with a range of gardening goods including tools, Hozelock products, lawn, plant & garden care products, solar lights, plant supports, gloves and cloggies. We stock a great range of bird care products including specialist feeds, feeders, and bird tables.*

*We stock specialist composts like Strulch & Carr's special organic compost, soil improver and decorative gravels. We have a range of containers including terracotta and glazed pots, barrels and plastic containers.*

*Our website can be found at [www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonnurseries.co.uk). Check our Facebook page for regular updates and follow us on Instagram. We are open Monday to Saturday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and Sundays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.*

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

**Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries**

## GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Facebook: @GPCNoticeboard

Contact: Howard Samuels 672492 / 07707467736 or

Contact: Clerk@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

*The Parish Council have continued to hold their regular monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month via Zoom. We currently have 5 Councillor positions to fill and would very much welcome any resident who wishes to become a Councillor to please get in touch.*

*Simon Tarling has stepped down from being a Parish Councillor and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all the work he has done during his time with us. We do however welcome Matt Dean who has been co-opted and has joined the Council as a Parish Councillor.*

*We are looking for a volunteer with the technical skills needed to assist in running the Council's website particularly on the compliance side of things.*

*The Malleson Road/A435 junction has been completed but there is still some tidying up work to be done which is being progressed with the appropriate authorities.*

*We will be undertaking a Village Community Consultation during the second half of the year to gather information as to what the money available from S106 and CIL ('Developer Contributions' along with highway contributions and the Community Infrastructure Levy) might be spent on.*

*Speed surveys were carried out at three locations within Gotherington and took place between Wednesday 24th March and Sunday 30th March 2021. The survey was carried out by means of an Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC). The results showed that on the whole we are careful drivers and observe the speed limits!*

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



## **THE OLD CHAPEL**

Contact: Andy Stillman 673218 [gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com](mailto:gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com)  
[www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk)

*In the last edition of Topics, back in October, the exterior of the Old Chapel had just been refurbished, including the complete re-roofing and re-rendering of the outside of the building. Since then, the focus has been on the interior.*

*Progress has been slowed by the lockdown, however the main plastering, inset lights and ceiling rose have been completed, as has an oak and glass balustrade. As I type, new panelling is being installed, incorporating the feature coat pegs. Other tasks include carpets, new internal doors, wiring for the AV system and a bit more painting!*

*A 'Growing our Communities' grant from Gloucestershire Council will be used to pay for connecting surface water outlets to the main sewer, after which the front area of the Old Chapel will also receive a makeover. Please get in touch if you are interested in sponsoring the new bench!*

*Look out for details of our reopening – I'm sure that many will be eagerly awaiting the chance to see what it looks like and we can't wait for the Chapel to be back where it belongs as a special community resource for all.*

*The Old Chapel will be available to hire as soon as our renovation is complete and government restrictions allow. 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](mailto:oldchapelbookings@gmail.com)*

*Finally, all the Trustees would like to thank John Whitehead for his sterling work as Chairman of the Old Chapel Community Project over the last 3 years. He is passing the baton on to Sylvia Stokes but remains a Trustee.*

**Andy**

## **GOTHERINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Contact: [schooloffice@gotherington.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:schooloffice@gotherington.gloucs.sch.uk) Tel: 01242 675454  
<http://www.gotherington.gloucs.sch.uk>

*It has been so wonderful to welcome all our children back to Gotherington Primary School after a period of juggling quality remote learning for the vast majority of our children over lockdown while remaining open for the children of key workers and those who are vulnerable. Our children, staff and parents have shown incredible resilience and adaptability in the face of such a challenging period and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our whole school community. As ever, I feel incredibly privileged to be part of such a wonderful school.*

*We are looking ahead to a Summer term full of exciting learning opportunities and the children are all immersed in their new learning themes. Our school family work together with kindness to achieve our Gotherington GOALS and provide a purposeful curriculum for all which is experiential, creative and memorable. We inspire a life-long love of learning by encouraging our children to be independent, resilient and curious. Success for our children means they are happy, confident and responsible individuals who aspire to be the very best they can be.*

*We are looking forward to using our newly renovated library which is full of exciting new books for us to enjoy and also our Forest School where we have been planting fruit trees in our 'save the planet' campaign with the fantastic support of our families. Our school dog Hero has been enjoying spending time with our children and we are very excited to be designing a new Tree-House learning space which we hope will be ready to use in the Autumn term. Finally, we are so looking forward to being able to welcome parents and the community into school again as restrictions are eased so we can all learn together as a whole school community and continue to strive to be the very best we can be every day. Do visit our website for further information.*

**Katie Langley, Headteacher Gotherington Primary School**

## LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Ken Ascroft (673192) / Caroline Meller (677489)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/history-society/](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/history-society/)

### **Talk – The Great Train Robbery**

*It's exciting to be able to announce that with the easing of restrictions we are able to hold a talk at the Village Hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.*

*The speaker will be Ian Boskett who will talk about the Great Train Robbery and its connection to Gloucestershire.*

*The talk will be preceded by our AGM but this part of the meeting will be kept as short as possible.*

*Non-members are welcome to attend (admission £3) as long as their contact details have been given to the secretary beforehand.*

**Government guidelines will be duly followed.**

### **Guided Walks Around Gotherington**

*Two guided walks will take place this summer in and around Gotherington, each lasting about 90 minutes.*

*The first, 'A Sporting Tour', will take place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June, highlighting the variety of sport that has been played in the village since Tudor times and some of the characters involved in those sports.*

*The second walk, focussing on occupations, is entitled 'Tinker, Tailor, and the Occasional Spy' and will take place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July.*

*Each walk will begin at the Village Hall at 2.30pm.*

*Pre-booking is essential as places will be limited.*

*Adults £3 but children (Y.3 to Y.11) free. Please contact the secretary to book or for more information.*

**Caroline Meller, Local History Society Secretary**

## GOTHERINGTON HEDGEHOG TRAIL

Contact: Jenny Ross 317536 [hedgehogtrail@gmail.com](mailto:hedgehogtrail@gmail.com)  
[www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk)

*The Hedgehog Trail ran for an extended period last year to help provide outdoor entertainment for family bubbles at a time when so many attractions were closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Gotherington Stores and The Shutters were a huge asset in helping us to issue just over 600 Trail Guides and, together with the 'pop up' collection point on The Lawns, we managed to raise £7,500!*

*The Hedgehog Trail was set up in support of three local charities: Vale Wildlife Hospital, The Old Chapel Community Project and Friends of Gotherington School (FOGS).*

*As many families new to Gotherington and Woolstone discovered the addictive nature of our trail, they were grateful for hints from locals on where to look!*

*This year our Hedgehog Trail will run from August 28<sup>th</sup> – November 7<sup>th</sup> and we are looking for new designs AND some new places to hide them!*

*If you would like to design a hedgehog for this year's trail, drop an email to [hedgehogtrail@gmail.com](mailto:hedgehogtrail@gmail.com), or pick up a template and some 'hints & tips' from Gotherington Stores - but note that entries must be in by the end of June.*

*Finally, if you live in Gotherington or Woolstone and would be happy to look after one of our decorated hedgehogs in your garden, please do get in touch as we always have a few spare hogs looking for a place to hide!*

**Jenny**

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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

Mary Manders-Trett (Malleon 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 can come in many forms, but all are designed to get hold of your money. They can do this by getting you to reveal your personal details, stealing your information, or even getting you to willingly hand over the cash. The key is knowing how to recognise a scam, protect yourself and what to do if you think you've been targeted or have fallen victim.

### **How to recognise a scam**

Knowing what to be on the lookout for when it comes to scams is one of the best ways to protect yourself.

- Unsolicited or unexpected contact. If you have received any kind of contact, but particularly a phone call, out of the blue, it is best to avoid it. Since January 2019, there has been a ban on cold calling about pensions. This means you should not be contacted by any company about your pension unless you've asked them to.
- Email address. If you get an email, expand the pane at the top of the message and see exactly who it has come from. If it is a scam, the email address the message has come from will be filled in with random numbers, or be misspelled.

***If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is!***

**Howard Samuels**

## G-FEST 3 DAYS OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

**AUGUST 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> ON FREEMAN FIELD**

*Saturday afternoon is for the youngsters, while in the evening we have the "Village People" event.*

*Sunday evening is the main event with professional singers, hog roast, BBQ, fire pits.*

*Monday afternoon is the picnic in the park with live music and a more relaxed feel.*

*Much more information can be found in our leaflet and on social media.*

*Tickets are only £3.00 /adult, children free, and cover the full 3 days.*

*This is a non-profit Village Event - a community musical event for us all to come together and celebrate - and that is reflected in this remarkably low ticket price. However, we are a small team and so we do need help to make it happen. We will need help in running the bar, which will be open on all 3 days, setting up and clearing away the equipment, BBQ duties, running and preparation of other refreshments etc etc. So please contact us if you can offer any help.*

*We would also like to invite anyone who would like to do a stint on Saturday evening, perhaps something musical or a magician, juggler or any other talent that you possess! We're also looking for fire pits, gazebos, hay bales and general bits and bobs plus any ideas that you may have.*

*If you would like to play a role and help with this event either email us on [gfest2021@gmail.com](mailto:gfest2021@gmail.com) or contact one of the team who are.*

**Christine Godsell**

**Cora Patel**

**Ray Chase**

**Jenny Ross**

**Linda George**

**Howard Samuels**

## **JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

Contact: Rob Sharp on 01242 678057 or rob\_sharp100@hotmail.com

*We always aim to provide a safe environment for players, spectators and coaches to enjoy the game - and this became even more relevant with the advent of Covid-19. So we were well placed to start training and matches for this season using the national guidelines set out by the government, guidance from the FA and with close liaison with the Parish Council.*

*It has proved to be an excellent Season so far inspite of the various disruptions especially the third Lockdown from December to April. The Season has been extended which, whilst not ideal for those playing Summer sports, has given the chance to complete some of the leagues and cups.*

*As previously reported, the Girls section has increased incredibly this year with over 40 players involved and we hope to field as many as 4 sides next season. Stewart Peters has done a wonderful job taking this initiative forward and will need more support to keep the momentum going.*

*As I write, our u13 side under Terry Wolfendale have made the Cup Final, which will be on June 5<sup>th</sup> at Evesham United's ground. Rich Leeson and his u10 side have reached the cup semi final stage as have Marcus Eperjesi/Glen Murphy and the u15s - so good luck to them all. From September we will have an u6 (year1) side under Greg Ryan. As it stands we don't have u7 or u8 for next season, but we know there is interest so please get in touch if you would like to help take one these age groups.*

*We have a hard working Committee with several new people strengthening the team. Colin Knowles is Kit and Equipment Officer, Julie Juckes is Registrations Secretary and Magda Taylor is Child Welfare Officer. Rich Leeson does a great job marking out pitches, and Gareth Cryws-Williams leads on Covid Compliance. Richard Allenby returned to help register well over 100 players for the new season and our Treasurer Ian Quartermaine is doing an excellent job , which becomes ever more complex every season.*

## **JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

Contact: Rob Sharp on 01242 678057 or rob\_sharp100@hotmail.com

*More than ever it is important that we continue to provide a Covid-compliant, secure environment for children (and parents, guardians and family) to be outside getting exercise and enjoying other's company, so we urge everybody to do their bit in keeping to the relevant guidelines and keep this sporting outlet open.*

*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 ways to help with some of these tasks - it would be greatly appreciated.*

**Rob Sharp** Chairman and Secretary GJFC

### **GOTHERINGTON, WOOLSTONE & OXENTON W.I.**

Contacts President - Sally Newbury (01242 317276) - sally.newbury@gmail.com

Secretary - Rosemary Bishton (01242 677290) - rosemary.bishton1@btinternet.com

*With lockdown finally coming to an end, members are looking forward to meeting up for a Garden Party at the end of June. During the past year, small socially distanced groups have met up for informal tea and chat in members' gardens and recently have met up via zoom with some interesting speakers, as well as a virtual Christmas Party!*

*We are now looking forward to resuming our meetings in Gotherington Village Hall on Wednesday 25 August at 7.30 p.m. subject to Covid regulations. Our members enjoy meeting up for monthly lunches, going out on trips and visits, attending a weekly art group and taking part in craft activities.*

*New members are always welcome – do contact us if you would like more information or check out our website to find out about our WI at*

***www.gwowi.org.uk.***

**Sally Newbury**