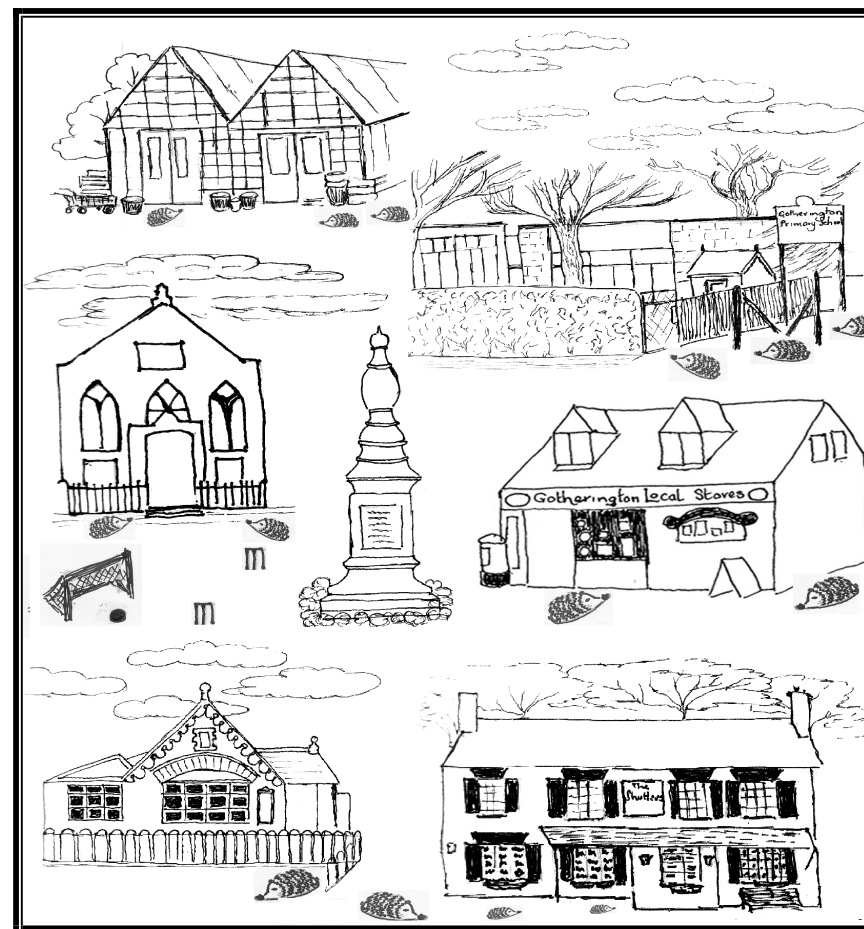


## Contacts – Village Organisations

ORGANISATION & MEETINGS	Contact
Baby and Toddler Group Village Hall Tue 10:00–11:30	childrenandfamilies@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk
Brownies Mon 6.00pm	Amy Steger gotheringtonbrownies@hotmail.co.uk
Cricket Club	Rob Sharp (678057) / Brian Cosgrove (676216)
Church of England Churchwardens (Woolstone/Oxenton) Parochial Church Council Secretary	Bob Wickens (679345)/ Michael. Bower (672900) Pauline Bower (672900)
Football Club (Junior)	Rob Sharp (678057)
Gardening Club 3rd Wed 7:30pm Chair Secretary	Tony Pawley (361539) Cathy Thompson (676708)
Gotherington Singers Mondays 7:45 - 9:45pm	Chair Catherine Newbury Secretary: Sally Newbury (317276) sally.newbury@gmail.com
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 (01242 361539) linda@thepawleys.co.uk
Old Chapel Bookings	Emily (07855279778) oldchapelbookings@gmail.com
Oxenton Village Hall Chairman: Secretary: Oxenton Village Bookings:	Chris Bambridge (07713 775241) Linda Howard (07710 224368) Lorraine Dodd (07419 770401)
Parish Council RRB 2nd Tuesday 7:00 pm Parish Council Clerk	Bev Osborne 675741 chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk Clerk clerk@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk
Freeman Field/Rex Rhodes/JW Pavilion Bookings	gotherington.org.uk/bookings/
Petanque Club Sun 10am, Wed 2pm,	Mary Manders-Trett (674592) Beverley Joyner (07361912951)
Gotherington Events	gotheringtonevents@gmail.com
Tennis Club	Ian Donnelly (674404)
Village Hall (Gotherington) Chair Secretary Bookings Treasurer	Rotating Chairman  gotherington.org.uk/bookings/ Howard Samuels (672492) hsamuels@btinternet.com
Village Hall Coffee Mornings. 1st Sat excl Jan & Aug 10:30 am - noon	Christine Godsell (672821) / cgodsell1967@gmail.com
Wine Club Chairperson 3rd Tue 8pm Secretary	Howard Samuels (672492) hsamuels@btinternet.com Jane Nicolson on 07421831022 jane.nicolson598@btinternet.com
W.I. 4th Wed 7.30pm President Secretary	Christine Sharpe (07756855238) Gilly Ivory email: gillianme.ivory@gmail.com

# GOTHERINGTON TOPICS

## Spring 2025 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 Summer 2025 is due out during the fortnight starting 7th July 2025

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 COUNCIL

*As at Spring 2025*

Name	Role	Phone	Email
Beverly Osborne	(Chair)	01242675741 07974101659	<a href="mailto:chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Steve Neighbour	(Vice chair)	07881339813	<a href="mailto:cllr.neighbour@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">cllr.neighbour@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
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Andrew Daniel		07950688493	<a href="mailto:Cllr.daniel@gotheringtnparishcouncil.org.uk">Cllr.daniel@gotheringtnparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Tony Liddington		07749933301	<a href="mailto:Cllr.liddington@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">Cllr.liddington@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Hannah Fry		07818405937	<a href="mailto:Cllr.fry@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">Cllr.fry@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
David Rees			<a href="mailto:Cllr.rees@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">Cllr.rees@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
GPC bookings			<a href="mailto:bookings@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">bookings@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
Clerk	Clerk/RFO	07943478893	<a href="mailto:clerk@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk">clerk@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
County Councillor Alex Hegenbarth	(07872533228) <a href="mailto:alex.hegenbarth@gloucestershire.gov.uk">alex.hegenbarth@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a>
Borough Councillor Cheryl Agg	(07356 120340) <a href="mailto:Councillor.agg@tewkesbury.gov.uk">Councillor.agg@tewkesbury.gov.uk</a>
Borough Councillor Nigel Adcock	(07356 120339) <a href="mailto:Councillor.adcock@tewkesbury.gov.uk">Councillor.adcock@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: Jane Nicolson on 07421831022 or [jane.nicolson598@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.nicolson598@btinternet.com)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/wine-club)  
[www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub](http://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonWineClub)

*Spring has at long last sprung, the daffodil heads are shining in the early morning sun, the days are getting longer and there's much to smile about along with the warm welcome to our Wine Club members and their guests at our meetings in Gotherington Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month.*

*This year we are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and have scheduled events in our calendar to reflect and celebrate this wonderful occasion. We have much to thank our founder members who used to meet in one another's homes to taste their homemade wines. How things have changed over the fifty years!*

*Our next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 8 pm. Andrew Walker of Solaris Wines, who exhibited at last year's Cheltenham Wine Festival, will present a selection of six wines from Slovenia & Rumania.*

*On April 15<sup>th</sup>, our evening theme will be a cruise down the Rhone, tasting wines from the various wine regions, and in May the wine merchants RUTA 40 will be presenting wines from Argentina.*

*All our planned meetings in the current 2025 program can be found on our Wine Club Facebook page or the Gotherington Village Website page.*

*The annual membership is £25, entrance fees £5 for members and £10 for guests.*

*All are welcome to our meetings at the Village Hall on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.*

*Jane Nicolson, Wine Club Secretary*

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH NEWS

Contact Churchwardens: Woolstone - Bob Wickens (679345)  
Oxenton - Michael. Bower (672900)

*Dear Friends*

*As we move through the quieter, colder months, there is a stillness that can feel heavy, as if time itself is waiting. The days are shorter, the winds colder, and the earth beneath our feet seems to rest beneath a layer of frost.*

*Yet, even as we experience the barrenness of Winter, we are reminded that this season is not one of endless waiting, but rather a time of anticipation. Spring will come. We may not see it yet, but it is already stirring beneath the surface, quietly preparing for its arrival.*

*There is something deeply hopeful in this waiting. It mirrors the promise we hold in our hearts as we approach Easter – a time when we are reminded that, even in moments of darkness or uncertainty, hope can hold us. Hope keeps us going while we wait in darkness for Christ's marvellous light*

*As the apostle Paul reminds us in **Romans 15:13**: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." This is not a passive hope but an active one. We are called to trust in God's timing to wait in expectation, knowing that He is with us through every season.*

*So, as we wait for Spring, let us hold on to this hope. Let us remember that this season is for reflection, renewal, and patience. Just as the earth will soon bring forth new life, so too will our hearts be filled with the joy of new beginnings – even in the midst of waiting.*

*May you find peace in the waiting and strength in the hope that is surely on its way. With every blessing,*

*Rev Ben Williams, Team Vicar and local Gotherington resident*

## CRICKET CLUB

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

Contact: Rob Sharp at [rob\\_sharp100@hotmail.com](mailto:rob_sharp100@hotmail.com)

*At the time of writing it is still technically Winter, but there are hints of longer and we hope brighter days ahead.*

*The Royal Household team will be returning to play us in Gotherington next June to help the Club celebrate 60 years since it was reformed in 1965.*

*60 years of Cricket at the Freeman field and hopefully many more to come!*

*So, we play the Royal Household on Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> and the following Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> we will be welcoming many ex players and friends of the club back for a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary game and social event*

*We welcomed several new players in 2024 the season and are always pleased to hear from anyone moving into the area. Last season a total of 39 players turned out for one or more games, so even if you have patchy availability get yourself on the rosta for 2025!*

*We are running an u15 side in conjunction with Winchcombe CC, and will be playing midweek T20 games to provide cricket for those lads who are too old to play u15 cricket.*

*Albie Hastings who will turn 18 shortly has taken on the role of Vice captain. At the other end of the scale our Groundsman, Treasurer, Youth Organiser, and ex Fast Bowler Brian Cosgrove turns 70 in May.*

*Pre Season and early season nets and coaching for the seniors are planned so please either look at the Club's facebook page or contact us for more details.*

*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, You can email me on [rob\\_sharp100@hotmail.com](mailto:rob_sharp100@hotmail.com).*

**Rob Sharp, Chairman GCC**

## GOTHERINGTON, WOOLSTONE & OXENTON W.I.

Contacts President - Christine Sharpe (07756855238)

Secretary – Gilly Ivory email: [gillianme.ivory@gmail.com](mailto:gillianme.ivory@gmail.com)

*We have enjoyed some varied meetings over the last few months.*

*In October, Trish Tenn had us all up and exercising and gave us printouts to take home to remind us how to exercise to increase our strength and balance.*

*After our Annual Meeting in November, we practised decorating oranges with cloves to use as fragrant Christmas decorations and at our Christmas party in December, we enjoyed a buffet of savouries and puddings and were entertained while we ate by Duncan Ivory playing his guitar and singing a lovely mixture of songs.*

*We were entertained in January by another musician, Peter Gill, talking and singing about Musical Satire in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. His songs ranged from those sung to cheer the soldiers in the trenches in World War I, to a final rousing rendition of The Ballad of Barry and Freda (Let's Do It) by Victoria Wood. Peter explained how singers and comedians realised the publicity value of singing comic songs. This was an Open Meeting and we had a good crowd there, including several men!*

*Future meetings include a talk about food in Tudor times and gardening advice by Mark from Gotherington Nurseries. Then in April, we will have our birthday party when Lizzie Lindsell will entertain us.*

*We enjoy monthly lunches at The Shutters and have a varied programme with speakers, crafts, a summer garden party and other activities.*

*We meet in Gotherington Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month and new members and visitors are always very welcome. To find out more, go to our website, [www.gwowi.org.uk](http://www.gwowi.org.uk)*

**Gilly Ivory, Hon Secretary, GWOWI**

## VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNINGS

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

*Hello everyone! Here we are again, entering our 17<sup>th</sup> year of Coffee Mornings. Wow! How time flies. I remember a small group of us meeting at the pub (why not?) back in 2008 to see how we could raise money for the Village Hall. The hall was in desperate need of funds at that time. The Monthly Coffee Morning started in November that year and how we have grown since then. Thank you all for supporting us over the years.*

*I hear you all had a lovely time at the January morning at The Old Chapel. It's great that they step in for the 2 months we do not operate and run a smaller but equally super morning. I know you all like to swap gossip, catch up on all the ailments, and news of family etc.*

*We will have had the February Coffee Morning by the time you read this and I know from previous times that the Scouts will be there, helping with all the various duties; serving, clearing tables, washing up, and generally enjoying themselves. Thank you to all the youngsters who help us – whichever month it is. And to those who help with the baking at home too.*

*In March we will have the Praise and Play group to help us. It will be their first time and I'm hoping it will encourage more families to join us. We try and keep the little ones occupied with a colouring table and there are always biscuits and juice if the cake and tea is too much for them. Having said that – I have seen many a 5 year old polish off a bacon roll followed by cake. Smiles all round!*

*Last – but by no means least – we always have paperback books available and are happy to take donations. Any we have had for a while, we pass on to charity shops. However – we do not have any success with hard backed books. So please use elsewhere to pass on hard-backed books - and I know the Salvation Army charity shop will take them.*

**Christine Godsell**

## GOTHERINGTON EVENTS TEAM

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GotheringtonEvents>

*Our first event of 2025 will be a tribute to the King of Rock and Roll ELVIS PRESLEY. Time to put on your Blue Suede Shoes and come along to celebrate the music of songs such as All Shook Up, Suspicious Minds and You're the Devil in Disguise and many, many more.*

*The Elvis show will be on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> at Gotherington Village Hall and will be a trip down memory lane and you can be assured of a great night and a show for all ages.*

*Tickets will be on sale from the first week in April 2025 for £18.00 and these can be ordered by emailing [GETboxoffice@gmail.com](mailto:GETboxoffice@gmail.com)*

*Our Summer Event (Mid-Summer Madness) is being held on Freeman Field on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July.*

*Entertainment in the afternoon, primarily for the youngsters, will be **The Music Man** who is a children's entertainer and his shows include singing, dancing, party games and much more. There will be plenty of participation as the children can sing and play instruments in the Music Man Band.*

*There will be Live Music in the evening along with a well-stocked bar and we have invited back Outback Hog Roast who came last year and cooked some delicious mouthwatering and succulent hog roast. This all makes for a wonderful evening of entertainment and fun.*

*Further information will be available nearer the event and our Facebook page is a good source of information and you can always contact us by email.*

*Remember that our aim is always to use funds raised from these events for the benefit of the village.*

**Gotherington Events Team**

## GARDENING CLUB

Contact [gjcsecretary01@gmail.co.uk](mailto:gjcsecretary01@gmail.co.uk)  
[www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/gardening-club)

*Speakers at our monthly meetings have all been informative and entertaining. In November, Marion Stanton suggested plants for a small garden while in January, Fiona Warin, Allotments Officer for Cheltenham Borough Council, gave us a fascinating talk on allotments.*

*In February, David Cramp, a local RSPB volunteer, spoke on garden birds and what wonderful companions they can be for gardeners and non-gardeners alike and in March, Duncan Coombs makes a welcome return, this time on Alpines and Rock Gardens.*

*Meetings are in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on the third Wednesday of most months, with a hot drink and biscuits after the talk. Membership is just £20 for 12 months; we charge £3 for non-members each meeting.*

*We have been pleased to have a good number of new members this year and, at the February AGM, we welcomed a new volunteer to our Committee.*

*Please look out for posters and posts on the village Facebook page or contact [gjcsecretary01@gmail.com](mailto:gjcsecretary01@gmail.com) for more information.*

*Our next meetings and events are:*

*16 April: Four Seasons, Cotswold Style*

*21 May: Conservatory & House Plants*

*7 June: Village Coffee Morning & Plant Sale*

*18 June: Summer Party*

*16 July: Cut Flowers*

*23 July: Visit to Ashwood Nurseries and Garden*

**Tony Pawley**

## GOTHERINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Contacts: Chair - Howard Samuels (672492) [hsamuels@btinternet.com](mailto:hsamuels@btinternet.com)  
Trustees: C. Godsell, 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)

*The Village Hall makeover continues with a new colour scheme in the Autumn and soon the replacement of the window blinds.*

*The pictures were removed during the re-decoration and it is felt that this is a good opportunity to have some new pictures that would show off our village and surrounding areas. So, please let us know if you have any pictures you feel would be ideal for hanging in the Hall.*

*Gotherington Village Hall will be 125 years old on October 20<sup>th</sup> this year and we'd like to celebrate this important milestone. Any ideas will be very welcome and we will be issuing more information nearer the time.*

*The Hall continues to be in use every day starting with MyFit30 in at 6am on a Monday to Scouts at 18.30 on a Friday with everything else in between. The GVH website lists all the Clubs and activities so please take a look to see if there is anything you might fancy getting involved with.*

*Weekends are usually booked up well in advance for parties and other gatherings. Bookings can be made via the booking system [gotherington.org.uk/bookings](http://gotherington.org.uk/bookings). Any problems encountered during the booking process or if advice and help is required then please email [gotherington.halls@gmail.com](mailto:gotherington.halls@gmail.com). The cost remains at £8.00 per hour for local residents and £10.00 per hour for those residing outside of the Village. These prices are all inclusive, including the cost of services that are offered.*

*The Village Hall has always been the meeting hub of the Village and is an important facility for the Village. If you would like to get involved and help then please contact us for further information.*

**Howard Samuels**, GVH Treasurer

## GOTHERINGTON TENNIS CLUB

Contact: 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)

*As you read this, I sincerely hope that the rain and gloom has finally called time in Gotherington and that Spring is just around the corner. Cleaning and maintenance work has continued on the courts throughout the winter season ensuring they are primed and ready for the season ahead.*

*After a mixed season in the league, our men are looking forward to testing themselves (well I think they are) in a higher league after promotion, while the lady's will be desperate to put right last year's last game relegation.*

*Our Club is not all about competitive tennis however. Last year we ran a number of social events with the emphasis on fun and enjoyment for all, where I think attention focused on the food and drink rather than tennis! This year we plan to build on that with more events throughout the season so whether its competition or more a sociable experience you are looking for, then our Club could be for you. If you are interested the Club offers:*

- *A very competitive annual membership fee*
- *Family Membership Packages (juniors go free with a paying adult)*
- *Reduced 'Seniors' rates.*
- *Discounted court booking rates for members outside of Club ights.*
- *Free targeted coaching sessions with club coach Liam Gough.*

*Summer play commences on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March and we also will be offering free taster sessions on Monday and Wednesday evenings throughout April , so please do come down and give us a try!*

*Despite the weather our hardy juniors continue to keep us busy on a Sunday morning. We cater for 2 age brackets with details as follows:*

- *Ages 5-8 9:00 – 9:45*
- *Ages 9-12 9:45- 10:30*

*We look forward to seeing you soon.*

*Ian Donnelly*

## NEWS FROM THE NURSERIES

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

*As Easter approaches, we have cards, beautiful houseplants, planted containers and seasonal hanging baskets available.*

*Whilst we are busy with the Summer bedding plants, our home-grown spring bedding plants and summer flowering bulbs can be planted now.*

*Growing your own? Browse our shop for seeds, seed potatoes, garlic bulbs, onion sets and shallots. Vegetable plants and herbs are in stock too. We have propagation products, cold frames, planters, obelisks and potting tables. See our wide range of gardening goods including tools, Hozelock products, plant supports, lawn, plant & garden care products, gloves, wellies and cloggies. Solar lights are available too.*

*Over the past few weeks, we have been re-stocking the outdoor plant area with cottage garden plants, shrubs, roses, conifers, soft fruit and hedging plants. Our specimen shrubs add a focal point to the garden. We have a great range of ornamental and fruit trees including more mature trees.*

*Visit us for all your bird care needs including specialist feeds and feeders, bird tables and nest boxes. We sell bulk bags of bird feed for added value.*

*We stock specialist composts, including peat free, Strulch and Carr's special organic compost and soil improver as well as decorative gravels. We have a comprehensive range of containers including houseplant pot covers, 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 shall be **closed** on **Easter Day** (20th April) only. Thank you for your continued support.*

*Mark and Liz, Gotherington Nurseries*

## GOTHERINGTON SINGERS

Secretary: Sally Newbury (Tel. 317276) / email: [sall.newbury@gmail.com](mailto:sall.newbury@gmail.com)  
[www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk)

*Gotherington Singers has continued to grow and, since September, we have been pleased to welcome several new members as well as a professional accompanist, Louis Stockton. Our Christmas Concert held in December in St. Michael & All Angels Church was very successful and enjoyed by a large audience, who kindly donated over £70 for the Food Bank. We were pleased to have Duncan Ivory as a special guest performer at this concert.*

*We are now working on a wide variety of pieces for future events. On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, we are holding a Come and Sing Day for female voices singing excerpts from Les Miserables. This will be led by Aidan Smith from Cheltenham Vocal Academy.*

*Our Summer event will be our annual Songs & Scones afternoon which will be held in St. Michaels & All Angels Church on Saturday 28 June at 3 pm. Our Christmas concert will be again in St. Michaels on Saturday 6 December. Contact Sally for more information on all our events.*

*We are a very friendly and sociable female voice choir. Singing is a great, fun way to improve your well-being and you don't have to be able to read music or audition to join us. Just come along to any of our practices. You can come along for 3 weeks before committing to joining us. The social side is important to us too! Each rehearsal includes a break for tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat, and we get together for a meal at the end of each term. Why not give us a try?*

***We rehearse in Gotherington Village Hall on Mondays in term time between 7.45 pm and 9.30 pm.***

*Find out more about us by phone on 01242 317276 or email [sall.newbury@gmail.com](mailto:sall.newbury@gmail.com) or at website [www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk](http://www.gotheringtonsingers.co.uk)*

***Catherine Newbury (Chair, Gotherington Singers)***

## PRESCOTT SPEED HILL CLIMB

[enquiries@bugatti.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bugatti.co.uk)  
[www.prescotthillclimb.co.uk](http://www.prescotthillclimb.co.uk)

*The 2025 season at Prescott Speed Hill Climb is almost upon us and we are looking forward to another exciting year on the Hill with a wide range of events catering for every type of petrol head!*

*The organisers of Prescott Speed Hill Climb are keen again this year to work closely with the local community, and as such we are offering 100 FREE GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS for residents of Gotherington.*

*To claim your free general admission ticket, please visit our website ([www.prescotthillclimb.co.uk](http://www.prescotthillclimb.co.uk)), select your ticket and enter the coupon code GOTHERINGTON25 at checkout. The offer is only valid for one day, general admission ticket at any of the below events and don't forget, under 16s are FREE!*

*We hope to see you at Prescott over the next few months!*

*29<sup>th</sup> March – Pre-Season Test Day*

*26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> April - British & Midland Hill Climb Championships*

*10<sup>th</sup> May – Prescott Italia*

*11<sup>th</sup> May – Classics at Prescott (Winchcombe Rotary Club)*

*24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May – Prescott Historique*

*7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June – Prescott Motorsport Festival*

*22<sup>nd</sup> June – Bike Fest (Severn Freewheelers)*

*28<sup>th</sup> June – Members Meeting*

***Gemma Price – General Manager***



## **GOTHERINGTON PETANQUE CLUB**

*Contacts: Mary Manders-Trett/ mmanderstrett@gmail.com  
Beverley Joyner (07361912951)*

*Although the weather has not been kind to us over the last few months many of us have continued to play whenever possible, wrapped up in all our winter woollies. The fresh air is very bracing! We are now looking forward to the Spring and Summer season with many events planned as usual.*

*The A.G.M. takes place at the end of March with the ever-popular fish and chips supper and the presentation of trophies won in 2024. The first competition of the Season will take place in April when players from all the other clubs in the Cotswold League are invited to take part in a tournament on our piste. Other tournaments and social events will take place as usual during the summer. We hope to enter a team in the League again this season and our singles and doubles championships will be played throughout the summer.*

*At the end of July, we shall celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a special event – yet to be decided.*

*Our regular playing days remain as Wed at 2pm and Sunday at 10am but anyone can play at other times as the piste is open and only occasionally booked.*

*We are always pleased to welcome new members and have several who have newly joined the Club during this last year. Please come along to give it a go if you think you might enjoy a game.*

*We have spare boules to try and regular play is not overly competitive.*

**Mary Manders-Trett**

## **GOWNS**

*Gotherington, Oxenton and Woolstone Neighbourhood Scheme  
Contacts:07752 152 485  
<https://Gotherington.org.uk/gowns>*

*Do you need help occasionally? Then call GOWNS. We are a neighbourhood initiative to provide help to any resident of the three villages, whatever their age and circumstances. We can help with*

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

*If you need help or know someone who does please call us on*

**07752 152485**

*The phone is monitored daily - just leave a message and a GOWNS volunteer will call you back to discuss and offer help if they can.*

***Volunteering - If you have some free time in the week please consider volunteering for GOWNS.*** *As a volunteer you will have the opportunity to help your community, your neighbours and gain the satisfaction of helping others. You won't be inundated with requests, in fact you may only get asked to help a few times per year. We also need volunteers to help with the phone on a weekly basis to listen for messages. For more information about this please call 07752 152485.*

*Volunteers are Disclosure and 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 and fuel costs.*

## **JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

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

*The 2024/25 season is well underway and by the time this is published we will be in the last couple of months of this Season.*

*We have 9 girls sides and 5 boys teams this year, but need parents to step forward and help set up sides at u7/8 for the boys teams.*

*We are very grateful to the school for allowing us to use their facilities which help promote a really good community spirit. We have taken steps to reduce fixture congestion and traffic, and also purchased a boot scraper for players to use and minimise the amount of mud that is found on the pavements.*

*The Club relies totally on Volunteers and we are lucky to have great people involved on both the coaching and behind the scenes , so a big Thank You for generously giving your time which enables around 250 children to benefit from all the positive aspects of playing sport.*

*Our u14 Boys side have made it through to the Cup Final which will be held at Cheltenham Towns ground at 3pm on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of May.*

*Our u14 Girls side have made it into the final of the County Cup - a great achievement. They will be playing Cheltenham Town Ladies u14 at the GFA HQ Almondsbury at 10am on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. Support always appreciated.*

*We continue to play many of our games away from the village due to lack of space, and all training in the Winter is held at venues such as Winchcombe School , Cleeve, and other venues.*

*Our annual Funday is provisionally scheduled for Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June.*

**Rob Sharp**, Chairman and Secretary GJFC

*The two housing developments are taking up lots of our time. The Hayfields Development in the Meadow has proved to be slower than expected over the winter, with the show home currently expected to be opened in mid-June. Unfortunately, the Trumans Farm development by Lioncourt has now started. Transport into the site is planned to be through the village but we are trying to engage with the authorities to ask that deliveries are brought in along the Gretton access route where possible. We have also asked them to limit deliveries during school start and finish times. If you have any concerns or need our help, please reach out.*

*The Parish Council has also been approached by a number of potential developers about parcels of concern. Driven in part by the Government changes to planning. When we have more information we will organise a village meeting. If you have not returned the Tewkesbury BC housing needs survey please do return it asap. This data will help us to shape our built environment as we face further housing pressure and demand. Not helped by the recent planning changes announced by the new Government.*

*We are working on some exciting new projects like replacing the gazebo in Freeman Field and reconfiguring the changing rooms to allow us to provide boys and girls changing facilities.*

*We would like to buy some land in the parish to allow us to have play pitches or even allotments. If you know a kindly landowner who would have a conversation with us please let us know. We have CIL funds but need to find some way to spend them.*

*We have enjoyed some very busy meetings recently where residents have come along, asked questions, shared their opinion. If you would like to join us, come along to the Rex Rhodes building on the second Tuesday of every month at 7pm and have a chat.*

**Bev Osborne**, Chair of the Parish Council

## GOTHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Facebook: @GPCNoticeboard

Contact: Beverly Osborne 675741 [chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:chair@gotheringtonparishcouncil.org.uk)

*How wonderful it is to see the longer days of early spring approaching, allowing us all to get go and about to enjoy the footpaths in our parish.*

*We are aware that last year, the condition of some of our footpaths was a concern. This year we have the help of some dedicated residents who are happy to help us deal with the vegetation. We will also be bringing in external contractors as the need arises.*

*The new footpaths within The Meadow development have been well constructed so we have a project underway to improve all the footpaths connecting to that development and bring them up to the same standard. I am sure we all looking forward to being able to enjoy that part of our village again.*

*We continue to have complaints about dog mess in all the open areas of the village. All dog walkers know they need to pick up after their animals and there is no excuse for not doing that. Would you clean up another animals mess? If the answer is no, then don't make someone clean up after your dog. The sight of a little girl having to wipe the mess from her pink wellies is heartbreaking.*

*We are still trying to work with Firstport and the residents of The Grange development to get agreement to site a litter bin that will allow TBC to empty it free of charge. This can then be used for general waste and poo bags. If you are happy to have the bin installed maybe you could speak to the Firstport representative and make your thoughts known.*

*Also, a gate has been installed at the entrance to the footpath on that development. This was in response to concerns about horses being walked there. We are working with the County Rights of Way Officer to refine the design.*

## LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contacts: Ken Ascroft (673192)

[galhs.org.uk](http://galhs.org.uk) [treasurer@galhs.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@galhs.org.uk)

*We now have just two more meetings before our summer break, resuming on 23rd September. Our next meeting on the 22nd April will be our AGM, which is usually kept very brief. This will be followed by a talk entitled The Industrial Heritage of the Cotswolds', given by Dr. Ray Wilson, past Secretary of the Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology*

*On 25th May Simon Randall will be talking about The English Civil War in the Cotswolds.*

*We are still lacking a Secretary which is making the future of the Society uncertain. Our ex-secretary, Caroline, has been covering the basics even though she is now getting involved in activities in her new village. We cannot expect her to continue into next season. It is not too demanding, mainly involving arranging speakers from a short list drawn up by the committee, and publicising meetings.*

***If anyone is prepared to consider the role,  
please get in touch.***

*Membership of the LHS is £15 for the year which includes the series of talks and gives access to information about history orientated events throughout the county. If you would rather pick and mix then admission to individual talks stands at £3 per person. Please visit the website for full details.*

***Ken Ascroft, Treasurer***

## TRANSITION CLEEVE

*Transition Cleeve is a local community group that has run various initiatives to raise awareness of climate change and take practical steps locally, in whatever small ways we can. As well as holding talks and film screenings, we currently have two larger projects: the Grangefield Community Orchard and the Cleeve Repair Café.*

*So, when your vacuum cleaner won't clean any more, your trousers have a tear, your favourite teddy bear is starting to fray... DON'T rush out and buy a replacement. Reduce landfill and consumption by bringing the item along to the Repair Café. Our Repair Café runs on the second Saturday of the month. Dates for the next few months of 2025 are: 8 March, 12 April, 10 May, 14 June, 12 July, 9 August.*

*We meet at the Bishop's Cleeve Community Building (next to the library) from 2pm to 4pm.*

*You can enjoy a hot drink and slice of delicious cake while you wait for your item to be repaired*

*There is no charge for the service, and our volunteer repairers generously give their time for free - but if you are happy with the repair we willingly accept a small donation to help cover our costs.*

## OXENTON VILLAGE HALL

*Contact: Lorraine Dodd 01242 352258*

*Oxenton Village Hall is a great place for family occasions, children's parties, craft groups, and local meetings of any kind.*

*It is available to hire, daytime and evenings, for the very reasonable rate of £6 per hour.*

*It has a full range of kitchen facilities. The hall has an upper limit of 90 people and can comfortably seat 40 people with tables and chairs.*

*Please contact me 01242 352258 to make a reservation.*

**Lorraine Dodd**

## THE OLD CHAPEL BOOK CLUB

*Contact: Linda Pawley, 01242 361539, email [linda@thepawleys.co.uk](mailto:linda@thepawleys.co.uk)*

*Over the last three months we have read the following books:*

*1. The Girls who Disappeared by Claire Douglas. An unsolved mystery that Jenna, revisits after 20 years to try to solve. It was well written and the story flowed well but in the end rather depressing.*

*2. Brooklyn by Colm Toibin. In the early 1950's opportunities were scarce and many Irish young people migrated to find better possibilities. This story is about a young woman who migrates to New York and how her expectations are met (or not). Again it was a bit depressing at the end, although the characters were well drawn.*

*This month we are reading Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the author's birth. Although Pride and Prejudice is probably the favourite of Jane Austen's books, Sense and Sensibility was the first one published and so we chose it.*

*We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (except January) from 7pm – 8pm at the Old Chapel. We welcome prospective new members. If you might be interested in joining us, please come along and try us out or email me at [linda@thepawleys.co.uk](mailto:linda@thepawleys.co.uk) or just give me a call on 361539.*

**Linda**

## RAPAIR CAFÉS

*If you have anything that needs repairing, there's a good chance that a Repair Café will be able to help. There are two locally: one in Bishops Cleeve Community Building (next to the Library) on the second Saturday of each month, 2-4pm; and the other in Tewkesbury Baptist Church on the third Saturday of each month, 2-5pm. See page 12 for more details of the one in Bishops Cleeve or see just these websites:*

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

*[www.tewkesburyrepaircafe.co.uk](http://www.tewkesburyrepaircafe.co.uk)*

## THE OLD CHAPEL

gotheringtonoldchapel@gmail.com  
www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk

*For anyone looking to get a little more active as we approach Spring, we have some new additions to our regular Clubs at the Chapel, including a "mat" Pilates class running on Mondays and Thursdays from the 3rd of March and a belly dancing class which is held Wednesday evenings at 6:30.*

*You will also find on our website, details about My Fit 30 with Liz - a ladies only fitness class held on Fridays and Affinity Yoga which runs regularly on Tuesday mornings and Sunday evenings.*

*Details of all of these classes can be found on the 'Regular Activities' page of the website [www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk).*

*If anyone fancies a low stakes flutter on the horses, we will be holding a Old Chapel Race Night on the 10th May - so mark it in your calendars as it promises to be a fun evening. As always, keep an eye on the website or look out for posters advertising our upcoming events.*

*The Old Chapel is available for private hire, whether you want to run a regular club or host a private event. Hire rates are £8/hour for regular bookings. For one-off bookings, rates are £13/hour for Gotherington village residents and £14/hour for non-village residents.*

*Availability can be checked via the booking calendar on the website, or by contacting [oldchapelbookings@gmail.com](mailto:oldchapelbookings@gmail.com).*

## GOTHERINGTON HEDGEHOG TRAIL

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

*2024 saw the sixth Hedgehog Trail in Gotherington and with over 200 colourful hedgehogs hidden around the village from the end of September to November, families from across Gloucestershire came to see how many they could find.*

*By the end of November The Hedgehog Trail had raised a fantastic £3,000 in donations for the Trail Guides and an additional £600 was raised from the Hognopoly raffle. This meant that we were able to give £1200 to each of the charities supported by the Trail: Vale Wildlife Hospital, Friends of Gotherington School (FOGS) and The Old Chapel Community Project.*

*Thank you so much to all of our hedgehog designers and hedgehog hosts, and to Adelfi Care Services who sponsor our Hedgehog Trail every year and who masterminded the amazing bespoke Hognopoly game that we raffled off at the end of the Trail.*

*The Hedgehog Trail has become a real highlight in the calendar for many families and it is wonderful to be able to offer an activity that all ages can enjoy together, outdoors, making memories. As well as enjoying our lovely pub, friendly shop and fabulous nurseries, we regularly receive feedback from visitors about how welcoming and friendly everyone is in Gotherington. So welcoming, that a few of our visitors from previous Hedgehog Trails are now residents!!*

*A huge thank you to all of the residents in Gotherington and Woolstone for your continued support. We will be looking for new designs for 2025 so if you would like to get involved you can find out more on our website: [www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk](http://www.gotheringtonoldchapel.org.uk)*

*Thank you!*

**Jenny**

**CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN WOOLSTONE, GOTHERINGTON  
AND OXENTON NORMAL PATTERN OF SERVICES**

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Holy Communion	Oxenton
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Morning Praise	Old Chapel Gotherington
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Holy Communion	Woolstone
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Café Church	Old Chapel, Gotherington
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	Holy Communion 1662	Oxenton

**ALL ABOVE SERVICES START AT 10:00 am.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Holy Communion 7PM St Michael's, Bishop's Cleeve at 7:00 pm

**LENT COURSE** will be held each Thursday at 2:00 pm in the VILLAGE HALL, starting on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> March.

**EASTER SERVICES**

Saturday (12/04/25)	Easter Extravaganza 3:00 pm	(SEE BELOW)*
Palm Sunday (13/04/25)	Morning Praise 10:00 am	Old Chapel, Gotherington
Mon/Tues/Wed Holy Week	Compline 6:00 pm	St Michael's B/Cleeve
Maundy Thursday (17/04/25)	Benefice Wide Service 6:00 pm	St Michael's
Good Friday (18/04/25)	Good Friday Service 2:00 pm	St Michael's
Good Friday (18/04/25)	Reveal the Cross 6:00 pm	Vicar's Drive, Gotherington
Easter Sunday (20/04/25)	Holy Communion 10:00 am	Woolstone

**EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA – Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> April  
3:00-4:30 pm at Gotherington Village Hall**

We are delighted to be running this fun-filled event for primary-aged children and their families this Easter Time. There will be crafts, refreshments, dressing-up, a story and an Easter egg hunt for you all to enjoy. We hope to see you there.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

[www.gotherington.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch](http://www.gotherington.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch)  
Mary Manders-Trett (Malleston 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

**Vehicle Security**

*and how to protect your vehicle from thieves.*

- Do not leave valuables in your car, any belongings should be kept and covered in a locked boot.
- Keep your car locked when you are returning your trolley or chatting to someone in the car park, it is too easy for someone to open a door and reach inside.
- If you are using a Sat Nav, GPS navigation or smart phone carrier, unless built into the dashboard, always removed it from the vehicle when unattended.
- Keep your car keys or keyless entry fob in a tin at home at least 5 meters from a door or window – thieves can access the fob signal. This signal can be copied and used to drive away from the location.
- Always check the vehicle is locked (try the handles to ensure this is the case) do not rely on the flashing lights.
- To stop people from reaching into your car at road junctions or traffic lights keep the doors locked and the windows closed
- Ensure that you have theft resistant number plate fixings
- Additional security measures can include steering locks, car alarms and tracking devices.

According to Gloucestershire Constabulary they receive daily reports of vehicles being entered into and some of these vehicles have been left unlocked.

Thank you for reading this and Please Stay Safe

**Howard Samuels**