

Welcome to our 1st issue

It's well over 5 years since Godshill last had a newsletter. Many have talked about it, now it's finally happened.

Enjoy and let us know what you're up to!

Talking Points

Talking Points kick off at Parish Council meetings and are then shared here so everyone can get involved and help achieve the best for our community.

ROAD SAFETY – We have a key message to get over to Police, IoW Council and Island Roads – help us to persuade drivers to **SLOW DOWN NOW!**

Through the village from Shanklin Road, through the High Street and on to School Road we have a main road which has no footpath in places and if there is one, it is only on one side. Pedestrians, especially our seasonal visitors, are often in grave danger.

FROM 50 TO 30 ON NEWPORT ROAD –

Motorists often don't appreciate how narrow and bendy the approach to the village over the bridge actually is. Then there is still the right-angle bend to negotiate before reaching the 30mph sign. [**STOP PRESS** – see more on page 10]

Why is the 30mph sign not a few hundred metres earlier, well before the bridge? Also, a warning of large vehicles in the middle of the road over the bridge might not be a bad idea.

WHAT NEXT IN CENTRAL MEAD?

Share your thoughts here or as stories on our new website coming soon. What else should be included? Can you help keep it in tip-top condition? Also, what about May Close?

PlayFest – Village Fair with a Difference

They came from far and wide to celebrate our Play Park. They filled the Old Smithy car park and had loads and loads of fun.



An amazing event, successful not only for all those lucky enough to attend, but also for the incredible team of volunteers who, over many months, put everything in place to ensure it all ran so smoothly on the day.

There was something for everyone and even the weather played its part perfectly. Besides the splendid amount of £3,238 raised, it was another huge step forward in bringing our community, of all ages, out into the open, meeting one another, meeting all of our visitors and joining in the fun.



Find out more about the play park at:

<https://godshillplaypark.co.uk/>

Godshill Matters!

Of course, Godshill matters to all of us in the village which is why a group of us got together to form a new community association called **Godshill Matters**.



Considering it's only been a year we have collectively achieved so much – from the highly successful walking group, a Christmas celebration (yes, we know the weather wasn't that great) to the Easter Treasure Hunt and the first Godshill Gallop. But we could not do it without the support of the wider community. So, if Godshill Matters to you please get in touch via email alison@godshillmatters.uk or 07710 881714 or come to one of our very friendly meetings.

GM Galloping Along

Another highly successful Godshill Matters event for the village.



Godshillians were out in number on a sunny Sunday hunting for treasures on drives and front gardens from May Close to Shanklin Road. Many said it was so great to get out and meet new people who happened to live just down the road!

All Saints

All Saints Church, the most photographed village church on the island and some say in the whole country, looks down majestically on our village.



Confirmation Service – Thursday 5 June. This evening service was conducted by the Bishop of Richborough, The Right Revd. Luke Irvine-Capel SSC. Two members of our congregation were confirmed in their Christian faith. It is not often we have such an exalted visitor.

A lovely spread of cakes was provided by local parishioners and light refreshments were served after the service.

Local residents and village visitors may not know that All Saints Church is a Church in the Anglo-Catholic Tradition and like 3 others on the Island is serviced by Father Tony Lawrence.

Sunday morning services with hymns are held at 11am on the second and fourth Sundays of the month and communion is held twice weekly in the Lily Cross side chapel, Thursdays at 10am and Saturdays at 11am.

Our congregation supports Ventnor Food Bank and Baby-box. Give us a try, we are a friendly crowd. Dogs are welcome at all services.

Find out more at:
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16778/

Made in Godshill

Godshill is full of stars! Here is our first for issue 1. Nina is a newcomer to Godshill, Island born & bred but having spent much time on the mainland.



Nina was a Makeup Artist for many years, having trained in TV, film & special effects at the London College of Fashion & St Martins Art College & was also a tutor at the local technical college. Her main passion was creating special effects, some of which she now incorporates into her face painting courses which are advertised on social media and now run in Godshill. Nina's brush strokes extended to a lovely private event with members of the royal family.

Nina now sculps, mainly for pleasure. Her work has been seen & sold in exhibitions including all round Greece & the 6th Art Thessaloniki Art Fair. You may also have seen her sculptures on Facebook.

Nina first visited Godshill as a teenager & is delighted to now live here. She says she loves the village & the new warm & friendly community and friends. "It's a beautiful village that I can now happily call home".
ninaroe@googlemail.co.uk

Scout Group at PlayFest

Even Superheroes queued up to take on 1st Godshill & Rookley Scout Group's exciting challenges at Playfest on Saturday 31st May.



Here, Spiderman got to grips with our take on a steady hand game.

The Beavers, Cubs & Scouts are keen to recruit more adult volunteer team members to ensure that the whole range of youngsters can continue to have access to exciting and varied activities.

Scout Leader Mary Kershaw says "anyone can be a superhero like Spiderman by volunteering time to help our young people"

For further information please contact Mary by email marylkershaw@talktalk.net or 01983 551997.

Godshill Matters – 100 Club

Godshill Matters is run by volunteers but still needs to raise funds to pay for such things as insurance, printing, prizes, etc.

You can also support Godshill Matters by buying a 100 Club number – prizes to be won! You can find out more here:

<https://godshillmatters.uk/100-club/>

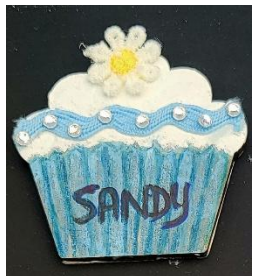
The Godshill Gems

Our "new kids on the block" officially arrived just 2 months ago. Let's hear what they have to say.

We were born out of a light bulb moment of "I know, let's start up a new W.I. group!" Official formation meeting saw members vote to be called Godshill Gems W.I. At 26 strong we are evolving around our mantra of "Come & Have Your Say. Your W.I. Your Way"



Ok, so the W.I. isn't new, but Godshill Gems will be that bit different, sitting between the young quirky and old traditional we're aiming for modern contemporary.



From the initial concept and the all-important questions of "Where? When? Will anyone be interested?; to gaining opinions, views and networking with the community; to advertising

across social media; to an Information Meeting - expecting 12 to turn up and amazed to greet 32; to finding the right premises; to finally holding our first meeting on the 13 May, took just 3 exhausting months! But ALL very, very worthwhile. The laughter, energy, excitement and sense of fun and expectation from our attendees, is tangible and exhilarating.

At our May and June meetings we have decorated name badges, played Speed Chatting, Rolling Raffle, Would I Lie To You? and been musically entertained by IOW busker Steve Love.

Some members have also visited the Post Box museum which includes 2 post box toppers from Godshill! Others have joined the IOW Federation Lunch Club group to sample delectable meals at The Folly and most recently, at The Chequers.



It's been a fun whirlwind. Committee in place & working together, sorted! Tea & Cake rota, sorted! July and August trips out, sorted! Setting up and clear away, sorted! Meet and greet hostess, sorted! Many more speakers, activities, events and crafting sessions in the pipeline, sorted! Our photographer to capture these all important, special moments together, sorted! And even our first sub group – A Book Club, sorted!



Interested? Want to Learn More? Be our guest to see if you like us – just £5 cash or cheque. We meet 2nd Tuesday of the month, 2pm-4pm, at The Scouts Hall, May Close, (lots of free parking) and of course, plenty of tea and cake on offer.....AND we do have spare decorated names badges for you to choose if you want to join as a member.

Sandy - sandy2471@gmail.com

Godshill Still Plays Cricket

A few years ago, Godshill Cricket Club agreed to merge with Shanklin to form Shanklin & Godshill Cricket Club.



Whilst cricket is no longer played in the village, it is only a short 8 minute bus ride on the number 2 to see it at Westhill Road, Shanklin.

<https://shanklingodshillcc.co.uk/home>

Godshill Cricket Club was formed in 1948 and originally played at Sainham Farm before moving to Ternal Mead and then finally Central Mead (Rongs Field) where they remained for many years.

In 2006 an attempt to renovate the Pavilion (still standing) was unsuccessful, and the Club moved down the road to enjoy their cricket at the expansive ground in Rookley. They played there for a while and were consistently one of the strongest village teams on the Island.

Discussions took place in 2017 about combining Godshill and Shanklin playing resources. After a successful trial period, a formal merger took place and in 2019 the Club was re-named "Shanklin & Godshill CC".

You can now find cricket being played at the Westhill Road ground most days of the week during the summer.

The first XI go sailing every other week as they are in the Hants League Div 3B. The 2nds play in IoW League Div 2. Besides friendlies on most Sundays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, there is Colts cricket at U11, U13 and U15 levels.

The clubhouse (also available for private hire) has a bar which is open for most matches and is enjoyed by a thriving non-playing membership.

Greening Godshill

The Parish Council and Godshill Matters initiative's first meeting took place in the school hall on Wednesday 2nd July.

Godshill recently became one of 20 locations, and the only one on the Isle of Wight, to receive generous support from the Greening Campaign. This support will help us to make real change in Godshill.

The Greening Campaign tackles climate change at a community level where everyone is included, everyone has a voice and everyone has a valued role to play. The Greening Campaign is for the community, led by the community, always with the aim also to provide space for the most vulnerable to have the loudest voice.

It is all about creating change in 5 pillars:

- Create or improve 'Space for Nature'
- Develop support for 'Energy Efficient Warmer Homes'
- Raise awareness & protect from the 'Health Impacts of Climate Change'
- Engage in effective 'Waste Prevention'
- Improve understanding of food security, growing your own food, the importance of Heritage Seeds 'Cycle of the Seed'

So, if your answer is YES to any of the following questions, Godshill Greening is for you!

- Do you enjoy gardening?
- Do you want to reduce your energy bills?
- Do you want to grow your own food?
- Would you like to have an allotment?
- Would you like a community forest?
- Do you want to hear how the Met Office can help Godshill?
- Do you want to help nature?

Watch out for news of a workshop in the next few weeks and an update in the next issue. In the meantime, check out

<https://greening-campaign.org/>

Godshill Matters gets You Walking

For many months now, Chris, Frankie and Alison have been leading free walks for all in and around Godshill.



Walks start and end at Godshill's Free Car Park and sometimes even involve a short bus ride, often much to the amusement of the bus driver and the passengers.

Walks are between 4 and 5 miles with a rest stop halfway. Many call in at the Griffin afterwards for a chat, liquid refreshment for 2 and 4 legged walkers, and even a good meal.



The next walk will be on Friday 18th July. Meet at the car park by 10:50 and we'll catch the No. 3 bus at 11:00 for the short journey to Rookley Green. There is the option to meet us at Rookley Green instead, at 11.10am for the start of the walk. The walk back to Godshill is 5 miles and takes in some stunning scenery across a varied landscape. Optional refreshments at the Griffin pub, as always, after. Not to be missed.

Finally – Map updated!

There has been a major update to the map which adorns the flip side of the Parish Council Noticeboard.



The need for an update has been raised for many years – finally it's happened.

This update brings the info up to date. Also, opening times are shown on most entries as are QR codes enabling visitors to access more information via their mobile phones.

The Map – next day

It's already helping our visitors.



Boules/Petanque

How would you like to spend a couple of hours a week in the fresh air getting some gentle exercise and it's **FREE!**



If so, why not come along and see how easy and how much fun it is to play the game.

You don't need any experience, to be very fit or even very mobile - all ages are welcome.



If you've played before or want to give it a try, just turn up on a Thursday at 2:00pm at the far end of the Old Smithy car park (with their kind permission).

For further information please contact Vic on 840308 or e-mail victorscovell@gmail.com

[Ed: I popped in recently and the instant feeling was WHAT FUN! You can play or just watch & there's still time afterwards for tea, cake and further chat in the Old Smithy. **BIG SECRET** – They've magnets on strings so you don't need to bend down to pick up the balls]

Our Village Store & Post Office

Your council taxes help keep the store open. You, through the Parish Council, support it to the tune of £7,000 per year.

Could you make more use of our village store? The more we use it, the less we collectively need to pay to support it.

Are there items that, if they had them, you would buy regularly, let us know, or better still, tell Michelle in the store? Would you like a newspaper delivered? Would you use it if it was open at other times of the day?

Have Your Say!

Simply email what you want to say, ideally including an appropriate photo and we will do our best to include it. It can be anonymous if you wish.

Godshill Gazette is for everyone in our community. If there's something that matters to you, it probably matters to others. Let us share that for you. If technology scares the living daylights out of you (it does for very many of us!) get in touch by phoning the Parish Clerk (07763 665812) and we'll come and have a chat about what you'd like to say.

Email your submissions to:

comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Our new logo

The school has used it for some time and it is to be seen elsewhere around the village, even over the entrance to the Griffin. It is a Wyvern.



G O D S H I L L
P A R I S H
C O U N C I L

SERVING GODSHILL, SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE

Honey Bee Experience in Godshill

A new & unique 'Honey Bee Experience' has been officially launched at Godshill Orchards, offering visitors the chance to get up close with nature – and even sleep alongside the bees themselves.



Photo courtesy of Island Echo

The Bee Therapy Experiences, which are unique to the Isle of Wight, include a guided walk through the orchards, opportunities to make beeswax candles, taste a range of bee products and visit Vivienne's Larder farm shop. Guests can also explore the Apiary Viewing Room to learn more about bee behaviour and research.

Both day experiences and overnight 'sleep with the bees' sessions are available in limited numbers through July and August. For more information or to book, visit www.godshillorchards.co.uk.

PLUS – They've just started picking apricots! Yay! They are now available in their shop just behind the Griffin.



Celebrating Munsley Bog

On Friday 4th July Godshill Matters had a celebration for one of the most important environmental sites in our area – Godshill's Munsley Bog.



Twenty people joined an entertaining 1.5 mile walk from the Scout Hall that ended at the famous Bog.

After some much needed refreshments, thanks to the Scout Association, a larger audience was treated to a fun and informative talk by PHD Student Eve Horsfall on the significance of Munsley.



Through her studies, Eve has discovered details of the incredible climate changes that have occurred on the Island over the last 13,000 years. It's amazing.

The celebration of Munsley Bog was part of the IW Biosphere Festival. Munsley Bog can be found at the back of the recreation ground on May Close.

7 (Godshill) Troop, Army Cadet Force Groups

On a Thursday evening, tucked away in May Close, you will find a group of young people.



New recruits can start their Army Cadet journey from their 12th birthday. Uniform is free and there are no enrolment fees to pay and no weekly or monthly charges either. You just have to buy a pair of boots!



Cadets are taught military subjects such as Fieldcraft, Shooting, Skill at Arms and Drill, but also practical life skills including First Aid, Turnout (ironing and looking after your kit) and Navigation.

Additionally, there is a subject they have to pass called Community Engagement where Cadets give up their

time to support local events and recently this has involved Godshill Playfest, VE Day Commemoration and the Isle of Wight Armed Forces Day.

Remembrance is also a busy time of year for the Troop when the Village will see Cadets out and about Poppy Selling and laying a wreath at the War Memorial.

For further information visit [www.https://armycadets.com/find-a-detachment/](https://armycadets.com/find-a-detachment/) and enter PO38 1BA



Godshill Matters smartening up the High Street

Two public noticeboards have been given a new lease of life.



The volunteers at Godshill Matters have done their bit to help smarten up the village.

The small noticeboard outside the village store has been given a new coat of paint and also given a new surface.

The large noticeboard in the free car park has also been resurfaced.

Residents are welcome to post on both of these noticeboards.

Bench goes walk-about

Two weeks ago, neighbours of our Remembrance Garden noticed that one of the benches (pictured here, on the left) had been removed.



For several days members of the Church and of the Parish Council explored all avenues but it now seems that it has gone for good.

It was hoped that maybe it had been removed for restoration, it seems, unfortunately, not. We have to assume now that it has been stolen.

Many have expressed their contempt and disgust at those prepared to steal from our war memorial garden.

Whilst it can never replace the bench that has been stolen, volunteers from Godshill Matters are looking at renovating an old bench that has sat in the small garden to the front of the Griffin. This would then be placed in the Remembrance Garden.

Taverners – welcome back

It's great to see the Taverners with its doors open again.



Whilst it is understood that Punch Pubs are still looking for a more permanent arrangement, it's good that a team from one of their Newport pubs has stepped in and is running the show which will also see the return

of Andy with his much-loved Charity Quizzes.

Be a Rookley Parish Councillor

Rookley Parish Council is in need of not one but three new Parish Councillors.

Do you know anyone who can help our friends next door by becoming one of their Parish Councillors. It could be someone who lives in Rookley or within 3 miles of their parish boundaries. Anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk Mrs Sally Woods, parishclerk@rookley.org.uk

Godshill Parish Council plans to work more closely with Rookley and the other two parishes in Central Rural, Arreton and Chillerton & Gatcombe.

Sharing Your Gazette

If you're reading an electronic copy, why not forward a copy to friends and family, even to those over on north island.

E-mailing a copy to those you know is an easy way of letting them know about life in Godshill.

Godshill Gazette is set to grow in future months. We'll be getting round to all of our voluntary groups and helping them to put together content to include in future issues.

Print a copy for your neighbours

Once Godshill Gazette becomes more established, we will, with the help of volunteers, distribute a number of copies free to those who do not use the internet or prefer a printed version.

But, if you know of anyone in your neighbourhood who would value being able to read a printed copy, why not run them off their very own copy.

Godshill Matters – 100 Club Winners

The July winners in the 100 Club Draw which took place on Wed 9 July were:.

First prize (£40) – no51 Paula & Roy Hall
Second Prize (£10) – no24 Chrissie Clark
Third Prize (£5) – no38 Charmaine Murphie

<https://godshillmatters.uk/100-club/>

Godshill Parish Council Working Groups

Now, more than ever, it is vital that we are all working together for the greater good of Godshill. Remember, Parish Councillors are volunteers, only the Parish Clerk gets paid!

To this end, the Parish Council has set up working groups. These are your opportunity to contribute to making Godshill a better community for all of us.

Each working group is run by two Parish Councillors. Working with them are a number of volunteers from our community.

The Parish Council tasks working groups with specific projects. The working groups produce reports containing their recommendations which are then submitted to the full council for consideration.

In some cases a working group may pull in someone with specialist knowledge or experience to assist in producing their recommendations.

In this way, the Parish Council has far better information on which to make its decisions.

The working groups looking for volunteers are:

- Communications
- Emergency & Resilience
- Environment & Green Spaces
- Finance & General Purposes
- Planning, Roads and Byways
- Recreation & Amenities
- Strategy & Parish Plan

Godshill Matters discussed working groups at its amazingly well attended meeting on Wednesday and a number of attendees put themselves forward to contribute to the Parish Council Working Groups.

There will be more on this in the next issue as some of our working groups get started. If you would like to find out more about any of the working groups, please contact:
comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

A New Defibrillator

Another defibrillator is soon to appear in Godshill as a result of the success of the PlayFest event.

This will bring the number of defibrillators in the village up to five. The others are at Sandford Garage, in the Old Smithy, outside the Taverners and the doctors' surgery.

If all goes to plan, we will report next month on its successful installation.

To print or not to print

Yes, that is the question. In order to have the Godshill Gazette available in print on a large scale requires funds.

A number of businesses have already told us that they are willing to advertise with us.

If we start to see an advertising revenue stream, then we can produce more printed copies. These would go out initially to those in the parish who do not use the internet or perhaps prefer or find it easier to have a paper version.

If you'd like to help support the availability of printed copies of the Godshill Gazette by placing adverts, please contact us at comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Would You Like to Join Our Comms Team?

Bringing out the Godshill Gazette every month and supporting the website with Godshill news is not an insignificant task.

The Godshill Gazette is about Godshill people talking about Godshill matters to other Godshill people. If you'd like to write news items or short articles, if you have an eye for a good photo, if you're keen on layout, if social media is your thing. If if if- there are so many ways you can be part of helping Godshill know about Godshill.

To find out more please email us at:
comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Be a Godshill Parish Councillor

Godshill Parish Council is now looking for a new Parish Councillor.

Would you or do you know anyone who might be interested in becoming one of our Parish Councillors. It could be someone who lives in Godshill or within 3 miles of the parish boundaries. Anyone interested should contact the Parish Council by email:

comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Godshill Parish Council needs a new Parish Clerk

With Gareth retiring at the end of August, the parish council is looking to recruit a new clerk.

Godshill Parish Council is looking for an enthusiastic and committed Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) to join our team. This is a key role supporting the council's work to make our parish a safe, enjoyable, and welcoming place to live, work, and visit. For more information please contact:

comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

STOP PRESS

Godshill Parish Council have submitted 2 TROs (Traffic Regulation Order).

The First TRO is to have the 30mph signs moved further out of the village on the Newport road, to be before the bridge, rather than after the corner into Godshill.

The second TRO is to replace the speed indicator on the eastern approach to the village.

Godshill Parish Council is taking firm action and hopes to have the Council District Surveyor to visit Church path and noticeboard area as soon as possible.

Work so far has been pitiful and the Church path has been closed for more than 18 months. Councillors are applying maximum pressure to get both of these resolved.

Central Mead & May Close



BBQs are not permitted.

Coming in the August issue

It will be published on August 9th.

We already have some short articles promised and we'd like to include more on the parish's voluntary groups.

Do you have any "Sales or Wants"? Any small announcements you'd like to make?

PLEASE don't wait to be asked, get writing or ringing and let us know what you want to share with the rest of the village.

Email us at:

comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE

There's a possibility that our new email address shown below and used throughout this publication is not yet working.

comms@godshill-iow-parishcouncil.gov.uk

This email address is in the process of being set up. It might not be available until 21 July. In the meantime, you can use:

comms@godshillpc.org.uk

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Disclaimer: Letters, articles and adverts are received in good faith. We cannot take any responsibility for any legal queries resulting from the inclusion of these. We reserve the right to edit or refuse to include submitted letters, articles, or adverts. Letters and articles in the Godshill Gazette do not necessarily reflect the views of Godshill Parish Council.