

Village Hall & Community Hub

OPEN FORUM
Shape Godshill's future together



MONDAY 19 OCTOBER
7:00pm
GODSHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Everyone is welcome. Meet neighbours and share what matters to you.
Help explore how a Village Hall & Community Hub in Central Mead could create activities, support and opportunities for every generation.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

COME ALONG AND HAVE YOUR SAY



JOIN US FOR
GODSHILL
CHRISTMAS CRACKER
05 December 2026

A full day of activities throughout the village, from Breakfast with Santa to Lantern Parade finale. Includes an arts and crafts market and church bazaar, street entertainers and more.

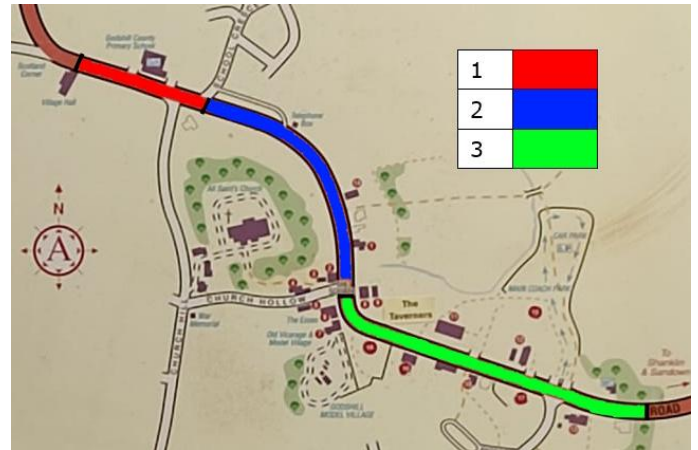
If you have something you would like to do or sell please get in touch!

www.godshillmatters.uk
alison@godshillmatters.org.uk

 **Godshill Matters**

Major Roadworks in Godshill

School Road and High Street will be closed in sections for about 8 weeks starting on Monday 2nd November.



The work will be done in sections and is expected to take about eight weeks, with a suspension for Christmas/New Year unless there are unexpected hold-ups.

Work starts outside the school (Red section). Next comes School Crescent to the junction with Church Hollow outside of the Post Office. Finally from Church Hollow down to just beyond the Griffin.

Each week, parts of the section on which they are working will be closed from 07:30 on the Monday morning through to no later than 18:00 on the Friday. They hope to have the road open at weekends, but it's not guaranteed.

Pedestrian access will be maintained as long as it is safe (heavy machinery at work). Equipment will be stored/parked in part of the free car park.

The road will be open for Christmas Cracker on 5 December and work will be suspended from 13 December to 3 January.

Godshill Highway Improvement Project page contains detailed scheme information and a comprehensive set of frequently asked questions:

<https://islandroads.com/godshill-highway-improvement-project/>

Scouts Take Action for Nature

75 scouts build bird boxes to support local wildlife following spaces for nature initiative.



A community-led project inspired by the Greening Campaign's Spaces for Nature initiative has seen almost 75 young people from 1st Godshill Scouts build bird boxes to support wildlife across Godshill and the surrounding area.

The project began after Central Rural Ward was selected as a pilot area for the Greening Campaign. Representatives from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust joined local residents and organisations for a Spaces for Nature walk through Godshill, exploring opportunities to enhance habitats and create more space for nature throughout the village.

During discussions, representatives from Godshill Scouts highlighted their desire to get involved in practical conservation activities. With an active membership of around 85 young people, it quickly became apparent that the Scout group could play an important role in helping deliver positive outcomes for nature.



The result was an inspiring community project that has now seen 75 Scouts build their own bird boxes, providing nesting opportunities for local bird species and helping residents take action for nature in their own gardens and green spaces.

The project also supports the objectives of the Isle of Wight's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), which encourages residents to take simple but meaningful actions to support wildlife close to home. Bird box designs were sourced from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, while sustainable materials were used throughout. Heat-treated pallet wood was collected, prepared and cut into kits, ensuring the project had both a low environmental impact and low cost.

In total, the project cost just £45, a sum that the Scouts were delighted to fund themselves.

The wider community quickly rallied behind the initiative. Volunteers from Brighstone Men in Sheds gave up their time to support the sessions, helping young people assemble their bird boxes alongside Scout leaders, parents and community volunteers.



The enthusiasm shown by the young people involved was particularly memorable.

One Scout said: "I have made and am decorating this for my grandad who passed away. I am going to put it on his tree that we planted and he can enjoy the birds that come to visit."

Another added: "It was really fun. Am I really allowed to take this home?"



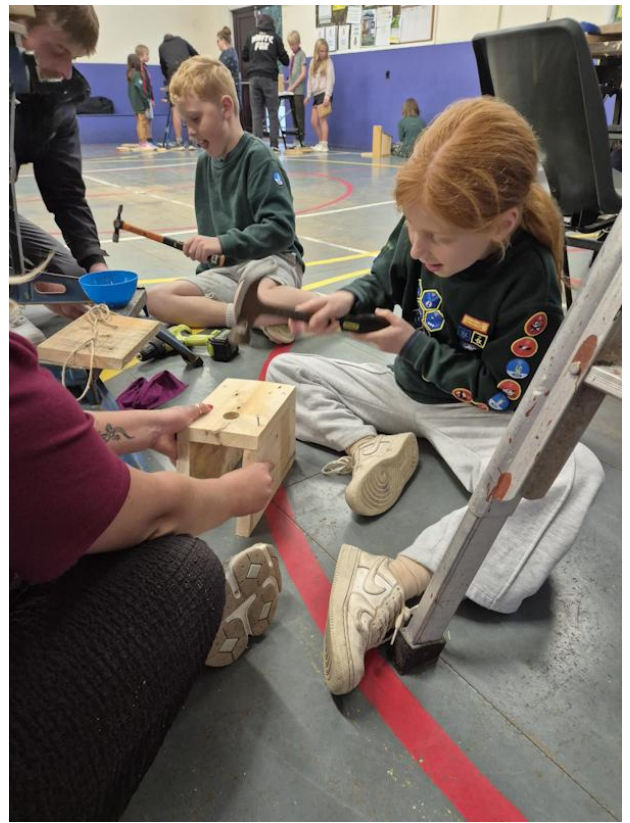
A third Scout commented: "I don't have a garden, but I know the perfect place for it at my friend's house in the big tree we climb."

Others were fascinated by what they were learning, with one young person surprised to discover that: "I didn't know that birds could fit through such tiny holes."

The project has not only created dozens of new nesting opportunities for local birdlife but has also provided valuable opportunities for young people to learn about conservation, biodiversity and the role they can play in helping nature recover on our Biosphere Island.



As a legacy of the project, Godshill Scouts are now developing a case study that will be shared with Scout groups across the Isle of Wight, helping other troops replicate the initiative in their own communities. The group has also created its own bird-themed activity sheet to accompany the practical learning sessions and support young people in discovering more about the wildlife around them.



Scout Leader Mary Kershaw said:

"Days like this really show what our young people can achieve when we've got a few extra adults behind them. With just a bit more help, the adventures get bigger, the smiles get wider and the possibilities explode. If you've ever thought about stepping in, now's your moment. Give us a shout and be a part of what we do next."

Group Lead Volunteer Robin Kent added:

"This was an example of community working at its best; Scouting Team, parents, carers, Brighstone Men in Sheds working with our young people, mentoring, encouraging and developing new skills for the benefit of nature. You could see and feel the pride at the end of each session. "Woodworking is never this much fun at school" said one of our cubs."

The intergenerational Spaces for Nature project demonstrated how small, local actions can make a significant difference for nature while bringing people together. This project has created lasting benefits for both people and wildlife.

For a copy of the bird activity sheet or the project case study, uniformed groups can contact 1st Godshill Scouts at godshillandrookleyscoutgroup@gmail.com

Godshill Gems W.I.

September is recognised and acknowledged across the United Kingdom by the Women's Institute, with the 16th as the official UK first meeting date held in 1915 in the village of Llanfairpwll.



This year all W.I.'s were encouraged to embrace and celebrate W.I. Day by wearing favourite shades of purple, including lilac, mauve and violet, to their meetings. This strong symbolic colour of the Suffragettes represents loyalty, creativity and wisdom, something the Godshill Gems W.I. members have in bucket loads

We decked the hall using candles, bunting, tea lights, tablecloths, table decorations and artificial flowers, even our raffle and Bongo prizes sported purple roses. To add to the colour theme, members arrived dressed in various shades of purple or improvised with wonderful eclectic accessories. Even some questionable colouring used in the icing on the cakes, did not detract from their homemade deliciousness. Our mascot Wonkey Donkey, joined in the fun by commandeering a couple of hats he found lying around..... not very successfully. Undaunted he became the official adjudicator at our games of Bongo and guarded the raffle prizes until they were claimed!

In honour of the W.I. being 111, friendship groups of 3 were taken (1+1+1) and although the Godshill Gems W.I. is just one year old, all our members have truly embraced the core values of fun, friendship and learning. At the end of the photo shoot, for our final picture, we all gathered to stand together. After all, we are stronger together.

Our guest speaker came from another long standing, historical order – that of The Yeomen of the Guard (Beefeaters to you or I). An extremely informative insight into the behind the scenes and life and traditions of living in the Tower of London, along with many funny anecdotes and awesome facts, had us enthralled.



IN OTHER NEWS:

Indoor Kurling. The Gems hosted 2 sessions – a return visit from Shanklin Hyde W.I. where ice creams replaced cake and Wonkey made friends with the Ice Cream Bears; and a local community group – The Godshill Girls Knitting & Crafting group. But we didn't stop there. We went International, welcoming a visitor from Canada.



Walking Netball group reconvened after their summer break with Wonkey checking on the quality of play and the half time oranges.



Gems Book Group and Gems Bookworms met at their meetings to discuss *The Snowman* and *Pompeii* respectively. Both books full of tension, strong characters and explosive outcomes, even though set decades apart.

The group visit to the Widheart Animal Sanctuary saw antics inside and outside of the cages, with a competition at feeding time to see which Gem could consume more than the bears!

9 Grub Club members took advantage of the scrumptious Fish & Chip Tuesday deal at The Boathouse near Ryde, evidenced by empty, licked clean plates. Debates abounded - one on marmite moments, when mushy peas and pickled rhubarb entered the arena. Love It or Hate It? Which would you choose?

The Craft group focused on Remembrance Sunday, creating felted poppies to adorn the Godshill Gems W.I. Wreath and individual Suffragette coloured silk badges. Our sewing endeavours were impeded with a few tangles and knots, so we were treated to a master class on how to unravel birds' nests.

Want to know more? Want to see more?

Check out the Godshill Gems WI Facebook page.

Contact: Sandy2471@gmail.com

ISLE of WIGHT
GIN



ISLAND SPIRIT GIN

A PASSION FOR FLAVOUR. A TASTE OF THE ISLAND

From bright, citrus-led gins to delicate florals and rich, characterful rums, flavour is at the heart of everything we create.

CREATED | GROWN | DISTILLED
IN
GODSHILL

Discover our collection at isleofwightgin.com

Rockenend Rum and Shimmer Vodka also available.

Allotments Online!

The Parish Council have had almost 20 enquiries regarding the provision of allotments in Godshill.



Work is ongoing in order to secure the space for our allotments. In the meantime, the group can keep in touch online via the Space for Nature and Growing Food group in the Godshill Community on WhatsApp.

If you aren't in that group and want to keep up to date on what is happening, especially as we will need to meet soon, please join by using the form on the community website:

[CLICK/TAP HERE](#)

Godshill Christmas Cracker

Godshill Matters are delighted to share the news that the highly successful annual Christmas Cracker Day scheduled for Sat 5th December

WILL BE GOING AHEAD AS PLANNED



Plans were somewhat thrown into confusion with the impending 'carriageway reconstruction' but Island Roads have assured the Parish Council the roads will be open as normal on the day.

As you can see there is a lot planned for the day including a packed craft fair in the School Hall a Bazaar at All Saints Church and plenty of Street Entertainment.



The finale will be a colourful lantern parade through the village streets, ending with an uplifting singalong led by the choir from Godshill School.



If you would like to make a lantern to carry on the parade, the workshops are free for local people – contact alison@godshillmatters.org.uk for full details.

A final programme of events will be included in the November Gazette.



BUT..... there's still time to add activities and events into the day, so if you have something to offer, please get in touch with alison@godshillmatters.org.uk asap.

FOSSILS REACH YAVERLAND

As the year rolls on, Ian and Diane keep the chalet open and ready to let. If you have a need for holiday accomadation or know somebody that does, we are here to help. Just call us.



2 bedrooms that suit 4 persons

Fully equipped with everything we think you might need

Dog friendly, the location is great for dog walking

Superfast broadband

Peaceful location

Bespoke outside space

Sea and Downland views

Access to the Island's coastal path and to the wonderful (and dog friendly) beach at Yaverland.

Contact us at: fossils.reach@outlook.com or through our website; fossilsreachholidaychalets.com

7 (Godshill) Troop, Army Cadet Force Groups

We have to apologise to Residents in May Close if Army Cadets have a bit noisy over recent Thursday nights. The reason? We have been practising our Drill in readiness for Remembrance Sunday Parades in Godshill and Ventnor on 8th November!



For those of you how do not know, Drill is the act of precise and coordinated movement and marching in formation with instructions that are called out to action the next movement. This requires a lot of training to get right and is one of the subjects within the ACF Training Syllabus.

You may wonder, what is the point of Drill? We believe it instils discipline and builds teamwork within our Cadets as they have to stay sharp and listen carefully in order to instantly respond to Drill instructions. One wrong move left or right could be a disaster!

As well as the two Remembrance Parades we attend every year, we will also be Poppy selling in Ventnor on 24th October and Godshill on 7th November so hope to see Villagers out in strength supporting this years Appeal.

The Winter months can be dark and dreary but our Cadets force themselves to come out on a Thursday night to learn new skills and make and meet new friends. If you have a 12 to 13 year old in your life who might benefit from Army Cadets please visit <https://armycadets.com/find-a-detachment> or visit the Scout Hall in May Close on a Thursday at 7pm. We are also looking for Adult Volunteers across our 6 Troops on the Island.

If you have a 12+ year old in your life who might benefit from joining Army Cadets please visit <https://armycadets.com/find-a-detachment> or visit the Scout Hall in May Close on a Thursday at 7pm. We are also looking for Adult Volunteers at our 6 Troops across the Island.

Godshill Matters – 14 October

The meeting focused on immediate infrastructure challenges, the activation of the emergency resilience team, and preparations for the upcoming Remembrance and Christmas events.



Emergency & Resilience Team

At the inaugural meeting of the team its primary objective was identified as being “first responders” to support residents during emergencies such as flooding or utility failures ahead of the arrival of professional services.

- **Funding & Procurement:** A £2,700 grant needs to be spent within the next month. The shopping list includes PPE, lighting, cones, shovels, pumps, power generation, and first aid kits. The Fire Brigade and Isle of Wight Council will be contacted to ensure technical specifications are correct.
- **Vulnerability Mapping:** The team is developing a "telephone tree" and a network of street-level contacts to check on vulnerable residents in emergencies.
- **Communication:** "Godshill Community" on WhatsApp will be used as the primary source of information for residents who can join via a form on the community website (godshill.org.uk).

Infrastructure & Roadworks

Significant road resurfacing is scheduled to begin 2nd November, divided into three sections:

Primary to School Crescent
School Crescent to the Post Office
Post Office to The Griffin.

Road Safety

The meeting approved a total spend of £7,040.44 for visual speed feedback devices. This includes £4,535.98 for equipment (LNC) and £2,504.46 for installation (Island Roads). Installation is expected within a 3-month window, Island Roads declined to sync this with the currently planned roadworks.

Community Events & Projects

- **Remembrance (Poppies):** The village is "going poppy wild." Displays are planned for the Methodist Church railings, the school, All Saints, the Griffin and other locations. Volunteers aim to have all displays installed by 4 November, ahead of the service in the memorial garden on 8 November.
- **Village Hall & Community Hub:** An open forum to discuss the business plan and proposal will be held on **Monday 19 October at 19:00** in the school hall.
- **Christmas Cracker (5 December):** Despite roadwork concerns, the event will proceed. A separate planning meeting will be called within 10 days to "add sparkle" and address the changing situation at the Griffin.
- **The Griffin Pub:** The pub will close on 6 November. New mainland owners intend to reopen within 10 days

Greening Godshill & Allotments

- **Wildflowers:** Legal clearance has been received for the wildflower bed next to the doctor's surgery.
- **Allotments:** The land registration is currently with lawyers and nearing completion.
- **Weather Pilot:** The Met Office is running a pilot scheme in seven villages to collect "weather stories" (impact of heat/flooding on daily life). Residents are encouraged to share anonymous accounts with the team.

Godshill Matters 100Club



October prize winners:

1st: £40 No 64 – Leigh Jackman
2nd: £10 No 46 – Carl Donoclift
3rd: £5 No 84 – Julia Laursen

The Godshill Community Charity Quizzes - GCCQ

Godshill Community Charity Quiz number 24, in aid of Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance, was held at the Griffin on Wednesday 16th September and, as is usual for this particular charity, saw good support, with 68 people forming 15 teams. This was reflected in the amount raised, which was a very respectable £310.20. This is second only to the quiz for the Motor Neurone Association back in January, which raised £322.00



There was a "Connections" round with answers all connected to helicopters (of course!) and there was even a crocheted helicopter as a raffle prize. I'm not sure how well it would fly, but at least it would be a soft landing!

The scoring was quite high, with all teams getting over 50% of the answers correct and 10 of the teams achieving over 75%. This meant knowing things like Amstel lager was named after a river in Belgium (not because it tastes like the river!) and that Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid were members of the Hole In The Wall Gang.

"The Boomers" took first place with 56 points, which I'm pretty sure is up there with the highest scores this year. "The Seagals" were on their tail with 54, and "The Godzillians" weren't far behind with 53.

"The Naughty Corner" were randomly selected to attempt the accumulator question, which was worth £40, but Carl didn't know that Camulodunum was the Roman name for Colchester - but then, why would he!



Quiz No 25 on 7th October was supporting **Wight SAR**, an organisation consisting solely of volunteers who offer valuable assistance to the emergency services in the search for high risk and vulnerable missing persons. They were well represented by two teams, who both scored over 50% correct answers, so no embarrassment there!

The themed rounds included "Search and Rescue", which had questions like "According to her first hit, where was Bonnie Tyler 'lost'? and "What do the initials GPS stand for? (answers at the end).

The puzzle round was a bit of this and that, including identifying commonplace objects from close up photos and guessing the top chocolate bars. Once again, "The Boomers" achieved a top score of 56, but this time "The Godzillians" matched them, so it was tie break time - the question was "What is the air mile distance from London Gatwick to Glasgow?" The answer is 370.4 and "The Godzillians" were pretty close with 360, so took first place and a bottle of wine. One of the Wight SAR teams was chosen to attempt the accumulator question, but didn't know that "Ai No Corrida" was a 1981 hit single for US record producer/songwriter Quincy Jones.

The number of teams entered was 11 made up of 50 people who collectively donated £273.20 via their quiz entry and purchase of raffle tickets, so another good result.

As usual, many thanks for your continued support.

The next quiz is on Wednesday 21st October at 7pm, when we will be raising money for **Age UK IOW**. Come along and join in the fun and help to raise much needed funds,

Book your table on 01983 211115 or at www.heritagepubs.co.uk/griffin-godshill .

Coming next :

21st October – Age UK IOW

4th November – Godshill and Rookley Scouts

18th November – Godshill Matters

As usual, extra raffle prizes are always welcome. If you tell me which charity you want to support I will make sure the prize goes into the raffle on that charity's quiz night.

A big thank you again for all your support.

Andy "The Quizmaster"

PS. Don't forget, the benefactor for the Christmas Special Quiz on 16th December will be decided by a ballot at the quiz night on 2nd December, so book your table to be sure of making your vote count.

PPS. Bonnie Tyler was "Lost In France" and "GPS" stands for "Global positioning system".

PPPS. Things are about to change at the Griffin with new tenants about to move in. As I have yet to meet them, I can't say for certain that they will continue to host the quiz. I hope to carry on, so if any of you meet the new management before I do, please put in a good word for me and the quiz!



GODSHILL COMMUNITY CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT
Wednesday 21st October 2026
 in aid of Age UK IOW
 Starts at 7pm
 Teams of up to 8
 £2 per person
 Cash Entry/Raffle
 Accumulator Prize

Kitchen open till 8pm
 Bar open till 9pm
 Book a table at
www.heritagepubs.co.uk/griffin-godshill
 The Griffin, Godshill PO38 3JD
 TEL 01983 211115

Make a difference

You can help positively change an older persons' life

Our services can only touch the tip of the iceberg of older people that need our help and support. We are meeting the increasing demand for our services as best we can but we need help to make sure we can continue to be there for older Islanders.

Shanklin & Godshill CC

Shanklin & Godshill Cricket Club had a mixed season on the pitch in 2026 but continued to develop themselves behind the scenes with substantial improvements at their home in Westhill Road, Shanklin.



The 1st XI played at their highest level, Hampshire division 2, following their promotion in 2025. Unfortunately, they were one of four teams to be relegated this year, despite some very promising performances, and a number of very close games just went the wrong way.

The 2nd XI had an excellent season, finishing third in the Isle of Wight Division 1. The 3rd XI had their best ever season, winning two games and experiencing some very close finishes.

A lot of progress was made with the junior sides, as we fielded a girls under 13 team for the first time ever, alongside the boys at U11, U13 and U15 level.

There were over 90 home games including midweek, evening and Sunday matches.

Behind the scenes, the Club have attracted a number of new sponsors including Wight Fibre who take over as main club sponsor in 2027, and there was a complete renovation of the bar, alongside improvements which included brand new covers, new fencing and a renovated bowling machine.

For 2027, there are plans for a new changing room and disabled facilities, and the installation of a robot outfield mower.

The club is vibrant once again and welcomes players of all levels, spectators, supporters and helpers. All enquiries should go to shanklingodshillcc@gmail.com

Poppies Galore 2026

Poppy makers from 'across the world' have been busy at work creating thousands of poppies for Godshill Poppies Galore 2026.



Mary Smith from the Knitting Group sharing one of the Poppy Garlands with Nina who was delighted to learn that she can present this beautiful display of poppies outside her house on the main road through Godshill.

This brilliant project was initiated by the Godshill Knitting and Crochet Group and has recruited hundreds of participants into creating red, purple and white poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day in the village.

Pupils from Godshill School have also been hard at work making waterproof images to adorn the school. All the poppy garlands will be displayed from the 4th – 11th November at many locations across the village including the School, All Saints Church, the Methodist Church, The Griffin PH as well as outside private houses.



If you haven't made a poppy yet, there is still time to do so. Please contact alison@godshillmatters.org.uk for further details.

Final note: 'across the world' may be a bit of an exaggeration, but Ruth received a creative donation from a friend in the Canada!

Godshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation

Registered Charity No. 307386.

Godshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation (GGSEF) is a local charity that provides financial grants to students in Further Education.

The Trustees meet at the end of October to review and allocate applications for grants as appropriate. Grant amounts are reviewed regularly and fluctuate depending on the number of applicants and Charitable income.

Closing date for applications is 28th October.

Criteria to apply for a grant are as follows:

- 18 years +
- in full time education (not paid apprenticeship or further education where the individual is in receipt of an income)
- permanent home address is in Godshill or Rookley

How to apply: Please email Penny Dyer, Administrator GGSEF for an online Application Form ggsef1900@gmail.com

Parish Pump

Friday afternoons, 4:30pm in the Griffin –for an hour or so. Pop in and say hello, we'll be sitting by the Parish Pump.

The Griffin kindly provides a space for you to meet parish councillors face-to-face, informally. No need to buy a drink, a soda or even a cup of tea. If you have a question or a suggestion, pop in for a few minutes. At least one councillor and even a few Godshill Matters friends, will be on hand.

Alternatively, contact our clerk if you would like to arrange a meeting elsewhere at any time, or perhaps, even, just a phone conversation.



www.godshillorchards.co.uk

Farm Shop

Our Orchard Gate Farm Shop, Vivienne's Larder, is open 24/7

Local produce including
Milk & other dairy products, Eggs, Fresh Fruit & Veg in season
Jams, Juices, Honey & Chutneys
Lavender Products

Hollow Lane
Godshill
PO38 3JA
Behind the Griffin Pub

Godshill Orchards
Isle of Wight

How Will We Cope in Godshill?

If we accept the severity of our weather in Godshill is never going to be as friendly as it is now, it makes sense to have plans in place, even if we never need to use them.

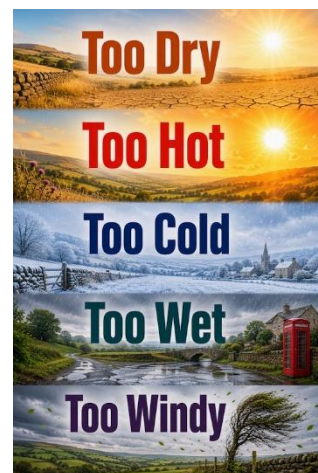
Keep in touch with what is going on in the village and the work that is being done to help protect all of us.

Join the WhatsApp group in Godshill Community and take a look at:

SUSTAINABLE GODSHILL

Sharing thoughts, ideas and plans for our Godshill Community.

[CLICK/TAP](#) top join the GODSHILL COMMUNITY



Godshill Primary

We've made the most of the weather with the last week of September being a mega sporting week!



Monday saw the dodgeball team to the court. Completing multiple different activity stations before playing games against a number of other schools. Everyone had a fantastic time, and Mr. Shephard said they represented the school brilliantly. Well done team!



Tuesday was the turn of the under 11 boys football team. They took part in the Pokémon cup qualifying rounds, winning 3-0 and 4-0. They will now move to the Pokémon cup finals after half term. Well done boys!



Wednesday afternoon the Under 11 rugby team competed in the South wight area finals. They won 5 matches. Drawing 1 and only losing 1. This resulted in a second place finish and a place at the Island finals in November. Super work team! Go get them in the finals!



Thursday the Under 11 girls played in the Pokémon cup qualifiers against Niton, Newchurch and Barton at Niton FC. After two 0-0 games, qualification came down to the final match, our only defeat. However, Mr Knight was extremely impressed with how the girls listened to the coaching point and played better Football in every game.



Friday it was the under 9 girls football team against Newchurch. A 3-1 win was a fantastic way to round the week off. What made it even more special was seeing how many new faces represented the school for the first time today. A fantastic start to the season, and their school sporting journey, for this group of girls.

● Team Godshill ●

Godshill Walking Group

The October Godshill Walking group outing was planned to be a linear walk, the Lady Ann trail, from Wroxhall via Appuldurcombe House and back to the village.



Twenty-four of us and Rosie the dog all got on the bus in Godshill only to be then told that the Wroxhall road had just been closed.



So, 24 of us, and Rosie, got off the bus!



Thankfully, plan B worked out even better with a walk up to Freemantle Gate, on to Appuldurcombe House where we thoroughly enjoyed a temporary art exhibition presented by Trudie Wilson as part of the Can You Hear us Festival.



Suitably enlightened, we returned to the Griffin PH via Sheepwash Lane and All Saints Church.



A brilliant sunny 4-miler and thanks to Frankie for sharing with us all the history of Lady Ann and the Worsley family.



Due to the road closures, the next Godshill Walking group outing will be an awayday walk - the Whitwell Wander - on Friday 20th November.

Everyone is welcome. Watch for final details on the Godshill Matters Facebook page, or contact – alison@godshillmatters.org.uk

1st Godshill & Rookley Scouts

We meet at our Scout Hall in May Close Godshill where we provide fun and adventures for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts between the ages of 6 - 14.



We can't believe it's half term already!

Since we returned after the summer our young people have been out and about in the local area and on the mainland. We have had a disability awareness week, the young people developed their own Code of Conduct, we have studied maps and navigation, been out on walks and hikes, used our new tomahawk throwing range, and had a fantastic week building bird boxes (see separate article).

The Isle of Wight Scout Archery Club

(ISAC) recently travelled to Southampton to take part in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight county Archery competition. Theo from Godshill Scouts and Harry from Godshill Cubs both brought home medals against stiff competition. Theo won a bronze and a silver and Harry won two silvers. It was a long day for them both, leaving home at 6.30 am and getting home just before 10 pm. We are super proud of them both! And thanks to the volunteers that accompanied them.



Seven Beaver colonies from across the island, including our own 1st Godshill & Rookley, spent the day last Saturday at **Blackgang Chine** and what a day they had! Afterwards our Beavers had a sleepover at the Scout Hall, including movie night and a Bake Off on Sunday morning. Many thanks to Mary and Emma and the rest of the volunteer team, including our fantastic young leaders, for giving our youngest group an amazing weekend.



The Scout Hall and grounds are not just used by our own sections, other Scout Groups visit too. We recently had the pleasure of welcoming Explorer Scouts from Fareham West as a part of their Platinum Scout Expedition – using ferries, trains and hiking to Godshill.



On the Saturday lunchtime we helped them cook their own lunch. The young people made their own dough (self raising flour and natural yoghurt - who knew?) then made and cooked their pizzas in wood fired pizza ovens.



Watching these Explorers, their camaraderie, obvious friendship, team working, politeness, show the best qualities of today's youth, who often get a bad name. They were an absolute credit to their Scout Group and the Scouting organisation as a whole.

We meet at our Scout Hall in May Close Godshill where we provide fun and adventures for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts between the ages of 6 - 14.

We have spaces in our Beaver Colony for 6-8 year olds who would like to start Scouting. Please see the advert for contact details.

Our Scout Hall and grounds is available for hire for occasional and regular bookings (bookings@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk) and is used by Army Cadets, a number of local community groups, and other Scouts, Guides and youth groups.

The best way to keep up with our weekly adventures is to follow us on Facebook where you will also find lots of photos: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572948352459>.

Come on in and join the fun...to volunteer to work with these amazing young people contact:

Robin Kent
Group Lead Volunteer (GLV),
1st Godshill & Rookley Scout Group
robin@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk



**Ready for
fun and
friends?**

Aged between 6 and 8? Looking for new adventures, fun and friends?

In Beavers, everyone's welcome. Every week we play games, learn skills, earn badges and yes, even eat a marshmallow or two.

For Fun, Friendship and Activities that get you thinking as well as doing

Start your adventure today

Beavers meet at 1st Godshill & Rookley Scout HQ, May Close, Godshill, PO38 3HB

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/9HDv4iUYGe6GjBX16>
Tuesdays 5.30 - 6.45 p.m.

Contact Mary Kershaw
T: 07407 370331
E: mary@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk

Scouts 
1st Godshill & Rookley

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572948352459>

BEAVERS



Dear residents,

The major item of the most recent council meeting was the adoption of a co-option policy. That policy formalises the way by which the

council may seek to co-opt a new member when a vacancy arises ensuring a fair and transparent process – hopefully a policy we will make use of soon!

I am very keen to hear from any prospective members of the public who may wish to join the council and am very happy to have informal conversations with anyone who is curious about the role.

Besides that, I have been enjoying a slightly calmer month, but that is soon to change as work will soon begin on the budget for the upcoming financial year.

That year runs from April to April, but the calculations need to be done in November to present a draft to council in December for final signing off at the very start of February, so that the Isle of Wight council – which collect taxes on our behalf – can prepare all of their billing for April.

The first budget discussions will be informal meetings at which I will encourage members of the council to peer into crystal balls to determine what extraordinary project spending they wish to see in the coming period. Alongside that 'fun stuff' I will need to carefully budget for the routine maintenance of the council's assets and miscellaneous costs such as insurances, fees and the salaries of the council's two employees.

As ever, if you have questions about the council's work then I am always happy to speak, either on the phone or by email.

clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

or **07763 665812**

Stephen Cockett – Clerk

NEW Godshill Community on WhatsApp

Have you joined the Godshill Community on WhatsApp?



A WhatsApp Community is an organizational feature that collects multiple individual group chats together under one secure umbrella.



It gives you one place to go, accessed by this icon (or similar) once you are in WhatsApp. It is a closed community just for those of us living in Godshill.

Members can choose to join and leave any groups within the community. Members can request new groups and any member can be given rights to administer their group. If your club has a group in here, it can be seen by other Godshillians who might then join you.

This Godshill Community is slowly growing and a few of the groups are starting to gain activity.

Your club or group can have its own WhatsApp group within this Godshill Community, managed by yourselves, if you wish. We can have up to 100 groups within the Godshill Community Hub.

[CLICK/TAP HERE](#)

to go to a page on the Community website and fill in the simple form (or contact Stephen, parish clerk).

COME AND JOIN IN

Godshill Parish Council

The October meeting took place on Monday, October 5th. Here is a summary of what was discussed.



The October meeting of the Godshill Parish Council focused on navigating institutional transitions, infrastructure delays, and the formalisation of internal governance. Key themes included the management of a councillor vacancy, mid-year financial adjustments, and local commercial changes.

Strategic & Operational Highlights

Governance and Resignation

Councillor Hammond has resigned due to mainland commitments. The council is currently in a statutory notice period to determine if a formal election is required or if the vacancy can be filled via co-option.

Co-option Policy Reform

The council debated a new co-option policy intended to replace previous informal practices:

- **Application:** A brief written form (two paragraphs).
- **Timeline:** A one-month rolling advertisement period.
- **Transparency:** Candidates may optionally present in public, but final deliberations by councillors will occur in a closed session at the end of the meeting to protect privacy.

Financial Mid-Year Review

The council has utilised 51% of its annual budget at the six-month mark.

- **Overspends:** Ground maintenance and burial ground accounts are over budget due to historical under-budgeting. Administration costs are high due to ongoing surveys.

- **Liquidity:** £60,000 has been moved to a CCLA account to maximise interest.
- **Charity Accounting:** Central Mead and May Close expenses are currently being paid from a charity account to preserve interest in the main council account, with a reconciliation payment planned for year-end.

Infrastructure and Safety Concerns

- **Roadworks:** Excavations on High Street and School Road are imminent, pending final Isle of Wight Council approval. 700 letters will be distributed to residents.
- **West Street:** Safety concerns persist regarding school children and dark evenings. The council will ask James Whelan to do what he can to achieve a start date for the work.
- **Public Transport:** During road closures, a shuttle bus will hopefully run from Godshill to Newport, turning at West Street, as standard bus routes (2 and 3) will bypass the village. There is no news from Southern Vectis on this.

Local Intelligence

Commercial Changes

- **The Griffin:** We believe Stonegate is in discussion regarding a new leaseholder.
- **The Taverners:** Currently closed; the council anticipates no new tenancy until Easter. Work is currently underway on the building. Clerk is working on a plan to relocate the defibrillator which was sited at the pub to the public toilets.

Education and Grants

- **Endowment Foundation:** The Godshill Grammar School Endowment Foundation has monies available for students aged 18+ in further education. The application deadline is 28 October.

- **School Planning:** Uncertainty remains regarding school place planning following the resignation of the Isle of Wight Council's Children's Services Committee chair.

Nuance and Friction

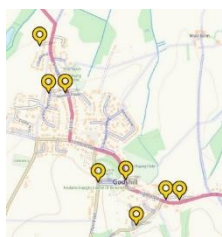
- **Speeding**
There is palpable frustration regarding speeding, the council has "done everything it can" despite resident demands for further action. SpeedWatch is having a notable effect on speeding when they are out.
- **Land Regularisation**
A significant effort is underway to register historical land holdings, May Close, Munsley Bog and land at Bridgecourt. The clerk was authorised to spend £500 (+ VAT) for a Land Registry compliant maps to resolve a long-standing lack of documentation dating back to 1951.
- **Funding Triage**
A funding request from SCARF Education for a school workshop was met with skepticism as the application is from the company and not the school. The council deferred the decision to investigate if the request is a legitimate school-backed initiative or an unsolicited commercial approach.

Fix My Street

Don't forget to use Fix My Street to report any road and path issues, no matter how small.

Fix My Street works!

Go to: <https://fms.islandroads.com/>



Rural Beat Surgery

There will be no Beat Surgery this months unless there is a last minute change to plans.



Godshill Parish Council is seeking a new Parish Councillor through co-option.

Help shape Godshill's future. If you care about your community and want to turn ideas into action, join us to represent residents and influence services, projects and priorities.

What you'll do

- Be a strong voice for local people.
- Shape decisions on budgets, policies, planning, local issues and community facilities.
- Help improve open spaces, playgrounds, allotments and local buildings.
- Attend council meetings on the first Monday of each month.

What you'll bring

Some of these:

- **Energy and connection:** Bring people together to tackle challenges such as youth engagement, loneliness and community resilience.
- **Initiative:** Mobilise volunteers, seek grants and build partnerships that make projects happen.
- **A clear local voice:** Listen to residents and champion their concerns with principal authorities, the police and health services.

Who can apply?

You must be:

- Aged 18 or over.
- A British citizen, eligible Commonwealth citizen or EU citizen.
- A registered local elector, or someone who has lived, worked or owned property in Godshill—or within 3 miles of the parish boundary—during the past 12 months.

Some disqualifications apply, including being a paid council employee or subject to bankruptcy restrictions. Ask the Clerk for full details.

Ready to make a difference?

Contact the Parish Clerk for an application form or an informal conversation:

Stephen Cockett
clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk
07763 665812
www.godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

Apply by 6pm on 30th October 2026.

Applications will be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 2nd November 2026. Candidates will be invited to say a few words about themselves.

Annual Parish Survey

There will be our 2nd annual parish survey in Nov/Dec to find out how YOU would like YOUR money spent!



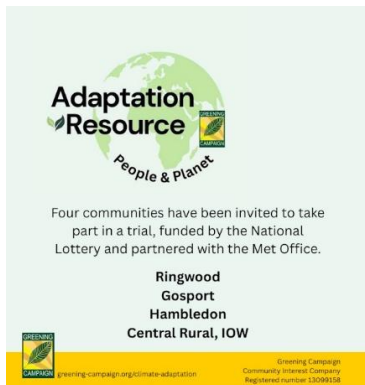
Our aim is to get a copy of the survey through every letterbox – but it'll be much easier to complete it online

The Parish Council is happy to receive any suggestions you'd like to make ahead of the survey. You may have a question you think we should ask.

Anything you want to say can be sent using the contact form (www.godshill.org.uk) or by sending an email to Stephen, our clerk at clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

Adaptation with Met Office

We now need to chat with anyone who has a story to tell about a cascade of events that occurred during extreme weather.



The project is about bringing together Met Office data and anecdotal evidence.

Together this information will allow us to better understand the cascade of events that occur during extreme weather events.

Extreme weather includes anything that results in power cuts, bus services stopped, flooding or ill health. So, it includes spells of hot or cold weather, high winds, flash floods, long periods of rain.

What do you remember from this year or going back as long as you like?

We will be one of the very first communities to put in place a plan to deal with these issues using the Adaptation Resource.

Our team will create a **Central Rural Community Adaptation Plan** for residents. This will show identified risks and opportunities and who should act.

If you have a story to tell, including your experiences this past summer, please contact Stephen, our clerk, clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk or **07763 665812**

Godshill Methodist Church

We have a monthly service on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:30am – everyone is most welcome!

Reverend Lin Francis - 01983 594783.

To hire, please contact Mrs Margaret Cooper 614862 or email coopers@pm30h.plus.com

News from All Saints Pews

All services are running as normal.

Fr Tony, on tonyschickens@btinternet.com

You can find the most up to date information regarding All Saints at:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16778/>

Thanks!

Many thanks to our local advertisers:

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When you contact any of them, please mention the Godshill Gazette.

We can take a few more quarter page adverts each month – just £10 per month.

Email comms@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk for more information.



A welcoming new heart for Godshill

Godshill has been without a dedicated village hall for more than a decade. After the former School Road Hall fell into disrepair and was sold in 2017, plans for a replacement were delayed by Covid & changes to Lottery funding. Now, a practical new way forward is ready to return community facilities to the village.

The Children's and Young People's Playground and Parish Recreation Ground Charity (CYPP) has developed an alternative approach designed to have the first facilities open in around nine months.

In the 2025 Parish Survey, residents identified 2 clear priorities: tackling speeding and creating a dedicated community space without delay.

Across the Island, traditional halls face rising costs and increasing pressure to secure bookings from a wide area. Godshill has the opportunity to take a different route: a right-sized, sustainable hub shaped around local people and local demand.

This will be more than a hall for occasional events. Our vision is a lively, welcoming place open throughout the day and evening, with activities, support and opportunities for every generation of the Godshill community.

The project will be delivered in two carefully planned phases, meeting urgent needs now while creating room to grow:

Phase One

Meeting today's needs — sooner

Phase Two

A bold, modern expansion for the future

Phase One

Phase One starts modestly and sensibly, giving residents useful facilities close to home with little or no travel. As participation grows and the programme widens, the case for a larger venue can be demonstrated with confidence.

With support from the Parish Council, Phase One can deliver valuable personal and community benefits while operating on a financially sustainable basis.

The immediate goal is an attractive, accessible indoor space: open daily, simple to manage and flexible enough for a wide variety of activities.

The underused cricket pavilion and meeting hall offers the ideal starting point. Thoughtful renovation will transform this overlooked asset into a place the whole village can enjoy.

FROM:



TO:



FROM:



TO:



The existing building needs structural repairs and significant improvement, but its footprint offers a practical and responsible way to create something new while protecting the surrounding recreation space. The target is to welcome the community through the doors by the end of July 2027.

The result will be a safe, accessible and sustainable hub, with dedicated support for children, young people and older residents, alongside compatible activities for local people and community organisations.

The proposed work will include structural stabilisation, weatherproofing, insulation and improvements to the roof, windows, doors, lighting, heating, electrics and internal facilities. The building will also be adapted to provide accessible entry, an accessible toilet, flexible activity space, plus suitable storage and facilities that support safeguarding and confidential conversations.



This additional resilience function will provide a safe and welcoming place for young people, older residents and others who may be particularly vulnerable to temperature extremes. Improved insulation, efficient systems and renewable energy will also help reduce running costs and the building's environmental impact.

Particular attention will be given to acoustics, controllable lighting, accessibility and sensory needs so that the hub can welcome people with physical disabilities, hearing difficulties and neurodiverse needs. Durable, energy-efficient and easy-to-maintain materials and systems will be used wherever practicable to extend the useful life of the building.



Once Phase One is completed, the hub will provide a secure base for youth support, clubs, workshops, advice sessions, meetings and community activities. Flexible community hire will help generate income towards utilities, insurance, cleaning, maintenance and future repairs without displacing the building's principal youth-focused purpose.

The project is supported by community consultation, project plans, initial costings and a business plan. Its aim is not simply to repair an old pavilion, but to create a practical, inclusive and resilient community asset that can adapt to local needs and remain affordable to operate over the long term.

Phase Two

Once Phase One is meeting current needs and demonstrating demand, planning can begin for Phase Two. Expansion could follow within a few years, guided by community use, available funding and a clear business case.

Phase Two will be a major enhancement, building on — and making full use of — the investment already made in Phase One.

Using innovative construction suited to the site, the expansion is designed to be quick and efficient to build, connecting seamlessly to the front of the Phase One building.

The Phase One building will remain in place and will provide facilities and storage to support the new building.



The inspiration for this Phase Two structure is a small community centre built in 2011 in Ongawa, Japan following a devastating earthquake and tsunami. This design idea has been much used around the world since.



Shipping containers are used on either side of the building to provide a rigid single storey structure and individual, ready made, rooms.

The space between the containers is covered with a gull wing wooden roof structure creating a large multi-function hall.



Energy efficiency and community resilience.

Phase Two will explore solar panels and an energy-efficient ground or air-source heat pump, subject to technical assessment and available funding. The heating and cooling system will help maintain a safe temperature throughout the year and enable the hub to serve as both a warm space in cold weather and a cool space during periods of extreme heat.

Having a range of independent spaces within the building will enable energy usage to be as efficient as possible.



The proposed design uses one 40-foot and four 20-foot shipping containers to frame a striking winged timber roof and a flexible hall of approximately 120 square metres.

That means room for more than 150 guests at a standing reception, over 100 people at a film screening or 70 diners seated comfortably.

Phase One will become a much enlarged toilet facility, an office, medical room and store.

A new café will enjoy panoramic views across the park, with an outdoor counter serving the patio and indoor seating for up to 20 people.

The accompanying photographs show how a 40-foot container can be successfully transformed into an inviting café.



The south-east side of Phase Two could follow this model: a bright café serving both indoors and out, with wide sliding doors opening towards the Mead and internal windows giving visitors a clear view of activities in the hall.



The second phase is to be added to the front of phase one enabling the two to work together thus extending the use of Phase One.



Map data © Google

Have a Copy Emailed to You

We can add you to our email list so you get a copy soon after it is published.

You'll find a small form to submit on the Gazette page on the Community website <https://www.godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk/community/godshill-parish-community-20899/godshill-gazette1/>.

Printed Copies Available

We currently have a small but growing (thanks to our advertisers) budget available to enable us to print some black and white copies of the Gazette for those without the internet.

Please check with your neighbours to see if they read the Gazette, they may even never have heard of it! If technology is not their thing, tell them that they can have a free (mainly monochrome) copy delivered.

If you would like a printed copy or you know someone who needs or prefers to have a printed copy delivered, contact our clerk.

Sharing Your Gazette

If you're reading an electronic copy, why not forward a copy to friends and family, even to those across the water.



Have Your Say!

You can now use the group within the WhatsApp Godshill Community to get in touch.

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.

You can also phone the Parish Clerk (07763 665812) – you may need to leave a message – but we'll get back to you.

Email your submissions to:

comms@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

Last Word

Next month's Gazette will be published over the weekend of November 21-22.

DON'T FORGET – we also have latest news items on the website and our Facebook page. We also have less frequent updates on X (Twitter) and Instagram. So, if you have anything you'd like to share, email it to:

comms@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

If you know of a group that has not yet appeared in the Gazette, please let us know and we will get them in the next issue.

Same goes for events that are not currently included in the Village Calendar on the home page of the website.

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-parish.gov.uk

PLEASE NOTE

Contacting the Parish Council.

You can contact the Parish Council at:

clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

Phone: **07763 665812**

This number will normally be answered by Stephen Cockett, our parish clerk.

www.godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk

Please bear in mind that Stephen only works part-time, so you may get the answerphone.

---oooOOooo---

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