

Happy Birthday to Us!

Yes, this is our 12th issue and completes our first year. Browse back on the website through almost 200 pages to see how much has been going on in our village.



Many thanks to our major contributors – Godshill Gems W.I., Godshill Matters, 1st Godshill & Rookley Scouts, 7 (Godshill) Troop Army Cadet Force Groups, Godshill Community Charity Quizzes, All Saints, Godshill Walking Group and, of course, Godshill Parish Council.

Plus, our advertisers who help fund our printed copies –

Isle of Wight Gin,
Godshill Orchards, Fossils Reach
and IW Grooming Shed.

Godshill Matters 100Club



June prize winners:

1st: £40 No 5 - Diane & Ian Barker

2nd: £10 No 90 - James Morgan

3rd: £5 No 86 - Steve Pointing

Just 3 numbers for the 2026 competition are still available – [CLICK/TAP HERE](#) or email treasurer@godshillmatters.org.uk.

Village Green – Finally, Yes

The low wall has finally been rebuilt and the orange barriers have gone, hopefully forever.



Thanks also to Cllrs Russell Dyke and Keith Crane for clearing up the mess left behind by the Island Roads workforce.

Church Path is now OPEN

Firstly, our thanks to the owners on either side of the path who have done a very significant amount of work.



However, the bulk of our thanks must go to Cllr Carl Donoclift who has worked tirelessly for well in excess of a year, tackling the IoW Council and Island Roads and getting them to see sense. The path has finally been re-opened after being closed for well over two years. Cllr Donoclift has now turned his attention to getting some signage to support the pathway to the church.

Godshill Gems W.I.

WELL WE DID IT! HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

THE GODSHILL GEMS W.I. CELEBRATED ITS 1ST BIRTHDAY.



From: 18 ladies taking a leap of faith and signing up at our formation meeting in May 2025; then hosting on average 35 members on a regular basis throughout the year

To: Our 2026/2027 membership starting at a healthy base of 40 young at hearts, who want to continue to meet and have fun together.

So what have we achieved this past year?

On top of visits, guided tours and talks, we have established a number of sub groups to offer a 'pic n mix' variety of additional involvement including – 2 x Book Clubs /

Craft Group / The Grub Club / Walking Netball / Theatre Thesians / and most recently Indoor Kurling.

But we are not resting on our laurels. Still in the pipeline: The Gardening Group (awaiting confirmation of collaborative working within the Godshill Green Space Community project) / The Art Group / The Promenade Strollers – First amble rumoured to be Ventnor to Bonchurch.



Our monthly meetings have offered not only a speaker/demonstrator, the obligatory tea and cake but then a further hands on, immersive, getting to know each other, type of activity. We've dressed up as witches and bats, worn Christmas jumper finery, and been shown how to use scarves as fashion statements. We've been hands on: decorating our name badges; learnt how to use a defibrillator; voted on Resolutions;

played snatch raffle; rolled coins to win prizes; and attempted archery without killing anyone. We've sampled chocolates, the catering college Xmas meal and each other's baking prowess. 2 themed competitions (Halloween and Valentines) had the tables groaning under wonderful objects lovingly made or thoughtfully produced, inspired us to hold the Indoor Pop Up Market showcasing the many talents our members have.



The time has flown by in a haze of laughter and we've crammed as much as we can into our meetings. To give everyone the opportunity to talk more (boy oh boy can we talk!), we've had to extend our meeting time to give us all, an extra half an hour.



One Year On: To mark our anniversary meeting, a spread of cheese and biscuits with accoutrements and plentiful amounts of wine (alcohol and non-alcoholic), followed by individual cupcakes with candles, were supplied by the out-going committee. We didn't sing Jerusalem but we did a great and rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday to US". One of our members recited a poem specially written for the occasion. And finally, (it has actually taken us a full year of voting, with other contenders falling by the wayside), we adopted our own mascot - a Donkey appropriately named WONKY.



And we're only just warming up.....

For more information, contact Sandy - sandy2471@gmail.com

7 (Godshill) Troop, Army Cadet Force Groups

This month we are highlighting the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) and at Godshill Troop we have 7 Cadets enrolled and 2 who have just completed their Bronze Award.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a life-changing experience where young people can discover new talents, develop essential skills for life and push personal boundaries.

The Bronze Award can be started from the age of 14 or at the start of Year 9 in September and for Silver the requirement is age 15 or the start of Year 10.

The Award comprises 4 sections to complete:

VOLUNTEERING
PHYSICAL
SKILLS
EXPEDITION

For Volunteering, Physical and Skills, Cadets have to decide one subject to complete over 6 months and the other two over 3 months. Cadets have to consistently complete at least one hour per week per section for the period chosen and, for skills and physical sections, they've to show evidence of an achievement and improvement of their stated goals.

Volunteering of their time is instilled in our Cadets from the very beginning, whether that

is poppy selling on behalf of the Royal British Legion or helping at Community events. DofE takes this to a different level encouraging weekly volunteering and, amongst other things, our Cadets are currently volunteering at charity shops, helping the elderly with gardening chores and assisting at a local Heritage Centre. Some have enjoyed it so much they have continued beyond the 3 or 6 month period required to pass the DofE Volunteering section.

The benefit of undertaking DofE with the Army Cadets is that 2 of the 4 subjects can be completed whilst attending at Cadets – EXPEDITION, which is already an ACF Syllabus subject and aligns with the DofE Awards and the SKILLS section, where Cadets can choose to 'improve their military skills'.

The other benefit is that once the initial enrolment fee of £32.50 is paid, there is only £5.00 to pay for the Expedition attendance – everything else can be done for free.

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.

Rural Beat Surgery

Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team will be at Godshill Post Office on Friday 26th June from 9:30-10:00am.



Please take this opportunity to raise any concerns you have and to find out what we are doing to tackle issues that matter to you.

Everyone is welcome and it would be great to see you there. For more information, please contact me - PCSO Justin KEEFE on 07901 102302

Godshill Garage Gallop

Godshill Garage Gallop 2026 took place on Sunday 7th June, and what a great day it was..



A fantastic 36 locations across the village took part — twice as many as last year — creating a lively trail of stalls from one end of Godshill to the other. It was lovely to see the new Godshill Matters bunting blowing in the breeze, adding colour and cheer to the day.



Although visitor numbers were slightly lower than last year due to the recent bad weather, the event was still very well attended, with people travelling from across the island to join in.



We received some wonderful comments:

"A great event that brings the village that bit closer together."

"It was nice to meet more Godshill residents."

The social aspect was clearly a highlight for many, helping neighbours connect and giving visitors a warm welcome.



At the Godshill Matters meeting last Wednesday, there was clear consensus: people want to do it again next year — so let's look forward to Godshill Gallop 2027.

FOSSILS REACH YAVERLAND

With the Summer nearly here, and most of us expecting family to join us in Godshill, we may not have enough space in our houses, so Diane and Ian can offer their holiday chalets on the clifftop at Yaverland.



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

1st Godshill & Rookley Scouts

1st Godshill and Rookley were part of the 277 Scouts from across The Island who had a fantastic time at Corf Camp Site on the weekend of 22nd – 25th May on some of the hottest days of the year so far.



From the disco on Friday night, the opening ceremony Saturday morning, to the pioneering challenge and raft race on Saturday, the water games (or was it a water fight!) on Sunday, and all the other activities our fantastic leadership team provided, it was fun and games all the way to the closing ceremony on Monday and our Scouts had a fantastic time.



The leadership team found time for some fun too in amongst all of the planning and organising but of course seeing our Scouts have such a fantastic time is why they do it. A massive thanks to Mary, Bash, Vikki and Jim in particular for making it happen, our Young Leader Laanii, all the parents and carers who pitched in and helped with camp set up, take down and the ice cream run, and to our 22 Scouts for taking part

and being so well behaved - everyone is a credit to the 1st Godshill & Rookley Scout Group.



Everything was quickly packed away and ready to come out again for Beaveree and Cub Camp in June as the summer fun keeps on coming at 1st Godshill & Rookley Scout Group.

Got FOMO? Want to be part of the fun next time as a Scout or an adult helper?

Contact:

robin@1stgodshillandrookleyscouts.org.uk

On Saturday 6th June, our Beavers joined 12 other Colonies from across the island for the Beaveree activity day at Corf Scout Camp. This year we had two themes – 40 years of Beaver Scouting and dinosaurs.



Activities throughout the day included wacky races, caving experience, dinosaur museum and hunt, plus a fancy-dress parade. Another couple of highlights were going to the tuck shop and jumping in puddles! At lunch time we had a party and birthday cake.



Thanks go to two of our Beaver mums, Charlie & Nikki, who helped out on the day, and Mary our Beaver Leader, who all made the event possible for our Beavers. We all had a great time despite the wind and rain.

Do you know a child who will be 6 years old by September who would like to join in the Beaver fun? We have a few spaces available. Contact

Mary@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk

1st – 7th June was National Volunteers' Week

We are proud to celebrate our wonderful volunteers here at the 1st Godshill & Rookley Scout Group. As well as the highly visible leadership team of Mary, Ash, Emma, Penny and Jim there are others who help out in many different ways, some just occasionally and some on a regular basis, and we would like to give each and every one of them a big THANK YOU!

♥ Thank you from the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

♥ Thank you from the families and carers.

♥ Thank you from the community that gets to see what amazing work you do.

The adults have just as much fun as the young people! One of our newest volunteers is Vikki and she tells us about her volunteering:

'I started coming along to help when my daughter started Beavers. When she moved onto cubs I carried on helping when I could and now I help at Scouts. The Scout Group have always made me feel so welcome and part of the team. I recently helped at my first Scout camp and had such a fun time! I can see how much the Scouts get from it'.

Scouting is moving from the traditional leader style to team working. This has the benefit of opening up more opportunities for those who wish to help but cannot afford the time and commitment to weekly meetings. Ideas and programmes are worked on as teams. Young people receive more individual attention with more adults in sessions. If you are a parent/carer/grandparent/older sibling we would like to encourage you to come along and see what they get out of it!

Please contact

mary@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk about helping with our Beaver/Cubs/Scout groups.

We also acknowledge the help we have from the wider group family in helping to maintain the Scout hall and grounds, as witnessed by the fantastic turnout we had on our working party day and in managing our hall bookings. We also need more behind the scenes with help on administrative tasks or on the Trustee board. Please contact robin@1stgodshillandrookley.org.uk to find out about other ways you can help the group.

'It takes a village to raise a child'. In our case it takes a team of fantastic volunteers and we thank each and every one of them.

Godshill Primary School

Godshill Matters volunteers Chris and Frankie had a brilliant day working with year 5 students at Godshill Primary School to design a mascot for the village - a giant puppet of Lady Ann Worsley.

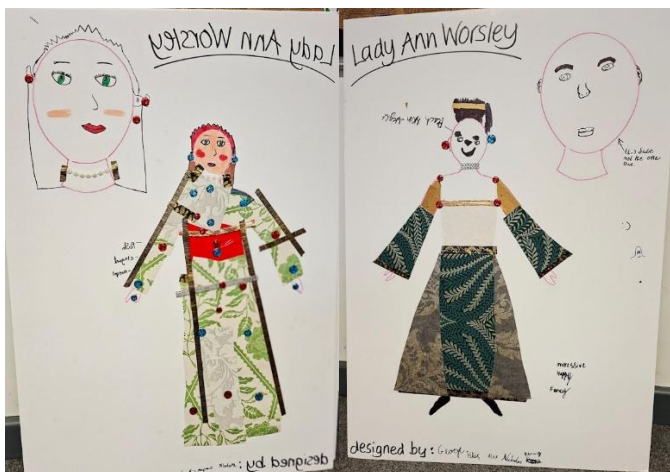
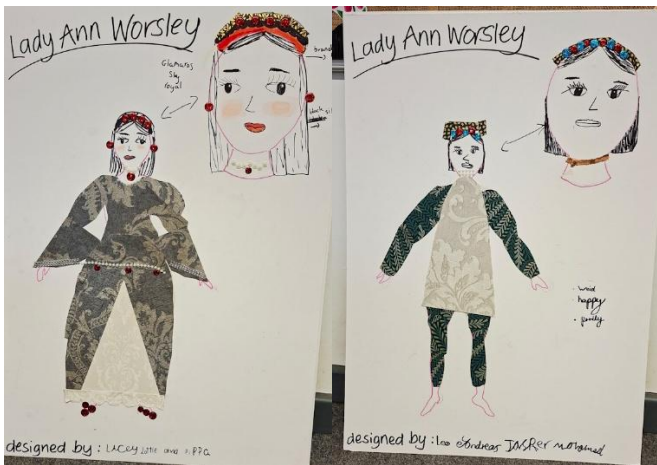


The young people learned about the history and heritage associated with Lady Ann and that she was the original benefactor of the school way back in 1603.



Following a lively presentation and discussion the young people worked in small groups to create designs considering what she may have looked like and worn back in Tudor times and what her character may have been.

The young people's brilliant work will be used by adult members of Godshill Matters to create a giant 3.5 meter high puppet of Lady Ann who will make her inaugural appearance on Saturday 27th June around the village.



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- ✔ Nail Clipping
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Highly experienced dog and cat groomers, based in Godshill.

Limited parking outside, further parking available at The Old Smithy.

If you are interested in using our services then please contact **07715581900, 01983 682468** or iwgroomingshed@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you.

The Godshill Community Charity Quizzes - GCCQ

We've done it! We've passed the £20,000 mark for funds raised!



At the Godshill Community Charity Quiz No 16 at the Griffin on 20th May we raised £248 for the Monkey Haven, which pushed our grand total up to £20,047.88 since we started the quiz back in January 2022. So, on behalf of the charities we have been able to support, a big THANK YOU to all who have continued to support us.

50 people joined us on the night in 9 teams and the Godzillians emerged victorious (again!) with a score of 48, armed with knowledge of such things as how many old pennies were in a florin (24) and the fact that there was no one dressed as a fireman in the Village People!

The accumulator question was to name the robot co-pilot in the TV series "Fireball XL5". A few people in the room knew it was "Robert" but unfortunately not the person who needed to!

That meant the accumulator prize fund was up to £400 for quiz number 17, held on 3rd June. The charity was The Wight Brainy Bunch, an Isle of Wight based charity formed in 2015 by Firefighter Mark Grimes and his wife Kathryn, after Mark was diagnosed with a brain tumour. To read about Mark's story visit their website www.thewightbrainybunch.org.



56 people in 12 teams took part and it was nice to see a few new faces. Let's hope they enjoyed the experience and come along again! The questions ranged from "How many bits in a nibble?" to "What was a Snickers bar called before it's name was changed?" There was a "connections" round again, the connection being "bunches" and a round on "80's Pop Music", which proved popular and saw eight teams answer all ten questions correctly. The Godzillians finally met their match and tied for first place with the Three Amigo's on 50 points, the highest score we've had for a while.



ROCKENEND RUM.
THE PERFECT
FATHER'S DAY GIFT.

Smooth White | Dark Spiced | Navy Strength
Sea Salted Caramel | Caffé Mocha

CREATED | GROWN | DISTILLED
IN
GODSHILL

Locally owned farmshops or online at www.isleofwightgin.com
Isle of Wight Gin and Shimmer Vodka also available.

It took two tie break questions to decide the winner, both teams getting the first tie break question bang on the right answer! Did you know that the highest speed reached by Usain Bolt in his 100m record breaking run in 2009 was 28mph?

The Three Amigos had another chance to shine when they were drawn to answer the accumulator question, but unfortunately didn't know that Ninoy Aquino airport is in the Philippines. That means the prize will be worth £420 next time!

The raffle had lots of good prizes (including the usual "Pasty Voucher" from Pete at Godshill Bakehouse and a box of tea bags) most of which seemed to be won by members of The Godshill Matters team! The total raised was a healthy £293.

The next Godshill Community Charity Quiz @ The Griffin is on Wednesday 17th June at 7pm and is in aid of the Vectis Radio 4Ps, which is a charity and an award winning course run by Vectis Radio since 2013, which aims to help young people on the Island build their confidence and improve their communication skills.

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

Coming next :

- 17th June – Vectis Radio 4Ps
- 1st July - The IOW NHS Trust Charity (8pm start)
- 15th July – Carers IOW (8pm start)

If you would like to support a particular charity, extra raffle prizes are always welcome. If you tell me which charity you want to support I will make sure the prize goes in to the raffle on that charity's quiz night.

A big thank you again for all your support. In previous years we have suspended the quiz through July and August as the holiday season is in full swing. But this year we have decided to continue through the summer, the only change being that we will start the quizzes in July and August a little later at 8pm. Let's keep the money coming in for our local charities.

Andy "The Quizmaster"

PS – If you're wondering, there are 4 "bits" in a "nibble" and the name of a "Snickers" bar was "Marathon".



THE GRIFFIN, GODSHILL
PO38 3JD

**GODSHILL
COMMUNITY
CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT**

WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY 2026
IN AID OF IOW NHS TRUST CHARITY

STARTS AT 8PM
TEAMS OF UP TO 8
£2 PER PERSON
(CASH ENTRY/RAFFLE)

KITCHEN OPEN TILL 8PM
BAR OPEN TILL 9PM

BOOK A TABLE AT
WWW.HERITAGEPUBS.CO.UK/GRIFFIN-GODSHILL

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**Isle of Wight
NHS Trust Charity**



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

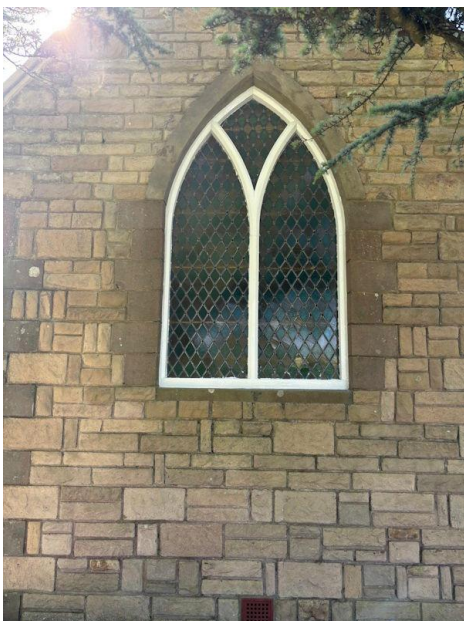
Godshill Orchards
Isle of Wight

Bridgecourt Cemetery

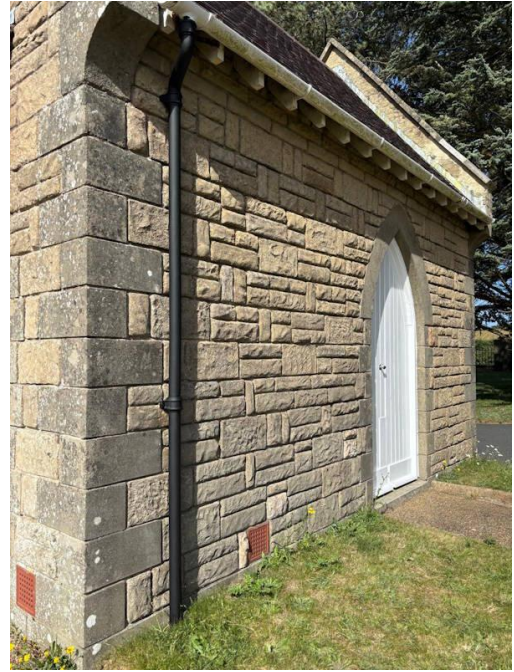
For far too many years, the chapel has been neglected. Stonework has fallen, paintwork has peeled, guttering and downpipes damaged or missing and both window frames and doors have been allowed to rot.



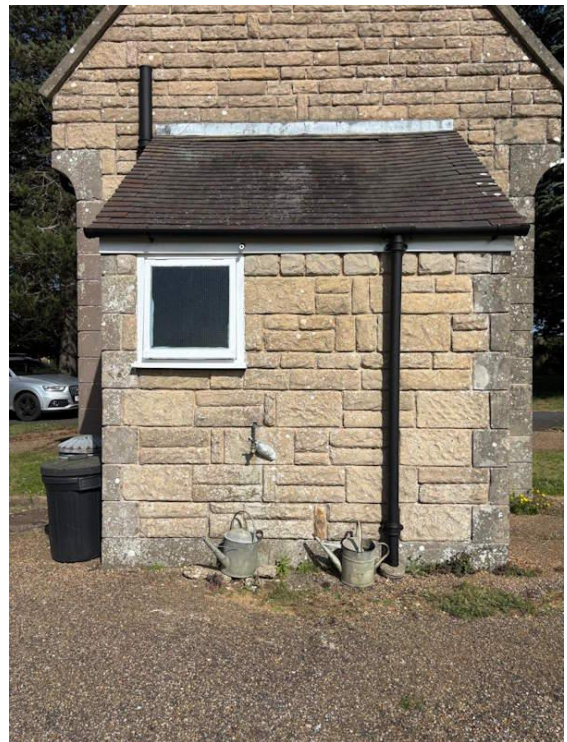
The Parish Council has now invested in bringing the chapel back up to a proper standard befitting its position in the cemetery.



Cllr Russell Dyke has taken the lead and assisted contractors in giving the building its dignity back.



Broken down mowers and rubbish have been removed from inside the chapel and all the doors and window now function.




There will be further work on the cemetery in the Autumn when the areas overgrown with brambles will be tackled, dead branches removed from the trees and the site given a new public face.

The main entrance is to be widened and the cemetery will have, for the first time, a proper sign.

Lottery Funded Trial with Met

Cllrs Leigh Jackman and Colin Mansell will be attending the first training session on Sunday 14th June on the mainland.



Four communities have been invited to take part in a trial, funded by the National Lottery and partnered with the Met Office.

Ringwood
Gosport
Hambledon
Central Rural, IOW

Greening Campaign
Community Interest Company
Registered number 13099158
greening-campaign.org/climate-adaptation

The council is pleased to say that a few residents have volunteered to be part of the Central Rural team. Unfortunately, the two councillors are the only ones able to make the trip on Sunday.

However, they will bring back the necessary information to help lead the first workshop here on the island sometime in the next month or so.

Over the next eight months there are two further training sessions and three workshops all of which will involve the Met Office, the Greening Campaign and others.

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** to share with our residents This will show identified risks and opportunities and who we think should be responsible for acting.

It will be a plan that:

- Outlines a future we want to see
- Identifies climate risks and timelines

- Identifies opportunities
- Gives us a chance to create a new positive future
- Outlines who can do what and when

A PLAN that gives everyone a chance to have a say about

OUR Future

and

OUR Community

You can still join the team. Please contact Stephen, our clerk, clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk or **07763 665812**

The Lady Ann Trail

Local walk leaders Chris Slann and Frankie Goldspink have been working with Isle of Wight National Landscape to devise a new walking trail for the Island..



The new linear walk - the Lady Ann Trail celebrates the life and times of Lady Ann Worsley who founded our local school in 1603.

The trail starts in Wroxall passes through various sites associated with her ladyship including Appuldurcombe House, where she lived, the Godshill Obelisk, All Saints Church, where she is buried and culminates outside the school.

The inaugural walk, which is part of the Biosphere Festival leaves Wroxall Car Park on Saturday 27th June at 10:30. All welcome and its free.

There may even be the opportunity to meet Lady Ann in person back in Godshill!!!!!!

News from All Saints Pews

Thursday the 4th June marked a very special day in the Christian calendar. Corpus Christi, this is the reminder that Jesus gave us "The Last Supper, The Communion, The Mass, The Eucharist" and all other names of which the sharing of Christ's body and blood is known.



To help celebrate this I asked Godshill Bakery if they could make me a breaded Cross, to share with the congregation after the service, over tea and coffee.

I was not disappointed, A fabulous breaded Cross was created and very much

enjoyed by those who came to the service. My greatest of thanks go to Godshill Bakehouse.

The visitors have been making their way up to the church as candles are always alight and prayer requests are left.

The re-opening of the footpath is now a great help as climbing the two hills was proving a bit much for some.

A bench halfway up the slope has been requested as "a view point breather!", watch this space.

You can contact me, Fr Tony, on tonyschickens@btinternet.com

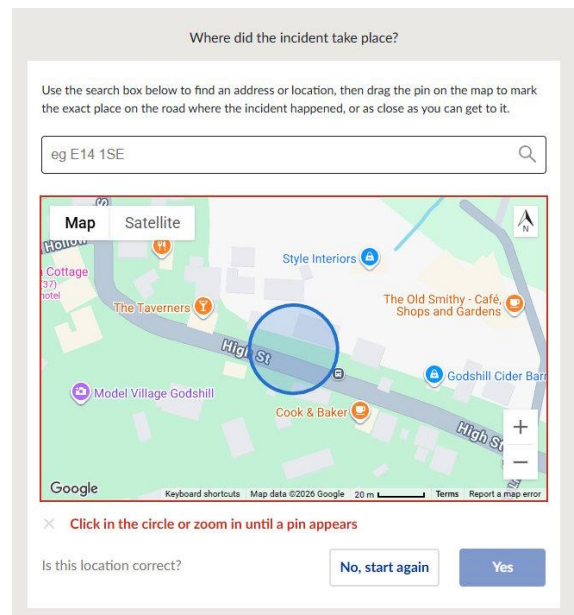
You can find the most up to date information regarding All Saints at:

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



Reporting Near Misses

As far as the police are concerned, the roads in Godshill are perfectly safe. Why? Because, whilst there are no major accidents and nobody has been killed, there have been no incidents reported.



We will never get any further changes to roads in Godshill until we can prove that we have a problem.

Many of us have nearly lost the fronts of our cars as we edge out of junctions only to be confronted by another car passing at excessive speed. Such incidents need to be reported so that we have evidence of the dangers on our roads.

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police have, on their website, a place to report any such near misses and others such as near misses between pedestrians and vehicles.

You can report incidents at <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/making-a-road-traffic-incident-report/>

This page tells you about making a report. In short, if you report an incident, you will most probably hear no more about it. But that is not an issue. The incident is now on file.

At the bottom of the page is a link to where you report the incident.

In most cases you will be reporting a driving offence, most often, driving without due care and attention. Give what details you can, even if very few.

Godshill Walking Group

The group has been out and about on two recent occasions, exploring the wonderful pathways in and around Godshill together.



Friday 15th May – Godshill to Appuldurcombe and Back

A fantastic 32 walkers joined us for this scenic 5 mile route.



There were some uphill stretches on the way to Stenbury Down, but the beautiful views from the top — and along the climb — made every step worthwhile.



The walk passed the historic Appuldurcombe House before looping back into Godshill,

where many of us rounded things off with a welcome drink & chat in The Griffin garden.



Friday 12th June – Rookley Green to Godshill.

Our most recent walk began with a short bus ride to Rookley Green to reach the start.



The route followed a 4.5 mile zig zag trail back to Godshill, mainly on flat, wide paths and field edges — perfect for a relaxed social walk.



There will be more about this walk, along with photos, in next month's Gazette.



Monthly Walks

These Godshill Matters walks take place monthly, usually on the third Friday of each month. Everyone is welcome — including well behaved dogs on leads — and it's free to join.

For more details:

alison@godshillmatters.org.uk

New Central Rural Councillor

On May 7th, James Whelan was elected to be our IoW Councillor.



James has been buried deep in council induction training and was unable to make our June meeting. That has now been completed and we look forward to seeing him at our July parish council meeting on Monday 6th July, 7pm in the School Hall.

James is chair of the following committees:

Adult Social Care, Public Health and Housing Needs Committee

Licensing Committee

Red Funnel Awards

Two of our Godshill businesses are up against each other in the awards.



Godshill Orchards and Isle of Wight Gin are two of the six businesses on a shortlist in the Best Local Produce category.

To vote, go to

<https://www.redfunnel.co.uk/isle-of-wight-guide/isle-of-wight-awards/vote-best-local-produce>

THE GRIFFIN, GODSHILL
PO38 3JD

Vectis Radio
FM 104.6 & ONLINE
Supporting the island's community

GODSHILL COMMUNITY CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE 2026
IN AID OF VECTIS RADIO 4PS

STARTS AT 7PM
TEAMS OF UP TO 8
£2 PER PERSON
CASH ONLY RAFFLE

01983 211115

KITCHEN OPEN TILL 8PM
BAR OPEN TILL 9PM

BOOK A TABLE AT
WWW.HERITAGEPUBS.CO.UK/GRIFFIN-GODSHILL

Godshill Speedwatch

There were two sessions in May, the High Street and Shanklin Road.



There was a definite slowing down of the traffic and a good number of thumbs up from those driving past. Afterwards there have been many people commenting how pleased they are to have Speedwatch back.

The most recent session was in Shankin Road yesterday. Those taking part commented that traffic was heavy and so numbers exceeding 30mph were minimal. Plenty of thumbs up were noted.

There are 5 designated Speedwatch locations and in June the team plans to be out more regularly.

If you would like to join the SpeedWatch team, please contact Chris by email on chris@godshillmatters.org.uk

Brighstone Beans

The four parishes of Central Rural are part of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Greening Campaign. We are the only ones on the island.



One of the benefits that this gives us is a link up with the UK Heritage Seed Library. This year, we have been given several hundred runner beans known as "Brighstone Beans".

The Brighstone bean is a rare, heirloom bush bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) named after the village of Brighstone on the Isle of Wight. Legend has it that the seeds were salvaged from an 18th century shipwreck off the island's coast and subsequently cultivated for hundreds of years in the Brighstone area. Whilst the local Horticultural Society still has some, it is thanks to the UK Heritage Seed Library that they have been saved from extinction.

Purple-mottled and relatively small, the Brighstone bean was carefully nurtured by generations of gardeners on the Isle of Wight because of its history, rarity and distinctive taste. Vigorous plants produce pink flowers followed by long pods, mottled with dark purple. These preserved and localised varieties have been forced to the margins in recent decades by regulations and commercial agriculture. The pods can be used as snap beans, or the beans can be dried for use in soups and stews.

This bean is one of many, thousands of beans that were transported from the Americas to England in the 18th century

Columbian exchange, nurtured in English soils and steeped in colonial history.

Cllrs Leigh Jackman and Colin Mansell are the custodians of the seeds here in Godshill. Let us know by email to seeds@iow.org.uk if you would like some or know someone who is a keen gardener. There is no charge!

Happy sowing!

Leigh Jackman
Colin Mansell

seeds@iow.org.uk

Parish Pump

Friday afternoons, 4:30pm in the Griffin – table 4 (in the front window near the fireplace) for an hour or so.



Pop in and say hello. The Griffin is kindly providing a space for you to meet us 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, honestly, we don't bite!

The hottest topic at the Pump this past month

How can we get a community meeting place as soon as possible? However, on a lighter note, the most recent discussion has been on ways of drying clothes in Godshill. Should we run a training course? No, we are not going to divulge the names of those involved, you should have been there!

The parish Scoop will bring you the facts!

Clerk's Corner



A few things of note in terms of village maintenance from the last month: Significant repairs have been made to the chapel at Bridgecourt cemetery, those

repairs will help preserve that building, saving the council from costly repairs in the future and just as importantly improve the overall condition of this place of rest.

Also, some maintenance has been completed on the ventilation system at the public loos, this should reduce the running costs and make them more pleasant for visitors.

We are pleased to announce that the zipwire at the playground is back in service after a long period of inaction due to a reported fault with the trolley.

We have also now contracted the Isle of Wight council to perform a weekly inspection of play equipment by their professional inspection team.

At the most recent full council meeting the members reviewed and approved the statutory governance checks that are carried out annually, that means the council is ready for its independent external audit of accounts and procedures.

Regarding procedures, the council has reviewed and approved its documentation for the next 12 months. In total these checks create a lot of work, but they also mean that every penny can be accounted for, and that the council always acts legally.

The council is now in a period known as the: Period of exercise of public rights. This is an annual occurrence whereby the council must for a set period, make available to the public all of its accounting documents for public inspection.

This year it runs from the 15th of June until the 29th of July. So, should you wish to see any of the accounts or discuss any financial

matters this is the formally approved time to get in touch!

clerk@godshill-iow-parish.gov.uk or **07763 665812**

Stephen Cockett – Clerk

The People's Emergency Briefing

Cllrs Leigh Jackman and Colin Mansell attended a screening of this film in Ventnor last week. It has been shown recently in three other locations on the island.



This is a new film featuring Chris Packham, leading scientists, a former general, Deborah Meaden, Jennifer Saunders and more - all being far too frank about where things are heading and what can be done about it.

This 45-minute documentary and UK-wide community initiative presents the latest evidence on the climate and nature crisis. Spearheaded by brothers Simon and Nick Oldridge, it features leading experts discussing risks to everyday life in Britain alongside credible responses.

You can see a trailer on YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/9tLUWhkGG4?si=E9-G4R4p7Wb0wC75>

There is also an alternative overview of the film, also on YouTube:

https://youtu.be/8sa7uh192r0?si=fiharinebf6T_VBy

Many residents have already expressed an interest in seeing this film in Godshill. Watch this space!

Godshill Working Groups

Your community needs YOU!



Amenities & Environment

Public Toilets - spare parts for the ventilation system have arrived Cllr Dyke has overseen and assisted in the installation of additional shelving in the service room.

Public Toilets – Income – in May we collected £266.30 which was 2% down on last year.

To date, the amount collected is approximately 11% down on last year. At the end of last month we were looking at a short fall of 20%, so things are improving.

Cemetery – Cllr Dyke has been overseeing and assisting in the renovation of the chapel and the work is nearly complete.

Significant and much needed repair work done to locks, doors, windows, gutters and downpipes. Rubbish and non-functioning mowers removed. 2 complaints about state of grass. Immediate action taken.

Village Green – Cllrs Donoclift and Dyke have continued to chase Island Roads and the wall has been repaired.

Discussion with workmen on the nature of the repair. Emergency fencing removed.

Memorial Garden Bank – Cllr Dyke has overseen and assisted in the completion of the repair to the bank caused by an unknown vehicle.

Additional stone added to complete the job.

Playground Charity (Central Mead) - Cllr Donoclift has continued progressing the plan to re-instate the Central Mead Pavilion as an indoor community space.

Playground Charity (Central Mead) Cllrs Donoclift and Crane have given much of their time to clearance work around the Central Mead Pavilion.

Playground Charity (May Close) Cllr Dyke has overseen and assisted in the renovation of the play equipment in May Close.

COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

May Gazette - Cllr Mansell contributed to, edited and published the May edition of 18 pages.

We were up to 4 advertisers in this edition. Currently, there is no real demand for printed copies.

Central Rural Liaison Meeting - Cllrs Mansell & Jackman attended. The items discussed included Speeding, Solar Energy, Affordable Housing, Community Growing, The Met Office Resilience Project, Brighstone Beans, Trusted Contractors and Litter/Fly-Tipping.

It was decided that the 4 parishes should work together and identify a small number of issues common to all parishes which could be discussed with our IoW Councillor. 4 were suggested as a starting point and once these have been discussed by parishes, a short list can be produced.

EMERGENCY & RESILIENCE

SSE Grant Application - Cllr Jackman, assisted by Cllr Mansell wrote and submitted a grant application to SSE for basic emergency equipment.

The deadline was short. The submission required ran to a dozen or more pages. The amount involved was just under £2,000. The submission is through Godshill Matters

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

Actions here have all been by the Clerk and are covered in his report.

PLANNING, ROADS & BYWAYS

Car Park Hedge - Cllr Donoclift has reported its encroachment onto the footpath on FixMyStreet.

Island Roads have been asked to trim it.

BatsWing / Church Path – Cllr Donoclift has continued to press the IoW Council and this has resulted in the receipt of a detailed communications from IoW Council.

The communication, whilst a little confusing, sounds very positive.

Speedwatch – The team has been limited to a couple of outings in May due to holidays and members being off the island.

There were two sessions in May, the High Street and Shanklin Road. There was a definite slowing down of the traffic and a good number of thumbs up from those driving past. Afterwards there have been many people commenting how pleased they are to have Speedwatch back. There are 5 designated Speedwatch locations and in June we plan to be out more regularly.

Footpaths GL25/GL27 Vandalism – Cllr Crane reported that there had been malicious and intentional damage done to the footbridge at the junction of these footpaths. The Clerk has reported it by email to IoW Council Rights of Way copied to PCSO Justin Keefe.

STRATEGY AND LONG-TERM PLAN

Policies and Procedures - The Clerk has updated these on the website.

Gazette - VERIFIED

We will do our very best to ensure that all of the information provided in the Gazette is based on fact.



VILLAGE RUMOUR – A big skatepark is to be built in May Close

GAZETTE VERIFIED SAYS – There were initial ideas on this being a possibility. However, it is now appreciated that the location is ecologically sensitive and not conducive to such a structure. May Close will evolve over time and stay much as it is, but better cared for. A key objective is to help the spring to better feed Munsley Bog.

In Brief

CENTRAL MEAD PAVILION – further survey work has been done. There should be some positive news in the next month.

VILLAGE HALL CHARITY LOTTERY SUBMISSION – although it was due to be going in May, there has been no news. So, the assumption is that it has not yet been submitted.

FOOTPATHS AND PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS IN WHITWELL ROAD, WEST STREET, JUBILEE CLOSE AND NEWPORT ROAD – as far as we are aware, this has now cleared legal and is now in need of finding a slot in the Island Roads schedule.

Hants & IoW Neighbourhood Watch



These incident reports cover burglary, theft, vehicle crime & criminal damage incidents on the IoW. The information provided is strictly limited so as not to compromise future police investigations.

Visit <https://ourwatch.org.uk> click on JOIN US. Scroll down the page and click on SIGN UP HERE. Follow the instructions. Click on JOIN alongside Godshill and you are in!

Summary – In the last month, there were no incidents reported for Central Rural and therefore none for Godshill.

STOP PRESS!!!!

ZIP WIRE – Thanks to sterling efforts over several months by Stephen our clerk, backed up by action yesterday on the ground by Cllr Russell Dyke, the zip wire in Central Mead has been re-instated. **PLEASE REMEMBER – this is for children aged 4-12 ONLY.**

PUBLIC CAR PARK HEDGE – Yes, it is nigh impossible to get passed it on the footpath. A contractor will trim that side of the hedge in the very near future.

MAY CLOSE PLAY EQUIPMENT – The new swings have finally arrived and should be fitted in the next week or so.

Thanks!

Many thanks to our 4 local advertisers:

Godshill Orchards

Isle of Wight Gin

The Grooming Shed

Fossils Reach

When you contact any of our four advertisers, 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.

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 of someone who needs or prefers to have a printed copy delivered, contact Stephen, our Parish Clerk and let him have a name and address.

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!

Is it me or are we incredibly shy and private in Godshill? I don't think so and it would be great to hear from residents, children and teenagers alike.

There are a number of activities going on in the village who we haven't heard from and would love to include in the Gazette each month. Please get in touch if you have a knitting, crocheting, boules playing, walking, car enthusiasts, cribbage, etc. group. Simply email what you want to say, ideally including an appropriate photo and we will certainly include it.

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 on Saturday July 11th along with draft minutes from the March Parish Council meeting.

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.

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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.

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