



Cotford St Luke Newsletter

December 2008

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FUTURE SECURE!

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Community Association was held on Friday, 7th November as a result of not finding a Secretary at the recent AGM. Fortunately, on this occasion, a number of people put themselves forward for serving on the General Committee and as a result we were able to select a new Chairman and Secretary. The Community Association will now be able to continue working for the benefit of the village to ensure that the interests of the residents are looked after. Jeremy Browne MP attended the meeting and took questions from the audience.

The new Chairman is Garth Sumpter who has lived in Cotford St Luke for nine years and therefore knows its history. I have supplied Garth's e-mail address rather than a telephone number at the end of this newsletter because you are more likely to get hold of him this way.

We wish Garth and the other new members of the Committee all the best and we shall look forward to continuing to make Cotford St Luke the lovely place it is in which to live.

Parish Council

Anti social behaviour/underage drinking continues to be a problem in Cotford St Luke and Bishops Lydeard. Under a new PACT (Partners and Communities Together) initiative, the Parish Council has asked the Police to concentrate on this issue over the next three months and to report back at each of the next three main (2nd Wed) meetings.

Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings to make their own views known or just to listen to the proceedings.

John Wilkins, Vice Chairman, Parish Council

Calling All Parents

In general the young people of CSL are well mannered, polite and fun. However, there have been a few incidents that I would like to bring to your attention. As parents, you should be aware that there seems to be a core group who are causing real problems, particularly at the Community Centre, and, more recently, at the Primary School. These incidents seem to be alcohol fuelled, with a few older people supplying younger teenagers with

alcohol to drink out on the streets which leads to real antisocial behaviour, littering and criminal damage.

On Friday, 14th November at about 10.30pm, a large group congregated at the Primary School, jumped over fences into the school grounds and proceeded to drink large amounts of alcohol, urinate in the play area, destroy pots of bulbs which the children had planted, and leave copious amounts of litter, cans and broken glass. They didn't leave until nearly 4.00am! WHY?

By anyone's standard, this is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

The staff and caretaker of the school work extremely hard to provide the children of CSL with a safe and pleasant environment in which to learn. Why should this be spoilt by a few mindless, selfish young people?

Some of those who are responsible can be identified from CCTV and will be dealt with. However, I am asking that all parents with teenagers are aware of what is happening.

As parents, do you know where your young people are, who they are with, and what they are doing? They are not the responsibility of "the community" or "the Police", they are the responsibility of the parents.

I want to say that the majority of teenagers I come across in my work are good youngsters, so we need to act now, so that this minority does not spoil things for the whole community.

If anyone witnesses incidents occurring, please call on 0845 567000, or for information regarding those responsible, call me on 07825 125108.

I appreciate your help in this matter.

PCSO Sue Thompson

Santa is coming to Cotford St Luke!

Wiveliscombe Rotary Club is sending their Xmas Santa along to visit the children in the village on Friday, 12th December between 6.00pm and 8.00pm. You will be able to find him either on his sleigh in the Chapel car park or inside the Chapel if the weather is awful. There will be a small charge of £1.50 to visit him.

On Tuesday, 16th and Wednesday, 17th December from 6.00pm, Santa will be driving around the village on his sleigh singing Christmas Carols.

Social Events

Christmas Bistro Night Friday, 5th December in the Community Hall at

7.30pm for 7.45pm. We have a delicious menu planned (copy on village notice board outside shop) with a free glass of mulled wine beforehand to get you in the festive mood! Music will be provided by the M&M Trio who entertained us last year with their easy listening dinner jazz style music. Tickets are £10 each from 430325. Please bring your own drinks and glasses to have with your meal.

We have a **Quiz Night** planned for Friday 6th February in the Community Hall at 7.30pm.

We will be holding our 2nd **Spring Flower Show** on Saturday, 21st March.

We hope that there will be lots of you who will want to take part in this village event. It is open to young and old alike with many different types of categories to enter such as flowers and plants, cookery, photography, flower arranging and a children's section. If you wish to enter some spring flowers you will need to get your spring bulbs planted now. Daffodils, crocuses, tulips etc.

A suggestion would be 6 bulbs to a 10" diameter pot.

In July we will be holding an **Open Garden Day** (for charity) so if you would like to open your back garden to the village, please let us know by 'phoning Ann Wilkins on 430374.

Mobile Library

Every other Thursday by the school from 2.00pm until 4.30pm. The next dates are 4th and 18th December. For more information call 0845 345 9177.

Farmers Market

The next market will be on Saturday 6th December from 9.00am – 1.00pm in the Community Hall. There will not be a market in January.

Police Beat Surgeries

Outside the shop every Thursday 10.15am - 11.15am. Our PCSO is Sue Thompson; mobile – 07825 125 108.

Church Information

Please see the Church Notice Board outside the shop near the letter box.

Useful Contacts

Chairman CSL Community Assoc

Garth Sumpter
(e-mail) garth@garthsumpter.com

Hall Bookings

Caroline Cooper 430514

Social Commity & News Editor

Ann Wilkins 430374

Village Website:

www.cotford-st-luke.org.uk