

If you have ever felt that it was time to 'Switch Off Your Television Set And Go And Do Something Less Boring Instead' (if you are as old as me you might remember that programme)! Then now is your chance. Shotley has an outstanding number of voluntary groups and organisations for it's size. Many of the groups work hard all year to provide services to the community and to raise funds to support themselves. This is, hopefully, the full list. Where telephone numbers are missing I would be most grateful if anyone who knows of the contact details for the group would let me know, so I can update the list. Thanks, Ed. I know I may not have done justice to some groups but I am afraid I simply ran out of time! - Apologies to Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, and Rangers, no slight intended but I hope most people know what they are all about and I will put a detailed piece in the next issue.

**Allotments - Parish Council - Linda Rowlands, Clerk - 788248**

**Andrew Barfoot Charity Estate and Allotments - Les Stebbings- 787478** Mr Andrew Barfoot, who died in 1591 left 5 acres of land to the village for allotments, "The rent to be distributed annually among some widows". In recent years, the main use of the land has been the very successful, Shotley Rangers Football Club. Some allotments are still cultivated, but the uncultivated land makes an excellent haven for wildlife. The Parish Council appoints two trustees. Our cash turnover is not great, but we still manage to give six widows a small gift at Christmas.

**Beavers - Bridget Connell - 788850 - 4.30 pm Tuesdays - Shotley Village Hall**

**Book Exchange - Derek Long 787263** - Book Exchange was started about two years ago to give everybody access to the many books that have materialised in the large committee room at the Village Hall. Having weeded out the very olds and dusty we are left with a very wide assortment of genres, thrillers, romance, crime, 'chick lit', many of them only a year or two old. If you have any books you would like to donate or if you'd like a borrow, we open every other Monday from 10.30 - 12.30pm Next date 10th April

**Brownies - Janet Tarling - 787083** 1st Shotley Brownie Unit, for girls aged 7 to 11. We meet at Shotley Primary School most Thursdays in term time from 3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. We plan a varied programme, for example this term Brownies have worked towards their 'Booklover' badges, made and eaten Welsh cakes, attended the Shotley pantomime, made gifts and cards for Mothers' Day and had a Teddy Bears picnic complete with ice cream sundaes. There is a short waiting list run on a 'first come first served' basis so if you would like your daughter to be a Brownie put her name down now! Extra helpers are always appreciated or if you have a skill, or knowledge that you could share with the Brownies we would love to hear from you.

**Buzzabout - 0845 458 1920** - Local community transport scheme available to everyone on the peninsula for any type of journey to and from Ipswich and surrounds. Please try and book as far in advance as possible as it helps us plan our routes. Fares are very competitive, usually cheaper than the bus. We run from early in the morning till late at night, especially on Fridays and Saturdays. There is disabled access car available for wheelchair users.

**Carpet Bowls - Pam Sarchet - Hon. Sec. 787393** The Club was formed 1993. Entered the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association and the league competition 1994 Division Three East. Club nights are Monday in the Village Hall at 7-00 p.m. We are currently playing in the League Division Two East. We play Villages throughout Suffolk. The club has an annual Dinner and at Christmas we have a party night with competitions. New members are always made very welcome, all equipment is provided. Why not give us a try?

**Church - St Mary's Church Shotley - Peter Thorn - Vicar 788166 - Andrew & Maureen Coulson 787304**

If wish to get married or have a wedding blessing then speak to Maureen alternatively if you want to arrange a baptism or be confirmed then speak to Andrew. Maureen is the main Sunday School leader. Sunday School is normally run every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month in the vestry of the church. There is a church service every Sunday at 10.30am which is open to everyone.

**Church Choir - Thelma Westlake - 787660** - We have been singing together for approximately 8 years now, having started out singing 'Carols by Candlelight' every year. We meet to practice every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday morning at the Village Hall between 10 and 11 a.m. everyone is welcome young or old, we don't hold auditions, all you need is the ability to sing in tune! A degree of commitment is required however, as we sing at all the main services and also at weddings throughout the year with occasional 'Evensong' and Songs of Praise' services

**Church Youth Group- Peter Thorn - 788166** there are currently two groups running, the existing group for 'older' teenagers and young people and one for 11+ called 'Young Mindz' please call for more details.

**Community Council - Alf Arkley - 787603** - This group came in to being in Jubilee year, 1977/78 mainly in response to the closure of H.M.S. Ganges, as the facilities that the village had enjoyed were about to be lost. Orwell View Road was a new development and it was felt that there was a need for some organised social activities in the village. A play area for Kingsland and fundraising hard for the rejuvenation of the old Village Hall, which became a major fundraising effort for the current Village Hall, were our main achievements. Once the new Village Hall was up and running, many of the Community Council members became members of the Village Hall Committee of Management. We are still responsible for organising the Annual Flower, Fruit and Produce show in September, the annual trip to Thursford for the Carol Concert and we also make a coach trip to the Suffolk Show. Anyone is welcome to join us on these trips.

**Cubs - Sarah Ives - 787168** - 6.00 pm Tuesdays, Shotley Village Hall

**Drama Group- Carol Blumfield - 787353** Oh yes it is! we don't just put on Panto's. We are currently in rehearsal for 'My Fair Lady' and may still require more 'chorus'. If you can hild a tune and like to show off just a bit then this is the place for you. We do need commitment as our rehersals are very thorough and towards date of the production can be 2 or 3 times a week., but we do have fun!

**Friends of St Mary's Church - Frank Norman - 788422** - We are a sub committee of the P.C.C. And report back to them on the condition of the fabric of St Mary's .

**Gardening Club - Karen Smith -Sec. - 787731 / Roger Cushing Social Sec. - 787238** The club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7.30 p.m. in the Large Committee Room of the Village Hall. During the winter months we try to arrange a variety of interesting speakers and during the summer months we also visit various nurseries. The club also arranges several outings during the summer to well known gardens and country houses such as Kew and Blickling Hall. New members are always made most welcome.