

GRETTON YOUTH COUNCIL

As you may have noticed, over the past couple of months the Parish council have been working on enhancing the engagement for the younger members of the community. We want to create a group who would be the "Youth Council" for Gretton. Their role in the community will be to bring new ideas, discuss topics that are important to the younger members of the community, work with the Parish Council on Youth type events and initiatives.

So far we've had lots of interest and really want to keep the motivation up to arrange youth activities and events. In May we carried out some research asking young people what they thought about living in Gretton, what they liked, disliked and if they had any ideas. It was really great to hear the feedback, those who we spoke to felt safe playing out, they loved the pocket park and opportunity to play sports. They also appreciated the nature that surrounds us and want to make sure that this is protected for the future. What they did tell us is that transport to other places outside of the village is difficult, also they would like the opportunity for varied activities, and suggestions were made for art groups, cinema nights and the skate park.



We really want to get at least two activities planned in between now and the end of the year for younger members of the community. If you can give us ideas from yourselves and your family, offer your time to help to coordinate or also be involved then we'd love to hear from you. You can return your forms to any of the following places: Lydia's Cafe, Sports and Social Club, Hatton Arms, The Blue Bell, The Cottage Salon or email clerkgpc@btinternet.com

There is a wide range of ages in our parish and in order to reach out to as many as possible we would really appreciate if you could ask family members and friends to complete the form below, you can do this anonymously or leave your information if you would like us to get in touch:

Here are my ideas for events and activities I would love to see in Gretton for the younger members of the community:

I would like to be involved in future events and activities Yes / No (delete as applicable)

Please leave your contact details so we can get in touch:

Name:

Email:

Telephone number:



GRETTON LIFE

SUMMER 2022

Published on behalf of Gretton Parish Council

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Hello,

Summer has finally arrived, and I hope that you have had an opportunity to enjoy the sunshine. Earlier in the month we were able to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the village. The Parish Council would like to give a big "thank you" to all of those involved in making the various events such a success. (And a special thank you to those who put up the bunting twice on Kirby Road.) It was lovely to see people coming together again and making the most of catching up with each other – probably the first real opportunity we have had to do so in the last couple of years. The only thing we could not control was the weather on the day of the street party; but nonetheless some intrepid revellers still managed to make it a celebration fit for a queen.

The handrail has now been fitted on the new ramp on the village green. We hope that this will enable more of you to enjoy the space during the good weather.

If you are a driver, you may have seen that our speed sign has now been installed at the Corby Road entrance to the village. We hope that this will remind people to slow down as they enter, and the Parish Council and the Highways Working Group are interested to have your feedback on its effectiveness.

The new website is now up and running at www.grettonparishcouncil.co.uk. It has lots of information and easy to use links to other websites pertinent to Gretton. Please do look at it, and if you would like to give feedback or suggestions on how to improve it, get in touch with Cllr Julie Smith.

The Parish Council is looking for a new Parish Clerk. Sadly, our current Clerk is looking to move further afield. Jackie has been a great support to the councillors during her tenure and I know she will be sorely missed by us all. If you are interested in joining the team, please take a look at our advertisement on the opposite page. No experience is necessary and full training will be given. This is the only paid role within the Parish Council.

Wishing you a sunny and enjoyable Summer.

Jacki Lilley
Chair
Gretton Parish Council



NORTH NORTHANTS COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS (NCFR)



Thank you Gretton for your support since I became your local CFR in January 2021. As CFRs we work alongside East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS). We are trained to respond to 999 and 111 calls. I work in Gretton and can buddy with another responder here or in Corby to extend my service.

We are looking for a Gretton buddy to volunteer with me to cover the village. If anyone is interested, I really need you, so please have a chat with me or contact admin@northnorthantscfr.nhs.uk.

As a completely self-funded voluntary group we need to raise all the funds we need to maintain the group. Currently we are raising funds to add bleed kits to our AED (defibrillators). Thank you to all those who have contributed to our collection boxes, collected drinks cans for the Leicester Royal Infirmary helipad, and sorted clothes handbags and shoes for our recycling bin.

We also have two defibrillators in the village, which I check monthly. To access these in an emergency, you need to ring 999 and if they assess that an AED is needed they will send you to the nearest accessible device. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Hilary Lunt
On behalf of the group.



One of our activities is to collect used clothes including underwear, handbags, paired shoes and any other linen (curtains, sheets etc.) We now have a Clothing Bank in the village beside the MUGA at the playing field. Please feel free to take your recycling there. If you need someone to collect, please let me know.

GRETTON ART GROUP

Our small but dedicated group continues as ever in the village hall on Monday afternoons, 1-30 to 3-30pm. We held our annual (lockdown excepted) exhibition on 25/26th June and this year were pleased to combine with the Gretton Quilting group who showed a spectacular display of their work.



Art group sessions are £5 per afternoon and £8 when we have a monthly visit from our tutor and mentor, local artist Jax Crewe. We welcome anyone to pop in and see what we get up to; tea and biscuits available!

Andy, Ann and Charlotte.

ST. JAMES CHURCH

Can I start by expressing my grateful thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make our Flower Festival such a success - incredible flower arrangements, delicious cakes, and multiple appearances (simultaneously) from Her Majesty! Also a huge thank you from everyone who came and supported the event this year.



At St James' we're further developing our Family Service on the first Sunday of every month at 9am. The service will be carefully designed by a team of people to ensure there will be something for all ages. It is an ideal service to come to if you would like to explore baptism for your children and there's always wonderful refreshments afterwards.

After a couple of years of absence, Beaver Scouts have returned to Gretton! Three members from St James' have been working hard on their training and have now been invested as Beavers Leaders. The first session took place on the 20th June and there was an amazing response with a lovely group of children turning up to take part - we all had a lot of fun! Two more taster sessions are taking place before the summer break. When Beavers returns in September it will be time for all the children to head towards being invested.

With a flying start this unfortunately means we're currently unable to take on any more new starters - we need to keep to a safe ratio of leaders to Beavers. However, anyone who is keen to attend should register their interest, as it is anticipated that this situation will change as we go through the autumn term.

You can contact Gretton Beavers by email grettonbeavers@gmail.com

St James' bell ringers are still going from strength to strength and our new trainees are making excellent progress. Things are in a great position to ensure campanology continues in Gretton!

Our emailed monthly newsletter is a great way to ensure you don't miss anything happening at St James' Church. If you would like to be added to the circulation list please let us know.

If you have any questions about faith or would like to talk to me you can catch me at most of the services below and you can always call 07421 301300 or email stjamesgretton@gmail.com and I will get back to you.

Every blessing,
Paul

Services:

Every Sunday 9am

1st Sunday All Age Service that's informal and fun.

2nd Sunday Holy Communion with Choir

3rd Sunday Holy Communion

4th Sunday Holy Communion with Choir

Every Wednesday 10am

Holy Communion Service (said)

Every 3rd Sunday 6pm

Evensong

Forget Me Not Cafe - 1st Friday of Each Month 11am - Midday

Forget Me Not Cafe - some time to be for an hour, share in tea, coffee, cake and a chat. This time is especially for people who live alone or with someone who experiences memory difficulties. You are welcome to come and light a candle, read or write a prayer or pray.

Coffee Mornings at St James

Resuming in the Autumn. Please look for dates on the St James' Facebook page or why not subscribe to our email Newsletter!

Advance Notice: 9am Family Harvest Service with Breakfast, 2nd October 2022

Gretton Parish Council – Clerk Vacancy Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Gretton Parish Council is seeking to recruit a Clerk who can assist and guide the Council. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons, although training will be offered, and enthusiasm to learn and a "can do" attitude will be seen as an alternative to formal qualifications.

The Parish has a precept of £26,800 with an electorate of 1,185 people, and the Clerk will be the Proper Officer of the Council undertaking all the statutory duties entailed. The Clerk will also be the Responsible Financial Officer for maintaining all the financial records of the Council and ensuring the careful administration of its finances.

The position is part-time, approximately 11 hours per week and involves working from home and attending evening and daytime meetings when required. The number of hours required will be reviewed after six months. Salary is SPC 18-23, £13.21-14.67 per hour.

This position would suit a self-motivated, well organised person who can manage and prioritise their workload. Applicants should have good communication and computer skills, be able to take minutes and manage the council's administration and finances.

Duties include: working with councillors, setting agendas, minutes, and financial records, maintaining the council's website, ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements and regulations, advising the council on policies and activities and enacting the decisions of the council, liaison and instruction of contractors, and dealing with members of the public.

Closing date for applications: 31st July 2022.

For further details or to express your interest in the role, please send your CV and covering letter to clerkgpc@btinternet.com

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Gretton Parish Council meets on the second Monday of each month, at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room at the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and can address the Council during the Open Forum item on the meeting agenda. Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be found on the noticeboards by the bus stop outside the Village Hall and the village shop, as well as the parish council website. Look out for our new noticeboard that will be sited near the MUGA soon.

The role of the Parish Council is to represent the interests of the whole community so if you have any questions or concerns about anything affecting the Parish, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards

Jackie Clark, Clerk to Gretton Parish Council

Email: clerkgpc@btinternet.com

Telephone: 07816 974828



FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you to Dave Clements for allowing us to use his photo of the Summer Solstice Sunset for the front cover of this issue.

The next edition of the magazine will be taken on by the new editor, Yvette Redding.

Please keep an eye out for contribution emails from her.

She has asked for all contributions to be submitted by: 15th October

Please let us know if you have any suggestions for the magazine, we are always happy to hear them.

Happy Reading

Gretton Parish Council



GRETTON SCOUTS

Summer 2022

Gretton Scout Group are pleased to announce that 1st Gretton Beaver Colony is back! There are a number of taster sessions in June & July for new members to come and meet the leaders, dates and times advertised in Gretton News and Views - and the Colony officially reopens in September.

Meetings will be 5:45 – 6:45 on a Monday evening in the Village Hall, and are open to young people between the ages of 6 and 8.

If you would like to register your interest or would like any further information please contact grettonbeavers@gmail.com.

For our previous members and older young people – we are currently recruiting volunteers to help with the cub (8-10.5) and scout sections (10.5 – 14) with a view to opening these up shortly afterwards – if you would like any further information/can assist in anyway please contact Catriona 07766 555060 or catriona.eaton@hotmail.co.uk

Young people 14 plus who are interested in Explorer Scouts – the nearest unit currently is in Glendon, please contact Catriona as above. Alternatively – if they wish to be a Young Leader with either the Beaver Colony, Cub or Scout section this is also possible as an Explorer Scout in this role.

Again, if we have volunteers there is an opportunity to open a unit in Corby which would be easier to access.



GRETTON CRICKET CLUB

Gretton Cricket Club was established in the mid-1800's and have represented the village in local league cricket throughout this period, we continue to play in the Northamptonshire Cricket League (NCL) to this day. We are currently plying our trade in NCL Division 9 following a restructuring of the leagues.

Acknowledgements

Our club is run entirely by the goodwill of volunteers who, with mixed degrees of enthusiasm, offer up hours of their own time to ensure the fantastic tradition of cricket continues in our village. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge these great people here. On a match day Bert Woolley is our umpire, standing for hours throughout the day fueled only by strong tea, after having travelled across the county with the team every Saturday. Terri Meechan is the club's scorer and fines master, with an impressive scoring system including an array of coloured pens and a keen eye for the multiple weekly misfields to go in her fines book. Teresa "Tea-resa" Baines provides the home team with a genuinely fantastic tea every week, which is often far more than we deserve. Fraser Wright is the club's chief grounds person, a voluntary post which takes several hours each week and is shrouded in mystery. We know it can often involve pointing at grass and disappointedly shaking your head at clouds. Fraser is assisted on occasion by club legends Fred and Ian Ward. Steve Ellis adds to this quartet with his fantastic work on the outfield each week and keeping the pavilion clean and tidy. Rob Ellis captain's the side, assisted in his duties by vice-captain Harry Pavitt, wicket keeper Liam Park and again Fraser Wright. Finally, we would like to thank each of our players, particularly those new additions to the club, for enthusiastically turning out each week ensuring our club continues.

Sponsors, Fundraising & Supporters

We are delighted with the support shown to the club this season by local businesses. In the 2022 season our match balls have sponsored by Gretton Sports & Social Club whilst supplies for our home teas have been kindly provided by Kings Cliffe Bakery.

A number of other local businesses have also contributed towards production of our very own coffee mugs, not only are these used by the team on match days but as a fundraising activity for the club these are available to purchase from the Village Shop or the Sports & Social Club at the reasonable price of £5 a mug.

Thanks to all who braved the rain to visit our BBQ at the Jubilee Street Party we will be back again at the Recreation Ground Funday on Saturday 10th September.

Supporters are most welcome to join us at any of home games, we can guarantee entertainment if not necessarily quality cricket all the time.

The 2022 Season So Far

Gretton are currently 8th in Division Nine of the NCL as we approach the halfway point of the season. Performances have been much improved on last year and specific mention must go to those players new to the club for their levels of individual improvement. We continue to pride ourselves on excellent team spirit, playing the game with the intent to win but ensure we do so with a smile on our faces. Notable individual batting performances to date have been Rob Ellis 118, Nathan Innes 88, and Liam Park 70. With the ball Michael Houseman 6/13, Rob Ellis 5/23, and Michael Houseman again 4/23 have been the standout performances with the ball.

New Players

We would like to extend the welcome of joining a friendly and inclusive club to anyone of any ability, or experience level, to join us for nets on Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm at Gretton Recreation Ground (currently you must be over 13 to play league cricket).



JUBILEE STREET PARTY

A wonderful time was had by all who attended Gretton's various Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

In the run-up to the Jubilee weekend residents in Kirby Road were treated to the ongoing saga of the bunting, waking up each morning in anticipation to see whether it would still be flying high, the perseverance shown by Pat Butler in shooting up and down his ladder to amend and repair is to be commended.

In recognition of Pat's efforts, it was only fitting that he had the honour of lighting the Jubilee Beacon on the evening of Thursday 5th June, seeing the community come together in celebration on the Recreation Ground was a sight to behold and will live long in the memories of those who attended. Thanks must be given to Gretton Silver Band for providing the evening entertainment and to Gretton Sports & Social Club for funding the beacon.

The weather for Sunday's Street Party was less than ideal but did not dampen the spirits of those in attendance who were determined to have a good time whatever the conditions as a pop-up encampment of gazebos along Kirby Road created a true festival atmosphere aided by Corby Radio's musical soundtrack. Pictures of the street party have been recorded for posterity at www.grettonstreetparty.com if you haven't yet submitted photos of your own there is still opportunity to do so via the website.



GRETTON JUNIOR NETBALL TEAM

- MUGA, term-time Tuesday evenings 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Under 14 and Under 16's.
- Photo shows Gretton Belles Netball Team and coaches with Hannah Joseph, June 2022

Not only did the good weather provide another fantastic Tuesday evening to train on the MUGA, but on 7th June we welcomed England's and Loughborough Lightning's formidable WA, Hannah Joseph, who came to coach the Gretton Bluebelles for the second year running.

To have one of the country's best netballers share her knowledge and skills was an opportunity that the Belles thrived in. Passionate about club netball, she commended their effort, grit and passion to learn and encouraged them to stick with the sport they loved.



Team sport gives a sense of belonging and purpose. It creates a responsibility to show up and commit to something that is beneficial academically and to physical and mental health. To create friendships and to have fun. The MUGA has allowed us to create something special and



you'll see the Belles turn up to train come rain or shine. Every session ends with the same question, 'did you enjoy tonight and do you feel better now than when you turned up?' The answer is always a resounding, 'yes!'

Thank you from all the coaches Sara, Jo, Sammo and Bruce.

For more information email sara.seaton@gmail.com

LADIES NETBALL TEAM

If you enjoy exercising with a group of like-minded ladies, then join us at Gretton Netball. We are a non-league team and get together in a fun way to exercise every Monday evening.

You don't need to have any prior experience, but you need to be over the age of 18 years. If you've recently moved to the village and would like to meet new people, then this is a fun way of doing just that. Age, size, or level of fitness is no barrier so come along.

We also appreciate that some people cannot attend every week due to other commitments, but that's fine; play when you can. If you're worried about coming along on your own, please don't. We are extremely welcoming and will look after you. **Please join us each Monday evening** (except Bank Holidays) on the MUGA, Gretton Recreation Ground (weather permitting) between 7.25 pm – 8.30 pm. The cost per session is only £1.00 – which means no fuel costs or expensive gym subs.

We have a Facebook page, text alert, and WhatsApp group to keep you updated about play status. If you have any questions, please get in touch via our Weebly site <https://grettonnetball.weebly/contact-ys.html> or Facebook page, Gretton Netball. We look forward to welcoming existing and new members!

Clare and Debs



THE TRAVERS FOUNDATION

The Travers Foundation are looking for ambitious and original young musicians who want to perform live.

Musicians with good vocal and musical ability now have the chance of creating a live video performance to promote their talent to help them to get more live gigs.

TraversTV Video Recording is open to bands, singing groups and solo artists between the ages of 13 and 30 who live in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, or Rutland.

TraversTV is run by The Travers Foundation, a local volunteer-run charity. They make a real difference through giving financial support to local 13 to 30-year-olds in the region to help them realise their dreams in sport, music, and the arts.



Terry Forsey, Chairman of the Travers Foundation said "Local Young Musicians can apply for a live video recording funded by The Travers Foundation and hosted on www.traverstv.live. To help us assess their ability we ask that each application is supported by a brief unedited audition video no longer than ten minutes."

Terry added "These videos do not need to be of a professional standard, a home phone video will be sufficient. What is important is that they are live and unedited and consist of 1 or 2 track to showcase their talent."

The Travers Foundation will supply PA, Mics, lighting, and cameras. The Travers Foundation cover all the costs for recording, editing, and publishing your video. The value of this session is £750.

Musicians under 18 will need to be accompanied by an adult.

To apply visit www.traverstv.live and hit "Apply Here"



The Travers Foundation - registered charity number 1154203

THE JO STONE GARDEN

The Jo Stone can be found on the corner of Kirby Road and Corby Road. It is said to have been the stone on which local farmers used to struck a bargain.

The Garden around the Stone is looking for a new caretaker. Would you be interested in looking after this little piece of Gretton history? Or maybe being part of a group that looks after it?

Please contact Jackie Clark on clerkqpc@btinternet.com or on 07816 974828

GRETTON GARDEN GROUP

Hello from the Gretton Garden Group.

Our friendly group has had another good year with new members joining and many existing members returning now that the threat of the pandemic has declined. We have also moved to our new and spacious meetings at the Village Hall in Kirby Road which means you can socially distance yourselves if you wish. The only downside being that we don't have a bar anymore but you are welcome to bring your own "refreshments" if you don't want a free cup of tea or coffee. We usually meet on the third Friday of the month with the doors opening at 7.30pm ready for an eight o'clock start. Annual membership is £15.00. but if you would just like to visit for one evening you are always welcome. A single evening visit is charged at £3.00. and you can also take part in the raffle.

If you are interested in joining us why not start by looking at our new website which you'll find by simply typing grettongardeninggroup into your browser. Dates and some details of this past year's programme and what's happening next can be found, or, alternatively you can 'phone 01536 772575.

As these notes are being written ready for the forthcoming Parish News, we are all aware of how the weather has become a little unpredictable with so many plants far in advance of where we would expect them to be. However, I have just read we are due thunderstorms and rain, so this year could still be a copy of the 1976 heatwave followed by torrential flooding!! Not that I'm a killjoy, but our gardens certainly could do with whatever water the clouds can manage. Time for cactus to make a comeback I wonder. Anyway, as I always say, nature has often put things right, and us, as gardeners are pretty good at helping her.

It would be nice to see you at our meetings or visits as advertised, but please check on the site in case any last minute changes occur, but until then, keep wearing a hat, put on a bucketful of sun screen, have waterproof clothing and wellington boots to hand.

Happy gardening to you from us all.

GRETTON QUILTERS

We are a group of 28 enthusiastic quilters and learners who meet on the third Saturday of each month in Gretton Village Hall from 11.15 to 4.15pm. We range in age from 15 to the more mature!



We have just completed called *Covid Memories* a quilted wall hanging which will hang in the village hall. During the Flower Festival weekend, we joined the art group to display some of our work.

This year we have worked on a folded star piece, used for cushions, place mats or just waiting for inspiration to complete.

In August we will be working on a mini quilt. This is aimed at newcomers learning basic skills and for those with more experience the fun of relearning old skills and different styles of quilting. Anyone who fancies having a go and joining us come along and see what we do. Visitors are always welcome.

Happy Stitching.
Gretton Quilting Group. Contact Hilary 07867 381 599

GREENER GRETTON

Greener Gretton is now a formally constituted group with a Chair (Sara Stewart), a Secretary (Kath Newby), and a Treasurer (Rob Newby).

Recent activities:

Sara Earl worked with the school on climate change projects during Science Week in March, using WWF resources.

"I have a whole school assembly and worked with KS2 (higher junior classes) to understand their personal carbon footprint and how they put in actions to reduce it. Really good. They took loads on board and ran loads of climate based experiments and campaigns."

We are also collecting empty blister packs for recycling.

From Sara Stewart "People can drop off blister packs to me at 57 High Street. I take them to Superdrug in Stamford."

Tesco, Co-op and Morrisons will take all soft plastics which cannot be re-cycled in council bins. This includes washed cat and dog food pouches, crisp packets and any other plastic, which when squeezed bounces back. So don't throw away, take back to the supermarkets.

Discussions are ongoing about an allotment.

We continue to support and publicise Rita the Refill Revolution van, which visits Gretton approximately once every two weeks. You can buy cleaning items, and various food items using your own containers - reducing the use of plastics.

We note that Corby Council has a group working on a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan, and hope to give some input.

We will publicise the date of the next meeting on Facebook - Greener Gretton group, and Gretton News and Views. You can also contact us by email at greenergretton@gmail.com



GRETTON BOWLING CLUB

"Bowl up, Bowl up" now the evenings are getting lighter why not join in a popular pastime on a Wednesday evening in Gretton Village Hall. Come along and join a friendly group bowling. We meet at 7pm, finish at 9pm and stop for a cuppa about 8pm. Bowling as in most sport means exercise, comradeship, friendly banter and having a good time.

Men and women of all ages participate in the sport of bowling. Gretton Bowls Club is relatively informal with friendly advice given to beginners plus the availability of the use of spare bowls for those who simply just want to give bowls a go. Come along one Wednesday evening and have a go!

You have nothing to lose and a possible lifelong gain. Please come along and give bowling a try.

Club Secretary Marshall Ferguson 01536 770521



GRETTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

As most will have heard, Mel Jarvis sadly passed away soon after submitting his last article for this magazine. He was a great guy, a brilliant neighbour and a wonderful friend to so many of us. A true community servant (in addition to his vast Neighbourhood Watch contributions) he is truly missed - and will be so for many years to come.

Trevor Smith and Paul Hickford were recently asked by Mel to be his deputies - and are therefore looking after things jointly for the next 5-6 months. We will then review things to see whether we can spot any room for improvements. Please contact either of us in the meantime if you have any suggestions. We would welcome any ideas.

In the meantime, we'd ask that the WhatsApp Alert group is used purely for urgent safety or security alerts (and we each treat such alerts as urgent if possible). For conversation, concerns, ideas for improving how Gretton NHW runs, please use the NHW Facebook group. Alternatively, feel free to text or call Trevor Smith on 07956 810585 or Paul Hickford via Facebook, Messenger or WhatsApp.

For those of you who are in our NHW FB group but not yet in the WhatsApp Alerts group, please consider joining it - as it will be so much more powerful when as many of us as possible are sharing urgent alerts and related updates on there.

Finally, our best way of honouring Mel and his huge contribution to the village would be to realise his ambition to have at least 50% of households represented within the NHW membership. If you're not yet a member, please consider joining; Trevor or Paul will be delighted to hear from you. Please rest assured that your minimum commitment as a member is just to look out for your neighbours' well-being. We plan to keep email updates to the bare minimum.

Many thanks.

Trevor Smith and Paul Hickford



GRETTON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

GRETTON REC GROUND, (OFF) KIRBY RD, NN17 3DB

FREE WEEKEND MEMBERSHIP "TRY BEFORE YOU BUY"

What we offer...

4 LARGE SCREEN TVS WITH SKY SPORTS & BT SPORT DAILY

TRADITIONAL PUB GAMES OF DARTS & SKITTLES

A FINE SELECTION OF LAGERS, ALES, CIDERS, GINS, VODKAS, SOFT DRINKS, SNACKS & MUCH MORE..

THE BEST BEER GARDEN AROUND WITH LARGE PATIO AREA. LARGE PLAY AREA (IN CLEAR VIEW OF THE PATIO) & EXPANSIVE PLAYING FIELD

EMAIL GRETTONSSC@OUTLOOK.COM OR MESSAGE US ON FACEBOOK

OFFER NOT VALID WEEKEND OF 5TH & 6TH AUGUST. OFFER ENDS SEPTEMBER 1ST.



GRETTON SILVER BAND - established 1877

The Gretton Silver Band held its AGM on Sunday 24th April. History was made when Andrea Rudge was elected as the first woman chair of the band in its 155 year history. Andrea is a long standing member of the band and formally lived in Gretton for many years, at one time in the flat above the old Co-operative store. All other officers were re-elected and Elio Andrade was appointed as Musical Director. A vote of thanks was passed to Lloyd Preston, Band Secretary, for all his hard work in keeping the band together during the Covid pandemic.

Life membership of the band was given to Glenda and Peter Weston, together with a presentation. Peter was also made President of the band, following in the footsteps of his cousin, the late John Weston. On behalf of his wife Glenda and himself, Peter thanked the band for the honour they had given them.

On Saturday 14th May the band played at the Lydington Fete, and on the 28th May the band held its first indoor concert for two years in the Village Hall. This was to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and to celebrate the opportunity for the band to give a concert after prevented from doing so because of the pandemic. A good-sized audience enjoyed a variety of music from around the British Isles.

Other engagements the band have taken part in are on the 12th of June in Rothwell, 25th June at Braybrook and the Gretton Church Flower festival on the 26th of June. We will also be playing at Caldicote village fete on 2nd July, Kettering Rockingham Road Park on 21st August and Northampton Abington Park on September 4th September.

Peter Weston,
Band President,
June 2022.

GRETTON TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP

A Gretton traffic working group has been set up with the support of the Parish council aiming to highlight and deal with some of the issues that we currently have within the village.

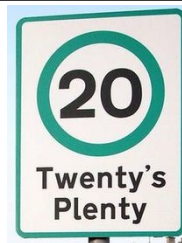
Chaired by Steve Grey the committee have put together a survey that was distributed around the village for the residents to have their say in what some of the issues are and to allow the traffic group to get some positive feedback from the villagers on areas that require attention. The results of the survey will be published very soon.

Speeding is our main focus and we are supporting a 20's plenty scheme that will see signs being put up to encourage motorists and other road users to consider the speed they are travelling around the village, this has been in use by other surrounding villages and has been very successful.

With the newly installed TVAS speed monitor being fitted as you enter the village from Corby, the Traffic group can now collect vital data to help us consider other options to reduce the speed of vehicles entering/exiting and travelling around the village.

Our aim is to make Gretton a much safer place to live and move around, whether you are walking, cycling, horse riding or any other form of transport we want to keep you all safe!

The Gretton Traffic Group



GRETTON PADDOCK PARK



Spring and early summer are nice times to visit the pocket park where the many features include the grassy rides and wildflower meadows.

Much of what you see has been created by many villagers in the early days and is now maintained by a small group of volunteers.



Recently we completed work on the human sundial by placing a wire mesh barrier just below the surface to prevent the moles from burrowing through, and it seems to be working.

If you would like to help it need not take up a lot of your time. We meet once a month on the first Saturday starting around 9.30 for two to three hours. If this is difficult just get in touch and we can arrange a more convenient time for you.

We also meet at the Hatton Arms on the third Wednesday at 8.00pm to discuss our plans and work ahead, so please come along and join us for a drink. Your interest in nature may be more observational, if so you might like to help monitor our animal and plant life.

Bob Dobson – Paddock Park Secretary - 07772789907

GRETTON WI

It has been good to be back to our regular meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Our June meeting half way through the year was our Summer Party. This replaced our cancelled Christmas celebration and involved a splendid cold buffet and some highly entertaining line-dancing, so quite a change from the different speakers and topics we had enjoyed in the previous months.



We now look forward to a similar variety of subjects and activities in the future, and to continuing to be a part of village life as well as part of a National organisation. We always welcome new members to join us so do please get in touch at any time if you would like to come along.

Pat Triffitt
Secretary, Gretton WI
770311

CHIRPY CHICKS



Wow, what a term we have had so far. We are really delighted to announce that following our recent Ofsted inspection we have, again, been awarded Outstanding in every area, being our third consecutive Outstanding award.

The Ofsted report states that "*Children rapidly develop friendships and work extremely well together. They happily rise to the high expectations staff have for them, particularly regarding showing care and respect towards one another*".

It's wonderful to think that the youngest of the community are thriving in these areas, learning from a young age the importance of developing these characteristics.

We just want to say a big thank you to all the children, staff and parents who contributed to this outcome. If you have children or grandchildren at Chirpy Chicks we think you should be very proud of this glowing report of them, as we are. Thank you to all those who have supported us throughout the years, it was 1999 when we opened in a small mobile classroom, and we are still thriving in our purpose built building 23 years later. If anybody would be interested in reading the report it can be found at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/16/EY452694>

Rose fair and Jubilee celebrations

We would also like to thank the parents for taking the time to come and share in some of our events, such as the Rose Fair, where the children opened up the celebrations at Gretton Primary School with the first dance. Everyone did amazingly and we were all so proud of each and every child. The children also participated in a Jubilee picnic and enjoyed creating some bunting using pinecones and paint to decorate our front garden with.

Following on from the Jubilee celebrations, the children expressed a big interest in the Queen and the Queen's Guards. The children then began to decorate and create their own Queen's Guards bunting, which was proudly displayed at the Gretton Flower Festival.

Sports Day and Stay and Play

Recently, we have taken part in our annual sports day and sports stay and play event, inviting the families of Chirpy Chicks to come, join in and celebrate with us. It was lovely to have us all together again, sharing special times with the children and their families. We look forward to planning many more.

Outings and Trips

We have been lucky enough to get out and about again, through Nature Nursery which is ongoing throughout the year, however we have also been able to plan small trips out to visit places of interest in our local community. We would just like to say a big thank you to Julie from the shop for welcoming the children and making their shopping experience together, such a positive and happy one. I am sure we will be back soon.

Our Allotment

The children have recently started to see the benefits of our nursery allotment, which we have created in our front garden. Everyone has been busy picking radishes and lettuce for snack and exploring the many different herbs and their scents, adding them to our water play, the playdough and mud kitchen.

We have recently planted some pumpkin plants that have been donated to us by Bertie Ware's family and we are looking forward to seeing how these grow. Hopefully by October we will have a pumpkin to carve and bake with!

Thank you once again, to all of our families and the local community for all your continued support, we hope that Chirpy Chicks is one of those special spaces in the village that helps to make Gretton the thriving and caring community that it is.

Chirpy Chicks Pre School is a not for profit community based preschool for children aged 2 to school age. If you would like to enquire about a place for your child at Chirpy Chicks Pre -School to start in September or would like to come for a visit, then please contact us on 01536 771711 or email samantha@chirpy-chicks.co.uk.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Hello everyone!

The work on this year's Poppy Appeal in Gretton and District is already well underway after the release this summer of two different commemorative pin badges to mark two special events that happened in June.

The first of which was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. It was great to see the village as a whole embracing the Jubilee from start to finish, come rain or shine! As the Queen is the Patron of the Royal British Legion this was something that was very special and close to the hearts of us all at the RBL.

Then on the 14th June we remembered 40 years since the end of the Falklands conflict, a conflict that I'm sure lives long in the memories of many of you, the sacrifices made are something that should never be forgotten!

Both pins are still currently available to buy from Julie Ann Powell at 'The Shop' on Gretton High Street and are a suggested donation of £4 each.

Also this year I am pleased to announce that we are expanding our District to include Laxton. If you know of anyone in Laxton village that may be interested in volunteering to help our appeal in any way please do get in touch with me, or pass on my details.

To the main appeal itself, the period of remembrance, starting towards the end of October, and running until Remembrance Sunday on the 13th November. We will be kicking it all off with another themed Race Night on Friday 21st October at Gretton Sports & Social Club, (more details to follow in due course) something I am very much looking forward to!

If you have any questions or queries regarding anything to do with the Royal British Legion, or the period of remembrance, do not hesitate to get in touch with me via email or find me on social media.

Thank you!

Dave Miller
Honorary Appeal Organiser for
Gretton, Haringworth & Laxton District
Email: dsm1884@gmail.com



GRETTON AND DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION HOLDING BRANCH

On Remembrance Sunday 13th November a service and wreath laying ceremony will be held at the USAAF Spanhoe Airfield memorial on the Haringworth to Laxton Road at 11am. As in previous years there will be a military vehicle display

The Gretton Remembrance Day service will take place at 3pm. Further details to be confirmed.

Door to door Poppy sales will be made in Gretton and Haringworth with support from Dave Miller Honary Poppy Day organiser.

Anyone requiring more information please contact me.
Thank you for your continued support.

Shirley Fursdon, 9 Southfield Road Gretton, Telephone 01536 770784

GRETTON VILLAGE HALL

The village hall is looking better since the repairs to the front wall, and it is great to see it smart again.

The village lunches have continued and remain popular. The numbers attending is good, and it will hopefully continue for as long as people wish it to.

The format is the same, four different soups, bread, and cheese and four different puddings to choose from with tea or coffee, plus a raffle and the 200 - club draw.

It is reassuring that we still have strong team willing to take on the catering every month but if anyone would like to join the catering team please contact me, new members always welcome.



We still have vacancies for two new members of the management committee for the village hall and I hope that we can recruit new members to assist us with the running and maintenance of the hall. My contact details are at the bottom of the article.

We think we have identified a new leader for our twice -yearly Bridge Drives and the plan is to hold the first in October this year. The date will be Tuesday 18th October for those interested. The day commences with Coffee and biscuits followed by play until a two- course lunch with wine. Play resumes during the afternoon and prizes are awarded at the end of the day. The person to contact if you wish to attend or need more information is, Barrie Edwards. Email: Edwards_gretton@yahoo.co.uk

Our Booking secretary has been working hard to make the booking process easier and more efficient. Emily has done a sterling job of setting up the bookings online. Further details will follow. The contact details for bookings are, bookingsGVH@outlook.com Mob: 07391 895078

Andy Butterworth has worked for some time on our website and due to his, and Emily's work we are very near to launching it. I will ask our communications committee member, Helen Heywood to announce the arrival on the Facebook page. Helen is very diligent in keeping the village informed about all events in the hall.

A special thankyou to Carol and Ian Preston who work tirelessly to maintain the hall for the benefit of hirers. We should not forget this work unseen, but vital to all.

I am so pleased that the hall is being used so much and very grateful for the work of those on the committee, and other volunteers who help.

For further information regarding the hall my contact details are,

Chairperson – email: elizabethmwatt@me.com Mob: 07484 803919

VILLAGE HALL ENTERTAINMENTS

We have no events contracted in the near future but keep a watch out on social media, e-mail and village poster sites. Suggestions for any sort of music or drama event would be welcomed.

Andy Butterworth, annandy5@talktalk.net

GRETTON LITTER WOMBLES

Why bother to pick up other people's litter? Personally I have three main reasons -

1. for the sake of the oceans, wildlife and farm animals;
2. because I hate the waste of resources which should be reused, particularly aluminium cans;
3. because it looks awful.

The group was formed in February 2021, after various problems with litter around the village. There are a dozen people in the village who have equipment on loan. In general people pick up individuals, and at their own risk, although for many years the village has organised two group litter picks per year, one in spring and one in autumn.

We have issued the following safety guidelines for individuals -

1. Wear gloves when picking up litter.
2. Use a litter picker
3. Wear suitable shoes/boots
4. If you are by a road, Hi-Viz or bright clothing is essential
5. Do not take risks near roads or water.
6. Don't pick up broken glass or needles - these should be reported to the local council.

This activity is undertaken at your own risk. The group and admin can accept no responsibility for accidents or injuries sustained during litter picking activities.

In the early days, a lot of picking of roads around the village was done, as these can be much worse than in the village. But again, I emphasise that this can be dangerous and is entirely at your own risk.

No group litter picks were undertaken during lockdown, but on 2nd April 2022, a dozen or so volunteers and a few Parish Council members did a sterling job within the village, with the support of North Northants Council.

Aluminium drinks cans, either whole, or crushed top to bottom may be left at 18 Harringworth Road, or you can leave in the tall baskets at the Conservative Club in Corby. Go through the right hand gateway and the collection point is behind the building. These are collected for the Helipads for Hospitals Appeal.

We are normally asked to leave collected litter near a council bin - if there is a small amount, I usually put it directly in the bin. If there is no bin near, you should contact the council to let them know.

Fly-tipping:

You can report fly-tipping to the local council online by using this link -

https://my.corby.gov.uk/service/Report_Fly_Tipping

We also use Facebook groups to publicise information about litter, and to campaign for action such as a deposit return scheme on cans and plastic bottles, similar to schemes which exist in other countries.

If anyone wishes to help out, I have a few litter-pickers to lend, plus hoops and bags. Contact me via Facebook messenger, or Gretton Wombles Page.

Alison Merricks

GRETTON LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Former Gretton Manor Investigation;
In March we conducted geo-physical research in conjunction with Hallaton Archaeological and Field Research Group to try to discover the position and layout of this manor house which was demolished before Treswell's map of 1487. Analysis of the results is continuing, with a further session on the field being necessary due to excessive dryness limiting the the effectiveness of resistivity measurements. However, we can confirm the position of the modern drains!!
The society thanks Ruth and Dan Doody for access to the field.

Our recent meeting " History of the Postcard " revealed many interesting facts about this ubiquitous communication, hugely popular, especially when there were two or three postal collections and deliveries each day.
The earliest cards had no pictures, and when illustrations and (later) photographs were added the message had to be written on the picture side. It was a very lucrative business, and one company ran a competition with a prize for the greatest number of their cards sent/ received by one person. Unfortunately the prize money was hardly enough to cover the card and postage cost, but it was very good for business!

Our village hall meetings continue:

- July 22nd - " A History Mystery ". Sam Millard will present a series of historical events which are linked in some way - the audience will be challenged to suggest the connections.
- Sept 25th - " The Northants Film Archive " will explain their foundation and development with some illustrative films.
- Nov 25th - " An Almshouse Establishment"" Nick Hill will talk about Browne's Hospital in Stamford. Founded in 1475 the history of the almshouse reveals a wide view of medieval life, and recent research has shown another purpose for the fine building.

All these meetings are held in the village hall, commencing at 7-30pm, and are open to all with visitors paying £3 per talk . Society members are admitted free (annual society membership currently £10 per year).
For any historical queries about Gretton and its inhabitants, or if you have any information which could be added to our archives please contact any member of our committee;

Sandy Brown, Andy Butterworth, Ann Craske, Elisabeth Jordan, Ian Preston and Margaret Trenwith.

HISTORICAL GRETTON

In 1937 the Coronation of George VI took place and Gretton celebrated with a Fancy Dress Parade. The coach was brought out of retirement for the event.

The coachman was Charles (aka Dick) Wootton and his assistant was Billy Fursdon. The King and Queen were represented by Eileen Bush and Mary Holman.

Darkie, the horse, had served in France during the 1914/18 war. He belonged to William Wootton, blacksmith.



GRETTON BAPTIST CHURCH

After nearly two years of lockdowns and restrictions, we are beginning to bring things back to life at the chapel. We have regular services which are:
Sunday morning service every week at 10.15am
Communion will be celebrated as part of the service on the 4th Sunday.
All age service will be on the 2nd Sunday.
On the other Sundays there are groups for children and young people of all ages.

We also have Bible studies and a prayer meeting arranged on different evenings. Everyone is always welcome to any of our meetings.

We have a paddock next to the chapel and if anyone would like to sit in there at any time or have a picnic then you are very welcome to. We only ask that you respect the graveyard and take all litter home.

In the autumn we may be running an alpha course on zoom. This is a fantastic course for people to explore their own spiritual beliefs and for some people it may be just what they have been waiting for. If you are interested then do please contact me.

Gretton Baptist church is a great place to be. It is a place where we meet to worship together and help each other to grow in our faith. It is a place where we enjoy fellowship and encourage each other. It is also a place where we celebrate the fact that we are accepted by God whoever we are. Do join us at any time.



Rev. Peter Lloyd
01536 772155

LYDIA'S

Now that the summer is here, please come and join us in the café or on the Village Green for a cappuccino and/or a bacon roll.

Perhaps you would prefer a cream tea or cake. Lydia's is open every day from 10am -4pm on Mondays to Saturdays inclusive.

Lydia's is a not for profit organisation run mainly by volunteers who are based in the village or close by. We offer top quality coffee, lunches and home baked fresh cakes at affordable prices. With more people now working from home, we often have lunch specials which are very popular with those who want a quick change of scenery. We also have free Wi-Fi. The shop also has a good selection of greetings cards for all occasions.

If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, whether it's learning to bake cakes, serving or even washing up, please approach any duty manager. We have a lovely team of volunteers of all ages ranging from teenagers on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme upwards and would love to welcome you to the team.

We also host the Post Office on Tuesdays between 10am and 1pm.



FRIENDS OF GRETTON RECREATION GROUND

Do you feel like some exercise? Inspired by our great sports people or just looking for a sociable activity on a summer evening?

Try out some of the FUN activities on the Recreation Ground and MUGA. Aimed at adults with a range of abilities – or even none at all!

Mondays 7.30 pm (except bank holidays) - Ladies Netball

Tuesdays 7.30 pm – Tennis

Wednesdays 7.30pm – Fun and Fitness – multi activities including walking football, hockey, basketball, rounders, frisbee and more – all at your own pace.

Cost £1.00. Just turn up with your trainers.
Come and give it a try – you might even want to come again!

These activities are all self-run in the evenings for the benefit of the village and for anyone to join. If you would like more details or have ideas for new activities please contact bookthemuga@gmail.com or find us on Facebook at Gretton Recreation Ground.

BOOK THE MUGA

The MUGA is available to use for a range of sporting activities free of charge at any time not subject to pre-booking.

If you wish to reserve a playing time (for which there is a charge of £5 per hour for village residents or £10 for non-residents) please do so by e-mailing: bookthemuga@gmail.com or message on Facebook

Netball, Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Tennis - Some equipment available to borrow

Let us know when you want to use the facility and provide feedback on bookthemuga@gmail.com

The Friends of Gretton Recreation Ground are very active and are committed to improving the facilities for the whole village to enjoy. We meet approximately every two months, usually in the Sports Pavilion, and welcome all members of the community who have any interest in the Recreation Ground and the activities that take place.

If anyone would like to know more about the Friends group or would like to help in any way, please contact Tim Fox on e-mail: bookthemuga@gmail.com.

FAMILY FUNDAY
Gretton recreation ground
SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER
THIS YEARS EVENT HAS MOVED TO A SATURDAY SO WE
CAN ENJOY A FULL DAY & NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT!
ALL THE ACTIVITIES YOU'D NORMALLY EXPECT
THE INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS
GRETTON GAMES
ROUNDERS **KIDS RIDES**
FITNESS DEMONSTRATIONS
CORBY RADIO PROVIDING THE MUSIC
OUTDOOR BAR & BBQ
OUTDOOR CINEMA ONCE IT GETS DARK
More details to follow...
LOCAL STALLS - TO BOOK YOUR PLACE PLEASE EMAIL
BOOKTHEMUGA@GMAIL.COM
SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES ALSO AVAILABLE