

# Gretton Village

## NEWSLETTER

June 2025



On May 8, 2025, the UK commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day, marking the end of World War II in Europe.

The village marked the anniversary in the Village Hall, where it was standing room only as pupils from Gretton School performed a selection of wartime songs, followed by an afternoon tea, served by Year 6 pupils,

It was great afternoon and lovely to see the children engaging with residents and hearing their memories of the war.



### Rogation Walk

Rogation Sunday is a tradition when villagers walk to “beat the bounds” of the Parish to agree alignment with a neighbouring parish. To keep the tradition alive the walk was held on May 25 to walk the parish and explore some of our fantastic heritage features.

Building on the success a cul-de-sacs of Gretton walk is being considered for Sunday July 6. These have proven popular in other communities to help residents explore their communities and meet their neighbours. A big thank you to Bernard Gill for organising.



Gretton Primary School



Gretton Tower Trust



# Parish Council News

## Council Meetings

The last regular Parish Council meeting was on May 14. Minutes from the meeting are available on the website, along with our audited accounts, and updated planning database. In addition to this, the Annual Parish Meeting was held on May 22. You should have received a flyer advertising the meeting - and a big thank you to those that attended. Again, the presentation materials and minutes are posted to the website for those who were unable to attend, along with end-of-year reports from the Parish Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council. We were particular pleased to be joined by our newly elected Gloucestershire County Council member, Councillor Cheryl Agg.

We ran through last year's activities and finances, then discussed our plans for next year. Our key themes remain fundamentally unchanged, basically ensuring that Gretton remains a great place to live. Continuing to improve communications and engagement across the community; supporting the GVA (in particular, its hall & field improvement projects), doing our best to address traffic & parking concerns and improving the Gretton environment - keeping it rural, greener and safe.

The next Gretton Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday July 9, at 7 pm - please do come along and get involved.

## Housing Needs Survey

To help us be better informed when responding to Planning Application consultations, we are planning to run a Housing Needs Survey. The last survey was 5-years ago. The survey is being managed for us, free-of-charge, by Gloucestershire Rural Communities Council (GRCC).

Please keep an eye out for its arrival through your door in the next few weeks - and please do respond. Many thanks.

## Roads & Speeding

Since the last newsletter the Community Speedwatch team has expanded to thirteen people. This increased involvement reflects the continued concern for safety due to speeding traffic.

The new team members have all been trained and regular sessions are being held throughout the village. The team work closely with the Police and the data shows the positive impact on traffic speed through the village. Thank you for all the support offered.

If you would like to get involved please contact any Parish Councillor.

In other related news...

- We have a new gateway on the Alderton approach to the village. Encouraged by Highways and funded by both Highways and the County Council, but sadly it's in the wrong place! The contractor has committed to moving it (nearer the village) in the next few weeks.



- Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). We try to keep our two VAS's located where they can do the most good; based on the number of measured speed exceedances. The Royal Oak approach is by far the worst problem area, but the approach from Gretton Fields is also a concern. The current corner-position is not ideal, and Highways are planning to relocate the mounting-post soon. However, even in this location, it has recorded over 15,000 speed infringements since it was located there two months ago.

- We are campaigning to get the Gotherington Road 30mph zone extended, working with both Centaur Homes and Highways. It is now likely that GPC will have to lead this initiative, finding a way to manage the significant red-tape and cost.

## Parking & Pavements

Parking around the school, by road junctions, on pavements and near the church can be a hazard for both traffic and pedestrians. Everyone is asked to be courteous and think about the impact of your parking on safety, visibility and pedestrians.

With the rapid growth of undergrowth please keep any overhanging bushes clear to ensure safe passage on the pavements and full visibility from the road.

## Crime Prevention

The Parish Council have a regular meeting with the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner and the Tewkesbury Police team. Over recent months there has been a slight increase in crime in the area including burglary and car theft.

Everyone is encouraged to be vigilant. Crime Prevention Advice from the police can be found on the Parish Council website.

# Gretton Village Association News

Your Village Association is as busy as ever. Like many charities one of the key challenges is financial. A reduction in rental income coupled with increasing costs, associated with utility bills and maintenance, is increasing pressure on the finances.

In response the GVA has revamped its website and is developing a plan to promote the facility more widely. The new website contains a booking calendar with online booking to aid the booking process. Once fully proven this new site will allow us to advertise the Hall more widely and attract more users either for leisure or business rentals. The new website can be found at <https://grettonvillagehall.co.uk>

## Walk for the Park 3.0 - June 14

This years Walk for the Park will be a family and community day. The routes will be shorter and as its Fathers Day the following day a number of activities to challenge the Dads are planned. Perhaps try your hand at the hanging bar challenge! The walks will start at 1pm with the activities and refreshments from 4pm. It's free to enter but all donations are very welcome with all funds raised going towards the fundraising for the perimeter path around the Playing Field.



## Village Hall Facebook page

The **Gretton Gloucestershire Village Hall** Facebook page has also been resurrected to provide an improved online profile for the Hall.

Residents are reminded that they can benefit from reduced rental rates so why not organise your next family event in the village! Local businesses can also benefit from our space for team meetings or training courses where the projector and screen can be made available. Please contact Kathy at [gvabookings@gmail.com](mailto:gvabookings@gmail.com) to discuss your needs.

Please like the Facebook and tell your friends and workplaces about the Hall. It's a great facility and can be used at very competitive rates.



In addition to the day to day management of the Hall and Playing Field the GVA is running the Gretton Hub, planning a number of village events and continuously progressing funding opportunities to develop the facilities. More details are included below.

If you feel you have some time to help out with events, maintenance of the Hall or Playing Field we now have a GVA Supporters Group. If you would like to be added to the WhatsApp Group where requests for help or expertise are published please let Mark Oliver know.

## Gretton Hub

The Gretton Hub continues to be well used and will be open monthly over the Summer (see dates, right)

A record attendance was achieved on the day of the Easter Egg Hunt when over seventy people enjoyed the hospitality on offer (below).



**Gretton Hub**  
eat - drink - chat - play

The Gretton Village Association is pleased to announce the upcoming dates for the Gretton Hub offered with support from Gretton Parish Council.

We offer free food and refreshments for all in a friendly environment. Childrens games, a book swap and table tennis are available. Opening dates are as follows:

8<sup>th</sup> May – VE Day 80 Celebration Tea Special at 1.00pm  
- See separate poster -

Sundays 10.00 – 12.30:

18<sup>th</sup> May  
29<sup>th</sup> June  
13<sup>th</sup> July  
14<sup>th</sup> September  
26<sup>th</sup> October

If you have any questions, please get in touch at [gvabookings@gmail.com](mailto:gvabookings@gmail.com)



The GVA's Hub initiative has also been recognised by Tewkesbury Borough Council.

The team were invited to join the Mayor and Tewkesbury leadership team for a thank you tea to celebrate the community benefits of such initiatives.

## Progressive Supper

The 2025 Progressive Supper was held on Saturday, March 1 and was a very enjoyable social evening with 30 people taking part.

This supper has been held in the village for over 20 years and is always fun evening and a good way to meet up with friends and neighbours old and new.

Each host is asked to prepare one course of the three course meal, usually for just six people. Everyone eats each course at a different venue and meets up with different guests. Instructions on which course you need to prepare are given a week or so in advance, but details of where you will be

eating for the other courses remain in a secret envelope to be opened only on the night.

The next supper will be held in early 2026 so look out for the date after Christmas. If you would like more information or to put your name on the list for next time, please contact Jan Taylor [jankingsmead@btinternet.com](mailto:jankingsmead@btinternet.com)



## Gretton Summer Fete 2025

Planning for the Fete on the afternoon of Saturday July 5 is underway.

The theme will be marking 25 years since the Millennium and some of the activities from 2000 will be recreated including the fancy dress parade led by tractors from the village. A time capsule will be put together so that the village children in 2050 can see what we were up to.

There will be plenty to do with live music, refreshments and family games. We are hoping that residents will put on a stall or activity and there will be some trade stands. Please use the link below to sign up to the WhatsApp group and get involved.



## GVA Projects

The GVA are always progressing opportunities to enhance our facilities. Since the last newsletter we have planted eight native fruit trees in the Playing Field. These will break up the space, improve habitat and provide fruit and shade for residents in future years.

A big thank you to all who helped with the planting.

- Funding for Solar Panels has now been secured. This project is important as it helps to sustain the Hall through reduced running costs. The GVA is very grateful to the funding from **Gretton Solar Farm Ltd** through Green Fields Trust ([www.greenfieldstrust.co.uk](http://www.greenfieldstrust.co.uk)).
- Sports Storage Facility: The shed at the Hall is getting tired and takes up valuable space. Funding has been secured to erect a new building below the wall and buy some more sports equipment for the school. This new facility will enhance our recreation provision and also free up some space for more activities and car parking behind the Hall.
- Activity Space: With significant support from the Parish Council we are now in a position to improve the space at the rear of the Hall. With the relocation of the shed the area to the rear of the Hall will be levelled to maximise space for events, bouncy castles and parking.
- Playing Field Accessibility: A perimeter path around the field will improve all year accessibility, provide a jogging facility for both the school and residents and improve the utility of the space. This project will be progressed in 2026.

If you would like to hear more or have some skills or contacts that might help please get in touch with Mark Oliver.

---

## Gretton Village Association - Classes

As a reminder the regular classes held in the Hall are as follows:

|            |                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday:    | Pilates at 6.30pm                                         |
| Tuesday:   | Yoga at 6.30pm                                            |
| Wednesday: | Pilates at 9.30am and Dance at 4.00pm                     |
| Thursday:  | Yoga at 9.30am and the the bi weekly Sound Bath at 7.30pm |
| Friday:    | Table Tennis available for hire                           |
| Saturday:  | Dance at 9.15am                                           |

Remember that the Main Hall and Meeting Room are available for hire and are popular for children's parties, family celebrations, clubs and meetings. Residents benefit from preferential hire rates. The projector and public address system are also proving popular with local businesses who lack suitable meeting space so please contact Kathy at [gvabookings@gmail.com](mailto:gvabookings@gmail.com) to discuss your needs.



**Cotswolds  
National  
Landscape**

## Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

The Cotswold Wardens keep our local footpaths open so we can all enjoy our splendid environment.

The Wardens have recently replaced three stiles in the Parish. The three way bridge between Duglynch Lane and Gopshill Lane has needed some maintenance and discussions are underway to improve the path over the railway bridge.

The Gretton Parish Warden is Mark Oliver so please let him know of any issues.



---

## Contacts & Communications

### Parish Council

**Geoff Hanson** - Chair

01242 603848

[geoff@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk](mailto:geoff@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk)

**Mark Oliver**

07801 716148

[mark@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk](mailto:mark@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk)

**Richard Green** - Vice Chair

01242 602272

[dick@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk](mailto:dick@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk)

**David Butcher**

07506 671631

[david@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk](mailto:david@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk)

### Village News is currently available through the following channels:

Village WhatsApp Group Gretton Help Force

Gretton Parish Council Website: [www.grettonnpc.weebly.com](http://www.grettonnpc.weebly.com)

Gretton Village Association: [www.sites.google.com/site/grettonvillagehall/home](http://www.sites.google.com/site/grettonvillagehall/home)



GVA Distribution List  
sign-up QR code

### Village Facebook presence:

- **Gretton Village Noticeboard** (Gloucestershire) - This Group is run by local residents and is used for a broad range of communications.
- **Gretton Village Notices** - This Page is run by the GVA & Parish Council and is used for sharing local information and village events.
- **Gretton Gloucestershire Village Hall** - This Page is run by the GVA and is used to advertise the Village Hall facilities.

### Gretton Village Association:

Mark Oliver, Chairman, 07801 716148 [markp.oliver@btinternet.com](mailto:markp.oliver@btinternet.com)

Kathy Tweedie, Bookings, 07968 711590 [gvabookings@gmail.com](mailto:gvabookings@gmail.com)

### Cotswold Wardens

Mark Oliver, Gretton Parish Warden, 07801716148 [markp.oliver@btinternet.com](mailto:markp.oliver@btinternet.com)

### Gretton Primary School

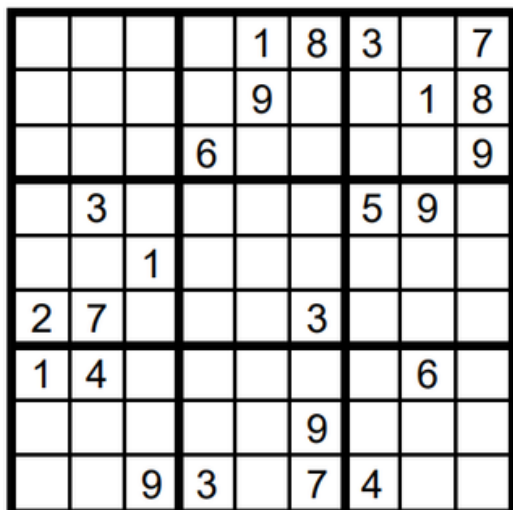
Adam Sallis, Headteacher, [head@gretton.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@gretton.gloucs.sch.uk)

### Church

Revd Captain David Penny CA, Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Winchcombe with Gretton, Sudeley Manor and Stanley Pontlarge

[revdpenny@winchcombeparish.org.uk](mailto:revdpenny@winchcombeparish.org.uk)

# Puzzle Corner



## Sudoku

Fill and complete the grid using the numbers from 1 to 9

- Each row must contain the numbers from 1 to 9, without repetitions
- Each column must contain the numbers from 1 to 9, without repetitions
- The digits can only occur once per block (nonet)
- The sum of every single row, column, and nonet must equal 45



## Word Search - British Castles

|          |        |           |       |
|----------|--------|-----------|-------|
| Auchen   | Flint  | Maol      | Star  |
| Bere     | Floors | Mey       | Sween |
| Burgh    | Fraser | Moy       | Tower |
| Clare    | Gylen  | Muncaster | Udny  |
| Croft    | Hay    | Oer       | York  |
| Deal     | Hever  | Piel      |       |
| Delgatie | Holt   | Raby      |       |
| Drum     | Kendal | Rait      |       |
| Elcho    | Leod   | Red       |       |

\*The Solution to the Sudoku puzzle is available on the Gretton Parish Council website

[www.grettonpc.weebly.com](http://www.grettonpc.weebly.com)

## Dates for your diary

### June 2025

Sunday 29th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Saturday 14th, 1:00pm

Gretton Hub, Village Hall

Walk for the Park 3.0 - Start and Finish at the Village Hall

### July 2025

Saturday 5th, 2:00pm - 6:00pm

Wednesday 7th, 7:00pm

Sunday 13th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Gretton Summer Fete, Playing Field & Village Hall

Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall

Gretton Hub, Village Hall

### September 2025

Sunday 14th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Gretton Hub, Village Hall

### October 2025

Saturday 4th

Sunday 26th 10:00am - 12:30pm

Apple Rock - Gretton Playing Field & Village Hall

Gretton Hub, Village Hall