

Gretton Village

NEWSLETTER

September 2024

Village Fete a huge success

Saturday 13th July saw the inaugural Summer Fete held on the Playing Field. The Fete was opened when the Lord Lieutenant and Mayor of Tewkesbury officially opened the new Play Equipment. A wide range of stalls, activities and refreshments kept everyone busy and the live band 'Serenity' helped create a wonderful atmosphere throughout the afternoon.

The Village Association would like to thank Gloucestershire County Council and Gretton Parish Council for their support and to thank all those who helped make the day a success through lending a hand, manning a stall, providing prizes for the raffle or simply coming along to enjoy the days events.

The Fete made around £1,300 which will be used for community and school projects. See you all next year!

(More images from the Fete on Page 2)



In the recent Village Questionnaire residents responded to questions regarding local transportation services - in particular the lack of bus routes serving Gretton. In response we thought information on The Robin, provided by Gloucestershire County Council might be useful.

The Robin is a local, bookable bus service using smaller, 16 capacity vehicles. You search for your ideal journey, and book the option that suits you. It's local and affordable, connecting places in rural locations. The service is designed for short journeys to access villages/towns, or to connect with a fixed line bus or train.

(Continued on Page 2)

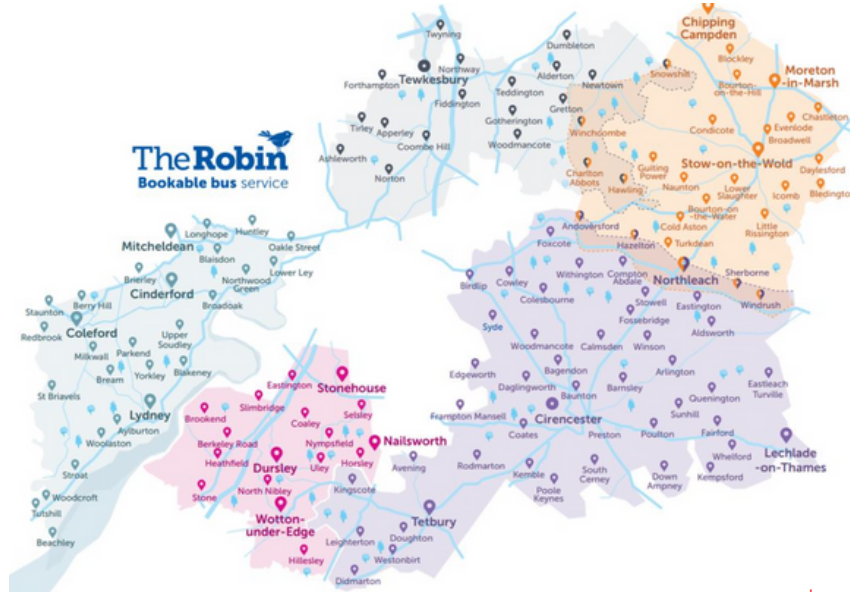


Gretton Primary School



The Robin (Continued)

There is no timetable. The Robin is booked by users in advance and drivers go wherever is booked to be there at the right time. The service runs from 7:00am to 7:00pm, Monday to Saturday. Payment is online or by paying the driver (contactless or cash). Bookings are via The Robin phone app, via the website or over the phone and can be made from as little as 1 hour before you travel, or up to 2 weeks in advance.



Launched in 2 areas in 2022, The Robin now covers the 5 areas shown on the map to the left. Gretton sits within the Tewkesbury District, with the North Cotswold area to the east overlapping up to the Gretton turn from Greet/Littleworth. Note that to travel from one Robin area into another, you would need two bookings and to change vehicle. Gretton/Gretton Fields pick up locations are Working Lane, Stanley Cottages and Gilders Yard

For more information on the service, including how to book a journey refer to website below.

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transport/the-robin/

Gretton Fete 2024 - in Pictures



Parish Council Matters

The next meeting of the Gretton Parish Council is on Wed 11th Sept at 7.00pm, in the Village Hall. Have a look at the website to see what we do, and maybe come along, we're still looking for 1 or 2 people to join the team.

We'll be discussing new planning issues; actions arising from a recent meeting with Gloucestershire County Council Highways; upcoming new projects and the allocation of available funds to support them.

Much of our work can now be guided by the useful feedback from the Village Survey, which was reviewed at our last meeting. GPC's key takeaways and actions, are summarised and discussed in an appendix to our last minutes (see the website). In particular we're hoping to provide substantial financial support for the next phase of improvement to the Village Hall & Field - refer to the Gretton Village Association updates in this Newsletter.

Resident input from the questionnaire is also being incorporated into this Newsletter. In addition to the article on The Robin bus service, there is also a puzzles feature on the back page - Sudoku & Wordsearch, the Newsletter is now printed on recycled paper, and the QR code to the right will allow you to view it online.



Alderton approach to Gretton

We are still campaigning to have the 30mph zone extended to include Redwood Close, but this is currently being frustrated by red-tape and costs - beyond our control.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) do seem to work well, reminding speeding drivers to slow down. We plan to establish a new location for a mobile VAS, on the approach to the Triangle from the Alderton direction.

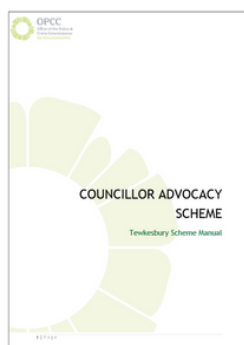
Finally, with their encouragement and with funding now available from Gloucestershire Highways and Cllr David Gray (Tewkesbury Borough Councillor & Gloucestershire County Councillor) we plan to go ahead with a second 'village gateway'. This will include a 30mph sign and will hopefully encourage traffic to realise it is approaching a village and to drive appropriately. We are currently in consultation, and then we will go-ahead as soon as possible.



Signage and gateway at the approach from Winchcombe

A Second Defibrillator?

A defibrillator is already located at the Village Hall, but the guidance is that for one to be effective, it should be available very quickly and located within 200m of the patient. Gretton is over 1km long, so we're looking at a location and funding for a second defibrillator, nearer 'the Triangle' & Church.



Police Liaison, Traffic and Parking

Did you know that the Parish Council have a regular dialogue with the Police? Through the Councillor Advocacy scheme we regularly meet with the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner and the Police leadership from Tewkesbury. These meetings cover all aspects of policing and enable us to understand trends in the area and the Police to understand local issues and priorities.

Police Liaison, Traffic and Parking Continued

Traffic and Speeding: The Speedwatch team have seen an increase in traffic speeds through the Village with speeds approaching 50 mph recorded in some sessions. Community Speedwatch is a proven deterrent to speeding providing a visual queue to passing traffic but to be effective we need a few more volunteers to enable more visibility to be achieved.

Parking: The village survey confirmed parking as a priority issue and a danger in certain parts of the village. The Council are evaluating potential solutions but in the meantime we would ask everyone to act responsibly and courteously, and to park accordingly.

Please contact Mark Oliver if you wish to know more or want to help with Speedwatch



Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

The recent weather has really accelerated growth and keeping on top of the path clearance has been a constant challenge. The main routes are on a Work Party schedule to be cut back once or twice a year and the local Parish Wardens attempts to keep all rights of way as clear as possible.

Many thanks to those dog walkers who now carry secateurs and to a couple of residents who have tackled more significant growth.

The Gretton Parish Warden is Mark Oliver so please get in touch if you have any issues with our Rights of Way and he will work to resolve them.

Left: the cleared path from the gate at the top of Gypsy Lane towards Langley Hill Farm



**Cotswolds
National
Landscape**

Gretton Village Association News

The Village Association has had a busy summer with the Walk for the Park, the Play Area opening and the Fete on top of the normal activity.

The finances for Walk for the Park 2.0 in June are still being finalised but the event made at least £2,000 for the further improvement of the Playing Field. Fundraising in the last year has raised approximately £10,000. We are very grateful for the support and kind donations and continue to ensure that the Hall and Playing Field are maintained and improved for the benefit of the community.

The Village Hall hosts a range of regular day and evening classes. As a reminder the regular classes held in the Hall are as follows:

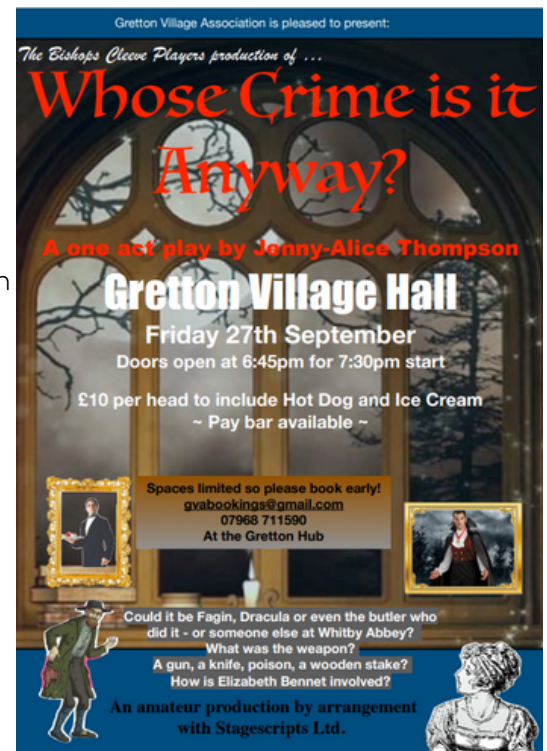
Monday:	Pilates at 6.30pm
Tuesday:	Yoga at 6.30pm *Note that the Tai Chi class is no longer running
Wednesday:	Pilates at 9.30am and Dance at 4.00pm
Thursday:	Yoga at 9.30am and Table Tennis available for hire in the afternoon
Friday:	Table Tennis available for hire
Saturday:	Dance at 9.15am



The Gretton Hub will be open on the 8th September, 13th October, 10th November (after the Remembrance Service) and the 8th December. Due to the popularity of last year we will also be opening on 24th December for Christmas Eve refreshments.

The headline events over the coming months are as follows:

- Friday 27th September sees the Bishops Cleeve Players return with their latest production '**Whose Crime is it Anyway?**'. We suggest that you book early as we expect this event to sell out.
- Sunday 22nd September marks the run up to Apple Rock with the start of the Scarecrow display. After last years fantastic display we are looking to lift the bar further this year so please start to plan your display.
- Saturday 5th October is Apple Rock. Have your apples ready for pressing and dancing shoes on!
- Friday 29th November is the Christmas Quiz Night to mark the start of the run up to Christmas.
- The Advent Windows are once again planned for December so watch the communications channels for more details nearer the time.



A reminder 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 gva bookings@gmail.com to discuss your needs.



The GVA Needs You

To ensure that momentum can be maintained and a variety of activities put on for the community, the GVA needs more help. Please come along to the Hall at **7.30pm on Thursday 5th September** to hear about our plans, get involved in Apple Rock and see how you can support. The Hall and Playing Field are community assets and we would love to discuss the Survey feedback and hear your ideas on what we should be doing.

Please contact Mark Oliver or any of the GVA Committee if you wish to know more.

Plans for Enhancement of the Playing Field and Village Hall

The Village Survey gave some great feedback on what you think is important. The role that the Hall and Playing Field play as a community hub in the village was a key theme and something that is a priority. This feedback really helps to reassure that the future plans are addressing the right issues:

- Benches: We will be providing some seating in the Playing Field. Some benches are being purchased as memorials to loved ones and a community "meeting space" is being considered.
- Access: The Playing Field is a gem and we want to make sure that it is more easily accessible all year round. Better, ramped access and a perimeter path are being considered.
- Hall parking and activity space. The area at the rear of the Hall could be better utilised and schemes are being evaluated to relocate the shed and open up the space.

Plans for Enhancement of the Playing Field and Village Hall Continued

- Solar: Work is underway to evaluate and fund solar panels for the Hall.
- The GVA and Parish Council are actively discussing priorities and how these projects can be progressed.



Finally, the Village Association is very aware of the desire from some people to allow dogs in the Playing Field. This is a difficult issue as the school use the area for all of their sports activities. Whilst this discussion is ongoing it is very unfortunate that a few families ignore the 'No Dogs' signs and let their dogs run free meaning that the GVA team have to occasionally clear up afterwards. This is not helping the ongoing discussions, so please do follow the rules.

The Royal Oak

The Shepherd Huts are now open and can be booked through the Website:

<https://www.royaloakgretton.co.uk/stay>

Tennis Court & Pickleball Court refurbishment is complete. Call the pub to book hourly slots.

The court has been refurbished with the community and village in mind. Access to facilities like this in the village are important to us. There are likely to be pickleball introductory lessons or trial mornings to be organised for next spring. Watch this space! All we ask of those who use the court is to take care and look after it. Thank you.



Mark Giblin

News from Christ Church

The village church of Christ Church is part of the parish of Winchcombe.

The parish of Winchcombe seek a talented pianist or organist as their Director of Music to:

- Lead the delivery of music in worship
- Enable our choristers to grow in musicality
- Oversee the delivery of music across the parish

Please complete an application form, which can be downloaded from our website <https://www.winchcombeparish.org.uk> and return electronically or by post. For further details, and/or an application form, please email:

revdpenny@winchcombeparish.org.uk or write to:

Revd David Penny,
St Peter's Centre,
Gloucester Street,
Winchcombe GL54 5LU



You can stay up to date by following our Facebook page. Follow the QR code to the right or go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/ParishofWinchcombe>



Services at Christ Church

September 29th - Harvest Festival at 10am

- November 10th - 10am short service of Holy Communion followed by an Act of Remembrance at the village war memorial
- Christmas Eve - 4pm Carol Service and Blessing of the Crib

Parish wide services at St. Peter, Winchcombe:

- November 3rd - 5pm All Souls service - a service to remember loved ones who have died
- December 1st - 5pm Advent Carol Service
- December 23rd - 6.30pm Blue Christmas, a special service especially for those who find Christmas difficult
- Christmas Eve - 11.30pm Midnight Mass
- Christmas Day - 10.30am Christmas Service

Contacts & Communications

Parish Council

Geoff Hanson - Chair

01242 603848

geoff@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk

Richard Green - Vice Chair

01242 602272

dick@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk

Mark Oliver

01242 604251

mark@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk

David Butcher

07506 671631

david@grettonnpc-glos.org.uk

Gretton Village Association:

Mark Oliver, Chairman, 07801716148 markp.oliver@btinternet.com

Kathy Tweedie, Bookings, 07968 711590 gvabookings@gmail.com

Cotswold Wardens

Mark Oliver, Gretton Parish Warden, 07801716148 markp.oliver@btinternet.com

Gretton Primary School

Adam Sallis, Headteacher, 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

Village News is currently available through the following channels:

The Village Noticeboards

Village Facebook Page: Gretton Village Notices

Village WhatsApp Group Gretton Help Force

Gretton Parish Council Website: www.grettonnpc.weebly.com

Gretton Village Association: www.sites.google.com/site/grettonvillagehall/home



GVA Distribution List
sign-up QR code

Puzzle Corner

					9	7		8
5				6				9
	4			1	7			
	9	2	3		6			4
	5							2
							9	
			9			8		
	2							
		6		5		4	7	1

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

A	P	A	R	T	Y	B	B	Q	Y	P
Y	G	R	E	L	L	A	W	N	L	S
M	H	N	D	D	A	I	S	Y	U	A
I	T	N	R	V	Z	R	G	I	J	W
W	A	L	K	E	Y	A	N	H	L	H
S	H	U	M	I	D	I	X	F	T	T
F	C	O	E	O	K	N	A	G	N	K
A	N	N	T	I	Y	I	U	A	K	H
N	U	S	B	T	R	S	T	H	I	E
J	P	E	D	A	H	S	A	K	T	A
B	O	A	T	P	Q	E	E	E	E	T

Word Search - British Summer

Allergy	Heat	Light	Swim
Ant	Hike	Party	Tan
BBQ	Hot	Patio	Tent
Bikini	Humid	Punch	Thunder
Boat	July	Rain	Walk
Daisy	June	Sand	Wasp
Easy	Kite	Sea	
Fair	Lawn	Shade	
Fan	Lazy	Sun	

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

www.grettonpc.weebly.com

Dates for your diary

September 2024

Thursday 5th, 7:30pm
 Sunday 8th, 10:00am - 12:30pm
 Sunday 22nd - October 12th
 Friday 27th, 7:30pm
 Sunday 29th, 10:00am

GVA Open Evening & Apple Rock Planning
 Gretton Hub, Village Hall
 Village Scarecrow display
 Whose Crime Is It Anyway? Bishops Cleeve Players, Village Hall
 Harvest Festival, Christ Church

October 2024

Saturday 5th
 Sunday 13th, 10:00am - 12:30pm

Apple Rock, Village Hall & Playing Field
 Gretton Hub, Village Hall

November 2024

Sunday 10th, 10:00am
 Friday 29th, 7:00pm

Remembrance Sunday & Gretton Hub
 Christmas Quiz Night, Village Hall

December 2024

All Month
 Sunday 8th, 10:00am - 12:30pm
 Tuesday 24th, 4:00pm

Advent Windows
 Gretton Hub, Village Hall
 Carol Service at Christ Church & Refreshments in Village Hall