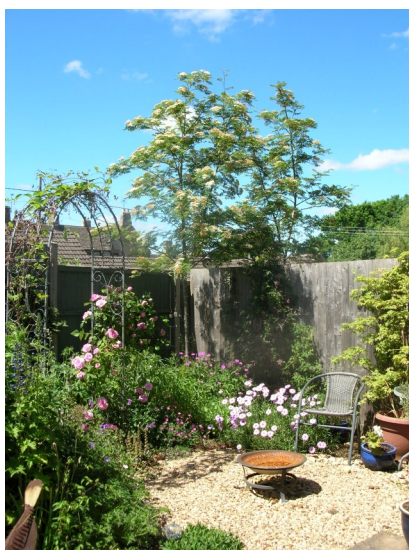


GREETHAM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER JULY 2021

www.greethamrutland.com



Open gardens

Planning an Event?



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Fun-Family-Friends

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community-centre

Find us on facebook

**01572 812389 or mobile 07500
079780 Alternatively email us
at bookgreetham@gmx.com**

	Residents Rates £ per hour		Non Residents Rates £ per Hour	
	Sum- mer	Winter	Summer	Winter
Hall	13.00	16.00	16.00	19.00
Hall with Bar	17.00	20.00	20.00	23.00
Hall with Bar after 11pm	21.00	24.00	24.00	27.00
Meeting Room	10.00	12.00	12.00	14.00
Meeting Room with bar	13.00	16.00	16.00	18.00
Meeting Room with Bar after 11pm	18.00	20.00	20.00	22.00
Whole facility (excluding kitchen)	20.00	23.00	22.00	25.00
Sports Rate	5.00	7.00	5.00	7.00

Single Charge Rates	
Kitchen - tea/coffee preparation	2.50
Kitchen - reheating	5.00
Kitchen - preparation/cooking	10.00
Stage	25.00
Sound System	25.00
Field (includes changing rooms and showers) - Adults	30.00
Field (includes changing rooms and showers) - Youths	15.00
Table Cloths - Round per cloth	10.00
Table Cloths - Oblong per cloth	6.00
Lights	various

The AGM of Greetham Community Centre took place via Zoom on June 2nd. Below is the Chair's report:

Greetham Community Centre Chair's Report 2nd June 2021

It's been a very strange year this last one, so not a lot to be able to say about it. As you know the centre has been closed for most of the time, and even when we were allowed to open it was with very limited usage. However we have been far from idle during this time.

At the start of the pandemic, we were lucky enough to receive two large grants for specific projects at the centre.

One was for the total refurbishment of the tennis court, and the lovely new surface is now marked out not only for tennis, but also for basketball and netball. The broken wooden fence was removed and new mesh fencing put in. We also have state of the art floodlights which are coin operated, and at the end of last summer the courts were well used with local residents playing tennis by floodlight late into the evening. Use of the court is still free.

The other grant was used to put a patio along the front of the building, and inside the club room we took down the half wall adjacent to the bar and what a difference that's made. All that remains is a three inch square support pillar so the room looks much bigger and will in future be much more user friendly for meetings. No more trying to fit to one side of the wall so you can see the speaker. We also removed one of the windows and installed patio doors instead, so now you can go straight out of the club room onto the patio outside, and of course the other way around. The room has been painted, with a new carpet and all new chairs. We also have new chairs in the main hall.

The foyer also looks totally different – it has been redecorated and a new ceiling hides the heating pipes and the dirty old skylight that probably hadn't been cleaned outside for thirty years.

Finally the kitchen – as those of you who have used it will know there was no natural ventilation in the kitchen, and it got very hot and stuffy and the condensation ran down the tiles. We now have a commercial

extractor system that looks like something out of science fiction but is extremely efficient.

All of this has taken a considerable amount of time, but because of lockdown we were able to achieve it with no disruption to the groups that use the centre on a regular basis.

At Christmas because our children weren't able to have their usual Christmas party and to see Santa, we decided to take Santa to the children. Our volunteer Elves drove Santa on his sleigh around every street in the village and all children were given a selection box by Santa. It was a very much appreciated journey and the children all loved it.

We are of course following all the Government guidelines re Covid, so we re-opened on May 17th with limited usage again, but it did mean that the Thursday coffee morning was able to re-start on May 20th. There are restrictions – the rule of 6 applies, table service etc. but it's a start, and assuming that restrictions are lifted we will re-open fully on June 21st.

Soon after that on August 1st we will be having a party, so keep the date free and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

So what of the future?

We are currently putting plans together for even more improvements to the building – this time in the main hall, and we will again be applying for grants to enable us to do this.

Our mission at the centre is to be at the heart of this community, and to that end we want to engage continuously with our community and build a network of resources to ensure we provide a range of activities that will balance our need to be financially stable but also provide events that are be affordable, enjoyable and some even free so that we can meet the brief of the original Trust Deed of the Centre in 1981 which was to improve the life of the inhabitants of the Parish of Greetham.

At this point I think I must mention the enormous help we have re-

ceived this year from the Government via Rutland County Council. We have received a substantial amount of Covid grant money and without it we would have been in a very dire financial situation. We have had almost no income this year, but just keeping the centre habitable and legal has cost over £14,000

Finally I must pay thanks to all the people who have continued to work tirelessly throughout this pandemic for the centre. I mean the trustees, our one member of staff, and our volunteers who have inspected it regularly (a requirement of the insurance company), done odd jobs, mended fences and recently cleaned. You name it we've done it, so a very big thank you to you all.

Pat Evans

Greetham Community Centre

Family Fun Day

Sunday 1st August 1pm - 5pm

Everyone is invited to come and celebrate the recently installed brilliant new facilities at our Community Centre and Sports Court.

Barbecue, Teas, Bar, Family Games on the Field

Demonstration Tennis, Netball, Bowls and Petanque

Come and see the improvements to the centre, while it was closed during Lockdown.

July 10th Breakout Festival and Church fete will be moved to 21 August

We will keep you updated and let you know as soon as plans have progressed.

Stay safe

Greetham Events Team

COMING EVENTS

Parish Council

The next General Meeting will be convened on Wednesday July 14th 2021 at Greetham Community Centre commencing at 19.30hrs. Correspondence will be available before the meeting from 19.20 hrs.

The Gathering

New dates for the Gathering. With the regular date for the June Gathering being within the Government's dates for restrictions, we could not hold a Gathering in June. Now that the restrictions are in place until at least the 19th July, we still cannot hold a Gathering on its usual date of the third Thursday of July (July 15th). However we are going to move the July Gathering on a week to Thursday 22nd July as all restrictions should have been lifted by then. So, a Gathering is now in sight and will go ahead unless the Government decides to extend the restrictions beyond July 19th. We look forward to seeing you there and as always we are grateful for your support in attending and helping out on the night. More details will be available from our website (www.greethamgathering.co.uk) or on Facebook. Thanks Martin Fairbairn Greetham Gathering co-founder

REVIEWS



Greetham Open Gardens

A big thank you to all who opened their gardens, it could not have happened without you. And an especial thank you to all the contributors to the plant stall. Probably the best stall we have had in many years. The hostas especially were fantastic. And just a reminder that the next event will be in two years

time at the west end of the village, so start planning your garden now if you want to open.

Karen Mellor

Thank you to all you lovely bakers and / or helpers at Open Gardens today.

Despite the competition of England playing football and various other Open Gardens round and about not to mention the rather warm weather we made over £1500 for Greetham Church and definitely could not have done it without you!

Teas were rather slow and we served many fewer than two years ago. The hot day certainly contributed to that. Suffice to say that we got through a fraction of the milk that we used two years ago so we had enough milk and enough cakes but not quite enough people BUT those who came bought lots of plants and ate plenty of delicious cake and had a good afternoon visiting our gardens.

Thank you all very much indeed for your help and support.



GENERAL NEWS

Mobile Library

In place of its normal Mobile Library Service, Rutland County Council has introduced a new Home Library delivery and collection service. For mobile library customers in Rutland villages place your requests (holds) by phone on 01572 722918 or via our online catalogue, and we will arrange delivery to you. We will also pick up your loans. Please telephone us to renew any items.

Greetham Church Opening

Greetham Church is once again open daily for private prayer or visits. Hand sanitiser is provided.
Jackie and Helen, Churchwardens.

Social adult tennis doubles

Calling intermediate/ex club players
If you are interested in joining our regular Wednesday 5pm and Sunday 4pm knock abouts, please call
Stephen Calnan on 01572 813943 or
email stephen.calnan@btinternet.com
Come on down and enjoy some fun, fresh air and banter!



Christian Aid

A total of £233.74 was raised during Christian Aid Week. As much of this was Gift Aided this will add a further 25% to the total which should reach around £280.00 Many thanks to Nicole at the Village Shop without whose help and support this would not have been possible and also to Pat Evans who counted the donations with me and verified the amount collected. Thank you all very much for your generous support. Peter Hitchcox

PARISH COUNCIL

No meeting of the Parish Council was held in June.

Next Meeting

14th July at 7.30pm at Community Centre in Main Hall.

Speedwatch 9th-22nd August

Volunteers are still needed for speed watch, the more help we can have the more effective our campaign will be. Many thanks for those who have already kindly offered to help. There will be a short training session organised by the Speedwatch Officer from the County Council in due course.

Please contact me to be added to the list of volunteers.

Peter Hitchcox HCHitch@aol.com or greethampc@gmail.com

Notes on Walkthrough with Andrew Tatt, Highways and Elected member Lucy Stephenson-19th April

A walk through the village took place with three representatives of Greetham Parish Council (Ann Jenkins, Peter Hitchcox and Jane Denyer) and Andrew Tatt (Principal Highways Manager, Rutland County Council) and Cllr Lucy Stephenson.

Commencing at the pinch-point in Main Street we walked the entire length up to top end of Church Lane. On the way we introduced RCC to members of TRASP (Greethams Residents Traffic Group) who very clearly articulated the frustrations Greetham residents have with the volume, speed and noise of the traffic on Greetham's section of the B668..

We subsequently sent a list of all those issues and suggestions for improvement to both Andrew and Lucy. This communication and

response can be viewed on Parish Council Dropbox via Website link.

In short the following requests were made of RCC:

Items 1-10

- Implement an experimental order for temporary HGV limit for data analysis.

- Install average speed cameras to slow down excessive speeding.

- Find ways of ensuring that the one pavement in Main Street is safe for all pedestrians including push-chairs and mobility scooters.

- Re-instate white lines along south side of narrowest part of Main Street (between Kirks Close and Oak House).

- Re position "Give way to on-coming traffic" sign to be clearly seen by motorists approaching the chicane from the east.

- Fix the supercharged drain outside 17 Main Street.

- Move the 30 mph speed indicators to outside the village (at both east and west end) and make the entire village 20 mph with the indicators reduced to 20mph to reflect this.

- Re-instate the Greetham bypass plans of 1948.

- Consider installation of vibration monitoring equipment due to concerns with vibration damage to historic buildings along Main Street.

- Request Highways to seriously consider outsourcing the review of the current Warehouse Planning Application Highways and Transport Reports to external consultants. This is because of the complex nature of the data provided needs expert, independent analysis.

County Councillor Lucy Stephenson responded with the following:-

1. Does not believe it is possible to apply vehicle restriction as this is a B road and it would

- not be within guidelines to do so.

2. Fixed speed cameras cannot be installed for enforcement of 20 mph speed limit.

4. Will review the possibility of refreshing white lines along south side of Main Street.

8. Will discuss with Director of Places regarding availability of funding to undertake a basic

- feasibility study of the route for a possible relief road.

In her response she noted

"I completely appreciate and understand the frustrations and concerns the parish has about the volume and nature of traffic: prevalence of large vehicles (HGV/Farm machinery etc), unfortunately, due to the geography of the village with buildings built close to the carriage and footways, it is not a quick fix but please do not see this as a lack of political will – personally, I believe the desire for a relief road the ultimate but lengthy solution"

Andrew Tatt responded with the following:

4. It is anticipated that the white lines will be renewed and extended in the summer

5. Highways will review the option of either moving the "priority" sign onto the centre of the chicane 'island' or replacing with a cantilever sign post option.

Highways has since engaged external consultants to review the Warehouse Planning Application Highways and Transport reports.

Additional items raised by Greetham Parish Council:

Once the 20 mph traffic indicators and signage are moved out of the village, Church Lane "NO ACCESS TO CARAVAN PARK AND INDUSTRIAL SITE" signs could be installed.

Recent works during road closure

The pavement from the bus stop (east end) up to Great Lane has been re-tarmaced.

The chicane kerbing outside the shop/Oak House has been smoothed off to protect car tyres.

Subsequent update from Highways received 25th May, 2021

Item 7 – RCC have discussed the issue of moving the speed indicators out to the edge of the village (west end) and reducing the speed limit to 20 mph from this point. At Committee, it was rejected on the grounds that :-

"The speed limit should not be reduced along this section of carriageway as the street scene and road layout will result in an increase in non-compliant drivers. Additionally the proposed speed limit reduction has not been supported by the police"

In summary

Items addressed 1,2,4,5,7 & 8
Items not yet addressed 3 & 9
Items completed 6 & 10

Greetham Parish Council fully understand and share the frustration with residents as to the slow responses to some of the long awaited improvements we believe are necessary to improve current issues with the B668.

We can confirm that we remain committed to seeking improvements....however long it may take.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Rutland North Neighbourhood Police

Leicestershire Constabulary 101

Through the force website – www.leics.police.uk and following the link – Your Community.

Rutland County Council 01572 722577

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

URGENT Remember, in an emergency always call 999.

FOR YOUR DIARIES

Greetham Church Fête NEW DATE

Due to Covid regulations the fête has had to be postponed until SATURDAY AUGUST 21st.

Where? Greetham Community Centre

Time? 12 - 4pm

BBQ, teas, games, cakes, tombola, raffle.

Fun for all the family.

Helpers needed for games and stalls.

Contact Jackie, Helen or Pauline.

“SAVE THE DATE”

New date for Greetham Comedy night is now Saturday 25th September. All tickets bought last year are valid.

I am awaiting information on the comedy acts and will update nearer the time.

Many thanks for your patience.

Looking forward to finally getting the “show on the road”!

(you can always hope!)

Keep safe, Stephen Calnan



AUGUST NEWSLETTER

*Please send details of all forthcoming events to Clare Hitchcox
by Monday July 19th please*

*The Walnuts, 69 Main Street, Greetham. LE15 7NJ
email: greethamnews@aol.com
01572 812585*

This letter has been forwarded to Greetham News

I see from your web site that Greetham has a good community spirit. So could I please ask you to use this to help with a problem.

I was at Merrys Meadow today – I volunteer with the Wildlife Trust and along with many others have spent many hard working days to conserve and improve the site for wildlife. There have been successes, and one recent one is the nesting of a very scarce ground nesting bird and to protect this there is a clear sign on the entrance that dogs must be kept on a lead.

Today I met a couple who blatantly ignored this and I raised an objection to their selfish behaviour. I saw that they walked back along the road to Greetham from the parking place so are local.

If you'd care to walk down the track from the parking place towards the nature reserve you'll see how much care some dog walkers take to clear up their dog mess.

There has been other irresponsible behaviour – a gate which was locked to keep cattle in was taken off its hinges by someone who thought it their right to do so thereby allowing cattle to graze where they shouldn't.

Greetham is fortunate to have such a valuable site close by, and the privilege to be able to relax and exercise there – there is no automatic right of access to Wildlife Trust sites but the Trusts wants people to use them responsibly.

So will you please raise this locally and campaign to support this important nature reserve and help get people to realise that they have a responsibility when visiting the site.

*Thank you
Keith Larkin
Volunteer*

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR THE NEWSLETTER?

The newsletter is collated, printed and distributed to every house in Greetham. Obviously costs are involved and we invite businesses and individuals to sponsor the newsletter with a donation of £25. Sponsorship is duly recognised in the newsletter. If you are interested please contact the editor at greethamnews@aol.com or **01572 812585**

*Thanks to Nicole-Marie Brown for sponsoring
this newsletter*

It's a triple celebration for us in July.

Our son Darius Brown is getting married.

Wanda Brown is celebrating her 87th birthday.

We have owned the shop for 12 years.



**Stamford Arts Centre Theatre re-opens on July
19th with Shoestring's new production of the
sparkling 19th Century comedy *London
Assurance***

The first ever performance of Dion Boucicault's *London Assurance* was on 4 March 1841 at the Theatre Royal Covent Garden where it ran for three months. More recently, revised by Richard Bean, who wrote *One Man, Two Guvnors*, it was an outstanding success at the National Theatre in 2010.

Now, to cheer everybody up, and to welcome audiences back to live theatre, Shoestring will be presenting six performances of this uproarious comedy at 7.45pm **from Monday-Saturday, July 19th-24th**. For tickets contact the Arts Centre Box Office, 01780 755611, or www.stamfordartscentre.com.



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The Plough, Greetham
Tel 01572 813613
www.theploughgreetham.co.uk

VILLAGE SHOP

Do you or someone you know fancy a change or new career?

Do you want to give something back to the community ?

Do you want to see the village keep its shop & post office?

Then why not buy it??

Please contact:

Nicole-Marie Brown 07881884866 or email

Greethamvillageshop@btconnect.com

The Greetham Advertiser

Promoting local businesses, tradesmen, handymen and others.
To advertise your services here please contact Pauline Kelly
07977575056

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Exton and Greetham CE Primary School

Serving the communities of Greetham and Exton

What is our school like – year 6 views

In just a few weeks we will bid farewell to our year 6 as they move on to their secondary education. Last week a visitor to the school asked some of the year 6 what is good about our school. Here are some of their responses:

To be honest, it's been the best seven years of my life!

Everybody has different needs, but the teachers treat us all the same. They provide what each person needs to help them learn (like fidget toys, tension bands on chairs) but we all get to use it, so the person is not made to feel embarrassed or different. If you're advanced then you get more advanced work, and if you need help, you get extra help. I'm doing much better in this school: teachers spend more time with individuals.

There's a big welcome for a new person and a big send off for leavers...it's like one big family.

I think the atmosphere is good and is great for the younger children because it encourages people to be themselves and treat everyone equally, even if they are from a different country or a different race. Also this school makes me feel like I'm part of everything and I feel that I am encouraged to do my best, not just told to do it.

And what could we improve? Their only wish is for things to return to normal after COVID!

If you would like to find out more about the school, the website is a good place to start – www.extonschool.co.uk. We have a 'virtual tour' available on the website under 'about us'. We are also happy to chat to prospective parents on the phone on 01572 812380.