

# GREETHAM COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## JANUARY 2018

[www.greethamrutland.com](http://www.greethamrutland.com)



*Season's Greetings  
to you all*



# *CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR greetings from*

*Peter and Clare Hitchcox and family*

*James and Nicole Brown (Village Shop)*

*Anne Basden*

*Brian and Pat Kenworthy*

*Chris Cassady, Charlotte and Tom*

*Chris and Simon Rigby*

*Marigold Lamin*

*Pat Evans and family*

*Alison Kirby*

*Diane and John Creasey*

*Anne Humble*

*Helen and Don McGarrigle*

*Sally and Grahame Cluley*

*Jayne and Dave Isaac*

*Ken, Dick and Alison Brett*

*Paul, Ruth, Lucy, Chris and Catherine Hinch*

*Linda and John Hall*

*Robert and Helen MacLeod Smith*

*Jessie Evison*

*Trevor and Maureen Hubbert*

*Carol, and Martin Fairbairn*

*Richard Cumming and family*

*Lorraine, and Steve Pearce*

*Chris Parkin and family*

*Jenny Smith*

*S-J and Darren Dryland*

*Peter and Julia Walker*

*Amanda and Mark Blanky*

*Wanda Brown*

*Neil and Glynis Sellars*

*Merv and Sue Bamber*

*Peggie Butcher*

*Amanda and Mark Blanky*

*A donation has been made to charity in lieu of sending  
cards around the village. - including around £86 donated  
at the Christmas lunch*



# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



SATURDAY, 23rd DECEMBER 2017

4.00 TO 6.00 P.M.

*All Children Welcome*

FREE ADMISSION

DISCO  
LOTS OF GAMES AND FUN  
PLAY TOYS FOR THE LITTLE ONES

PLEASE BRING A LITTLE GIFT FOR YOUR  
CHILD/CHILDREN FOR SANTA'S SACK  
(about £3.00)

TO RESERVE A  
PLACE FOR YOUR CHILD, PLEASE RING  
MAUREEN ON 813061



BAR WILL BE OPEN- COME ALONG  
AND  
JOIN IN THE FUN



## COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

As the New Year is upon us, the committee looks to plan ahead and work hard to improve the great facilities available to the community. Exciting plans such as supporting the play ground group, the refurbishment of the bar, provision of sports equipment, supporting local event, up grade and improve the heating facilities and to be at the heart of Greetham's great community.

If you would like to share your ideas , pass on your comments or join us in our venture. Please contact us or forward your thoughts to [paulinekelly@mac.com](mailto:paulinekelly@mac.com) , 07977575056.

This is a great opportunity to thank all the volunteers who, how ever large or small, help to ensure our success into 2018.

A happy and prosperous New Year to all.

Exiting events for 2018 include :

## **Barn Dance which is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> February**

Youth gathering Wednesdays (Term Time) watching out for more information

Summer 1940's dance (Summer Ball). [23<sup>rd</sup> June](#)

Comedy Night

Thursdays Meet'em in Greetham

Bingo

Summer Family Games events

Greetham Gathering .... And much more

### **Planning an Event?**

#### **Contact us**

[www.greethamrutland.com/community-centre](http://www.greethamrutland.com/community-centre)

Find us on facebook

[01572 812389](tel:01572812389) or mobile [07500 079780](tel:07500079780)

Alternatively email us at [bookgreetham@gmx.com](mailto:bookgreetham@gmx.com)

## ***COMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER***

- Fri 22nd 5.00pm Travelling Nativity around village  
7.30 pm Carols at The Plough
- Sat 23rd Community Centre Children's Party
- Sun 24th 23.30 Midnight Mass

## ***COMING EVENTS IN JANUARY***

- Mon 1st New Year's Day walk
- Wed 3rd Oak House Lunch
- Thu 4th Mobile Library
- Sun 7th Greetham Church said Communion 8am  
Greetham Church 9.30am Morning Worship
- Mon 8th WI
- Sun 14th Greetham Church 9.30am Morning Worship with break  
fast
- Mon 15th Parish Council meeting 7.30pm
- Thu 18th Mobile library
- Sat 20th Last day for newsletter items for February newsletter**
- Sun 21st Greetham Church Morning Praise 9.30am  
WI Soups and Sweets  
Village Quiz Wheatsheaf 8pm
- Sat 27th Greetham Play Area plans

## New Year's Day walk

The Annual New Year's Day Walk from the Wheatsheaf to the Plough will depart from the Wheatsheaf at 11.00am on the 1st January 2018 after the now customary mulled wine and/or coffee. The party will proceed to the Plough via Fort Henry in a well disciplined manner (note, this is not a race). On arrival at the Plough a well deserved Bacon Buttie will be available to all walkers to re-vitalise failing energy levels for the year that lies ahead.

Our thanks to Carol and Scott at the Wheatsheaf and Karen and Mark at the Plough for all their efforts in making this event the success its been in the past. Everyone welcome, including dogs on a lead.

## Oak House lunch

Our Oak House Over 60s Lunch Club will be on Wednesday 3rd January - 1.15pm arrival. Two courses for £7.50. *'few spaces available, please book in advance, fabulous 2-course meal for £7.50 per person'. 'Must ring to reserve on 01572 812647'.*



## Rutland Mobile Library in Greetham

Thursday January 4th and 18th. Times are approximate

Oakham Road Lock's Close 14.00 - 14:20

Church Lane Near No 20 14:20 - 14:40

Church Lane Opp. The Plough 14:40 - 15.00

For information please contact  
Oakham Library 01572 72291



## Soups & Sweets

An amazing and delicious selection of homemade soups & desserts from the ladies of Greetham WI.

try something new or enjoy your favourites

All you can eat



**21st January 2018**

**12.30 for 1.00pm**

**Greetham**

**Community Centre**

Tickets

Adults £8.00

Children £5.00

Family ticket £24.00

(2 adults + 2 children)



For tickets please contact Chris Parkin 01572 813162

Carol Fairbairn 01572 813717



**WE NEED  
You!**



Come and see the plans and find out how you can help on  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2pm- 4pm.  
Join us for tea, coffee and cake.  
Greetham Community Centre  
MUMS, DADS, GRANDPARENTS, CARERS  
WE NEED YOU!

## **WI**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. The speaker will be a representative from LOROS, the Hospice for Leicestershire and Rutland.

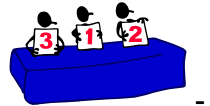
## **Parish Council**

The next General Meeting will be convened on Monday January 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Greetham Community Centre commencing at 19.30hrs. Correspondence will be available before the meeting from 19.20 hrs.

## **Greetham Monthly Sunday Quiz**

At 'The Wheatsheaf' on Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup> 8pm.

Teams of four or thereabouts. £1 per person entry (to include a light snack) with the money going to good causes also a lucrative cash snowball.



## **REVIEWS**

### **Greetham Women's Institute December 2017**

This year our Christmas Meeting was a home fixture-----on arriving at the Community Centre we discovered it had been transformed into a Bar/ Restaurant. Everyone partook of bubbles and nibbles before a delicious dinner was served courtesy of our local chef Andy Saunders. This being the WI, there had to be games, singing and a raffle. The games, organised by Sue Young, were played during the meal (this was the intellectual bit---we were required to eat and think at the same time) and after coffee (this one was pass the parcel with a difference----having possession of a parcel meant you would almost certainly go home without one)! The lucky raffle winners (including your correspondent) were able to choose from a selection of prizes, so did not go home empty handed! Diana de Wet brought along her keyboard to accompany the singing of carols and Christmas songs. Our president for 2018, Helen McGarrigle, gave a tantalising peek into some of the forthcoming events. After helping to restore the status quo in the warm community centre, everyone was reluctant to face the appalling cold outside, but we were all eventually persuaded to go home. Our next meeting will be held on Monday January 8<sup>th</sup>, when the speaker will be a representative from LOROS, the Hospice for Leicestershire and Rutland.

**HOPE AGAINST CANCER CHRISTMAS LUNCH** - This years lunch raised £605.00 well done. Thanks to all that came, raffle prizes given, cash donations and the team of helpers. Sally Cluley

### **Greetham Engineering Society**

On Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Paul Bland gave a talk about the Home Guard and their part in defending Greetham during World War 2. It was very enlightening to see where our defences were eg Wheatsheaf garden and how (hopefully) we would have surprised the enemy with some surprisingly sophisticated wea-

ponry.

The society plus many friends and families enjoyed the talk immensely and also the exhibition of army memorabilia and weapons that was staged by David Bland.

Several members went on a trip to Peterborough Energy Recovery on Dec 1st. This proved to be a fascinating tour of a huge plant which was surprisingly spotlessly clean.

We had a question and answer session with a member of staff, mostly about what happens to all the 'stuff' in our bins. All the non-recyclables in black bins and black bags go to this centre and is burnt at 850 degrees C to provide power. Even the left over ash goes to make building materials. Altogether a very interesting trip. Sue Bromwell

## **GENERAL**

### ***Rutland North Neighbourhood Police***

**Leicestershire Constabulary** 101

Through the force website – [www.leics.police.uk](http://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.**

### ***100 club 2018***

Subscriptions for the 100 club are due in January and collectors will be coming round. The sub remains £12 per year with the chance of winning one of four cash prizes each month. New members are very welcome. Please phone me for more information on 812852. The profit goes to St Mary's Church and this year we raised over £1200. Can we top this in 2018? Let's try!

Helen Macleod-Smith

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

**Greetham Parish Council Minutes Monday 4th December 2017**

**Greetham Community Centre @7.30 pm**

**Members present:** Mr K. Edward (Chair); Mrs J. Denyer (Vice- Chair) Mr P. Hitchcox; Mr D Hodson;

Dr R. Oakes; Mrs A. Jenkins; Mrs S. Begy.

Also in attendance: Nick Begy (ward member), Anne Basden (Clerk)

And 4 members of the public.

Public Comments:

Tree preservation order (Northbrook)

38, Main Street

Potholes in Church Lane

Church Lane traffic survey



**1 Apologies for absence** Mrs R. Marshall

**2 Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda** None given

**3 Approval of minutes from November 6<sup>th</sup> 2017**

Proposed: PH Seconded: SB Carried unanimously. Thanks to SB for taking minutes on the night

**4 Matters arising**

**Ongoing**

Grass/ verge cutting 2018. Figures from RCC - £1290.00 for verges and £543.00 for Churchyard. Revised figures now provided (£1441.67 and £914.94). Action: Raise with local forum (DH) Clerk to ascertain inflation rates from RCC. Clerk to obtain quotes from 3 companies.

RCC Waste disposal service. A request to place an additional bin (emptied by RCC) at the end of Great Lane has been approved. Action: Request bin is fitted by Instant Eden.

Litter bin. This is the responsibility of GPC. Like for like replacement quoted as £300/ £500 (including fitting). Propose replace with £300 version. Proposed: KE Seconded: AJ Carried Unanimously.

Letter received from Community Centre requesting grant for heating replacement from RCC. Ward member to pass on to RCC.

Mirror at end of Pond Lane – response from RCC states that Highways do not support the placement of mirrors as there is no evidence to support them An application to place one on private land would require planning permission.

Blocked drains reported on Thistleton Lane have been reported to RCC

**5 Finance**

**For information:**

Grant agreement update. Terms and conditions include: GPC will not apply for duplicate funds from RCC, financial report quarterly to include funding from other bodies, risk assessment included, insurance liability covered, and maintenance programme. JD to ensure all requirements are met.

Quarterly audit completed and reconciled.

**For approval:**

Electricity Eon £1200 Proposed KE Seconded JD

Grant Thornton - £120 for the next meeting.

New bin - £300 Proposed: DH Seconded AJ. Carried unanimously

Instant Eden - Bench plinths - £150 Proposed: PH Seconded: SB

Instant Eden. Removal of ivy £80 Proposed: PH Seconded: SB Carried unanimously

Lawn mower. Insurance £186.96. Propose explain to CC that the situation has changed as the lawn mower is now stored at an address which entails it being driven on the road to the CC. GPC will pay this bill this year for review in 2018.y Proposed: JD seconded: KE Carried unanimously

Instant Eden Poppies (Up and down) - £56 proposed: PH Seconded: SB Carried unanimously.

Poppy statement – following all donations there is a £108 residue (over the price initially paid) Proposal to donate this to the British Legion. Proposed: PH seconded: SB Carried unanimously.

RCC payroll inform GPC that the administration fee will rise to £80 in April 2018. Action : Consult with CC who operate a pay system for their employee

Pension requirements : DH

For information:

Removal of moss from burial ground.

**6 Planning – all planning applications can be accessed on the RCC website**

6.1 Update from Planning Enforcement Officer regarding:

Old Post Office, Main Street. An Enforcement Notice has been served requiring the removal of the fence on the South and West boundaries. A meeting is arranged with the owner and RCC to discuss outstanding issues. RCC are responsible for all actions and decisions



and are finalising all dealings with this situation.

6.2 Update on mortar at Old Garden Centre Site. A lighter mortar has been agreed.

**PROPOSAL: Rear extension to form new utility area and new summer room.**

3, Main Street, Greetham, OAKHAM, Rutland, LE15 7NJ

Approved.

**Crown reduction of 1 No. Ash tree by 5 metres.**

Pennybrook, 54, Main Street, Greetham, OAKHAM, Rutland, LE15 7NL

Ash tree, crown removal by 5 metres. Approved.

**PROPOSAL: Proposed Anaerobic Digester (AD) tank & plant.**

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

Greetham Lodge Farm, Stretton Road, Greetham, OAKHAM, Rutland, LE15 7QY

This is a different model to the one previously identified. GPC will submit the same comment as before.

(GPC would like to ask for clarification regarding the size of the plant. Can it be confirmed that this is for the amount produced solely by Greetham Lodge Farm or is additional slurry expected to be imported from other premises. GPC also request that the environmental service manager confirm that there is no risk of fly infestation arising from this instillation)

Proposal by RCC to include widening of pavement at corner of Pond Lane in the 2018 schedule of works. Propose GPC support this. Proposed: KE Seconded PH Carried unanimously.

**7 Focus groups.**

2017/1038/RES Lovells Old garden Centre Site. Revised Landscaping Scheme.

GPC would like to point out the application gives no indication of the species of the proposed trees (just 'native planting'); the hedge is not identified as single or double planting; domestic shrubs should not be used; proposed planting along B668 needs to be more substantial; suggest consult forestry officer. Give these comments on the RCC planning page (Clerk) Consult forestry officer ((PH)

**Traffic Focus Group** – proposed format of consultation letter to residents of Church Lane. Propose revise and email to all Councillors for approval. (via clerk) PH Proposed: Seconded: DH Carried unanimously.

Letter to Police. PH Proposed: JD Seconded: AJ Carried unanimously

Footpath between Stretton and Greetham. Clarification given by Ward Member:

GPC is not committed to make any financial contribution; no cost has been agreed; it is driven by Stretton. The aim is to maintain this initiative on the Integrated Transport Scheme.

The footpath/ cycle path from Cottesmore to Greetham is only signalled by a cycle embossed in the pavement. GPC question if this is RCC policy. Ward Member to ascertain.

Trees. The Forestry Officer proposes the planting of 8 trees on B668 (on the other side of the road to where RCC have funded the planting of 5) at a cost of £1000.

Feedback from members of the public regarding suitable places for tree planting would be appreciated in determining the way forward.

**8 Local Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan**

A meeting held with RCC Planning has maintained the profile of issues.

A response has now been given to all issues raised at the RCC Roadshow. These are to be placed on the Greetham web page.

FOI, RCC state that there are no minutes of meetings which determined the selection of proposed sites. GPC will request a response to previously submitted FOI requests. RCC will be informed that GPC will take this matter to an Independent Adjudicator.

**9 Playground Project**

Overview.

Future fund raising activities are in place. Also applications have been submitted to WREN, BIFFA and the Lottery (maximum amount £10000 which will be ring-fenced for under 5's). An open day is planned for January, to be held at the Community Centre.

### **10 Projects to consider in 2018 budget**

Renovation of Jacobs Well. DH to communicate with local historian and also consider this site for the first tourist board.

Tourist Signage. A phased programme is suggested.

Benches; proposed to place benches on CC field. Request to local resident to supply (at cost). Impact on grass cutting to be considered.

Bat boxes, bird boxes, beetle banks. £200

### **11 Floods, sewers and surface water / Conservation and environmental issues**

Communication from RCC.

Mineral and waste local plan report. AJ closely analysed and compiled a response. GPC ask AJ to send this to the Clerk for submission.

### **12 Community Centre Update**

Letter to RCC regarding finance for heating.

NYE, the centre will be open for all villagers

Children's Christmas party December 23rd.

GPC offer thanks for all the hard work done by volunteers.

### **13 Risk assessment for volunteers** For January

### **14 Correspondence and Communication**

Church Lane verges. Communication from resident.

Lovells parking, communication from resident. Ward member has informed Rutland Police who are monitoring the situation.

Bio mass boiler, complaints received over the past few weeks regarding smoke emission will be passed on the Environmental Agency.

Communication from resident regarding rats in the vicinity of the Community Centre to Shepherds Lane footpath.

Communication from resident regarding HGV lorries accessing Truperch through Shepherd's Lane. **15 Reports from outside bodies**

### **16 Items for a future agenda** Lighting appraisal through the village

Date of next meeting – @ 6.45 on 11/12/17

## ***Local Plan Review***

Greetham Parish Council held a meeting with Rutland County Council during November to ensure that RCC is fully aware of the concerns that villagers have raised regarding the new housing sites proposed for Greetham. RCC presented a number of written response to the issues raised. These documents can be found on the village website. See Village and Community Life - Greetham Parish Council - Local Plan Review tabs. Judge for yourself whether or not these answers are satisfactory. Greetham Parish Council.

## ***Tree Warden News***

The last twelve months has been a mixed year for trees in Greetham. The good news is the avenue of trees in Great Lane and the positive comments made about it and the care and sponsorship of the trees which I

hope will ensure that they continue to thrive, give pleasure and help our environment.

Rutland County Council has recently planted four evergreen trees along the B668 near Greetham Inn Lane. These evergreens will help to take impurities out of the atmosphere and will help to increase the stock of evergreens in Rutland. Our thanks are to our Rutland Forestry Officer for this.

Although Tree Preservation Orders have been placed on the remaining old apple trees at the Ram Jam it is disappointing that in spite pressure from our Parish Council and Tree Warden to the County Council to preserve this old orchard it was not possible to save the site.

Peter Hitchcox

Tree Warden

## FOR YOUR DIARIES

### ***Greetham Vikings Petanque Club***

Our delicious French Lunch is scheduled to take place at The Community Centre on Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon. Please make a note in your diary and more details will follow in the February Newsletter. Tickets will be available from our secretary Pat Evans. This is our annual fund raising effort to which everyone is welcome. New members to our club are always very welcome too.

One of our teams, The Viking Traders' enjoyed a good season last year, quietly not losing many matches but winning some with some draws. Much to our surprise we find ourselves in the Premier League this coming season. We may have to take ourselves a little more seriously and even practice. It will be good experience - we hope.

Peter Hitchcox    President

### ***Greetham Comedy night Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March***

Doors open at 7pm, full bar and food on sale  
4 professional comedians booked

Tickets available from Greetham Village Shop,  
The Plough & The Wheatsheaf from 2<sup>nd</sup> January.

£12 per person, early bird price of £10 for purchases by 28<sup>th</sup> February, otherwise it is £15 on the door if there are any left!

For more information call Stephen Calnan on 01572 813943



Grab your partners  
for a



Ceilidh



GREETHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

LIVE MUSIC AND  
CALLING FROM



**SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**  
**DOORS OPEN 7PM DANCING**  
**FROM 7.30PM**  
**ADULTS £10**  
**CHILDREN (UNDER 11) £5**  
**TICKET INCLUDES A HOT DOG**

All tickets must be  
bought in advance from  
Maureen on 813061

Proceeds going to  
Community Centre



WE DISCOVER, WE GROW

Girlguiding

# 1ST COTTESMORE RAINBOWS

Rainbows learn by doing—they get their hands dirty with arts and crafts, cooking and playing games.

Rainbows are girls ages 5-7 years old and can take part in lots of different activities with girls their own age.

**LOOK** and explore the world around us

**LEARN** new things and skills

**LAUGH** with everyone

**LOVE** having fun together!



For further information, details on our sessions or to register your interest contact us Sam on the details below.

Meeting Alternate Saturdays 3-5pm in  
Cottesmore Village Hall

Unit Leader:  
Samantha Shorten

Mobile:  
07540 664847

Email:

[samanthashorten@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:samanthashorten@hotmail.co.uk)



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Please send details of all forthcoming events to Clare Hitchcox

**by January 20th please**

The Walnuts, 69 Main Street,  
Greetham. LE15 7NJ

email: greethamnews@aol.com

## The Greetham Advertiser

Promoting local businesses, tradesmen, handymen and others.

To advertise your services here please contact Jackie Gauntley 01572 868291

## Greetham Good Neighbour Scheme



For HELP just call  
07763 750499  
or e-mail

Greethamgns@hotmail.com

## 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.co



**MONDAY**  
**5.30pm and 7.30pm**

**Greetham**

Greetham Community Centre,  
Great Lane, Greetham,  
Nr Oakham LE15 7NG  
Tel: Sally  
07437 010235

slimmingworld.co.uk  
0344 897 8000   



**Energy Advisers**

46 - 48 Main Street  
Greetham  
LE15 7NL

Tel 01572 811343  
Mob 07802 401798

For all your electricity & gas issues  
Billing, Contracts & Connections

## Sheerwood Skip Services Recycling & Transfer Station

Wood Lane ~ Greetham ~ Rutland LE15 7SN  
email: sheerwoodskipservices@hotmail.co.uk

**Suppliers of - Skips**  
Sand • Gravel • Granite  
Ballast • Top soil



Tel: 07850 144 367 • 01780 460065  
answer machine service



# Greetham Garage

Beginning our **41st** year serving  
the local community



**New online MOT  
& service booking**

Visit us at...  
[greethamgarage.co.uk](http://greethamgarage.co.uk)

01780 411456  
Great North Road  
Greetham, Rutland  
LE15 7QX

## THE PLOUGH

GREETHAM in RUTLAND



### Christmas Menu

2 courses £15.50 | 3 courses £18.50

Served 1<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> December (*bookings only*)

*Real Ales | Dog Friendly*

**Christmas Jumper Party** - 15<sup>th</sup>

**Carols in the car park** - 22<sup>nd</sup>

23 Main Street, Greetham Oakham  
Rutland LE15 7NJ 01572 813613  
[www.the-plough-greetham.co.uk](http://www.the-plough-greetham.co.uk)



*New for 2018*  
at Greetham Valley  
*From 8<sup>th</sup> January*

# £13.50

## 2 course lunch menu

(main and dessert)

**Available Monday – Friday 12-2pm**

*Menu changes regularly, booking advised*



Wood Lane, Greetham, Oakham, Rutland,  
LE15 7SN

01780 460444

[www.greethamvalley.co.uk](http://www.greethamvalley.co.uk)







**Exton and Greetham CE Primary School**

*Serving the communities of Greetham and Exton*

## **"A book is a gift you can open again and again." – Garrison Keillor**

There are lots of exciting things that happen in school at this time of year. From tinsel to tea towels; from nativities to pantomimes; it really is a magical time of year.

However, developing the school learning environment does not stop for Christmas, and as well as all the things that happen in school to celebrate Christmas, we are also going to be developing a new school library over the next few weeks, ready for a grand opening in January. Our staff room has been relocated, and the old staff room is to be turned into a lovely library space where the children will be able to relax and curl up with a book, as well as use it for research.

In the classrooms we are developing 'Book Talk' to encourage the children to really delve into the books they are reading and to discuss good quality fiction.

Books really are the gateway to a lot of understanding, and the more we can encourage children to read, the more they open up their minds to new ideas and expand their horizons.

*May I take this opportunity, on behalf of the children, staff, governors and parents at Exton & Greetham CE Primary School, to wish the local community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

**Explore & Grow**

**School website:**

**[www.extonschool.co.uk](http://www.extonschool.co.uk)**

**Phone: 01572 812380 to  
arrange a visit.**