

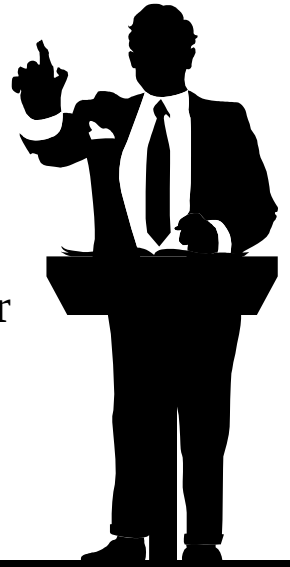
GGLC+ News



The latest news and views

Autumn/Winter 2025

FROM THE VICE-CHAIR



Well, I am still acting chair since Michael retired from this position after about 30 years of service. It would be ideal to find someone younger to fill the position of Chair and the person has to be a member for a year. In the meantime, I hope we are progressing well as a group.

If you have any ideas for future events, please let any committee member know.

Gloucestershire Pride was excellent and thanks go the Pride Committee and everyone else who contributed to Pride. We should also acknowledge those from Pride, the LGBT+ Partnership and others who, throughout the year, help with Pride on Tour and the visible street presence throughout the county.

Pride is still a protest as there is still unfinished business such as outlawing conversion therapy. However, we are so much better off in this country than those in some other countries where persecution and oppression reign supreme.

I am pleased that a new LGBT+ premises will soon be open on a daily basis in Kings Square in the heart of Gloucester. Thanks go to Richard who has worked hard to get this together.

With best wishes

Howard H

Raffle

The raffle at our face to face meetings is a good way to off-set the room costs, so please remember to bring something interesting to add to the draw!

Graham, Editor

Reminder!

If your contact details change, address, email, name etc, please let the Membership Secretary know. Several people have said they have not received Newsletters, membership reminders or other important notifications, only to realise they had changed their address or email contact without telling us.

Although your Committee are good, this is a little beyond their capabilities...

Graham, Editor and Sarcastic Bloke

Visit and talk by Hazel Atherton—6th November

At our meeting on 6th of November this year we will be having a talk entitled My Experiences as an Extra in Film and TV by the actor Hazel Atherton.

She will be bringing various photographs and items to show us along with her talk, giving us a first hand insight into the goings on in front and behind the cameras.

Among the notable films she has been in was The Hatchling (2014), about a killer crocodile in rural England and Muzzle (2018) about a girl protecting a neglected dog.

Hazel is from Somerset.

Graham, Editor

Rainbow Cuppa

Under the auspices of the LGBT+ Partnership, there are regular meet ups. Check out their website, <https://www.lgbtchelt.co.uk>

On the 4th Saturday of the month in Cheltenham at The Wilson Kitchen Arts Café, between 1pm and 3pm.

There is a Rainbow Cuppa event on the 2nd Saturday of every month at St Mary de Crypt in Southgate Street from 1pm to 3pm.

There is also one at Wooton Under Edge, probably at The Keepers.

Graham, Editor

Card Payments

Following on from the increasing demand to be able to accept card payments, we now have a **SumUp** card reader. We now accept the following cards including Apple Pay and Google Pay.

1. The minimum payment that can be made is £1.00. Sometimes your bank will only process payment by inserting your card into the reader and entering your PIN. Please ensure that you know your PIN.
2. Your card and bank details are never revealed to GGLC and never will be. This is a Banking Industry requirement. Please make sure that we know what you are paying for, such as Tea/Coffee, Raffle, Bus Stop, Membership, Donation, Annual Dinner etc.
3. Receipts are not yet able to be issued directly at this time. We will still acknowledge any payment made but this will be by email so we will need your email address to do this.
4. Any payments made will be shown on your bank statement as “G G L Community”.

BACS Transfer

You can transfer money into the GGLC Bank Account directly from your own bank account. If you do this, please tell us what the payment is for, using the “reference” area on your payment screen, particularly for new members or membership renewals! The Account Name is **G G L**

Community

Account Sort Code: **30-93-48**

Account Number: **00902186**

Reference: “**IanHRenew**” or “**IanHDinner**” or “**IanHNew**” or whatever, helps us to identify your payment on our bank statement.

Please use your name! These references are only examples that you can use. The maximum number of characters that a bank will accept is **18** and no spaces.

We continue to accept **Cash** or **Cheque** if you prefer but we would appreciate BACS payments or Card Payments wherever possible.

Ian H, GGLC Treasurer.

2025 Pride Dates

Pride in Tewkesbury: Saturday 4th October, 12 noon to 5pm. The George Watson Memorial Hall, 65 Barton Street, Tewkesbury GL20 5PX

This is the last full Pride in our calendar, and is indoors, meaning whatever the weather you will stay dry. It's a smaller event, but well worth attending and does need our support.

There are other related events in the year, though we have had them all now. As soon as we know the dates for next year we will start printing them.

Outreach Events

These events are usually run by the LGBT+ Partnership and the NHS, on their bus! We have representation on the stall, and volunteers are always welcome to man it for a while. It's great fun, and sometimes you can make a real positive difference to people's lives.

Pride on Tour: These events are usually about a month before the full Pride, and are centred around the NHS Display bus

Payments—A success but a question...

As you have all become aware, the Group has been testing out how viable it is to use card payments for meetings, membership and events.

Well, it has been very successful, a convenience for members and a good way of accepting payments from the general public at Pride for the Bottle Stall.

However (there is always a however!), there is a small cost to the Group for each transaction, so, it's been proposed that if you are paying by card, you may be asked to add 10p to the amount to offset this.

The Editor and bringer of ill tidings

G.G.L.C.+ Annual Dinner 2025

**will be held at
Hatherley Manor Hotel Gloucester GL2 9QA
Saturday October 25th 2025
7.00 for 7.30 p.m.**

**£25.00 (Members) & £40.00 (non Members)
Please use the booking form to reserve your place(s)
and return with payment and your choice of one item for
each course from the menu attached to:**

**Secretary GGLC+ c/o 50 Knowles Road, Gloucester GL1 4TP
Please use info@gglc.co.uk if returning by email not
membership@gglc.co.uk**

NO LATER THAN MONDAY OCTOBER 13th 2025

**Please reserve.....places at £25.00 (Member) andat
£40.00 (non-member)**

**I enclose cheque for made payable to GGLC or will pay by BACS
30-93-48 00902186**

**Name.....Address.....
.....
.....**

**Email or telephone number to acknowledge receipt of your booking
and menu choice
..... (to save money, tickets will not be issued)**

****Please let us know of any special dietary requirements****

**(Please note: Discount price is only available to Members of GGLC+
at time of booking)**

Menu choice for GGLC+ Annual Dinner 2025

To be held at:

Hatherley Manor Hotel, Down Hatherley Lane, Gloucester GL2 9QA

Saturday October 25th - 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Please choose one option from each course and return with payment and booking form to: Secretary GGLC+, 50 Knowles Road Gloucester GL14TP or (info@gglc.co.uk)

First Course:

Classic Tomato Soup or Fruit Juice ☐

Ham Hock Terrine, Red Onion Marmalade and Toasted Brioche ☐

Smoked Mackerel, Green Bean and Fennel Salad ☐

Main Course:

Mushroom and Herb stuffed Chicken wrapped in Pancetta, Fondant Potato, Wilted Greens, Tarragon Sauce ☐

Roulade of Belly Pork and Black Pudding with Tewkesbury Mustard Mash, Bean Bundle, Stock Sauce ☐

Pan Roasted Salmon, New Potatoes, Evesham Asparagus with Dill Cream ☐

Butternut Squash, Red Onion & Cranberry Tagine, Cous Cous (V- Ve - GF) ☐

Dessert

Berry and Lemon Cheesecake, Citrus Curd ☐

Strawberry and Raspberry Meringue, Chantilly Cream ☐

Warm Chocolate Brownie, Salted Caramel Ice cream (DF-GF-VE) ☐

Shared Cheese Platter

Coffee and Chocolate Mints

Guests are responsible for their own drinks, including the Loyal Toast
(Water will be available)

ARCHIVE

I am gathering old GGLC+ material for safe keeping in the Gloucestershire Archives, kept by Gloucestershire County Council. They already have a stock of GGLC+ material, and very keen to obtain more. If you have any LGBT material that should be saved for future generations, then please let me know. I can catalogue and parcel up with my contributions.

Please contact Michael

M

WhatsApp Group

The WhatsApp group has now been started under Navi's auspices, following long discussions by the Committee and having presented a Code of Conduct to the membership,

If you want to be a part of this, you need to be a member of the GGLC+ and you will need to sign to agree to abide by the rules before you can join. It does need you to accept that your phone number will be seen by other members of the WhatsApp group (this is not information we keep as the GGLC+).

It is a group where people can discuss issues, receive notification of events and meetings, and generally a way of keeping in touch.

If you want a copy of the Code of Conduct, please contact the GGLC+ and one can be sent. Once you have it, please read very carefully and be aware what you are signing up to before signing and returning the form.

It is something that will hopefully be useful to some of our membership.

Graham, Editor

National AIDS Helplines

“You can ask what you want to ask”
0800567123

GGLC+ Bowling Night – Strikes, Laughs, and Half-Price Surprises!

On Tuesday the 29th of July evening, seven of us from GGLC+ gathered at Tenpin in Barnwood for a night of bowling, banter, and plenty of laughs. From the very first roll, the atmosphere was full of energy and good cheer from our members, whether the balls landed in the gutter or scored a strike, every moment had us giggling.

We played two full games, cheering each other on and sharing tips along the way. Phil took home the well-deserved title of champion bowler of the night using his experienced techniques, while some of us (myself included!) were more comfortable at the other end of the scoreboard 😊 . But that didn't matter one bit the joy of the evening was in the company, the encouragement, and the shared laughter.

Of course, no GGLC+ outing would be complete without a couple of drinks. When I bought my first pint, I was convinced I'd been undercharged and even double checked with the group. The mystery was solved when we spotted the screens: "Tuesday bowling as well as drinks are half price". Cue even more laughter and a round of cheers.

All in all, it was a brilliant evening. Fun, relaxed, and a great reminder of how lovely it is to come together and enjoy time as a community. If you've never joined us for one of these socials before, we'd love to see you at the next one. Who knows you might even discover your hidden bowling talent (or at least enjoy a bargain pint while trying like me).

Navi K.

The Diversity Trust - Voice and Influence project

London based group looking to develop and strengthen LGBTQ+ networks and organisations, particularly local ones. This probably covers both us, GGLC+ and the LGBT+ Partnership

David Evans died on 12 June aged 91

David was born in Kent.

After reading Physics at Exeter University he became a science teacher and taught in Dursley Modern School and other local schools.

David shared a passion for justice for the LGBT community with Reverend Iain McDonald. Iain was a founder of the United Reformed Church Caucus of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement and David was an early member. There were various denominational church groups in the LGCM. He was on the Steering Committee. He spoke up and down the country at church meetings to make it clear that sexual orientation was not an abstract matter but concerned human reality. He wrote a booklet "Voice from Within" for each member of the governing body of the URC church. It was at this time that I came to meet David and come to know him as a friend. I myself had co-founded the Catholic Caucus in the LGCM.

When I moved into the area and was a Committee member and Chair of the GGLC I was delighted to find that David was an active member. David met his partner Denis Lewis at the GGLC. Both shared an enthusiasm for local History. Denis had a doctorate in History.

When the Friend Help Line was launched by then LCCM Chair, Kevin Riley, a number of us underwent initial training as Volunteers. Simon Piney from Stroud was a local Counsellor who provided us with some important psychological input and we attended national Friend training Days. We qualified and the second intake of training volunteers included David. The phone line was based in the room of a church in Gloucester. Working for the Friend phone line meant evenings responding to LGBT folk with worries or distress, providing information and help and sometimes, with a second volunteer, meeting up with callers by agreement or request in local cafe . David made a good contribution and showed his pastoral care.

Peter S

I attended his funeral memorial Service at Dursley URC Tabernacle Church on 3 July representing the GGLC. . I have been given permission to use some of information in the Eulogy that was delivered for the family by Reverend Iain McDonald.

A reminder from our Secretary about Group postal and email addresses

Please bear in mind that all letters and emails to the Group (i.e. sent to 50 Knowles Rd GL14TP and info@gglc.co.uk) are delivered initially to me as Secretary. I will always endeavour to reply and confirm receipt on the same day and inform other committee members as required. Cheques received are usually banked within 2 days of receipt

Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation

Peter C

AGE CONCERN

How to get involved:

If you are aged 50 years or over, you can join our Voice of Older People panel and become a powerful advocate for older people in your community.

What will this involve?

As a panel member you will be asked for your thoughts and views on a range of topics so we can better shape the future for older people in Gloucestershire. This may be by participating in focus groups or responding to questionnaires for Age UK Gloucestershire or on behalf of other Gloucestershire based organisations interested in seeking your thoughts and views.

If interested, see the Age Concern website or contact the Committee of GGLC+

Inclusive Church Newsletter (National)

The Inclusive Church has long been providing a religious setting for the LGBT+ community, and have asked us to let you know they are still there.

They include several churches in Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewksbury, and they have a look-up service on their website to find one near you.

inclusive-church.org

GGLC Website

Hopefully, you will all have seen our slightly updated website, with our new logo forming the much more colourful background.

We will be making more changes over time, trying to add more functionality, but this is a step in the right direction, hopefully making it look more inviting. It's always difficult, to get these things right, as so much of design is a matter of personal taste, and one person's vibrant and exciting website is another's garish monstrosity!

Smaller tweeks will be ongoing, changing all the branding into a coherent thread through the different pages, updating the 'Did you know' snippets of information, adding information on the new things we are doing, such as the WhatsApp group (which will still be members only and by opt-in!).

More significant changes need careful thought and consideration, but various options are always being explored by the Committee, and suggestions from the membership are welcomed.

Such things as a photo gallery have been looked at, but there are two main problems with that. The first is that in any photograph, we will not put it on display without the permission of the members in the picture, which reduces the number we can show. The second is that any gallery needs a constant supply of new and interesting images, or it quickly goes stale, and it needs someone to take on the responsibility of keeping it up to date.

I hope this has been interesting, and if anyone wants to suggest ideas, offer help or has any creative expertise, please let us know.

Graham V.

Gay Outdoor Club

The national website is <http://www.goc.org.uk> so all you out-doors types log on and see what you could be getting involved in!

GGLC+ Membership Payments

GGLC+ members have 3 choices when paying their membership,

- 1 BACS
- 2 CASH
- 3 Cheque

Our preferred method of payment is via BACS for those who use internet banking, this way we get our money promptly and the members don't have to wait for their cheques to clear the bank.

Cash and cheques can be paid in person at any meeting, however due to us only meeting once a month now, cheques may not be paid into our bank very quickly and could possibly take a few weeks before they clear the member's bank.

Pay-Pal is being phased out as it is rarely used and by using this method GGLC+ lose a percentage of the money through administration costs. So please pay by BACS if you can or cash at our meetings.

Many Thanks, Treasurer.

St Mary de Crypt—Inclusive Church Services

St Marys, a long term supporter of our Group, including being where we were offered the first permanent location for our meetings, is now running inclusive services.

They are on Sundays at 4pm each month, and there will be refreshments after and a chance to chat.

The next few services are on 16 March, 20 April and 18 May .

For those who would like a supportive religious environment, this may be the place for you.

Graham

Trans HRT Prescriptions

Anyone facing problems with their GP can immediately contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service at the Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board. It is specifically and entirely there for you as a patient and the team genuinely want to help:

Freephone 0800 0151 548

Land-line 01452 566698

or you can email them at glicb.pals@nhs.net

Tombola Bottle Stall at Gloucester Pride

Ah, what a day of contrasts it was at the GGLC Tombola Stall and Information Stand!

Of course, the whole thing was being put together months back, with members bringing contributions to the Group meetings, and also donating so many bottled raffle prizes as they were won! In the end we gathered about 160 bottles of all sorts, shapes and sizes, creating probably the most diverse bottle stall in our history.

The meeting before Pride, all of them were brought in to the meeting, split into sets spread across the tables, and carefully labelled before being crated up ready for the big event. Many thanks to all those who pitched in and put labels on bottles or folded raffle tickets, it was a case of many hands make light work, and of course I will not mention the table that mixed up two groups of bottles!

The day of Pride did give a few headaches, in particular the weather, which was at times very wet! As we arrived to set up, the park grass was turning into a quagmire, and we were not allowed to drive to our pitch to unload. Everything had to be hauled over the muddy grass, while worrying if there would be another downpour before we got set up.

Thankfully, it stayed dry, and our team of highly experienced members quickly got the gazebos up, tables into place and the crates of bottles set out to entice the punters! As I had to run over to the Cathedral to organise us in the March (Parade?), I missed any dramas that there undoubtedly were (always are), and by the time I got back, the whole thing was not only ready but beginning to do a roaring trade.

Once I had bought my share of tickets, I was off around the grounds, handing out GGLC leaflets and talking the ears off anyone who didn't run away quickly enough about the Group, directing many towards the bottle stall. Every time I went near our pitches, I could see people lining up to have a go, and by about 4:30, we had sold out!

After everything was packed away (again, very smoothly done), and the takings counted up, we had a total of £296.95 (not quite sure how that happened...), a considerable increase over last year and the year before.

Many thanks to all the members who helped or brought bottles. Special mentions to Kerry who stored the bottles and helped transport them, to Johnston and Jojo who both transported bottles, to Mike and Rob for keeping me on track in facilitating the labelling and ticket folding, and bringing the tombola drum, bottles and tables, Michael CH for bringing the gazebos and other kit, including getting us to set up and take them down properly, Tony and Roy for running the sales (and anyone who spelled them when I wasn't looking!), Peter C and Ian H for manning the Information Stall (again, also anyone else who I didn't see), and of course, myself for being daft enough to say I'd facilitate the whole thing!

It took a lot of effort by all of us, but I think it was a success, and hopefully, eventually, enjoyed by everyone who was involved.

Now, who can I convince to facilitate it next year...?

Graham V., Exhausted Editor

Young People's Social Group

GAY-GLOS Aims to provide a safe meeting place for LGBT young people (and those exploring their sexual orientation) aged between 14 to 18 years old in the county of Gloucestershire.

We meet 12:00 midday to 3:00pm every second Saturday in Gloucester. The group is free to join and we are able to help those who need it with transport costs.

Contact via our Website www.gay-glos.org or email to youth@gay-glos.org or leave a message on 07903 472899 and we will call you back.

Dad Jokes

You were warned that if I didn't have enough to fill the space I would put in whatever I have to hand... so this is your fault!

What do you call a droid that takes the long way round? R2 detour..

What's the best thing about living in Switzerland? The flag is a big plus

What's small, red and whispers? A hoarse radish...

What's E.T. short for? He's only got little legs!

Pride in Gloucester Park

No, not having pride in our park, though it is rather a nice one, but the LGBT+ Pride event held in the park, and the march (or Parade) that preceded it.

First, the march, starting at Gloucester Cathedral. The starting speeches were, thankfully, short and sweet, with one by the Dean, one by a member of the Trans community and one by a representative of the Puppy groups. After an initial bit of chaos, we were organised quite quickly, with seven of us representing our Group, banners held high!

The town felt less crowded than in previous years, with the spectators seeming very positive towards us, which was encouraging. The GayGlos youth group was ahead of us, and they were very well represented, with far more of them there than I have seen before.

It did pour down as we left the city centre, and I will admit, I dropped out to find shelter!

There was a slight delay to get into the park, but it was relatively quick, especially for those of us who had pre-paid for a wristband.

Inside, there were many tents for all different purposes, as well as the usual stalls, information booths and catering vans. The main stage and cabaret stage were further apart this year, and did not seem to over shout each other as much as in the past.

I am not sure there were as many people there as before, though this is just an impression. I enjoyed going round talking to everyone (not sure they enjoyed it as much as I did...), and was able to promote the Group.

I have received reports that the Cabaret was good, and people were enjoying themselves so much they never got round to looking at the rest of Pride!

I did visit the 18+ enclosure, and it was quieter and more peaceful than the rest of Pride—if you are looking for a quiet pint with quick service, go there! It was also quite educational, and an eye opener with some of the merchandise...

All in all, a good day.

Graham V, Editor

Quecon Gloucester CIC—Proud Gloucester

Richard S's new not for profit organisation is about to open the new venue they had promised as noted in the last newsletter. Hopefully we will be able to visit when it opens in October, and will be a valuable asset to all our communities. Here is the official notification we have received:

Something vibrant and inclusive is coming to King's Square, Gloucester! Work is officially underway to transform an empty shop into Proud Gloucester—a dynamic new venue that's part coffee shop, part bar, part pizza café, and a welcoming multi-purpose space for the LGBT+ community and everyone else.

Located right next to Jane's Pantry, Proud Gloucester promises to be a safe, accessible, and inclusive hub open 7 days a week from 9am, offering great food, drinks and community vibes. Whether you're popping in for a morning coffee, grabbing a slice with friends or attending one of its exciting events, this space is designed for everyone.

Opening this October, just in time for the festive season!

Please give a big welcome to Proud Gloucester!

Birthdays Published in the Newsletter

As you are aware, it is a tradition to publish birthdays of our members in our Newsletters.

It was brought to my attention that it might be that some members are not aware that our Newsletter is published in our website and also distributed to a number of LGBTQIA2S+ organisations.

As you are aware **we do not publish full names** in our birthday lists, but it might be that some members prefer not to have their birthdays published on it.

If your preference is **NOT** to have your birthday published in our newsletters, please let me know and I will make sure it won't be included in future publications.

Sergio, Membership Secretary

Membership Update

I would like to report that we are now 110 active members. It is an increase of 8 people since our last newsletter.

Since the last report we have lost 10 members, we also had 31 renewals, 18 new members they are:

Abubakarr, Ali S., Amina, Amjad, Angole, Armadreja, Brian, Bryar, Cameron (Cam), Chris A K, Deborah, Emmanuel, Muhammad K, Muhhammad Z, Nassor, Rikuvera, Teddy and Zahid.

Welcoming to all our new members and thank you very much for those members that decided to renew their membership.

Sergio
Membership Secretary

October

15 Sulait
23 Amina
28 Bessem

November

1 Victor P
3 Florence
14 Medhi A
17 Roger
21 Kamu
21 Christopher B
26 Tonny K

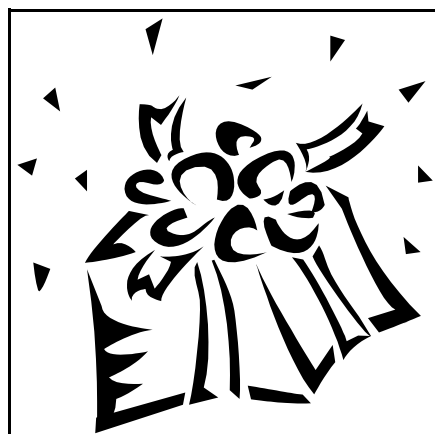
December

6 Brian K T
7 Shahzad
9 Robert N
9 Howard
11 Caren
13 John T
20 Teddy
25 Muhhammad K
27 Muhammad Z

January

5 Ali S
7 Dave L
8 Romeo
27 Julie

UPCOMING



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL



GGLC+'s SOCIAL CALENDAR DIARY OF EVENTS



GGLC+

October

2nd GGLC+ Meeting
16th GGLC+ Virtual Meeting
25th Annual Dinner—Hatherley Mannor

November

6th GGLC+ Meeting
20th GGLC+ Virtual Meeting

December

4th GGLC+ Meeting
18th GGLC+ Christmas Party!

January

1st GGLC+ Meeting
15th GGLC+ Virtual Meeting



GGLC+

Advanced Warnings and Notes!

Remember the Annual Dinner is at the end of October, so pencil it in your diary.

The GGLC+ Christmas Party is on the day we normally have our virtual meeting. If you would like to attend virtually, please let me know and I will try to arrange it. If no one lets me know, I will not run the virtual meeting that night.

Keep an eye on the website and your email for other events!

The diary is subject to change due to changes in circumstances, whim, Editor's insanity and attacks by Jellyfish Sprites.



GGLC+

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE
GAY & LESBIAN
COMMUNITY**

c/o 50 Knowles Road,
Gloucester GL1 4TP

07942 383275

www.gglc.co.uk
info@gglc.co.uk

GGLC+

CONTACTING THE GGLC

Gloucestershire Gay & Lesbian Community meets 1st Thursday monthly, from 7.30pm, in Gloucester city centre. A warm welcome is assured for everyone. Write to :-

The Secretary, GGLC, c/o 50 Knowles Road,
Gloucester GL1 4TP. (postal only)

We also have our own website www.gglc.co.uk and the email address is info@gglc.co.uk - several new members have contacted the Group this way, or phone number 07942383275

Your Committee 2025/6

Chair: Vacancy

Vice-Chair: Howard H.

Secretary: Peter C.

Treasurer: Ian H,

Member: Navishka K.

Member: Desmond B.

Member: Michael C-H.

Member: Sergio (Membership
Secretary)

Newsletter Editor: Graham V.

The committee roles not voted
on are decided at the first
Committee Meeting.

If anyone knows of any new venues opening, please let us know.

HELPING HAND

Don't forget the Group is here to help one another. If you are unwell, still needing to self isolate or stuck, need groceries or medication, contact our Secretary or Membership Secretary. That will find someone who can help you.

Group Telephone is 07942383275.