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## Genie's 'Village Matters' Newsletter, Issue 3

**Village Matters** reports on topical events and items of interest to local residents. There is no specific publication schedule, as it goes out 'as and when' sufficient material justifies a newsletter. Unless stated otherwise, the items will refer to Goring-on-Thames, Streatley, South Stoke and the surrounding villages.

In this issue there aren't too many items to report (the August lull), but we thought it a good idea to share a Thames Valley Police request for witnesses on an ongoing investigation, as well an appeal by the Goring Bowls Club looking for new bowlers. There are also some assorted news items from in and around our area that may be of interest.

**If you like it, please forward to your friends and encourage them to subscribe.** Also, to ensure you consistently receive the e-mails it is suggested that you either 'whitelist' [www.genienews.org](http://www.genienews.org) or **add us to your contact list.**

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### Thames Valley Police

#### Appeal for witnesses

There is still an ongoing appeal for witnesses following a sexual assault on a woman in Goring.

Thames Valley Police say the incident took place at approximately 12.35am on Saturday, 5th August, on a path between Elvendon Road and Lockstile Way, opposite the Bourdillon Field.

The victim, a 25-year-old woman, was cycling along the path and was approached by a group of five males who were all aged between about 16 and 20 years. One of the group approached the victim and assaulted her by touching her inappropriately. The offender is about 5ft 11ins tall, of a slim build and with brown hair in a centre parting. He was wearing dark clothing and had a bicycle with him. (The victim was not injured as a result of the incident).

Investigating officer Sergeant Mark Allmond, based at Abingdon police station, said: "I would like to hear from anyone who has any information relating to this incident, or who has any information which they think could help our investigation".

If you have any information relating to this case, please call the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 101 quoting Reference number 43170231328. Alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously at anytime on 0800 555 111. You can also click this [link](#).

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## If It Was Good Enough For Sir Frances Drake...

### Goring Bowls Club

Goring Bowls Club is keen for you to try out this famous game. It's fun and they know you'll like it - and hopefully want to join the club.



It's a small friendly group and they cater not only for those who live in Goring but also residents of nearby villages. The only kit that you need to start is a pair of flat, soft-soled shoes/trainers. The club will provide you with the bowls, so all are invited to give it a try!

The 2017 season is now in full swing, but a full programme of fixtures will continue until the end of September. Goring is one of the smaller bowling clubs on the circuit, but last season they respectably finished mid-table in the Oddfellows Triples League. Beginners are well-supported by informal competitions that are held most Monday evenings at 6pm and Tuesdays at 2.15pm. To confirm exact dates and times, e-mail [goringbowls@outlook.com](mailto:goringbowls@outlook.com) so arrangements can be made to meet you at the Bowling Green. For a chat or a trial session, please contact club secretary, Philip Mitchell at the same e-mail address.



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## Caught On Camera

The incident of a lorry badly damaging the house and demolishing the external chimney stack at The Bull crossroads on 23rd November last year was watched live, as it happened, by the West Berkshire traffic management team in Newbury. The video footage was then used as evidence in an insurance claim. The 360 degree camera situated above the traffic lights has been in place for almost 2 years. (It does not, by the way, record vehicle speeds.) As reported last month, the 6 weeks of work to repair the building will

require the closure of Streetley Hill (B4009) until 6th September.

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## Hitachi Capital Invoice Finance Leaving Goring-on-Thames

Hitachi Capital, a business with offices in Goring, are closing down their local operation and apparently consolidating the Goring operations into their existing offices in Telford.

Hitachi Capital is a financial services company with divisional offices on Red Cross Road, next to Goring Hardware. The local office specialises in providing loans to businesses, against their outstanding invoices. They are a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi Capital Corporation, one of Japan's largest non-bank financial institutions.



## LED Lights Replace Sodium Lights At Goring & Streatley Station

On 2nd August, new LED lights were fitted on all platforms (15 singles & 9 doubles) to replace the old sodium lights. The new ones are more efficient and include motion sensors that reduce output by up to 20% when no movement is registered. Trains or people will reactivate them to their full power output.

Interestingly, Goring-on-Thames Parish Council is also currently looking into options and funding to replace the 200+ streetlights in Goring with LED options.

## Do you know an elderly person who may benefit from special fitness classes in Goring?

'Strength and Balance' classes organised by Age UK's Generation Games (led by a 'Falls prevention instructor'), will be starting in Goring in September.

The aim of the classes is to help improve mobility and enjoy life to the the full. The focus will be on improving strength, balance, flexibility and mobility, so these classes are ideal for those worried about their balance. A chair is used for support, as well as other equipment.



Classes will take place weekly from Monday, 25th September 10.30 - 11.30am, at Storton Lodge (Scout Hut), Icknield Road, Goring, and cost £4 per session.

The first session is free to all. All classes are free for carers accompanying the person they care for.

**For more information:**

- Call 01235 849403
- Email [generationgames@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:generationgames@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk)
- Website: <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/our-services/generation-games>

**PS:** The annual general meeting of MIGGS (Mobility Issues Group for Goring & Streatley) is on Wednesday 6 September, 3.00pm in the Belleme Room, Goring Village Hall.

<https://www.facebook.com/MobilityIssuesGroupForGoringAndStreatley/#>

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