

Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

In this issue find information about a Network Rail consultation that ends today, the events this weekend (George Michael and others), South Stoke Community Shop volunteers receive two awards, a few photos from last week's GAP Festival - plus other things you may find of interest!

Consultation ends today

Proposed Heathrow Western Rail link would give step-free access to all terminals

The Mobility Issues Group for Goring & Streatley have brought the following consultation to the attention of Genie.

John Boler, Chairman of MIGGS writes: If approved the proposed Western Rail link to Heathrow airport would provide step-free access all the way from Goring and Streatley station to all Heathrow airport terminals. This is because passenger lifts are already available at Goring, and Reading and all Elizabeth line (Crossrail) stations will have step-free access and egress. It is claimed that the proposed link would also cut journey times for all users from the west of Slough by some 30 minutes. Most of the railway would be in tunnels. The consultation on the new route closes on Friday 22 June 2018 (today). Follow this link to the consultation page: <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/our-railway-upgrade-plan/key-projects/heathrow-rail-link/>



This weekend...

George Michael birthday celebrations

A number of events will be taking place in Goring, especially on Sunday to celebrate the late George Michael's 55th birthday.

The Catherine Wheel is having a music festival this weekend, with many musical delights and a Sunday evening George Michael tribute, with donations to support the Terrence Higgins Trust. Celebrations organised by a **George Michael fans Facebook group** will be held all day Sunday in the Rectory Garden, with many acts and activities scheduled throughout the day, raising funds for the Childline charity. On Sunday evening, **David Ellis-Wright & Band** will perform a George Michael tribute in aid of Rainbow Trust Children's Charity (this event has sold out).

The Catherine Wheel

A weekend of music and fun

Saturday 23rd June

- 1.00 - 2.00pm Short Notice
- 2.30 - 3.30pm Chris Hinchliffe & Jules
- 4.00 - 5.00pm Curious Sounds
- 5.30 - 6.30pm Sharon Murphy & Friends
- 7.00 - 8.00pm The Mysteries
- 8.30 - 9.30pm Spooks

Sunday 24th June

- 1.00 - 2.00pm Leon Williams
- 2.30 - 3.30pm DJ Oscar James
- 4.00 - 5.00pm The James Bermingham
George Michael Tribute
- 5.30 - 6.30pm Rush Keeper
- 7.00 - 8.00pm Heather Jayne & The Red Shoes
- 8.30 - 9.30pm The James Bermingham
George Michael Tribute



Rectory Garden

Sponsored by the Facebook group titled: *The Official George Michael Birthday Tribute Weekend in Goring 2018*

The Facebook group invite all to enjoy a day of joy, reflection and tributes. This year is a fundraising event, where all profit will support Childline, one of George's favourite charities.

In return for a voluntary £10 donation to Childline, supporters will receive a wristband made especially for George's 2018 birthday celebrations in Goring. These wristbands will be available from 11.00am, but are not required to enter the public garden. Several stalls will also be present in the garden.

Sunday 24th June

- 12 noon Official opening by leaders of above Facebook group.
- 12.30pm Piano soloist
- 1.00 - 2.00pm DJ playing George Michael music
- 1.30 - 5.30pm Suhail Sui live art

2.10 - 3.00pm	Pete Valentine (George Michael Tribute)
3.10 - 3.25pm	DJ playing George Michael music
3.30 - 4.15pm	Andy Crosbie (Elton John Tribute artist)
4.20 - 5.20pm	DJ playing George Michael music
4.30pm	Church bells toll - St. Thomas of Canterbury
5.30pm	Auction and Raffle prizes drawn (hosted by BBC TV Antiques expert David Harper)
6.35-7.25pm	Pete Valentine (George Michael Tribute)
6.40pm	'Bubbles' release at Mill Cottage
7.30pm	Closing remarks
10.00pm	Candlelight vigil outside Mill Cottage

All timings are approximate.

Goring Village Hall

David Ellis-Wright & Band (George Michael Tribute)

On Sunday 24th June, at 7.30pm, David Ellis-Wright & Band will perform the *You Have Been Loved* Concert, a George Michael Tribute. The proceeds will go to Rainbow Trust Children's Charity.

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And if you'd like to see what else is on offer this weekend, please have a look at the [Genie Calendar](#), a listing of lots of local happenings for this coming weekend and beyond.



South Stoke Community Shop Winners at Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action Awards 2018

South Stoke Community Shop is pleased to announce that shop volunteers are the proud recipients of two awards at the prestigious OCVA Charity and Volunteer Awards 2018 held at Oxford Town Hall on 5th June. The Community Shop was awarded Best Group in South Oxfordshire 2018, and Nicky Kennedy was awarded overall Volunteer of the Year 2018 for Oxfordshire.



Nicky's nomination stated that she has been fundamental to the success of the community shop from her first involvement in 2009. She drove through the initial planning, fundraising and the set-up of the shop. Trading successfully since February 2013, Nicky remains essential to the business, recruiting volunteers, fundraising and campaigning. She is still passionate about the shop, still leading by example, still working hard to maintain its success. "I am absolutely thrilled," commented Nicky, "all along this has been a team effort and none of it would be possible without our wonderful team of volunteers."

South Stoke Shop was also awarded Best Group in South Oxfordshire 2018. The shop has used 59 volunteers in the past 5 years of operation and currently has 40 active volunteers. They cover 50 hours in the shop each week, over 2,500 hours each year. Add in the local events and the Board's hours and there are over 3,000 hours of volunteer time annually.

The shop has become more than a place simply to buy last minute milk and eggs. It has become an essential part of the community, bringing people closer together. It supports local businesses like the local butcher, baker and farm shop. It also complements the playground on the Recreation ground, offering hot drinks, ice creams and toilet facilities.

The conclusion of the nomination stated that South Stoke Community Shop has had a major impact on the village and surrounding area. It has helped bring the community together and helped enhance village life. And it is all down to this group of volunteers.

Mick Woodall, Chairman of the Shop Board said, "What an evening; what honour; what a delight! Congratulations to Nicky and to all the volunteers at South Stoke Community Shop. We have always said that the shop is more than just about trading profitably, it's a community in itself and it enriches the community."

The 3rd GAP Festival

Best ever!

Forty six diverse events over nine days, including the pre-festival shows, many of which were free. This community enterprise has brought much laughter and joy to thousands of people.

A legacy project of the Goring & Streatley Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration in 2012 and now a registered charity, the aim of the festival is to inform, educate, inspire and develop an appreciation of the arts. The trustees, management and the hundreds of volunteers all hope you agree the objectives were met.

There will be a full round up of the festival in the next Goring Gap News, to be published on 22 July, but in the meantime, here are a few photos of the three main evening events staged in the 500-seater festival marquee on Thursday 14, Friday 15 and Saturday 16 June. In addition, some images of activities outside the marquee and an aerial view of the Family Day on Sunday 17 June. For more photos and news, visit the festival website: www.thegapfestival.org



Soul and Jazz Queen, Mica Paris
(Photo: Neil Horne)



The world-renowned Pasadena Roof Orchestra
(Photo: Ron Bridle)



The ever-popular local Goring band, The Lightyears (Photo: Ron Bridle)



Pink wheel barrows promoting the Open Gardens event
(Photo: Ron Bridle)



Outside events on Family Day
(Photo: Jeremy Hutchins)

Lost property from the Festival

- Blue denim jacket
- Coral-coloured cardigan
- Chocolate-coloured puffa jacket
- Pink-coloured child's roll neck jumper
- Coloured shopping bag

- Gold-edged and multi-coloured bracelet
- Camera battery pack
- Key
- Water bottle

If you would like to claim your property, please contact Simon Carter on 07836 206043 if possible giving the brand name of the item. Thank you.



'Wing Walking' Event Ipsden's Airsports Aerodrome

A large South Korean film crew and the contestants of the popular *Running Man* game show travelled to Ipsden on 11 June to film an episode of the show. The Chiltern Airsports Aerodrome is one of only three airfields in Europe licenced to operate this activity.

The 'forfeit' for the three losing contestants (two males and one female) was to be strapped into the chair at the top wing of the 1940s U.S. Navy biplane and be flown over the South Oxfordshire countryside for 15 minutes - or until they gave the 'Stop, let me off' sign to the pilot. Surprisingly, none did, although they all looked totally terrified

Citizens Advice warning

Criminals setting up fake Wi-Fi hot spots

Criminals are setting up their own Wi-Fi hot spots (in cafes and public spaces) to try to get you to connect to them. Typically, the fraudsters broadcast a Wi-Fi connection with a vague name like 'Free Wifi' or 'Coffee Shop Wifi'. If you connect your phone to this, any data you send or receive can be captured.

Even if you log into emails using an App, without typing in the password, the phone will still send your password over the Wi-Fi and it could be intercepted. If you use automated passwords and do not enter your user name and password manually, these details can still be intercepted.

To avoid being becoming a victim of this scam, do one of the following:

- Make sure you are connecting to a trusted Wi-Fi hot spot, operated by the venue you are in - ask staff if you are in doubt.
- Do not use public Wi-Fi for online banking or anything else sensitive, but use your 3G, 4G or 5G connection instead (data sent over these connections is always encrypted).
- Use a VPN (virtual private network) when connecting to public Wi-Fi.

The updated Little Book of Big Scams has more details about this and other prevalent frauds:

<https://www.met.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/central/advice/met/fraud/the-little-book-of-big-scams.pdf>

If you suspect that you've been scammed, contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or on the Internet at www.actionfraud.police.uk. Alternatively, get in touch with Citizens Advice on Adviceline 03 444 111444, or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours see www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale.



Fish 'n' Chip Shop in Goring

Planning permission granted for change of use for the now-closed TSB bank branch

The planning application was for change of use of Part A2 Use Class (Financial and Professional Services) to A5 Use Class (Hot Food Takeaway). Planning permission has been granted, with a number of conditions including noise and odour, opening hours, recycling and waste, and pre-approval of any signage.

Click [here](#) to read the Planning Officer's report.

To comment on any of these stories please email contact@genienews.org

To send in news items, use news@genienews.org

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.

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' subscribe@genienews.org or **add us to your contact list**.

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