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## Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

In this issue : the Britain in Bloom judges' visit; be Water Aware; what can the Genie Calendar do for you?  
- plus other things you may find of interest!



### Judgement day on Wednesday - for Goring's bid to win Gold again!

On Wednesday (July 18) the RHS judges from Britain in Bloom will arrive in Goring to see and hear how the Goring Gap in Bloom group has been working with the community to enhance the village's environment.

They will be looking at their achievements, past and present, but it's important also they see a litter-free village, clear of weeds and overgrown hedges along the pavements, clean gutters along the roads, tidy noticeboards and no fly posting on telegraph poles etc. All of these cause deduction of valuable points.

Please get out there before the day and take a good look at how tidy your property, garden, pavement, gutter and local area generally looks from the street. Ten minutes, to remove any litter, pull out weeds, do a bit of hedge clipping and sweeping up, could make all the difference.

The judges will be taken around by the Bloom group along a pre-arranged route to show them some of the key projects they have undertaken this year, however, prior to meeting the group in the car park, they always drive around other roads which are not on the 'official tour route' to see for themselves how the rest of the village looks, so tidying up every property and part of the village is important.

Last year, Goring won the coveted RHS Gold Award in its category and the 30 minute documentary on Goring was shown on BBC2 TV in May and repeated earlier this week (still available on the BBC iPlayer - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0b226xd/sign/britain-in-bloom-series-1-14-goring>)

Please help to show off Goring at its very best next Wednesday and contribute towards the 2018 award in which every resident and business can take pride. Thank you.

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### Be Water Aware this summer

Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death in the UK and here is an important message from the Fire & Rescue service:



With the long hot sunny days, there is a temptation to cool off in one of Oxfordshire's and Berkshire's many rivers and inland waterways. While there may not be any river monsters waiting down there, unfortunately rivers and waterways can be very dangerous places - 255 people accidentally drowned in 2017 in the UK.

That's why, at this time of year, Oxfordshire's Fire and Rescue Service is reminding all residents to **Be Water Aware** to help everyone stay safe this summer.

#### Would you know what to do?

Knowing what to do when someone gets into trouble in the water could help save someone's life:

- **Call:** 999

- **Float:** tell them to float on their back
- **Throw:** something that floats

... and **don't jump in yourself!**

Find out more at [www.365alive.co.uk/BeWaterAware](http://www.365alive.co.uk/BeWaterAware)

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## Organising an event?

Make sure you get **FREE** publicity from Genie

Did you know that you can post your event on the genie calendar for free? All it takes is a few minutes to send an email or post online. No posters to put up! Unlike social media, your event doesn't get lost in the stream but is on display until it happens.

- You can choose to only supply the basic info – what, where, when – or you can sell your event with a description and up to 3 images. You can provide links for ticket sales and more information.
- Once it is on the calendar you can give people the link to your event so they can find out more.
- Selected events from the calendar are highlighted in these Village Newsletters that go out to over 600 local people.
- Events can be put up at short notice – better late than never – as can cancellation notices if disaster strikes.



### What have you got to lose!

Email: [calendar@genienews.org](mailto:calendar@genienews.org)

Online form: <https://www.genienews.org/enewsletters/calendar-events-planner/calendar/submit-your-event/>

Do you like the genie newsletters and calendar? **Would you like to be a part of our friendly team?** We are looking for someone to help develop the calendar in the future. Please get in touch if you think you may be interested: [editor@genienews.org](mailto:editor@genienews.org)

... And finally, for those of you who have never seen the calendar or have forgotten about it, why not take a look at all the events you are missing ... <https://www.genienews.org/enewsletters/calendar-events-planner/calendar/>

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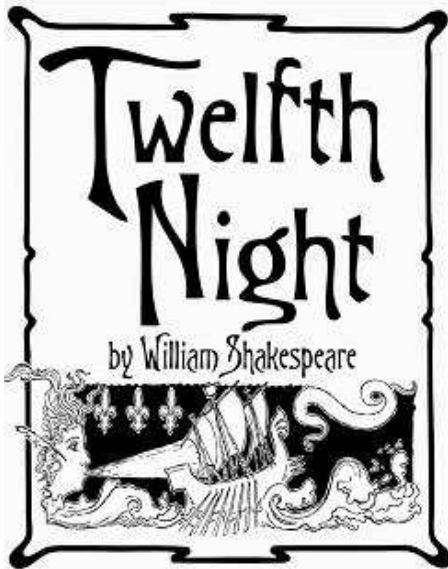
## Goring Gap Players

Auditions for William Shakespeare's Comedy *Twelfth Night*

Sun 22nd July - 2-30 until 4-30  
Wed 25th July - 8 until 10pm  
Sun 29th July - 2-30 until 4-30

- Cast Read through - Sunday 5th August, 2.30-6pm
- Performance Dates - 21st -24th November 2018

Venue for all above dates is the Morrell Room, Streatley



Director's notes: This is one of Shakespeare's most accessible comedies and a great introduction for any actor 'nervous' about playing in Shakespeare.

The cast numbers a total of 14 with everyone an integral part of the ensemble. Many roles can be played as either male or female and by a range of ages so there are opportunities for everyone.

There are three auditions. **It would be helpful if everyone who auditioned on either Sunday 22nd or Wednesday 25th could be available for the final audition on Sunday 29th.** There is no need to prepare anything - just come along with an open mind and a determination to have fun!

Any queries please contact:-

Director, Chris Bertrand:  
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or GGP Secretary:  
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**Website:** [www.goringgapplayers.co.uk](http://www.goringgapplayers.co.uk)

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## Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens Advice

Everyone has heard of Citizens Advice, but not many people know how we work or what we achieve. Most people think we are part of a large national organisation and we get funding from central government. We aren't and we don't.

In fact, we are an independent body that provides the Citizens Advice Service locally. The national charity sets the advice standard. For funding we rely entirely on local councils and donations.

We recruit and train local volunteers to provide free, expert advice and information to everyone in the community. Our support helps people to overcome their problems and improve their lives. We put the emphasis on helping people to help themselves, giving them more control over their own affairs and sometimes also, in the process, helping to improve their health.

We have 5 advice centres (in Wallingford, Didcot, Henley, Abingdon and Thame) and 3 outreaches (in Woodcote, RAF Benson and Faringdon). With a work force of 150 trained volunteer advisers and 10 paid staff, we advise 10,000 local people a year face to face, by email and by phone on benefits, debt, employment, housing, relationships and consumer issues. This advice is free, impartial and completely confidential.

For further information, visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk), call Adviceline on 03444 111 444 or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. Locations and opening hours can be found on [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local)



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To send in news items, use [news@genienews.org](mailto: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](mailto:subscribe@genienews.org) or **add us to your contact list.**

More details on Genie newsletters [here](#).