

Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

In this issue: Swan Hotel reopening; Goring Councillor vacancy; local elections on 2 May; National Women's Cycling event; lost and found; Goring Pre-school to close; plus other items of interest – and our latest update of new planning applications.



July – The date The Swan Hotel, Streatley will reopen

After four years of refurbishment, the long-awaited reopening of The Swan Hotel in Streatley will be this July. At the same time, the hotel will unveil 'The Coppa Club'.

The photograph, taken today, shows there is still much to do, but the management is confident that everything will be fitted out and ready to welcome local guests in 3 months time.

There has been a £12 million investment into this major project to refurbish the 47-bedroom hotel and the spectacular view from the river bridge will soon be restored to its former glory once the doors reopen this summer. The main entrance will be restored and the traffic lights in Church Lane will hopefully be removed at the same time.

The Coppa Club (no membership needed), new for Streatley and only the sixth in the country, is a well tested hospitality concept offering an all-day menu of Anglo-Mediterranean dishes, from small plates and snacks to main courses and healthy options. Club and hotel guests can eat or drink in the open air on the riverside terrace, a few feet from the water's edge and, in winter or bad weather, can be quickly enclosed by an all-new glass structure without even leaving their seats.

Rare Bird Hotels CEO and local resident, Lucy Potter, says: "We are thrilled to be partnering with Coppa Club to provide an inviting open space which offers something for everyone from locals looking for a convivial workspace, to friends meeting for coffee, hotel guests and those enjoying a Thames walk. We are very grateful to the local community for bearing with us for what has been a prolonged building project and we hope they will be delighted with the end result."

For further information: www.theswanatstreatley.com www.coppaclub.co.uk

STOP PRESS! From the Swan: **We are closing the hotel for the day on 2 May**, to upgrade the power supply, switch over the water supply, and go live with the new server/communication room/IT.

We have sent a message out to our neighbours on Church Lane; they will still have access to their homes, but banksmen will re-direct/stop those that want to visit the hotel as due to the power upgrade we will have very limited options, hence we will close for the day.

A reminder to vote on Thursday!



If you are a resident in South Oxfordshire or West Berkshire District Councils and registered to vote. The polling stations are open on Thursday 2 May from 7am-10pm.

The three candidates for the Goring Ward District Councillor position answered questions from an impassioned audience of Goring and South Stoke residents

The Local Question Time at Goring Primary School on Monday evening, organised by Genie to inform the local electorate, was a lively event and around 60 residents attended and many joined the debate.



The three candidates, Chris Bertrand (Labour), Kevin Bulmer (Conservative) and Maggie Filipova-Rivers (Liberal Democrats) each had the opportunity to introduce themselves and set out their positions and the audience then had the chance over the 90 minutes to question them. Whilst the purpose of the gathering was to examine the candidates' local manifestos, inevitably the state of national politics cropped up, although the moderator, Bryan Urbick, deftly steered the discussion back to the local issues. Many participants stated afterward that they enjoyed the opportunity to hear and question their potential representatives and that more such events would be welcomed.

The three hopeful District Councillor candidates for the Goring Ward (pictured with their colour-coded cups) for Thursday's election.

Pre-School to close

After an Extraordinary General Meeting on Thursday 25 April 2019, the members of the Goring and Cleeve Pre-school charity voted to close the pre-school at the end of the Summer term.

The pre-school has experienced record low numbers of children which has caused difficulties in recruiting volunteer trustees for the charity and would be expected to have significant financial consequences over the next year.

The trustees would like to thank the staff whose professionalism, enthusiasm and hard work have made the pre-school such a rewarding experience for the children. We would also like to thank all of the parents and volunteers who have contributed so much over the years.

The last day the pre-school will be open is 24 July 2019.



Residents of Goring are invited to apply to fill a vacancy as a councillor. Applications are required in writing to the clerk by noon on Monday 13 May 2019.

This is an opportunity for you to represent the views of fellow residents of Goring and have a positive influence on issues and decisions that affect the whole community

Please apply in writing, enclosing a brief CV, by 12 noon on Monday 13 May 2019 to:

The Clerk, Goring-on-Thames Council, Old Jubilee Fire Station, Red Cross Road, Goring-on-Thames, Reading, RG8 9HG.



You may send your application by post or by hand, or by email to clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk
For a summary of the role and responsibilities of a parish councillor and an introduction of the work of the council, visit www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Coming up in May

May in the Gap is a beautiful time of year and there are many opportunities to get out and enjoy the natural beauty all around us.

Goring Gap Health Walks offer about 9 led walks each week with something for all abilities, and the Chilterns Walking festival starts on 18 May. The village bowling green and the village tennis courts are both in stunning locations and both are offering introductory activities this month. There are open afternoons at Withymead on Sundays and the glorious South Stoke May Fayre to stroll around on 6 May. I see in Goring Gap News that stand-up paddle boarding/pilates on the Thames is now available, sounds great fun but I think I'll enjoy watching that from the towpath.



Indoors, there are some amazing concerts and talks coming up.

Paul Page will be giving a piano recital on 4 May, the Gap Gig has Art Themen All Star Band on 10 May, the Chamber Choir have their spring concert on 12 May, and there is funky jazz from Funk Bake on 18 May. Later in the month the U3A has a talk about Braziers Park, the History Society will hear about Oxfordshire and the Norman Conquest and the Sustainability Group has a talk about climate change. The Bridge Club has an open evening on 13 May, where you can stretch your brain rather than your legs for once. With so much to enjoy at home, why go away?

For more details of these and many other events please see the genie calendar:
www.genienews.org/calendar



A NatWest VISA Debit Card

Found in Goring High Street on 26 April

To claim it, email with details to contact@genienews.org

Police Appeal for Witnesses following a burglary In Goring

Between 4pm on 26 April and 1.24pm on 28 April, unknown offenders broke into a property in Pennypiece, off Cleeve Road, Goring. A spade was used to break the kitchen window where entry was gained. A messy searched was conducted and cash and jewellery were taken.

If you have any information about this incident please [report it here](#) or call 101.

Alternatively, if you have information but wish to remain anonymous, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or online by visiting www.crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.

Find out how you can reduce the risk of becoming a victim of burglary by downloading your FREE Home Security Guide from the Thames Valley Police website here:
<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/>



Message sent by Julia Williams (Police, Neighbourhood Policing Admin, South Oxon and Vale)

National Women's Cycle Race



To travel through Goring and South Stoke on Wednesday 12 June

This high profile Women's British Cycling World Tour is a major national event in the cycling world which has 6 regional stages between 10 and 15 June. Stage Three, which will come through the Goring Gap, is the 145.1km between the start in Henley Market Square (at 10.30am) and the finish point at Blenheim Palace. This event is a

considered to be of major benefit for some of the local economies where it starts and finishes and Oxfordshire County Council and its partners are to host a stage of this race for three years, starting this year.

The first signs of the tour (of around 100 or more riders) approaching Goring will be at about 11.40am from the East down the hill on the Reading Road (B4526) from Crays Pond with Police motorcycle riders managing a 'rolling road block' 5-10 minutes ahead of the lead car, the cyclists and the two TV cameramen on motorcycles. They will turn right onto the Wallingford Road (B4009) towards South Stoke and Wallingford with the tail-enders passing through Goring by 12.10pm or so. It should be quite a spectacle and residents and other spectators usually line the route to cheer them on.

The Stage 3 route will take the cyclists from Henley north through Watlington, then south to Crays Pond, Goring, South Stoke, Wallingford, Didcot, Wantage, Farrington, Burford and finally Woodstock. Nearer the time there will traffic management signs put out along the whole route.

Click this link for an expandable map and full details of this stage and the rest of the tour.

<https://www.womenstour.co.uk/stages/stage-3/>

Robin Deabill, MD of Betwin Motors, Station Road, Goring for 30 years, died on 18 April

A past trustee and director of the Anne Carpmael Charitable Trust, involved with the setting up of The Withymead Nature Reserve, will be remembered by many local residents.

Robin's family has asked Genie to let his friends know of his passing and invite anyone who knew him well to his **funeral service at 12 noon on Friday 10 May** at St Blaise Church, High Street, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4EW.



Robin died peacefully at home in Milton, Oxfordshire. He leaves his wife Betty, sons Mark and Ian, daughter-in-law Esther and grandchildren Thomas & Hannah.

Many long-term residents in Goring, Streatley and the surrounding area may remember Robin. He became Managing Director of Betwin Motors in Station Road (where Bellême Mews now stands) after he and his business partner purchased the premises in the early 1960s. They named the garage Betwin Motors after their wives, Betty and Win.

Robin retired in 1993 and the business was sold for housing, but his ties with the area were not severed, He became a trustee and director of the Anne Carpmael Charitable Trust and for many years was very involved in the setting up of the nature reserve and Forest School that is the Withymead Nature Reserve today.

Christopher Robin Deabill (1933 - 2019) RIP.

An advertisement featuring a background image of architectural blueprints and rolled-up documents. Overlaid on the image is the text "Current local" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below this, a red horizontal bar contains the text "Planning Applications" in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

Current local
Planning Applications

This twice monthly 'Planning Alert' lists all the current planning applications submitted to SODC (South Oxfordshire District Council) and WBC (West Berkshire Council) relating to properties in Goring, Streatley and South Stoke, and occasionally other applications that are locally relevant. They are listed by parish, in expiry date order, so the applications with the shortest periods in which to respond are at the top.

Should you be interested in finding out more, or commenting on any of these applications, click on the Reference number link to the application. To make a comment to the planning department, follow the advice given on the application. New applications, if there are any, will be added to the lists in subsequent Alerts and existing ones will remain until the consultation period has expired.

Click below to see details of 8 applications for Goring, 3 for Streatley, and 2 for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: West Streatley House, High Street, Streatley, Berkshire RG8 9HY
Proposal: Two storey Cart-Shed including a 1st floor studio and 6no. parking spaces
Reference Number: [19/00879/LBC2](#), [19/00878/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: 1 May 2019

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Location: Cleeve Court House, Streatley, Berkshire RG8 9PR
Proposal: Section 73A: Variation of condition 3 'Approved Plans' of previously approved application 18/01445/HOUSE: Single storey side extension to create an accessible living room and associated two storey extension for a new access lift.
Reference Number: [19/00883/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: 1 May 2019

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Location: Fairway, Rectory Road, Streatley, RG8 9QA
Proposal: The erection of a detached oak framed and timber clad garage with room over and external staircase
Reference Number: [19/00937/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: 7 May 2019

SOUTH STOKE

Location: Fifield Cottage, Ferry Road, South Stoke RG8 0JL
Proposal: Alterations to design of rear elevation of house and provision of building in garden following approval of replacement dwelling under permission P16/S3861/FUL.
Reference Number: [P19/S1072/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 3rd May 2019

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Location: The Laurels, Cross Keys Road, South Stoke RG8 0JT
Proposal: Erection of Double Bay Garage/Car Port with closed store to front left of house. Oak frame with hipped ends pitched tiled roof.
Reference Number: [P19/S1208/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 5th May 2019

GORING

Location: 21 Clevemede, Goring RG8 9BU
Proposal: Single storey rear extension with internal alterations
Reference Number: [P19/S1050/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 3rd May 2019

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Location: 3 Lower Bungalows, Middle Springs, Goring RG8 0DX

Proposal: Single storey rear extension with driveway and fenestration alterations
Reference Number: [P19/S1163/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 5th May 2019

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Location: 9 Elmcroft, Goring RG8 9EU
Proposal: Discharge of condition 4 (tree protection) on P18/S3518/HH. (Single storey rear and side extension)
Reference Number: [P19/S0946/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Not subject to public consultation - Target Decision Date 6th May 2019

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Location: 2 Grange Close, Goring RG8 9DY
Proposal: 1. Demolish conservatory and build single storey extension to rear of existing dwelling. 2. Build single storey extension to west side of existing dwelling.
Reference Number: [P19/S1211/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 16th May 2019

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Location: Unit 4, The Arcade, High Street, Goring RG8 9AY
Proposal: Change of use of Unit 4 to Pilates/Yoga Studio(Class D2)
Reference Number: [P19/S1246/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 23rd May 2019

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Location: Fairfield, River Lane, Goring RG8 9EE
Proposal: Discharge of conditions on P18/S3017/FUL(replacement of existing bungalow with new 1.5 storey house).
Reference Number: [P19/S1270/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Not subject to public consultation - Target Decision Date 30th May 2019

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Location: Nursery Farm, Gatehampton Farm, Goring RG8 9LU
Proposal: Removal of the existing polytunnel, Construction of traditional Oak Framed Garage/workshop and office area
Reference Number: [P19/S1152/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: TBA (when officer is allocated)

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Location: 30 Elvendon Road, Goring RG8 0DU
Proposal: Proposed first floor loft conversion and extension including new roof over
Reference Number: [P19/S1314/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: TBA (when officer is allocated)

To visit SODC's planning website:

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application>

Information on how to comment on a SODC application:

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application/comment-planning-application>

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To visit WBC's planning website:

<https://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application>

Information on how to comment on a WBC application:

<https://info.westberks.gov.uk/representations>

NB: Genie News will endeavour to make these alerts as comprehensive and accurate as possible, but Genie and its volunteers cannot accept any responsibility for any omissions, errors, incorrect links or other issues associated with this information.

**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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