

Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

Please forward this email to anyone you feel may also like to receive these newsletters. Thank you.

Submission date for articles for the next issue is 26 November

In this issue: Election Hustings in Goring; MIGGS prize draw; more road closures; GWR timetable changes; what's on in the second half of November; latest YHA Streatley news – and our latest update of new planning applications.

Two road closures in November

**Streatley Hill again (18 November to 2 December)
and emergency closure of Blandy's Lane, Upper
Basildon (to 20 November)**

**Streatley Hill is to be closed again every day at
various times for 15 days between Monday 18
November and Monday 2 December**



The closure will be between the A329 Streatley crossroads and The Coombe. On weekdays the closures will be between 9.30am - 2.45pm. At the weekend there will be a full closure from 9.30am Saturday 23 November through to 5pm on Sunday 24 November.

Diversion will be via Reading Road, Pangbourne Hill and the A329. The closure is so Gigaclear can install fibre optic cables and make connections to premises.

Access to premises will be allowed but the direction of approach will depend on the state of the works. The intention is the works will start from the Coombe junction and progress towards the A329 crossroads.

Enquires should be addressed to Gigaclear on 0808 1695700. The closure can be viewed on one.network under the following link [B4009 Streatley Hill. Gigaclear closure](#)

Emergency Closure – Blandy's Lane, Upper Basildon

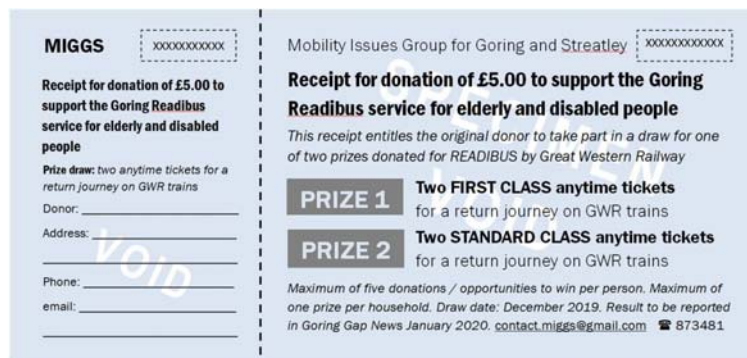
Blandy's Lane, Upper Basildon is closed from 14 to 20 November 2019 between its junction with Mead Lane and its junction with Park Wall Lane.

The alternative route for all vehicles affected is via Darby lane, Aldworth Road, Bethesda Street, and vice versa.

This is an emergency closure so Thames Water can repair an 'active' leak within the carriageway. Residential access will be maintained throughout and the diversion will be signed on site.

All enquiries should be directed to: KCD on 0800 3169 800. A plan of the closure can be [found here](#).

For further information on all West Berkshire closures: contact West Berkshire District Council on 01635 519229 | Extn:2229 | Bob.Bosley@westberks.gov.uk



A Prize Draw to help keep Goring Readibus on the road

MIGGS (Mobility Issues Group, Goring & Streatley) is aiming to raise £800 before Christmas to keep the Goring Readibus on the road from April next year

Readibus is the fortnightly, door-to-door shopping bus for elderly and disabled people in the Goring area. It is funded jointly by Goring parish council and voluntary donations raised by MIGGS. MIGGS has agreed to continue its support if the cost can be raised in time.

Tickets will be on sale at the meeting of Goring Gap Local History Society on **18 November** (2.30pm, Goring village hall) and from MIGGS, phone 01491 873481 or contact miggs@gmail.com. The draw will be made in December and the result announced in Goring Gap News in January.

The prizes, donated by Great Western Railway, are one pair of first class, anytime tickets for use on GWR trains. The second prize is a pair of standard class tickets with the same validity. Together, the tickets have a potential value of over £1,300, depending on the journeys taken. Destinations include Penzance, Hereford and Swansea.

The draw is limited to 175 tickets, with a maximum of 5 tickets per person and one prize per household. So, the chances of winning a prize with one ticket are about 1 in 84 and with 5 tickets about 1 in 17.

For more information, please [see here](#).



General Election Hustings at St Thomas' Goring on Thursday 28 November at 7.30pm

All four candidates standing for the Henley Constituency have agreed to attend and answer questions. All are welcome to attend.

The candidates are listed below. The evening will be moderated by Rev'd Ben Phillips.

Meet the candidates and gently grill them and cheer them for their willingness to stand. There will be a mixture of questions given to the candidates in advance and some on the night.

Please put your questions through the Vicarage door, Manor Road, Goring, RG8 9DR, or email them to vicarofgsandss@yahoo.com by Wednesday 20 November. These will be sorted into sections and put to the candidates accordingly. Further questions will be taken on the night, depending on the time available.

The following candidates have agreed to attend:

- Laura Coyle (Liberal Democrat)
- John Howell (Conservative)
- Zaid Marham (Labour)
- Jo Robb (Green)

What's on in the second half of November?

Below is a selection of just some of the upcoming events from the Genie calendar. There are many more, so please check it out [online](#) where there are also details of how you can submit your own events for free publication.

Saturday 17

A piano recital by Janet Pound at St Thomas' Church in Goring from 3-4pm, followed by refreshments. Janet will be performing works by CPE Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Chopin, Poulenc and Tchaikovsky.

Wednesday 20-Saturday 23

Goring Gap Players present a modern adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. 8pm (doors open 7.30pm) in the Morrell Room. Tickets from Inspiration.

Thursday 21

Pick-a-Flick: *Murder on the Orient Express*. 10.30am-2pm. See details in the Genie calendar for how to get an invitation.

Saturday 23-Sunday 24

Goring Craft Fair 10am-4pm, Goring Village Hall.

Saturday 30

7.30pm Concert: *Sounds of Advent* in St Mary's Church, Streatley

8pm Slim Panatella & the Mellow Virginians & guests Andy Taylor and Andy Baum - Christmas Special. Morrell Room, Streatley



Sam Littlechilds
Corporate Affairs Manager
YHA Chief Executive's Office
14 November 2019

Streatley Youth Hostel sale

Latest developments

The YHA Board has asked Genie to publish a statement to affirm its desire to retain the hostel as part of the YHA network by seeking a franchisee to lease or purchase the property. The statement explains the rationale for putting Hill House on the market. You can read the full text of the statement by clicking Read More below.

The 'Stop the Sale of Streatley YHA Group' has also asked us to publish an update of its campaign. It describes the high level of support it has received so far and the over 1,000 page views on its Facebook page and its plans to escalate the campaign and how supporters can help.

YHA Statement – Streatley

The YHA Board of Trustees constantly reviews how best to evolve our network to ensure that we prioritise our resources to deliver on our charitable mission. In recent years, it has become clear that the costs of YHA directly maintaining all of our hostel network to an adequate standard is simply not affordable for us as a charity.

We have looked at alternative operating arrangements for those hostels in our network where the costs of refurbishment are not financially sustainable for us in the long term. In some cases, this has led us to consider, reluctantly, the closure of hostels. However, this is not our preference. We have developed a new 'Enterprise' or franchise model whereby we either lease or sell a hostel to an entrepreneur who continues to operate the hostel under the YHA brand, but has the means and incentive to provide the investment that the hostel needs. Around 35 of our 150 hostels are successfully run using this model at the moment.

YHA Streatley is a hostel that we have been looking at in this light. The YHA's Board desire is to retain the hostel, but it is in need of significant investment which, for YHA, is financially unsustainable in the long term. We have therefore been looking at Enterprise as an alternative way forward. We have committed to continuing this search vigorously until at least July 2020, to maximise the chances of finding a suitable partner, and to that end we are keen to work with the local community to explore whether there might be any potential local partners whom we might pro-actively approach.

We are very proud of our network of over 150 hostels which exists to support our mission as a leading youth charity. Our focus in YHA is to support all, especially disadvantaged young people, to improve their mental and physical health and wellbeing and to develop crucial life skills. We remain immensely grateful to all those benefactors who have helped YHA through gifts – in Streatley's case that has helped us operate the hostel over the last 84 years. We are in touch with the family who originally donated the property to YHA.

Possible Sale of Streatley YHA

Stop the Sale of Streatley YHA Group
14 November 2019

Further to the article in the last Genie about starting a campaign to Stop the Sale of Streatley YHA there has been a great response. Thank you to everybody who has been to our Facebook Page and 'liked' us – over 1,000 page views!

Thanks also to those who have written to the YHA Chief Executive to express their concern. We have seen a generic response from the YHA stating some platitudes such as

- 'The hostel needs money for significant investment and maintenance in the hostel' – this we know is untrue as it is in good condition and there have been no costed plans for any development.
- They also say that it is 'not financially sustainable' – again untrue as it makes £50k a year profit for the charity!

We are developing plans for the campaign to stop this reckless action - and the next step we are looking at is to hold a public meeting (probably after the election and Christmas!). We are also going farther afield and linking up with interested groups such as The Scout Association, Centurion Running and the Ramblers.

If you are concerned please email us at stopsaleofstreatleyyha@gmail.com or sign up on our Facebook page [@stopsaleofstreatleyYHA](https://www.facebook.com/stopsaleofstreatleyYHA). 50 people have signed up – please join us too! We plan a newsletter in the next week.

Major timetable changes to Great Western Railway services starting on Sunday 15 December

About one in three evening rush-hour fast trains from Paddington will NOT stop at Reading

Not only will train times be changing, the calling patterns for many services may also be different. For instance, about one in three evening rush-hour fast trains from Paddington will NOT stop at Reading.



GWR suggests everyone should check their journeys and to spread the message about the changes, details are on [GWR.com/timetable2019](https://www.gwr.com/timetable2019).

As well as the big changes from 15 December, there will also be a temporary timetable in place while Network Rail work on infrastructure upgrades over Christmas and New Year.

This will affect services from Tuesday 24 December to Wednesday 1 January 2020 and includes the closure of Paddington station on Tuesday 24 December and Friday 27 December.

There is more information on [GWR.com/Christmas](https://www.gwr.com/Christmas).



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 seven applications for Goring, four for Streatley, and none for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: Beechcombe House The Coombe Streatley Reading Berkshire RG8 9QT
Proposal: Proposed cladding in timber boarding to the first floor elevations. A single storey extension at the rear of the house. A new garden room to replace existing shed, canopy over the front door.
Reference Number: [19/02638/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: 19 November 2019

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Location: Land To The Rear of Sunfield Townsend Road Streatley Reading Berkshire RG8 9LH
Proposal: New House
Reference Number: [19/02641/FULD](#)
Consultation Deadline: 20 November 2019

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Location: 3 Place Manor Cottages Wallingford Road Streatley Reading Berkshire RG8 9JT
Proposal: Installation of wooden shutters to interior of sitting room windows to replace roller blinds.
Reference Number: [19/02694/LBC2](#)
Consultation Deadline: 26 November 2019

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Location: Thurle Grange Barn Rectory Road Streatley Reading RG8 9QH
Proposal: Construction of a new outbuilding to include 2 garage bays and workshop/garden store.
Reference Number: [19/02794/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: 2 December 2019

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

Location: 21 Clevedeme Goring RG8 9BU
Proposal: Discharge of condition 4 - Tree Protection to application P19/S1050/HH Single storey rear extension with roof terrace above
Reference Number: [P19/S3165/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Not subject to public consultation Target decision date 20 November 2019

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Location: The Boathouse High Street Goring RG8 9AB
Proposal: Discharge of condition 4 - Services locations to application P19/S0336/FUL Demolition of existing fire damaged dwelling and boathouse. Application for replacement dwelling out of the floodplain.
Reference Number: [P19/S3180/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Not subject to public consultation Target decision date 21 November 2019

* * * *

Location: The Pavilion Thames Road Goring RG8 9AH
Proposal: Variation of conditions of application P19/S1699/FUL and permission P18/S1983/FUL
Reference Number: [P19/S3274/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 27 November 2019

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Location: St Katherines House Lyndhurst Road Goring RG8 9BL
Proposal: Single-storey side extension with rooflights
Reference Number: [P19/S3343/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 27 November 2019

* * * *

Location: Bromsgrove Croft Road Goring RG8 9ES
Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (drawings) - omission of garage to existing dwelling and to have the existing dwelling and proposed dwelling as separate entities on application ref. P19/S0540/FUL
Reference Number: [P19/S3382/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 29 November 2019

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Location: Woden House Limetree Road Goring RG8 9EY
Proposal: Proposed erection of a semi-detached pair of dwellings (2 x 4 bed)
Reference Number: [P19/S3433/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 2 December 2019

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Location: Littlethorpe Cleeve Road Goring RG8 9BJ
Proposal: Replacement of existing uPVC & glass conservatory roof with insulated flat roof & roof lights. Re-tiling existing extension roof to match main house. Cladding front wall of existing extension with handmade bricks. Replacement of front ground floor window. Addition of front ground floor window
Reference Number: [P19/S3418/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 4 December 2019

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. It is published at the middle and end of each month. It includes planning applications for Goring, Streatley and South Stoke which are open for comment at the date of publication. 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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