

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 December

In this issue: Road and rail information; funeral notice; latest on Streatley Youth Hostel; vegetable plot available in Goring, information for EU Nationals from the District Council – and our latest update of new planning applications.



REMINDER: Christmas Eve Torchlight Carols Details about this year's Goring & Streatley Torchlight Event

On Christmas Eve, at 6:30pm, the traditional Torchlight Carol Singing will be held in Streatley Meadows, accompanied by the Goring and Streatley Concert Band and including an address from the Rev'd Ben Phillips.

There will be no procession this year but road closure is still necessary to allow people to gather while torches are lit as they enter the field. The B4009 will be closed between the A329 (Streatley Crossroads) and Thames Road between 6pm and 8pm on Tuesday 24th December 2019.

The A329 at Streatley crossroads will remain open to traffic. All traffic affected by the B4009 closure should travel via A329, A4130, B4009 and vice versa. This closure has been authorised by a joint traffic order issued by West Berkshire Council and Oxfordshire County Council.

A plan of the closure can be [found here](#).

Torches are on sale in Jacks and Goring Hardware with torches for younger residents available from Inspiration. **It is politely requested that torches only be lit upon entering the meadow.**

Christmas Day morning will be clean up time. Join the committee and other residents between 10am and 12noon for a merry refreshment and some litter picking.

The Torchlight Committee needs more support to ensure the future of this legendary community event, for information please get in touch at gstorchlight@gmail.com or via their Facebook page (Goring & Streatley Torchlight Event).

ANOTHER REMINDER: Skew Bridge closure, rail and bus services over Christmas

1. Skew Bridge

This is an update on the closure of Skew bridge, reported in the previous edition of *Village Matters*.

- Firstly the closure is now only needed from 23.00 on 24 December until 27 December, the length of closure reduced to two full days.
- In addition to the main diversion a local diversion will be signed via Pangbourne Hill, Reading Road and the B4009.
- Visitors to Basildon Park will be signed via Bethesda Street.
- 'Access only' signs will be in place to deter traffic from using the Stitchens Green area.



An information letter from Network Rail can be found [here](#) and enquiries should be addressed to them on the phone number in the letter quoting the works reference.

2. GWR

There will be no service on Christmas Day or Boxing Day.

See <https://www.gwr.com/travel-updates/planned-engineering/christmas> for details of services over the Christmas period.

3. Going Forward Buses

There will be a normal service over the Christmas and New Year period, but no services on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or New Year's Day.



Funeral Notice – Dr Daphne Prue

Please note that the funeral and burial of ashes of Dr Daphne Prue of Goring will be held during the usual midweek Holy Communion at St Thomas's on Wednesday 18 December at 10.30am

Further information from: Charlotte Botham, Richard Wilson Long. Telephone: 01491 879100. Email: Charlotte@Richardwilsonlong.co.uk

Beware – off peak ticket changes

Off peak tickets are no longer valid on the semi-fast through trains to Goring leaving Paddington between 16.30 and 18.30 on Mondays to Fridays

If you're on a day trip to London and want to travel on these services you'll need to buy an anytime day return £47.70 instead of an off peak day return costing £21.90 – an increase of 127%. Period returns (which allow return travel up to a month after the outward journey) will also not be valid on these trains – you'll need to buy two singles. Also remember that off peak tickets cannot be used on any non-stop service between Paddington and Reading between 16.00 and 19.20.



You can still use the semi-fast through trains from Paddington to Goring later on at 18.49, 19.20 and 19.35. Also, off peak tickets will still be valid between 16.30 and 18.30 on stopping trains leaving Paddington between 16.00 and 18.30. The following connections are possible:

- 16.13 change at Reading (Crossrail service with no toilets calling at all stations), 14 minute connection, arrive Goring 17.38.
- 16.56 change at Maidenhead, 10 minute connection, arrive Goring 18.10.
- 17.27 change at Maidenhead, 15 minute connection, arrive Goring 18.45
- 17.56 change at Reading, 13 minute connection, arrive Goring 19.11

- 18.26 change at Reading, 8 minute connection, arrive Goring 19.36

Travelling by these services adds an extra 23-36 minutes to the journey time but you do save £25.80! GWR says that the new restrictions are necessary as they need to reduce overcrowding on the semi-fast services, despite also asserting that they are providing far more seats.

(Information taken in good faith from GWR website and printed timetables – no liability accepted for any inaccuracy!)



Streatley Youth Hostel

Mark Kibble writes:

'The 'Stop the Sale of Streatley Youth Hostel Campaign' is gathering momentum. A big thank you to all the people who have written to the YHA CEO to express their concern. We are gathering information about the fascinating history of the hostel and local historians are helping us with this. The campaign pressure is having some effect as the hostel has been taken off the market for a direct sale. However, the intention of the YHA is still to sell the house – but with a

franchise for 3 years to run as a hostel – although this means the hostel is still in danger of being closed after that.

'The YHA have agreed to a public meeting which is currently being arranged with a likely date being in February – we will let you know about this when details are confirmed.

'We are building a list of supporters to help the campaign – please go to our Facebook page [@stopthesaleofStreatleyYHA](#) to sign up – or sign up here: <https://mailchi.mp/84cc45944407/stopsaleofstreatleyya2>

'We can be emailed at: stopsaleofstreatleyya@gmail.com' Mark Kibble, 07790493897

Use of part of garden in Goring available

This is a large vegetable patch which is no longer needed. There are five plus raised beds, a large renovated Victorian greenhouse, water, electricity, private parking and access. Use of brown bin, compost and leaf cages. Manor Road location.

It is available free of charge to somebody who would like to make use of it and keep it tidy. Please ring: 07799 118797.



Information for EU Nationals

South Oxfordshire District Council provides support

South Oxfordshire District Council has written to thousands of residents of the district who are EU nationals from countries outside of the UK. The letter explains what affected residents need to do to remain in the UK after Brexit and signposts them to further information. Please find the letter attached [here](#). For data protection reasons they were not able to send this letter to all affected residents, and so asked local communities to help reach as many more as possible. Please share this information widely.

The SODC website offers some practical advice and support. For further information, please [click here](#).



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 five applications for Goring, none for Streatley, and none for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

None

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

Location: Nuns Acre Boathouse Thames Road Goring RG8 9AH
Proposal: Installation of mini pumping sump and foul drainage for toilet
Reference Number: [P19/S4190/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 16 December 2020

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Location: Katauyak Goring RG8 0JY
Proposal: Installation of 19.2m of sheet piling, two 150mm x 150mm mooring piles, three 2m x 3m landing stages. Removal of dead, dangerous Chestnut tree that has fallen into the river.
Reference Number: [P19/S4148/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 24 December 2020

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Location: Linwood Limetree Road Goring RG8 9EY
Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3 - schedule of materials, 8 - surface water drainage works, 9 - foul drainage works and 11 - landscaping scheme on application ref. P19/S1853/FUL Demolition of the existing dwelling and the erection of a replacement dwelling with integral garage. Modification of existing access with entrance gates.
Reference Number: [P19/S4324/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Not subject to public consultation but target decision date 7 January 2020

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Location: The Boathouse High Street Goring RG8 9AB
Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of application P19/S0336/FUL-the addition of a swimming pool Demolition of existing fire damaged dwelling and

boathouse. Application for replacement dwelling out of the floodplain.
(As amended by drawings received 20 March 2019).

Reference Number:

[P19/S4404/FUL](#)

Consultation Deadline:

9 January 2020

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Location:

Land to rear of Cleeve Cottages Icknield Road Goring RG8 0DG

Discharge of Condition 4 (Habitat Management Plan) Erection of up to ten dwellings with associated parking and amenity space.

Proposal:

P19/S0538/FUL Conditions(s) 4 (Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) of application P18/S2308/RM and revision to drainage strategy detailed in condition 7 of P16/S3001/O and approved under P18/S3811/DIS.)

Reference Number:

[P19/S4421/DIS](#)

Consultation Deadline:

Not subject to public consultation but target decision date 20 January 2020

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.

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