

Gap Electronic News & Information Exchange Free community e-newsletters serving the Goring Gap

Issue 23, 21 March 2020

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Welcome to Genie's 'Public Information' newsletter

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

Latest Update on local support during Covid-19 outbreak.

URGENT – INFORMATION NEEDED

Genie is producing a source of local information to email regularly to help the community better cope with the coronavirus crisis

We would like you to send us any important, especially local, practical information or details you may have, so we can share it with the whole community for everyone's benefit and to enable a co-ordinated response.

We will organise the information you send us under different category headings and mail out updates, which will include links, in a series of special newsletters as frequently as needed.



This information will be particularly useful for those who do not access social media which is expanding rapidly in response to this crisis. Many people prefer to receive information via email, so **even if you are sending out the same messages on social media, please send them to us so we may email too.**

As soon as Genie newsletters are mailed out they are immediately archived and easily accessible on the website for reference. We will also post all details on Genie's Facebook and Twitter channels, so people can easily spread the word as to where this central information is available.

The District and County Councils have suggested that the volunteer efforts are coordinated to ensure appropriate DBS checks, badges etc. Q1Care is the chosen 'hub' for Goring and Streatley, South Stoke Parish Council for South Stoke.

Some lists of volunteers willing to help in various capacities have already been created in the 3 parishes. We are not intending to replace these lists, but to add information to them, to make them as comprehensive as possible. Our newsletters will include links to them.

Here are some examples of the categories and types of information needed:

Please give as much detail and contact information as possible as we won't be able to check it all. **Please** do not provide any personal information (e.g. email address or phone number) which you do not wish to be in the public domain).

Vulnerable & Isolated People:

- Which professional agencies are supporting vulnerable and elderly people who are living independently?'
- How can self-isolating people seek help if needed?

- Which existing or recently formed new voluntary groups are doing good work? Please
 provide names and contact details of the lead people to help with co-ordination of these services.
 Note that we are already aware of, and involved in, Combat Corona Volunteers, so don't need any
 information regarding that.
- With the recent suspension of the Goring Transport Office Service, which groups or individuals are willing to collect and deliver people to hospital if absolutely necessary, or to the surgery or collect prescriptions and medical supplies? These could be commercial or voluntary.

Food & other Essential Supplies:

- Which local shops and restaurants are still operational and providing a food delivery service? What times are they available? What are their contact details?
- Who is providing delivery of household essentials?
- When are the supermarkets providing home delivery services for new customers?

Staff Shortages and essential Staffing Needs:

- Some of our local Care Homes need trained and general staff to maintain their essential care commitments to their residents. Please tell us who are specifically needed.
- Can the fire fighters tell us what they need to maintain their emergency call out service?
- With many fit and able people suddenly without jobs, especially in the hospitality sector, how can these people, who may be more than willing to help in any way, be listed and contacted?

Two Further Requests from Genie

1) With so much new information coming in, our group of 5 volunteers working from home in Goring could use help in collating and managing it. Ideally volunteers could be allocated to an individual task of collating and compiling information to send out. Please let us know if you are able to help in this, or any other, way. Thank you.

2) To ensure this information can be sent to as many local residents as possible, please forward this email to other people and encourage them to sign up to Genie now. Over 1,000 subscribers in Goring, Streatley and South Stoke receive these newsletters, but more than half of the total population do not yet. Genie was set up 3 years ago specifically for the purpose of delivering important information to the community quickly in times of need, so please help more people receive this service. Thank you.

<u>To subscribe</u> EITHER visit the Genie website: <u>www.genienews.org</u> OR email us using <u>subscribe@genienews.org</u> and we will add people's names to the mailing list manually for them. (Please note: We need to receive a 'request' and their 'village of residence' must be stated in the email.)

<u>To send in information</u>, please use the email address: <u>news@genienews.org</u> and please put **corona info** in the subject box.



STOP PRESS!

National Day of Prayer and Lighting a Candle of Hope tomorrow – Sunday 22 March

Please see the PDF file here

To comment on any of these stories please email <u>contact@genienews.org</u>
To send in news items, use <u>news@genienews.org</u>

Public Information reports on important, or sometimes urgent, news relevant to a particular village or cluster of villages. There is no specific publication schedule, as it goes out 'as and when' the information justifies a newsletter. **If you have any important news or information you would like to submit to Genie for consideration, please email it to the editor using news@genienews.org.**

If you like receiving this information and feel that others will benefit, **please forward to others** 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.
More details on Genie newsletters <u>here</u> .
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