

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 May

In this issue: Streatley YHA sale postponed; local VE celebrations; Genie looking for help with Social Media; music for local care homes; Wallingford Food Bank; Citizens Advice; GGN dates, local council information – and our latest update of new planning applications.



Villagers celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day

Our local villagers, in common with people up and down the UK, celebrated Victory in Europe Day, commemorating the day the fighting ceased in World War II, at least in Europe.

The May Day bank holiday is traditionally held on a Monday but was put back to Friday 8 May 2020 for this special anniversary. It was special in other ways too.

The major national celebrations planned prior to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic would have seen whole communities coming together with the traditional street parties, with lines of tables full of people, bunting, bands playing and sing-songs. However, whilst the spirit of the occasion was still very much present, people had to improvise and celebrate together, but apart, in small groups in their gardens and drives – and so they did!

To see a short video of how the residents of one road in Woodcote celebrated in style, [click here](#).



Calling all Social Media users

Could you volunteer your time to help Genie improve its Social Media presence?

Genie has been sharing its news articles on [Twitter](#) (since December 2017) and [Facebook](#) (since March 2019) but we know that there is so much more that we could be doing. This includes ensuring that the latest information is shared far and wide, engaging the local community, collecting news from social media sources to feed into future newsletters, representing Genie in local Facebook groups, and more!



With lots of people at home and with some time to spare, now would be a great time to think about whether you (or someone you know) could offer to take charge of our social media. This could be for a set period of time (e.g. as a project for a school leaver before heading to university in the autumn) or longer term. Training can be provided in all aspects of social media management if required, so this could be used as a way of developing a new skill. The time commitment will vary based on the individual, but is probably about 1 day per month.

Anyone who is interested can contact Genie on socialmedia@genienews.org to offer their services or ask any questions.

Goring Gap News

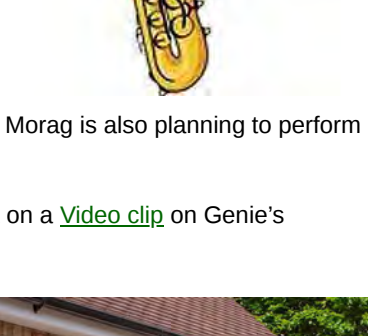
Goring Gap News delivery dates and June copy deadline

The May Goring Gap News went to the printers on 5 May with delivery by Royal Mail with delivery in the week starting 25 May. To support local businesses GGN will not be charging for the advertisements in this edition.

For June the copy deadline remains 3 June, with distribution by Royal Mail in the week starting 29 June.

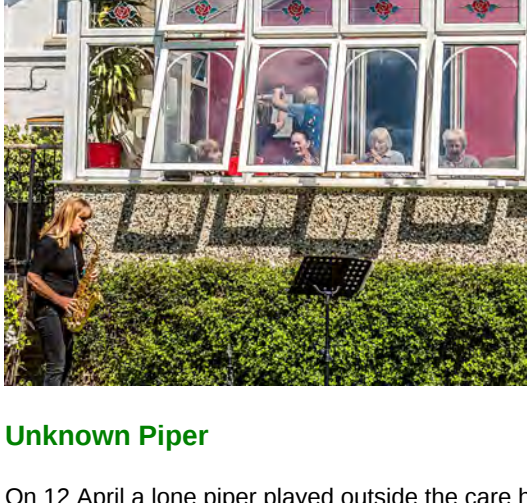
Dixieland jazz concerts for care home residents and staff

Some old swing favourites were played this week outside all three care homes in Goring to entertain the residents and staff. The audience clearly enjoyed every moment by singing along and dancing too.



Half hour concerts outside Lyndhurst, Cleeve Lodge and The Grange were performed by Morag Barson, a local musician from Hampstead Norreys, who felt she wanted to do something to lift the spirits of the people who live and work in care homes. Some Dixieland jazz on her saxophone and clarinet seemed to be one way to make a contribution and Morag is also planning to perform outside Coombe House care home in Streatley next week.

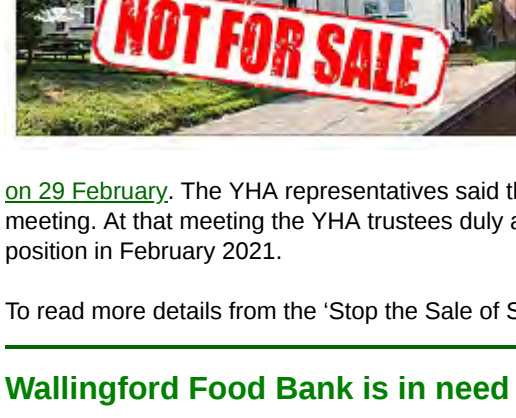
You can also watch Morag playing *Bill Bailey* on her clarinet outside Lyndhurst on a [Video clip](#) on Genie's facebook page.



Unknown Piper

On 12 April a lone piper played outside the care homes too, but unfortunately no-one seems to know his name and where he comes from to thank him.

If anyone does recognise him, please let Genie know on contact@genienews.org. Thank you.



Streatley Youth Hostel – withdrawn from sale for a year

Some positive news has been received following a recent YHA board meeting. The trustees decided to withdraw the Streatley property, Hill House, from sale for at least a year.

The subject of a deferment of the sale was put forward by campaigners during the public meeting in Goring Village Hall on 27 February when over 50 local supporters of the campaign to stop its sale made the proposal to a team from the YHA, as reported by [Genie](#)

meeting. At that meeting the YHA trustees duly agreed to the postponement and said they plan to review the position in February 2021.

To read more details from the 'Stop the Sale of Streatley YHA Campaign', [click here](#) for the PDF file.

Wallingford Food Bank is in need of donations

Wallingford food bank is still helping people during these difficult times, using a "phone and deliver" service. It needs donations of food and toiletries please. No fresh food, but any other food in date by at least 3 months. Money can also be donated of course.

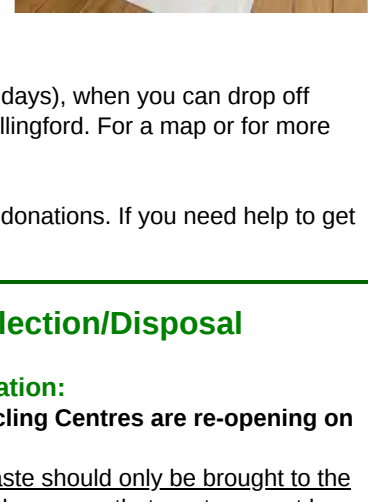
The standard list of suitable items to donate includes tinned meat, corned beef, hot dogs, tins of: potatoes, vegetables, tomatoes, fish, fruit, marghetti, rice pudding and custard. Also: pasta sauce, rice, jam, marmalade, honey, cereal, tea, coffee, drinking chocolate, sugar, longlife juice and milk (not skimmed), biscuits and treats. It is these additional items they would really appreciate please.

Shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste and deodorant are also welcome.

At the moment the bank is OK for baked beans, soup, pasta & toilet rolls.

The food bank is open 11am-1pm, Mondays and Thursdays (except Bank Holidays), when you can drop off donations at the Wood Street entrance to Ridgeway Community Church in Wallingford. For a map or for more information see the [food bank web site](#). The phone number is 01491 876677.

There is a food bank box just inside the Woodcote Coop where you can leave donations. If you need help to get donations to Wallingford from Goring please contact Hdnorris@btinternet.com



Information on Waste Collection/Disposal

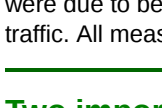


SODC information: 1 Waste/Recycling Centres are re-opening on 18 May.

Government guidance states that waste should only be brought to the site if it is essential to do so. By this they mean that waste cannot be stored at home or would cause harm to human health if it is stored. Please see this link for further details: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/waste-and-recycling/household-waste/household-waste-recycling-centres>

2 Extra garden waste collection

If you're a garden waste customer, this weekend's the time to spend getting your garden in shape. SODC will be collecting one extra bin's worth of garden waste on your first brown bin week after the bank holiday (last weekend). A bin's worth of waste is around three large bin bags, which you should leave next to your brown bin on your usual collection day during **the week commencing 18 May**. You can find more information here: <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/news/2020/2020-05/four-important-messages-ahead-bank-holiday-weekend>



Berkshire Waste Centres: Household Waste & Recycling Centres were due to re-open on Thursday 14 May.

In order to maintain safe social distancing for staff and visitors access will only be granted for those who have pre booked an appointment. Further information on how to book an appointment can be found here <https://citizen.westberks.gov.uk/clickandtip>

Due to the significant reduction in capacity on site, delays are still expected and so traffic management measures were due to be put in place day and night from 8am on Thursday 14 May in order to control visiting and passing traffic. All measures will be regularly reviewed and removed as and when it is safe to do so.

Two important messages from Citizens Advice:

1 Citizens Advice needs IT volunteers

Last year, our 160 volunteers in Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale helped 11,209 people to resolve their problems. Effective IT is absolutely essential to our service. **We need more volunteers to help with IT support** in Abingdon and Didcot (and remotely during lockdown).

What you will do

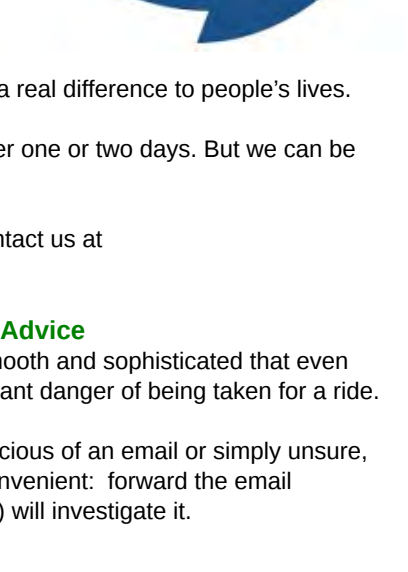
You will help staff and volunteers to sort out their IT problems. You will also help with system performance and network upgrades, hardware, and software installations.

What you will get out of it

You will join a friendly team, develop your knowledge and skills and make a real difference to people's lives.

Ideally we are looking for volunteers to commit to eight hours per week over one or two days. But we can be flexible.

If you are looking for a satisfying and stimulating volunteer role, please contact us at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale/volunteer



2 Use new fast-track reporting for suspicious emails – Citizens Advice

Scam emails, one of life's most tiresome phenomena, are becoming so smooth and sophisticated that even computer experts can be deceived by them, and the rest of us are in constant danger of being taken for a ride.

There is no need to feel isolated with the problem, though. If you are suspicious of an email or simply unsure, you can use a new, dedicated reporting service which is very quick and convenient: forward the email to report@phishing.gov.uk and the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) will investigate it.

To learn more, please [see this PDF file](#).

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

STREATLEY

None

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

Location:	Hillside Fairfield Road GORING RG8 0EU
Proposal:	First floor extension with roof changed. New porch and internal alterations. New roof above garage
Reference Number:	P20/S1383/HH
Consultation Deadline:	16 May 2020

Location:	Thameside House Cleeve Rd Goring RG8 9BJ
Proposal:	New front covered porch area with storage building at lower ground level
Reference Number:	P20/S1226/HH
Consultation Deadline:	21 May 2020

Location:	6 Middle Springs Goring RG8 0DX
Proposal:	Erection of stairs to garage loft space and insertion of rooflight
Reference Number:	P20/S1427/HH
Consultation Deadline:	22 May 2020

Location:	Waterfield Cottage Manor Rd Goring RG8 9EN
Proposal:	Raising of ridge and eaves height, replacement of rear bay window with rear glazed porch, replacement window.
Reference Number:	P20/S1471/HH
Consultation Deadline:	28 May 2020

Location:	1 Millers Close Goring RG8 9BS
Proposal:	Conservatory of 5m x 3m to rear of property
Reference Number:	P20/S1557/LDP
Consultation Deadline:	1 July 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>

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.

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

