

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.

Subscription date for articles for the next issue is 28 August

In this issue: major road closure in Goring (Streatley Recreation Ground issues); Goring High Street (newly Pavement & Pile repairs); SOCC parking charges discussion; Cholsey Marina application; news of The Grotto; and our latest update of new planning applications.

Major Road Closures – Goring and Whitchurch Hill

1. Wallingford Road, Goring between 28 August and 7 September. Closure between the railway bridge and the junction with the Reading Road – this means access from the village to the Railway Station will be closed.



This is to facilitate highway improvement works which are anticipated to be completed on 7 September 2020.

Road closed to all vehicles in the section of Wallingford Road between the railway viaduct bridge and the junction with Colchester Road (i.e. Reading Road junction).

This is a 26 hour road closure.

Appropriate traffic signs will be deployed to indicate when the measures are in force.

Exemptions are included for police, fire and ambulance services and for the works and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of road.

The alternative route for traffic affected by the closure is via B4008 – A425 – B471 – B4328 and vice versa.

Traffic Regulations Team (T7798) / PMS, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1PS. 0345 300 1171.



2. Temporary Road Closure at Whitchurch Hill: 24 August to 21 September 2020

The estimated completion of the works is 7 September 2020.

This is a 26 hour road closure.

Road closed to all vehicles in part of Whitchurch Hill (Works at Harlock Railway to Smeeths past the Old Lodge).

Appropriate traffic signs will be deployed to indicate when the measures are in force.

Exemptions are included for emergency services and for the works and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of road.

The alternative route for traffic is via the B471, A28 Finglowsme, Streatley (B438 Coys Pond) and vice versa.

Traffic Regulations Team (Ref 18036AC) / County Hall, Oxford OX1 1PS. 0345 300 1171.

Streatley Recreation Ground Equipment – take care!

Warnings are there for a purpose

One of the 'toys' in the children's play area has been deemed unsafe and wrapped in barrier tape – but the tape has now been removed (three times). It is important that parents understand that any warning notices must be heeded, for the safety of their children.

Clearly, the adult green gym equipment is clearly marked with the warning that it is for the use of those over the age of 18 only and is not suitable for young children, who might injure themselves if attempting to use it.

Streatley Parish Council requests that everybody who might use the equipment in Streatley Recreation Ground reads any warning notices and takes heed of what they say – and does not remove any barrier tape which has been put in place for the protection of all users. If this advice is not heeded, the Council may have to consider their position with regard to providing this play equipment.

News from Goring High Street

- 1. A new clothing shop has opened
- 2. Marvellous Hair responds to Covid-19 anxiety
- 3. Chocolate Café to open at the Henley River & Rowing Museum
- 4. Riverside Fish & Chips now Goring Diner



1. A new shop, TWC, has opened in Goring High Street. It is run by local fashion designers, Charlotte & Adam, selling their own label range of menswear and accessories.

TWC (The Workers Club) brand was founded in 2010 by Adam and Charlotte Carreras, and is the culmination of a combined 30 years' experience in the luxury and high street fashion sectors of the industry.

They say they are particular when it comes to the type and quality of fabric used and in the detail of every aspect of the production process, so they claim their garments are made to last. They have an online business too and have stockists of their clothes and accessories in stores in the UK, New York, Sweden and Japan, but Goring is their first venture into retailing on their own shop.

Opening hours are Wed-Fri: 10am-6pm and Sat: 11am-5pm (Closed Mon & Tues).

For more information pop into 3 High Street, Goring, email info@twcgarage.co.uk, phone 01491 87286. Also take a look at their [website](#) exploring the philosophy behind their brand and their [pages](#).



2. New special hairdressing service in Goring for people concerned about Covid-19 and visiting indoor spaces

The Marvellous Hair Company have responded to people's understandable concerns about Covid-19 and so every Wednesday there will be special arrangements in their High Street salon to help reassure them. Measures include a maximum of 2 clients in the salon at any one time, no client movement within the salon, full PPE worn at all times by staff, deep sanitisation of all equipment, individual 'pods' for entire treatment and longer appointment times.

For further information see their [website](#), email info@marvelloushair.co.uk, tel 01491 871362 or drop in.



3. The Chocolate Café (Goring, Henley and Wokingham) has just won the contract to run the newly re-opened River & Rowing Museum café in Henley

Ulricse Lee, who local people will know from her café in Goring Arcade, is very excited to be called to take over (read: the major stake) at Henley which opened on 8 August after being closed since March.

More details on the [Museum's café website](#)



4. Riverside Fish & Chips Change of Name

Riverside Fish & Chips Takeaway have changed their name to Goring Diner, in the hope of obtaining change of name's User Class (3) (Permitted). Application label below in Planning Applications list.

The Perch & Pike at South Stoke will re-open at 11.30am on Tuesday 18 August
The new landlords, Linda and Jamie, will be catering a warm welcome to all the local and regular customers, and they hope some new ones too, to see what changes have been made.



New Opening Times:
Tuesday-Friday: 11.30am-9pm, Sat: 11pm, Saturday: 11.30am-11pm and Sunday: 12noon-9pm.
Food: Tuesday-Saturday: 12noon-9pm, 8-9pm and Sunday: 12noon-9pm. For the first few days they will be serving a simple menu of fish, vegetables, chips and seasonal lunchtime lunches. Tuesday and Friday and the new full menu will be an offer from Friday 21 evening. (Closed on Mondays, except for Bank Holidays).

NB: The existing P&P website is now out of date and is in the process of being updated with new information on menus and accommodation etc. For current details email: perchandpike@btinternet.com or tel 01491 872618.



Your latest update (Update 9 @ 18 August) of the List of Local Shops & Facilities is now available [here](#).
It can also be found at any time on the [Genie website](#) by clicking on the [Genie](#) you see here, in the left, on the Home Page.

Rise in car parking charges for SOCC pay and display car parks under discussion

Before some charges can be increased a public consultation may be necessary, especially where new fees are proposed, eg for Sunday parking when it is currently free all day. So, the new charges may not be applied for some time.



To read details of the proposal, here are links to two recent SOCC documents:

[Signed by SOCC, Cholsey](#), with a [Statement by David Thomas](#), cabinet member for Housing and Environment, who is responsible for car parking charges.



A 288 boat 'Wallingford Marina' is proposed in the parish of Cholsey, Southstream of the Wallingford bridge by-pass

A planning application was, originally submitted for the new marina and associated facilities in April 2018, and is planned for the south of the Wallingford by-pass road bridge (Benevento Way). The application is currently in the 'Publicity' stage, which ends on 8 September 2020, and is being considered by Oxfordshire County Council.

The proposed site covers about 10 hectares of agricultural land with the access road on the Reading Road (A25), a few hundred metres south of the Winterbrook roundabout. It has been submitted by [Landon-Bark Ltd](#) and the development could be generated by a period of great restriction lasting about 4 years.



The [Planning Application](#) (PA19/02018), including 100 documents), is to allow the development of an office River Thames, marina basin with boat and floating pontoon moorings for approximately 288 boats (including larger motor and narrow boats), slipway, secure and public car parking, refuelling and pump-out dock etc. It will also include office and mooring area, marina office and cafe, toilet and shower blocks and laundry facilities, boat lift building, sports and bar/terrace area, open water area, smaller footpaths, local walking, green furniture and recreation of new grassy marsh, grassland, ponds, meadow and wet woodland habitat with a construction phase involving the extraction and processing of sand and gravel, the importation of inert fill and the construction of new site access, landscaping and screening banks.

To view a computer-generated video of the proposed marina, [click here](#). A gallery of Landon-Bark's 100 exhibition panels showing the proposed development is also [available](#). [Click here](#).

What is happening to The Grotto (aka ILAM), a once magnificent Georgian mansion in Lower Basilston?



The Vision



Current State

Third update on The Grotto. In February 2017, a major planning application was submitted by a London-based investment company (EUSO Goring Ltd), to develop the neglected listed property into a luxury hotel and country club with extensive facilities. Conditional planning consent was granted in early 2018.

The consent was subject to satisfying the terms a Section 106 [legal agreement](#) containing a number of conditions which were expected to be completed by 10 April 2019. [Click here](#). The Principal Planning Officer of West Berkshire Council sends for Genie last week to confirm that no consent has been made by the developer, South Stoke and is now submitted by EUSO to the planning department on plans to meet the conditions of the legal agreement.

Genie has been in contact with EUSO several times, by telephone and email, and was told that the senior architect and project manager, Paul Foster, responsible for the Grotto project, left the company several months ago. It is not known who at EUSO is taking over the project.

To see the EUSO's website of their plans to develop The Grotto (with a gallery of computer-generated images) and Genie's own previous reports on EUSO and The Grotto's development plans in our April 2018 and March 2019 issues, click [Read More](#).

In our April 2018 issue [\(Genie Matters No. 10\)](#) we reported on the plans by a London-based development company (EUSO Goring Ltd), to develop the listed, neglected property into a luxury hotel and country club with extensive facilities.



In our March 2019 issue [\(Genie Matters No. 12\)](#), we reported that planning consent had been given for the restoration, reconstruction and enhancement of the main house, converting it into a 100 guest room boutique hotel with a restaurant and bars, six new five bedroom detached houses and a spa. Also granted under the planning terms of 'Outstanding Development' are two detached family houses for private purchase within the original grounds.

[EUSO website](#), [EUSO's website on The Grotto](#)

Current local Planning Applications

This twice monthly 'Planning Alert' lists all the current planning applications submitted to SOCC (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 on subsequent Alerts and existing ones will remain until the consultation period has expired.

Click below to see details of his applications for Goring, three for Streatley, and one for South Stoke.