

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.

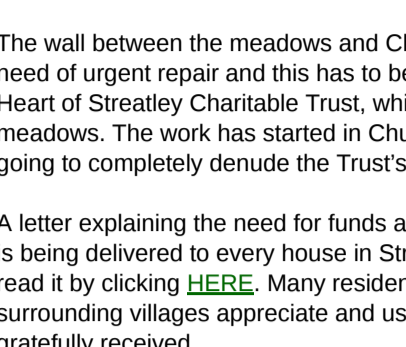
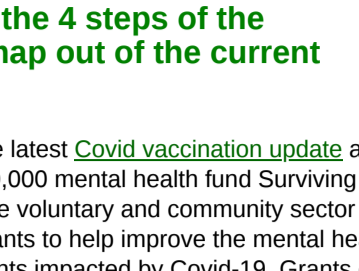
Submission date for articles for the next issue is 12 March

In this issue: Vaccinations latest; 4 steps out of lockdown; Streatley Meadows appeal and donation from Reading Cycling Club; FOGLE news; Hill House latest; Greenfingers Charity appeal; Festival news; SODC Ecological Emergency; Sailing Club news; possible fraud – and our latest update of parish council meetings and new planning applications.

Covid Vaccination update

The practice is currently completing groups 5-6 (patients 65-69 and those at risk) and have given over 3,300 COVID vaccinations, to just over 33% of the practice's eligible population, ie everyone over 16.

A clinic is planned for Saturday 13 March for people ready for their second Pfizer vaccination and the practice team will be contacting those patients soon to give them a time to attend.



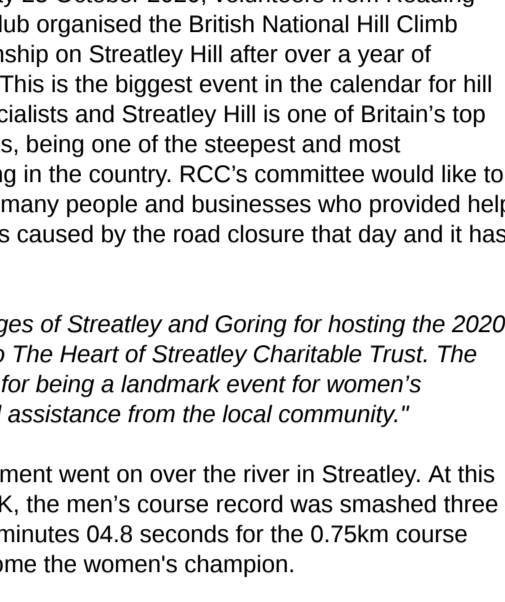
On 23 February, West Berkshire Council issued details and dates of the 4 steps of the government's roadmap out of the current Covid lockdown.

The [bulletin](#) also includes the latest [Covid vaccination update](#) as of 26 February and a new £200,000 mental health fund Surviving to Thriving fund. This will enable voluntary and community sector organisations to apply for grants to help improve the mental health and wellbeing of local residents impacted by Covid-19. Grants of £500 to £3,000 are available.

Streatley Meadows need your help

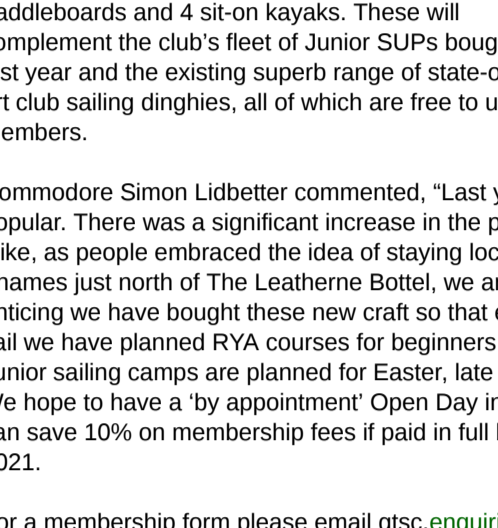
Urgent repairs will be very costly

The wall between the meadows and Church Lane is in need of urgent repair and this has to be funded by the Heart of Streatley Charitable Trust, which owns the meadows. The work has started in Church Lane and it is going to completely denude the Trust's reserves.



A letter explaining the need for funds and how to donate is being delivered to every house in Streatley. You can read it by clicking [HERE](#). Many residents in Goring and surrounding villages appreciate and use the meadows and any donations they might feel able to make would be gratefully received.

December's edition of the GGN carried an article explaining the history of the meadows and you can read this [HERE](#).



Reading Cycling Club says 'thank you' and donates £625.00 to the Streatley Meadows appeal

On Sunday 25 October 2020, volunteers from Reading Cycling Club organised the British National Hill Climb Championship on Streatley Hill after over a year of planning. This is the biggest event in the calendar for hill climb specialists and Streatley Hill is one of Britain's top 10 courses, being one of the steepest and most challenging in the country. RCC's committee would like to thank the many people and businesses who provided help on the day. It also recognises the inconvenience to local residents caused by the road closure that day and it has sent Genie the following statement:

"Reading Cycling Club wishes to express its gratitude to the villages of Streatley and Goring for hosting the 2020 National Hill Climb by donating the profits made from the event to The Heart of Streatley Charitable Trust. The event was successful and memorable in many ways, particularly for being a landmark event for women's participation. It could not have happened without the support and assistance from the local community."

Race HQ for officials was in Goring Village Hall, but all the excitement went on over the river in Streatley. At this thrilling event, with over 400 riders competing from all over the UK, the men's course record was smashed three times in a row by the last three riders creating a new record of 2 minutes 04.8 seconds for the 0.75km course and a popular local rider also smashed the course record to become the women's champion.

See all the results, photos and videos in [Genie's event report](#).

Goring Thames Sailing Club

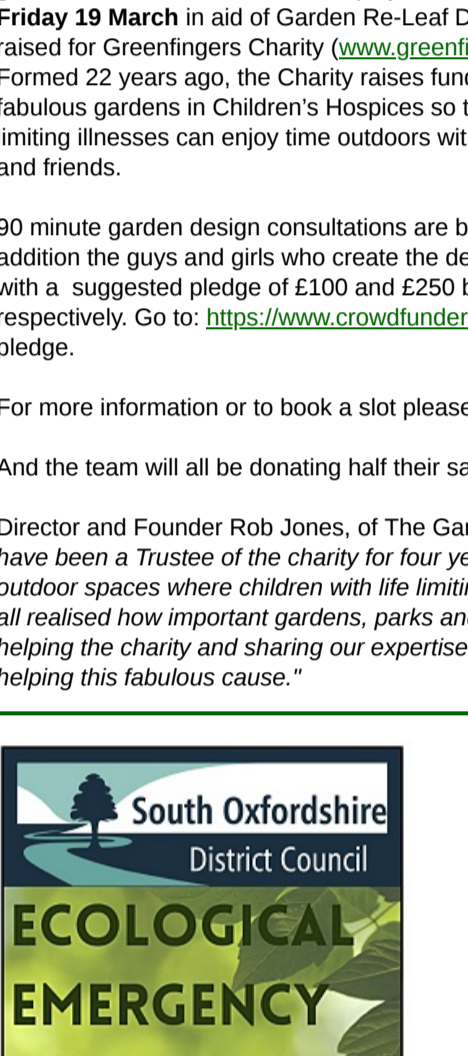
New Arrivals for the New Season

As hopes rise that lockdown restrictions will soon ease for outdoor sporting activities, Goring Thames Sailing Club was thrilled to take delivery of four adult stand-up paddleboards and 4 sit-on kayaks. These will complement the club's fleet of Junior SUPs bought last year and the existing superb range of state-of-the-art club sailing dinghies, all of which are free to use for members.



Commodore Simon Lidbetter commented, "Last year we saw many new members join with staycations being so popular. There was a significant increase in the participation on and indeed in the water from juniors and adults alike, as people embraced the idea of staying local. With our fabulous facilities and stunning location on the Thames just north of The Leatherne Bottel, we are a family friendly club. To make membership even more enticing we have bought these new craft so that even non sailors can get on the river. But for those who want to sail we have planned RYA courses for beginners and improvers, adults and juniors in May and June. In addition Junior sailing camps are planned for Easter, late spring and summer holidays, subject to government guidelines. We hope to have a 'by appointment' Open Day in the spring, but in the meantime new members wishing to join can save 10% on membership fees if paid in full by 15 March – and we have waived our joining fee of £50 for 2021.

For a membership form please email gtsc.enquiries@goringthamessc.org.uk.



The GAP Festival team looks ahead

Future Plans

As with many events last year, the biennial cultural GAP Festival was sadly cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Although we still find ourselves in uncertain times, the Festival team are setting their sights forward to when we might be able to come together once again.

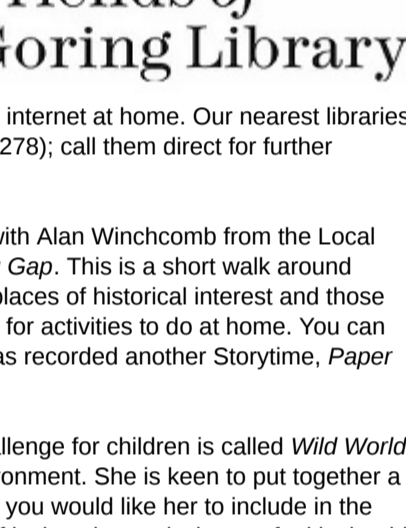
As part of this the organising committee has expanded and they are pleased to welcome two new volunteers. Goring resident, actor, voice coach, drama teacher and examiner Ginny Avery, joins as Artistic Director; Nick Morley, a stalwart of The Corn Exchange in Wallingford for over 25 years, producer of plays and pantomimes, will be taking on the role of Festival Manager.

Over the coming months, the team will be looking ahead and discussing future plans. To be the first to hear the news and get regular updates follow @TheGAPFestival on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or find out more at www.thegapfestival.org.

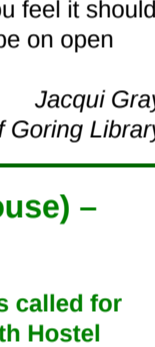
Help raise funds for greenfingerscharity.co.uk

Make a pledge in return for a garden design consultation or a garden blitz

As The Garden Design Company (www.gardendesign.co.uk) prepares to celebrate its 25th anniversary of designing and creating gardens, the entire team of 15 employees is working for FREE on Friday 19 March in aid of Garden Re-Leaf Day, when funds will be raised for Greenfingers Charity (www.greenfingerscharity.org.uk). Formed 22 years ago, the Charity raises funds to design and create fabulous gardens in Children's Hospices so that children with life limiting illnesses can enjoy time outdoors with their parents, siblings and friends.



90 minute garden design consultations are being offered by the company's design team. In addition the guys and girls who create the designs will be offering 4-hour garden blitzes, with a suggested pledge of £100 and £250 being invited for the design and blitz visits respectively. Go to: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/garden-re-leaf-day-2021> to make your pledge.



For more information or to book a slot please email rob@gardendesignco.co.uk.

And the team will all be donating half their salaries that day to the cause as well.

Director and Founder Rob Jones, of The Garden Design Co Ltd, who has lived in Goring for 35 years said: "I have been a Trustee of the charity for four years and so intimately know how important their work is in creating outdoor spaces where children with life limiting illnesses can play, relax and indeed escape. After all, haven't we all realised how important gardens, parks and nature are, in recent times? We are really looking forward to helping the charity and sharing our expertise, and have been thrilled that the whole team is so committed to helping this fabulous cause."

An 'Ecological Emergency' has been declared by South Oxfordshire District Council

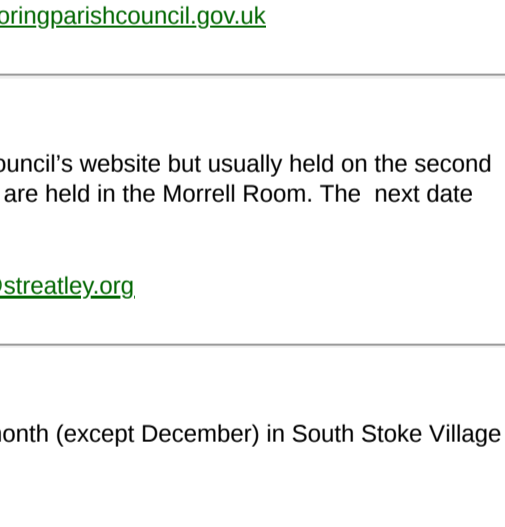
The motion was passed to declare the [Ecological Emergency](#), at a meeting on 11 February and follows the council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in April 2019 and that South Oxfordshire is to become carbon neutral by 2030.

Two of the six sections of SODC's Corporate Plan 2020-2024 for Managing the District's 68,000 hectares (over 260 square miles) with a population of about 140,000 residents, concentrate on environmental issues. Details of these sections, *protect and restore our natural world and Action on the Climate Emergency*, along with the other four sections can be read [HERE](#).

News from the Library

Jacqui Gray writes:

Following the Prime Minister's announcement on 22 February, it is looking likely that the library may be able to re-open in April. In the meantime, you can still return books through the letterbox, as Kate is going into the library several times a week to process them.



If you need to get your hands on a library book, then there are still fourteen libraries open around the county operating a click and collect system. It is also possible to book a time slot on a computer, if you do not have the ability to access the internet at home. Our nearest libraries offering these facilities are Didcot (01235 813103) and Henley (01865 815278); call them direct for further information.

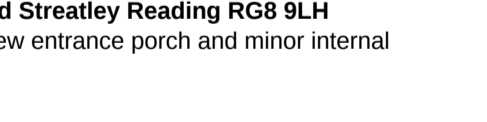
Following the success of our Advent Window trail, Kate has collaborated with Alan Winchcomb from the Local History Society to produce *The Famous and Not So Famous of the Goring Gap*. This is a short walk around Goring & Streatley, suitable for children aged 8 and over, taking a look at places of historical interest and those associated with famous authors. The trail also offers plenty of suggestions for activities to do at home. You can find information to download at www.logg-oxon.co.uk. Jacky Underwood has recorded another Storytime, *Paper Dolls* by Julia Donaldson, which can also be found on the website.

Finally, Kate is looking for your help! This year's Summer Reading Challenge for children is called *Wild World Heroes* and will be a celebration of reading, nature and action for the environment. She is keen to put together a trail of the top ten trees in the Goring Gap. If you have a favourite tree that you would like her to include in the trail, please email her at goring.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk giving details of its location and why you feel it should be included on the list. Please note that the tree does need to be visible from a public footpath or be on open access land.

Jacqui Gray
Chair, Friends of Goring Library

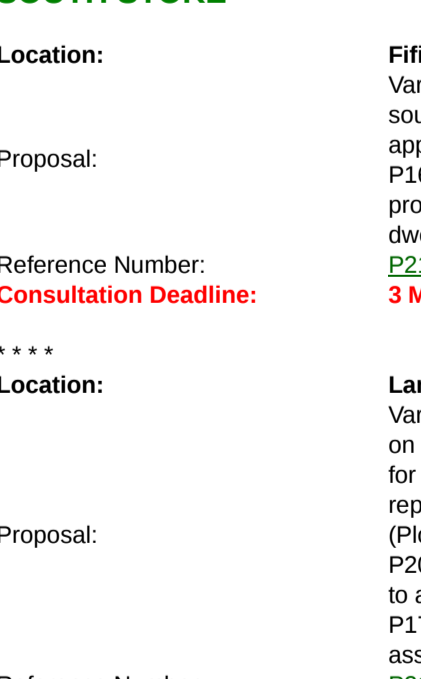
Thames Water – possible fraud

Be aware of possibly bogus callers



Thames Valley Police have been informed by Thames Water that a number of "Contractor" Identification Cards have been lost in transit.

The cards have been deactivated so they cannot be used to gain access to any Thames Water sites but there are concerns that they could be used for criminal activity known as "Distraction Burglaries."



MEETING DATES of forthcoming Parish Council at meetings and MINUTES of decisions

The purpose of 'Meetings & Minutes' is to help keep residents of Goring, Streatley and South Stoke informed about their council's forthcoming meetings and to provide easy access to the minutes of previous meetings. Please note that meeting dates may change and extra meetings may be called. This will be shown on the website.

All council meetings are open to the public and the press (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) and probably most, in the foreseeable future, will be 'virtual' owing due to the Covid-19 pandemic. At the beginning of every meeting there is usually a 'Public Forum' when members of the public can address the council. Click on the link below for your parish council's web page for up-to-date details of meetings, agendas, minutes and how to log on etc.

Goring-on-Thames PC

8 March 7.30 pm (Full Council Meeting)
23 March 7.30 pm (Planning Committee Meeting)

- Full Council meetings are usually on the second Monday of every second month month at the Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall.
- Planning committee meetings are usually held in the council's meeting room in the Old Jubilee Fire Station, Red Cross Road, Goring on Thames.

Contact details for the clerk: Tel: 01491 874444. Email: clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Streatley PC

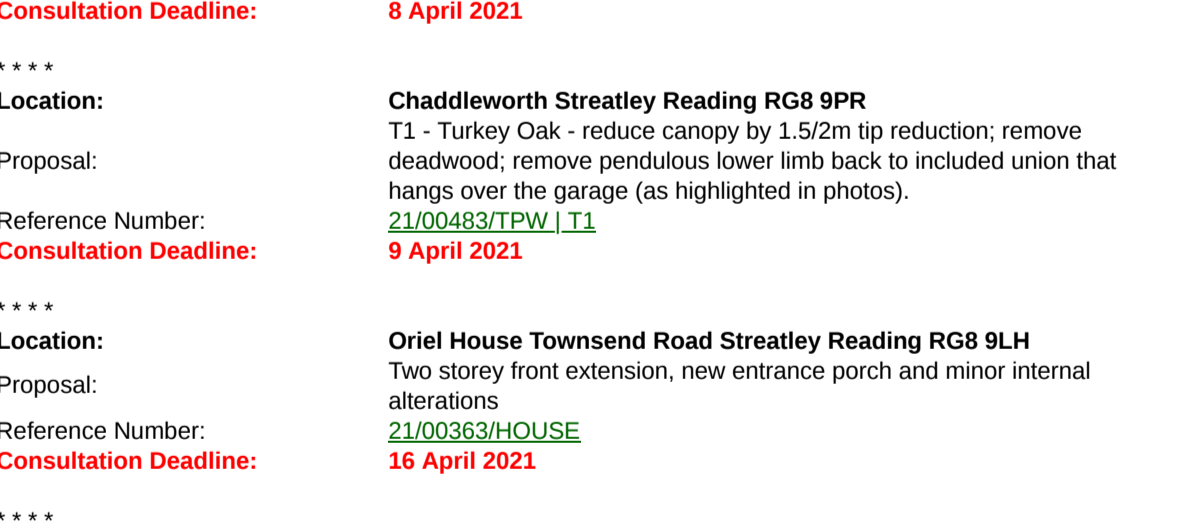
Dates of individual meetings are not normally published on the council's website but usually held on the second Monday of every month (except August), starting at 7.30pm, and are held in the Morrell Room. The next date going forward for 2021 is 8 March.

Contact details for the clerk: Tel: 07766 541577 Email: clerk@streatley.org

South Stoke PC

Council meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month (except December) in South Stoke Village Hall. See [website](#) for details

Contact details for the clerk: Email: clerk@southstoke.org.uk



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 four applications for Goring, five for Streatley, and two for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: Place Manor Wallingford Road Streatley Reading RG8 9JS
Proposal: Multi-Stemmed Willow - Fell and replace with an alternative that does not have invasive roots.
Reference Number: 21/00216/TPC
Consultation Deadline: 8 March 2021

Location: 5 Pound Cottages Wallingford Road Streatley Reading RG8 9JH
Proposal: Addition of 4 Conservation Rooflights
Reference Number: 21/00303/CERTP
Consultation Deadline: 8 April 2021

Location: Chaddleworth Streatley Reading RG8 9PR
Proposal: T1 - Turkey Oak - reduce canopy by 1.5/2m tip reduction; remove deadwood; remove pendulous lower limb back to included union that hangs over the garage (as highlighted in photos).
Reference Number: 21/00483/TPW | T1
Consultation Deadline: 9 April 2021

Location: Oriole House Townsend Road Streatley Reading RG8 9LH
Proposal: Two storey front extension, new entrance porch and minor internal alterations
Reference Number: 21/00363/HOUSE
Consultation Deadline: 16 April 2021

Location: West Streatley House High Street Streatley Reading RG8 9HY
Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (materials) of approved 20/01940/LB2 - The addition of a kitchen vent through the roof of the rear extension
Reference Number: 21/00292/COND1
Consultation Deadline: 5 May 2021

SOUTH STOKE

Location: Fifield House Ferry Road South Stoke RG8 0J
Proposal: Variation of condition 5 (removal of the words "...but to the east and south of the garage on the boundary to The Old Forge House..." on application ref. P19/S1072/FUL Alteration to condition 5 of design of P16/S3861/FUL Alterations to design of rear elevation of house and provision of building in garden following approval of replacement dwelling under permission P16/S3861/FUL.
Reference Number: 21/00290/FUL
Consultation Deadline: 3 March 2021

Location: Land at Woodcote Road South Stoke RG8 0JJ
Proposal: Variation of conditions - 2 (Approved plans) & 3 (Schedule of Materials) on application P19/S2865/RM - To seek a minor material amendment for the partial replacement of block paving with gravel and for the replacement of glass balcony balustrade with metal balcony balustrade (Plot 5). Substitute of approved external materials (ref P20/S2897/DIS). Application for approval of reserved matters relating to appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following application P17/S3206/O for residential development (up to 5 dwellings), and associated works, including access.
Reference Number: P21/S0388/FUL
Consultation Deadline: 5 March 2021

GORING

Location: The Little Cottage 7 Red Cross Road RG8 9HG
Proposal: Alteration and extension to existing lean-to side extension to increase kitchen headroom and provide for a WC, lobby, and garden entrance.
Reference Number: P21/S0291/H
Consultation Deadline: 3 March 2021

Location: The Little Cottage 7 Red Cross Road RG8 9HG
Proposal: Alteration and extension to existing lean-to side extension etc – Listed Building Consent
Reference Number: P21/S0294/LB
Consultation Deadline: 3 March 2021

Location: The Orchard Manor Road Goring RG8 9DP
Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application P20/S2910/FUL to incorporate a basement underneath the new single-storey dwelling.
Reference Number: P21/S0396/FUL
Consultation Deadline: 10 March 2021

Location: The Orchard Manor Road Goring RG8 9DP
Proposal: Discharge of condition 5 (Archaeological Watching Brief) on application P20/S2910/FUL new single-storey dwelling. Not subject to public consultation.
Reference Number: P21/S0525/DIS
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 30 March 2021

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](#).

