

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 July

In this issue: Summer Fun in the Library; New Flexi Rail Tickets; Mend the Gap supports Goring Gap Environmental Organisation; Arts Funding available; Cat missing in Gatehampton – and our latest update of parish council meetings and new planning applications.

New 'Flexi' Rail Tickets

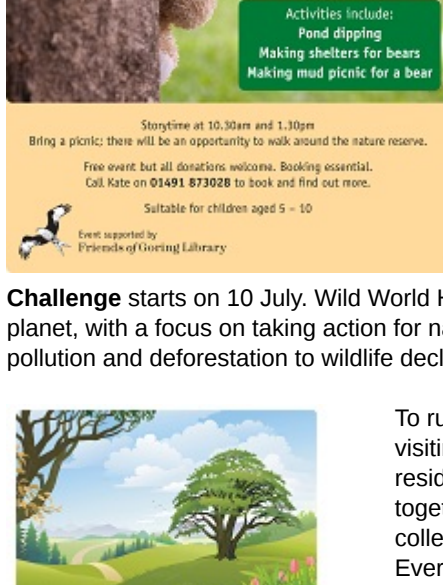
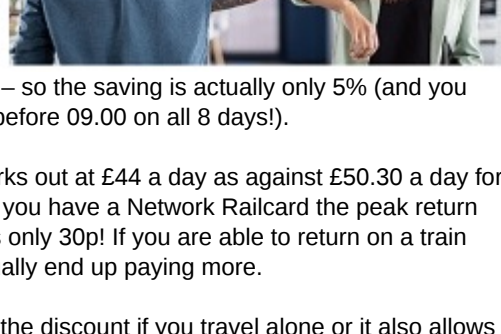
Do the new 'Flexi' rail season tickets really save much money?

The tickets are valid for any 8 days in 28 days, but are they worth buying? For regular journeys from Goring to Reading, for example, the 8 days 'Flexi' season ticket costs £52.80, compared to paying £56 for day returns for 8 days – so the saving is actually only 5% (and you have to be sure that you will travel outward Mondays to Fridays before 09.00 on all 8 days).

For journeys from Goring to Paddington, it costs £353, which works out at £44 a day as against £50.30 a day for a peak day return on Mondays to Fridays, a 12.5% saving. But if you have a Network Railcard the peak return fare (by buying two singles) works out at £44.30, so the saving is only 30p! If you are able to return on a train from Paddington classed as off-peak, it costs £41.90 so you actually end up paying more.

Anyone can buy a Network Railcard, £30 for a year, you can get the discount if you travel alone or it also allows up to three adults travelling with you to get the same discount. There is no minimum fare at weekends, so you can get a third off local journeys (e.g. to Reading or Didcot). Various other railcards are also available. If any of your journeys is wholly at off-peak times or any time at weekends, you will actually lose money if you use the Flexi ticket.

Conclusion: Flexi season tickets don't seem to be a very good deal at all.

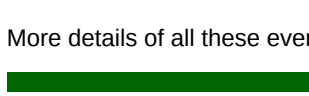


Summer Fun with Goring Library

Although we're not yet allowed to hold events inside the Library, this doesn't mean we can't still have book-related fun this summer

Our main family event (suitable for children aged 5-10) on Saturday 24 July is based on the wonderful book by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Come along and join us on Saturday 24 July at Withymead Nature Reserve. You can bring a picnic to enjoy before or after your booked session and there will also be the opportunity to take a self-guided ramble around the nature reserve. Tickets for this excellent event are free, but a donation would be very welcome. Booking is essential as numbers are strictly limited. Please call the Library manager, Kate, on 01491 873023 to book.

There are still some things we can do inside the library and that includes borrowing books. To encourage children to continue reading during the holidays, the annual **Summer Reading**



plan, with a focus on taking action for nature and tackling real-world environmental issues, from plastic pollution and deforestation to wildlife decline and nature loss.

To run alongside the challenge, Kate has devised an excellent walking trail visiting the **Top Ten Trees of the Goring Gap**, as suggested by local residents. The trail is full of interesting nature facts about the trees featured, together with explanations as to why they've been chosen. Trails can be collected from the library or downloaded from www.fogl-oxon.co.uk. Everyone returning a completed trail to the Library will receive a prize, kindly donated by Goring Hardware.

More details of all these events can be found [here](#).

Funding available to support the arts in our community

The Arts Society, Goring has been promoting activities across all the arts for young people under the umbrella of 'Young Arts' for many years and they have concentrated mainly on school projects. Now under the auspices of Arts Volunteering, their remit has widened and they are also able to work with local community groups, libraries, art and music festivals, as well as continuing to help with projects in local schools.

Their aim is to offer access to the arts in all their guises to as wide a group of people as possible. The Arts Society, Goring has a budget whereby it can contribute financially to projects deemed to promote and benefit both schools and the wider community. If you have a project that fits the above criteria then please contact sally.wicks@btinternet.com, Arts Society Volunteering Secretary, to discuss the proposal.



Missing Cat

Slim, one year old, neutered male, short-haired, all black cat missing from Gatehampton since Wednesday 16 June.

Please call Nick on 07722 417317 if you see any likely stray, or please take him to the vet to have his micro-chip read.

MEND the GAP announcement

The first of the enhancement projects can now be announced, as mentioned in [Genie's last edition on 16 June](#).



Joanna Watson, Mend the Gap Programme Manager, writes:

The Mend the Gap programme is to support plans for a new conservation organisation in the area, which aims to involve local people in activities that will help to conserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the Goring Gap. The new organisation's ambitions include building teams of people to work in partnership with local, regional and national conservation organisations in order to focus activity in Goring, Streatley and the surrounding areas whenever there is a need. In time, and once established, the local organisation will develop its own programme of projects and strategies based on surveys and research as to how the local environment can be protected and enhanced.

In addition to practical fieldwork activities with local volunteers, the group will develop information and educational materials to engage anyone with an interest in supporting wildlife and the improvement of the countryside and landscape, especially school-aged nature enthusiasts and the younger generation. The proposal was made by local resident Ron Bridle for the formation of the 'Goring Gap Environmental Organisation' (GGEO), as it is to be called, and which will become a charitable organisation in which everyone will have the opportunity to become involved in one way or another. More information will be forthcoming from GGEO as its plans progress and its website is developed.



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

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'** ones 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

Tuesday 27 July at 7.30 pm (Planning Committee Meeting) - to be confirmed

- **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

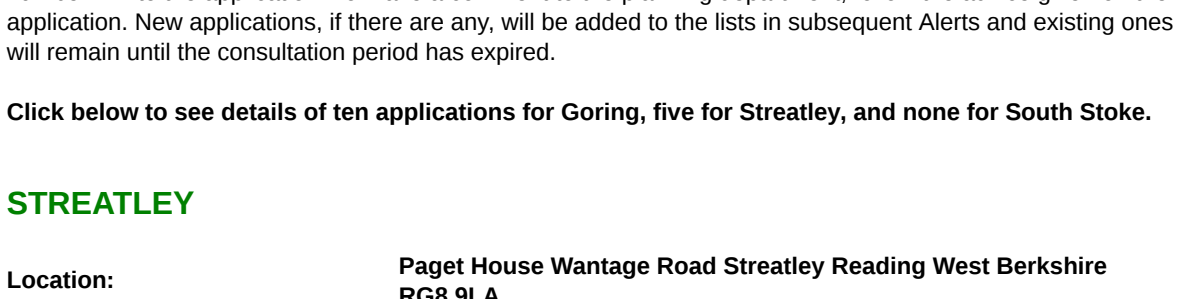
Dates of individual meetings are not normally published on the council's website but usually held on the second Monday of every month (except August), starting at 7.30pm, and are held in the Morrell Room.

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

STREATLEY

Location: Paget House Wantage Road Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9LA

Proposal: Erection of a detached oak framed garage.

Reference Number: [P21/01293/HOUSE](#)

Consultation Deadline: 30 June 2021

Location: The Brambles Wantage Road Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9LD

Proposal: Rear extension and rear roof modification

Reference Number: [P21/01398/HOUSE](#)

Consultation Deadline: 2 July 2021

Location: 2 Icknield Cottages High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JA

Proposal: Application for approval of details reserved by condition 5 'paint' of approved application 20/02972/LBC2: Chimney 1: re-pointing of existing stack, chimney pot - replace for like where necessary, chimney stack - re-pointing needed, like for like material (lime mortar) and flaunching - replace/repair, like for like materials. To install a wood burning stove including metal flue in the dining room linked to chimney 1. If we do not install the woodburning stove we intend to place a clay pepper pot chimney cap in order to save energy. The chimney breasts in the bedroom fireplaces will be fitted with relevant caps to retain heat (where needed) Chimney 2: works proposed on chimney 1 to be given chimney 2- this will only be done if the inspection when the scaffolding is erected deems it necessary. To install a wood burning stove in the drawing room including metal flue. Roof ridge - replacement tiles like for like if necessary. Re-paint front door with pale pink. Stairwell light. Shower room converted into office including electrical works.

Reference Number: [P21/01623/COND1](#)

Consultation Deadline: 9 July 2021

Location: Little Shaw High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9HY

Proposal: Internal alterations and single storey rear extensions to the house, removal of an outbuilding and replacement with a single storey annex/home office

Reference Number: [P21/01171/FUL](#)

Consultation Deadline: 13 July 2021

Location: Little Shaw High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9HY

Proposal: Internal alterations and single storey rear extensions to the house, removal of an outbuilding and replacement with a single storey annex/home office

Reference Number: [P21/01170/LBC2](#)

Consultation Deadline: 13 July 2021

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

Location: Upper Gatehampton House Gatehampton Road Goring RG8 9LT

Proposal: Erection of a three bay garage with use of the roof space as an office

Reference Number: [P21/S2462/HH](#)

Consultation Deadline: 30 June 2021

Location: 17 Holmlea Road Goring RG8 9EX

Proposal: Single storey front and rear extensions, dormer extension to rear first floor.

Reference Number: [P21/S2507/HH](#)

Consultation Deadline: 2 July 2021

Location: 2 Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DU

Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3 (Materials) & 8 (Contaminated Land) in application P19/S1832/FUL - demolition of boiler showroom and erection of two semi-detached dwellings. Not subject to consultation

Reference Number: [P21/S2290/DIS](#)

Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 9 July 2021

Location: 28 Holmlea Road Goring RG8 9EX

Proposal: Demolition of existing dwelling. Erection of replacement dwelling with attached single garage

Reference Number: [P21/S2627/FUL](#)

Consultation Deadline: 9 July 2021

Location: 50 Springhill Road Goring RG8 0DA

Proposal: First floor side extension, single storey rear extension and two new roof lights

Reference Number: [P21/S2688/HH](#)

Consultation Deadline: 12 July 2021

Location: 1 Holmlea Road Goring RG8 9EX

Proposal: Ground floor extension with partly pitched, partly flat roof; existing garage to be demolished

Reference Number: [P21/S2705/HH](#)

Consultation Deadline: 19 July 2021

Location: Icknield Lodge Icknield Road Goring RG8 0DG

Proposal: 1-Storey side extension; external re-modelling and associated works

Reference Number: [P21/S2772/HH](#)

Consultation Deadline: 19 July 2021

Location: Korobe Fairfield Road Goring RG8 0EX

Proposal: Discharge of condition 3 (Surface Water Drainage) on application P21/S0251/FUL - demolition of existing & construction of new dwelling. Not subject to consultation

Reference Number: [P21/S2488/DIS](#)

Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 20 July 2021

Location: Hartswood Manor Road Goring RG8 9EN

Proposal: Replacement of footbridge at Hartswood Manor boathouse

Reference Number: [P21/S2769/FUL](#)

Consultation Deadline: 21 July 2021

Location: Land to the east of Manor Road to the south of Little Croft Goring

Proposal: Discharge of condition 31 (Archaeology) on application P19/S2923/O - erection of 20 dwellings and associated works with all matters reserved except for access. Not subject to consultation

Reference Number: [P21/S2735/DIS](#)

Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 27 July 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 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 in 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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