

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: Miller of Mansfield news; Sir Lenny Henry talk; What's On in March; Important changes to your telephone service; Annual Star Count; February crime report; Zero carbon in Oxon; Free film workshops; GGeo meeting – and our latest update of new planning applications.



The Miller of Mansfield, Goring High Street – Re-opening date and a new look In our 30 January edition of Genie, we reported the 'End of an Era', when Mary and Nick Galer left their 8-year stewardship of The Miller for pastures new. Now we report that a new era is soon to begin, on or around the 18 March.

The new landlord, Simon Mukhtar, has told Genie that he and his team will be 'enhancing the pub areas to make them more accessible and that their food offering will be fresh and premium, but with affordable eating options too'.

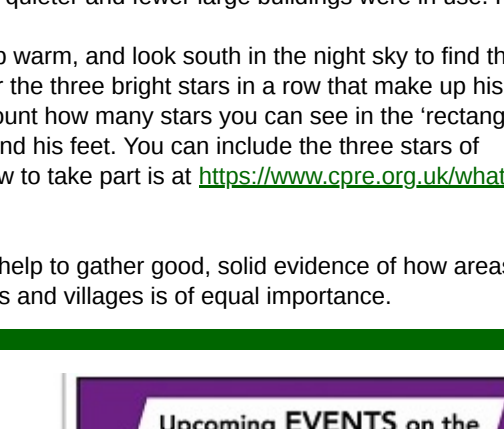
As part of the Old Spot Pub Company, The Miller will not be tied to any brewery so it will be able to offer a range of premium draught lagers and ciders and stock local craft cask ales too.

Simon, who has been in the trade for over 27 years, is in the process of relocating to Goring from Dorset. He says the group prides itself with being part of the community and looks forward to contributing to the local area.

Sir Lenny Henry in the Morrell Room, Streatley

A talk organised by Friends of Goring Library on Friday 11 March

Lenny Henry surely needs no introduction – one of our most famous British actors, a writer, comedian and co-founder of Comic Relief. He feels so strongly about the importance of the place of libraries in the community that he needed no persuasion to spend an evening with Friends of Goring Library (FoGL).



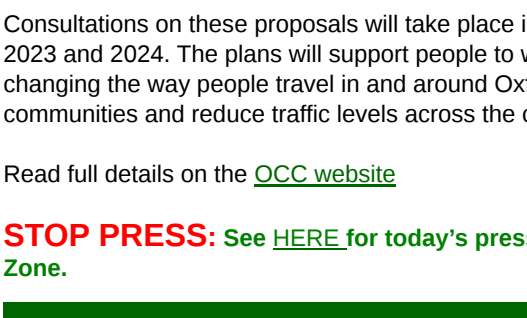
He will be reading from two of his latest books: The Boy With Wings (a children's book aimed at children age 9-11) and Black British Lives Matter, which he has co-edited. Both books are available in the Library and you'll be able to buy copies on the night.

He'll also be interviewed by Gaye Walsh (from FoGL) and there will be time for a Q&A session at the end of the evening. Refreshments will be served from 6.30 and Sir Lenny will start his talk at 7pm.

Tickets will cost £15 and, because this event is expected to sell out, are limited to 2 tickets per household. Tickets will NOT be for sale on the door – they must be bought in advance.

Tickets will be available from the Library from Tuesday 1 March. You can pay by card or cash.

FoGL members get advance notice of events and are able to make advance bookings. If you would like to join FoGL you can do so at the Library or online at www.fo-gl-oxon.co.uk – or on the night. You'll be very welcome.



Annual Star Count to map light pollution in our skies

CPRE, the countryside charity, is working with the British Astronomical Association's Commission for Dark Skies to map light pollution levels across the country.

They are calling on people to take part in Star Count, the country's biggest annual citizen science project of its kind, which takes place from 26 February and 6 March.

In the biggest citizen science project of its kind, people are being asked to count the number of stars they see in the Orion constellation to help map the best and worst places in the UK to enjoy a star-filled night sky. The results will be compared with 2021's findings, gathered during lockdown, which revealed a notable drop in the number of people observing severe light pollution given urban areas were much quieter and fewer large buildings were in use. For details on how to take part

Choose a clear night between 26 February and 6 March, wrap up warm, and look south in the night sky to find the constellation of Orion the Hunter. You can spot him by looking for the three bright stars in a row that make up his belt. Wait about 20 minutes to let your eyes adjust to the dark, then count how many stars you can see in the 'rectangle' formed by the constellation's four 'corner' stars – his shoulders and his feet. You can include the three stars of Orion's belt but not the four corner stars. More information on how to take part is at https://www.cpre.org.uk/what-we-care-about/nature-and-landscapes/dark-skies/star-count-2022/

Enter your results on CPRE's website survey page. Your results help to gather good, solid evidence of how areas across the country are affected by light pollution. Data from towns and villages is of equal importance.

Coming up in March – The Titfield Thunderbolt, on hold since 2020

Below is a selection of some of the upcoming events on the Genie Calendar.

Please go here for details and more events, or to add your own event for free:

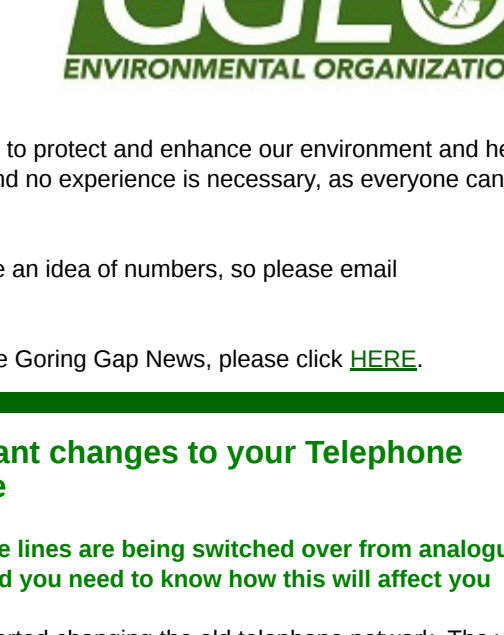


Table listing weekly activities: Mon, Thur, Fri - Weekly activities at The Hub; Wed Mar 2 - Village Greenfingers; Fri Mar 5 - Wine society meeting; Tue Mar 8 - Parkinson's Group meeting; Wed Mar 9 - Cleeve by Goring WI; Fri Mar 11 - Talk by Sir Lenny Henry; Sat Mar 12 - Folk concert in Cholsley; Sun Mar 13 - Piano Duets in St Mary's; Tue Mar 15 - Goring Gap Photo Club; Wed Mar 16 - Goring Gap Players present The Titfield Thunderbolt; Thur Mar 17 - Pick-a-Flick; Sat Mar 19 - Reading Bach choir sings; Sun Mar 20 - Goring 10K; Mon Mar 21 - Local History society; Wed Mar 23 - Goring Village Hall AGM; Sun Mar 27 - Starter Band concert; Tue Mar 29 - Goring Photo Club; Thur Mar 31 - Goring u3a; Sat 23 April - Chamber Choir concert.

Councils announce ambitious updated proposals to support a zero carbon transport network

Plans to create a sustainable and reliable transport system in Oxford have been announced. The proposals will see the introduction of a citywide workplace parking levy, traffic filters and a wider zero emission zone, together with improved public transport and cycle routes.

Over the coming months, Oxfordshire County Council and Oxford City Council will engage with businesses, service providers, hospitals, transport providers, schools and town and parish councils to gather suggestions and feedback on the proposed schemes.

Consultations on these proposals will take place in late summer 2022, with the schemes to be implemented between 2023 and 2024. The plans will support people to walk, cycle and make faster journeys by public transport. By changing the way people travel in and around Oxford, the schemes will also help reduce air pollution, create healthy communities and reduce traffic levels across the city.

Read full details on the OCC website.

STOP PRESS: See HERE for today's press release giving details of the first stage of the Zero Emissions Zone.

Crime incidents in Goring this month

Below are the 'incidents' in Goring and locality reported to Genie on 25 February by the Thames Valley Police (Henley Neighbourhood Team)

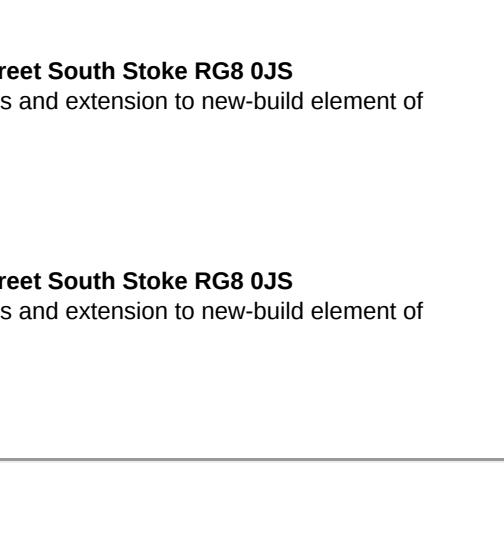
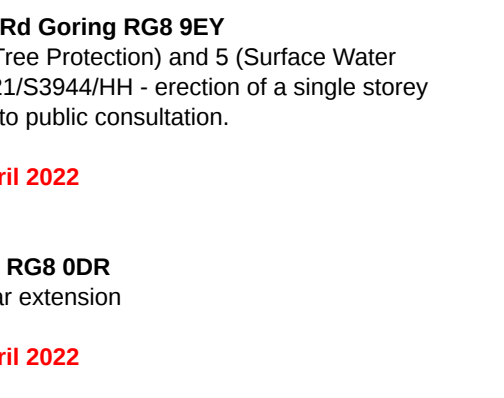


Table of crime incidents: 30 Jan - Road related incident; 4 Feb - Theft from vehicle; 8 Feb - Theft from vehicle; 8 Feb - Road traffic collision; 13 Feb - Suspicious person; 13 Feb - Suspicious person; 17 Feb - Suspicious vehicle; 22 Feb - Shop lifting; 24 Feb - Burglary.

\* The Police would like to hear from Goring residents of any sighting or unusual activity which might be related to this burglary, which occurred between 7 and 9pm. If you were on Reading Road between those times and saw anything that might be helpful please contact Thames Valley Police on 101. Please remain vigilant.

Free Film Workshops 5 March and 23 April

As part of The GAP Festival's Film Fest, the team are offering two free workshops to any young people registering to submit a short film as part of the Festival



The two workshops take place on Saturday 5 June and Saturday 23 April at Goring Community Centre. On both dates there will be two sessions 2-4pm for primary and secondary school aged children, and 4-6pm for sixth form. To reserve a space email filmfest@gapfestival.org.

Run by local filmmakers Jesse Cleverly and the second on editing. By the end of these two sessions you'll be ready to submit your short film! There are amazing Film Oxford film course prizes up for grabs once you have submitted your film, plus a red carpet premiere screening event as part of the GAP Festival programme.

This will be a wonderful showcase of local young talent and fun event for all the family to enjoy as they view the creative outputs from the workshops.

First public meeting for GGeo – Wednesday 6 April at 7.30pm, The Swan Hotel, Streatley



A meeting about the plans for the Goring Gap Environmental Organisation (GGeo), a new registered charity, will be held on 6 April at 7.30pm at The Swan Hotel.

Come and meet the trustees and find out about the opportunities to protect and enhance our environment and help increase biodiversity in the Goring Gap area. All are welcome, and no experience is necessary, as everyone can help in some way and make a difference.

If you are interested in attending it would be really helpful to have an idea of numbers, so please email GGeo.CIO@outlook.com or call 07789 871620.

To read one of the previous articles about GGeo published in the Goring Gap News, please click HERE.



Important changes to your Telephone Service

Telephone lines are being switched over from analogue to digital and you need to know how this will affect you

BT has started changing the old telephone network. The voice service you currently have on your telephone line is being changed to a broadband voice service. BT call this an 'upgrade'. However, it's still the same simple voice service, but with reduced flexibility, no local dialling and it ceases to work when there's a power cut.

Changeover is in progress for BT customers, and several houses in Goring have already been changed. However, all telephone lines (excepting Virgin Media cables) will be changed over by the end of 2025. BT give their customers about 4 weeks' notice of changeover and expect customers to handle the change themselves.

It is important that you understand how this will affect you. For further details, see this PDF file – you can download/print it for future reference. There is also more information on P27 of the February Goring Gap News.

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 nine applications for Goring, eight for Streatley, and three for South Stoke.

Table of planning applications for STREATLEY: 4 Icknield Cottages High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JA; 4 Icknield Cottages High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JA; 4 White Hart Yard High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JE; The Old Golf House Rectory Road Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9QA; The Old Golf House Rectory Road Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9QA; 7 Pound Cottages Wallingford Road Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JH; 15 Hill of Gardens Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9QF; Dupzac The Coombe Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9QL.

Table of planning applications for SOUTH STOKE: Land at Icknield Gas to Grid Anaerobic Digestion Plant Icknield Road Ipsden Oxfordshire OX10 6AS; Devonshire House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS; Devonshire House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS.

Table of planning applications for GORING: Tudor Cottage Manor Road Goring RG8 9DR; Tudor Cottage Manor Road Goring RG8 9DR; 18 Wallingford Road Goring RG8 0AY; Upper Gatehampton Farm Goring RG8 9LY; Luffield House 85A Wallingford Road RG8 0HL; Haydown Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DT; Sweet Briar Cottage High St Goring RG8 9BB; 2 Woden House Limetree Rd Goring RG8 9EY; 78 Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DR.

Click on the link below for your parish council's web page for up-to-date details of planning and other meetings, agendas, minutes and how to log on etc. Goring-on-Thames PC; Streatley PC; South Stoke PC



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: https://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.