Issue 138, 16 July 2023

View this email in your browser

Please forward this email to anyone you feel may also like to receive these newsletters. Thank you.

Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

Submission date for articles for the next issue is 26 July In this issue: Streatley road closure; Ticket office closure; Jo Heard tribute; Swan Upping; Micron Theatre;

College barge sale; Social media help needed; Assistant clerk vacancy; Festival help needed; Crime figures;

New Hub manager; Goring Repair Café; Wallingford Museum news; SODC news - and our latest update of new planning applications.

Streatley Hill Closure

24 July to 18 August 2023

The closure is expected to be between the junction with

A329 (at The Bull, Wallingford Road) and the junction with Lewendon Hill (the junction with The Coombe). The diversion route is expected to be via - A329 (Wallingford Rd), A417, A34, A339 (toward Newbury) to Robin Hood Roundabout, B4009 toward Streatley, and

enquiries should be directed to: SGN on 0800 912 1700.

earlier this month A personal tribute by some of Jo's friends, along

with a poem from her husband and some photographs, can be seen HERE. Five years ago, Jo's friend Viv, asked her to become

quickly became well known by the local residents from both Goring and Streatley and the many visitors who used the café. She undoubtedly contributed to its success as a popular meeting place in the Arcade and became part of the community. Her incredible

Manager at the Goring Village Café (aka The Chocolate Café). Jo settled in immediately and loved the job and

commitment to doing a skydive in support of the fundraising campaign for the Hub next door, only three months

prior to her passing, was a measure of her vibrant and caring personality. Jo will be sadly missed by so many of her friends, colleagues and customers. Jo's funeral will be held at 4pm on Friday 21 July at the West Berkshire Crematorium, Bath Road, Thatcham RG19 4LD. The chapel is able to seat about 100 people and there will be a webcast for those who may not be able to attend in person (details of the webcast link are HERE).

The SWAN UPPING fleet arrive in Goring this Thursday (20 July) around tow path and from the lock when the fleet of traditional rowing skiffs approach Goring from

predict, but it should be around 5pm. They start the 5-day journey tomorrow (Monday 17 July) from Sunbury Lock at 9am and the predicted arrival times throughout the route, and more about the event, can

be seen HERE. Swan Upping plays an important role in the conservation of the mute swan and involves The King's Swan Warden collecting data, assessing the health of young cygnets and examining them for any injuries. Cygnets are extremely vulnerable at this early stage in their development and Swan Upping affords an opportunity to help

GWR consultation on phasing out of TICKET OFFICE some ticket offices closes in 10 days THREAT OF CLOSURE on 26 July

digital tickets and technology have made it easier and faster for customers to buy and manage tickets online, which means fewer people than ever are using manned ticket offices. Sales at Goring & Streatley's ticket office during the 2022/23 financial year were 22.7% (£22,073) of annual income. A further 24.4% were via the station's TVM (Ticket Vending Machine) with the remaining sales (52.9% accounting for £53,812) were for journeys from G & S station booked and paid for online. Mark Hopwood, MD of GWR states: "It is important that we recognise the changes customers are making in the

Twitchers: the wild and wonderful world of the RSPB Both performances are at Goring Lock. There is no reserved seating and no tickets are required. A 'pay what you

We have investigated the cost and feasibility of restoration, but the combined effects of the pandemic, war in Ukraine, energy costs, inflation and cost of living crisis mean that we are not in a position to carry them

continued interest in the barge. However, despite fund-raising attempts by us and by others it appears there is not enough support to give the barge the love and attention she needs, so we are therefore

The Magdalen Barge, built in 1927 by Messrs L. G. Mouchell & Partners Ltd, is one of the last remaining ferroconcrete hulled vessels in the country and formerly belonged to Magdalen College, Oxford. It was used by the Swan hotel as a wedding venue in the past but the years have not been kind and she is in desperate need of

bargebid@theswanatstreatley.com NB: We are very keen that the barge goes to a good home and will not be choosing the new owner on bid value alone, so please do explain your intentions for the barge as part of your bid. Thank you.

For more information or to discuss the role in more detail, contact the Parish Clerk: clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk Applications should be marked confidential and for the attention of the Parish Clerk. Interviews will be held between 25th and 28th July 2023 for a single interview conducted by a panel of Councillors and the Clerk.

Closing date for applications: 4.00pm on Sunday 23rd July 2023. Applicants are requested to submit a completed application form (available directly from the clerk, or download from the website), and will also include a C.V. and covering letter. The Civil Parish of Goring-on-Thames is located in the District of South Oxfordshire, within the

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council has office space which can be used in the execution of the role, however by arrangement some hours can be completed from your home. It is not possible to fulfil the requirements of this

Salary offered is pro rata to the national scale LC1 points 7 to 12 of between £22,369 and £24,496 a year for a full time (37 hrs a week) equivalent. This position will play an important role in supporting and deputising for the Parish Clerk. Successful candidates will either be CiLCA qualified, or there is an opportunity to study for CiLCA. The role of Assistant Clerk is hands-on, requiring travel across the parish to complete statutory inspections, meet

contractors or attend meetings of the council and committees, which will involve some evening work.

Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) with an Electoral Roll circa 2750.

Goring-on-Thames 07789 871620 It's a free service for anyone to use and we hope it will become a permanent community service every other month if enough people support each event. Whether you bring a lamp or a laptop, a garden tool or a guitar, we'll try to fix it on the day. Of course, no guarantees as those items which can't be fixed often need a spare part which needs to be ordered and fitted at a later date. We should have about a dozen repairers on duty again in August including bike, furniture, garden machinery and household appliance repairers and those who will sharpen tools, mower blades and knives etc. For more information about what you can bring etc, please visit the

You can bring up to 2 items for repair and we welcome any voluntary donations to cover the cost of the hall hire and other expenses. However, if you don't have anything broken to be fixed at the time, you are welcome to just pop in to have a look at how it all works - and have a coffee or tea and some wonderful homemade cake at Café

Below is the latest list of incidents in Goring and the locality reported to Genie by the Thames Valley Police 16 June Anti-social behaviour, young persons - High Street

A New Manager at the Hub - Bridging the Gap A new manager, Niki Chessher, recently took over from Claire Rhodes who moved to pastures new a couple of months ago. Although there is a small backlog of emails

Maggie Filipova-Rivers

Current loca **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

which to respond are at the top.

Goring-on-Thames PC;

Consultation Deadline: Determination Deadline: 18 August 2023 SOUTH STOKE Location:

Location:

Proposal:

Location:

Proposal:

Reference Number:

Reference Number:

Location: P23/S2054/DIS

P23/S2235/LB

Devonshire House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on planning application P22/S0129/HH (Proposed internal alterations and extension to new-Proposal: build element of property) - to alter the openings in the gable from three openings to one glazed gable. Reference Number: P23/S2254/S73 **Consultation Deadline:** 2 August 2023

23/01338/FUL

accommodation outbuildings

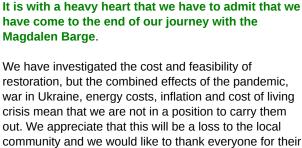
Reference Number: P23/S2200/DIS **Consultation Deadline:** Target decision date 9 August 2023 To visit SODC's planning website:

NB: Genie News will endeavour to make these alerts as comprehensive and accurate as possible, but

vice versa. Residential access will be maintained throughout and the diversion will be signed on site. Please Note: Blue light access will be available via the diversion route only or other alternative route. The purpose of this closure is for Southern Gas Network to replace its supply infrastructure along this route. All A plan of the closure can be found at: https://one.network/?tm=GB134810014 A tribute to Jo Heard, manager of Goring's Village Café, who sadly died

This special annual event can be observed along the downstream The precise timing of their arrival is difficult to both adults and cygnets that might otherwise go untreated. The origin of Swan Upping is not very clear although





Closing date: Sunday 23 July 2023 GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUN STAFF VACANCY - ASSISTANT CLERK Applications are invited for the post of Assistant Clerk, responsible to the Parish Clerk. This is an office based, part time, permanent vacancy for 12-15 hours per week.

The third event for getting your broken items repaired by skilled volunteer repairers will take place

REPAIR

Could you help the GAP Festival team? The Festival Team writes: Your festival We have already had an amazing response from local people volunteering to help bring next year's GAP Festival to life. With a few remaining roles, we need your

If so, Genie would love to hear from you! Our small team of volunteers are looking for another public-spirited person who could help with posting some of the items we put in our newsletters into our Facebook and Twitter channels, to let more people hear about them

science, business administration and mental health and has extensive business experience in the nonprofit and public sectors across several countries. Unable to travel easily due to COVID-19, Niki moved back to the UK to be closer to her elderly parents, after nearly 30 year in Pangbourne with her husband, John (who is a finance lecturer at Henley Business School and Reading Niki recently completed with distinction a master's degree in Psychology and Neuroscience of Mental Health at

June/July Report from SODC Councillor This report includes the following topics: • Didcot Garden Party launch day Councillor Community Grants Funding Rural England Prosperity Fund South Oxfordshire Bathing Water Status Make a Splash at Riverside Help for residents to reduce energy bills **Rubbish Updates!** Have Your Say on Air Quality Homes for Ukraine – call for landlords Don't miss out on EV deals

Location: Proposal: in height. Reference Number: 23/01608/TPC **Determination Deadline: 14 August 2023 Consultation Deadline:** Location:

Consultation Deadline: 2 August 2023 **GORING** Land to the east of Manor Road to the south of Little Croft Goring Discharge of condition 10 (ground water monitoring) on P22/S0003/RM - erection of 20 dwellings. Not subject to public consultation.

Proposal: Reference Number: Target decision date 28 July 2023 **Consultation Deadline:**

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-and-building application * * * * * To visit WBC's planning website: https://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application

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.

Information on how to comment on a WBC application:

https://info.westberks.gov.uk/representations

your contact list.

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 More details on Genie newsletters here.

living and working in Brussels, Spain, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Japan and Malaysia. She now lives University) and their three children. King's College London. She's keen to use this to give back to society by helping those in need of some extra support in life. She phoned the Hub to volunteer but was very pleased to take up the role of Manager instead. If there is demand, Niki is interested in introducing mindfulness sessions, a bereavement support group and talks on psychology and neuroscience, so people can learn more about the brain, to maximise their wellbeing. Stop by to join the activities at the Hub or drop in for information, support, or just a cup of tea or coffee and to meet the new manager! Wallingford Museum News - July to September Every Wednesday during the schools holidays, 2-4pm a family pop in crafty activity, suitable for ages 5 plus. Please note normal admission charges apply.

Sunday 3 September a free special guided walk around the town, starting at 11am from the Museum. No booking is

Opening hours have also been extended during the

necessary but donations welcome.

Niki has degrees in software engineering, computer

You can read it **HERE**. **Local Parish Councils** Click on the link below for your parish council's website for up-to-date details of planning and other meetings, agendas, minutes and further useful general information.

Streatley PC;

South Stoke PC

Allowed on Appeal 21/01179/FULD - Erection of one dwelling and garage and formation of new access. Section 73A application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 17/01476/FULD 23/01429/COND 17 July 2023 Windrush Vicarage Lane Streatley Reading RG8 9HX Willow - Remove two clumps of 1 to 3 willows along the riverbank, and replace with 11 semi-mature weeping willow. The area is over grown and these willows are prone to falling branches despite pollarding. The 11 replacement willows were planted 3 seasons ago and are now 4-6m The Bull Reading Road Streatley Reading RG8 9JJ Improving an existing gap between the main Bull Inn and its hotel Proposal: accommodation outbuildings Reference Number: 23/01337/LBC **Consultation Deadline:**

The Bull Reading Road Streatley Reading RG8 9JJ

Devonshire House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS

three gable openings to one glazed gable.

Alteration to previously approved application P22/S0130/LB to alter

Improving an existing gap between the main Bull Inn and its hotel

Location: Gattendon Lodge Gatehampton Road Goring RG8 9LU Discharge of condition 4(Tree protection0 on P23/S0062/HH - Front two & single storey extension, roof extension; dormer windows & Proposal: entrance canopy; remove & replace single storey side extension; rear

water or to give such rights to others. The first written record of the swan as a royal bird dates back to around 1186 and relates to a number of birds in a captive state, suggesting that the custom of owning swans may

on Goring & Streatley's ticket office by 26 July under threat of closure are here: http://www.gwr.com/haveyoursay with information on

way they buy tickets, and there is a good case for bringing staff out of the ticket office and onto the concourse. We want to do that in the best way possible. We are not reducing station hours and our plans mean that customers should have better engagement with staff. Access to other station facilities and services such as passenger assistance, toilets and waiting rooms remains unchanged."

The Mikron Theatre is returning to

With two new productions which tell stories about

Goring on 28 and 29 July

feel' collection will be taken after the show. Bring a picnic, a chair and a blanket! For more information see: https://www.mikron.org.uk/.

FOR SALE - The historic Magdalen

College Barge at Streatley

A message from The Swan at Streatley:

seeking new owners for her.

role solely from home.

emissions.

Bellême.

us with:

1 July

5 July

good cause?

website for more information.

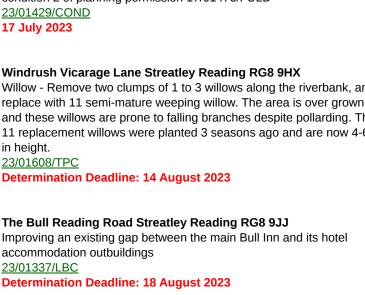
Vacancy for Assistant Clerk for Goringon-Thames Parish Council

PON'T BIN IT - BRING IT! GORING in Goring Village Hall on Saturday morning 5 August.

All our volunteer roles are flexible as to the level of time that you can provide. Find out more on our website www.thegapfestival.org/volunteer or get in touch at help@gapfestival.org for a no-obligation chat! We look forward to hearing from you ... The GAP Festival Team

to catch up on, it is otherwise business as usual at the Hub, with activities and services running as normal.

> COUNCIL NEWS
>
> South Oxfordshire District Council



single storey and roof extension. Not subject to public consultation.

the reigning King or Queen was entitled to claim ownership of any unmarked mute swans swimming in open

already have been in existence for many years before. For more information, you can read more of the History of Royal Swan Upping HERE.

order and Goring & Streatley is 29 on this LIST.

uniquely British things Friday 28 July 2023 at 19.00 A Force to be Reckoned with: the ever changing role of women in the police Saturday 29 July 2023 at 19.00

The barge needs a lot of work and will be sold as seen. She will also have to be removed from her mooring at the Swan and taken away at the buyer's expense within 30 days of completion of the sale. She has no selfpropulsion so towing will be required. All interested parties wishing to view the barge should contact Michal Wawrzenczyk at Michal@theswanatstreatley.com or call 07724 302224. We are inviting all interested parties to submit their best and final bids for the barge by 5pm on the closing date Thursday 31 August 2023. All bids should be made by email to

some TLC which we cannot, sadly, provide.

Next Goring Repair Café – Saturday 5 August 11am-1.30pm in Goring Village Hall

website: www.goringrepaircafe.info and look at the list in 'About Us'.

fresh thinking, time and ideas. Could you possibly help

17 June Egg thrown into open window – High Street 18 June Theft of catalytic converter - Milldown Avenue 25 June Public Order - Catherine Wheel car park 28 June Assault, without injury - Station Road 29 June Theft of bag from Miller of Mansfield

Suspicious male - Croft Road

Vulnerable Adult - Station Road

Are you good at social media - and would you like to use your skills for a

We use social media not just for this newsletter, 'Village Matters', but also for our red-topped 'Public Information' one that we send out for urgent and emergency information bulletins. Please have a look at our Genie

Designing posters/flyers (Canva or Indesign)?

Attracting local sponsors?

60% of all the items brought in on the two previous events were repaired, which helped reduce waste and the need to buy a replacement, reducing carbon

Helping with our social media? Providing admin support eg running online ticket sales or help with festival planning?

for people in the Goring Gap. Just a couple of hours a month of your time would be so helpful. If you may be able to help, please contact us for a chat at news@genienews.org. Thank you.

Genie is a free community service, totally run by volunteers, to provide topical information and emergency alerts

BunkFest. Agatha Christie weekend 8 to10 September. Have a look at the Museum website for both BunkFest and Agatha Christie weekend. House Detectives: history behind the door The Museum's 2023 exhibition is proving to be popular. On your journey through the museum you will discover how you could become a detective too! Fabulous Fossils on Saturday 23 September: 11am-1pm & 2-4pm. Bookings are essential and are now being taken on the web site. Handle fossils from Oxfordshire and around the world with the Oxfordshire Geology Trust **Guided Walks** Wallingford's Guided Historic Town Walks are happening every Saturday. The walkers meet under the town hall, no booking required, just turn up for 11am start. £10 per head, for a tour lasting between 90-120 mins and includes a season ticket to Wallingford Museum. Further details available **HERE** and on the website.

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 two applications for Goring, four for Streatley, and two for South Stoke. **STREATLEY** Sunfield Townsend Road Streatley Reading RG8 9LH Location: Application for Approval of Details Reserved by Conditions (5) and (9) Proposal: Reference Number: **Consultation Deadline:**

parish, in expiry date order, so the applications with the shortest periods in

Copyright © 2023 GENIE Community Group, All rights reserved.