

Gap Electronic News & Information Exchange Free community e-newsletters serving the Goring Gap

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Issue 141, 30 August 2023

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## 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 September

In this issue: Goring High St news; September What's On; Electric blanket testing; Skydive update; Crime report; Goring Councillor vacancy; Gigaclear update; Wallingford Museum - and our latest update of new planning applications.

## Empty shops in Goring – Update on the last issue's status report

Thames Valet, Wheel Orchard Car Park - The Wallingford dry-cleaning business (next to Barbara's) has closed its Goring branch but to provide continuity of service to their customers, they have appointed Goring Food & Wine in Goring High Street as their Drop-off & Collection agent. This is now a twice-weekly service and includes Dry Cleaning, Laundry, Tailoring, Curtains, Soft Covers, Duvets, Bed linen and Alterations. There is a full list of prices on the shop door.

TWC, High Street – The empty shop between Mary S and Warmingham has a potential tenant interested in the property and is currently working through the tenancy agreement. Completion of the contract may be a week or



so away and Genie should hopefully be able to provide details in the next edition on 16 September.

Penelope's Doggy Boutique, High Street – The grooming business next to Pierreponts Café ceased trading some weeks ago. The Landlord is in negotiation with a potential new tenant and Genie hopes to be able to provide details in the next edition.

Chef King, The Arcade – Unit 3 in the Arcade is now vacant following the departure of Chef King and it will shortly be prepared for marketing. Anyone interested in this unit should contact HPS by email to help@hpsl.uk.com.

## What's On – for the month of September 2023

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

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

#### Seven talks, a concert, two music nights, a plant/bulb sale and more this month



| Fri 1-Sun 3 Sep  | Bunkfest community music festival in Wallingford  |
|------------------|---|
| Tues 5 Sep       | Library Book Group (spaces available): 5pm  |
| Wed 6 Sep        | <ul> <li>Goring Gap News copy deadline: 12 noon</li> <li>Village Greenfingers: 'I am a tulip, what are you?'</li> </ul> |
| Fri 8-Sun 10 Sep | Wallingford Agatha Christie Weekend – will the statue be revealed?  |
| Fri 8 Sep        | Goring Community Jazz Club  |
| Sat 9 Sep        | Woodcote Fête 12-5pm on the village green   |
| Tues 12 Sep      | New WEA course starts: 'Reformation, change and conflict in the 16 <sup>th</sup> Century'                               |
| Wed 13 Sep       | <ul><li>FOGL: Libby Page, Author talk 7pm</li><li>WI: The Earth Trust 7.30pm</li></ul>                                  |
| Sun 17 Sep       | Organ recital by Glynne Stackhouse 4pm  |
| Mon 18 Sep       | Goring Gap Local History Society: 'Apples: The Myth and Mystery of England's Favourite Fruit'                           |
| Tues 19 Sep      | Scrabble club in Goring Library 4.45pm  |
| Thurs 21 Sep     | Pick-a-flick: 'A Man called Otto'   |
| Fri 22 Sep       | Goring Unplugged: 7.30pm  |
| Mon 25 Sep       | Bridge club open evening: 6.45pm  |

Sat 30 Sep

- Arts Society: 'Canaletto in England' Wed 27 Sep
  - FOGL: 'Bees and rewilding.' Talk by Rob Jones

Thurs 28 Sep Goring Gap u3a: 'Pagans and Puritans'

- Village Greenfingers: Bulb and plant sale 10am-12noon GVH
  - FOGL: Author Linda Sutherland leads Children's Storytime in the Library 2pm

## Free electric blanket safety tests by **Oxfordshire's Fire & Rescue Service for** all residents in South Oxfordshire

There are two appointment dates offered for these free tests – Tuesday 19 September and Tuesday 3 October, between 9am - 1pm. You need to book as soon as possible, if you haven't already, as appointments are limited and on a first come / first served basis.

There are 3 ways to book your appointment: 1) by telephone on 01865 859999, choosing Option 3, 2) email duty.officer@oxfordshire.gov.uk and 3) online on Oxfordshire County Council's website HERE.

The venue will be: Didcot Fire Station, The Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8RX. If you know friends or neighbours who have made appointments on the same day, car sharing may be a good idea to save fuel and reduce parking costs.



Fire service statistics show that electric blankets account for over 5,000 fires in homes a year so, with the failure rate at testing being about 30%, it's well worth getting your blankets tested.

# The Hub Skydive 16/23 September – update

#### Minimum Sponsorship now reduced to £325

In response to feedback from wannabe tandem skydivers, the Hub has reduced the minimum sponsorship needed to jump. The Hub was asking participants to raise at least £450 (compared with £350 in April 2023) due the Army Parachute Association's cost increases. After discussions



they are pleased to be able offer a lower entry fee of £325 minimum sponsorship. They hope this will encourage many more people to join the Hub Heroes tandem skydiving team and jump on either 16 September or 23 September.

Sign up to skydive by contacting Stuart Rowsell on 01189 794312 or stuartrowsell@ymail.com or you can donate via https://www.justgiving.com/page/thehub-bridgingthegap. The Hub would like to thank participants and sponsors for their bravery and generosity!

This skydive is raising money to launch a new dementia support service which is in great demand from the local elderly community. The Hub hopes to raise sufficient funds to launch this service in January 2024.

The Hub's regular activity details are available on www.thehubbtg.org.uk or telephone 01491 525637.

### List of local crimes in the Goring area reported to Genie by the Thames Valley Police

- July 19 Road traffic collision (Car rolled down hill, faulty handbrake)
- Criminal damage (Damage and loss in Wheel Orchard Car Park - plants put down toilet)\*
- July 26 Criminal damage (Neighbourhood dispute)
- July 28 Anti-social Behaviour (Neighbourhood dispute)
- Aug 4 Public order (2 residents confronted by unknown
- males near Lock Approach)
- Aug 7 Theft (Number plates stolen from vehicle)
- Aug 10 Public Order Lock Approach Aug 10 - Action Fraud - High Street
- Aug 28 Public Order High Street (Road rage)



\*One of four floral displays, produced by Goring-on-Thames in Bloom outside the WC, disappeared and all the plants in the trough were discovered down the toilet bowls in the Ladies. The unknown culprit did this a few days after the Britain in Bloom judges visited Goring to assess the village for this year's competition.

### 'Rural crime' increasing rapidly as gangs target farms

2023 Rural Crime Report, published this month, reports that the cost of rural theft has increased by over 20% nationally this year according to figures released by NFU Mutual. Organised criminal gangs are 'stealing to order' and are targeting high value farm equipment which tends not to be protected on some farms. The main targets are sophisticated GPS systems used to automatically guide tractors and combine harvesters, Quad bikes and ATVs (All-Terrain Vehicles), trailers, Landrovers, fuel and livestock.

For more information on rural crime trends read or download the 2023 Rural Crime Report at www.nfumutual.co.uk/farming/rural-crime

### There is a vacancy for a councillor on Goring-on-Thames Parish Council – the deadline for applications is 10 September

The vacancy exists due to the resignation of councillor David Brooker. This will be filled by co-option following interviews of the applicants after 10 September.





To see the official advertisement, legibility criteria, how to apply and other relevant information, click the link to the council's website <u>HERE</u>.

## **Gigaclear Fibre Network Installation** Update

Goring Parish Council writes:

It now seems that the digging and installation of the ducting infrastructure for the underground network is largely complete, although Gigaclear has not yet confirmed this. In some areas in the village the fibre network installation has started. In addition to the underground fibre network cabling, work to provide



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overhead fibre connections to those premises that are already served by telegraph poles still needs to be carried out. We are waiting to be given a firm completion date for all this work and when the Gigaclear broadband service can be ordered.

In the meantime if the installation work in your area has not been "made good" please email Rezia Khan the project customer service representative (Rezia.Khan@gigaclear.com) to report areas that need to be put right.

# September Events at Wallingford Museum

Events for all the family are lined up at the Museum during September, including during the Bunkfest on the 3rd, and the Agatha Christie weekend 8th-10th, a Who Dunnit Challenge on the 9th, and a Fabulous Fossils family fun day on the 23rd.

Don't forget the guided Historic Town Walks and the ongoing popular exhibition 'House Detectives: history behind the door'.

Full details can be found 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.

Goring-on-Thames PC;

Streatley PC;

<u>South Stoke PC</u>





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

# STREATLEY

None

# SOUTH STOKE

#### GORING

| GORING  |   |
|---|---|
| Location:<br>Proposal:<br>Reference Number:<br>Consultation Deadline: | Claremont Fairfield Road Goring RG8 0EU<br>Demolition of garage, construction of ground and first floor extensions.<br><u>P23/S2673/HH</u><br>31 August 2023  |
| * * * *   |   |
| Location:   | 9 Meadow Close Goring Reading RG8 0AP   |
| Proposal:   | Replacing tile hanging to gables and dormer with weatherboarding;<br>rendering brickwork walls at low level; relocating/changing front & rear<br>doors; gravel front driveway   |
| Reference Number:   | <u>P23/S2709/HH</u>   |
| Consultation Deadline:  | 2 September 2023  |
| * * * *   |   |
| Location:   | Stow House Thames Road Goring RG8 9AL<br>Discharge of condition 5(Drainage) on P22/S0785/HH - demolition of   |
| Proposal:   | rear wing & outbuilding, removal of swimming pool & northern section<br>of driveway; erection of outbuilding, consisting of garage with ancillary<br>accommodation. Not subject to public consultation.                     |
| Reference Number:   | P23/S2617/DIS   |
| Consultation Deadline:  | Target decision date 13 September 2023  |
| * * * *   |   |
| Location:   | Buildings Adjacent 1 Grove Farm Cottages Grove Road Goring<br>RG8 0LU   |
| Proposal:   | Discharge of condition 3(Foul drainage) on P20/S2989/FUL - removal<br>of 2 bays of agricultural building; alterations to brick & flint building;<br>provision of new dwelling & access. Not subject to public consultation. |
| Reference Number:   | P23/S2642/DIS   |
| <b>Consultation Deadline:</b>   | Target decision date 15 September 2023  |
| * * * *   |   |
| Location:   | Yew House Elmhurst Walk Goring RG8 9DE  |
|   | ······································  |
| Proposal:   | Single story rear extension with external covered area with associated  |
| Reference Number:   | internal alterations, replacement windows and new door opening.<br>P23/S2837/HH   |
| Consultation Deadline:  | 27 September 2023   |
|   |   |

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-planningapplication

\* \* \* \* \*

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 <a href="mailto:news.org">news@genienews.org</a>

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.

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