

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: A road closure; What's On in March; Greenfingers event; 10k run road closure; Band concert; Graffiti problem; Boat Club news; Police horse wanted; Flooding support – and our latest update of new planning applications.

Road Closure: Hook End Lane in Lower Basildon will be closed from the 27 to 29 February 2024

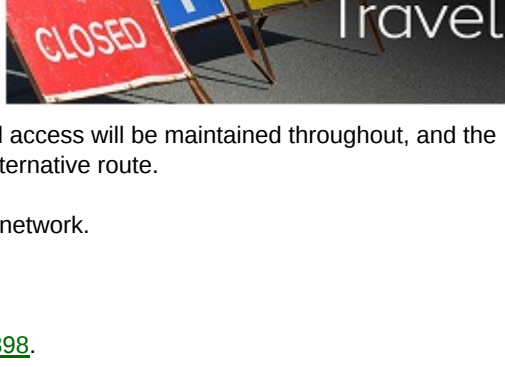
The closure will be between its junction with Unnamed Road from Hook End Lane to Westfield Shaws and its junction with Bennetts Wood.

The diversion route is expected to be via A329 to Pangbourne, Pangbourne Hill, Pangbourne Rd, Aldworth Rd, and vice versa. Residential access will be maintained throughout, and the diversion will be signed on site. Please note: blue light access will be via alternative route.

The purpose of this closure is for Thames Water to carry out repairs to the network.

All enquiries should be directed to: Thames Water on 0800 316 9800.

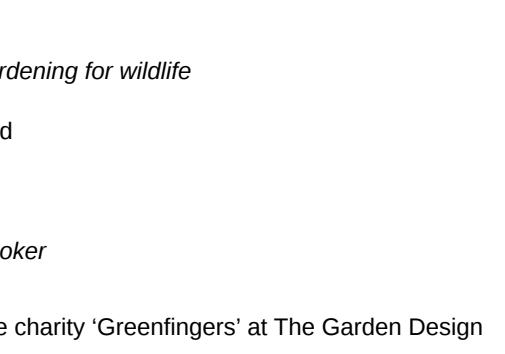
A plan of the closure can be found at: <https://one.network/?m=GB137530898>.



What's On – for the month of March 2024

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:



Fri 1 Mar	Wallingford Museum opens with two new exhibitions
Sat 2 Mar	7.30pm Slim Panatella & the Mellow Virginians
Wed 6 Mar	7.30pm Village Greenfingers – Annabel Christie <i>Gardening for wildlife</i>
Fri 8 Mar	7-10.30pm Goring Community Jazz. Andy Townsend
Wed 13 Mar	7.30pm WI: Members evening
Sat 16 Mar	2.45pm <i>Getting the most from your air fryer/slow cooker</i>
Mon 18 Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9.30-1.30pm Garden Re-leaf day fundraiser for the charity 'Greenfingers' at The Garden Design Company2.30pm Goring Gap Local History Society: <i>Percy Manning: the man who collected Oxfordshire</i>
Thurs 24 Mar	10.30am-2pm Pick-a-Flick: <i>Philomena</i>
Wed 27 Mar	10.30 & 2.30pm Arts Society Goring: <i>Fiction, Fallacy and Fake News</i>
Thurs 28 Mar	10.30-12noon u3a Talk: <i>The Mau Mau</i>

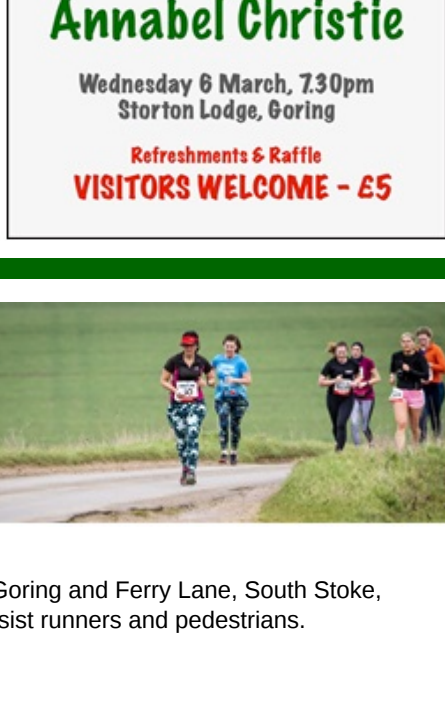
Help to increase biodiversity in your garden – or window box!

An invitation to a special meeting

Visitors are welcome at the next Village Greenfingers event at 7.30pm on 6 March at Storton Lodge, Goring.

The next speaker in the series of talks at Village Greenfingers Gardening Club is Annabel Christie, a local gardener in Goring who specialises in techniques to encourage pollinators and other wildlife to visit her garden.

Non-members and all visitors are welcome to attend, for a small charge of £5 at the door, and refreshments will be provided. There will be a raffle and lots of opportunities to learn more about the whole subject of increasing biodiversity, whether you have a small or large garden or just a tiny space such as a tub or a window box.



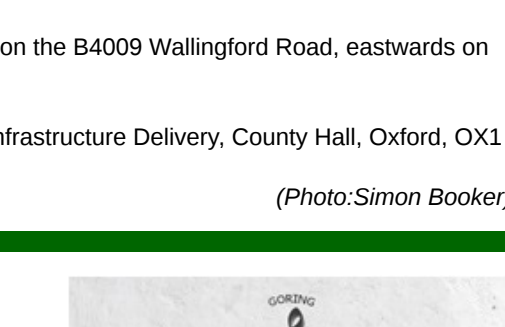
Goring 10K Run – Sunday 17 March

Road Closures

Between 10:30 to 12:30 hours – vehicles will be prohibited from using Grove Road between Icknield Road and the B4009, and that part of Icknield Road between Elvendon Road and Woodcote Road, so as to ensure safety for participants and supporters.

Between 11.10 and 12.10 – on the B4009 at 2 road crossings in Grove Road, Goring and Ferry Lane, South Stoke, temporary Stop and Go Boards (implemented using AA Signs) will be used to assist runners and pedestrians.

A plan of the closures can be seen [HERE](#).



Exemptions to prohibitions are included for emergency services, and subject to the safety and progress of the race, for vehicular access to premises which are only accessible from the closed sections of road.

The alternative route clockwise for traffic is west via Elvendon Road, north on the B4009 Wallingford Road, eastwards on Woodcote Road, and south on Icknield Road, and vice versa.

Enquiries: Network Management Team (Ref.S24-001) for the Director for Infrastructure Delivery, County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND. Tel 0345 310 1111.

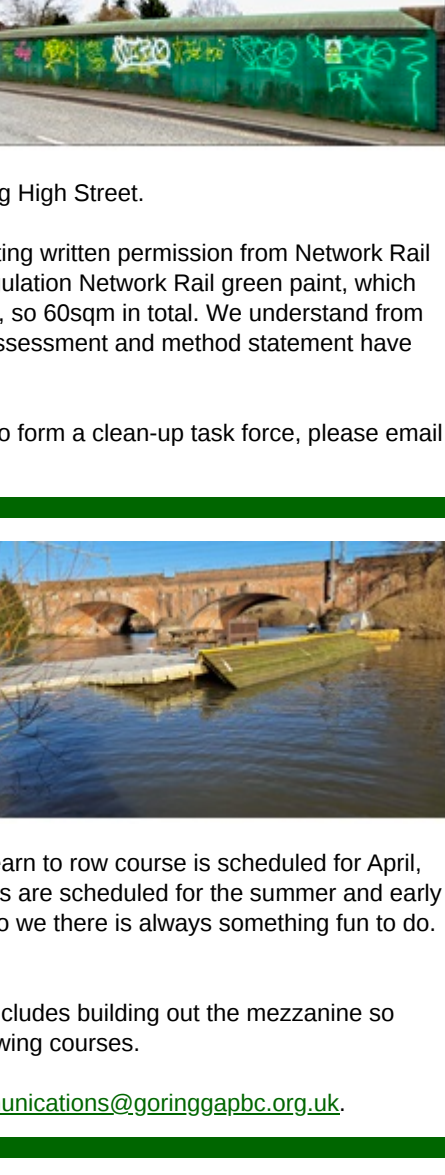
(Photo: Simon Booker)

Goring and Streatley Concert Band, Spring Concert

Saturday 23 March at 6-7 pm in Benson Parish Hall, Wallingford, OX10 6LZ

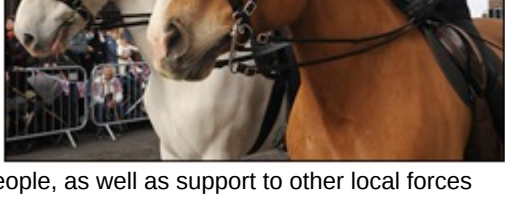
Featuring over 70 performers on stage at once, the members of Goring and Streatley Concert and Starter bands will combine to bring you an hour of exhilarating musical entertainment.

There will be something for everyone so do join us. Tickets (£7.50/£2.50) are available via links at the band's web site: www.goringandstreatleyband.co.uk/starter-band.



Graffiti problem in Goring will be tackled – with help from volunteers and permission from Network Rail

An article in the current February issue of *Goring Gap News* (p21) from Goring-on-Thames in Bloom drew attention to the age-old problem of dealing with unwanted graffiti, especially the common 'tag' type (a form of signature) seen on the railway bridge at the top end of Goring High Street.



Bloom is looking for volunteers willing to remove this latest outbreak and is awaiting written permission from Network Rail to repaint the two long vertical sections of the bridge below the parapets with regulation Network Rail green paint, which NR will supply. The area of each side of the road needed to be painted is 30sqm, so 60sqm in total. We understand from Network Rail that written permission will be forthcoming once the required risk assessment and method statement have been approved and evidence of Public Liability insurance is provided.

There are many more locations which have been affected, so if anyone is keen to form a clean-up task force, please email stephaniebridge@btinternet.com to register your interest in helping. Thank you.

Goring Gap Boat Club – new learn to row courses starting up in Spring

After the very high river levels this winter the club is looking ahead to the 2024 season. They were back rowing a week after the January floods when a large team of club members turned up to clean up.



The club has 260 recreational rowers and room for more. So, if you would like to learn to row or are already experienced (rusty is included in that) then [visit the website](#) to find out how you can join in. The next learn to row course is scheduled for April, check out the dates online or contact lr@goringgapbc.org.uk. Two more courses are scheduled for the summer and early autumn. At GGBC chatting and eating cake runs a close second to the rowing, so we there is always something fun to do. Other spotting is a great pastime too.

The club has big plans for the year, working to boost their off-grid utilities. This includes building out the mezzanine so there is somewhere warm and dry to eat their cake ... as well as running their rowing courses.

It's a recreational rowing club on your doorstep! Come and see it. Contact communications@goringgapbc.org.uk.

The Mounted Section of Thames Valley Police is looking for a new police horse

Do you have a brave horse suitable for a career in the police force, or know anyone who might have?



A message from the Mounted Section of the Thames Valley Police:

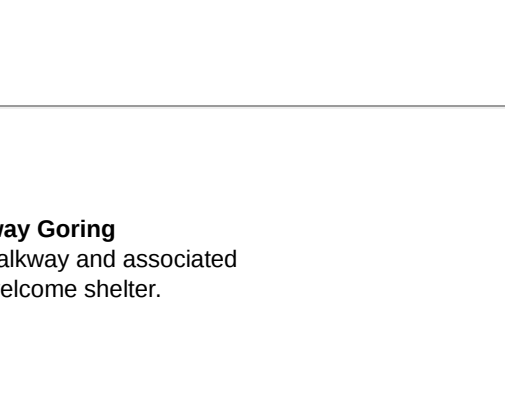
We are looking to recruit a new police horse to our team. Owners can be reassured that their horse will receive the best care and be with the police until retirement. In this exciting role, the horse will be an integral part of our police force and exist in a range of duties including high visibility patrols, assistance in searches for missing people, as well as support to other local forces with their operations. Our mounted officers and police horses have extensive experience from managing large football crowds and protecting the Royal Family.

We are asking the public to get in contact about any horses which they believe would be a good fit with the following specification: Between 16.3hh and 18hh, mare or gelding, between the ages of 4-11. A heavier breed, such as a shire cross or Irish draught, and trainable with a good temperament and no behavioural traits or medical issues. All horses chosen will be required to undergo a six-week trial where we assess their suitability to the role and vetting. Owners can also have the knowledge that their horse will be serving the community and they can watch their horse on deployments, such as escorting the King up the racecourse at Royal Ascot.

If you have such a horse we'd love to hear from you. Please [contact the Mounted Section](#). Thank you.

Financial support for residents and businesses affected by recent flooding

A quick update on the provision of financial support for residents and businesses affected by the recent flooding, caused by Storm Henk in January 2024.



Community Connectors at South & Vale write:

We are currently finalising our internal processes for access to this support. As soon as we commence payments, we will let you all know. We will contact anyone who has already reported flooding to us or Oxfordshire County Council (through the flood toolkit) to let them know how to access available funds. We will also continue to update details on our websites and share through our regular communications channels.

● If you know people impacted by Storm Henk, please encourage them to report property/business flooding if they haven't already done so to: www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood.

● Please can you also ask them to drop us a line to communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk so that we can contact them as soon as funds can be dispersed correctly.

This may seem like doubling up, but unfortunately the Oxfordshire wide flood toolkit does not record contact details so if residents drop us an email address it means we can get in touch quickly and as soon as we are able to.

If you have any questions on the work we are doing in the meantime, please email communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk.

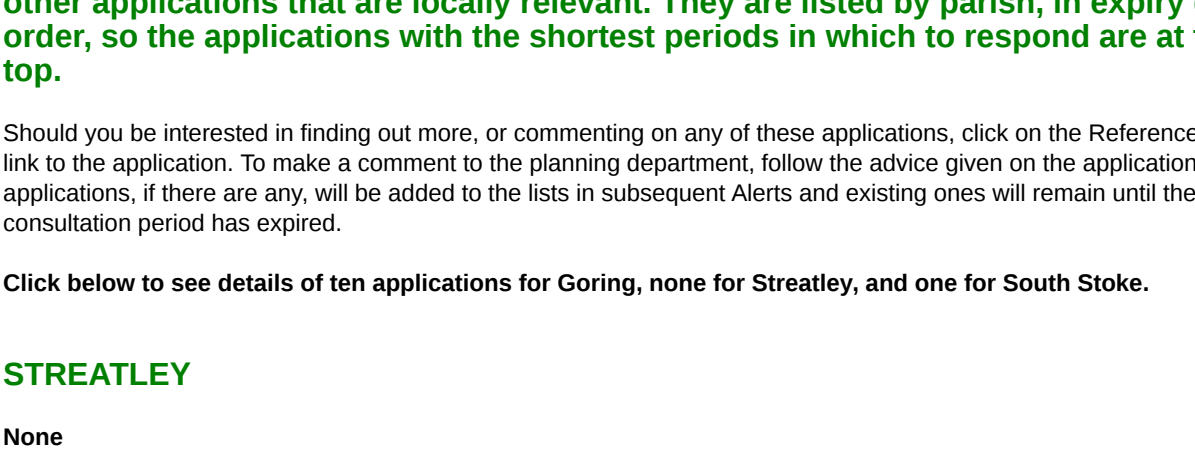
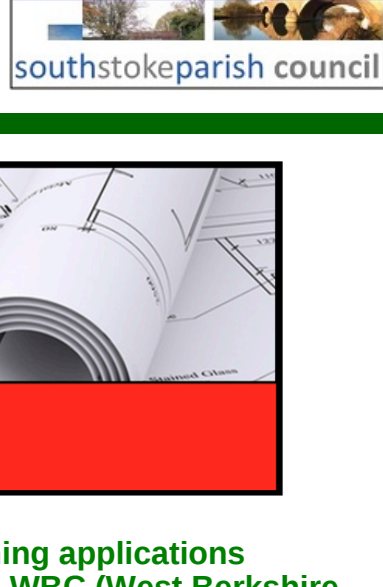
Local Parish Councils

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;](#)

[South Stoke PC](#)



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, none for Streatley, and one for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

None

SOUTH STOKE

Location: Withmead Nature Reserve Bridleway Goring
Proposal: Replacement of existing boardwalk walkway and associated developments, including erection of welcome shelter.
Reference Number: [P24/S0417/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 6 March 2024

Location: The Beeches 1 Long Meadow Goring RG8 9EG
Proposal: Discharge of condition 4 (Surface Water Drainage) on application P23/S3213/HH - Double storey side extension and revisions to internal layout. Not subject to public consultation.
Reference Number: [P24/S0079/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 4 March 2024

Location: 80 Wallingford Road Goring Reading RG8 0HN
Proposal: Conversion of existing attached integral double garage into habitable accommodation; timber cladding to front elevation of garage & porch
Reference Number: [P24/S0432/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 4 March 2024

Location: Withmead Nature Reserve Bridleway Goring
Proposal: Replacement of existing boardwalk walkway and associated developments, including erection of welcome shelter
Reference Number: [P24/S0417/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 6 March 2024

Location: Waterfield Cottage Manor Rd Goring RG8 9EN
Proposal: Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of the building as two separate dwellings
Reference Number: [P24/S0173/LDE](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 11 March 2024

Location: The Elms Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DT
Proposal: Discharge of condition 4 (Tree Protection) on P22/S3916/HH – side extension; replacement of garage with carport & garage; additional rooflight. Not subject to public consultation
Reference Number: [P24/S0261/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 18 March 2024

Location: Stow House Thames Road Goring RG8 9AL
Proposal: Discharge of conditions 3 (tree protection), 4 (landscaping), 5 (drainage), 6 (external windows etc) on P23/S3249/HH – internal remodelling; basement and patio extensions; new outbuilding to form a gym. Not subject to public consultation
Reference Number: [P24/S0257/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 21 March 2024

Location: The Elms Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DT
Proposal: Discharge of condition 6 (Bat box details) on application P22/S3916/HH – infill extension; replacement of store building & double garage, new rooflight. Not subject to public consultation
Reference Number: [P24/S0343/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 25 March 2024

Location: Mill Cottage Lock Approach Goring RG8 9AD
Proposal: Discharge of condition 3 (Archaeological Watching Brief) & 5 (Drainage) on application P22/S4607/HH – alterations to approval P21/S3339/HH. Not subject to public consultation
Reference Number: [P24/S0348/DIS](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 2 April 2024

Location: 2 Reading Road Goring Reading RG8 0ET
Proposal: Garden outbuilding
Reference Number: [P24/S0494/LDP](#)
Consultation Deadline: Target decision date 8 April 2024

More details on Genie newsletters [here](#).

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.

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