

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.

Subscription date for articles for the next issue is 12 April

In this issue: 3 road closures; Rail strikes; Public Enquiry date; Easter at Withymead; Streatley Spring Clean; April What's On; Goring parking changes; Polling Station work; Vote on 2 May; Gap Festival tickets on sale; Chamber Choir concert – and our latest update of new planning applications.

Update on Streatley High Street Closure

Several gas leaks have been found and fixed. The pipes are now being monitored to ensure there are no more leaks before the holes are filled in. If all is clear the tarmacers will be called in but because of the Easter Bank Holiday weekend there may be a delay in getting them on site. As a result, it is likely that the road will not be reopened much before next Friday.

Road Closures – the following are planned:

1. Streatley Hill between the Bull traffic lights and the Coombe
3 Apr 09:30 to 12 Apr 15:30

The footway will remain open.

2. Rectory Road Streatley
9 April 2024, 09.30 to 15.30

The closure will be between its junction with A417 Wantage Road and the entrance to Goring and Streatley Golf Club. Access will be maintained throughout for residents and the Golf Club. Please note blue light access will be permitted.

A plan of the closure can be found at <https://one.network/?m=GB137462210>. All enquiries should be directed to Centurion Traffic Management on 0113 2775360.

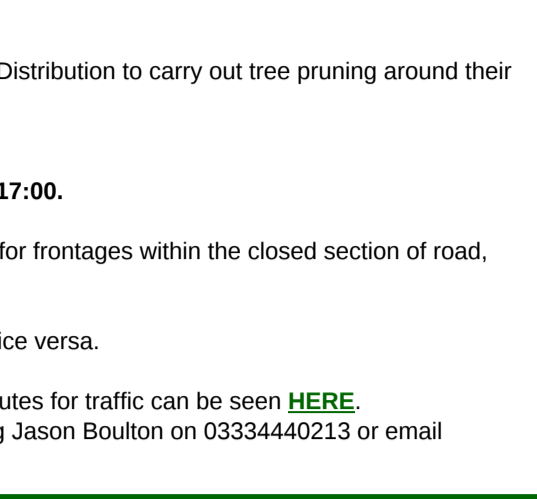
The purpose of this closure is to enable Scottish and Southern Power Distribution to carry out tree pruning around their network.

3. Road Closure at Mill Road, Goring
9 April 2024 up to and including 10 April 2024 between 08:00 and 17:00.

Limited access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the works.

Suggested alternative route: via B4009, Cleeve Road, Mill Road and vice versa.

A drawing showing the extent of the closure and also the alternative routes for traffic can be seen [HERE](#). Further information regarding the works may be obtained by contacting Jason Boulton on 03334440213 or email emilia@fibreworking.co.uk.



Further GWR Rail Strikes

The Aslef union has announced strike action that will affect GWR and Chiltern Railways services on Saturday 6 April

On Friday 5 April There may be alterations to GWR services during the evening.

On Saturday 6 April, a reduced, revised timetable will operate across several train operators, including GWR. Many parts of the GWR network will have no service at all and trains that are running will only be operating for a limited period during the day and will be extremely busy. There will be no replacement bus services. If you intend to travel where trains are running, please check before you travel at www.gwr.com/check. Other train operators are also affected by this action, so onward travel could also be affected. Anybody who has already bought a ticket for travel on Saturday 6 April will be able to claim a full refund. For full information please visit www.gwr.com/strike. Online journey planners are being updated.

On Sunday 7 April services could also be affected by a limited number of short-notice cancellations and alterations.

'Action short of a strike' may cause further disruption from Thursday 4 April to Saturday 6 April and Monday 8 April to Tuesday 9 April, with some short-notice alterations or cancellations. If you are travelling during this period, you should check both outward and return journeys before travelling.



Date now set for Planning Inspectorate's Appeal Public Enquiry – Tuesday 9 April

Re: Field next to White Hill Burial Ground in Goring, within Chilterns Natural Landscape

This hearing will take place at the Fountain Conference Centre, Howbery Park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BA.

Members of the public are welcome to attend each day of the inquiry and can speak, if they so wish, at the discretion of the Inspector. The hearing will start at 10am on Tuesday 9 April and could last up to 3 days.

This enquiry relates to an application proposing the material change of use of land for mixed use of Equestrian and Residential, through the formation of a Gypsy/Traveller pitch providing 1 Static Caravan/Mobile Home and 1 Touring Caravan, alongside ancillary development on Land known as Field Adjacent to Burial Ground Drive/way off Reading Road, Goring-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG8 0LL. Details of the enquiry can be found at this link: <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?caseid=3315454>.



Easter Holiday ladybird trail

Withymead's first open event of the Season – Sunday 7 April 10am-5pm

Families are invited to bring their little explorers to Withymead. Ten ladybirds are hiding on the reserve and Pete the warden needs your help to find them. Pick up a map and identification guide on arrival, take a walk along our paths and let us know where you've found them. What better way to start spring than learning all about our native ladybirds and how you can help record them! No need to book, just show up on the day. Light refreshments available. Entry to the reserve is free, donations are welcome.

It's also the first day of the nature reserve's Loddon lily open season, and their signature flower is blooming. The perfect time to visit.

To protect wildlife and habitats, dogs (other than assistance dogs) are not allowed on the reserve. They are welcome at the study centre if kept under control and on a lead.

Withymead Nature Reserve, Bridle Way, Goring on Thames, RG8 OHS.



Streatley is joining The Great British Spring Clean Up

Come to help on Saturday 13 April, Morrell Room, 10am-12noon

Collect bags and equipment from the Morrell Room from 10am onwards and refreshments will be provided afterwards for all volunteers.

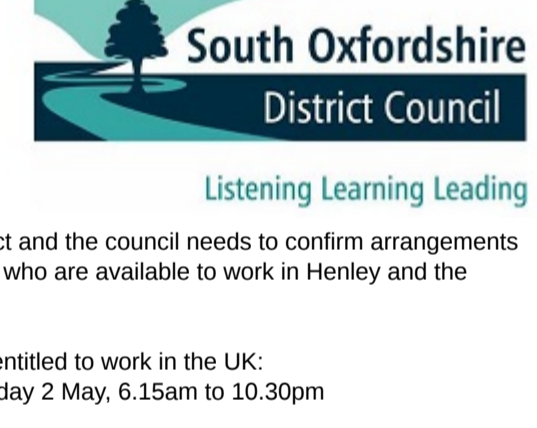


What's On – for the month of April 2024

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

31 Mar	Easter Sunday
28 Mar-14 Apr	Oxfordshire schools' holiday. Drop-in trail and crafts available at the library during opening hours
April weekends	11am-4pm Lambing days at Oppo's Farm in Gatehampton
Wed 3 Apr	• 2pm Family Yoga with Emma • 7.30pm Village Greenfingers – AGM and talk by Ian King about <i>Flowers on Stamps</i>
Thurs 4 Apr	10.30am <i>Odd Odes</i> at the library, ages 5-10yrs
Fri 5 April	8pm G&S Wine Society: Saddle Goose craft wine company
Sun 7 Apr	• 10am-5pm Loddon Lily Sunday at Withymead. Every Sunday until 19 May • 10am-5pm Easter holiday ladybird trail at Withymead
Mon 8 Apr	10.30am Coffee drop-in at the Hub. One of many Hub activities throughout the month.
Wed 10 Apr	• Deadline for submitting articles to GGN for April edition • 2-4pm Children's games café at the library • 7.30pm WI: Trading Standards officer talk - <i>Doorstep Crime and Scam</i>
Fri 12 Apr	7-10.30pm Goring Community Jazz. The New Jazz Sextet plays Tadd Dameron
Sat 13 Apr	2-4pm Poetry workshop with Vanessa Lampert in the library
Mon 15 Apr	2.30pm Goring Gap Local History Society: <i>The early days of Elizabeth I</i>
Thurs 18 Apr	10.30am-2pm Pick-a-Flick: <i>Another Man's Son</i>
Sat 20 Apr	10am-12.30pm Half-price jigsaws at the Hub
Wed 24 Apr	10.30 & 2.30pm Arts Society Goring: <i>Sir Christopher Wren and the Baroque in England</i>
Thurs 25 Apr	10.30-12noon u3a Talk: <i>Jewels of the Six Wives of Henry VIII</i>
Fri 26 Apr	• Genie News deadline for submitting news stories • 7.30 for 8pm Goring Unplugged
Sun 28 Apr	2-5pm Loddon Lily Sunday at Withymead with cream teas



Proposed changes to on-road parking restrictions in Goring

Have your say

You can see a summary of what changes are proposed [HERE](#) and a plan [HERE](#).

OCC has sent a letter to all properties fronting onto the affected roads. You can see this [HERE](#).

Please read the detailed information provided on this consultation and take the time to complete the survey as your views and opinions matter. Your response should be completed and returned by 5pm on Friday 19 April 2024.

If you wish to submit any comments/queries please use this link: https://etstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/goring_parking2024. Whilst OCC will endeavour to answer simple queries during the course of the consultation, any more complex questions/issues will be appraised and dealt with as part of the consultation process. If anyone has any comments on specific proposals they can email Mr Christian Mauz, Senior Officer (TRO and Schemes): christian.mauz@oxfordshire.gov.uk Tel: 0345 310 1111.



Vote for your next Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner on Thursday 2 May

The Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) is an elected official tasked with setting out the way crime is tackled by Thames Valley Police in Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire.

The post was created in November 2012, following an election and replaced the Thames Valley Police Authority.

Residents already registered to vote in SODC or WBC elections should have received a Poll card. If you are not registered to vote with your local council authority, the deadline to register is midnight Tuesday 16 April. (See <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>.)

For other key dates, please see your relevant local authority website for these elections, including the need to take one of the acceptable forms of photo ID to the polling booth.

[South Oxfordshire District Council](#)

[West Berkshire Council](#)



Residents urged to sign up for polling station work in South Oxfordshire

South Oxfordshire District Council is appealing for more people to come forward to work as poll clerks and presiding officers to help run polling stations on Thursday 2 May for the Police and Crime Commissioner Election.

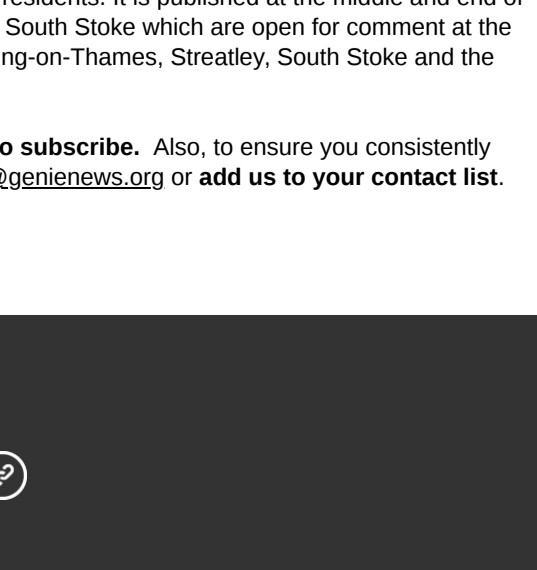
There are still around 40 vacancies at polling stations across the district and the council needs to confirm arrangements as soon as possible. Officers are particularly keen to hear from people who are available to work in Henley and the surrounding area.

The following positions are available to those who are 18 or over and entitled to work in the UK:
Polling Officers: (previous experience preferred): £251.00 – Thursday 2 May, 6.15am to 10.30pm
Poll Clerks: £200 – Thursday 2 May, 6.15am to 10.30pm

Mark Stone, Returning Officer for South Oxfordshire, said: "We need to fill these roles as quickly as possible, so if you are available on 2 May and interested in working at the elections, please get in touch with our Elections team."

The council would also welcome expressions of interest from people who would like to hear about job opportunities for the general election which is expected to take place later this year.

For more information, including details on how to apply, visit <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/electionjobs> or call 01235 422528. Please note, the council is unable to offer these roles to people who work for or are connected with a political party.



GAP Festival announces headline events

From 7 to 16 June the picturesque villages of Goring & Streatley will become a hive of activity with over 50 cultural events taking place in local venues.

An exciting programme of events, put together by local volunteers, is set to take Festival-goers beyond the realms of creativity, artistry and possibility, through the power of culture.

The headline events have been announced on the festival website www.thegapfestival.org this month, ahead of tickets going on sale from 1 April. Take a look and start planning your GAP Festival experience! Click the link to go directly to the downloadable digital programme.

Many hands are needed to help make the Festival happen. Could you give a few hours during the Festival to be a marshal? Help at the bar? Set up events? Or check tickets? The Festival is calling for volunteers to help at events. Get in touch at help@gapfestival.org Thank you.

Goring Chamber Choir presents: Summertime to Skyfall, music from great movies

Saturday 4 May at 3pm. St Thomas' Church, Goring

This is Goring Chamber Choir as you've never heard it before, singing wonderful hits from the world of movies. There are old screen favourites such as *Singin' in the rain*, *Moon river*, *Over the rainbow*, and *Tonight from West Side Story*, leading up to songs from *Cats*. Later classics from films such as *Shrek* and *Toy story* point the way to the irresistible *Dancing Queen* from ABBA's *Mamma Mia!* which will have you all dancing in your seats. A new arrangement of *The Bare Necessities* is matched by Dolly Parton's exhilarating *Nine To Five*, and there is plenty more. Steve Bowey will be playing music from *Star Wars* on the organ – after all, this is 4 May! This is a concert not to be missed.

Tickets: £15, free for under 18's. From *Inspiration*, *Goring* or from a choir member, or on the door.

Music director: Frances Brewitt-Taylor; Accompanist: Steve Bowey. <http://www.goringchamberchoir.org.uk/>

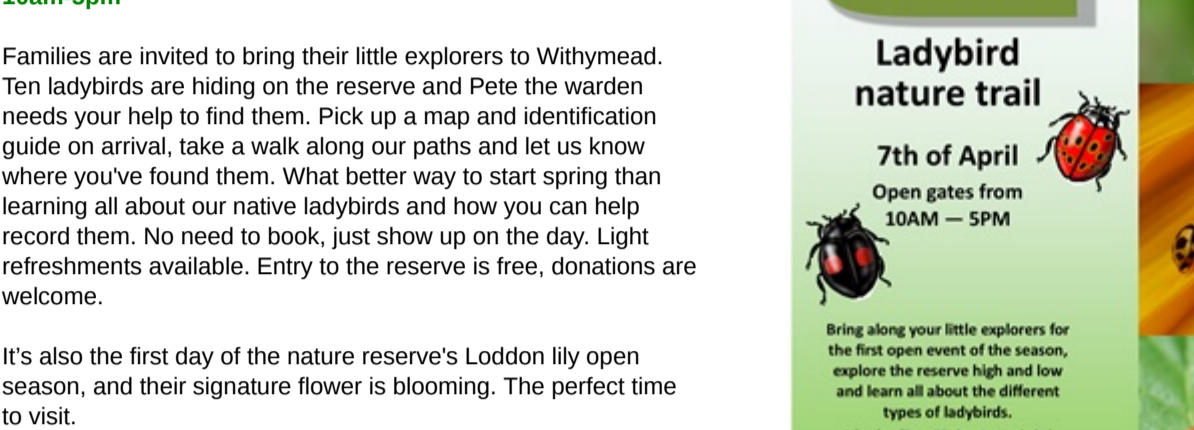
Local Parish Councils

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 seven applications for Goring, one for Streatley, and none for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: Kiddington House Aldworth Road Streatley Reading RG8 9RE
Proposal: Covered vehicle store, kennel and machine store
Reference Number: [P24/S0713/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 18 April 2024

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

Location: 5 Elmcroft Goring RG8 9EU
Proposal: Extension of hallway, changes at front and rear windows & doors, addition of porch, extension of side dormer and all associated works
Reference Number: [P24/S0713/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 5 April 2024

Location: Thameside House Cleeve Rd Goring RG8 9BJ
Proposal: Replacement of existing shed with new shed with a flat roof providing larger terrace at the entrance to the house. (As amended & amplified by information received 13 March 2024.)
Reference Number: [P24/S0555/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 5 April 2024

Location: 2 Reading Road Goring RG8 0ET
Proposal: Part single part two storey rear and side extensions. Rear canopy and front car port
Reference Number: [P24/S0814/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 7 April 2024

Location: Haydown Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DT
Proposal: Side and rear extension over existing garage.
Reference Number: [P24/S0724/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 13 April 2024

Location: The Old Stables Elvendon Rd Goring RG8 0DT
Proposal: Rear basement extension
Reference Number: [P24/S0529/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 14 April 2024

Location: Tacoma Farm Road Goring Reading RG8 0AA
Proposal: Two storey side and rear extensions - resubmission of P18/S2208/HH
Reference Number: [P24/S0986/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 17 April 2024

Location: Applewood 74 Wallingford Rd Goring RG8 0HN
Proposal: Annex for elderly parents in garden
Reference Number: [P24/S0145/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 19 April 2024

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