

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 May

In this issue: Road closure; More rail strikes; What's on in May; Annual parish meeting; Walking tennis; Streatley tree works; A capella concert; Library author talk – and our latest update of new planning applications.

Postponed Road Closure – 4 to 6 May inclusive

The closure of the road between the Four Points and Compton which was scheduled for 22 to 26 April has been postponed and will now take place over Saturday, Sunday, and Bank Holiday Monday, 4 to 6 May inclusive.

The closure will be between its junction with Coombe Road and its junction with Unnamed Road from Aldworth Road to Uplands.

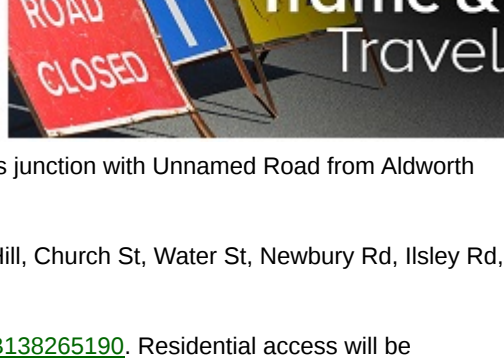
The diversion route is expected to be via Haw Lane, Wyld Court Hill, Church St, Water St, Newbury Rd, Ilsley Rd, High St and vice versa.

A plan of the closure can be found at: <https://one.network/?tm=GB138265190>. Residential access will be maintained throughout, and the diversion will be signed on site. Please Note: Blue light access via alternative route.

The purpose of this closure is for Thames Water to install a new service connection.

All enquiries should be directed to: Network Plus on 01787 237 509 or Thames Water on 0800 316 9800.

We have been unable to give our readers advance notice of this change because we were only told about it on 24 April, two days after the closure was originally supposed to be in place.



Further GWR Rail Strikes

The Aslef union has announced strike action that will affect GWR (as well CrossCountry, Chiltern Railways, West Midlands Trains and other operators) on Wednesday 8 May.

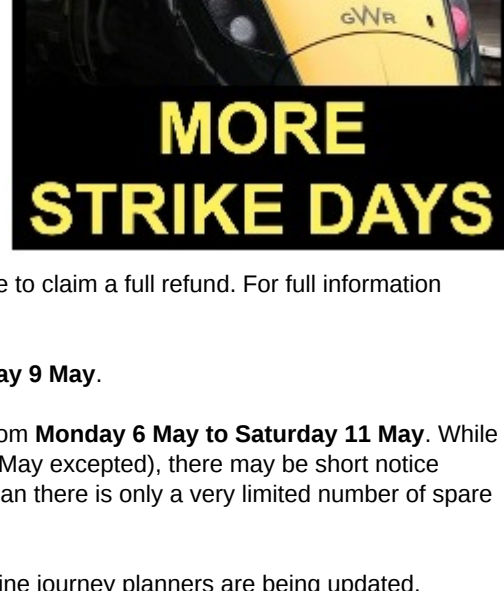
On Tuesday 7 May there may be alterations to services during the evening.

On Wednesday 8 May, a reduced, revised timetable will operate. 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 Wednesday 8 May will be able to claim a full refund. For full information please visit www.gwr.com/Strike.

There may also be alterations to services on the morning Thursday 9 May.

ASLEF have also announced action short of a strike effective from Monday 6 May to Saturday 11 May. While there are plans to run as full a service as possible (Wednesday 8 May excepted), there may be short notice alterations and cancellations because this industrial action will mean there is only a very limited number of spare drivers.

Further information is available at <https://www.gwr.com/Strike>. Online journey planners are being updated.



What's On – for the month of May 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:



Weekends in May	11-4pm Lambing days at Oppo's farm in Gatehampton
Wed 1 May	7.30pm Village Greenfingers – talk from DEFRA about plant health
Fri 3 May	8pm G&S Wine Society: Pippa Hayward: Roussillon
Sat 4 May	3pm Goring Chamber Choir Concert in St Thomas'
Sun 5 May	10-5pm Loddon Lily Sunday at Withymead. Every Sunday until 19 May
Wed 8 May	Goring Gap News deadline for May edition
Fri 10 May	7-10.30pm Goring Community Jazz
Sat 11 May	10am-12noon Plant sale in aid of Goring-on-Thames in Bloom
Sun 12 May	• Hairy legs cross country running challenge • 4pm Janet Pound piano recital
Sat 18 May	6pm Annual meeting of Goring-on-Thames Parish
Mon 20 May	2.30pm Goring Gap Local History Society: <i>The message in the map</i>
Wed 22 May	10.30 & 2.30pm Arts Society Goring: <i>Grace Darling – The fine art of saving lives at sea</i>
Sat 25 May	7.30pm A capella concert at St Thomas'
Sun 26 May	Genie copy deadline
Wed 29 May	7.30pm Author talk – Stacey Halls
Thurs 30 May	10.30-12noon u3a Talk: Jerome Kern – the story of a great composer

Annual Meeting of the Parish – Invitation to all Goring residents

The Annual Meeting of the Parish in the Village Hall will take place on Saturday 18 May, from 18.00 to 20.00.



This is an opportunity for you to find out more about Goring's many community activities as well as Parish Council projects and future plans. Representatives of the many clubs, societies and services active in Goring will be showing what they do and how to get involved. Highlights of the evening will include:

- Options for new children's playgrounds at the Bourdillon and Gardiners grounds – the council will ask which designs you prefer.
- The latest ideas on the future use of the Sheepcote including an all-weather pitch.
- An update on plans for managing traffic and safety in the village
- Proposals for a natural Burial Ground adjacent to the cemetery
- Progress on the Neighbourhood Plan

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council would love to hear your views. Please come along and help create the village you want. More details are on the Parish Council website <https://www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk>.

Refreshments will be available.

Goring Tennis Club Walking Tennis

A new course of Walking Tennis starts on Wednesday 1 May and takes place weekly thereafter. Sessions are 2-3pm followed by refreshments.

No special equipment is needed, just suitable footwear. Walking Tennis is played on a normal court with normal scoring, but uses softer balls which can be allowed to bounce twice.

There is already a group of friendly participants and new players are very welcome – no previous experience necessary! To get involved contact Jane Cartledge on 07718 267878 or by email: chairman@goring-tennis.co.uk.



Tree works at Streatley Recreation Ground – 13-17 May 2024

Necessary tree works will be carried out around Streatley Recreation ground to remove dead trees.



For health & safety reasons there will be daytime closures of the entrance by the sewage works and footpath STRE 12/2 (along the eastern edge). Entry/exit will be via Streatley meadows or the car park. The playground, exercise equipment and field away from the works will remain open.

All required nesting precautions will be taken.

Please accept Streatley Parish Council's apologies for any inconvenience.

How Can I Keep From Singing!

The latest concert by a new choir will be held in St Thomas' Goring on 25 May.

VentiQuattro (24) was established about 18 months ago, made up of auditioned and semi-professional singers, with a love of singing a capella music in small groups. They have tackled a mix of renaissance, classical and contemporary music in their first two concerts.

In the concert on 25 May, they will showcase why US composers right now are among some of the best for classical a capella. Join them for a romp through the very best from Barber to Whitacre, from Gjeilo to Lauridsen and all points in between. Tickets £20 on the door or from www.vq24.fun.



Meet and chat with Stacey Halls

Please join us to meet this amazing local author on Wednesday 29 May at The Morrell Room, Streatley. Doors open 7pm. Talk starts at 7.30pm.

Stacey will be talking about her latest book, *The Household*, based on real events and a real place: Urania Cottage, a project set up by Charles Dickens to rehabilitate young women who had been to prison.



Stacey Halls was born in 1989 and grew up in Rossendale, Lancashire. Her first book, *The Familiars*, was the bestselling debut hardback novel of 2019, won a Betty Trask Award and was shortlisted for the British Book Awards Debut Book of the Year. Her second, *The Foundling*, her second, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller, as was her third *Mrs England*, which was longlisted for the Portico Prize and the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction. She won the Good Housekeeping Women's Prize Futures Award in 2022. She is also in the *Sunday Times* top 10 fiction books 2024.

Tickets cost £10 and include a drink and light refreshments. They are on sale in Inspirations, Goring Library and at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--reading/stacey-halls/> or use the QR Code (click [HERE](#) for large version).



Local 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 Alerts' 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 three applications for Goring, three for Streatley, and one for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: The Old Golf House Rectory Road Streatley Reading RG8 9QA
Section 73a: Variation of Condition 1 (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 23/00917/FUL: **Section 73a: Variation of Condition 2** (Approved Plans) of previously approved application 21/02105/FULD: Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling, ancillary garage outbuilding and associated landscaping works.

Reference Number: [24/00662/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: **2 May 2024**

Location: Windrush Vicarage Lane Streatley Reading RG8 9HX
Proposal: Construction of a detached car port and removal of 1nr T8 Holly

Reference Number: [24/00709/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: **10 May 2024**

Location: Lawn Cottage Rectory Road Streatley Reading RG8 9LE
Proposal: The proposals are to put the living spaces on the first floor, and to provide a roof terrace in place of an existing flat roof along with a stair-bridge providing access to the tiered garden behind.

Reference Number: [24/00681/HOUSE](#)
Consultation Deadline: **17 May 2024**

SOUTH STOKE

Location: South Stoke Primary School The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS
Proposal: Continued use as outdoor play area but with replacement of free-standing play equipment.

Reference Number: [P24/S1293/LDP](#)
Consultation Deadline: **Target Decision Date 18 June 2024**

GORING

Location: Mount Pleasant Farm Goring Heath RG8 7TB
Proposal: Building for the storage of dry feedstuffs and bedding for cattle, including baled hay and straw.

Reference Number: [P24/S1154/AG](#)
Consultation Deadline: **Target decision date 13 May 2024**

Location: 6 Heron Shaw Goring RG8 0AU
Proposal: Single storey front extension. Double/Single storey rear extension. Lean-to on side elevation

Reference Number: [P24/S1090/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: **16 May 2024**

Location: Gatehampton/Woodcote – Various sites
Proposal: Replacement of 20 x 11kV wooden electricity poles on the Ball Hill (BALH) E1, E3, E5 & E7 circuit

Reference Number: [P24/S1253/OH](#)
Consultation Deadline: **Target decision date 10 June 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 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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More details on Genie newsletters [here](#).