

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 26 April

In this issue: Two road closures; Extra brown bin collection; Library refurbishment; Open garden; Hub news; Festival tickets; Public Enquiry; Traffic cones; Walking festival; Crime figures; Restaurant reopens; Help with budget problems – and our latest update of new planning applications.

Two Road Closures

1. Thames Road, Goring: 29 April to 2 May 2024 – full 24 hour closure during this period

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.

The alternative routes for traffic are via a combination of Glebe Road – Cleeve Road – Private lane and vice-versa. For details see the plan [HERE](#).

This closure is to provide water connections.

2. Road from Four Points to Compton: 22 to 26 April inclusive, 09.15 to 15.15 each day

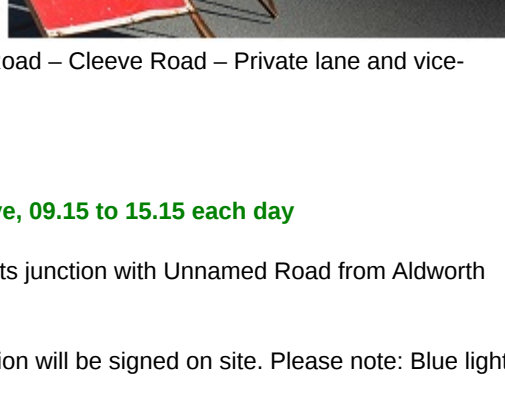
The closure will be between its junction with Coombe Road and its junction with Unnamed Road from Aldworth Road to Uplands.

Residential access will be maintained throughout, and the diversion will be signed on site. Please note: Blue light access via alternative route.

A plan of the closure can be found at: <https://one.network/?im=GB138265190>

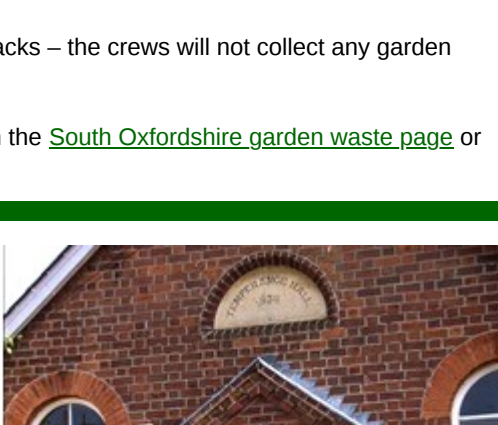
The diversion route is expected to be via - Haw La, Wyld Court Hill, Church St, Water St, Newbury Rd, Ilsley Rd, High St and vice versa.

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 Thames Water on 0800 316 9800.



Extra Brown Bin collection – Oxfordshire

Residents who are subscribed to the district council brown bin garden waste service in South Oxfordshire or Vale of White Horse can have extra garden waste collected for free, on their normal collection day only, between 15 and 26 April.



You can put out a maximum of up to four additional sacks of garden waste, per brown bin subscription, next to your brown bin.

To be eligible for collection – the extra waste must contain only natural garden waste, such as cut grass, plants or branches and be placed in standard sized (60L) sacks or in boxes/containers totalling no more than a standard bin full. Where possible, please use cardboard boxes as these are much more environmentally friendly than plastic sacks.

Please DO NOT use tonne builders' waste bags or re-enforced sacks – the crews will not collect any garden waste from these.

More information about garden waste collections can be found on the [South Oxfordshire garden waste page](#) or the [Vale garden waste page](#).

Goring Library Refurbishment

This is due to take place later this year. Please use the link below before 30 April to have your say about what you would like to see included.



The Goring Library consultation is now live. The consultation is a chance for the Oxfordshire Library Service to get the community's views on what residents would like to see in the revamped Goring Library.

The consultation is running throughout April and the link to the survey is given below. Don't forget to have your say before 30 April.

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/goring-library-enhancement>

Open Garden & Plant Sale in aid of Goring & Streatley Young Musicians Trust

Sunday 28 April 2-5pm

The garden at Wallingford Lodge, Wantage Road, Streatley RG8 9LA will be open and offering plants for sale. Please park on the road outside.

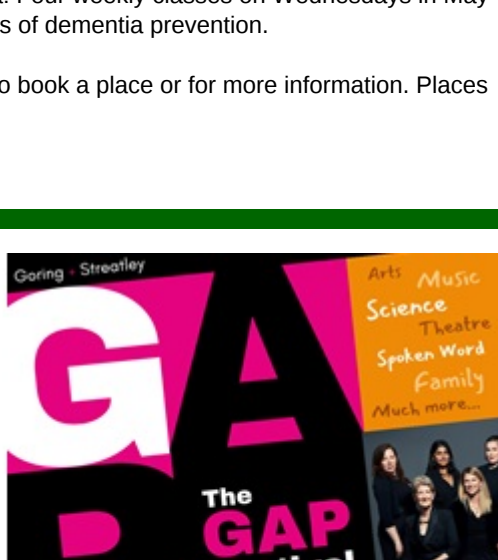


You can see the poster in more detail [HERE](#). You can read about the Goring & Streatley Young Musicians Trust [HERE](#).

What's On at the Hub – April & May

Tandem Charity Skydive: Saturday, 20 April

Do you fancy jumping out of a rather small airplane for a good cause? Become one of the Hub Heroes taking part in our sponsored tandem skydive on 20 April. Contact Stuart Rowsell on 01189 7944312 or stuarrowsell@gmail.com to book your place on the plane, or for more information.



Book & Jigsaw Sale: Saturday, 20 April 10:00-12:30

The Hub is having a half-price sale on books and jigsaws (games will be individually priced). From as little as £1.00 to £2.50, come along to the Hub on 20 April to check out our wide selection on sale!

Brain Longevity Course: Wednesdays, 8-29 May 10:30-12:30

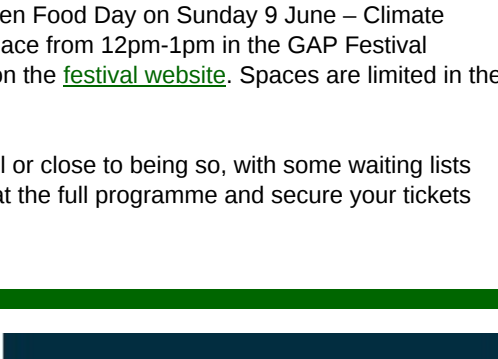
Learn how to care for your brain and reduce your risk of dementia! Four weekly classes on Wednesdays in May (8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th) run by Sally Turner, covering the four pillars of dementia prevention.

Contact the Hub on 01491 525637 or info@g1foundation.org.uk to book a place or for more information. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Please remember our new opening hours are 10:30-14:30.

GAP Festival tickets 'flying out the door' – book early to avoid disappointment

Just over two weeks into tickets going on sale, tickets have been 'flying out the door' already so don't miss out – book yours now at www.thegapfestival.org/events, where full details can be found. For instance, Space Day on Saturday 8 June: many of its intergalactic daytime sessions are already fully booked. The full line up of cosmic events includes an evening with space experts, including representatives from OrbAstro, the Goring-based satellite company, the European Space Agency (ESA) and Lumi Space.



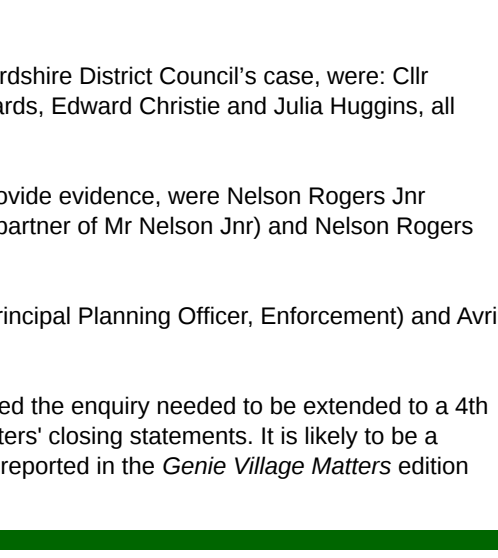
Following its success in 2022, singers from the finest Opera houses return for GAP Opera – *The Marriage of Figaro*. With picnics, champagne, pimmis and top class opera performed in English – this event is for both opera fans and those that are looking for a special evening out. Secure your preferred seats before Sunday 9 June!

A new FREE event has just been added as part of The Great Green Food Day on Saturday 9 June – Climate Change Question Time. This 'Ask the Experts' session will take place from 12pm-1pm in the GAP Festival marquee in Rectory Garden. The full panel line up can be found on the [festival website](#). Spaces are limited in the marquee, so book your free tickets now.

Many of the art workshops and wellbeing sessions are already full or close to being so, with some waiting lists available. Other larger events are still selling fast, so take a look at the full programme and secure your tickets now at www.thegapfestival.org/events.

Public Enquiry appeals relating to the land adjacent to driveway to Goring Burial Ground

The enquiry relates to 2 appeals against SODC enforcement orders (A & B) and a further appeal (C) by Mr Nelson Roger Jnr against SODC's failure to determine a planning application for the 'Material change of use to mixed use, namely 1) equestrian and 2) the formation of a Gypsy/Traveller pitch, together with ancillary development ...'. The full application can be found here: [P23/S3743/FUL](https://p23/S3743/FUL).



The hearing was originally scheduled for 7 November 2023, but postponed due to illness of the inspector. It took place over three days last week (9, 10 & 11 April) at Howbery Park, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford. It was presided over by Thomas Shields, a government-appointed inspector and dealt with 3 separate, but related, appeals:

Appeal A (Lead case) – [APP/Q3315/C/23/3315454 Enforcement Notice](#)

Appeal B – [APP/Q3315/C/23/3315455 Enforcement Notice](#)

Appeal C – [APP/Q3115/W/24/3336646](#)

Local residents who spoke at the inquiry in support of South Oxfordshire District Council's case, were: Cllr Stephanie Bridle (Goring-on-Thames Parish Council), Chris Rickards, Edward Christie and Julia Huggins, all residents of Goring-on-Thames.

Witnesses called by the appellant's Barrister (Alan Masters) to provide evidence, were Nelson Rogers Jnr (Appellant), Brian Woods (Planning consultant), Christine Lamb (partner of Mr Nelson Jnr) and Nelson Rogers Snr.

Representing SODC were Ben du Feu (Barrister), Rob Cramp (Principal Planning Officer, Enforcement) and Avril Williams (Senior Landscape Officer).

Given the number of witnesses and appeals involved, it was agreed the enquiry needed to be extended to a 4th day, which will be later this month to accommodate the two barristers' closing statements. It is likely to be a further eight weeks or so before a verdict is given and this will be reported in the *Genie Village Matters* edition following the publication of the verdict.

Improper Use of Traffic Cones

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council has been made aware of the improper use of traffic cones to reserve on-street parking spaces.



Residents are reminded that this is illegal by virtue of Section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 which says: "If a person, without lawful authority or excuse, in any way willfully obstructs the free passage along a highway he is guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 51 weeks or a fine or both."

North Wessex Downs Walking Festival 2024 – 31 May-9 June

The festival provides a varied programmed of 29 events. These include opportunities to visit farms, seek out wildlife, discover history, picnic with the family, take part in a self-guided sponsored walk, or simply soak up the views from the top of the downs. Many of the walks are free.



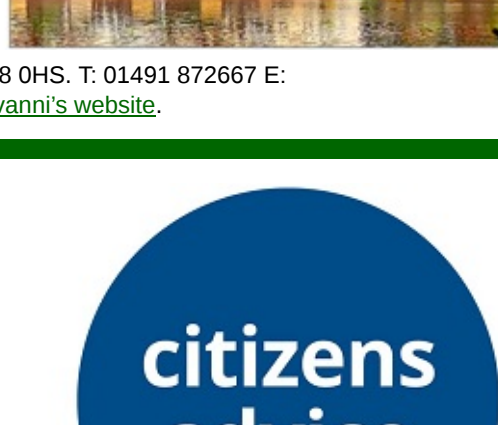
All the walk guides are knowledgeable and welcoming and will bring alive some of their favourite places while you explore more of this stunning landscape.

Last year's festival was a huge success and many of the walks filled up very quickly so make sure you don't miss out by booking your favourites now.

Full programme details and booking information are on the website at: northwessexdowns.org.uk/walkingfestival.

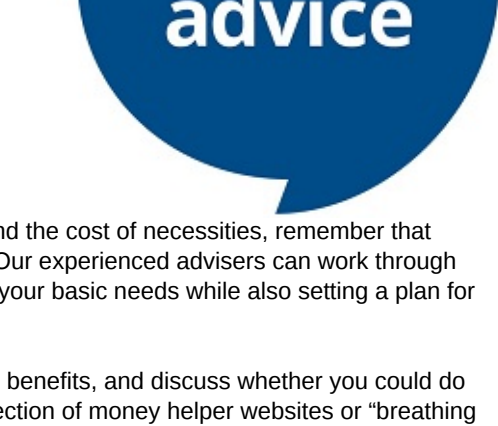
The latest list of local crimes and incidents in the Goring area reported to Genie by the Thames Valley Police

- 21 Mar Criminal damage (Graffiti) Under investigation
- 27 Mar Mental Health incident
- 30 Mar Theft (Under investigation)
- 04 April Adult protection
- 10 April Road traffic collision, no injuries (Wallingford Rd)



Goring riverside restaurant to re-open soon after their normal winter season break – at noon on Wednesday 24 April

Open for lunch and dinner from Tuesday to Saturday, with services from 12noon to 3pm, and on Sundays for a leisurely lunch from 12noon to 4pm. As the weather warms, take advantage of the al fresco dining area, much of it covered. The General Manager is Erasmo Santella and he and his staff look forward to welcoming you.



The restaurant, Don Giovanni at the Leatherne Bottel, is on The Ridgeway, situated in Bridle Way, Goring-on-Thames, RG8 0HS. T: 01491 872667 E: info@leathernebottel.co.uk. For further information, visit [Don Giovanni's website](#).

Citizens Advice: fighting negative budgets with positive help

Five million people in this country (one in 15 households) are living on "negative budgets" – in other words, they have nothing in the bank and are in permanent debt. Another 2.3 million people only manage to stay out of debt by cutting back even on living essentials. They know that once their bank accounts dip below zero it takes an extraordinary effort to climb out of the pit.



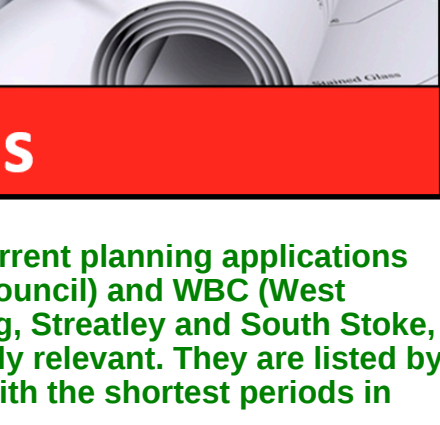
Citizens Advice says that the biggest cause of negative budgets is rising housing costs, but there are other factors such as higher energy bills, and salaries and benefits that cannot keep pace with inflation.

If you are in debt yourself and locked in battle against creditors and the cost of necessities, remember that Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale is there to help you. Our experienced advisers can work through your income and spending and set a personal budget that meets your basic needs while also setting a plan for paying off your debts in the long term.

We can find out whether you are entitled to benefits, or enhanced benefits, and discuss whether you could do something to increase your earnings. We can point you in the direction of money helper websites or "breathing space" schemes. So don't despair, but get in touch with us right away. Call our local AdviceLine on 0808 278 7907 or our national Debt Helpline on 0800 240 4420. And have a look at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>. Free, confidential and impartial advice is always available.

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](#)

Current local 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 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, two 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: 24/00597/HOUSE
Consultation Deadline: 18 April 2024

Location: The Old Golf House Rectory Road Streatley Reading RG8 9QA
Proposal: 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/FUL; 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

SOUTH STOKE

None

GORING

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

Location: 19 Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DP
Proposal: Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of two detached dwellings, with revised access.
Reference Number: P24/S1080/FUL
Consultation Deadline: 24 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 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](#).