

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

*News, Information
and Comment for
Goring Heath,
Whitchurch Hill
and Crays Pond*

September 2019

Issue 171

Visit us at:

www.goringheath.com

Facebook: search 'Goring Heath
Parish News'

Forthcoming Events

GPHH = Goring Heath Parish Hall W VH = Whitchurch Village Hall
 ORS = Old Rectory Stables SJC = St John's Church, Whit. Hill
 WL = Woodcote Library (CC = Community Centre)

Bowls Club Open roll-ups every Monday at 2 pm Almshouses
 Badminton Club—every Thursday pm (term time) Langtree School

September 2019

3	Whitchurch Hill WI Walk and Lunch	Waterfront Café	
7	Late Summer Garden Show		GPHH
19	Whitchurch and GH History Society,	7.30	GPHH
28	History Society Art Café	10.00	ORS

October 2019

14	Local walk	10.00-12.00	Sun
17	Whitchurch and GH History	7.30	GPHH
19	Friends Musical Evening	7.00	SJC
19	Coppicing Event, Blue Tin, Ipsden	9.00 to 4.00	

November 2019

1	Friends Art Café		ORS
4	Local walk	10.00-12.00	Sun
10	Remembrance Day Service and Ceremony		SJC
16 17	Art and Craft Exhibition		WVH

Publicise your event and increase attendance by giving us the dates.

IT IS FREE

We welcome event dates from all local charities and groups for listing in this feature. Please send the details to the Editor at:

goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com Please allow sufficient time in advance for the publication of the appropriate newsletter. Contribution deadlines and publication dates are on the inside back cover.

Chairman's Comments

Since my comments in the last newsletter, I am encouraged by progress in two broad areas, firstly the improved engagement with the Council by Parishioners and secondly a series of initiatives we are progressing actively.

In terms of engagement, we have seen an increase in the number of emails and letters we have received, with subjects across many areas, including play area investment, traffic management, upkeep of community assets, planning concerns and the upkeep of Crays Pond. We also had two Parishioners attend at our last Parish Council meeting who came to discuss specific concerns. This has been hugely useful as we debate the issues and ensure that as best as possible, we reflect the views of our community. Please do continue to engage actively with us.

In terms of initiatives, I am delighted that we have commenced or are progressing programmes in a variety of areas. These include: refurbishing the telephone box at Crays Pond; resurfacing the Parish Hall car park; improving generally grass cutting, but now including in the specification for 2020 some designated conservation verges; addressing tree issues at Crays Pond; seeking opinion on recommended new play area equipment; and improving the traffic speed management of the 30mph restriction in Whitchurch Hill.

We are also continuing to engage actively with the County Council on implementing the new lower speed limit in Crays Pond. Of course, these things tend to take longer than ideal, and I would ask for your patience. As I am sure you will appreciate, there is a process we need to follow before starting works, including an effective tendering process to ensure that we get best value for our spend. We will however keep you posted on progress and expand where appropriate on the details of the key initiatives within this newsletter and on our website and Facebook page.

Chris Jessop Chairman

Oakwood Covert, Penny Royal

On the evening of 11 July, I was contacted by a resident of Penny Royal who alerted me to activity going on in the adjacent woodland. A group of people had moved into the wood and were felling trees. I went and had a look, and met the people, who stated that they owned the land and "could do what they liked". There were a couple of vans, some dirty looking children and a general atmosphere of aggression and degradation.

Various agencies were contacted, including Police, County Council, Forestry Commission and District Council.

The District Council moved very quickly, and having seen the situation, applied to the High Court for an Injunction to cease occupation of the site and to stop felling trees etc; this injunction was applied for over the weekend and granted and served on the Sunday, and the occupants have now moved off. The injunction applied to the whole extent of Oakwood Covert from Penny Royal to Eastfield Lane.

It appears that this whole wood is being offered for sale in tiny parcels, and gullible people are buying.

Undoubtedly with this situation, there will be more similar incidents, and it would be good to ensure that this fine ancient woodland is protected as it's a valuable part of the local amenities. Long term protection could be arranged by acquiring the rest of the wood as a Community Wood, following the guidance of the Woodland Trust.

If you are interested in this, please contact me or the Parish Clerk, Amanda Holland.

Peter Dragonetti



Planning Decisions

The following planning applications have been considered.

Where a decision is not given, it means the Parish Council has not yet received written confirmation from S.O.D.C.

Premises and application details	Parish Council	SODC
P19/S1917/HH Hunters Moon Hill Bottom Construction of a detached open sided carport	Object	
P19/S2068/HH Brindles Bridle Road Whitchurch Hill Proposed single storey rear extension, flat roof box dormer and detached carport.		
P19/S2142/LB Charity Farm Cottage Track Running Past Charity Farm Goring Heath Single storey extension	No objections	

Planning

We would also like to point out that No Strong Views is one of only three choices that SODC gives the parish council. It should not be read as illustrating tacit approval of an application. More often than not this choice is supplemented with specific comments from the parish council highlighting areas of concern.

THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S & ST JOHN'S, WHITCHURCH

The work involving the improvement of St John's Churchyard continues with the professional cleaning and painting of the railings along the main road. A further workday for volunteers will be organised in early Autumn to clear the remaining old hedge and bramble. This will enable completion of the work on the railings either side of the Lych Gate.

The Friends 'Music Evening 2019' will be in St John's Church on Saturday 19th October starting at 7pm. The music will be played by the Maidenhead Concert Band. Tickets are £12 or £6 for under 16 yrs and will include drinks and snacks. Buy tickets from Theresa Elsome (0118 984 2056) and Sally Woolhouse (07956 037927) or any Friends Trustee member.

The restoration of St Mary's Clock is in progress and should be completed during September.

The Friends AGM will be on Saturday 5th October at 2.30pm in the Old Stables, High Street, Whitchurch. Immediately following this meeting, it is intended to have a celebration event at St Mary's Church to recognise the completion of the clock restoration. Details to be announced !

Finally, the Friends will be running the Art Cafe at the Old Stables again on Saturday 7th September and Saturday 2nd November.

Keith Williams

Chairman, The Friends of St Mary's & St John's, Whitchurch
0118 984 1139 keithc.williams@btinternet.com

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

After a summer of visits we will be looking forward to our autumn season of lectures.

We begin on Thursday September 19th when Dr Edward Peveler will speak about the Beacons of the past project, a unique aping of all the archaeological sites in the Chilterns, using LIDAR aerial laser techniques. Hill forts are a particular interest, and we hope to be able to view some of the results in our locality.

We shall also be able to appreciate the results of research into Whitchurch parish when we welcome Dr Simon Draper, historian for the Victoria County History, to our meeting on Thursday 17th October. The Victoria County History was a project started to celebrate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee, to write a history of every parish in the country. Some counties completed their histories promptly, but Oxfordshire has aged behind, and is just now nearing the end of the work. The Whitchurch chapter will appear in volume xx, alongside other southern Thames parishes such as Goring and Caversham.

Our meetings take place at Goring Heath parish Hall, in Whitchurch Hill, and start at 8pm, with coffee served from 7.30pm. Non-members are welcome to attend, £3, to include coffee and biscuits.

PLEASE support our Art Café morning on Saturday 28th September, where you will also be able to buy our books.

Vicky Jordan

Phone Boxes

Although you can no longer call from the phone boxes at Crays Pond and Whitchurch Hill, there is thriving free library in the one at Whitchurch Hill.

At Crays Pond, there has recently been some vandalism, and some of the panes of glass have been smashed, but repairs are in hand.

A suggested use for this more prominent old phone box is as an information point or museum.

If you are interested in helping maintain these phone boxes, which now belong to the parish council, please get in touch with the Clerk to the Parish Council.

GREAT OAKS WOODLAND UPDATE - SUMMER 2019

Following the managed "thinning" of Great Oaks Woodland last winter, there are now more open areas. Some will be replanted, and others left to encourage natural regeneration of native trees. Volunteers to help with the replanting

We are happy for people to enjoy our woodland, but please keep to the public rights of way, as shown on the map below (attached). Could owners also please keep their dogs under close control, to avoid disturbing farm & wild life.

We apologise for the recent blocking of vehicle accesses to the woods, but we were worried that if/when the travellers camping in the wood next to Penny Royal were moved on, they might look to cross the road into our woods. The existing court order there does not cover Great Oaks.

Without wishing to be "too obstructive", you may have noticed that we also block the informal paths from time to time (with branches etc, at least once per year). This is to make the point that these are not rights of way.

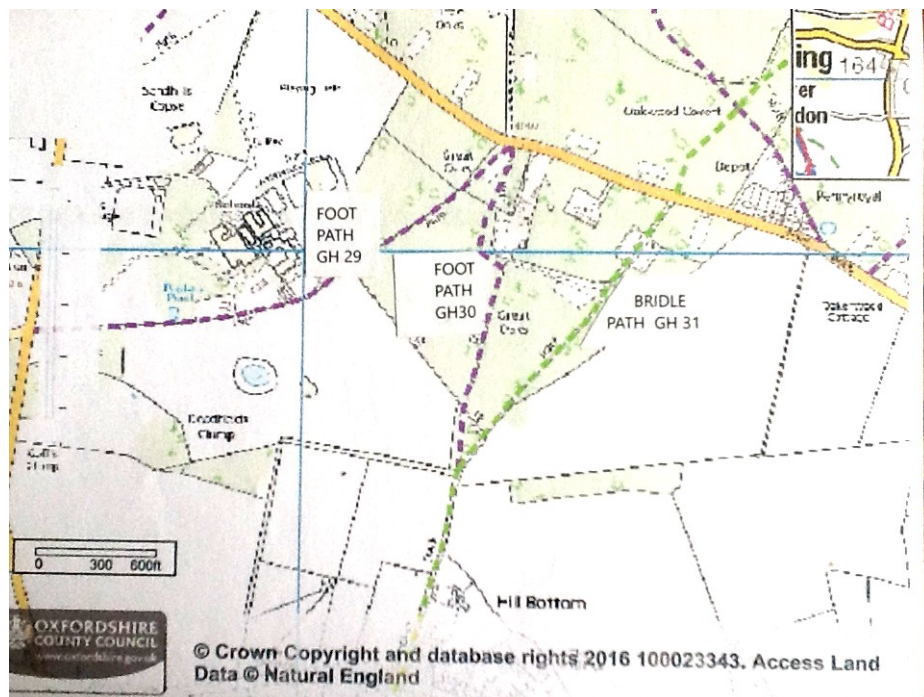
Please contact us if you wish to cut & take fallen deadwood for your home fire, although we do wish to leave some for the bugs, etc.

We are also talking to a Reading Environmental group about using the woodland as a resource, giving youngsters from town a chance to create habitats & enjoy the woods. If anyone else has ideas how we can enhance and share the enjoyment of our woods, please contact us.

Any questions or comments to us, please contact:

Jon & Kate Hatt

Merricroft, Coombe End Farm, Goring Heath, Reading, RG8 7TA,
0118 984 3121, merricroft@yahoo.co.uk



Enjoy a stroll but no-one to walk with?

Our friendly monthly Parish based walks restart on second Monday in October , then return to the normal first Monday from November.

The next dates are :

**Monday 14 October
Monday 4 November
Monday 2 December**

We meet outside the Sun Pub at 10am - finishing back in the village around 11.30.

Want to know more? Ring Sally on 07585 195669

Going Forward Buses

**CHANGES TO GORING TO
READING SERVICE**

**We are sorry to advise that the
SATURDAY service on this
route will cease running after
31st August 2019**

**Unfortunately the number of passengers
using the service on Saturdays has fallen
to such an extent that it has been losing up
to £100 a day.**

**We have tried to find ways to continue running it but
unfortunately there is no additional funding available
and we have been unable to find volunteers who could
help to run the service instead**

**The TUESDAY service will continue to run
for the time being with minor timing
changes from 3rd September 2019 but we
are considering re-routing it at a later
date to Henley with connections at
Pangbourne and Cane End for Reading**

www.goingforwardbuses.com

Goring Heath and Whitchurch Autumn Show



Saturday 7 September 2019

2.30 pm to 4.00 pm

Goring Heath Parish Hall

Enter your finest flowers, fruit, veg, floral arrangements, handicrafts, artwork, baking and photos.

Or come along to view the entries & enjoy home-made cake, tea & coffee, raffle and plant stall.

This year's Arts and Crafts classes:

Handicraft

A knitted scarf

A drawstring

bag

A good luck card

Art

A Doorway

Still Life

A Dead Tree

Full schedule of classes and entry forms will be available on:

www.whitchurchonthames.com

www.goringheath.com

Phone for a printed copy:

Judith Jones on 01189842816

Liz Gibson on 01189842012

Sally Trinder on 01189842610

Sue Sexon on 01189844236

A Coppicing Event

This year, National Coppice Week is between Oct 12th- 19th. Coppice Craftspeople will be holding events celebrating the value of coppicing as a sustainable way to manage woodland and help tackle climate change.

In our area, the Chiltern and Thames Valley Coppice Group will be holding an event at Blue Tin Farm Shop, near Ipsden, on Sat Oct 19th from 9am to 4pm.

There will be on-going demonstrations of Hazel and Gate Hurdle making and Hazel Basketry AND a chance to learn how to make Gypsy Flowers and mini Besom Brooms. Hand-made products will be on sale too.

During the day we will take people on a short walk into the nearby wood to see coppicing in action and to learn more about the importance of this ancient form of woodland management.

Blue Tin is a fabulous Farm Shop and Cafe and excellent food and beverages will be available all day.

BLUE TIN is at KEEPERS COTTAGE, GARSONS LANE, IPSDEN OX10 6BQ and is well signposted on local lanes.

Find out more about the National Coppice Federation on the NCfed Facebook page.

For information about this event contact Martin Wise at martinwise10@hotmail.com

Christmas Party

The Village Hall is organising a children's entertainment in the run up to Christmas which will be open to children ages 6 to 12. There will be a professional entertainer and lots of fun and games and party food.

More details in the next newsletter.

WHITCHURCH ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION

**The weekend of 16 - 17th November 2019
Whitchurch-on-Thames Village Hall,
Manor Road**

Don't forget to put this VIP date in your diaries! It will come around sooner than you think so now is the time to start planning your imaginative creations, ready for this year's show. If you have never entered before, why not make 2019 your first time and I guarantee you will get hooked! We welcome all types of art, craft and photography on any subject – it is an enjoyable, friendly event and everyone in Whitchurch and Goring Heath parishes is eligible to enter. Also, children who attend the Whitchurch Pre-School Group, Whitchurch Primary School or The Oratory Preparatory School are all eligible to enter, regardless of where they live.

The theme this year for the Joyce Voysey class is '**Masks**'. This separate class is open to all age groups and the entries can be in any media – art, photos, sculpture, crochet, video – whatever inspires you! Also, we would love to have more entries in our new video section for the Brazil Award which was introduced in 2018.

The details of how and when to enter in all the categories will be posted on Goring Heath and Whitchurch on Thames websites . Meanwhile, start working on your entries and help make this year's event the best ever!

If you would like to get involved with the planning and setting up of the exhibition, please do get in touch – all offers of help are gratefully received.

Sally Woolhouse

Chair of the organising committee
0118 9844365
sally@wotarts.co.uk

The Emerging Local Plan 2034

The first full Council meeting of the new administration on 18th July was a busy one, with a packed agenda. As expected, the main focus of debate (and for the representations made by over 20 members of the public), was the South Oxfordshire Emerging Local Plan. The Cabinet motion put forward included several elements, including:

- a desire to protect the district against speculative housing development and to maintain its housing land supply;
- a wish to support the funding available through the Housing Infrastructure Fund (c. £215m currently targeting road improvements in and around Didcot);
- a direction to officers to explore with OCC, Homes England and MHCLG options for protecting the HIF funding whilst enabling the council to address concerns about the current emerging Local Plan 2034, including (but not limited to) climate change issues and Oxford City's unmet housing need;
- a desire for the Local Plan to reflect more properly the recently declared Climate Emergency and the Climate Change Act 2008, including the objective to become Zero Carbon by 2050;
- the need to commence work on a new Local Plan as soon as possible, strengthening climate change considerations.
-

This motion was passed by 20 votes to 13; while some criticised the strategy NOT to make a clear decision at this stage between the four previously presented options, Cabinet's view was that more time was needed to allow SODC officers to discuss with others potential ways to protect the much-needed funding for road and cycle path improvements while reducing the number of houses currently included in the plan.

Latest traffic models have made it clear that the new roads and river crossings are already badly needed to relieve pressure on the existing network, and that if all of the planned houses are constructed, the roads will immediately be at full capacity. The current plan also includes nearly 5000 houses to satisfy Oxford City's unmet need, but the inspector has recently questioned the methodology used to calculate this figure.

RG8 Badminton Club

Our final Club night of the summer season brought to a close another well attended and successful season. It also meant a fond farewell to one of our longest serving club members – Rod Upham – who has been with this club and its previous incarnations for well over 30 years. Rod and his wife are moving away to Sherborne and his support and sportsmanship will be missed. He was presented with a certificate to mark his departure which was signed by all past chairs and coaches covering his whole period.

If you've played before and are looking for some competitive exercise in a friendly setting why not get in contact now? Ring Julie Drury on 07980 413026 or visit our club website for more information

www.rg8badminton.co.uk

We play on Thursday evenings at the Langtree Community Hall welcome both seniors and juniors from 14 years old. We keep our fees to a minimum equivalent to around £3 per evening with half price for juniors.



Rosie Care

Palliative, Dementia Level 2, Special needs

10 years' experience

Kerry Jones—local carer

Tel: 07966509908, 01491 682437



Bus Service from 3 September, Tuesday Only

Service Number		145	145	145
PANGBOURNE, The George PH		10:07	13:05	15:10
Whitchurch-on-Thames, Greyhound	0.3	10:10	13:07	15:12
Whitchurch Hill, The Sun PH	1.9	10:14	13:11	15:16
Crays Pond	1.2	10:17	13:14	15:19
Service Number		146	146A	146A
Crays Pond		10:17	13:14	15:19
Goring Heath Almshouses	1.6	10:20	13:17	15:22
Cane End	2.0	10:23	13:21	15:26
Chazey Heath	1.7	10:26	13:24	15:29
Highmoor Road	2.0	10:29	13:27	15:32
Caversham Library	0.7	10:32	13:30	15:35
TESCO Kings Meadow	1.2		13:34	15:39
Service Number			148	148
TESCO Kings Meadow			13:34	15:39
READING Blagrove Street Stop EO/EP	1.1	10:40	13:38	15:43
Service Number		148		
READING Blagrove Street Stop EO/EP		10:40	13:38	15:43
READING Friar Street Stop FC		10:41	13:38 R	15:43 R
READING Station Road, Stop SB	0.1	10:42	13:39 R	15:44 R
TESCO Kings Meadow	1.3	10:50		

Note: the Service in the end column (shaded) only runs until 29th October

Service Number		148		
TESCO Kings Meadow	1.7	11:52		
READING Blagrove Street Stop EO/EP	1.3	11:57		
Service Number		146	148	148
READING Blagrove Street Stop EO/EP		12:00	13:55	16:15
READING Friar Street Stop FC		12:01	13:56	16:16
READING Station Road, Stop SB	0.1	12:02	13:57	16:17
TESCO Kings Meadow			14:01	16:21
Service Number		147	146A	146A
TESCO Kings Meadow	1.1		14:01	16:21
Caversham Library	1.1	12:07	14:05	16:25
Highmoor Road	0.7	12:09	14:07	16:27
Chazey Heath	2.0	12:12	14:10	16:30
Cane End	1.7	12:15	14:13	16:33
Goring Heath Almshouses	2.0	12:18	14:16 R	16:36 R
GORING Railway Station Forecourt		09:25		
Crays Pond	1.6	09:28	12:21	14:17
Service Number		145	145	145
Crays Pond		09:28	12:21	14:17
Whitchurch Hill, The Sun PH	1.2	09:31	12:24	14:20
Whitchurch-on-Thames, Greyhound	1.9	09:36	12:29	14:25
Pangbourne, Greens Butchers	0.3	09:39	12:32	14:28
Pangbourne The George PH		09:47		
Reading TC Station Road		10:10		
Pangbourne Village Hall	0.1	09:39	12:32	14:28

The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club

Organiser: Christine Martin

“Sonia”, Goring Heath Road, Whitchurch Hill, RG8 7PG

Tel: 0118 9844252 e.mail whitchurchthetreclub@gmail.com

Whitchurch & District Theatre Club takes you to musicals, plays, ballets, operas, classical concerts etc. once a month or more. Salisbury, Windsor, Guildford, Stratford and Chichester, amongst others, are often visited. Major London venues and productions. Mainly matinees in the week, but sometimes evening performances and weekends. Holiday trips away. Tickets purchased at group/concessionary rates. Coaches depart from Pangbourne. For our forthcoming programme please check the Whitchurch-on-Thames Website.

Subscriptions £14 per annum but £12 if paid online.

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David Bowen on **0800 847 7104** or visit
honeygroup.co.uk/people/DavidBowen

11 am Sung Holy Communion Sept 1st, Oct. 6th, Nov.3rd

9 am Holy Communion

11am Sung Matins

*All these services are traditional Book of Common Prayer
and are open to the public*

The Chapel, Alnutt Alms Houses, Goring Heath, RG8 7RS

Don't forget you can hire cutlery, glasses, plates, catering teapots, good folding chairs and tables from Goring Heath Village Hall at competitive prices and nice and local.

Contact Jane Diggle
ginnydiggle@hotmail.com

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER FACEBOOK PAGE

If you haven't already done so, please head over to our Facebook page which contains useful information as well as forthcoming events, pictures and suggestions from residents. Search for 'Goring Heath Parish News' and 'Like' us to ensure you are kept up to date with any new information that we put on there.

If you'd like to publish any news or advertise any events on the Facebook page, please contact the editor at:

goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com

COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Peter Dragonetti Covert Cottage, Hill Bottom, Whitechurch Hill, RG8 7PT
07866 202908, 0118 9844711 peter@dragonetti.co.uk

Council Offices: 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton OX14 4SB
See below for dept. phone contacts www.southoxon.gov.uk

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Kevin Bulmer 35 Springhill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 0BY
07526 743091 kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Council Offices: County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND
01865 792422 www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

POLICE	Thames Valley Police	0845-8505505
POLICE	PEC – Non-Emergency Calls	101
POTHOLES	-	0845-3101111

South Oxfordshire District Council New Department Numbers

Main Customer Service Number: 01235 422422

- ♦ **Planning -** 01235 422600
- ♦ **Building control -** 01235 422700
- ♦ **Environmental health, food and safety -** 01235 422403
- ♦ **Licensing -** 01235 422556
- ♦ **Elections -** 01235 422407
- ♦ **Car parks -** 01235 470118
- ♦ **Community safety -** 01235 422590
- ♦ **Street naming and numbering -** 01235 422344

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER

You can get in touch with the Goring Heath Newsletter by emailing:
goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com.

This is for any queries, correspondence, feedback and copy submissions. ,
This will remain constant, even if the editor doesn't!

The Goring Heath Newsletter is published by the Parish Council six times a year and is delivered free to every household in the Parish.

To contributors to the Newsletter:-

It would be most helpful if copy could be submitted to the editor as a document attachment to email and sent to goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council.

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
10th October 2019	November 2019
12 December 2019	January 2019

LOCAL GROUPS—CONTACT DETAILS

Chiltern Society Footpath Representative	Liz Collas	01491680466
Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494764149
Goring Heath Bowls Club (Almshouses)	David Watson	01189842174
	http://goringheathbowls.weebly.com	
Goring Heath Parish Charity	Chris Whatmore	01189844022
Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides	Doreen Pechey	01491681236
Goring Thames Sailing Club	Jennie Wood	01491875619
Pilates (Friday Morning)	Michele Houston	01491575205
RG8 Badminton Club	Julie Drury	07980413026
South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (S.O.A.G.)	Nancy Nichols	01189787829
Tai Chi and Qigong	Karen Pounds	07867954786
Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group	Esther Lay-Sans	07713756537
Whitchurch Hill Camera Club	www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Sue Matthews	01189844489
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning	Vicky Jordan	01189843260
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	01189842162
Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am)	Elizabeth Harrap	01491681171

Goring Heath Parish Hall : Bookings and Enquiries: Jane Diggle
email: ginnydiggle@hotmail.com

GORING HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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