

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

May 2013
133rd Issue

Visit us at:
www.goringheath.com

Forthcoming Events

GHPH = Goring Heath Parish Hall

WL = Woodcote Library

WVH = Whitchurch Village Hall

May 2013

1st Organ Concert

5th Abingdon Air & Country Show

9th Parish Council Meeting

16th History Society

17th SIA Fish & Chip Supper

21st W.I.

25th Whitchurch Hill Fête

25th Sale

St Bartholomew's Chapel

Abingdon

GHPH

GHPH

See article page 14

GHPH

Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground

Allnutt Almshouses

June 2013

2nd Re-dedication of roof

13th Parish Council Meeting

23rd Toad Hall 10k

St Bartholomew's Chapel

GHPH

Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground

July 2013

7th "Five Voices"

11th Parish Council Meeting

20th Goring & Streatley Regatta

St Bartholomew's Chapel

GHPH

August 2013

No Parish Council meeting this month

September 2013

28th Moonrakers

GHPH

**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 - Tim King at tim@tpking.me.uk.

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

As I write, Friday 12 April, it at last seems to be the first real spring day, and I look forward to a better summer than last year. The weather has resulted in many pot holes appearing, some quickly becoming dangerous, especially for cyclists, and it is good that the County Council has had some of them repaired recently. At the Annual Parish Meeting yesterday, County Councillor Dave Sexon told us that once a pothole is marked by paint, it should be repaired within 28 days, so it's now worth paying closer attention to when the paint is applied.

Dave Sexon is standing down as our County Councillor, and at the election in May there will be some fresh faces offering themselves for public service. Like the District Council, the County Council has reduced the number of councillors, so the Goring Division for the County now stretches from South Stoke to close to Emmer Green, and from Mapledurham to beyond Stoke Row, covering 7 parishes. As I understand it there is now "Cabinet Government" in Oxfordshire, so most County Councillors are little more than lobby fodder, with pothole management duties thrown in, hence the reduction in numbers. If you have ever experienced Oxfordshire Social Services, or wondered what the County Child Protection Service was doing in Oxford or read of the fiasco over the parking spaces in Henley or the current muddle of the Henley Challenge, and, further afield but still in the County, the wasted millions on the Witney Cogges Link Road it would seem that we need more democratic intervention in the running of the County, not less, and we need more people on the County Council prepared to challenge, to ask difficult questions, and people who are not bound by party loyalties to the party line.

I have always felt lucky that we had Dave Sexon as our Councillor, especially as he lived so locally, and I am sorry that he is not able to continue, and I thank him for nobly working on our behalf for the last few years.

Peter Dragonetti
Chairman



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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	S.O.D.C.
P12/S3018/HH & P12/S3019/LB 1 Enigma Estate Coldharbour Goring Heath RG8 7SZ Erection of a side extension (Re-submission of application P12/S2443/HH)	Should be Refused	Permission
P12/S3138/HH Sunny Home Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PG Construction of a side extension, reconfigured roof with a loft conversion incorporating two front dormers	No Strong Views	Permission
P13/S0119/HH 20 Hill Bottom Close Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PX Single storey extension and alteration.	No Strong Views	Permission
P13/S0517/HH & P13/S0518/LB Bottom Farm Blackbirds Bottom Goring Heath RG8 7SX Erection of two storey extension and associated alterations (amended by updated bat survey received 19th March 2013).	Should be refused	
P13/S0727/FUL Formerly Goring Heath Poultry Farm Goring Heath RG8 7RU Erection of barn building for veterinary services	No Strong Views	
P13/S0686/LB Milo Crispin Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NY Internal renovations.	No Strong Views	

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.

All Square

The square boxes containing further squares and dots are called QR codes. Modern mobile phones especially smartphones can “read” the code with a suitable free “app” and display the message which usually contains a link to a web address which the user can open.

HAVE YOU GOT THE BOTTLE?

To all those generous people who donate bottles to The Bottle Stall at the Fête, we shall start the collection approximately two weeks before Fête Day, the 25th of May.



ABINGDON Air & Country Show Sun 5th May, from 10am

**Flying Displays, Vintage Vehicles,
live music, Kids Amusements,
Static displays, Crafts and more.**

Gate Admission; Adult £15, OAP £10, Child 5-15 £5,
under 5s Free. Advance tickets available, enquire via
the website: www.abingdonfayre.com

**Abingdon Airfield, off Barrow Road,
Shippon, ABINGDON, OX13 6JQ**

Whitchurch Hill Fete

Saturday May 25th

2PM

Stalls and Plants Galore

Ferret Racing

Punch & Judy

Bottle Stall

Raffle

Children's Races & Games

Swing boats

Beer and Tea Tents

Barbecue

25 Piece Concert Band

"Have a go" Lawn Bowls

Fun Dog Show

Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground

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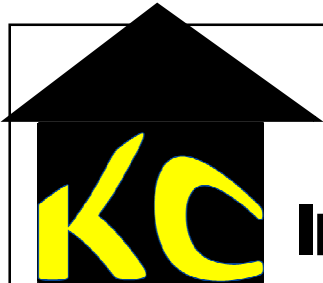
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**Multi-Terrain 10k & 5k Race
2013 - 5th Anniversary**

Sunday 23rd June

Village Green, Whitchurch Hill

Online Entry and full details at:

www.toadhall10k.com

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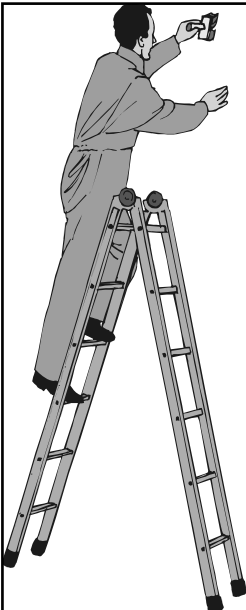
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Whitchurch Hill Women's Institute

Our 19th February meeting comprised a social morning when members got together to discuss the programme for the forthcoming year while enjoying extra treats of fruit scones, welsh scones and a cherry tart kindly provided by Doreen Pragnell and May Cairns along with copious cups of delicious fresh coffee. The informal meeting turned out a great success, giving much needed extra social time, as the chatter was non-stop. Hence it was felt necessary to follow up the meeting with a lunch arranged for Tuesday March 12th to be held at the Highwayman Inn, Checkendon. Wendy Blow won the flower of the month with a simple snowdrop.

On a cold, windy morning 14 members met up once again, this time at the Highwayman where we were soon warmed up sipping a glass of wine while sitting alongside the wood burning stoves. Once everyone was assembled we were taken to our table which was under the lantern where again members chattered non-stop while enjoying wonderful delicious food.

Tuesday March 19th was our AGM when our outgoing President, Theresa Elsome, gave her annual report listing the various speakers and numerous social events members had attended throughout the year. May Cairns then gave her last financial report as after 27 years she will soon be stepping down as Treasurer. This was followed by the welcome news that Frances Strange had agreed to be our new President and Margaret Palling our new Treasurer for the forthcoming year. The raffle was then won by Frances Strange who very kindly shared the box of chocolates with the members who had already feasted on one of May Cairns' famous chocolate cakes, a lemon drizzle cake, an upside down cherry cake and some lovely home baked cookies kindly provided by Theresa Elsome, Doreen Godley and Daphne McVeigh. Not only has membership increased this year but member's waistlines too! For the second year running Tony Aldiss won the annual competition trophy, second Heather Baker and third Frances Strange. The flower of the month, a pretty blue Iris, was also won by Tony Aldiss. To round off the morning there then followed a general knowledge quiz set by Wendy Blow.

The Resolutions that have been chosen for the National Federation AGM in Cardiff will be discussed during the meeting on May 21st followed by a Bring & Buy sale of home baking and preserves, etc.



The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club



Organiser: Christine Martin

"Sonia", Goring Heath Road, Whitchurch Hill, RG8 7PG

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

The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club takes you to musicals, plays, classical concerts etc. once a month. Salisbury, Bath, Oxford, Stratford, and Chichester, amongst others, are often visited.

Also major London productions.

Mainly matinees but sometimes evening performances.

Tickets purchased at group/concessionary rates.

Subscriptions £5 per annum.

Coaches leave from Pangbourne.

EVENTS at St Bartholomew's Chapel

Allnutt Almshouses; Goring Heath, RG8 7RS

May 1st

Organ concert in the chapel at 3pm and afterwards Evensong at 6pm.

May 25th 10am - 12 oclock

Plant, books, clothes, bric-a-brac, cakes, cd's Sale.

June 2nd

The Bishop of Dorchester, Colin Fletcher will do a re dedication of the new roofing and heating system (BCP)

July 7th Concert at 7pm,

"Five Voices". Canapes and bubbly at 6pm.

Bring picnics for the interval. Entrance by Ticket only at £10 each.

Rev Peter Dewey

June 18th is the annual outing, this year a trip on the Thames from Caversham to Henley where members can enjoy lunch either at the Rowing Museum or one of the many hostelryes, arrangements to be confirmed.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 10.15 a.m. in Goring Heath Parish Hall. If you are interested in finding out more about Whitchurch Hill W.I. then do please contact our President Mrs Frances Strange telephone number 0118 9842162. Visitors are always welcome too.

Wendy Blow

Local Police Area Update

Generally the past couple of months have been quite quiet in terms of police jobs in the Goring Heath area. We had two quad bikes reported stolen back on March 14th from a property in the area. This was likely to have happened through the night, unfortunately there were no witnesses.

Across the Henley Sector there have been many shed and garage break-ins with tools, bikes and garden machinery stolen. If it is possible for the Parish Council to put the word out, please encourage the people of Goring Heath to review their shed and garage security, pay attention to any insecure out buildings and look to chain expensive items together such as bikes and expensive lawn mowers and trimmers.

We continue to have vans and 4x4 vehicles driving through the area touting for business, sometimes legally sometimes illegally. If you could encourage anybody who has a genuine suspicion about a unfamiliar vehicle or person acting strangely in the parish, could they please gain as much information possible in terms of person description or vehicle registration and phone into the police on the 101 number.

Nick Glass
Police Community Support Officer
Henley Sector

“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”

Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 17th May 2013



Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 17th May 2013 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Since 2009 we have raised over £20,000 and it has become our flagship community fundraising event. We want to raise £10,000 from this event in 2013 we can provide more support to spinal cord injured people.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives.

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk

Guide Dogs is currently looking for loving, caring homes for our guide dog mums.

In return, you will benefit from:

- Looking after a well-trained family pet that will readily be accepted into your home
- Full financial support to cover all feeding and veterinary costs
- Access to 24 hour support & advice from experienced Guide Dog staff
- The knowledge that you will be playing a crucial part in helping blind and partially sighted people gain independence

If you think you might be interested or would like more information, check out our website **www.guidedogs.org.uk/guidedogmums**

Guide Dogs is seeking volunteers to help us look after our breeding stock

Those who volunteer to look after our breeding bitches take responsibility for their day to day care, with the assurance of having 24 hour support and advice from the breeding centre staff.

The brood bitch in your care would be mated approximately once a year at the breeding centre, and give birth in your home. The puppies will then spend the first six weeks with their mum, with support from you.

If you feel that you can provide a home for a guide dog mum and:

- Have a car and live within reasonable travelling distance from the National Breeding Centre near Leamington Spa
- Possess a calm, caring disposition, are not in fulltime employment and can devote time to the bitch, particularly when she has a litter.

Please contact the National Breeding Centre on **0845 3727 432** to discuss further or to request an application form.

Registered charity in England and Wales (209617) and in Scotland (SC038979)

ENRYCH Oxfordshire

ENRYCH Oxfordshire runs a thriving project for the benefit of adults with a physical disability who live in Oxfordshire. We work with people from many of the small villages as well as some of the larger towns in the county.

Our members, currently in excess of 250, all have physical disabilities of some sort, whether newly acquired as a result of road traffic accident or stroke, or from disabling conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Multiple Sclerosis or Arthritis. The shocking reality is that anyone of us can find ourselves with a disability. In a split second our lives could go out of our control and simple things seem impossible – it's very frightening. Our aim is to give some control back to people, supporting them to realise they have a life worth living and life can be fun and enjoyable.

We enable people with a disability to claim back a huge part of their lives and indulge in some of life's simple, but essential pleasures same as people without physical disabilities do. Most of us enjoy being social, whether that means something simple such as going to the cinema or the pub or watching football, and even taking part in activities like sailing, fishing, sky-diving or learning languages or history – anything able-bodied people can do we can enable our members to do too. They don't have to sit at home watching everyone else have the fun, they can participate and we'll enable them to do whatever they want.

Suitable and like minded volunteers are recruited to support individuals in following their chosen interests on a one to one basis. This may involve visits at home or trips out within the local community. A smaller number, who may not wish for a volunteer, are facilitated to join a local college or specialist club..

A donation of just £500 would support an additional physically disabled member, and their Volunteer, for a year, and would significantly reduce the isolation and deterioration brought about by the restrictions of a physical disability.

We hope you can help us and look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Linnett Branch Manager

ENRYCH Oxfordshire (formerly Ryder-Cheshire Volunteers)

Tel No: 07518 300387

Charity No 1119954

OWL Update

At the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 18th March 2013 in the Library the outcome of a meeting with officers of Oxfordshire Libraries was reported as follows:

The situation where community libraries would lose 50% of funding for staff had not changed.

Various alternative ways of dealing with the problem were put forward, some of which were being adopted by other community library groups. First the figures:

50% of the budget would buy 17.06 hours of library manager's time.
(There are 40.49 hours of staff time per week, made up of manager, assistant and Saturday assistant, at varying rates of pay). The Library Service would want a manager to be at the library during public opening hours, which are 17 and a half per week.

Alternative strategies

- 1 23hours per week of volunteer time to make up the difference – that is, say, 8 volunteers each week.
- 2 Replace hours by fund-raising. It costs £647 per year to buy one hour per week of library assistant time.
- 3 A combination of 1 and 2

Our discussions then centred on sources of funds, the role of volunteers, but crucially on the continuing role of the school and its use of the library. . The Headteacher was supportive of the community use, concerned about safeguarding pupils and interested to invest and improve facilities.

Further discussions with officers will be arranged and also with Langtree School, and possibly later on a public meeting. This is the start of a very long process!

Vicky Jordan

Oxfordshire Woodfuel Programme bulletin

Chalara / ash die-back: You will probably have heard about chalara in the news. It is a spore-borne disease which is expected to kill nearly all ash in the coming years. A small proportion – maybe one in 100 trees – will be immune. As ash trees come into leaf, it will become apparent if they have chalara or not. Signs of the disease include wilting leaves, brown veins in the leaves, and browning of young stems. Forestry Commission advice is not to fell ash trees unless they are ill: the felled tree might be in the 1% that are immune. Besides, the spores can travel huge distances so felling trees as a prophylactic measure is not effective. If you are aware of ash trees with chalara, www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara gives advice on what to do. they can be used as firewood unless the government places a special order on the trees that prohibits their movement.

Time to buy firewood and stoves/boilers: The woodfuel cutting year may be over, but this is the time to buy firewood and store it for next autumn, and also to think about installing a wood stove or boiler. The website www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk, provides lots of advice on this, including information on the Renewable Heat Incentive and lists of woodfuel and wood stove suppliers.

Woodfuel study visits: There will be three woodfuel themed study visits in the coming months: on 15 April, 1 June and 8 June. The first and last of these will each involve a visit to a woodland, a wood processor and an interesting wood boiler. The 1 June event is a unique opportunity to visit a woodland in a Ministry of Defence site, and taste wild rabbit if you want. The cost is £25-£30 and numbers are limited. More information is at www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk/woodfuel-site-visits.

Logs for labour: Thank you to everyone who contacted me about this. We have had five successful events this spring, and hope to roll out the programme much more widely next autumn. If you are a woodland owner who could use some free help with woodland management in return for people taking some firewood (labour for your logs), or if you would like to work outdoors in return for some firewood (logs for your labour), please get in touch with me. More information is at

www.oxonwoodfuel.org.uk/logs-for-labour.

Firewood quality standard: The Oxfordshire Woodfuel Programme is setting up a quality standard for small-scale firewood suppliers in Oxfordshire, called 'OxLogs'. It aims to provide transparency about the amount, type, length and moisture content of firewood, and in time improve firewood quality. OxLogs suppliers will state the amount of wood in 'cubic metres tossed' (tossed is how it comes off the truck; a tossed cubic metre is about 0.7 stacked cubic metres); type as hardwood, softwood or mixed; and moisture content as $\leq 25\%$ which is ready to burn, or unclassified which buyers would need to season themselves. Please ask your supplier if they provide OxLogs.

Riki Therivel, manager@oxonwoodfuel.org.uk, 01865 243488

Messing about on the river

Last year, the Games Makers were lauded as making a tremendous contribution to the success of the Olympics. On the river Thames, volunteers were making a similar impact helping boaters at the 45 locks along its length between Lechlade and Teddington.

The Environment Agency, which is navigation authority for the Thames, is now recruiting for the 2013 season and are looking for volunteers who can commit to assisting at least one day a week between May and the end of September. Volunteers can agree their hours with lock keepers but need to be available at least from 11 to 5. Volunteers are particularly needed along the river between Reading and Lechlade. Volunteering is a great way to meet people and to find out more about the Thames, its history, wildlife and management. At the same time volunteers know that they are doing something worthwhile that is really appreciated.

Our Volunteer Assistant Lock Keepers work alongside paid lock keepers. They help boats pass through the lock safely: taking ropes, directing traffic, and operating sluices and lock gates. They help maintain the site:



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painting, tidying and gardening. They provide information to visitors, be they on foot or afloat, so that they can make the best of their time on the river. Visitors really appreciate the local knowledge that volunteers can provide.

All applicants are invited to an assessment at a local lock. Here they will have the role explained to them and be shown what it involves in practical terms. They will also be assessed to decide which site may be most appropriate for them and to ensure that they have the physical capabilities required. After successful completion of the assessment, they attend an induction course which focuses on safety and preparing them for the lock side.

On the lock side the volunteers follow a documented training programme before being signed off to take charge of the lock on their own. This will only be for short periods, while the paid keeper is at lunch for example. The volunteers are there to augment the service provided by paid staff rather than to replace them.

Volunteers are provided with some uniform and can claim mileage for travel to and from their lock (subject to a daily maximum). They also receive a monthly newsletter which keeps them in touch with what is going on along the river and other activities of the Environment Agency..

If you would like to find out more about volunteering on the Thames and to receive an information pack and application form, please contact the Volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk

Damaged verge at Crays Pond

The damage to the verge at Crays Pond by a low loader has been referred to Dave Saxon, who will take it up with the Highways department of OCC.

Tim King

Bus 142 service during the Bridge closure

Oxfordshire County Council will re-route the service so that it approaches Reading on the north side of the river. As it will no longer pass through Whitchurch, a shuttle service is expected to be provided by OCC to connect the Bridge with Cray's Pond or Woodcote.

Almshouses Bowls Club

The Almshouses Bowls Club play friendly matches and are situated in the beautiful location of Goring Heath RG8 7RS.



We are a small bowls club and are looking for new members to join us for the new season 2013.

No experience is necessary, so if anyone is interested in having a go, we will supply the bowls, just bring flat shoes and you will be pleasantly surprised how much fun it can be. Playing bowls is an excellent way of taking gentle exercise in the fresh air with very friendly people.

For more details please contact Maureen Jones 01491 681872, Daphne Walker 01491 682154, Tim King 01491 684198 or Richard Allum 01491 680777.

For new members joining the yearly membership fee will be £23.50 which is an absolute bargain!!

Sandra Chapman

www.almshousesbowlsclub.org.uk

Whitchurch United Charities

Don't forget that our local parish charity is established to support students and families with the cost of books and equipment or other educational expenses. Eligible students are young people between the ages of 5 and 25 years and whose permanent residence is within the ecclesiastical parish of Whitchurch.

You can apply for a grant at any time of the year. If there are any available funds from the previous 6 month period that have not been fully allocated then your application will be considered immediately. Otherwise it will be deferred until the next closing date – there are two each year, 28th February and 31st August.

All applications and decisions are treated in strict confidence by the Trustees.

If you would like to know more, please do contact Peter Hawley (our Grant Application Secretary) on (0118) 984 1647 or write to him at:-

3 Whitchurch House
High Street
Whitchurch-on-Thames
Reading RG8 7EP

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

On Thursday May 16th we welcome back Liz Woolley, who will give an illustrated talk on Children and the Second World War - some of us of course could contribute to that! We shall be at the Goring Heath Parish Hall and the meeting starts at 8pm (coffee from 7.30). Everyone is welcome at our meetings.

In June and July we shall be on outings.

Vicky Jordan

COMPUTER TUITION FOR THE OVER 50's

Silver Surfers Inspire4Life is a group of volunteers who provide 1:1 tuition to the over 50's who wish to learn how to use a computer or wish to improve their computer skills.

Each course consists of 6 x 1 hour sessions which take place on Thursday mornings in Purley.

There are 6 different courses covering all abilities

- **Complete Beginners** – for people who have little or no computer skills
- **Beginners Refresher** – to brush up on their computer skills
- **Taking Control of Your PC** – including how and where to save files and then how to find them.
- **Microsoft Word 7** – covering all aspects of the program
- **Digital Photography for Beginners** – including how to take better pictures and how to transfer them onto your computer
- **Digital Imaging** - Using Photoshop Elements 7 – teaches you how to improve and manipulate your photos.

Fees: the Beginners course is free – to get you started. All other 6 week courses are currently £25.

For more information contact Suz Harper: tel: 0118 941 5244 (11:00 – 16:00 week-days only). E-mail: courses@inspire4life.me.uk Or see www.inspire4life.me.uk

In addition to the computer courses Silver Surfers also run **Tai Chi** classes in Purley on Wednesday afternoons. Beginners are always welcome.

Litter Blitz

When we planned the Litter blitz this year, we were hoping for a nice, dry spring day, but instead we set off in steady rain. However, a week later and we would have faced blizzard conditions, so it could have been worse, and the rain eased off later in the morning. The rain no doubt damped enthusiasm, and as a result not so many people took part as in the past, but we still picked up many bags of litter and other debris. Once again, Stongbow cans hit the No 1 spot as the most frequently found item, with other drinks cans not so far behind. Perhaps it is a sign of the times that there were relatively few cigarette cartons. Thanks to all who took part, and to those could not come on the day but did “their bit” earlier in the week. We hope for better weather next year.

Peter Dragonetti

Goring Gap Boat Club - Review of 2012

Goring Gap Boat Club recently launched the new boathouse appeal with the help of Olympic champion Zac Purchase who gave an inspiring talk and answered questions from the audience. He brought his silver and gold medals which were tried on by many members of the audience as they listened to him enthusiastically describing what it took to be the best. Following Zac's talk on rowing he turned his hand to auctioneering and made a great start to the club's fundraising with the sale of a huge Dulux dog. The evening was a great success and will be followed by a series of other activities including the annual Goring and Streatley Regatta on 20th July 2013. Further details will be available on the club's website www.goringgapbc.org.uk

After weeks of inactivity due to the recent floods GGBC members were finally able to row again and a good turnout at the river enabled a challenge race between a men's eight and a women's eight. Predictably the race was won by the men's crew but the women's crew were not too far behind and all agreed that it was great to be rowing again after a disappointing winter. Photos available at: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/GoringGapBoatClub>

Club sessions continue on Thursday evenings from 6pm, Saturday mornings from 9am and Sunday mornings from 10am. New members are always welcome.

Ros Crowder

BT Phone Boxes

BT have kindly presented the Parish Council with sufficient red paint for out two phone boxes; we would very much like some volunteers have a go at smartening up our phone boxes by painting them up. It is not a big job, but it would be very satisfying to see these boxes looking smart again.

Please contact the Parish Clerk - Caroline Hadley on 0118 984 1594 or email goring.heath.parish.council@googlemail.com

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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 a copy could be submitted to me as a document attachment to email and sent to tim@tpking.me.uk Ed

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
13th June 2013	July 2013
8th August 2013	September 2013
10th October 2013	November 2013
12th December 2013	January 2014
13th February 2014	March 2014
10th April 2014	May 2014

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LOCAL GROUPS

Almshouses Bowls Club	Maureen Jones	01491 681872
Bridge Club (7.30pm Tuesdays)	Tony Robinson	01491 680278
Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494 764149
Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides	Doreen Pechey	01491 681236
Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club	John Bridgens	0118 9842682
Pilates (Monday am & pm)	Tania Neeson	07899 681311
Pilates (Friday Morning)	Michele Houston	01491 575205
RG8 Badminton Club	Chris Uden	01491 681263
South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (S.O.A.G.)	Nancy Nichols	0118 978 7829
Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group	Judi Green	07809 158077
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Chair: Sue Matthews	0118 984 4489
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning Association	David Robinson	0118 984 4142
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	0118 984 2162
Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am)	Janet Crowther	01491 681171
Yoga	Sarah Dixon	0118 984 4262

Goring Heath Parish Hall : Bookings and Enquiries: Theresa Elsome 0118 984 2056
email: bnt@waitrose.com