

# GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

July 2013  
134<sup>th</sup> Issue

Visit us at:  
[www.goringheath.com](http://www.goringheath.com)

**Forthcoming Events**

**GHPH = Goring Heath Parish Hall**

**WL = Woodcote Library**

**WVH = Whitchurch Village Hall**

**July 2013**

7th "Five Voices"

11th Parish Council Meeting

12/13/14 Peace-in-the-Park

20th Goring & Streatley Regatta

St Bartholomew's Chapel

GHPH

Nuneham Park, Nuneham Courtney

**August 2013**

No Parish Council meeting this month

24th Summer Show

GHPH

**September 2013**

*28th Moonrakers*

*Postponed until November*

**October 2013**

*3rd Whitchurch Bridge closes*

**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](mailto: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**

We are now beginning to see the consequence of the government's relaxation of planning regulations, with speculative applications being made in all sorts of places. At the last parish council meeting, we discussed an application for a large private house on agricultural land behind the Hatchgate Forge at Whitchurch Hill.

As is often the case with this type of application, all sorts of consultants have been engaged, presumably at vast expense, to produce masses of documentation such as surveys, computer generated images, and reports on wildlife, with detailed justifications why the application should be approved, identifying little points where the development could slip in within the national or local policies. In the same way that some people can use the Bible, or in other cultures, the Koran, to find out pieces of text to support their own extremist view, so too can Planning Consultants pick little bits of doctrine out of the national and local planning policies as evidence to support their particular extremist views. Such is the case with the Hatchgate Forge proposal.

We, along with near neighbours to this site, are strongly objecting to this speculative development. Anne Ducker has assured us that the SODC Core Strategy has continued to protect the AONB and villages such as ours from development. With our close proximity to Reading, Goring Heath is particularly vulnerable to pressure for "prestige" developments, and there will be all sorts of spurious justifications put forward in support of such developments.

Short term private gains or illusory economic benefits should not be allowed to outweigh the long term protection and enhancement of this precious landscape.

**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.
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	Withdrawn
P13/S0727/FUL Formerly Goring Heath Poultry Farm Goring Heath RG8 7RU Erection of barn building for veterinary services	No Strong Views	Permission
P13/S0686/LB Milo Crispin Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NY Internal renovations.	No Strong Views	Listed Building Consent
P13/S1010/HH Harptree Hill Bottom Crays Pond RG8 7PT Single storey front & rear extensions.	No Strong Views	Permission
P13/S0994/HH 17 Orchard Coombe Whitchurch Hill RG8 7QL The proposed works consist of: 1) replacement of existing flat roofs to garage, study and rear bedroom with new tiled pitched roofs with roof pitch and tiles to match existing. 2) extension of garage at the front of the property by 4m. 3) extension of kitchen and living room by 3.2m at front of property. 4) extension of bedroom at rear of property by 4m.	No Strong Views	Permission
P13/S1139/FUL Land adjacent to Rose Cottage Hill Bottom Road Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Erection of a two bedroom house.	Should be refused	
P13/S1185/FUL Turner Bros Demolition Ltd, The Forge Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NU Remodeling of existing 20th century workshops, offices and residential building, demolition of existing 1990's stables building, construction of a new single storey sunken residential home, creation of new landscape with new trees and shrubbery.	Should be refused	
P13/S1515/HH Goffs Clump Goffs Hill Crays Pond RG8 7QA Proposed first floor extension	Should be approved	

<b>Premises and application details</b>	<b>Parish Council</b>	<b>S.O.D.C.</b>
P13/S1551/A The Oratory Preparatory School Great Oaks Goring Heath RG8 7SF Removal of existing roadside directional signage and replacement with 2no. monolith signs to main entrance of school site and one post and panel sign to exit of school site	Should be refused	

## 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.

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## Whitchurch Hill Fête

Another great day at the Whitchurch Hill fête! After such a disappointing spring I think people realised that the fete was on and the forecast was sunny and warm !! So the turnout was tremendous, very satisfying seeing people really enjoying themselves!

We needed extra help this year to erect the three marquees, as the scout group could only send one person, but we had plenty of volunteers turn up to get the job done! After that it is non-stop with gazebos, bunting etc, 'till eventually the field starts to fill up.

Come 2.00 pm, the sun was shining and it was all systems go! The band were, I thought, better than ever, must have played the best tunes! Some friends and family helped out for the first time on the barbecue, and wasted no time in telling me what hard work it is, as it is non stop, so it was no surprise when they sold out, again!

We had this year the first winner, in three years, of putt-a-fiver!! An eleven year old! Perhaps he should take up golf!

Could the allotment society increase quantities of their superb rhubarb, as this also sold out, and I did not get any! You can't beat rhubarb crumble! Lindsey Halbert who has done our children's face-painting for 3 years or so, said this was the first time she had not had a break between start and finish.

The bottle stall also had a great day and again cleared everything on the day. Our thanks once again to all the people who generously donate a bottle or two to our fete, and not only make it viable but enable us to contribute to some deserving causes in the area, the most recent being the painting and sign-writing on the Weare-Gardiner well. Please contact us if you know of any deserving cause that we might help.

I have had the privilege and pleasure of running the fête for the last ten years or so, but it is now time for me to stand down and pass it on to someone else who will bring in new ideas and help the fête to evolve and move forward. My thanks to all the many, many, people who help to make the fete happen, year after year.

**George Robertson.**

## **GORING VETERINARY CENTRE**

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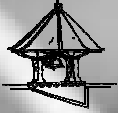


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*Goring Heath Parish Charity*  
*Regd No 1056772*

# **GORING HEATH and WHITCHURCH SUMMER SHOW**

**Goring Heath Parish Hall**

**Saturday, 24th August 2013**

**Open for public viewing at 2.30 pm**

## **Photographic Section**

Faces  
Up, up and away  
Transport

## **Children's Section**

An item on the theme of  
'Celebration' using any  
technique and materials

**\* Raffle \* Refreshments \* Plant Sale \***

Schedules available on the village website

**[www.whitchurchonthames.com/diary.php](http://www.whitchurchonthames.com/diary.php)** and from

Liz Gibson (0118 984 2012)

Ann Lewis (0118 984 2377)

Sue Sexon (0118 984 4236)

Helen Willis (0118 984 3620)

Photo courtesy of foto76 at [www.FreeDigitalPhotos.net](http://www.FreeDigitalPhotos.net)



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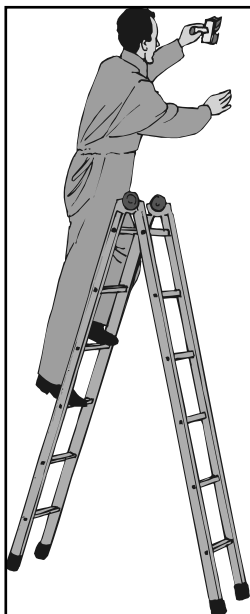
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**An important change of date to note** – The Moonrakers due to come to entertain us in September, have had to postpone their visit until November.

The date will be advertised in the next issue of the Newsletter and tickets will also be available to book then. So do read the next issue of the Newsletter with details of the new date and contact details for tickets.

**Theresa Elsome**

## **Whitchurch & Goring History Society**

We've been contacted to see if anyone knew a Catherine Hopkins who was in service at Bozdown House. The family concerned has found a postcard to their grandmother written on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1945 from Bozdown, which was owned at that time by Charles Palmer (of the biscuit company).

Please contact **Vicky Jordan** on 01189 843260 or [vickyjordan5@hotmail.com](mailto:vickyjordan5@hotmail.com).

Our meetings in June and July are outings for members only, but we reconvene in September for a fascinating talk on the seventeenth century civil war soldier.

## **OWL – save our Woodcote Library**

Thanks to all who supported our coffee shop on June 1<sup>st</sup> – we raised over one hundred pounds.

When Woodcote has emerged from the throes of the local plan in the Autumn we shall resume negotiations locally. It is heartening to know that the library was mentioned 'most wanted' on the questionnaire sent out in connection with the plan.



## ***The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club***



**Organiser: Christine Martin**

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

**Tel: 0118 9844252 e.mail: [whitchurchtheatreclub@gmail.com](mailto: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**

**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**

### **Whitchurch Hill Women's Institute**

**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**

## Ready Steady Eco retrofit

Of the homes we'll inhabit in 2050, 80% are already standing. On the whole these are not energy efficient. They need improving. Meanwhile, energy prices have rocketed.

The government expects Green Deal finance, ECO subsidy and the market to drive change. Insulation work on solid walls will now attract subsidies. In theory, retrofitting an older home with insulation, efficient heating and energy generation will get cheaper as demand rises. It happened with solar PV.

So investing in the fabric of your home is making increasing sense. And, for those approaching retirement, the possibility of a snug, cheap to heat house is bound to have particular appeal.

160 pioneering homeowners (some retired) have already taken radical action. They host free SuperHome Open Days in March and September to share what they've learned. To find out more, or to download a free Eco retrofit beginner's guide, visit [www.superhomes.org.uk/news](http://www.superhomes.org.uk/news)



Harriet and Chris Martin super-insulated their house as they retired. They report an 85% saving on bills from this and other improvements. Photo courtesy of [www.superhomes.org.uk](http://www.superhomes.org.uk)

**For more information, please phone Gordon Glass on 01908 256 922 or email Gordon using [firstname@superhomes.org.uk](mailto:firstname@superhomes.org.uk) format.**

*Con't overleaf*

### **1. The Big Picture**

The UK government set a target of a 60% carbon reduction by 2050 in 2005 (this was subsequently increased to 80%). The UK's 25 million homes currently account for 27% of UK carbon emissions. It is estimated that as many as 80% of all homes that will be in standing in 2050 have already been built. This means that retrofitting existing homes is a priority if the government's target is to be met.

The Government's Green Deal, which will offer loans for energy efficiency improvements, launched in January 2013. Repayments will be on a 'pay as you save' basis, helping overcome any upfront financial obstacles to making the improvements.

### **2. The Sustainable Energy Academy**

The Sustainable Energy Academy (SEA) promotes education and action to reduce the carbon footprint of buildings and communities. It is currently spearheading SuperHomes - a network of older homes which have been refurbished to the highest standard of energy efficiency. The aim is to create a network of 500 SuperHomes that are local and publicly accessible by 2020.

### **3. SuperHomes**

SuperHomes are older homes that have been refurbished to the highest standards of energy efficiency – resulting in greater comfort, significantly lower running costs and a reduction in carbon emissions of at least 60%.

SuperHomes harnesses the enthusiasm of pioneering households to demonstrate the benefits of switching to low energy living. SuperHome Open Days showcase today's technologies, providing a touch and feel experience to inspire visitors to action. They also let visitors see for themselves both the challenges and the financial and environmental savings to be made from making the change.

Over 50,000 people have already visited a SuperHome. Currently there are over 160 registered SuperHomes and 90% of the population in England live within 40 minutes of one. The network includes a wide range of older property types including Victorian houses, a thatched cottage, an 18th century converted mill and some properties that produce more energy than they use.

For more about SuperHomes or the Sustainable Energy Academy (SEA) contact Gordon Glass, Online Marketing Manager - use the [firstname@superhomes.org.uk](mailto:firstname@superhomes.org.uk) format.

### **4. Partners**

SuperHomes enjoys the support of the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, WWF, Energy Saving Trust, National Energy Foundation, Megaman and SIG Energy Management.

Date: 11 June 2013



**OXFORDSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Highways & Transport  
Speedwell House  
Speedwell Street  
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**John Wood  
Bus Services  
Environment & Economy**

Parish Clerks

Parish Transport Representatives

Checkendon, Goring Heath, Goring,  
Mapledurham, Whitchurch-on-Thames,  
Woodcote Parish Councils.

Dear Sir or Madam

**Re: Whitchurch on Thames bridge closure – Bus service 142**

The planned closure of Whitchurch Toll Bridge for reconstruction works is now progressing towards the commencement stages. I have been advised that the closure is planned to take place from late September / early October 2013 until mid-April 2014. This will affect service 142 which links Woodcote and Whitchurch with Pangbourne and Reading.

During previous closures in the area this service has been altered to provide a circular operation. In the morning buses run direct from Reading to Checkendon via the A4074, returning via Exlade Street, Goring Heath (Post Office), Woodcote, Crays Pond thence Hill Bottom and Whitchurch-on-Thames, to reverse at Manor Road. They will then return direct to Crays Pond and follow the diversion via Goring, Streatley and Lower Basildon to Pangbourne. From here they will then follow the normal route to Reading.

In the afternoon, the above is operated in the reverse direction (i.e. Clockwise), outwards via Pangbourne and Goring to Crays Pond and again serve Hill Bottom on route to Whitchurch-on-Thames. They will then continue to Woodcote, Goring Heath, Exlade Street (not all journeys serve the latter two points) or direct to Checkendon from where they continue directly back into Reading via the A4074.

This will mean an extension of journey times via the diverted route, although there are also options for a faster run to/from Reading at certain times by travelling round the loop via Checkendon. In particular the first bus into Reading has had to be retimed to run some 15 minutes earlier from points such as Whitchurch Hill to enable it to reach Reading at an appropriate time but this is still a few minutes later arriving than at present. It was felt that passengers would not wish to get up any earlier!

I have attached a copy of the proposed timetable which may help to explain the above. There is not a great deal of scope to change this bearing in mind the resources available (essentially one bus is deployed throughout), but I would be pleased to receive any thoughts that you may have on the proposed service.

Yours faithfully

John Wood

Assistant Public Transport Officer

Direct line: 01865 810404 Email: [John.Wood@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:John.Wood@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

142

Reading - Pangbourne - Whitch

**Draft timetable - Whitchurch Bridge Closure**

September 2013 - April 2014

**Mondays to Saturdays**

142	142	142	142
TT	TT	TT	TT

**Anti-clockwise circuit****M-F****SAT**

<b>Reading Bus Station</b>	.....	.....	09.00	11.00
<i>Chazey Heath</i>	.....	.....	09.10	11.10
<i>Cane End</i>	.....	.....	09.13	11.13
<b>Checkendon Post Office arrive</b>	.....	.....	09.20	11.20
<b>Checkendon Post Office depart</b>	<b>07.25</b>	<b>07.25</b>	<b>09.25</b>	<b>11.25</b>
Exlade Street , Highwayman	.....	.....	09.30	11.30
Goring Heath, Post Office	.....	.....	09.35	11.35
<b>Woodcote, War Memorial</b>	<b>07.30</b>	<b>07.30</b>	<b>09.40</b>	<b>11.40</b>
Crays Pond, White Lion	07.35	07.35	09.45	11.45
Hill Bottom, Sun P.H.	07.38	07.38	09.48	11.48
<b>Whitchurch on Thames, Manor Road</b>	<b>07.43</b>	<b>07.43</b>	<b>09.53</b>	<b>11.53</b>
<i>Crays Pond, crossroads</i>	07.53	07.53	10.03	12.03
<i>Goring, High Street</i>	08.00	08.00	10.10	12.10
<i>Streatley, Bull</i>	08.03	08.03	10.13	12.13
<i>Lower Basildon, Wall Park Lane</i>	08.06	08.06	10.16	12.16
<b>Pangbourne, Police Station</b>	<b>08.12</b>	<b>08.12</b>	<b>10.22</b>	<b>12.22</b>
Purley, Post Office	08.16	08.15	10.25	12.25
Tilehurst, Rail Station	08.24	08.18	10.30	12.30
Reading Tesco, Oxford Road	08.32	08.23	10.35	12.35
<b>Reading Bus Station</b>	<b>08.47</b>	<b>08.31</b>	<b>10.43</b>	<b>12.43</b>





## **Reconstruction of the Whitchurch Toll Bridge.....**

After an extensive formal tender process the Whitchurch Bridge Company has appointed Birse Civils Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of Balfour Beatty plc, as main contractor for the reconstruction of Whitchurch Bridge. Key dates are:

**Early July 2013:** contractor erects signage over a wide area giving advance warning of Bridge closure (there are maps of the signage locations on our website).

**29<sup>th</sup> July 2013:** contractor starts to establish compounds on Pangbourne River Meadow and at the Boathouse Surgery. Work starts on the temporary footbridge.

**3<sup>rd</sup> October 2013:** main Bridge closes to all traffic. The temporary footbridge – 5 feet wide, with no steps – opens to pedestrians, wheeled bicycles and mobility scooters.

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2014:** reconstructed Bridge opens to all traffic. Temporary footbridge closes and dismantling starts.

**By 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014:** all works completed, contractor compounds removed, ground reinstated and reseeded. All reinstatement works will be managed until established to the satisfaction of the landowner.

West Berkshire Council and Oxfordshire County Council will implement measures to restrict parking on the main diversionary route through Streatley and Goring, but delays may still occur as significant extra traffic will go this way. For those who wish to use the temporary footbridge but are reliant on transport to get them there, a clear turning space for drop off/pick up will be maintained just north of the Toll Booth, and in Pangbourne the car parks close by can be used.

There is more information on our website, including a Message Board where you can ask a question and get a swift answer. Birse will also be erecting Information Boards, providing a hotline and engaging with local people and organisations affected by the works.

The Company acknowledges the co-operation of Pangbourne Parish

Council, Pangbourne Medical Practice, and Adventure Dolphin in enabling the reconstruction work to go ahead.

### **Bridge Cards**

Our stock of Bridge Cards is exhausted and we will not be purchasing any more until the Bridge re-opens in April 2014. We have sold 11,000 Bridge Cards since they were introduced in 2006: of these, 3,800 (34 %) have not been used in the last 12 months and are presumed lost. We ask that past purchasers of Bridge Cards seek out any lost Bridge Cards and return them to us: we will refund the Bridge Card deposit and any unused crossings.

When the Bridge re-opens in April 2014 the discounted Toll for Bridge Card users will increase from 20p to 29.4 p (ie 34 crossings for £10). However, we will allow Bridge Cards to be pre-loaded with crossings at 20p before the Bridge closes and these can be used after the Bridge re-opens. There are more details on our website and on fliers available at the Toll Booth.

Geoff Weir

Company Secretary, the Whitchurch Bridge Company

[www.whitchurchbridge.com](http://www.whitchurchbridge.com)

Whitchurch Bridge – News Bulletin 5, June 2013

### **.. And more from Harry Butterworth - Whitchurch-on-Thames Parish Council**

With the closure of the existing bridge beginning to loom large, I am attempting to get whatever (little!) information we have spread as far as possible in the hope that people will have time to make whatever arrangements may be available to them.

WoT Parish Council has been in contact with everyone we can think of, including the Police on both sides of the River, OCC Highways, OCC Traffic Management, West Berks County Council, Pangbourne Parish



**Helena**

nail technician

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Council, BP Research Centre, SODC and Pangbourne Retailer's Group.

The Whitchurch website [www.whitchurchonthames.com](http://www.whitchurchonthames.com) will be kept up to date and of course the the Bridge Company's own web site will inform about the progress of the rebuild itself.

Both Oxfordshire County Council and West Berks County Council have put a lot of work into attempts to reduce the impact of the closure. Dave Sexon (OCC) and Pamela Bale (West Berks) have both been very active. Traffic surveys with some sort of sensible meaning exist. Clear signage has been designed and will be in place over an extensive area a fortnight before the actual closure. I believe consideration has been given to traffic flow in Goring and Streatley, but that must be for someone else to report.

## **No Parking**

Here in Whitchurch, once the bridge has closed whatever roadside parking that is available will be taken up by local residents who do not have off road parking of their own. Therefore it must be assumed that there will be ***no car parking space whatever available anywhere within the Village.***

We have arranged for double yellow lines throughout the Village, but initially we will only deploy them between Eastfield Lane and the bridge toll booth. That will enable local residents to move their vehicles and will also enable anyone who has taken a chance on being able to park to turn round and go back again.

## **Double Yellow Lines**

Double yellow lines allow pick up and set down, but no waiting. They will be monitored by the police where necessary. It will therefore be possible to drive right down to the footbridge, allow a passenger to leave the vehicle and then depart immediately. My suggestion is that anyone needing to be picked up on return can call their driver by mobile phone. The driver can then pick them up without having to wait. The sightlines are difficult and the potential for a time wasting jam is very

real. A bit of care and courtesy will always help everybody.

Turning to the footbridge itself, it will be wide enough for two ladies pushing their children in buggies to pass each other. It will take bicycles ( the Bridge Co requests that they are not ridden over it) but as the return journey involves the climb directly out of Whitchurch or the humps, bumps and blind corners of Path Hill, I suspect that not many people will travel by bike.

It is of course open to any individuals or groups to make any arrangements convenient to them. For example. members of the Theatre Club who live near the bridge and have parking space propose to make that space available to more distant club members on Theatre Club evenings.

### **Shuttle Bus**

I have a rapidly fading hope that there might be a regular shuttle bus from the bridge to, say, Whitchurch Hill or Woodcote to give access to Pangbourne shops and public transport. The messages I have managed to get from, for example, Oxfordshire County Council, are not encouraging.

One final comment. It is just possible that people on one side of the river can offer parking space to people on the other.

Offers of space or of need for space can be sent to the message page of [www.whitchurchonthames.com](http://www.whitchurchonthames.com)



“Where did you leave your car?”

## Chiltern Centre for Disabled Children and Young People

The Chiltern Centre for Disabled Children and Young People offers a range of services to families with a child/young adult with disability or special needs in the South Oxfordshire and Thames Valley area.

"I would like your readers to know that we have a social group for 18-30 years who have a learning disability that live in South Oxfordshire area called BREAKAWAY GROUP.

This group meets up on a monthly basis for a wide variety of activity and entertainment: for instance: bowling, go karting, theatre trips, meals out, pottery painting, overnight breaks.

We always welcome new members. Once registered with us, the young person can decide which outings they would like to participate in. This is a great way for parents and carers to receive a break whilst their young person benefits from stimulating social activity.

The criteria are that the young person should:

- be aged between 18-30 years old and have a learning difficulty.
- live in South Oxfordshire.
- be able to engage in group activity and enjoy socialising.
- be able to be supported in a 5:1 staff ratio (or be able to bring a support worker if additional support required).
- able to get to an agreed meeting point, not normally more than 15 miles from home.
- be able to fund their own costs (ie: cost of admission/ticket prices).

This group is financially supported by Oxfordshire County Council.

Further details can be obtained from Pamela Lee, Youth Group Coordinator at Chiltern Centre. 01491 575575 or email:

[chiltern@chilterncentre.demon.co.uk](mailto:chiltern@chilterncentre.demon.co.uk).

Our website address is: [www.chilterncentre.org.uk](http://www.chilterncentre.org.uk)

Address: Chiltern Centre for Disabled Children and Young People, Greys Road, Henley on Thames, Oxon, RG9 1QR

Tel: 01491 575575

## **'Peace in the Park – The Festival of Spirit'**

As a local resource and part of the South Oxfordshire community the Global Retreat Centre is holding for the third year 'Peace in the Park – The Festival of Spirit' over three consecutive days 12, 13, 14 July 2013. What makes this festival unique is, there is no charge for attending any of the rich variety of events on offer or for parking. It is organised and



staffed by more than 250 dedicated volunteers. No entry charges or for parking. Held in the grounds of the Nuneham Park, Nuneham Courtenay, Oxon, OX44 9PG

Peace in the Park – The Festival of Spirit, 12, 13, 14th July 2013,  
[www.peaceintheparkfestival.org](http://www.peaceintheparkfestival.org)

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## 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](http://www.almshousesbowlsclub.org.uk)**



**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL**

**Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Food banked by Lions

As part of the funds raised at the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual 10k Charity Road Run organised by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions held in January 2013 the Club has purchased and donated two supermarket trolley loads of food to the Wallingford Food Bank.

This is the first of two deliveries planned to be made, the next will be supplied later in the year. Attending the delivery were the Manager Jean Burt, Neville



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Burt (Wallingford Food Bank Chairman) together with Lion Alan Lovegrove and Lion Derek Robinson. In the first 4 months of this year more than 300 people have been helped and it is thought that with the new benefits system coming into place and the rising cost of living, even more help will be needed.

Derek Robinson, the Lions Community Service Committee Chairman stated “Our Lions Club are delighted to donate this food to the Wallingford Food Bank. We hope it will help people who are desperately in need of support at a difficult time in their lives. We are full of admiration for the work done by Jean Burt and her helpers and hope they will be able to continue to serve the less fortunate in our community.”

People in need may obtain a voucher from any of several local organisations such as:-

Age UK Oxfordshire – Abingdon, Balsam Project – Harwell, Berinsfield Children’s Centre, Berinsfield Community Business, Carers Oxfordshire – Abingdon, Citizens Advice Bureau - Didcot and Wallingford, Clifton Hampden Surgery, Oxfordshire Reablement Services – Wallingford, PACT – Wallingford, South Adult Social Care Team – Abingdon, SOHA Housing – Didcot, Wallingford Health Visitors, Wallingford Medical Centre, Westgate House Day Centre – Wallingford and CTWA (Churches Together in Wallingford – view [www.ctwa.org.uk](http://www.ctwa.org.uk)).

Anyone given a voucher will be provided with a three day supply of food for themselves and their families.

For information about Wallingford Food Bank please contact Neville Burt via email at: [nevburt@btinternet.com](mailto:nevburt@btinternet.com)

Donations of food or money may be left at The Fountain, 22 St Mary’s Street, Wallingford or at the Food Bank itself during opening hours, Mondays and Thursdays 11am – 1pm.

For more details about Lions, or if you are a local charity or volunteer group in need of support or wish to help Lions continue to make a difference in the local community please e-mail: [info@lions-gwd.org.uk](mailto:info@lions-gwd.org.uk) Telephone: 0845 833 9837 or view the website: [www.lions-gwd.org.uk](http://www.lions-gwd.org.uk)



### **Charity Crimestoppers asks what is the real cost of cheap tobacco?**

The independent crime-fighting charity Crimestoppers is urging the public to tackle the issue of illegal tobacco in Thames Valley.

In partnership with Trading Standards offices across Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Milton Keynes and Oxfordshire the public is being urged to visit **[www.crimestoppers-uk.org/itsadrag](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org/itsadrag)** and recognise the damage that sales of illegal tobacco have on their local communities.

Radio, posters, leaflets and Facebook advertising have been used to inform the public to contact the charity if they have any information or suspicions on who or where illegal rolling tobacco and cigarettes are being sold.

“Illegal tobacco sales can be easily overlooked and considered no more than holiday makers ‘doing someone a favour’. Everyone loves a bargain but the sale of illegal tobacco can have a knock-on cost to our local communities,” comments Phil Gomm, Chair for Thames Valley Crimestoppers.

“Sales are generally associated with crimes of smuggled and counterfeit tobacco and often linked with serious organised crime gangs. It can also bring our young people into early contact with criminals.”

Trading Standards in Thames Valley are determined to crack down on traders of illegal tobacco but they need information from the public if they are to be successful. They recognise that often people know what is happening in their communities but are too scared to speak out to the authorities.

Crimestoppers offers people an anonymous and safe route to inform on the criminals involved in illegal tobacco sales. Where are they trading? Who are they? Do you think you know where the tobacco is being stored or made?

To give information about crime anonymously call Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** or go online at **[www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)**. Contacting the charity is completely anonymous, calls are not recorded, IP addresses are untraceable and no one will ever know you called.

**Goring Gap Boat Club - Regatta 2013**

Before he became an actor, comedian, writer, director, and blues musician, Hugh Laurie was a rower. He competed in the 1980 University Boat Race, rowing in light blue and losing by a matter of a few feet in one of the closest finishes ever. Perhaps it was the bitter disappointment of this narrow defeat, after months of sacrifice and effort, that spurred him on to over-achieve in everything else he has turned his hand to.

I once watched a chat show where he talked about his love of rowing. I particularly remember him pointing out that rowing is the only sport where you get to look directly at those behind you during a race. In running or cycling, you have to look over your shoulder to keep track of your opponents, and you worry constantly about what is happening outside of your immediate vision. In rowing, however, you travel backwards and can look directly at those behind you, assessing their strength, watching for their move, and gaining confidence from being in control of your race.

This unique perspective will affect the race tactics you employ. In most forms of racing, you might try to pace yourself, stay in the pack, and save your attack for the home straight. In rowing, however, the winning tactic is often to get out in front and control your race from there. This in turn places a higher degree of importance on the start of a rowing race and gaining an early advantage. It is not impossible to recover from a slow start on the water, and grind your way past boats ahead of you, but, psychologically, it is tough.

Currently, our Club is training 40 or so crews to take part in the Goring and Streatley Regatta in July. The event is unique in that only novice rowers are allowed to take part. These crews are made up of friends, or work colleagues, or drinking companions, or fellow parents from local schools. None are expert or experienced rowers, but they have all accepted the challenge of getting into a rowing boat and competing. These races are run over a short course of about 300 metres and are

always fiercely competitive. We will be instilling in all these crews the importance of a good start.

Even if you have never watched a rowing race before in your life, I urge you to come along on Saturday July 20th. The Regatta is held in Streatley and regularly attracts several thousand visitors because it is a great family day out. In addition to the racing, there is a funfair, live music, refreshments, crafts, and a beer tent. This year we will even have vintage cars and ferrets. More details can be found on our website at <http://new.goringgapbc.org.uk/regatta-2013/>

If you do come along, I hope that you will take some time to cheer on the crews and enjoy the racing. Witness how often it is the crew that is ahead after only 10 strokes that goes on to win the race. And if there is a particularly close finish, you might speculate how the members of the losing crews could be spurred on by this experience to over-achieve off the water in the coming years ...

**Hugh Baker-Smith, Chairman  
Goring Gap Boat Club**

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## COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

### SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Anne Ducker            01491 836169            Pearl Slatter            0118 984 5021  
Council Offices:      Crowmarsh, Wallingford, OX10 8HG      01491 823000  
[www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)

### OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Dave Sexon, 3 Rivacres,      Whitchurch Hill,      RG8 7QP      0118 984 4236  
[davesexon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:davesexon@yahoo.co.uk)

Council Offices:      County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND,      01865 792422  
[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

POLICE            Wallingford Police Station            01235 512929  
POLICE            PEC – Non-Emergency Calls            101  
POTHOLE            0845 310 1111

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](mailto:tim@tpking.me.uk) Ed

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

<b>Deadline for contributions</b>	<b>Publication month</b>
8th August 2013	September 2013
10th October 2013	November 2013
12th December 2013	January 2014
13th February 2014	March 2014
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12th June 2014	July 2014

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**GORING HEATH PARISH COUNCIL**

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Kate Giles	10 Hocketts Close	Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PX	0118 984 1590
Richard Greenford	Cosy Cottage	Hill Bottom RG8 7PT	0118 984 4147
Nick Henry	Ladygrove Cottage	Goring Heath RG8 7RU	07900 498717
Tim King	Greenacre	Crays Pond RG8 7SH	01491 684198
Marjo McGee	Field End	Crays Pond RG8 7QG	01491 872136

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Email: [goring.heath.parish.council@googlemail.com](mailto:goring.heath.parish.council@googlemail.com)

**GORING HEATH PARISH CHARITY**

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[nick.henry@gouldinternational.co.uk](mailto:nick.henry@gouldinternational.co.uk)

**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](mailto:bnt@waitrose.com)