

November 2014
142nd Issue

Forthcoming Events

GHPH = Goring Heath Parish Hall

WL = Woodcote Library

WVH = Whitchurch Village Hall

November 2014

7th	Soup Lunch	GHPH
9th	Remembrance Day Service	The War Memorial
10th	OWL	WL
13th	Parish Council Meeting	GHPH
15th	Art & Craft Exhibition	WVH
15th	Quiz Crays Pond Community Group	Scout Hut
20th	History Society	GHPH
20th	W.I.	GHPH
29th	Flanders & Swann	GHPH

December 2014

5th	Soup Lunch	GHPH
6th	Christmas Bazaar	The Almshouses
7th	Christmas Fayre	GHPH
11th	Parish Council Meeting	GHPH
18th	W.I.	GHPH

January 2015

8th	Parish Council Meeting	GHPH
15th	History Society	WVH
15th	W.I.	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

Whitchurch Bridge Reopening / 142 bus service termination

Having endured a number of delays, at last the bridge has reopened allowing simpler access to Pangbourne and further afield. That this happens at the same time that the County Council has terminated the 142 Bus Service seems faintly ludicrous. Much effort has been made to make the council see sense and either run an extended loop up to Crays Pond or run a survey at a time when the bridge is actually open. All has fallen on deaf ears.

War Memorial

The Parish Council has begun to explore a plan to improve the War Memorial environs, and a sketch of the proposed plan will be made available. Talks with the Highways agency and Whitchurch parish council will begin shortly.

Village Fête

The Fête Committee is seeking to find ways to get more parishioners involved in the running of this annual event. For many years a number of committed members have organised and run this local event with great success.

The day is great fun and also manages to raise much needed funds for charity.

If you are interested to help on a regular basis do please let the Committee know.

Nick Henry Chairman

Remembrance Sunday

This year Remembrance Sunday is November 9th, and as usual there is a brief ceremony at the memorial on the hill which is held jointly with Whitchurch on Thames and Goring Heath from 10.45 in the morning. This is a moving occasion with a bugler sounding the Last Post, and there is now quite a large attendance. Everyone is welcome.

As last year, the road will be closed for about 20 minutes.

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Planning DecisionsThe following planning applications have been considered. Where a decision is not given, it means the Parish Council has not yet received <u>written</u> confirmation from S.O.D.C.



Premises and application details	Parish Council	S.O.D.C.
P14/S2057/FUL Lubricants UK Ltd, Technology Centre Bozedown Drive Whitchurch Hill RG8 7QR Proposed extension to existing main car park and formation of temporary car park whilst works are carried out.	Should be refused	
3 Airey Houses Bridle Road Whitchurch Hill (within the parish of Goring Heath) RG8 7PRDemolition of existing dwelling. Erection of new detached dwelling and garage. (Amendment to approved scheme reference P08/E0522	No Strong Views	Permission
P14/S2222/HH Hillside Cottage Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NU Two storey side and single storey rear extensions and open front porch. (As amended by documentation received 13 August submitted by the applicant/agent)	Should be approved	Permission
P14/S2300/HH & P14/S2301/LB Cold Harbour Farm Cold Harbour Goring Heath RG8 7SY New replacement oak-framed storm porch and removal of render to front elevation. Internal alterations to provide new en-suite shower rooms to two bedrooms, and remove a shower room to enlarge a bedroom. Revised garden doors to approved scheme.	No Strong Views	Permission
P14/S2325/HH & P14/S2326/LB Bottom Farmhouse Blackbirds Bottom Goring Heath RG8 7SX Erection of two storey extensions and associated internal and external alterations	No strong Views	Permission
P14/S2340/HH 15 Hocketts Close Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PZ Alterations to existing hobby room to form granny flat.	No Strong Views	Permission
P14/S2668/FUL The Forge Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NU Formation of new vehicular access. Stop up existing access.	Should be refused	
P14/S2735/FUL Theldon Goffs Hill Cray's Pond (within the parish of Goring Heath) READING RG8 7QD Demolition of existing dwelling. Erection of new dwelling with car port	No strong views	

Premises and application details	Parish Council	S.O.D.C.
P14/S2694/HH Cwm Gwyn Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Construction of temporary wooden garage.	No Strong Views	
P14/S2684/FUL Woodlands Bridle Road Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PR Erection of a Code 5 house with associated parking and amenity.	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.

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Charity Soup Lunch

Friday 7th November Friday 5th December

At Goring Heath Parish Hall From 12.30 onwards

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These events are very popular so please call Joyce to give her an idea of numbers.



Chosen charities to be confirmed



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The Whitchurch Society are holding their annual Art & Craft Exhibition 2014

at Whitchurch Village Hall, Manor Road Saturday 15th November, 10am-5pm

Afternoon teas served 2-5pm Prize giving at 5pm

Sending-in of exhibits: Thursday 13th Nov 7-8pm at May Cottage, Eastfield Lane & Friday 14th Nov 10am - Noon at the Village Hall (N.B. please note earlier sending-in times than on previous years)

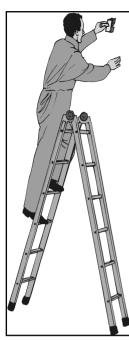
Joyce Voysey Prize Theme is 'Mazes'
This theme has been chosen because 2014 is the 10^{th} anniversary year of the opening of the Whitchurch Maze

We look forward to receiving entries for the exhibition from ALL age groups, and from previous contributors, but we also hope that there will be lots of new entrants too, especially children who may not have entered before. Young people might be particularly interested in submitting work in new media. We welcome all ranges of work - it is an enjoyable, friendly event, not an elitist showcase!

All residents (both past and present) of Whitchurch-on-Thames and Goring Heath parishes are eligible to enter their work. Please join in!

The details of all the categories and entry rules are set out on the website at http://wotarts.co.uk

If you have any queries or would like to help with running of the exhibition, please don't hesitate to contact Sally Woolhouse on 0118 984 4365 or email sally@wotarts.co.uk



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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, ballets, operas, classical concerts etc. once a month.

Salisbury, Cheltenham, Oxford, Stratford and Chichester, amongst others, are often visited. Major London venues and productions. Mainly matinees in the week, but sometimes evening performances and weekends. Trips away. Tickets purchased at group/concessionary rates.

When the Whitchurch Bridge re-opens, members can be picked up from Whitchurch Hill, Whitchurch-on-Thames and Pangbourne. Also Tidmarsh and Theale when necessary.

For our forthcoming programme please check the Whitchurch-on-Thames Website. Subscriptions £10 per annum but £8 if paid online.

Flanders and Swann Recaptured



Goring Heath Parish Hall present another musical evening on Saturday 29th November at 8pm with

Flanders and Swann Recaptured, a loving tribute to the famous Michael Flanders and Donald Swann who gave so much pleasure in the 1950's and 1960's with their comic songs and monologues. With more than a hint of nostalgia, the evening is given by Oxfordshire based James Mitchell and Grahame O'Connor, and recaptures the wit and charm of the original shows.

Tickets are £10 to include a glass of wine and are available from Theresa at bnt@waitrose.com or 0118 9842056



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REFRESHMENTS

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Secondhand car buyers at risk of losing vehicles

Henley Citizens Advice Bureau is warning that innocent secondhand car buyers could have their vehicle taken away from them because of an outstanding loan on the car dating back to the previous owner.

"Logbook loans", officially called bills of sale, are often taken out against the purchase of a car. The bill of sale gives the lender ownership of the car and the lender gives the car buyer the right to drive the car as long as loan repayments are up to date. If a borrower fails to replay the loan, the car can be seized by the lender. But most people do not realise that if the car is sold on while the loan is still outstanding, and payments are not being made, the logbook lender is legally entitled to take the car away from the new owner.

In one case made known to Citizens Advice, a man said he had spent £1,100 on a secondhand car. A few weeks later he received a letter from a logbook loans company saying he owed them £637. The man contacted the loan company to explain that the car had been sold to him, providing the loan firm with the seller's address, but somebody still turned up to take the car away. Worried that he would be left without any way to get to work, the man had to borrow money in order to pay off the previous owner's loan.

Drivers can carry out checks before buying a car, to see whether a loan is attached to it. However, there is a charge for these searches, and not all loans will show up.

Evidence collected by Citizens Advice suggests that people are signing up for logbook loans, tempted by the promise of fast cash and no credit checks, without realising the full implications. Interest rates charged are much higher than those for a conventional loan, and borrowers can end up much deeper in debt as they struggle to repay amounts which exceed the original cost of the car by almost three times.

If you are facing a situation like this after buying a secondhand car, call Adviceline on 08444 111 444 or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice Bureau, which is located at 32 Market Place, Henley-on-Thames RG9 2AH. For opening hours, see www.caox.org.uk





SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER

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10am-4pm

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World War II 1939 -1945

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- F. STRATTON
- W. TURNER
- R. T. WALLIS
- G. WARD

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them.

Extract from the 'Ode of Remembrance' poem from 'For the Fallen' by Laurence Binyon

Thames Valley Police Update

It is unbelievable that we are already moving into autumn. With all of its busy events, the summer has flown by and I trust people have managed to enjoy the numerous different events across the area such as Bunkfest at Wallingford and the Woodcote Rally which have all been tremendous successes. I never cease to be amazed at the huge variety of different events that take place across the area each summer catering to all sorts of different interests. It is always worthwhile visiting the Councils' websites to see exactly what events are on: http://www.southernoxfordshire.com/ and http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news-and-events/events. Our local neighbourhood policing teams endeavour to support as many of these events as possible, providing an opportunity for people to engage with their local policing team while ensuring the events pass off peacefully and minimise any disruption to the local community. As I write this, we are preparing for the Thame Fair and the Flying Pig Festival at Shrivenham.

We continue our emphasis on tackling rural crime and are aware now that many of the crops have been harvested, we traditionally start to see an increase in hare coursing. This year has been no exception, however we are really pleased to report that with the first two incidents reported to us, we were able to respond quickly and arrested seven men in total for hare coursing. These seven men are on bail and will be reporting to Abingdon police station later this month. We will continue to patrol rural areas and anyone who is found to be committing offences under the Hunting Act will be arrested and brought to justice.

When I discuss crime with members of the rural community, the one offence that understandably causes significant concern is the theft of dogs. This thankfully does not happen very often but when it does, we recognise the distress it causes to families and take the offence extremely seriously. Last month, four dogs were stolen from an address in Blewbury. The attending police officers conducted extensive local enquiries and identified a distinctive vehicle that had been seen acting suspiciously in the area and traced it to a mobile home site in Berkshire.

Following this information, officers from this police area made repeated visits to this site over several days making enquiries as to the whereabouts of the missing dogs. While enquiries at the site met very little support and proved extremely challenging, our relentless approach ensured we recovered all four dogs although, regrettably, one of them has died. We are continuing our investigation to identify those responsible and my simple message to anybody who believes they can commit such offences is we will take robust action.

It is widely acknowledged that drug addiction is a significant factor in many people resorting to committing crime and our officers are committed to tackling the supply of controlled drugs. At the beginning of last month, we executed a search warrant under the Misuse of Drugs Act in Didcot and recovered a large quantity of heroin and crack cocaine from within the property. Three people were arrested for possession with intent to supply class A drugs and are currently on police bail.

Goring Heath NEWS

As we move toward autumn, I am always conscious that burglary rates, while still thankfully very low across the area, begin to increase due to burglars taking advantage of the darker evenings and so we continue to encourage residents to mark their property. We are encouraged by the continued rise in sales of SmartWater kits and would urge people if they have not already done so, to purchase one of the kits which provide a unique identity code for your property. Eighty percent of the residents in the village of Hinton Waldrist have now marked their belongings with SmartWater, and as a result, SmartWater have placed signs at both entrances of the village ensuring any potential burglars know it is not worth their while entering the village.

I would ask any local Parish Councils who wish to adopt a similar approach to contact their local neighbourhood team and we will provide support in implementing a similar scheme.

In these articles I always like to pay a particular thank you to our officers and staff who work tirelessly often in very difficult situations on your behalf. I was really pleased to recognise a number of our staff at a recent commendation ceremony during which we recognised officers who pursued a car after it had rammed them and subsequently arrested the occupant of the vehicle, seizing a considerable quantity of cash and drugs; an officer who secured evidence that led to the arrest of two violent offenders after an aggravated burglary; the diligent and committed work undertaken by a PCSO in supporting residents of a high burglary area to utilise SmartWater which contributed to a significant reduction in burglaries; an officer who put themselves in a potentially life threatening situation in their line of duty and lastly officers who were called to a particularly harrowing incident for the family involved and were able to do their jobs with the utmost professionalism and compassion.

As I reiterated at the ceremony we are all able to sleep soundly in our beds at night because these officers and their colleagues are working tirelessly 365 days, often in extremely challenging situations and invariably putting themselves in harm's way. However, as I regularly point out, we have not reduced crime on our own and I am extremely grateful for your continuing help and support.

Together, we are challenging the criminal, protecting the vulnerable and delivering a high quality service.

A.Boyd

Superintendent

South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse LPA

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Goring Heath NEWS

Hare Coursing

With the introduction of the <u>Hunting Act 2004</u> in February 2005, all forms of hare coursing are banned in the UK.

Hares are in decline and their destruction is a concern. But with hare coursing there is also associated criminal damage - to fencing and hedging to gain access, and to the land with the indiscriminate use of vehicles. It is also not unusual for hare coursers to intimidate landowners and other users of the land, such as ramblers.

Hare coursing is a seasonal crime and usually begins as soon as crops are harvested. With an early harvest this year there have already been several reported incidents in South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse

How to recognise hare coursing

Hare coursers tend to travel in groups, usually in 4x4 vehicles (the Subaru is often the vehicle of choice), with dogs, which are generally lurchers. You might see them parked up by a field, gathering in a field, or walking in a line abreast across a field.

If you believe hare coursing is taking place

- call the police (999) from a safe location
- tell them what you have seen
- give them the location of the incident try to be as precise as possible using land marks or road junctions
- say how many people are involved and give a good description, if you can
- describe any vehicles you have seen
- if possible, state how many dogs are involved
- if the suspects leave, try to determine their direction of travel do NOT approach the offenders yourself or put yourself at any risk.

Thames Valley Police take hare coursing very seriously and will respond to any incident.

Help with Hedgehog Research

We are ecologists based at the University of Reading, currently conducting a project examining the possible impact of road networks on hedgehog populations. It is estimated that hedgehog populations in some parts of the UK have declined by approximately 20% in the last 20 years, and one possible factor contributing to this decline is the fragmentation effect of major roads on

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Testimonial from Max's Mum.

Goring Heath NEWS

hedgehog populations i.e. hedgehogs avoid crossing these major roads, leading to populations becoming more and more isolated from one another, which potentially makes them more vulnerable to other factors.

For this study, we are looking to obtain genetic samples from hedgehogs in a zone approximately 10 miles north and south of the M4 between Bristol and Reading. One source of these genetic samples is the bodies of hedgehogs that have been killed on the roads. As many hedgehogs now seem to be living in and around villages, we are hoping to enlist the help of people living in this study zone by getting them to report any sightings they have of dead hedgehogs so that we can collect the remains and take a small tissue sample for our analyses.

We are also looking for people who have hedgehogs visiting their gardens and who would be willing to help by e.g. putting out food for a few nights. The hedgehogs will then tend to poo nearby and we can collect it for your study.

If you would like any more information please do not hesitate to contact Ben at b.williams@pgr.reading.ac.uk

WHITCHURCH HILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

After our summer break, Whitchurch Hill WI members found themselves with a busy and eventful September.

Early in the month a dozen members visited Denman College, the WIs own college near Abingdon for a "Denman Day", true to the WI's usual interest in food, the accent was on food and cookery, and was enjoyed by all. On the third Tuesday we resumed our speaker meetings with a talk by Tony Strafford who, dressed in his uniform of the Yeomen of the Guard, told us about "The Ladies of the Tower"

At the end of the month Whitchurch Hill hosted the Inaugural Meeting of the Pang Valley Group of WIs, it was a lively meeting, with tea and cakes, and an excellent speaker Val Threlfall on "Fashion Memories of the 1950s". October started with a lunch at the Packhorse, and we anticipate another few months of entertaining speakers and activities during the winter, our November speaker will be Dr Gillian White on "The Huggable History of the Teddy Bear".

As we now enjoy the welcome reopening of the bridge we are also looking forward to being more accessible to visitors and guests at our meetings which are held on the third Tuesday of the month at Goring Heath Parish Hall at 10.15am For further information please telephone 0118 984 1696

Patricia Dent



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Goring Heath NEWS

Goring Volunteer Fire Brigade Trust Fund

Early in December each year the Trustees of the Goring Volunteer Fire Brigade Trust Fund meet to give out about grants to organisations that are able to fit in with the following statement.

The benefits of the Trust Fund are paid out for any public purpose that will benefit the inhabitants of the area ' this being The Parish of Goring as at 31st March 1940 for which provision cannot be made out of public funds.

The Parish of Goring in 1940 included the greater part of Woodcote.

Due to the fact that the Trust Fund relies on interest payments based on a sum invested, the amount to be allocated is not a large amount; the trustees normally hand out grants of between £200 and £500 to worthy causes, we pay out about £1,000 per year.

If you think that your organisation is within the guidelines and that it would benefit the public purpose for you to receive a grant, please write enclosing information about your organisation and what you require a grant for, and address your letters to:

> Frank Tomlinson 5 Red Cross Road Goring-on-Thames Reading RG8 9HG Telephone 01491 873640

Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society

Our last meeting this year is on November 20th when the subject is "Famous People of the Chilterns".

The meeting starts at 8pm, with coffee available from 7.30pm, and is at the Goring Heath Parish Hall at Whitchurch Hill. Non-members very welcome, £2 which includes coffee.

In January we move down to Whitchurch Village Hall for a members evening on January 15th 2015.



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Goring Heath NEWS

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club



Serving the villages of South West Oxfordshire
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International

13-Oct-14 PRESS RELEASE

Here comes Santa !!!

Well yes, thanks to volunteers who have kindly offered their help, Father Christmas will be touring villages in South Oxfordshire again organised by the Lions Club of Goring, Woodcote & District. Santa on his sleigh will be coming around to collect donations in support of local charitable causes whilst playing popular seasonal carols.

To do this a Street Collection Licence as required by South Oxfordshire District Council is obtained for two hours from 7pm until 9pm each evening for the following schedule.

Ability to keep to these planned visits is always dependent upon the weather and support kindly provided to Lions members by local volunteer groups who have arranged to help as collectors.

Sonning Common

Friday 12th and Monday 15th December
 Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December

Woodcote Goring

- Thursday 18th and Friday 19th December

Whitchurch Tollbridge

- Saturday 20th December (from 10 am to 2 pm)

Whitchurch Hill

- Monday 22nd December

All money collected will be used to help charitable causes within the local community, and a small amount going towards Lions sponsored national and international projects primarily related to youth and eye sight preservation in areas of greatest need.

Every pound donated does go to charity with no administration charges taken out.

Throughout the year Lions continue to collect used or unwanted spectacles including sunglasses to recycle free via other Lions Clubs in third world countries. This year marks the 31st Anniversary of this Lions Spectrek project. Established local collection points for spectacles are at Sonning Common Health Centre, the Boathouse Surgery in Pangbourne, both Goring and





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Woodcote Medical Centres, the Post Office at Woodcote Way, in Caversham and in the Reception area at S.O.D.C. Offices at Crowmarsh.

The value of spectacles given free of charge to people with impaired sight in these countries cannot be over-emphasised.

For 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
Telephone: 0845 833
9837or view the website: www.lions-gwd.org.uk

WOODCOTE VOLUNTEERS

For 31 years Woodcote Volunteers (a registered Charity) has continued to serve Woodcote, Crays Pond, Goring Heath, Whitchurch Hill, Checkendon and Ipsden. Based at an office in the Village Hall, from 9.30am to 11am Monday to Friday, help can be arranged via the telephone (681171) or to callers, by a friendly and efficient team. Service is on hand all year, rain or shine!

Drivers provide transport for those in need, to attend medical appointments locally or at nearby hospitals, to day centres, to local shops and also will collect and deliver essential prescriptions. It is not a taxi or bus service, but help will be arranged for those with a genuine need.

To pay for the service a contribution is required based on a mileage allowance of 45pence per mile with a charge of £1.50 for local trips.

We have a fund raising Quiz Evening on Wednesday 26th of November, 8.00 pm for a 8.30 pm start at the Red Lion Woodcote. All welcome. Book your team table (4-5 members) at the Red Lion (680483) soon.

Elizabeth Harrap Secretary

OWL - Our Woodcote Library

We are now in a position to ask for volunteer help in the library, starting in the new year. A meeting will be held in the library on Monday 10th November in the evening to explain what this involves.

There will be training, at Central Library, Oxford, and of course at Woodcote. More details will be available soon

Vicky Jordan

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COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Pearl Slatter 0118 984 5021

Council Offices: Crowmarsh, Wallingford, OX10 8HG 01491 823000

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 Wallingford Police Station 01235 512929

POLICE PEC – Non-Emergency Calls 101

POTHOLES 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 Ed

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
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12th February 2015	March 2015
9th April 2015	May 2015
11th June 2015	July 2015
13th August 2015	September 2015
8th October 2015	November 2015

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nick.henry@gouldinternational.co.uk LOCAL GROUPS Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers Goring Heath Bowls Club (Almshouses) Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club Pilates (Friday Morning) RG8 Badminton Club South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (S.O.A.G.) Tai Chi and Qigong Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning Association Whitchurch Hill WI Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am) Yoga Howard Dell 01494 764149 Maureen Jones 01491 681236 Doreen Pechey 01491 681236 Chris Uden 01491 575205 Chris Uden 01491 681263 Nancy Nichols 0118 978 7829 Karen Pounds 07867 954786 Nicola Robinson 0118 984 2239 Chair: Sue Matthews 0118 984 4248 Whitchurch Hill WI Frances Strange 0118 984 4142 Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am) Yoga Frances Strange 0118 984 2162 Goring Heath Parish Hall: Bookings and Enquiries: Theresa Elsome 0118 984 2056			

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