



# GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

**March 2017**

**Issue 156**

Visit us at:

**[www.goringheath.com](http://www.goringheath.com)**

Facebook: search 'Goring Heath Parish  
News'

**Forthcoming Events**

GHPH = Goring Heath Parish Hall

WL = Woodcote Library (CC = Community Centre)

WVH = Whitchurch Village Hall

SJC = Saint John's Church, Whitchurch Hill

**February 2017**

21 Tues	Whitchurch Hill WI—"40 years of Catching Smugglers" by Malcolm Nelson at 10 am - page 9	GHPH
27 Mon	Our Woodcote Library (OWL) AGM at 6pm page 7	WL
23 Thurs	South Ox. Archaeology Group Lecture	GHPH

**March 2017**

4 Sat	Litter Blitz 10—12, page 15	
16 Thurs	Whitchurch and Goring History Society, 'Baby farm murders', 8 pm Page 7	WVH
18 Sat	Charity Coffee morning 10.30-12.30 pg. 9	Art Cafe
21 Tues	Whitchurch Hill WI AGM	GHPH
23 Thurs	Paul Smith (Oxford County Archaeologist—retired) "some recent excavations in Oxfordshire" 7.30 pm (Non-members welcome)	GHPH
25 Sat	Mike Holland's Quiz Night, 8 pm—page 10	GHPH

**April 2017**

1 Sat	Spring Show 2.30—4 pm, page 13	GHPH
13 Thurs	Annual Parish Meeting, 8 pm	
18 Tues	Whitchurch Hill Women's Institute 64th Birthday Buffet lunch 10 am, p.9	GHPH
20 Thurs	Whitchurch and Goring History Society, 'Votes for Women', 8 pm, Page 7	WVH

## **Chairman's Comments**

In the wider world, events in the last year were more interesting than usual, and one thing that has struck me is how people in power have moved beyond the usual evasions and half truths that are normally associated with politicians to complete brazen lies, defended with all the vigour and indignation of some one who is speaking the truth. I am reminded of the line by Ralph Waldo Emerson, “the louder he talked of his honour, the faster we counted our spoons”. Whether its Americans presidents and their teams or campaigners about Brexit, few of them seem to be able to distinguish between truth and lies, that latter now dressed up as “alternative truth”.

What relevance is that to Goring Heath Parish Council you may ask; around here planning controls can mean big money can be made if you get round them, and where money is involved, deception and lies often lurk. The parish council has to consider planning applications that include all sorts of statements and assertions to demonstrate to the Planning Authority the reasons why an application should be granted.

Planning officers are too easily deceived, and as the Chairman of South Oxfordshire District Council was reported as saying in the Henley Standard, the members of the planning committee just follow the officers recommendation. I would agree with Councillor Harrison on this; my observation is that the Planning Committee has some members who exhibit ignorance of their own council's policies, ignorance of National Policy, and ignorance of the local area. I have heard members support planning applications because they favour the applicant, which does not inspire a great deal of confidence in how the whole process works.

Peter Dragonetti  
Chairman

## 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.
P16/S3546/FUL Cedar Lodge Goring Road Goring Heath RG8 7SH Erection of single detached two-storey dwelling with access, parking and amenity space (amendment to planning permission P16/S2431/FUL)	No Objections	Permission
P16/S3734/HH Rifleman Cottage Shirvells Hill Goring Heath RG8 7SP Removal of existing garage and 2 sheds at front of property. Construction of new timber framed double garage and 2 new timber sheds at front of property. Associated external works	No Objections	Permission
P16/S3887/HH The White House Crays Pond RG8 7QG Extensions and alterations. Replacement of garage.	No Objections	Permission
P16/S3863/HH Shirvell Cottage Shirvells Hill Goring Heath RG8 7SP Proposed single storey extension .	No Objections	Permission
P16/S4066/LB Tithe Barn, Coombe End Farm Coombe End Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PD Re-roofing of Tithe Barn. Strip off existing hand made clay pegged tiles & set aside. Re-batten. Re-roof using salvaged tiles.	Fully supports	Listed Building Consent
P16/S4078/FUL Pennyroyal Sawmill Pennyroyal Goring Heath RG8 7SD Change of use of part of commercial woodyard to mixed use as woodyard and storage using secure shipping containers.	No Objections	Permission

## 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.

Premises and application details	Parish Council	S.O.D.C.
P17/S0010/HH Cherry Cottage Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU New outbuilding with pool	No Objections	
P17/S0035/FUL The Studio Crays Pond RG8 7QE Proposed alterations to existing dwelling including demolition of existing extension and conservatory and proposed new dwelling on existing garden space	Should be Refused	
P17/S0099/HH Harptree Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Demolition of existing garage and erection of new side extension garage	No Objections	
P17/S0101/HH South View Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Two storey side addition with internal altera- tions to existing cottage	No Objections	
P16/S4199/HH 7 New Buildings Goring Heath Road Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PW Two storey side extension and porch	No Objections	
P17/S0415/HH Laundry Cottage Reading Road Goring READING RG8 0LL New Ex- tensions to form Kitchen, Utility and Study/ Bed	Should be Refused	

**Publicise your event and increase attendance by giving us  
the dates.  
IT IS FREE**

We welcome event dates from all local charities and groups  
for listing in this feature. Please send the details to the Editor  
at: [goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com)

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



## **Hold tight please! – Bus News**



The parish council has decided to continue to support the 143 bus service, and has committed to do so until 31 July, which will be the end of a 12 month period of support. We have persuaded Thames Travel to extend the service to Crays Pond and Woodcote, but only for the first and last journeys of the day. This is because the bus passes through Woodcote and Crays Pond en route to Whitchurch Hill in the morning, and returns back at the end of the day. Apparently doing this for the rest of the day is not feasible because of the driver's hours. This change has to go through the Traffic Commissioner, so will not be effective until 1 April

We have also been in discussion with a new operator based in Goring that has taken over a route from Goring to Wallingford. As a Community interest Company, it can receive more income from the concessionary fares than can Thames Travel, who is a commercial operator.

As we will not be able to support the 143 indefinitely, we have to look at and support other options.

### **End waiting at the bus stop wondering if the bus is coming misery !**

One of the challenges of using the bus is wondering whether it is coming or whether you have missed it. If you are using the 143, there is a useful app for your phone called OXONTIME RTI. This is supposed to show the nearest bus stop to your location, as well as when the bus is due. It can also send you a text when a bus is due.

For more information, see Goring Heath Community Website.

## **Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society**

Local author Angela Buckley will be giving a talk on Amelia Dyer, and the baby farm murders at Whitchurch Village Hall on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March. A chilling subject of nineteenth century wickedness which took place at Caversham. Those who went with us to the Police Museum in the summer will remember the display there. Angela has written a booklet on the subject, which will be on sale. Non members are always welcome at our meetings and to cover costs we charge £3, which includes coffee and biscuits.

April 20<sup>th</sup>, at the same time and venue, sees a lecture by Katherine Bradley of the Open University on votes for women in Oxfordshire. There are very local connections, especially in Checkendon, and there is new information on the ladies running the dairy refuge and their campaign. Those wearing Violet gold and green get a free coffee!

May 18<sup>th</sup> is a Members' Evening at Goring Heath Parish Hall, where we will discuss several topics of a local interest.

**Vicky Jordan**

## **Our Woodcote Library (OWL)**

Our AGM will be held in the library at 6pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. It is two years now that volunteers have helped the staff of the library by taking on routine tasks – and some not so routine.

In addition, OWL raises money to pay for new books (the County book fund is much reduced) as well as essentials for rhymetimes, volunteer comforts, and funding for special events. We want the library to stay a special place for the community. The AGM is open to all.

**Vicky Jordan**

**“Life’s Merry-go-round”**

A humorous evening of song and laughter was enjoyed by all of us watching “Life’s Merry-go-round” in Goring Heath Parish Hall on Saturday night.

The show, loosely based on “This is your life”, revolved around the story of an impoverished Polish Countess, Roxanna, and her husband Lord Ponsonby-Smythe, who transported us through the highs and lows of their lives through song. The audience enjoyed such classics as “The man I love”, “I remember it well”, and “Bewitched, bothered and bewildered”.

The stars of the show, Roxy Boulter and James Mitchell dazzled the audience with their singing prowess, with the talented support of pianist and ‘compare’ Grahame O’Connor.

A very enjoyable evening was had by all.



**Having a Party ?**

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

Contact Theresa at [Bnt@waitrose.com](mailto:Bnt@waitrose.com)

**Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Association**

We are awaiting news of who will be coming for the visit on April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, and have started to make plans for their entertainment.

If you’d like to take part please get in touch with Vicky Jordan ([vickyjordan5@hotmail.com](mailto:vickyjordan5@hotmail.com)) or 01189 843260.

## WHITCHURCH HILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Christmas and the New Year passed with suitable festivities, members enjoying a demonstration of making seasonal breads, savouries and buns, then an excellent festive lunch at the Highwayman, and a very sociable New Year afternoon tea at a member's house, then back to our normal business meeting in January when we learnt a lot about "Alpacas – their fleece and Whitchurch Hill". We collected useful items for the Women's Refuge in Reading, and are now planning for additional efforts in 2017-18.

Our February meeting will be a talk on "40 Years of Catching Smugglers" by Malcolm Nelson, and in March will be our AGM when we hope to encourage some new members onto our Committee, and we will be starting our forthcoming year's programme of speakers social event, outings etc.

Our first Charity effort for this year will be a coffee morning at **the Art Cafe** in Whitchurch on Thames, **on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – 10.30 to 12.30. We shall be donating the profits from this to **Helen and Douglas House** – hospice care for children and young adults - please come and join us for an interesting morning and a valuable support for this charity.

Looking ahead to April, we shall have our 64<sup>th</sup> Birthday buffet lunch with musical entertainment, and in May we shall be hearing about the splendid efforts put in by the founders of "Chelsea Fringe" a festival of flowers, gardens and gardening.

We have regular business meetings with speakers on a variety of subjects, and most months we also have a social (walk and pub lunch) or craft morning and other events – usually on the first Tuesday of the month. Guests are welcome to come and see what we do. Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, except for December and August, at Goring Heath Parish Hall RG8 7NY at 10am, for further information please telephone 0118 984 1696

For information please contact Patricia Dent –email : [pmdent@btinternet.com](mailto:pmdent@btinternet.com) or telephone 0118 984 1696

March 2017

Goring Heath NEWS

**??Quiz Night??**  
**Goring Heath Parish Hall**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March**  
**2017**  
**8pm**

Don't miss out on the now famous

**Mike Holland Quiz Night!**

Get your team of about six together and then book  
your table.

Phone Theresa on 0118 984 2056  
or email

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

There will be food and drinks to simulate  
the brain!

Cost £12 per person

It's competitive, ruthless but its fun!!

See you there!

## Letters page

### Fireworks

I was very annoyed that over 5 days at Christmas and New Year fireworks were let off with no thought for animals and people who may be suffering from post traumatic stress. Christmas is a time for families and if a member of your family has been in the forces there is a strong possibility that the noise of the fireworks will bring back bad memories and the symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress. It is embarrassing for the visitor and the family who are not sure how to deal with it. Some owners of dogs know that their pet get stressed by the noise of fireworks and have been prescribed medication by a vet to be given to the dog to calm it down. Obviously the owner knows when Guy Fawkes night is and will give the medication early enough to keep the dog calm however when fireworks are let off without warning there is no opportunity to do so.

**Please have a little more thought for animals and humans when letting off fireworks.  
(Name Supplied)**

You can get in touch by emailing [goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com)

### War Memorial Update

The appeal has now raised £7,320, so we are just £1,680 short of our target of £9,000. If you would like to contribute, please email [whitchurchwarmemorial@gmail.com](mailto:whitchurchwarmemorial@gmail.com) letting us know how much you would like to give. When we have sufficient pledges, we will instruct the contractors to proceed and then call in the promises. The target is to have the work complete by 1 November, though we would expect to be able to finish it before then.

Peter Dragonetti



**Road Closures and Disruption**

**M4 Junctions 12 to 13: Redhill and Dark Lane (Bradfield) -  
Bridge Refurbishment**

Between February and September 2017 Highways England is undertaking essential repairs to two bridges which carry the M4 over Ashampstead Road and Dark Lane, near Bradfield in West Berkshire. This work will involve road resurfacing, replacing the central reserve deck beams, bridge joints and sections of the safety barrier. Work will primarily be undertaken during day time hours, however some activities will be carried out at night when necessary.

**Traffic Management**

In order to carry out the work as efficiently and safely as possible, the following traffic management restrictions will be in place:

- 24 hour narrow lane running in contraflow on both carriageways with a 50mph speed limit
- Overnight lane closures (Monday to Friday, 9pm to 6am)
- Overnight closures of the M4 between junctions 12 and 13 (Monday to Friday, 9pm to 6am)
- Daytime lane closures over weekend periods (9pm Friday through to 5am Sunday)
- Closure of Dark Lane beneath the bridge – Monday 6 March to Thursday 4 May
- Closure of Ashampstead Road beneath the bridge – Monday 13 March to Friday 26 May

**Weekend Closures**

During work to demolish and install the bridge deck beams, specialist working methods and equipment will be required which will include large cranes that'll sit across all lanes of the motorway. Due to this there will be a requirement to close the M4 east and westbound carriageways between junctions 12 and 13 for entire weekend periods (9pm Friday through to 5am Monday).

The weekend closures are currently scheduled for:

- Friday 31 March to Monday 3 April
- Friday 7 April to Monday 10 April
- Friday 5 May to Monday 8 May

During these closures a clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A4 (through Newbury, Thatcham and Woolhampton).

**Confirmed dates for all closures will be displayed on signs along the M4.**



*Goring Heath Parish Charity*  
*Regd No 1056772*

**Goring Heath and Whitchurch**

# **Spring Show**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017**

**2.30 pm to 4.00 pm**

**Goring Heath Parish Hall**

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

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

Schedule of classes and entry forms will be available on [www.whitchurchonthames.com](http://www.whitchurchonthames.com) and [www.goringheath.com](http://www.goringheath.com) or phone Liz Gibson on 0118 9842012 or Sue Sexon on 0118 9844236 for a hard copy.



## **THE HISTORY OF CRAYS POND**

John Rodger, a long time resident of Crays Pond, has been monitoring the water levels and rainfall at the Pond, and has reported back that the last 12 months saw rainfall of 680mm and a variation of water level of 490mm. These figures provide a baseline for future observations. As we have greatly reduced the road run-off into the pond, we need to keep an eye on how the pond seems to respond to local rainfall. However, as further research by John has shown, the hydrology of this pond is more mysterious than simple rainfall levels.

In the 1950's, W J Hatt Ltd were contracted to remove excess vegetation from the pond. There was an emergent 'island' of small Willows in the middle and this was removed by encircling it with chain and hauling it out with a vehicle on the bank. By the following day, the water level had risen to a point where it overflowed the banks and flooded the bungalow 'Endeavour' on the opposite side of the B471. The level did not drop immediately and a relief ditch was dug on the east side of the road. (Source- anecdotal from an ex-WJH employee). This would all suggest that the pond is fed by water that flows southwards from the high ground at Woodcote, flowing beneath the porous gravel soil land above the impervious clay that overlies the chalk.

As to the age of the pond, John has turned up a reference to a 1670 property transaction that refers to a location "near to Goring Heath and near to great pond in the heath called Creyes Pond".(OHCHref E1/9/ID/12) We don't really know the origin of the name, but it may be a corruption of 'clay' as there were kilns working in the area as early as 1500. Eastfield Lane is also known as Potkiln Lane and there is, of course, Chimney Pot Lane at Little Heath.

An old well once existed to the SW of the pond. Being at some 500' above the river, this well would probably have been in excess of 400' deep! In the 1940's the alignment of the

crossroad was altered to its present position and this was filled in, allegedly with the butts of elm trees.

There still exists, in the deepest part of the pond on the eastern side, a brick structure that would originally acted as a sump from which water was drawn by way of the hand pump that is in place, having been recovered some years ago. The metal pipe that connected it was lost many years back.

Many thanks to John Rodger for his research efforts.

Martin Wise

## Great British Spring Clean

### **Litter Blitz 4th March 2017**

After the reduction in litter while the Toll, Bridge was closed, the road side verges are back to the condition they were before. Junk food leads to junk litter, so we have many coffee cups, fizzy drink cans, and burger boxes thrown out by passing travellers.

We have been holding a litter blitz for many years now, and if you want to join in to make our parish a cleaner and more civilised place, join in with your friends and neighbours, family and acquaintances on Saturday 4 th March between 10 and 12. Many hands make light work.

We provide litter pickers and bags, and the bags are left by the side of the road for collection later. Please meet at Crays Pond, or Hill Bottom Cross Roads or Goring Heath Old Post Office at 10.

## A Threat to Householders

The Edible Dormouse , *Glis glis*, had been observed in the Woodcote area but has now been seen in our parish, where it caused not insignificant damage inside a house. These mammals, which are NOT closely related to our native Hazel Dormouse, *Muscardinus avellanarius*, escaped from a the Rothschild Zoo at Tring in the early 20th century and for years were confined to woodland in that area. However, they have in recent years expanded their territory.

The beast has a body length of some 5" - 8" plus a dark bushy tail of some 4"-7" so somewhat smaller than a Grey Squirrel. They are nocturnal and they hibernate between October and May.



The advice offered to tenants of the Coombe End estate by the National Trust is as follows -

- They are a serious risk to property and local wildlife
- At the **first sign** of Glis glis in a property call a pest controller who is registered with Natural England for the removal of Glis glis (not all pest controllers have this certificate so you need to request a copy of the certificate).
- Practical steps include removing creepers from the walls of properties, trimming back trees away from the property, picking up fallen fruit from gardens promptly, avoiding bird food spilling on the ground
- Do not encourage glis glis by feeding them and should not approach them as they do bite, despite looking very cute.
- Netting around the eaves and soffit boards has some effect at keeping them out

- They seem to be drawn to water tanks and it is important to have secure lids on tanks
- Electronic rodent devices do **not** work
- It is important to get on top of the problem early in the year before the breeding season. The problem was particularly bad last year as there was a good supply of food from the beech trees and a breeding bonanza.
- Glis glis are well known for chewing at electric wiring , creating a serious fire risk or, at least, expensive repair bills.

Martin Wise

## Avian influenza

For those in the parish who keep poultry and captive birds, this is to alert you to the fact that all poultry keepers – whether commercial farmers or those with a small backyard flock – are currently required by law to house poultry or otherwise keep them separate from wild birds. This is because a Prevention Zone is currently in force across the UK. This applies until 28 February 2017. This has been done to reduce the risks of the disease spreading, and to help protect poultry and captive birds from avian flu.

From 28 February DEFRA anticipate adopting a more targeted approach, with mandatory biosecurity measures across the country and continued housing or range netting in higher risk areas. Anyone planning to allow their birds outdoors from 28 February must take action now to reduce the risk of infection from birds being let outside by following Defra guidance. You can find out whether, based on current risk levels, you are likely to be affected using our interactive map. All poultry keepers are required to take steps to reduce the risk of infection via the environment, for example in wild bird droppings, by practising good biosecurity. You should do this even if your birds are inside. Further details can be found at [www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu)

**Almshouses Sunday Services  
February to March**

11.00 am Sung Eucharist	<b>March</b> 5th, <b>April</b> 2nd, <b>May</b> 7th
11.00 am Sung Matins	<b>February</b> 19th, 26th <b>March</b> 12th, 19th, 26th <b>April</b> 9th, 16th, 23rd <b>May</b> 14th, 21st, 28th

*All these services are traditional Book of Common Prayer*

**St John's Church**

Please help us with cleaning the church; it really only requires two “sessions” a month for a couple of hours and could be done alternately by two groups of three or four people.

If possible, we'd like volunteers to join the Flower Rota as well, so do come and let your artistic side show through. It would mean flower arranging just one month a year, and helping two or three times a year with the Festivals, i.e. Christmas, Easter and Harvest Festival etc:

Please contact Theresa on 01189842056 or email [bnt@waitrose.com](mailto:bnt@waitrose.com) and thank you, in anticipation.

## RG8 BADMINTON CLUB WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS FOR THE 2017 SEASON

We are a small, friendly and sociable club and we currently have spaces to accommodate new members in the adult club. If you are a past or present badminton player do get in touch.

We meet on Thursday evenings in the Community Sports Hall at Langtree School from 7.30 – 9.30pm term time only. Subscriptions are payable on a termly basis and are usually about £35 a term dependent on the number of weeks we play. New members welcome throughout the season.

If you would like to know more or wish to join please contact Julie on 01491 681654.

Julie Drury



“Party antics”

Tournament winners -Iona Willows and Peter Baker



## Senior Strength Training Circuit

As we grow older our body naturally starts to change and slow down. Our muscles lose mass, ligaments and tendons get stiffer, bones become less dense and more fragile, our heart is less able to send blood quickly around our body and our metabolic rate slows. All of these changes can have significant effects on our physical health and ability to go about our daily lives. Older people are susceptible to health conditions such as osteoporosis, arthritis and diabetes as well as falls and fractures. Although these changes are inevitable with age, sedentary lifestyles and unhealthy choices like smoking and a poor diet can accelerate these changes.

But it isn't all doom and gloom! Research has shown that long term regular exercise can help counteract the effects of ageing and reduce the risk of developing conditions such as high blood pressure and heart disease. Strength training exercises are particularly important to keep our muscles healthy and strong and keep us able to do the things we enjoy for longer.

A circuit of strength training exercises can have many positive effects such as:

- Improving muscle and joint strength and flexibility
- Reducing stress on bones Reducing pain and stiffness
- Improving cardiovascular fitness
- Burning calories
- Increasing metabolism
- Improving mood
- Improving sleep Increasing confidence

South Oxfordshire District Council's Go Active Gold scheme is introducing a new Senior Strength Training Circuit class for people over 60 in Goring Heath.

## Stretch and Meditation

With Ann & Michell

**Tuesday evenings- Goring Heath Parish Hall Whitchurch Hill**

**6.15-7pm strength/stretch/meditation**

**7.10- 7.55pm stretch/meditation**

An enlightening experience through body and mind. As we strengthen and relax our body through stretch leading one into a beautiful meditation.

*£8 per session*

Contact email [ann.asyouwish@gmail.com](mailto:ann.asyouwish@gmail.com)

Health and wellbeing for the over 50's

## Yoga

Garden room, Goring village hall

Monday 9.10 – 10.25am

Goring Heath Parish Hall

Thursday 9.15 – 10.30am

Morrel room Goring/Streatley

Saturday 9.45 – 11am



Improve your strength, flexibility and balance

### To book contact:

Daniela Capasso on 07900307520

[d.capasso67@gmail.com](mailto:d.capasso67@gmail.com)



Fun friendly and affordable physical activity sessions for people aged 60 +

Senior Circuit – a low impact session suitable for all abilities

Thursdays 11.45 to 12.45 Goring Heath Parish Hall

For more information call Simone Passeri on 07717326661 or email [simone.passeri@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:simone.passeri@southandvale.gov.uk)



**Curtains,  
pelmetts,  
roman blinds,  
tiebacks,  
cushion covers etc  
at competitive prices,  
including measuring  
and hanging service.**

**call Caroline on  
01189 542448  
or  
07815 610007**

## **The Village Fete**

We are already planning for another successful and enjoyable Fete in 2017 - so please put Saturday May 27th in your brand new diary!

We are now working on next May's Fete. This breaks into two parts – booking the stalls and arranging the infrastructure for the event on the one hand, and 'delivering on the day' on the other. We have a small team of enthusiastic volunteers who contribute hugely to the success of the event, but we could use some more help, particularly with the 'delivering on the day' part.

Could you give us an hour or two on the day? If you could find an hour or two to help us with tasks such as erecting (and taking down) marquees, directing traffic, assisting on the BBQ, etc that would make our job so much easier.

Interested? If you could give us 'an hour or two' or indeed feel you'd like to be involved in planning the day, simply mail to [whitchurch-hillfete@gmail.com](mailto:whitchurch-hillfete@gmail.com) and we'll be happy to contact you to discuss further. Your 'hour or two' once every few years would make a big difference and you get to meet some lovely people!

**The Organising Team**

# WHITCHURCH HILL VILLAGE FETE

Put the date in your diary now!



*'A Fun Day out for all the family!'*

**Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Starting at 2PM**

**Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground**

## **Pea sticks and bean poles**

Locally grown and cut pea sticks and bean poles are now available. Pea sticks are essential for putting in amongst taller plants like delphiniums to keep them supported, as well as being perfect for sweet peas and, in the vegetable garden, peas and mangetout. Bean poles are essential for runner beans, and are also excellent for growing climbing french beans, so much easier than the dwarf variety.

Please contact Martin Wise by email or phone, contact details on the back cover.

# **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, ballets, operas, classical concerts etc. once a month or more.**

**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.**

**Coaches depart from Pangbourne.**

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



# CHERRIES PET SERVICES

Located in Crays Pond

EST. 2005

- > Dog Walking
- > Dog Day Care
- > Home From Home Boarding
- > The Alternative To Kennels
- > Puppy Play And Socialisation
- > Cat Sitting / Small Animal Care

Call - 01491 684122 / 07767 472236

Since 2005 Cherie's Pet Services has been providing a range of friendly, professional and personal dog care and pet sitting services for customers in South Oxfordshire and West Berkshire.

You can feel confident that your pets will be in safe hands as I have excellent local references and Cherie's Pet Services is: **Registered with N.A.R.P - Animal First Aid Certified - Police Checked - Public Liability Insurance - Vet Recommended.**

[www.cherriespetservices.co.uk](http://www.cherriespetservices.co.uk)



AS SEEN ON TV

Put the sparkle back into your oven with a call to your local Ovenclean specialist!



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Ovenclean is the UK's leading professional oven cleaning company.

Put the sparkle back into your oven with a call to your local Ovenclean specialist!

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Using advanced equipment and customised products, the Ovenclean system will remove all grease, fat and burnt on carbon deposits quickly and efficiently, leaving your home fume-free and oven ready to use as soon as we have finished.

No mess or bother - just a perfect 'I can't believe it's not a new oven' result everytime!

We love to do the chore you hate - leave it to the professionals

*"A call to Ovenclean, result - a sparkling super clean oven."*  
Daily Telegraph



Call Trevor and Dominic Cox on  
**07397 394232**  
[www.ovenclean.com](http://www.ovenclean.com)

## **GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER FACEBOOK PAGE**

Just another reminder to take a look at the Goring Heath Newsletter Facebook page, if you aren't already checking in with it. It will contain some useful information that arrives too late to be included in the printed newsletter, as well as pictures, comments and suggestions from residents.

If you haven't already done so, please head over to Facebook, search for 'Goring Heath Parish News' and Like us to ensure you are kept up to date with any new information that we put on there.

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

[\*\*goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com)



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# THamesMOVE

Goring Heath

## New way to sell in Goring Heath

Thamesmove is a new local online estate agents serving Goring Heath, Whitchurch Hill and Crays Pond along with the other villages in the RG8 postcode area. It is run by Tom Shaw and his partner who have lived in the local area for the last 18 years.

*"Thamesmove is a hybrid estate agent. We keep our fees low by not operating high street premises, however we provide the same local and personal focus that you find with a high street estate agent."*



## HD video is a powerful way to sell your home

HD video holds the attention of buyers and tenants for much longer which allows us to sell all the features of your home together with the lifestyle that comes from living in Goring Heath and being part of the local community.

We attach the video along with floorplans and photos to your premium property listing on Rightmove, Zoopla and PrimeLocation. Properties with an HD video tour generate more views and have higher levels of enquiries. This ultimately leads to more interest and helps us to secure the highest possible price for your property.

We provide you with a dedicated sales negotiator to chase up buyer leads and a sales progressor to help ensure your property proceeds to completion as smoothly as possible.

**TIP.** Many local estate agents no longer advertise on Zoopla and PrimeLocation which account for around 30% of all buyer visits.

# Sell your home for

# 0.5%

### Launch offer

To help us become established within Goring Heath, we are offering to sell your home for 0.5% including a free premium listing and presenter led HD video tour.

What's more, to give you added confidence this offer is without any tie in period so if you are not entirely satisfied with the service you are receiving, you can walk away at any point without incurring any fees.



Please call us now to arrange a free valuation

**01491 580 165**



Free HD Video Tour

Sell the lifestyle. Maximise enquiries



**March 2017**

# **Goring Heath NEWS**

## **COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION**

### **SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Robert Simister      Yew Tree Cottage, Harpsden Bottom, Henley on Thames, RG9 4HS  
01491 576352      [robert.simister@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:robert.simister@southoxon.gov.uk)

**Council Offices:**      135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton OX14 4S  
See below for dept. phone contacts      [www.southoxon.gov.uk](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk)

### **OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Kevin Bulmer      35 Springhill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 0BY  
07526 743091      [kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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

<b>POLICE</b>	Wallingford Police Station	01235 512929
<b>POLICE</b>	PEC – Non-Emergency Calls	101
<b>POTHLES</b>	-	0845 310 1111

## **South Oxfordshire District Council New Department Numbers**

- ♦ **Planning -**                      01235 422600
- ♦ **Building control -**      01235 422700
- ♦ **Environmental health, food and safety -** 01235 422403
- ♦ **Licensing -**                      01235 422556
- ♦ **Elections -**                      01235 422407
- ♦ **Car parks -**                      01235 422417
- ♦ **Community safety -** 01235 422590
- ♦ **Street naming and numbering -** 01235 422344

### **EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER**

You can get in touch with the Goring Heath Newsletter by emailing:  
[goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com).

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

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

## To contributors to the Newsletter:-

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

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
13th April 2017	May 2017
8th June 2017	July 2017
10th August 2017	September 2017
12th October 2017	November 2017
14th December 2017	January 2018

## LOCAL GROUPS—CONTACT DETAILS

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Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494 764149
Goring Heath Bowls Club (Almshouses)	Maureen Jones	01491 681872
Goring Heath Parish Charity	Chris Whatmore	01189 844022
Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides	Doreen Pechey	01491 681236
Pilates (Friday Morning)	Michele Houston	01491 575205
RG8 Badminton Club	Julie Drury	01491 681654
South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (S.O.A.G.)	Nancy Nichols	01189 787829
Tai Chi and Qigong	Karen Pounds	07867954786
Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group	Emily Dalton	01189 844714
Whitchurch Hill Camera Club	<a href="http://www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com">www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com</a>	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Chair: Sue Matthews	0118 9844489
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning Association	Vicky Jordan	0118 9843260
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	0118 9842162
Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am)	Elizabeth Harrap	01491 681171

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**March 2017**

# **Goring Heath NEWS**

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