

January 2020

Goring Heath NEWS

Goring Heath Parish Council

Chairman

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Clerk

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Goring Heath Newsletter

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Forthcoming Events

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

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

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Kevin Bulmer 35 Springhill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 0BY
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Council Offices: County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND
01865 792422 www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

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

South Oxfordshire District Council New Department Numbers

Main Customer Service Number: 01235 422422

- ♦ **Planning** - 01235 422600
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honeygroup.co.uk/people/DavidBowen

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(Left) Baby’s first Christmas—Megan Henderson with baby Edward.

(Below) Reuben, Hugo and Elspeth putting the finishing touches to their calendars.

(Right) local children enjoying the





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Vicky Jordan

Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Association

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Vicky Jordan

Going Forward Buses:

The winter schedules for **Goring Forward buses** started on Monday 2nd December.. The new timetables can be picked up from the bus, Goring railway station, the Parish Council office and Wallingford Tourist Information Centre. They'll also be available at the library and Community Centre or online on the website www.goingforwardbuses.com

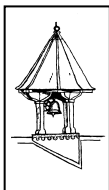
Saved by Trees ?

One of the pledges that the politicians made at the election was the number of trees that were going to be planted, and each seemed to try to better the other, with the Conservatives starting at 30 million a year until 2024, the Lib Dems 60 million a year until 2045 and Labour two billion by 2040. Supposedly it can be done, as Ethiopia claimed to have planted 350 million in a day, which actually makes these targets rather feeble.

Of course, tree planting means very different things in different situations, and perhaps people imagine that we will be seeing 8 or 10ft trees being planted, fixed up with stakes and ties as though in a landscaping scheme around a new hotel. The reality is that these new trees will be modest saplings, perhaps 30 – 45 cm high, although this will be challenging enough, so may only be no more than seedlings

For the Conservatives modest pledge of 30 million a year, taking account of a five month tree planting season and assuming the tree planters work a 5 day week, that's still about a quarter of a million trees a day. Writing this about 4 days after the election, the first million trees should already be in the ground. How long does it take to plant a tree ? Well of course it depends on the size of the tree, tiny seedlings of a few inches can be planted very quickly, 6 foot ones will take an hour or so.

The Ethiopians were planting little seedlings, but did they have the issues that will arise in the UK. Whose land are the government going to plant their trees on ? Or are landowners going to be given grants to plant them. How much is going to be paid out for tree planting, and what system is going to be there to dish out the funds and make sure the trees are planted. We know how the Northern Irish Government made a utter hash of some energy efficiency scheme that ended up costing a half a billion pounds, and here in the UK the Rural Payments Agency which already pays money to landowners took years to get itself in order. I can imagine the National Tree Planting Authority being set up, well manned with Chief Executives and Advisory Committees, and all the burden of bureaucracy that accompanies such schemes, with the whole thing being folded into some other Department or Ministry after a few years in an "efficiency" drive.



Goring Heath Parish Charity
Regd. No 1056772

The Quiz Night
Goring Heath Parish Hall

Saturday 8th February 2020
8pm

Don't miss out on the now famous

Mike Holland Quiz Night!

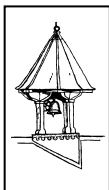
Cost £12 includes Fish and Chip Supper

So, book your table now (for 6).

Phone Theresa on 0118 984 2056

or email

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