

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

April 2022

Issue 185

Visit us at:

www.goringheath.com

Facebook: 'Goring Heath Parish News'
goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com

The long awaited ...

WHITCHURCH HILL

VILLAGE FETE

is back!

Put the date in your diary now!

SATURDAY MAY 28th

Starting at 2PM

Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground

“A fun day out for all the family!”

**On B471, Ref RG8 7NY. Look for Car Parking
Signs**

Chair's comments

We are fortunate not to suffer much from floods or earthquakes here in peaceful Goring Heath, but occasionally the wind does blow with a ferocious strength! When it does the local electricity supply proves to be vulnerable to the outages caused by trees falling on power lines.



One such storm blew through the parish last month, leaving a trail of destruction in its wake. Several trees were blown over, and many of us lost electricity for a lengthy period. Whilst for most people this was a minor inconvenience, for some it can pose a serious, possibly life threatening, problem.

As a community we are happy to help our neighbours - as was proved during the periods of lockdown over the past two years when a group of volunteers helped to shop and keep an eye on those who found the situation most challenging.

Whilst storms as strong as Storm Eunice which battered us in February are thankfully pretty rare, there is some suggestion that they will become more common as the planet warms.

In order to be as well prepared as possible for the next storm or some other weather-related problem such as a heavy snowfall, one of the Parish Councillors has been working on an 'Emergency Plan' for the parish. This is mainly a list of both the people who can help if a problem arises, and those who own bits of kit which could be used to help out – a tractor could be very helpful in moving a snow drift to help emergency services gain access, a chain saw could be used to remove a fallen tree which is blocking the road, or a small mobile generator could be used to provide basic electricity to a sick or elderly person.

If you would be willing to add your name to our list of people who can be called on in an emergency, do let us know. As we are such a spread-out parish it would be good to have as many areas covered as possible. It is good practice for the parish council to have a plan, but what is actually more important is for us all to look out for our more vulnerable neighbours, and for anyone in the parish not to be afraid to ask for help.

Liz Collas
Chair of the Parish Council

Planning Decisions

The following planning applications between December 2021 and March 2022 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	Notes
<u>P22/S0810/FUL</u> Hill Bottom House Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application P21/S1224/FUL. Alterations to siting, layout and elevations (Garage Plot 1) Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) & condition 3 (materials) on planning application P20/S0009/FUL.	No Strong Views.	
<u>P22/S0493/FUL</u> The Barn Collins End, Goring Heath RG8 7RH Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on planning application P21/S1721/FUL (One and a half storey ancillary outbuilding with one bedroom and two covered parking bays) to add a window to the bedroom	No Strong View	
<u>P22/S0520/LB</u> Laurel Cottage Coldharbour Goring Heath RG8 7SY Replace metal cowl wrapped in chicken wire with a terracotta-coloured Colt High Top Suspending Cowl. Addition of lime rendering to the back wall of the firebox to make good previous patch rendering in cement and damage to bricks	No Strong View	
<u>P22/S0377/HH</u> Hunters Moon Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on planning application P21/S4791/HH (Detached garage with annex above) - increase height of the building.	Objection.	
<u>P22/S0206/HH</u> 26 Orchard Coombe Whitchurch Hill RG8 7QL Single storey extension to rear aspect. Move front door forward in line with entrance facade. Replace flat roof construction with duo pitched roof to existing side extension.	No Strong Views.	

Premises and application details	Parish Council	Notes
<u>P22/S0540/LB</u> <u>P22/S0539/HH</u> Rose Cottage Path Hill Goring Heath RG8 7RE Application for an amendment to approved application P21/S1771/HH and P21/S1774/LB (Proposed demolition of existing side extension and construction of new replacement side extension) to amend the door configuration to the south and east elevations of the proposed extension and to include PV solar panels to the south-facing roof slope of the extension. In addition, to replace the existing 1970s French doors to the sitting room, to replace a window in the 1980s extension with a pair of French doors, and to incorporate PV solar panels to the south-facing roof of the 1970s detached garage building.	No Strong View	
<u>P22/S0276/FUL</u> Hardwick Estate, Leigh Cottage Collins End Goring Heath RG8 7RN Erection of a Pergola, Polytunnel and a Keder greenhouse.	HD to liaise with Applicant	

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.

Annual Parish Meeting

If you'd like the chance to catch up with your local parish councillors and to find out what's happening in your local area, then come along to the next Annual Parish meeting.

It will be held in Goring Heath Parish Hall on Tuesday 12th April at 8 pm.

All welcome. There will be wine!

District Councillor's Comments

South Oxfordshire District Council collects council tax from us all, but it actually keeps only a small proportion of it, as it also acts on behalf of the Police, County Council and parish councils in collecting council tax. For a band D property, the standard benchmark, out of a total tax bill of £2,069, the South Oxfordshire District Council part will be £136. This compares with £241 for the Police and £1,651 for the County Council, and £40 for Goring Heath Parish Council.

All these bodies have increased their element of the council tax, although the District Council's increase is the smallest at £5 for a band D Dwelling. SODC council tax remains the 8th lowest in the country for a similar rural district. Through more careful stewardship and planning, the savings made in the last year and projected forward have improved the financial position. As a result, £500,000 is available to improve our environment through hedge and tree planting, promoting green skills and businesses and cleaning up our built environment.

One of the obligations on SODC is to provide Bed and Breakfast accommodation; we discovered that the council had received capital funding some years ago, ring fenced to this issue, which had not been used, and this is now going to be used to acquire some property that can be used to address this obligation, potentially saving £65,000 a year.

We continue to see the benefits of the cancellation of the contract that outsourced many of the core activities of the Council. I am on the audit and scrutiny committee, and it was apparent that having Capita employees rather than our own staff "doing the books" resulted in additional costs. This was particularly evident when it came to preparing the annual accounts, as poor bookkeeping held up the audit by Ernst & Young, which resulted in additional costs to the Council.

With the accounts now done in house, the senior finance team are better able to analyse and plan, and so draw a clearer picture of the Council's finances. /...

One of the key documents that the Finance Department has to prepare is the Medium Term Financial Plan, looking ahead five years. This has often presented a rather alarming picture, showing a deteriorating financial position. The first such plan I saw, in May 2019, predicted that the General Fund Balance, ie the Councils reserves, would have fallen from £26 million to £5 million by 2022/23. As it has turned out, the latest plan shows that the expected £5 million actually came in much better at £25million for 2022/23, and looking ahead the next 5 years the balance is £18 million. By scrapping the outsourcing contract with Capita, not only does the Council now have a better control over the accounting and book keeping processes, it has also made significant savings.

It undoubtedly helps that at least three of the members of the Cabinet of the Council are qualified Accountants, and are therefore able to provide a professional approach to the Councils finances. As far as I can ascertain, there were no qualified accountants in the SODC cabinet in the previous administration.

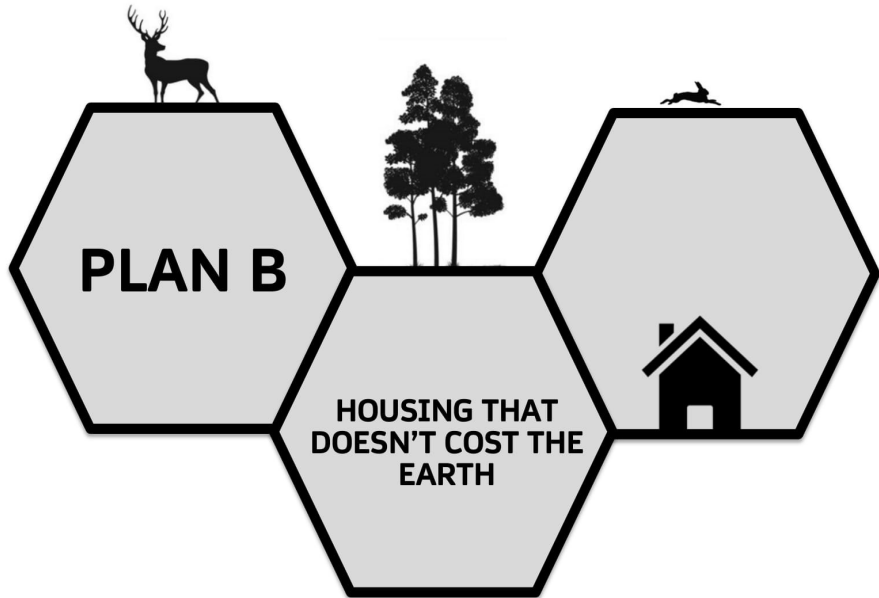
Parking charges are increasing at the council owned and run car parks. The objective is that the car parks breakeven, however over the last two years income dropped to just over £700,000 a year, while costs were just under £1million. The intention is that the car parks should self finance and not require subsidy from Council tax.

There is normally one free hour for all motorists, and car parking in South Oxfordshire is relatively cheap compared to Reading or Oxford.

The Council is also installing electric vehicle charging points at car parks in Henley and Wallingford, and these will be available for overnight booking for residents.

Peter Dragonetti

District Councillor for Kidmore End, Whitchurch, Goring Heath and Mapledurham



We are looking to provide affordable housing within Goring Heath in a unique way which combines modular eco homes with rewilded nature reserves.

We are actively looking for sites within the parish to purchase or to work with the landowners. We undertake all the planning work and can pay above rural land values if planning is gained.

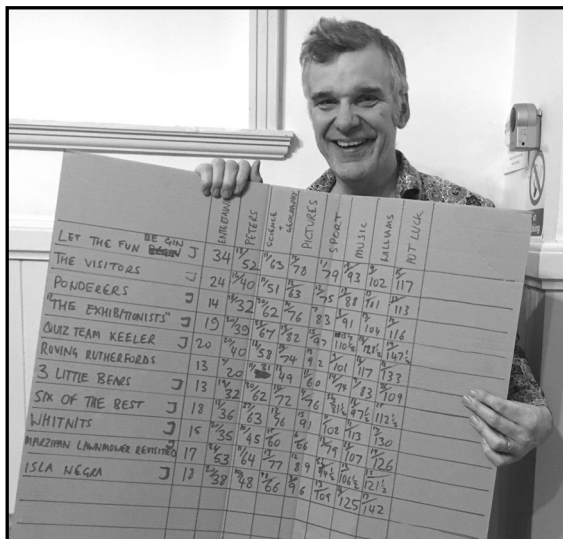
We are also looking for people who would be interested in living in a Plan B home or who are interested in supporting our nonprofit making organization. Prices start at £150,000.

To find out more or contact us go to

www.planb.house

or email contact@planb.house

Meet The Parish Councillors: This Month, Mike Holland



Mike, in Quiz Master role

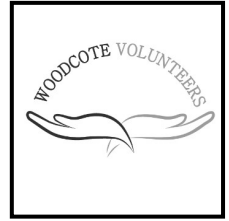
Amanda and I moved to Whitchurch Hill in 1998 with our children, Amy and Evie. I work as a freelance consultant on environmental policy, mainly air pollution and chemicals for UK and other governments and international organisations. At various times I have been the Treasurer for the Parish Hall, chair of AFC Whitchurch Football Club and Governor/Chair of Governors for Whitchurch Primary School. I have had much pleasure seeing the continued success of all these over the years, testament to the efforts of many people in the Community.

Many people in the immediate area know me as the Quiz Master for the annual quiz in the village hall (and occasionally elsewhere). I firmly believe that I will have failed in my duty to the Community should the winning team leave the Parish Hall with a sense of intellectual superiority over their neighbours. Further afield, from Henley to Huddersfield, my musical inability has not prevented numerous appearances as banjolele/kazoosaphone player with the Yoko Mainwaring Experience.

My all-time favourite quiz question: On which river (not rivers – jut one) can you find Cairo, Thebes, Stockholm, Warsaw, Genoa and Chester?
Answer next month!

Woodcote Volunteers

Save the date! On Wednesday 6th April, 7.30pm we are holding our Annual General Meeting in Woodcote Village Hall.



It will be an interesting and informative meeting, and a chance for our volunteers to socialise as well as members of the public to meet us and find out more. For example, if you were considering becoming a volunteer but would like to get to know us first, please do come along.

We will be starting the meeting with refreshments and a chance to chat. The AGM business will follow, then two speakers will give a short talk. The first is Lisa Stead from Community First, who will give us an update on the Healthwatch Oxfordshire survey into rural social isolation and how good neighbour schemes such as ours can make a difference. We will then be pleased to have a talk from Dr Amanda Gemmill from Woodcote Surgery, who will speak about social isolation from a more local perspective, as well as updating us on matters concerning the surgery. We would like to thank and recognise our long serving volunteers next, by presenting them with a token of our thanks and finally, we will have further time to socialise before closing at approximately 8.45pm.

We very much hope you can attend and if so, please could you let us know in advance, by calling the office on 01491 681171? You can leave a message on our answerphone if we are out of the office.

If you are unable to come along but would like more information about becoming a volunteer driver with us, we would love to hear from you. It is a very rewarding role and you will meet many new, interesting people in your local area. Please call our secretary Jane Forde on 07850 158274 or email janeforde32@hotmail.com as the first contact.

If you need to request a driver, please don't hesitate to call us, giving as much advance notice as possible. Our phone number is 01491 681171 and our office is manned Mon – Fri, 9.30am to 11am. Outside those hours you can leave a message on our answerphone and someone will return your call the next working day. Please note, we are closed on Easter Monday. /...

NEWS UPDATES!!!

We wish to say goodbye and a huge thank you to both Jo, who is moving out of the area and Martin who is moving on to other challenges! They have been volunteers for many years and will be greatly missed. Thank you both so much.

We are very pleased to welcome some new volunteers to our team – Dawn, Janet and Brian who are assisting as drivers and office helpers. We are very grateful to you all for offering to help local people and I know you will be happy and fulfilled in your new roles.

We have a face book page, so you can find out more about Woodcote Volunteers there - and please follow us!

Jane Forde

WHITCHURCH HILL VILLAGE FETE

The fete is taking place on May 28h this year and we **urgently need volunteers** to help with the preparation for, and running of the fete on the day, eg setting up, helping out and taking down at the end.

If you could spare a few hours to help out, please contact Nick Elsome on 01491 682775

Community Speedwatch

2021 launched the new Community Speedwatch platform to all police areas across Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

For those interested in being involved in this new initiative, our local coordinator is Nick Elsome (details on back page)

The secret to a long, happy and healthy life?

Living longer than those who came before us has been a desire for humans probably for as long as we've been conscious of our existence. Many panaceas for a long life have been put forward; most of which had no basis in fact. When I was a boy in the sixties, I remember people joking about the benefits of monkey glands. I have no idea where this apparent myth came from, nor indeed which glands they were referring to. But even before the monkey population of the world needs to worry, the good news is that, on average, we are living longer. The problem is that it is not necessarily healthily.

Of course, keeping active and eating well, as well avoiding tobacco and being sensible about how many pints we down in the Sun Inn, will undoubtedly have a benefit. But there is evidence that this not the secret to a happy and healthy life. The evidence had its genesis in 1939. In that year, Harvard University in Boston, USA began what became the longest, continuous, and research-based enquiry into human behaviour, and one which continues to this day: the Harvard Study of Adult Development.

The study has tracked physical and emotional well-being of two groups of men: 456 poor men growing up in Boston and 268 undergraduates at Harvard University. As it happens, one of the undergraduates was John F. Kennedy. It is also interesting to note that women were not included in the study, reflecting the gender bias of those times. Since 1939, multiple generations of researchers have diligently analysed regular updates on how these men have progressed through life. Not only poring over medical data, including brain scans when they became available, but also from self-reported surveys and interviews with the men, their families, and friends. Today, less than 50 of the men are still alive but their progress is still being tracked.

The study concluded that wealth and education were not major factors in whether the men lived long, happy and healthy lives, although they still have some impact. The current leader of the study, Dr Robert Waldinger, says there is one very clear message from the research. Something that may surprise some, but it is also something that we can influence as we live our lives. The key insight is good relationships keep us happier and healthier longer.

The study demonstrates that having good quality dependency on others and, in turn, them on you helps your nervous system relax, helps your brain stay healthier and reduces both emotional and physical pain arising from accidents or unfortunate events. The data is very clear that those who feel lonely see their physical health decline earlier and die younger. /...

But it's not about the number of friends you have, or whether you're in a committed relationship or not. It's the quality of those relationships says Waldinger. So, we should invest in our relationships with our families and friends – show our love and appreciation of them. But apparently, we should try to create some distance between those with whom we struggle to have good quality relationships – not always easy, I must admit. I think it also means that we should be mindful and helpful for our neighbours because good turns tend to attract more good turns. Goring Heath, Whitchurch Hill and Crays Pond have plenty of examples of neighbourliness but maybe we could do more.

So that's it. All you need is love...

Peter Burdon
Parish Councillor

Walks and walking groups in Oxfordshire.

Time to get walking again!

At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Oxfordshire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/oxfordshire> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Oxfordshire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy. So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris
www.walkinginengland.co.uk

john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Whitchurch Hill WI—The Women's Institute

Published in April but written in March this article is intended to reflect the promises for the year to come. Spring is very much with us, with the gloriously coloured bulbs taking their turns to brighten up our hedgerows and gardens. We held our AGM in March, where we looked back at what we had been up to throughout the last year. Time to plan ahead too - with a full programme for our members.

In Whitchurch Hill we have been pleased with how we have managed the difficulties of Covid. We continued our meetings, whether on zoom or in person. We met outdoors for the summer months in 2021 but were quick to take advantage of changing circumstances to return indoors once again from October.

As the membership renewal season gets into full swing it is heartening to see that members are returning for another year, with resignations only due to poor health or relocation. We particularly send those not returning to us every good wish for the future.

Our forthcoming calendar is full. We are not only planning to celebrate the 69 years since our group was formed, but also of course the Platinum Jubilee. We enjoy a good party! Oops, I am getting ahead of myself. Before then you will see us at the Village Fete on 28 May. Come over and enjoy a cup of tea and piece of cake in the tea tent. Some of you too may have joined us at the Art Cafe in Whitchurch in March - we like to get about!

Educationally we shall also be busy - with speakers covering such diverse subjects as Dementia Awareness, Gardening, Poetry, and King Arthur - and that is just a taster. Oh - I nearly forgot to mention the trips out that we are also planning - better get on with it then!

If you live in or around Whitchurch or Whitchurch Hill and would like know more, or if you fancy joining us, please ring Frances on 01189842162. .

Sally Bergmann



**BIG JUBILEE LUNCH FOR
CRAYS POND'S FRIENDS AND RESIDENTS.
LET'S CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE**

DATE; SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2022

TIME: 2PM TILL LATE

LOCATION; THE SCOUT HUT, READING ROAD

BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC AND DRINKS.

**MUSIC ** GAMES ** CAKE COMPETITION
DRAWING ** DRESSING UP **
MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS**

Please email sarah and helen for more details or if you have ideas or want to help make bunting and set-up slgreeny@talktalk.net. And helenmhurst@gmail.com or call Beryl on 07464 744199

Local Chess Group



It is surprising how many people have, at sometime or other, played chess.

For some they were taught by a family member, whilst others had the opportunity to learn at school. Either way it was often a long time ago.

The development of the internet helped its revival, bringing with it the ability to play against the computer, or to play someone anonymously from anywhere around the world. Covid restrictions merely encouraged more people to relearn this game from their childhood, and as restrictions lifted more are enjoying the opportunity to meet fellow players face to face over a cup of coffee or pint of beer.

If you are such a person, and would like to join a local, social, chess group give **Chris Bergmann** a call on **07876531881**.

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

Our meetings will be held in Whitchurch Village Hall on Thursday April 28th and May 19th. Speakers are being booked, so please look out for posters and information on village web sites – or just come along and be surprised! In June and July we have outings arranged. Subscription is £12 per year, non-members welcome at £3 per session

Meetings start at 7.30pm, Coffee from 7pm. Non-members welcome, £3.

For further information please contact the Secretary, Sue Matthews on 9844489

Vicky Jordan



New Contractors

Welcome to our new Grass cutting contractors, Wayne and Andy of W and A Contractors.

Looking happy in their work, their first cut already done with many more to follow.

Amanda Holland,
Clerk
Goring Heath Parish
Council

Households urged to get ready for £150 council tax rebate

Households across England are being urged to set up direct debits with their local council to receive a £150 council tax rebate that will help families manage costs of living.

People who pay council tax by direct debit, will see the cash go directly into their bank accounts from April. Those who do not pay by direct debit will be contacted by their council and invited to make a claim.

Around 20 million households in council tax bands A to D - including 95% of rented properties - are set to benefit from the £3 billion council tax rebate, which does not have to be repaid. It is part of an extensive package of government measures to help families with rising energy costs.

An extra £144 million will also be given to councils to provide discretionary support to vulnerable households who may not qualify for the £150 council tax rebate. This includes people on low incomes in council tax bands E to H.

For General enquiries: please contact 030 3444 0000

Coombe End Cover Crop and Regenerative Agriculture

Local people may have seen a crop growing on the Coombe End side of the B471 this winter, being grazed off in Feb & Mar by a mob of sheep.

This is us trying out a greener, "Regenerative Agriculture" (RA) technique. Regen Agric is much in vogue at the minute, and is basically a mix of organic & conventional farming. It brings together some of the buzz words you may have heard on the Archers, Countryfile etc, such as mob grazing, mintill, water & carbon absorption, building organic matter and living soils.

The Holy Grail, achieved by one or two farmers in USA, is to avoid using any artificial inputs (fertilisers, sprays etc) yet produce yields nearly the same as conventional farming. The big difference between organic & RA is the lack of rigid rules prohibiting agrochemicals - you can still use them if you need to. Conversely, you do not get the organic premium on the price of what you sell. As was once said on the BBC "The answer lies in the soil": encourage more life below the ground, with a more open structure that better absorbs & holds water & carbon, with lots of living matter to feed other wildlife.

Coming back to Coombe End, for years we have tried to rebuild organic matter & reduce bought in fertilisers etc, by applying solid digestate (dung from the artificial cow that is Icknield Anaerobic Digester) in addition to our own farm yard manure. The rye crop we grow, which is harvested late June for the digester, used to be followed by oilseed rape, but that is less viable since withdrawal of protective seed dressing, so our next crop is forage maize, sown in April. Thus, we now grow a "diverse cover crop" - a mix of turnips, beets, radishes, phacelia, rape, clovers & vetch, that "mop up" any leftover nitrogen, and put lots of roots down into the soil. Come the spring, sheep graze it off, also adding their own manure, before we sow the maize hopefully without needing too much cultivation or fertilisers.

The big question for us is: is the cost of buying & sowing the cover crop (£1500) recovered by the savings in fertilising & spraying the following maize crop? Maybe last year it was doubtful, but now with the Ukraine War, nitrogen fertiliser has risen from £250 to £1000 per ton, with supply very limited, so perhaps we are on the right road.

/,,,

Thank you to the footpath walkers across our fields for keeping your dogs on leads - Unlike in Goring, we have had no problems with loose dogs frightening the sheep.

Jon Hatt

JN & KV Hatt

Merricraft Farming, Coombe End Farm, Goring Heath, Reading, RG87TA

+44 (0) 118 984 3121

www.bramblythatch.co.uk



Photos taken one week apart



What might have been

While there is currently a controversy over plans for the OxCam Expressway, a near motorway between Oxford and Cambridge, it is easy to forget road schemes in the past that were deemed essential, but were never built, or routes that were changed. In Oxford, in the 1970's, there was a scheme to build a road through Christchurch Meadows linking the Plain, ie just east of Magdalene Bridge to the Abingdon road. After a long battle, realisation came that the alternative of reducing car traffic was better, and so Oxford became one of the first places with park and ride. Closer to home, the M4 was originally planned to come north of Reading, carving through Kidmore End, Mapledurham and Goring Heath. When built, the M4 joined the A4 Bath Road west of Maidenhead, using about 2 miles what is now the A404M. Look at Junction 8/9 on Google Earth, and you can see the line of the abandoned M4 route north of the junction.

Other motorways that were well advanced in the planning stage were the London Motorway box scheme, fragments of which were built such as the M11 and the A40 Westway. Sections that were not built were the three lane motorway from Shepherds Bush, past Chelsea football ground to join a network of motorways though the south London suburbs, linking the M23, A20 and various new lengths of motorway. The M1 was also supposed to go to Marble Arch.

Closer to home, the M31 was planned to run from Reading to the junction of Ringway 4, now the M25, and the A3. The over engineered Junction 10 where the A329M joins the M4, along with the curiously wide central reservation of the A329 is the evidence of that ambitious project,.

The lesson from all this is that when government tells us that developments are essential, and without them everything will grind to a halt, a degree of cynicism is required. If these roads had been built, no doubt at least some would have since been closed and demolished, as has already happened in San Francisco, Paris and the Netherlands.

Peter Dragonetti
District Councillor

Platinum Jubilee Beacon

On Thursday June 2nd at 9.45pm a Beacon will be lit in Sand Field, Coombe End Farm to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. This beacon is registered with the official Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons and will be one of many lit at this moment.



The site and beacon are made available to the public by the generosity of the Hatt family of Coombe End Farm.

Sand Field lies on the rise between Coombe End Lane and Coldhambour and is accessible by the footpath from both lanes to the north and south. There will be **NO** vehicle parking available so access is essentially by foot from the public roads. We plead that the narrow lanes are not obstructed by parked vehicles.

Sand Field occupies an elevated position and our beacon, which will be a huge 'bonfire', should be visible from many miles around. A few decades back, Windsor Castle was visible from here but increased tree height has concealed that particular view.

We hope to have a pop-up Bar on site. See updates on the 'Goring Heath Parish News' Facebook site for more information. All are welcome.

Martin Wise
Councillor

Electric Vehicle Charging sites - Park and Charge Oxfordshire

Work has started on the installation of 62 new charging points in South Oxfordshire. Local sites include 2 in Wallingford—

The Cattlemarket car park OX10 OHF, 12 charging points Goldsmith's Lane OX10 ODN, 12 charging points, Henley-on-Thames—Kings Road car park, RG9 2DQ, 14 charging points and Greys Road car park in Henley RG9 2AA which has 12 charging points.



**Goring Heath and Whitchurch Garden & Craft Show
9 April 2022**

As many of you will know, the village calendar year includes this twice yearly show, in Spring and Autumn.

Taking place in Goring Heath Parish Hall this is an opportunity for gardeners, vegetable growers and those with a craft, baking, or a photographic interest, to enter into friendly competition. Entries are invited from residents of Whitchurch, Whitchurch Hill, Crays Pond, and outlying hamlets.

Scheduled for Saturday 9 April entry forms should be available from the end of March. In the meantime here is some information to enable you to plan your entries!

Exhibitors are requested to set up in the hall between 9 am to 10.15. Judging takes place from 10.30 and the event opens up to the public at 14.30. Tea, coffee and cakes will be on sale in the afternoon, with prize giving at approximately 15.30.

Listed below are the craft entry topics:-

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Photography : | Scene from a Bridge
A Celebration
A Water Activity |
| Flower Arranging : | Colours of Spring (< 16"/40cms)
Miniature Arrangement (<4"/10cms)
Arrangement in a Mug |
| Handicraft: | A Decorated Picture Frame
A Knitted Item
Patchwork or Quilted Item |
| Art (< A3) : | Vase of Spring Flowers
Picture of lambs and/or sheep
Easter Bonnet |
| Children's Section: | (12yrs and under) :
An Easter Picture
Four Easter Bunny Biscuits
Small Vase of 3 Different Spring Flowers |

Baking & Preserves:

Jar of Orange Marmalade

Cheese Scones

Marmalade Cake (recipe given)

Fruited Apple & Almond Tea Loaf (recipe given)

We look forward to receiving your entries. If you have any queries in the mean time please feel free to contact one of the committee members.

Liz Gibson 01189842012

Sally Bergmann 07585195669

Betty Butler 07955182684



Whitchurch Hill Rec Revamp

On Saturday 5th March, volunteers carried out essential maintenance work on play equipment at Whitchurch Hill Recreational ground.

The table and benches were just one of the pieces to benefit from being refurbished.

Tree planting initiatives starting in South Oxfordshire

If you are planning a tree planting project, or are just interested in finding out more about tree planting in southern Oxfordshire, take a look at the new [Tree Policy for Planting Trees on Council Land](#). This outlines how the council will protect, plant and manage trees on the land they own, and how they will support you with your own tree planting initiatives.

If you would like to plant a tree on council land, please complete and return the [third party tree planting application form](#). For any questions, contact climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk.

You may also find the [Guide to Planting Trees for Community Groups](#) useful to help you plan your project. You will also find additional, useful tree and hedge related information at southoxon.gov.uk/trees

St. Bartholomew's C of E Chapel, The Allnutt Alms-Houses,
Goring Heath, RG8 7RS

Open to the Public --All Welcome

Sung Eucharist 1st & 3rd of the Month

Sung Matins 2nd & 4th & 5th of the Month

*Said Holy Communion at 9.00am on 2nd & 4th with special
prayers for the sick*

All Services are taken from the book of Common Prayer

Chaplain: Rev Peter Dewey, -- 07784912955

revpeterdewey@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising in the Newsletter

The Newsletter is issued every two months and covers Goring Heath, Crays Pond and Whitchurch Hill. The rates for advertising are £15 for half a page and £25 for a full page advert.

To find out more, please contact us at
goring.heath.parish.council@gmail.com

Party hire

Don't forget you can hire cutlery, glasses, plates, catering tea-pots, good folding chairs and tables from Goring Heath Village Hall at competitive prices, and it's nice and local.

For information and booking:
goringheathparishhall@gmail.com

The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club

Organiser: Christine Martin

**“Sonia”, Goring Heath Road, Whitchurch Hill,
RG8 7PG**

Tel: 0118 9844252 Mobile: 07752785924.

e.mail whitchurchtheatreclub@gmail.com

OPENING UP AGAIN AFTER THE LOCKDOWN

The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club takes you to musicals, plays, ballets, operas, classical concerts etc. once a month. Windsor, Oxford, Cheltenham, Stratford, Salisbury, 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 £14 per annum but £12 if paid online.

April 2022

Goring Heath NEWS

COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Peter Dragonetti Covert Cottage, Hill Bottom, Whitechurch Hill, RG8 7PT
07866 202908, 0118 9844711 peter@dragonetti.co.uk

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
07803 005680 kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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	-	0345-3101111

South Oxfordshire District Council New Department Numbers

Main Customer Service Number: 01235 422422

- ♦ **Planning - 01235 422600**
- ♦ **Building control - 01235 422700**
- ♦ **Environmental health, food and safety - 01235 422403**
- ♦ **Licensing - 01235 422556**
- ♦ **Elections - 01235 422407**
- ♦ **Car parks - 01235 470118**
- ♦ **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.

This is for any queries, correspondence, feedback and copy submissions.

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

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
12th May	June 2022
12th July	August 2022
15th September	October 2022

LOCAL GROUPS—CONTACT DETAILS

Chiltern Society Footpath Representative	Liz Collas	01491680466
Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494764149
Goring & Almshouses Bowls Club	David Watson	07989 402190 gabowlsclub@gmail.com
Goring Heath Parish Charity	Chris Whatmore	01189844022
Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides	Doreen Pechey	01491681236
Goring Thames Sailing Club	Jennie Wood	01491875619
Pilates (Friday Morning)	Michele Houston	01491575205
RG8 Badminton Club	Julie Drury	07980413026
South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (S.O.A.G.)	Nancy Nichols	01189787829
Tai Chi and Qigong	Karen Pounds	07867954786
Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group	Esther Lay-Sans	07713756537
Whitchurch Hill Camera Club	www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Sue Matthews	01189844489
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning	Vicky Jordan	01189843260
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	01189842162
Woodcote Volunteers	Jane Forde	07850158274

Goring Heath Parish Hall: Bookings and Enquiries: Chris Whatmore 07850691920
Email: whatmore@talk21.com

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