

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

January 2018

Issue 161



Forthcoming Events

GHPH = Goring Heath Parish Hall

WVH = Whitchurch Village Hall

WL = Woodcote Library (CC = Community Centre)

SJC = Saint John's Church, Whitchurch Hill

ORS = Old Rectory Stables

January 2018

16 Tues	Whitchurch Hill WI—Business meeting and talk on 'The Nabobs of Berkshire '	GHPH
18 Thurs	Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society Members' Evening 7.30 for 8 pm	WVH
31 Wed	Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Assoc. 7.30 pm	ORS

February 2018

3 Sat	Mike Holland's Quiz Night, 8 pm	GHPH
10 Sat	Art Café - in aid of Helen and Douglas House	ORS
15 Thurs	Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society - Annual General Meeting and John Leighfield talk on historic maps 7.30 for 8 pm	WVH
20 Tues	Whitchurch Hill WI meeting and talk	
26 Mon	Our Woodcote Library (OWL) AGM, 6.30 pm	WL

Goring Heath Newsletter

To continue regularly receiving your favorite reading material, a new volunteer is needed to be the main distributor of the Goring Heath Newsletters to the individual distributors around the parish.

Please contact Theresa at bnt@waitrose.com or telephone 0118 9842056 to find out how little is involved!

Chairman's Comments

As 2017 draws to a close, reflection on the past year shows that while some local matters have come to a successful conclusion, others are still unresolved or uncertain. The completion of the War Memorial project has been good, as has the refurbishment and replacement of the windows in the village hall. The year started with the parish council funding the commercial bus service, but today we have a Community Interest Company running a service for much of the parish with only limited financial support from the parish council. Still unresolved is the issue of the White Lion, where complete defiance of the planning authorities by the owner makes a mockery of the legal system and planning process, although no doubt there will be an appropriate response in due course.

The end of the year also ends Caroline Hadley's role as Clerk to the Parish Council, a position she has filled with great effectiveness, efficiency and humour for 13 years. The role can be a difficult one to fill, as it's a balancing act between the pressures of rules and regulations imposed from above and the reality of working with the people and issues at the very local level. We are very sorry to see her go, but at the same time welcome Amanda Holland who has agreed to take on the role. Amanda has lived in Whitchurch Hill for many years, and is well known for her great sense of fun and creativity, so we are very pleased that she is joining us.

I hope that everyone had a great Christmas, and will have a wonderful 2018

Peter Dragonetti

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.
P17/S3228/LDP The Barn Collins End Goring Heath RG8 7RH Change of use from B1 Office to C3(a) single dwelling house	Unable to comment	
P17/S3773/FUL Field to the north of the B4526 Outside Cray's Pond To the west of Eastfield Lane. Temporary permission for a vegetable packing shed and two additional polytunnels . The packing shed will be a distribution hub for picking and packing orders, an area for dry storage of winter vegetables and a small office space for receiving orders, website management and printing labels.	No Objections	
P17/S3276/HH The Old Village Inn Goffs Hill Crays Pond RG8 7QD Proposed rear single storey projection and internal remodelling of an existing residential dwelling	No Strong Views	Planning Permission
P17/S3378/HH Woodside House (Plot 2) Bridle Road Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PS Resubmission of Application. Three new rooflights	No Strong Views	Planning Permission
P17/S3282/O Cherry Cottage Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU Erection of three new dwellings with detached garages and new accesses off the highway.	Should be refused	Refused
P17/S4003/HH Oakdene Gashes Lane Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PY Double Storey Rear extension	No Strong views	

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.

Ice ‘n’ Snow

As I write, we are at the tail end of an unusual pre Christmas cold spell, with ice and snow. This time, the snow dispersed fairly quickly from our local roads, but that may not be the case again, so if you want to be prepared to help out, the parish council has a stock of bagged salt for anyone who is public spirited enough to keep in their garage or shed and then, in the event of really difficult conditions, go out and spread on the public highway or pavement outside their home where the Council does not operate gritters. It is surprising just how effective a few well directed shovelfuls can be over quite a large area.

If you would like to be one of these public spirited people, please email goringheathparishcouncil@gmail.com and we can drop some round to you. It's not for use on your private drive however!

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

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

We have a Members' evening on Thursday January 18th 2018 at Whitchurch Village Hall at 8pm. It is a chance for members to talk about research they have done, and we look forward to hearing about local place names, the Victoria County History, and (as they say in the adverts) much more.

Our Annual General Meeting takes place at the same venue on Thursday February 15th when, after the usual business, John Leighfield will give an illustrated lecture about historic maps of our area. He has also promised to bring a selection from his extensive collection of maps to look at. As he does not charge a fee, we shall hold an Art Café on Saturday February 10th in aid of Helen & Douglas House, his chosen charity.

Meetings are open to all. Non-members pay £3 which includes coffee and biscuits, available from 7.30pm.

Vicky Jordan

Whitchurch & Goring Heath Twinning Association

This year we celebrate 40 years of Twinning with our French village of La Bouille, which lies on the Seine outside Rouen. We will be visiting for a weekend at the beginning of May and I'm sure there will be much to enjoy with our friends. We shall have a roomy coach and welcome anyone from Whitchurch and the villages around to join us.

Meanwhile, the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Old Rectory Stables In Whitchurch on Wednesday 31st January 2018 at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Vicky Jordan

OWL Our Woodcote Library

Sincere thanks for the generous donation from the Rally which we will spend on improving the junior area's seating and range of books. Thanks too for the volunteers who have come forward as a result of our plea in the Correspondent. Our party for staff and volunteers in December celebrated both of these, and we look forward to another useful year in the library.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 26th February 2018 at 6.30pm in the library.

Vicky Jordan

The War Memorial

The restoration and enhancement of the War Memorial is now complete, and the Remembrance day ceremony this year marked the end of the Project. It has taken over 3 years , but I think it was well worth it. In the event, no financial contribution was required from either Goring Heath or Whitchurch Parish Councils.



The total cost was £12,551 including VAT. Goring Heath Parish Council has recovered the VAT, and Goring Heath Parish Charity recovered Gift Aid tax on donations made, the total of which was then given as a grant to the Parish Council. The War Memorial Trust gave a grant of £3,450 towards the actual restoration of the memorial, with the balance of this work and the improvements to the surround being funded by donations , including some very generous, anonymous, donations from Goring Heath residents.

After some 27 years, over a quarter of the time that the memorial has been in place, it is now restored to its original, fine design, a fitting tribute to the men of Goring Heath and Whitchurch.

Peter Dragonetti

Over the next few pages are some photographs taken by Jim Donahue, capturing the Remembrance service and the dedication of the newly refurbished Memorial.



Stewart Lewins, (pictured left) the musical director of Pangbourne and District Silver Band, playing an emotional rendition of the Last Post during the Service.



Three wreaths from Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council, Goring Heath Parish Council and The Royal British Legion.



Chairman of the Parish Council, Peter Dragonetti



David Giles and the Revd Claire Alcock



David Giles, Keith Brookes (Chair of Whitchurch on Thames Parish Council) and Peter Dragonetti



Peter Dragonetti and Martin Wise 10



Martin Wise (Councillor)

Letters page:**Our new bus service – Use it or lose it!**

There was a disappointing response to my last letter in which I implored as many people as possible to make use of our new (and only) bus. Without more support for this vital service the real threat that it could be withdrawn grows ever bigger.

Many people, particularly the elderly and infirmed, depend on the bus for going about their everyday lives. They urgently need and deserve support from the more fortunate majority of us who have other means of transport.

Every single person who uses the bus, even if they have a concessionary pass, generates extra income all of which could prove vital if the service is to continue.

If you do possess a pass but choose not use the bus, why not? It costs you nothing. In fact by the time you take into account the cost of petrol, bridge tolls, parking costs and potential fines you could actually save yourself a considerable amount of money. Even for those who do not have a pass but do have a car the low cost of using the bus means it can be a cost effective hassle free way of travelling. And for non- car owners who rely on other people to give them lifts spare them a further thought and perhaps take the bus for a change.

Whatever your circumstances give the bus a try, even if it's only for the occasional trip. I feel sure you will not regret it. Some people use it just to get them out of the house, meet a few people and perhaps treat themselves to a day's shopping in Reading. One retired lady uses it once a week to take herself to a bridge club. Good for her! The bus is there for everyone and for whatever purpose. So stop for a moment and think in what ways you could use the bus and in so doing help preserve this vital service.

One day a change in personal circumstances might mean you too have no choice but to use the bus. What then are you going to do if the bus is no longer running?

So, stop... think... and use the bus. Before it's too late!

David Pearson

Editor's note: It would be good to hear from people who already use the bus. Tell the newsletter for what purpose you use the service, whether for simple pleasure or for essential journeys, and why it's important to you. Perhaps describe your experiences of using the bus. It's surprising how many passengers have interesting stories to tell about the friendly people that they meet.



Goring Heath Parish Charity
Regd. No 1056772

?? Quiz Night ??

Goring Heath Parish Hall

Saturday 3rd February 2018
8pm

It's that time of year again!
Don't miss out on the now famous

Mike Holland Quiz Night!

Teams of approximately six.

Cost £12 per person, including Fish and Chips
Drinks for sale

It's competitive!
It's ruthless!!
It's fun!!!

Contact 0118 9842056 or
bnt@waitrose.com
To book a table for your team!

See you there!

**GORING HEATH AND WHITCHURCH
SPRING SHOW**

Use the long winter months to prepare your ART works:

A river scene, A Three coloured pattern, Flowers in Spring

Or Handicraft items:

A piece of tapestry, A box for a gift, A knitted or crocheted hat

And don't forget your photographs:-

Building/s, A winter scene, Sheer joy

We look forward to seeing you and your efforts on
April 7th!!

Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

Primary school place—you must apply now

If your child was born on or between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014, you need to apply for a primary school place now.

You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school.

Deadline for applications is 15 January 2018

University of the third Age (U3A) Thought Provoking Activities in the Goring Gap

The Goring Gap University of the Third Age (U3A) holds a talk in the Goring on Thames Village Hall on the last Thursday of every month (except for July and December). Doors open at 10.30 am for coffee and the talk starts at 11 am for about an hour. Talks are on various subjects of general interest, some serious, some less so and are listed on our website.

The U3A is a self-help organisation for people who have retired, or are partially retired or finished raising a family. There is no minimum age to joining us. Members have time to enrich their lives with new skills and experiences, pursue their interests, form new friendships and enjoy a sense of belonging to a vibrant community.

The U3A is different from most other adult learning organisations. Rather than paying people to teach, we encourage members to share their knowledge and talents with other members. As a result, members contribute to a wide range of engaging and stimulating groups in an atmosphere of mutual support and companionship and we have more than 30 active interest groups at Goring U3A.

Goring U3A is a member of the Thames Valley U3A Network, an association of over 35 local U3As. The network can put on events, such as subject study days, that would not be possible for individual U3As.

There is a small annual fee to join but you can come along to one of our talks as a guest for free or Google Goring Gap U3A for further details.

New phone app for bin information

South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Councils have launched brand-new smartphone app, which is available to download free of charge for iPhone and Android phones. By tapping your postcode into **Binzone** and selecting your address, you can find out which bins are being emptied each week, what can and can't be put into each bin and the relevant collection day.

It will also send you a notification if your waste collection day changes due to a bank holiday and will let you know if collections are disrupted by snow or icy conditions.



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: goringheath-newsletter@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.

WHITCHURCH HILL | VILLAGE FETE

Put the date in your diary now!



'A Fun Day out for all the family!'

Saturday May 26th

Starting at 2PM

Whitchurch Hill Recreation Ground

PURE AND SIMPLE PLANNING THAT PROTECTS WHAT MATTERS MOST.

Put your estate and lifetime wealth in good hands.

Last Will & Testament
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Protective Will Property Trust
Living Trust
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Funeral Plans

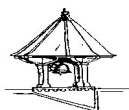
Contact David Bowen for a consultation in the comfort of your own home

0118 984 5953 or 07531 600888

david.bowen@honeylegal.co.uk

Honey

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Goring Heath Parish Charity
Regd. No 1056772

Goring Heath Parish Hall

The Hall has afternoon spaces available for hire:-On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday there are times between 1.30 and 5.30pm when a class could be held or a club could meet. Tuesday evenings are now also available.

So if anyone is interested in starting a class or needs to find some where for a group or club to get together, then contact me-

Theresa Elsome, Hall Manager on 0118 984 2056
or bnt@waitrose.com

and we can discuss what would be suitable for you.

RD Carpentry & Joinery

Kitchens, Staircases, Doors
General Woodwork

Call 07585 559312

robdcarpentry@gmail.com

The Whitchurch & District Theatre Club

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 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.

Local, friendly IT Support:

Wifi/Networking

Laptop/PC upgrade for Apple Mac/PC

Microsoft Office 2016/365 (word processing etc)

Operating System upgrade

Tablet/phones/ mobile devices/Smart TVs/Smart House

Computer lessons

And much more!

Please contact Alex for more details:

computerhelpuk@outlook.com

Tel: 0738 427 4015

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

IT IS FREE

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Goring Heath Bowls Club (Almshouses)

Come along to one of our roll-ups at The Almshouses (2pm Mondays or 6pm Fridays) or phone our captain, Daphne Walker on 01491 682154 or vice-captain, Maureen Jones, on 01491 681872. Do have a look and contact us on the website: www.goringheathbowls.weebly.com

David Watson

Almshouses Sunday Services January to March

11.00 am Sung Holy Communion: **Jan 7th, Feb 4th, Mar 4th**

All other Sundays: 9 am Holy Communion
 11.00 am Sung Matins

*All these services are traditional Book of Common Prayer
The Chapel, Alnutt Alms Houses, Goring Heath, RG8 7RS*

Special services open to all are:

All Souls service for the commemoration of those departed
from our families and friends. - 4.30pm, (for one hr.) Sun. 5th
Nov. [Names will be read out during the service]

Carol Service (Trad.) 6.30pm Tues. Dec. 19th.

Christmas Day (Sung Holy Communion) 10.00am

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER FACEBOOK PAGE

Just a reminder to take a look at the Goring Heath Newsletter Facebook page. It will contain some useful information that arrives too late to be included in the printed newsletter, as well as forthcoming events, 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

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

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
07526 743091 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	-	0845-3101111

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. ,
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

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
8th February 2018	March 2018
12th April 2018	May 2018
14th June 2018	July 2018

LOCAL GROUPS—CONTACT DETAILS

Chiltern Society Footpath Representative	Liz Collas	01491680466
Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494764149
Goring Heath Bowls Club (Almshouses)	David Watson	01189842174
	http://goringheathbowls.weebly.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	01491681654
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	Emily Dalton	01189844714
Whitchurch Hill Camera Club	www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Chair: Sue Matthews	01189844489
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning Association	Vicky Jordan	01189843260
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	01189842162
Woodcote Volunteers (Office Hours 9.30—11am)	Elizabeth Harrap	01491681171

Goring Heath Parish Hall : Bookings and Enquiries: Theresa Elsome 0118 984 2056
email: bnt@waitrose.com

January 2018

Goring Heath NEWS

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CLERK

2 New Buildings

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