

Goring Gap News

EVENTS, PEOPLE, BUSINESS, ARTS AND SPORT IN GORING AND STREATLEY

Drought hits the Gap



Photo: Steve Rock

July saw no rain in the Gap as Southern England recorded its warmest, driest and sunniest July on record. Local farmer Guy Hildred said: 'I have been farming for 40 years and my father for 20 years before that and this year has been the worst in all that time, even beating 1976.

'A part of the problem has been a lack of rain during the growing season – only 30mm since March, when the average is over 200mm for the same period. The real killer has been the heat, as the crops we grow are adapted to temperatures 40°C lower than we have experienced. The crops have shut down their photosynthesis in order to survive and the yields are 20-45% down across the country.

'Unfortunately for farmers (but good for consumers) the price has not risen to compensate as the UK can import to cover the shortages. So please don't believe all the headlines. Wheat has only moved from 19p to 20p per kilo with a kilo of flour making two large loaves.

'This year is going to be a significant financial loss, but as we always say, next year will be better, always assuming that there is enough fertiliser to go around. Thank you Mr Trump!'

Spot the mistake!



After 490 episodes they still can't spell it!

Photo: Alan Law

Get your home valued for **FREE** by an experienced local expert.

Request your **FREE** sales or lettings consultation today.

SCAN ME!

Call us
01491 873456

Pop in
Colebrook House
High Street, Goring
RG8 9AR

Book online
davistate.com/moving

davis tate

Goring Gap News

Winner of The Queen's Award

for Voluntary Service 2004

All concerned in the publication and delivery of GGN are unpaid volunteers.

Website www.goringgapnews.co.uk

Editor Gill Haigh

07979 686288 goringgapnews@gmail.com

Arts Editor: Rosie Mortimer

ggnarts@gmail.com

Business Editor Jo Pereira

ggnbus@gmail.com

Diary Editor David Slarks

ggn diary@gmail.com

Sports Editor Jonny Russell

07825 552009 ggn sports@gmail.com

Advertising John Williams

ggn adverts@gmail.com

Invoices Colin Ratcliff

ggn invoicing@gmail.com

Production Kate Ashley, Pauline Garrett,

Mavis Law

Proof Reader Janet Hurst

Postal Subscriptions Tim Cox

01491 872980 timothycox939@btinternet.com

Distribution Victoria Brandon

07876 562338 ggn distribution@gmail.com

Chairman Jeremy Spring

ggn chair@gmail.com

Company Secretary John Boorman

ggn secretary@gmail.com

Treasurer Anne Parkinson

07500 890373 ggn treasurer@gmail.com

Media contributions

News and articles of local interest, original poems, drawings and photographs are invited for the Editor's consideration. Articles and digital picture files (at as high quality as possible - at least 1.5MB for colour) can be sent to goringgapnews@gmail.com or submitted on memory stick, along with any handwritten or typed material, via the post box for Goring Gap News in Inspiration, 1 The Arcade, Goring, RG8 9AY, by courtesy of the proprietors. See website for more details.

Deadline for next issue: 2 September

Distribution

We aim to deliver copies of the GGN to all households in Goring and Streatley.

September 2026 weekend of 19/20

October 2026 weekend of 17/18

November 2026 weekend of 21/22

If your copy has not arrived after five days contact Victoria Brandon. (See above.)

Extra copies can be purchased from Inspiration and Westholme Stores.

Postal subscriptions – UK £52, Europe £100, Australia & NZ £136, USA £124, World Zone 1 £114.

GGN is published by The Goring Gap News Ltd (Registered in England & Wales No 3118490) whose registered office is at Goring & District Community Centre, Station Road, Goring, Reading RG8 9HB. The company is wholly owned by the Goring Gap News Association. Whilst effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in the paper, the Editor and Publisher do not accept any responsibility for the consequences of any errors that may occur.

© Material published in Goring Gap News is copyright, but normally the Editor will be pleased to grant permission for it to be reproduced, if asked on each occasion. The opinions published in this paper are not necessarily those of the Editor, Publisher or the GGN Association.

Printed by Albry Print Ltd, Wallingford

GRAPEVINE

An opportunity to support local business

Jo Pereira has been GGN Business editor for several years and kept our business section busy and interesting, but she is now retiring from GGN. We are grateful to her for all she has done. Her retirement creates an opportunity for a new volunteer to put their stamp on the role. It will involve engaging with local businesses, especially our local advertisers, and encouraging them to share their news and aspirations with GGN readers. It can be done at any time. The aim is to engage the reader's interest in local companies, shops and hospitality and encourage their use. Would you like to take on this challenge? This is your opportunity. Give me a call or email for more information or to discuss. Contact details are in the column on the left.

Editor

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council – survey update

Following feedback from residents, we paused the Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming survey published in GGN last month, to allow us to make some improvements.

We are revising the document which describes each of the five proposed schemes (the 'explainer'), to ensure the information is as clear and as easy to understand as possible, before inviting residents to share their views.

We expect to relaunch the survey in late August. The survey link and the updated explainer will be published on www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk and Facebook as soon as they are ready.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the original survey. Your feedback has been invaluable in helping us improve both the information provided and the survey itself.

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council Travel & Transport Committee

Vacancy for a Streatley parish councillor

Are you a resident of Goring or Streatley and would like to make a positive contribution to the local community by reviewing planning applications, managing a number of village amenities and addressing issues which are of concern, or may benefit, the village? If so, why not consider taking up the rewarding position of a Parish Councillor for Streatley. Involvement includes an interesting portfolio of local items to understand with reviews at the Council monthly meeting, on the second Monday of each month.

The current vacancy for the council position is to be filled by co-opting a willing volunteer during the next few months. Further details may be obtained from the Chairman, Colin Smith: 07917 271172 / colin.smith@streatley.org

Cash for Goring community groups with councillor grant scheme

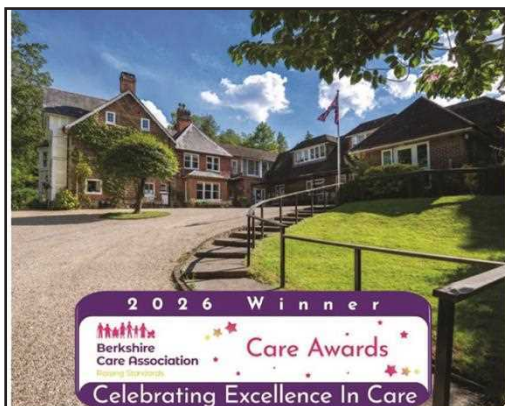
The SODC Councillor Community Grant Scheme opened on 17 August and will close on 4 December. Each district councillor is allocated £7,500 to award to projects and activities that offer community benefits in their ward area, budget permitting. The scheme is open to non-profit organisations including community and voluntary groups and parish councils.

Organisations can apply for funding from £250 up to a maximum of £7,500.

Maggie Filipova-Rivers is Goring's SODC councillor; contact her if you are thinking of applying: Maggie.Filipova-Rivers@southoxon.gov.uk

Lock restrictions on the Thames

At time of writing, Goring Lock is closed between 6pm and 9.30am and only opening at half hour intervals during the day. This is to conserve water levels during the drought. Readers will be aware that, also as a result of the drought, there is a hosepipe ban in place.



Coombe House

RESIDENTIAL CARE

Exceptional Care, Every Day



Set in a charming country house in Streatley on Thames, this family-run care home has been providing personalised long-term residential and respite care in a warm, peaceful and happy environment for over 35 years.

Contact us today at 01491 872174 or email enquiries@coombehouse.co.uk to book a visit

The Coombe, Streatley On Thames, Berkshire, RG8 9QL

www.coombehouse.co.uk

Follow us @CoombeHouseCare

THE GORING GROCER

Open for coffee, cakes, lunches

8 meals to take away

Unique selection of treats,
gifts and books

Birch Bakery Bread Wednesday to
Saturday

Fresh Flowers Thursday to Saturday

Doughnut selection every Saturday

Open Monday to Saturday 9am - 4pm



www.goringgrocer.co.uk t: 01491 875 609

e: hello@goringgrocer.co.uk

Goringhardware

So much more than a hardware-home store

DIY*Gardening * Kitchenware* Cleaning * Electrical
Plumbing * Pet Bird food * Bathroom * Haberdashery
Bicycle * Laundry * Giftware * Maintenance * Water
Softeners * Wood Supplies * Key cutting * Sharpening
Rug Doctor Hire * Signs * Refills - Ecover/Faith in Nature

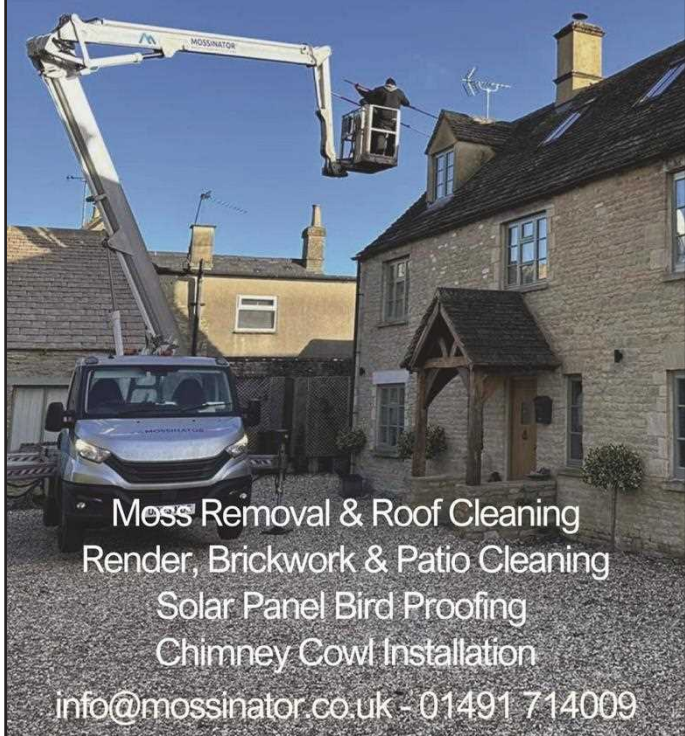
Open Mon to Sat 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sun 10 am to 1 pm

01491 - 872420

info@goringhardware.com

12 Red Cross Road RG8 9HG, next to the surgery

MOSSINATOR®
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS



Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning
Render, Brickwork & Patio Cleaning
Solar Panel Bird Proofing
Chimney Cowl Installation

info@mossinator.co.uk - 01491 714009



LET US PAMPER YOU...

Let us look after you in our lovely air conditioned, friendly clinic located in the centre of Goring. We offer services such as manicures, Pedicures, Waxing, Massages, as well as a Professional Foot Care Clinic & more!

We are a two person team with a collective knowledge of 20+ years who are always on hand to help! Now offering Japanese Head Spa Treatments!!

AVONDALE
FOOT CARE & BEAUTY

www.avondalegoring.co.uk

0118 304 8445

Situated in the main car park area of Goring (Wheel orchard car park) You can find us next door to Barbara's antiques & bric-a-brac shop.



JOHN KITCHER & SON

*Re-upholstery and repairs undertaken
Antique and modern furniture recovered
Loose covers supplied*

Free estimates - Prompt Service

- Member of the Association of Master Upholsterers -

**Tel: Graham Kitcher 38 Crescent Road,
Tilehurst,
Reading. RG31 5AH**

News from Withymead

Local MP visits Withymead Nature Reserve

We were delighted to welcome our local MP Freddie van Mierlo for his first visit to Withymead Nature Reserve.

Freddie and his team visited on a lovely morning to see the progress we've made in making the reserve more accessible and inviting for everyone through the major upgrades to the boardwalk and enhancements to the entrance (supported by Mend the Gap and Defra's Access for All funding).

Freddie said: 'I had one of the most pleasant starts to a day I've ever had, with a tour around Withymead Nature Reserve in the summer sunshine. This gem of a place is set by the Thames, and a legacy of visionary local Anne Carpmael who left a parcel of land in trust to nature. Entirely volunteer run, the team are making best use of government and local funding opportunities. It is well worth a visit!'

During the visit, Freddie inspected the work we've been doing to remove barriers to accessing the reserve by replacing old boardwalks and reviewed our fundraising effort to continue that work by replacing an old wooden bridge and further 60m of boardwalk with step-free, accessible versions. He also discussed the challenges of being located on the river – from working with Thames Water to minimise pollution, to liaising with the Environment Agency regarding abandoned boats on the river.

Withymead hits £120,000 fundraising target for 'Withymead without barriers'

Readers will no doubt remember that, in January, we launched an appeal to 'Buy a Board' to help reach the target of £120,000 toward the replacement of an old wooden bridge and 60m of wooden boardwalk. We are delighted to announce that, with the help of many generous donations from readers of *Goring Gap News*, supporters and grants from several organisations, we have hit the target.

It's staggering to think that in just over six months, we've been able to raise the £120,000 needed to replace the bridge and boardwalk. It wouldn't have been possible without the generous response from the readers of *Goring Gap News*.

Our ability to reach the fundraising target is, primarily, due to some very substantial grants and pledges of support by organisations such as Defra/Chilterns National Landscapes, Garfield Weston Foundation, Bernard Sunley Foundation, Nineveh Charitable Trust, Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment and South Oxfordshire Capital Grants amongst others. We are extremely grateful for their support.



Freddie looking at Withymead map

Photo: Amy French

who helped to serve tea/coffee and cake.

Now that we have reached our fundraising target, our goal is to 'break ground' on the replacement work in mid-September, and we hope that the project will be completed by the end of the year.

We look forward to being able to welcome you to walk over the new bridge and stroll along the new boardwalk when we open again in spring 2027. If you'd like to know more about Withymead, or would like to help in any other way, please contact me at info@withymead.org

Phil Rooney

Chair of the Anne Carpmeal Trust CIO



Freddie van Mierlo MP at the kingfisher hide at Withymead

Residential Care Home For The Elderly



- Specialising in 24 hour Dementia and Old age Care
- Respite Care
- Long-term Residential Care
- Daycare
- Victorian country house set in beautiful grounds, located on a private road in Goring On Thames
- Gold standards framework commendation for end-of-life care
- Enriching and Empowering the lives of the local community for over 40 years

01491 873588

office@clevelodge.co.uk
www.clevelodge.co.uk

Cleeve Lodge, 11 Elmhurst Rd
Goring, Reading RG8 9BN



GREENLANDS FARM, MOULSFORD RURAL BUSINESS CENTRE

LIGHT INDUSTRIAL & STORAGE UNITS
VARYING SIZES TO SUIT

3ph SUPPLY, BROADBAND

OFFICES— 3 x 600sq ft, can be put together

ALL WITH 24 HOUR ACCESS & COMPETITIVE RATES

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

PHONE **JOHN BEACROFT 07730046514**

CHAUCERS Picture Framing & Fine Art Restoration

*Specialists in Traditional & Modern Picture Framing
Conservation materials & speciality UV glass
Restoration & cleaning / Free quotes & guidance*

01491 652984 / 07887 775 570

email: sallie@chaucersframing.co.uk
website: www.chaucersframing.co.uk

Shaun Guard TV & WIFI SERVICES

- Aerials - supplied, repaired & poor reception solved
- Satellite - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installation
- Internet / WiFi - blackspots cured, internal & external data cabling
- TVs - hung on your wall or set up & tuned

OXFORD AERIALS

www.oxfordaerials.co.uk

shaun@oxfordaerials.co.uk

Call Wallingford 01491 833282



priority.windows Ltd

Doors, Conservatories, Garage Doors, Porches, Fascias, Soffits and Guttering.
Also repairs including replacement sealed units, locks, hinges and handles.

Over 35 years of experience



Wayne Prior

Tel: 01491 871381, Mob: 07720 716055

www.prioritywindows.co.uk

E-mail: wayne@prioritywindows.co.uk

Lee Webb Plumbing Ltd

Oil Heating & General Plumbing

Oil boilers – Installation

Repairs & Servicing

OFTEC registered

Worcester Accredited Installer

Mob: 07712 592307

LL: 01635 202097

Email: lee@leewebbplumbing.co.uk

G.A. Giles
established 1987

Building • Roofing • Maintenance

07771 695745

grahamegiles49@gmail.com

Fleur Stevenson with Brandon Allen and Hugh Turner

On Friday 10 July we turned up at the Village Hall for Goring Community Jazz hoping to hear Aret Komlosy, a rising star among female jazz vocalists. Aret was born into pop aristocracy, as her mother is the singer and actress Patti Boulaye and her father, of Hungarian descent, once managed Lionel Bart, and was a business partner of Robert Stigwood. Sadly, we never got to hear Aret. She had been struck down by Covid and had to cancel at the last minute. Luckily, our impresario and bass-player, Howard King, managed to persuade the locally-based Fleur Stevenson to step in and perform a hastily assembled substitute programme. This meant choosing tunes that the other musicians were familiar with – as indeed the audience must have been.

Fleur has appeared in Goring quite a few times and even at this short notice she delivered a polished performance. She was backed by Brandon Allen on tenor sax, Hugh Turner (another Goring regular) on guitar and drummer Keith Fairbairn. New to Goring, Allen has played with such greats as Stan Tracey and Soweto Kinch, as well as being Professor of Jazz at the Guildhall School of Music. Both he and Hugh Turner on guitar were consistently inspired that evening.

In *The Nearness of You*, Fleur reminded me of Anita O'Day, while the bossa nova *Corcovado* showcased Allen's elegiac solo, and Turner's miraculous flow of invention. The second set consisted entirely of standards – but all good ones, like *You'd Be So Nice to Come Home to*, *Come Rain or Come Shine* and *Teach Me Tonight*. Unusually, *Lover Man* was played 8-to-the-bar, which gave both tenor sax and drums a chance to take double-tempo solos, which the audience greeted enthusiastically.

The impromptu nature of the evening provided these seasoned jazz musicians with ample scope to display their prodigious talents

Gus McGill

40th Anniversary of The Arts Society Goring

A champagne tea party was held on Wednesday 15 July in Goring Village Hall to celebrate this great occasion. Champagne, delicious canapes and splendid cake were enjoyed by 170 members, spread through all the rooms and the garden, with copious jugs of iced water to combat the heat. We had beautiful background music from the Clarinet Ensemble of the Goring & Streatley Concert Band on the stage, with keyboard player Tim Valentine entertaining those in the garden.

An Arts Society was formed in Goring in 1986 by five friends who then each invited others to join. It was associated with the National Decorative and Fine Arts Society (NADFAS) and became GADFAS, but in 2017 the NADFAS name was changed to The Arts Society so ours became TASG. Years ago, the technology consisted of a projector in the middle of the room showing slides on the screen, with trailing wires across the floor, but now we have a projector lowered from the ceiling, controlled by the speaker from a laptop on the stage.

TASG activities

One of the founders of NADFAS, Patricia Faye, said: 'NADFAS is fun' and we try to keep that ethos by having various activities for the members to enjoy: nine monthly lectures a year (not including July, August and December) on all aspects of art ancient and modern, such as *The History of Diamonds*, *Japanese Gardens*, *Chopin*, *Camels in Art*, *Designing Women*, *See Naples and Die*, *Architecture of Mughal India*, *Edward Hopper*, and *The Venice Biennale*, to name just a few. We have two art tours a year, usually in the UK in spring and Europe in the autumn. We were in Liverpool last May and will be in the Spanish cities of Castile in October. We also do many day visits to places of interest such as Waddesdon Manor at Christmas, a musical tour and dinner in Westminster Abbey, the Van Gogh exhibition in London, with Winchester Cathedral and Christmas Market later this year. We have Special Interest Days twice a year, with two lectures in the morning, lunch, then another in the afternoon, usually studying an artist in depth such as Monet, Turner, Leonardo da Vinci and Michaelangelo, with one on Caravaggio coming up.



Chairman Diane Varian

Photo: R Mortimer



Enjoying the celebration

Photo: R Mortimer



18 SEP
9:30am-11:00am
Stay & Play
Taster Morning
Ages 2-4

25 SEP
9:00am-3:00pm
Whole School
Open Doors
Ages 2-18

03 OCT
9:30am-12:00pm
Whole School
Open Morning
Ages 2-18

Come and join us.

We welcome you to make your own first impression.

Come and join us. Book your place: www.cranfordschool.co.uk
A vibrant education for Boys and Girls aged 3-18 in Oxfordshire



The Garden Design Studio



Open Mon-Fri 8-4 & Sat 9-4



Product Ranges Include:

- High Impact Outdoor Plants
- Houseplants, Compost & Decorative Pots
- Bonsais & Accessories
- Seeds, Gloves & Garden Tools
- Plantable Childrens Books
- Cards, Notepads & Gifts
- Seasonal Bulbs & Decorations
- Birdcare
- + So much more

10 The High Street, Goring, RG8 9AT
Contact Ben for more info:
Email: admin@gardensignco.co.uk / [the gardensignstudio10](https://www.instagram.com/thegardensignstudio10) / TEL: 01491 522650

STUART GILES

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR

TEL : 01491 873613 MOBILE : 07919 102412

3 ELVENDON RD, GORING ON THAMES,
Nr READING, BERKS, RG8 0EA



Landscaping | Ground works | Decking
Fencing | Bricklaying | Driveways | Patios

OGH Building and Landscapes is a local company servicing clients in the Oxfordshire and Berkshire area.

Your Vision, Our Expertise

www.oghbuilding.co.uk | oghbuilding@hotmail.com
07554 017 791 | Facebook: @oghbuilding

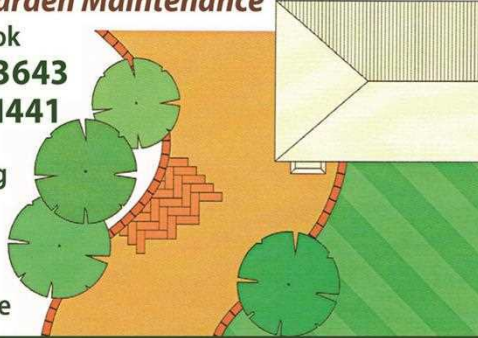
Call for a free quotation or advice

PROPERTY MATTERS

Home & Garden Maintenance

Duncan Crook
01491 873643
07719 461441

Landscaping
Driveways
Fencing
Patio
Maintenance



FARM ROAD, GORING ON THAMES, OXFORDSHIRE RG8 0AD

Manor Café at Howbery

Open: 9am-4pm, Mon-Fri



- ✓ Hot & cold drinks, homemade cakes: all day
- ✓ Breakfast: 9.00am - 10.30am
- ✓ Paninis, baguettes and baps: 11.00am - 2.00pm
- ✓ Other hot and cold lunch options: 11.30am - 1.30pm

Order at table or online | Takeaway service
Beautiful grounds | Ample parking

www.howberypark.com

MUSIC and ARTS continued

We also try to make fun for others through support for art locally: donating money to support projects in schools, such as music and dance, film making with an Oscar ceremony at the GAP Festival, decorating tiles, supporting Withymead developments and helping with last year's marvellous poppy display.

Get involved

At the tea party we had three past Chairmen say a few words about their good and fun experiences during their times in office during the 40 years, as well as a Trustee from Head Office speaking about future developments. Now we need more members to help make new experiences. Contact me on [01491 651063](tel:01491651063), or check out www.theartssocietygoring.org.uk if you would like to make friends and have fun with art.

Diane Varian
Chair of TASG

Mikron Theatre at Goring lock on 24/25 July

Many locals, bringing folding chairs and picnics, enjoyed the two evening performances given by this, the nation's most prolific touring theatre company, renowned for their quirky and accessible approach, bringing their own unique style of pop-up theatre to audiences across the country – as they have been (but not these particular actors of course) for the past 54 years.

They tour on a 90-year-old narrowboat in the summer, a van in the autumn and spring, and so far, have performed to very nearly 500,000 people. They sing lovely original songs and play various musical instruments, in a folky sort of way. This year's plays are *Wensleydale Way* (about cheese!) and *Top of the Wold* (about the East Riding mobile library, romance and art in the community, or as it turned out, the community in art).

If you would like to catch another performance of these entertaining, amusing, uplifting plays, consult <https://mikron.org.uk/>

Rosie Mortimer



The Mikron Theatre performers

Photo : R Mortimer

Fun with fabric

For the third time, Goring Gap Textile Group's contribution to this year's Festival was the art installation, *Playful*, in the Rectory Garden. The colourful fabric certainly encouraged all sorts of inventive plaiting, which reflected the fabric fun the group has been having over the year. The group also held an open meeting as part of the festival and the twenty or so visitors tried their hand at some braiding and stitching. We had a range of items to show from our year's activities. There were upcycled clothes including some jazzy embroidered jeans, hand-made bags and artwork inspired by the natural world. As part of this theme, we experimented with Japanese Hapazome technique, which involves printing with leaves and flowers. This we all found particularly therapeutic, as it involved a lot of vigorous hammering.

Japanese techniques were also on display at our end of year show-and-tell at the meeting in July. One member had made a beautiful Sashiko quilt. This is a folk style of embroidery which uses running stitches for decoration. In contrast, another member has been learning the court style of embroidery using silk and metallic threads to make exquisite pictures (see photo).

We are already looking forward to next year's programme which will include knitting and crocheting, hand sewing and colour theory. As usual, the experts amongst us will be helping others to learn new techniques and we have also arranged a couple of guest speakers. If you would be interested in joining the group, we meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Canterbury Room. For more information, please contact us at gaptextilegroup@gmail.com



Rest along journey

Yvette Atherton

GORING SOCIAL CLUB EST 1887

Meet • Relax • Socialise Right Here in Goring

New Members Always Welcome!

Goring Social Club is more than just a club – it's a village hub open for all, with something for everyone:

- **Live Action:** Catch all the games with Sky & BT Sports.
- **Games:** Snooker, pool, darts, crib, and bingo.
- **Events:** A packed social calendar.
- **Great Value:** A fantastic selection of food and drinks.
- **A Welcoming Space:** For all local clubs and societies.

Drop in this week GoringSocialClub.co.uk



MASOOMS

TANDOORI RESTAURANT



High Street, Goring

01491 875078 / 872796

www.masooms.co.uk

Open every day 5.30-10pm (10.30pm on Fri/Sat)

Sat & Sun 12-2pm

For takeaway: order online or call



T.D. LANCASTER CHIMNEY SWEEP

Domestic, agency and commercial
chimney sweeping in & around Goring

Solid fuel, oil, gas, biomass flues



01491 877 319

tdlchimneysweep.co.uk



THE LAWN BAR & GRILL

AT THE SWAN AT STREATLEY



Thursday to Saturday 12pm to 10pm
Sundays from 12pm to 9pm.

Book your spot theswanatstreatley.co.uk or
simply pull up a chair by The Thames

Blake's your local pet shop



- Great Parking
- Vast Range
- Loyalty Scheme
- Local Deliveries

Blake's Pet Foods, The Lodge, Old Reading Road,
Wallingford, OX10 8BW



Tel: 01491 834911
OPEN 9am-5pm Mon to Sat
www.blakespets.co.uk



Blake's
PET FOODS & ACCESSORIES



Gap Art Space Project (GASP)

Gap Art Space Project (GASP) is pretty much what it says on the tin; an art project (non-profit making) finding and utilising new and innovative spaces for art. Devised in 2025, the collective aims to increase access to the arts and the variety of art media used, increasing participation through inspiring, experimental, and fun art engagement across Goring, Streatley and other parts of the Goring Gap. The collective was started by Goring residents Jack Hepplewhite and Laurence Kernan, both artists, designers and producers who have worked on past public projects from the London Borough of Culture, the UK festival scene, to collaborating with major brands.

When we talk about increased art media, we mean the type of creativity used to get across the message. Whilst traditional techniques, from painting, drawing, and ceramics are fantastic and will play a big part in our collaborations, we want to push and investigate innovative and modern art forms, as well as design to help inspire new generations, and have the conversation of 'what is art?'

We want to encourage people, especially young people, to explore this question, and push it and pull it about! How will we do this? By finding new art and artists, yes, but also where, when, and how this art is represented. We want to find

new spaces for art, out of the traditional context and into public spaces. No space is too weird, too small, or too big.

We will be looking to work across the schools in the area, as well as supporting local businesses and helping join collaborations with artists from across the area. We intend to raise vital funds for the schools as well as helping inspire a new generation of creative thinkers.

So, if you are an artist practicing in any medium – painting, sculpting, printing or 3D digital, illustration, design, or mixed media, conceptual, film, or sound... or anything else in between, or even if your art is still written down notes! – get in touch, we'd love to meet you. If you have space for art (a wall, fence, field, barn, or tractor!) or if you love art and want to help us by volunteering or helping us spread the word, do get in touch:

<https://thegasp.uk/apply>

Family fun on Streatley Hill – Rubbish Dinosaur

Alongside finding space for art and getting to know artists we need to raise funds – we have a particularly exciting space we want to transform for future art. To get fundraising started, one of our partners has kindly created a fun, educational, and slightly wacky trail for families, called Rubbish Dinosaur. This interactive web-based trail takes place on Lardon Chase and Lough Down, Streatley. It is open from 1 September all month and is accessed via a smartphone web browser, with no downloads required. Its available directly through: www.build.rubbishdinosaur.co.uk by creating an account, purchasing the exhibition for £2.50, and going hunting!

The scenario: 'Prehistoric dinosaur bones have been found cut into the hills of Lardon Chase and Lough Down! There is a race to see who can find all the dinosaur bones and put them together. However, there is an issue at hand: rubbish left by people exploring the hills over the years has accumulated and is muddling up the hunt. Help us pick up the rubbish as you search for dinosaur bones, and discover what creature you make. You might end up creating a Rubbish Dinosaur!'

Blending cutting-edge immersive technology, natural history, and a vital environmental message, the game guides users to 15 GPS locations on Lardon Chase and Lough Down using an interactive map. At each stop, participants 'dig' for parts of their dinosaur. With three different possibilities at every single stop, there are thousands of unique outcomes. At the end, the app generates a funny name for your creature before stitching the files together to showcase a life-sized 3D model of it via the user's smartphone camera.

Rubbish Dinosaur will be raising funds all September to help us transform our upcoming new space for art, while giving parents something fun to do outdoors for a few hours with the kids!



A potential art space



A 'Rubbish Dinosaur' created on a smartphone camera

Jack & Laurence
Gap Art Space Project





Beacon Flooring
A Family Run Business



**Carpet
Wood
Vinyl
Karndean**

Luxury & Natural Flooring

**Free fitting on carpet orders
over £150**

16 High Street, Goring 01491 454095
beaconflooring@aol.co.uk
www.beaconflooring.co.uk



Christmas

Bookings are Open

Join us for
Sunday Lunches
Private Parties
Group Celebrations

2 Courses £30
3 Courses £36

Includes a Christmas Cracker

Bookings:
events@goringgolf.co.uk
Call 01491 873229 #4




**MAPLE TREE
CHARTERED TAX
ADVISER**

**Tax · Accounts · Payroll · VAT ·
Bookkeeping**

Please get in touch for local professional advice.

www.mapletreeservices.com
Please note our new telephone number
01491 525505



HOMEBASE
PROPERTY

★ **WHATEVER YOUR PROPERTY NEEDS** ★

**LETTINGS &
MANAGEMENT** **SALES**

01491 824470 | info@hb-pm.co.uk



**Brand New
Workshops**



**HELD IN OUR STUDIO
10 HIGH STREET GORING RG8 9AT**

- PERENNIAL CONTAINER PLANTING 4TH AUGUST
- CUT FLOWERS 3RD SEPTEMBER
- PLANTS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE 23RD SEPTEMBER
- LASAGNA BULB PLANTING 6TH OCTOBER
- WINTER CONTAINERS 3RD NOVEMBER
- WREATH MAKING 24TH NOVEMBER
- BUILD A TERRARIUM 8TH DECEMBER

CLICK THE LINK IN OUR BIO TO BOOK NOW

 **@THEGARDENDESIGNSTUDIO10**

OR HEAD TO OUR EVENTS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE **GARDENDESIGNCO.CO.UK**

CONTACT BEN FOR MORE INFO ADMIN@GARDENDESIGNCO.CO.UK

Celebrating 95 Years on Goring High Street

This year marks a truly special milestone for Richard Wilson Long Solicitors as we celebrate 95 years of serving the local community from the very same premises on Goring High Street. Reaching this anniversary is an extraordinary achievement and one that reflects not only the firm's longevity, but also the trust, loyalty and relationships we have built with generations of local families.

Founded in 1931 by Richard Wilson (see article on page 15), the firm has remained a familiar and reassuring presence in the village ever since. While Richard Wilson himself had no children and therefore no direct descendants connected with the practice today, some of our retired colleagues still remember working alongside him. Many of our retired staff continue to live locally, reflecting the close ties the firm has always maintained with the community.

In fact, many of our current team have been with the firm for more than 20 years and the current Director, Karen Charles, has been with the firm for over 30 years, having been in partnership with David Davies, Bryn Howell-Pryce and Richard Thomas. That continuity means we have had the privilege of acting for multiple generations of the same families, helping grandparents, parents and now children with some of life's most significant milestones. These longstanding relationships are something we are incredibly proud of and remain at the heart of who we are.

Although the legal profession has changed considerably over the last 95 years, the values that underpin our work have remained constant. The law evolves continuously and our clients' needs change alongside it, requiring us to adapt and embrace new legislation and ways of working. However, many of the services that have formed the foundation of the firm for decades remain just as important today. Helping people move home, preparing wills, administering estates through probate and advising on Lasting Powers of Attorney continue to be the cornerstone of our practice, supporting clients through every stage of life.

High Street law firms have become less common over the years, with many independent practices either closing or becoming part of large corporate organisations. Richard Wilson Long Solicitors is proud to have retained its independence and local identity. We believe we are now one of the oldest continuously trading businesses on Goring High Street, something that speaks volumes about our commitment to the village and the confidence our clients continue to place in us.

Being part of the community has always meant far more than simply providing legal advice. Throughout the year we enjoy taking part in village events and helping bring the High Street to life. Our seasonal window displays have become something of a tradition, celebrating everything from Christmas and spring to national occasions such as the King's Coronation. Our Coronation display was recognised with a card of thanks from Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla and was featured in the *Goring Gap News*.

We also work closely with local organisations and events, including the High Street's popular Halloween Scarecrow Trail and seasonal window display initiatives, helping to create a welcoming and vibrant village for residents and visitors alike.

Supporting local causes is equally important to us. We were delighted to sponsor Goring Robins Reds Junior Football Club, providing new training jackets for the team and for many years we have proudly supported the Alzheimer's Society, a charity whose work makes a meaningful difference to so many families.

As we celebrate 95 years, we are also celebrating the people who have made the firm what it is today – our dedicated staff, past and present, our loyal clients and the wider Goring community. Their trust and support have enabled us to reach this remarkable milestone, and we are sincerely grateful.

Ninety-five years on the same High Street is an exceptional achievement. While we are proud of our history, we are equally excited about the future. As the law continues to evolve, Richard Wilson Long Solicitors will continue to combine trusted legal expertise with the personal, approachable service that has defined the firm since 1931.

We would like to thank you for your continuous support and we look forward to continuing to serve Goring and the surrounding communities for many years to come.

Emily Charles



Richard Wilson Long's offices in Goring High Street

mb mortimer burnett

Accountants & Business Consultants



New business? We can help you grow!

01491 874332

admin@mortimerburnett.co.uk

www.mortimerburnett.co.uk

The White House, Mill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 9DD

T.JOSLYN

TREE SURGERY

Qualified including NPTC (National proficiency tests council)

Fully insured for all tree work

FENCING CONTRACTOR, LANDSCAPING

TREE HOUSES

Designed to your requirements

Logs always available free estimates

07545 644383 01491 873901

Joslyn.terry@yahoo.com

 **Goring Care Homes**
Residential & Respite Care



THE GRANGE RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME

RESPITE

RESIDENTIAL

DAYCARE



FAMILY RUN SINCE 1985

01491 872 853

For more info call or email thegrange@goringcarehomes.com

www.goringcarehomes.com


summit
landscapes
Goring

Contact Mike 01491 874044/ 07749218616

mike@summit-landscapes.co.uk

 Summit-Landscapes. Goring www.summit-landscapes.co.uk

**Carpet & Upholstery cleaning for your
home**

Expert

Carpet Cleaning Services

We have been cleaning carpets and
soft furnishings in your area for over 25 years.

Call today for your no obligation quote

01491 818606

Carpet, Upholstery, Rug and Curtain cleaning

www.ExpertCarpetCleaningServices.co.uk

• **gecko**

WEBSITE
DESIGN &
DEVELOPMENT

info@geckofy.co.uk • 07791 064337
www.geckofy.co.uk

ALDRIDGE
LANDSCAPES



Specialists in:

- Fencing • Patios • Decking • Turfing
- Driveways • All Aspects of Landscaping

FULLY INSURED & GUARANTEED

CONTACT NEIL ON:

01491 684212

neil@neilaldridge.com

www.neilaldridge.com

- Neil Aldridge BSc Env.Science -

The Gap Hall of Fame: Richard McGregor Wilson OBE (1904-1980)

Richard Wilson was the founder of Richard Wilson & Co, solicitors, now Richard Wilson Long but he was so much more than that. It is the mark of the man that his funeral address was delivered to a packed St Thomas of Canterbury Church by no less a personage than Sir Arthur 'Bomber' Harris with whom he had been friends for thirty years.

Richard was born in India in 1904 to a military family. His parents Colonel and Mrs Wilson moved to Goring in 1916. After prep school Richard was sent to Radley in 1918 and he retained a close connection with the school for the rest of his life. He was president of the Radley War Memorial Fund for many years and often recommended Radley for the sons of many of his friends and acquaintances. He decided to go into law much to the disapproval of one of his great aunts who felt he had gone into 'trade'! He qualified as a solicitor in 1926 and in 1931 returned to Goring and set up Richard Wilson & Co, putting up his brass plate on Cymbal House on Goring High Street. Among his partners were John Fairley and David Davies and Richard Thomas in the Pangbourne office. Bryn Howell-Price joined the firm after Richard's death.

Richard became involved in many aspects of village life. He was associated with the Scouts for 32 years, with the Parish Council and the Volunteer Fire Brigade on Red Cross Road. There were very few people in Goring who Richard hadn't helped in some way and he was kind and generous as well as affectionate.

In 1937 with the prospect of another war looming, he joined the Territorial Army. He was commissioned into the the Ox and Bucks Light Infantry in 1940. He found himself as a major in the War Office, not being on active service because of a crippled foot. He still returned to Goring to carry on his practice. Another of his interests was the Goring Heath charity that he served for very many years. He became chairman of the South Oxfordshire Conservative Association, for which service he was awarded the OBE.

In 1944 he bought and moved into Grahams Field next to Goring Village Hall and his widowed mother came to live with him.

Richard married quite late in life to, literally, the girl next door, Jean Crossthwaite of Mill Cottage (which later became the home of George Michael). Sadly, the marriage didn't last very long as Jean developed a serious complication from unsuspected liver disease and died after a short but devastating illness in 1973.

Richard, was by his own admission, an inveterate snob and name dropper but he always did it with humour and a twinkle in his eye. Richard had Scottish ancestry. He and his cousin Margaret were part owners of a chain of pubs in Glasgow. You cannot imagine anyone less likely to be involved in the Glasgow pub trade!

In 1980 at the age of 76 Richard was diagnosed with oesophageal cancer. When told of the diagnosis he took the news with characteristic fortitude and humour: 'When I pass over the trumpets will sound'. He died suddenly and unexpectedly. Assuredly the trumpets in Heaven will have sounded. It was brutal for his friends and family but he was at least spared from suffering a slow and painful death.

Richard Wilson was a Goring institution and was liked and loved by all who crossed his path. He was sorely missed.

Acknowledgement

My grateful thanks to John Service who managed to locate a copy of Richard's funeral Order of Service as well as an audio recording.

Oliver Weldon

Beavers gain their highest award

The 2nd Goring & Streatley Beavers, Nellie Elsome, Teddy Armitage and Bertie Wright, were presented with their 'Swimming Up' badge by Skip on 7 July 2026.

To gain the 'Swimming Up' badge the Beavers must pass and know many tests in five 'Paw' badges – Safe Beaver badge, Helpful Beaver badge, Active Beaver badge, Handcraft Beaver badge and Nature Beaver badge – covering forty different, very varied subjects and challenges to learn, to do and achieve.

So 'very well done' to Beavers Nellie, Teddy and Bertie and now it is time for you to 'swim' up into the Wolf Cub Pack at a ceremony to be held on the 8 September.

David Cooksley
Group Scout Master [01189 432937](tel:01189432937)



Photo: Vicky Hobson

Warmingham

www.warmingham.com

Opening new doors for you

Having celebrated successive record breaking years in 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, we've done it again in 2025! Please join us to realise your property aspirations!

Warmingham & Co - Your leading independent property consultancy.... Having been established for over 40 years, we don't rest on our laurels; Leading by the front, achieving the very best for our clients. For a 10th consecutive year, 2025 proudly saw Warmingham & Co, out-sell and out-let all of our competitors within our area of coverage*, as recorded by Rightmove. Accordingly, you can be assured of a professional and thorough approach from our highly qualified and experienced, personable staff, who both understand the current marketplace, and yield extensive local knowledge. Offering our clients the most effective, cohesive and progressive marketing package tailor-made to their own individual requirements, locally, nationally, and internationally, 7 days a week, we are here to make your next move both seamless, and the right one for you.

OX10 0, OX10 6, OX10 9, OX11 0, OX11 9, OX49 5, RG18 0, RG18 9, RG20 6, RG20 7, RG20 8, RG4 7, RG4 9, RG7 5, RG7 6, RG8 0, RG8 7, RG8 8, RG8 9, RG9 4, RG9 5, RG9 6.

Sales & Valuations

T 01491 874144

E sales@warmingham.com

Call us 7 Days A Week to arrange a Free Valuation or Viewing

Office Opening Hours: Friday: 09:00 - 18:00, Saturday: 09:00 - 17:00 & Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00

Website Opening Hours: 24 Hours A Day - 7 Days A Week - 365 Days A Year

Lettings & Valuations

T 01491 875011

E lettings@warmingham.com



Bob Warmingham



Tonia Sheldon



Laura Rosi



Louise Pasker



Paul O'Loughlin



Naomi O'Loughlin



James Elliott



Tania Banfield



Karen Spiers



Sue Warmingham



Not all plumbers are created equal.

Our electrical division applies the same care, expertise, and service you already rely on for heating: and we now also install air conditioning to keep your home cool and comfortable.

“Really happy with the Air Conditioning / Heat Pump installation by Premier Heating Solutions. From quote to installation the process has been brilliant. Chris and the team worked tirelessly over the last few days, going above and beyond to make sure that every element was completed to the highest standard. Thanks again! Google review, May 2026



Scan for Electrical



Scan for Air Con



📞 01491 671718 premierheatingsolutions.co.uk



Callum Hodnett
07588 337730

www.secure-electrical.co.uk
info@secure-electrical.co.uk

Installation & Maintenance - Inspection & Testing
Single & 3 Phase



Butler & Proctor Ltd.
Building Contractors

New builds, extensions and alterations
Project management and all associated trades

The Old Forge Yard • Main Street • Checkendon • Oxon

01491 682755 **NHBC**

Bloom highlights pollinators on judgement day

Following years of outstanding achievements in the Britain in Bloom competition, the Goring-on-Thames in Bloom group were chosen to represent the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Thames and Chilterns region in the Small Towns section of the 2026 National Britain in Bloom competition.

The national judges, Nick Jones and Geraldine King, visited Goring on 28 July, their second stop in a tour of seven regional entries, finishing in Northern Ireland in August. The formal tour started at 9am with a Bloom presentation in the Garden Room at the Village Hall, explaining that, unlike the majority of entries in the competition, the Goring group is not funded or manned by the local council, but must fundraise and make grant applications to carry out its activities. Bloom works all year developing and maintaining its projects and Bloom Secretary, Janet Hurst, spent many hours creating a comprehensive portfolio of work which was submitted to the judges prior to the day. The planned tour would include visits to many areas of horticultural and environmental activity – including long-term work at the station, around the village car park, The Gardiner Rec and the High Street/Arcade and FOGLE's wonderful new library garden. However, not everything can be seen on 28 July and so the presentation covered aspects



Janet Hurst, judges Nick Jones and Geraldine King and Stephanie Bridle

Photo: Gill Haigh

that could not be seen on the tour, such as spring planting, the school garden, the glorious remembrance poppy project, Village Greenfingers and the fund-raising plant sale in May. Following this introduction, the judges set out on the two-hour tour of Goring to see and ask questions about the work being done. After visiting all the sites mentioned above on foot, a car was needed to get to Withymead. For the return, courtesy of Pure Boating, the judges enjoyed an electric boat trip back to Goring Lock. The judges had been so interested in everything that the tour was behind schedule, but skippers Michael Rowlands and Duncan Kent persuaded the tourist boats to allow the *Sapphire Rose* to jump the queue at Cleeve lock, so no vital time was lost! After meeting the Goring lock keeper, Andy Arkell, the party made their way back to the Garden Room, where they met representatives from the many groups that contributed to the Bloom competition entry. Goring and Cleeve WI kindly prepared a delicious lunch for all.

Judges Nick and Geraldine were fortunate to have glimpsed a kingfisher while here – even nature did its bit for the collective competition effort. And what a huge effort it was this year – made particularly onerous by the exceptional weather which put all the annual and established planting at risk. The Bloom group's 82-year-old Chair was regularly seen carting water to the Gardiner Rec in her wheelbarrow. Fortunately, the Bloom volunteers (some of them youthful like the Chair), despite sprained backs and family crises, organised watering and weeding rotas and back-up via the Bloom WhatsApp group – pinging endlessly with offers of help and appreciation as 28 July approached.

Britain in Bloom is about the whole community, not just the local Bloom group and so, as always, the horticultural and environmental work of other groups was highlighted. Bloom has a special project this year, *Winged Wonders* – an art installation about vital pollinators and the part they play in sustaining our food supply (See pages 42,43). The delightful pollinator art created will be up for all to enjoy in Goring and on the bridge throughout August. Thanks to a trail initiated by the Garden Design Studio in the High Street, the shop windows are coincidentally also full of Bloom's signature sunflowers to spot before the end of the holidays (map from the Garden Design Studio). The Bloom group will still be watering and maintaining the plants – feel free to offer your help.

The judges' verdict will not be known until 20 October, when it will be announced by the RHS at a ceremony in Rochdale Town Hall.



Blooming Boatiful II

Photo: Ron Bridle



A bouquet of Bloomers

Photo: Pablo Ferrer Beltran



Woodborough HOUSE DENTAL PRACTICE

£99 New Patient Assessment – All-inclusive X-rays, clinical photography, a 3D intraoral scan, and AI-assisted diagnostics.

Enjoy comprehensive family dental care at the award-winning Woodborough House

21 READING ROAD, PANGBOURNE, RG8 7LR T: 0118 984 3108 WHATSAPP: 07824 469897
WWW.WOODBOROUGHHOUSE.COM INFO@WOODBOROUGHHOUSE.COM

Taking Care Of Your Garden

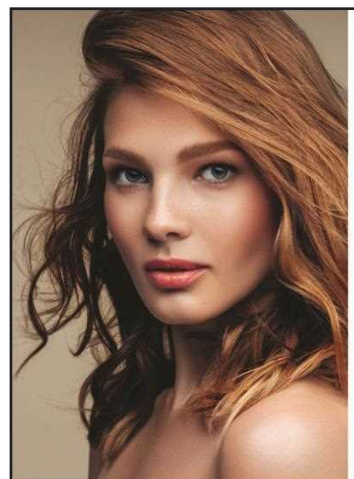


Would you like a complete or part **Garden Design**

Or an individual & uplifting **Planting Plan** & implementation

Or regular care of your garden with **Garden Maintenance**

Tel 07796 320 926
sharon@dreamscapegardendesign.co.uk
www.dreamscapegardendesign.co.uk



albert fields

BOUTIQUE HAIR SALON

t 01491 871 141
e hair@albertfields.co.uk
w albertfieldsgoring.co.uk

Find us on
f @albertfieldsgoring

Mon to Sat 8.30am - 5.30pm
Thursday 8.30am - 8pm

MARYSINTERIORS

Interior Design | Soft Furnishings | Gifts

- Extensive Fabric Library
- Wallpapers
- Full Design Service
- Paints
- Lighting
- Upholstery

1 High Street, Goring-on-Thames
Oxon RG8 9AT

01491 872677
hello@marysinteriors.co.uk
www.marysinteriors.co.uk

Inspected and rated
Good
Care Quality Commission



Care in your own home

Quality care by local, experienced, compassionate carers

WE OFFER

- Day and night care
- Personal Assistant Support for Young Adults
- Dementia care
- Home from hospital rehabilitation
- Competitive and fair rates
- All inclusive social events for our clients and family members
- Live in Care



BENEFITS

- Assistance with bathing, dressing, cooking and Medication etc
- One-to-one personalised Care
- Consistency of Carer
- Stay in your own Home
- Peace of mind

We are an experienced independent care provider supporting elderly people and adults with disabilities to live independently at home. We deliver high-quality, person-centred care tailored to each individual's unique needs, promoting dignity, choice, and independence.

Tel :0118 942 9889 office@nortonnurses.co.uk



THE ORATORY



"GOLD standard pastoral care."
The Good Schools Guide 2026

The Oratory remains, quite deliberately, small enough that we can know every one of our pupils. **Our integrated House system for day and boarding pupils provides inclusivity and a sense of belonging.**

WOODCOTE
Dedicated bus route from Goring available

WHOLE SCHOOL OPEN MORNING
SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER



Be you. Become more.

BOOK YOUR PLACE
oratory.co.uk

INDEPENDENT BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS & BOYS AGED 11-18

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

who accepts no responsibility for views expressed

The Editor welcomes your letters – normally no more than 350 words please – but reserves the right to edit them

Goring-on-Thames in Bloom

Dear Editor—On behalf of the Goring-on-Thames in Bloom committee may I convey our gratitude to all those individuals, businesses and organisations who have done so much, in different ways, to support Goring's entry into the National Britain in Bloom competition.

Competing, whether at Regional or National level, is never lightly undertaken as it is a big challenge for a small community and we are the smallest in the Small Towns category. It requires us to find and fund the additional resources we needed in order to respond adequately to the judging criteria. So, when Goring's Bloom group accepted the Thames and Chilterns' nomination for the finals last September it was in the full knowledge of the high standard that we would be expected to achieve. Never shy of accepting a challenge, we went for it. However, what we could never have anticipated were the physical and other challenges of the prolonged drought and incessant scorching heat which seemed to incinerate even our drought resistant plants before our very eyes!

In spite of many setbacks, the daily encouragement, gratitude and positivity from the public, including those visitors who come to Goring to enjoy its beauty, and the practical help offered from across the entire Goring community, has kept us motivated even as our water tanks ran dry and the grass turned to coconut matting.

We have many people to thank for getting us over the finishing line in July. There are those who gave generous donations and sponsorship and there are also those amazing village groups and individuals that we introduced to the judges on the day or were included in our presentations. There are also all those wonderful people (you know who you are) who helped with the big tidy up in the days running up to the judging!

Last, but definitely not least, there would be no Goring-on-Thames in Bloom without our wonderful and supportive dream-team of Bloomers including, this year, the talented *Winged Wonders* group. Together with my dedicated colleagues on the committee, you have been magnificent.

Thank you all.

Stephanie Bridle
Chair, Goring-on-Thames in Bloom

Who's watching whom ?

Dear Editor—I very much enjoyed Mr Eastell's account of Wren, a female otter, and his disappearing sandwich that appeared in July's edition of the *GGN*. His theory that the cubs may have provided a convenient distraction certainly gives one pause for thought.

Those of us who spend time by the river often assume we're the ones quietly observing nature. Every now and then it's worth remembering that the wildlife may be watching us just as carefully and perhaps learning rather more than we'd like.

I suspect Wren has now discovered that fishermen can occasionally provide an easier meal than the fish they chase themselves. Word has probably spread among the local otter population, so perhaps the greatest threat to anglers' lunches this summer won't be wasps after all.

Mr Eastell says he now keeps his sandwich out of otter range. Sensible advice, although I fear Wren may simply see this as a fresh challenge!

Pauline Fields
A regular riverside walker

Goring Free Church's Teddy Bears' Picnic

If you went down to the Rectory Garden one Friday morning recently and followed the paw-prints you would have been 'in for a big surprise.' It was Goring Free Church's (GFC) annual Teddy Bears' Picnic where 45 children 0-4 years old, accompanied by their parents or carers, were having a wonderful time. Their beloved teddies or soft toys came along too of course.

Great fun was had generally with free play of our usual baby and toddler equipment plus slides, see-saws, bubbles and water play. The interactive story of *Going on a Bear Hunt* was as popular as ever. Who knew there was a bear cave in the Rectory Garden?

Then a calmer time was had as the children gathered round to listen and see a large picture book of the amazing *Biggest Picnic in the World* – the Bible story of the Feeding of the 5000 with just two fish and five loaves.

A snack was had during the morning. What else could it be but teddy-shaped crisps? The morning was rounded off with singing and games around our colourful parachute.

We would love to see you all again next year, and bring your friends too!

GFC weekly activities for children

GFC has a friendly baby group on Tuesday mornings. Once babies can walk, they can go to Friday morning GFC Kids (for under-fives). At the 10.30am Service on Sunday, children stay for the first 15 minutes and then join in the Sunday age-based groups (3-5, 6-8, 9-11, 11-16 yrs).

GFC youth group runs fortnightly on Friday evenings; senior youth group is on Sunday evenings.

All the GFC groups aim to provide fun and Bible-based activities.

Full details of weekly activities for children are on www.goringfreechurch.org.uk

Goring Free Church Kids and Baby Group Team

Get ready to play Book Bingo at Goring Library

Looking for a new reading challenge this autumn? As part of our Year of Reading 2026, Goring Library is inviting adult and teenage readers to take part in Book Bingo – a fun way to discover new authors, explore different genres and perhaps find your next favourite book.

How it works

It's just like traditional bingo, but instead of numbers your bingo card is filled with reading categories.

From Tuesday 15 September, pick up a free Book Bingo sheet from Goring Library. Choose books that match the categories – perhaps a science fiction novel, a classic, a childhood favourite or a graphic novel. Our themed displays and library staff will be on hand with plenty of recommendations.

Borrow the books with your library card, then record the title and author on your bingo sheet as you complete each one before returning the books to the library.

Why take part?

Book Bingo is a relaxed and enjoyable way to step outside your usual reading habits, discover something new and share recommendations with other readers.

Everyone who takes part is invited to join us for coffee and cake on Tuesday 2 December at 10.30am, where we'll chat about the books we've enjoyed and reveal the most popular titles from the challenge.

Eyes down, pages open!

Read three books to complete a single bingo line or challenge yourself to a Full House by reading all nine categories. Everyone who completes their bingo sheet will receive a small prize, kindly donated by the Friends of Goring Library.

Why not encourage friends, family or your book club to join in? The challenge is open to all adult and teenage library members. If you're not yet a member, you can join online using the QR code provided or simply pop into the library.

Thank you to our supporters

This year's challenge has been enhanced by a selection of brand-new books purchased thanks to the generous support of the Friends of Goring Library. We are also grateful to Caroline Wahlen of Gap HR, whose donation has enabled us to expand our science fiction collection.

As a community library, we depend on the generosity of local supporters to help fund new books, events and activities for everyone to enjoy.

Jane Crowther
Goring Library

Book Bingo

To play **Book Bingo**, read books in any column or row and give yourself a reward!

Full house?
Claim a small prize from The Library...

A book from your childhood Title:	A book featuring the River Thames Title:	A book set in a different country Title:
A non-human protagonist Title:	Teen book or graphic novel Title:	A Sci-Fi book Title:
A LGBTQ+ protagonist/author Title:	A classic Title:	A non-fiction book Title:

Illustrations from Fityclub and Timplanu
Email on Vecteezy.com

NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026
Rediscover the joy of reading!

The Library Goring

Friends of Goring Library



Introducing Revd Jane Collins

A new curate has landed in Goring, the Revd Dr Jane Collins, who will be serving her curacy at St Thomas' (Goring), St Mary's (Streatley) and St Andrew's (South Stoke). She says: 'My journey towards being ordained has been a long one. I was raised a Christian and have always known God's presence in my life, however in my mid-twenties, while walking across a field on my way to church, I experienced a sudden and unwanted sense I was being called to be a priest. It came completely out of the blue and I didn't want to hear it, however God would never let me forget the calling and eventually after several years I accepted it.' She worked until July as a nuclear scientist, and she explains how her love of science was not a barrier to faith: 'I've always enjoyed science because it helps me understand God's world more deeply. When I look at a cell, I see an entire universe.'

'I am really looking forward to serving in the parishes and getting to know the many friendly faces I have seen there. I am hoping to emulate the vicar (Revd Ben Philips) by using a bicycle for travelling between churches, but there may also be times when you see me on a motorbike. I have two motorbikes, which bring me great joy. I'd welcome people to come and find me at church to have a chat – about God, faith, science or motorbikes!'

Revd Jane Collins



Record donations following Outside25

We're incredibly proud to share that this year's Outside25, held in the beautiful gardens of Mill Cottage over George Michael's birthday weekend, has raised a record-breaking £28,000 for charity. That's an amazing £8,000 more than in 2025!

This year's donations have been shared between a number of wonderful charities and local community organisations:

One of the main beneficiaries is Childline, a cause that was very close to George Michael's heart and one that we're honoured to continue supporting in his memory.

We're also delighted to support charities chosen by Andrew Ridgeley. Andrew, George's lifelong friend and co-founder of Wham!, once again showed his incredible generosity by donating a rare piece from his personal collection for our charity auction – a limited-edition George Michael 2024 5oz Fine Silver Proof Coin. He also recorded a special video message for everyone at Outside25, alongside heartfelt messages from George's former drummer Carlos Hercules and musician Midge Ure, who shared fond memories of working with George, including Midge's involvement with George on the Band Aid recording of *Do They Know It's Christmas?*

Among the Outside25 chosen charities this year is Electric Umbrella, an inspiring organisation that uses music to empower learning-disabled and neurodivergent people while promoting a more inclusive society.

We're also supporting My Cancer My Choices, a Berkshire charity providing complementary therapies for people living with cancer. The charity is now led by a former manager of the Goring Hub and continues to make a real difference to families across our local community.

Supporting local organisations has always been an important part of Outside25. Once again, we've made a significant donation to Reading Samaritans, whose dedicated volunteers provided invaluable support throughout the weekend.

Friends of Streatley School also received a donation in recognition of the fantastic work of their volunteers, who ran the ever-popular Pimm's stall across both days. The donation will provide a full year's free music lessons for every pupil at the school.

We're equally delighted to support Friends of Goring Library. The donation will help fund the children's summer activities programme, with any remaining funds being used to purchase new books for the library.

Another organisation we're pleased to support is St Thomas of Canterbury Church, whose kindness played an important part in making the event such a success. The church welcomed visitors throughout the weekend, whilst allowing their grounds to be used for essential event utilities.

Join us at Outside25 2027

We're already looking forward to welcoming everyone back next year. If you'd like to be among the first to hear when tickets for Outside25 2027 go on sale, simply visit: www.outside25.com, scroll down to 'Join our Email List', and subscribe for updates. Don't leave it too late – this year's event sold out in just a few minutes, and we'd love to see you there!

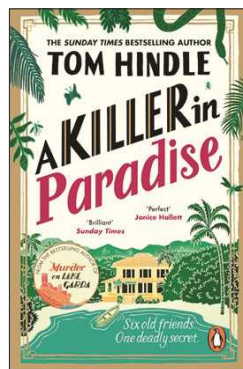
Niki Chessher

Murder in the Morrell Room

Friends of Goring Library (FOGL) are delighted to be welcoming crime writer Tom Hindle to an evening of conversation and readings from his latest novel *A Killer in Paradise*.

With the style and skill of Agatha Christie, one of his crime writer heroes, and the glamour and tension of The Whites Lotus Hotel series, Tom has written what some reviewers have called 'the perfect crime novel'. Fellow crime writer, Vasseem Khan, says: 'Set against the darkly pulsating backdrop of the rainforest, this excellent closed circle mystery cements Hindle's reputation for delivering gripping modern takes on the Christie formula. Tremendously engaging.'

The story unfolds in the Costa Rican rainforest when after a gap of ten years, five friends are reunited. Paradise is soon destroyed by the discovery of a body and the clear indications that one of them must be responsible! Old rivalries re-emerge and suspicions and fears are raised as, confined within the luxury hotel, the friends try to discover the truth both of what has just happened, but also what happened ten years before. The twists of the tale keep you guessing until the very end.



Tom is the author of *A Fatal Crossing*, a Waterstones thriller of the month, Sunday Times best-selling novels *Murder on Lake Garda* and *Death in the Arctic* and Waterstones paperback of the year *The Murder Game*.

Originally from Leeds but now living locally with his family and pets we are pleased he is able to join us for an evening of chat about himself and his novel.

Come to the Morrell Room in Streatley at 7pm for 7.30 on Friday 25 September to hear Tom Hindle. This is likely to be popular so use the QR code to get your tickets soon: only £10 including a drink and light refreshments.

Gaye Walsh

Goring Gap u3a celebrates 20 years with a successful Open Day

Goring Village Hall was filled with conversation, music, laughter and activity on Saturday 11 July, when Goring Gap u3a celebrated its 20th anniversary with a very successful Open Day.

Despite taking place during the summer heatwave, the weather was thankfully a little cooler and visitors came from Goring, Streatley and the surrounding area to find out more about the groups and activities available.

The event was extremely well attended. Twenty new members joined Goring Gap u3a on the day, while many existing members discovered additional groups they would like to try. Some visitors arrived with a particular interest in mind but left having found several new possibilities.

Display boards throughout the hall showed the wide variety of activities offered by Goring Gap u3a. These include art, photography, history, philosophy, languages, science, music and literature, together with games such as bridge, Mahjong, chess and scrabble. There were also displays about walking, dancing, social activities and outings.

Group leaders and members were available throughout the event to answer questions and explain how their groups operate. The breadth of activities surprised many visitors and demonstrated that there is something to suit a wide range of interests.

The day included performances by the Recorder Group and the Folk Dancing Group. The folk dancers gave a lively demonstration accompanied by live music, while the recorders provided an enjoyable musical interlude. Throughout the event, the Jazz Appreciation Group supplied mellow background music, helping to create a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

Visitors were also able to watch activities taking place around the hall, including bridge, scrabble and Mahjong, and to speak directly to members about their experiences.

Free tea, coffee and a generous selection of cakes were available throughout the morning, followed later by free sandwiches. The refreshments provided plenty of opportunities for people to sit, talk and get to know one another.

The event was a celebration not only of Goring Gap u3a's 20-year history, but also of the friendships, interests and shared experiences that have developed during that time. It showed that the organisation remains active, welcoming and full of new ideas.



The Philosophy Group display

Photo: Tom Rothwell



The Mah Jong group

Photo: Tom Rothwell

The Open Day depended on the efforts of a large number of volunteers. We would like to thank everyone who created displays, demonstrated activities, performed, welcomed visitors, served the refreshments and helped behind the scenes. We would also like to thank Warings Bakery, the family business of Janet Carr, one of our committee members, who generously donated all the delicious cakes, making it possible for us to offer them free of charge to our visitors and members. Most of all, we would like to thank everyone who came along and helped to make the day such an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Our next event on Thursday 27 August in Goring Village Hall from 10.30am. It is a change from the original scheduled talk. The revised event will feature *The Flanders and Swann Story*, presented by Mitchell and Williams. The Reading and Berkshire-based musical comedy duo, comprising Jim

Mitchell and James Williams, are renowned for their engaging performances celebrating the witty and quintessentially British songs of the legendary partnership of Michael Flanders and Donald Swann. The talk promises an entertaining morning of music, humour and nostalgia. Visitors are warmly invited to attend, enjoy the presentation, and learn more about the activities and membership of Goring Gap u3a. Everyone is welcome.

To find out more about Goring Gap u3a and its groups and activities, visit www.goringgapu3a.org.uk Goring Gap u3a is run by the members, for the members.

Celia Barnshaw
Chair

Invitation to the launch of *RIVERING* – growing up in the Gap

I, Cherry Coombe, née Wadlow, born in 1956, grew up in Sreatley during those optimistic post-war years and long before the concept of protective ‘helicopter’ parenting. Children were free and fearless.. Long summer days were spent exploring, getting lost in the woods or perhaps drifting perilously close to weirs, sometimes in someone or other’s canoe, often simply floating, diving and swimming. Often, we were told we’d perish from Weil’s disease if we weren’t careful. We were rarely careful.

If it snowed, and the very best of snow fell in the winter of 1962 to 1963, when skaters took up residence on the stained-glass-ice that had stilled the weir, we’d hurtle down Lardon Chase on anything we could lay our hands on. My father fashioned toboggans from offcuts found in Smallbones’ yard (the woodyard and blacksmith’s forge were opposite Wells Stores then) but if you didn’t have one of those, a tin tray was transport enough. Sometimes someone would veer off track and go straight through a gorse bush; I have a visceral memory of my mother doing just that, her bloodied face making a raspberry sorbet of the snow, the black thorns peppering her complexion which was later covered in Vaseline, her go-to and, I admit, quite miraculous cure all.

Life was much more fun but equally much more dangerous before cycling helmets, knee pads and health and safety. Childhood was everybody’s business: someone was always on hand if you’d done something idiotic and we were lucky, mostly. Retrospect softens the true facts of life: the tragedies that happened on the road; the fires that took hold when silly smokers thought it sport to make a hideout inside a straw stack; their victims suffering.

Yet still, our parents were busy and silenced by things that had happened recently during the War. Nothing could trump that, they were sure. I of course had no idea. As I grew older and rebellious I didn’t know quite what I was rebelling against. I scraped a few A’ levels and skedaddled to live in a commune before joining a cult, escaping during Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh’s exodus to Oregon in 1981, returning to London and the Thames, in time for my father’s final year. He died, terribly sadly, from an aortic aneurism in 1982, just after he had done a very good job of redecorating the Morrell Room. In 1971 I had played Cecily to my mother’s Lady Bracknell there in the Goring Gap Players’ rendition of Wilde’s fabulous, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, the audience tittering at Lady B’s assessment of Cecily’s pretty face: ‘Hmmm, rather plain.’

It is no surprise that my new novel, *RIVERING*, is set in the Gap between the 1960s and 70s, yet Poppy, the story’s heroine, although named after a red thing, as I am, is not me and hers is not a true story. Many might think that it is.

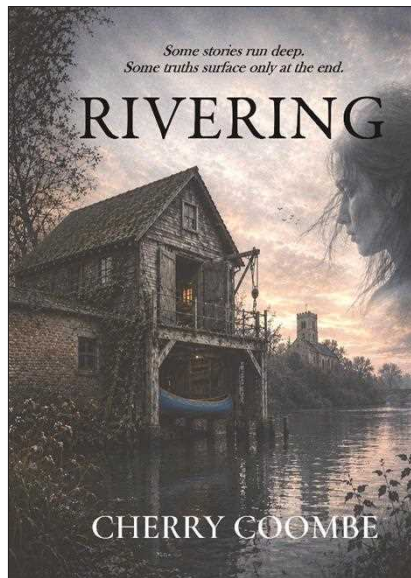
Writing is a tricky fish. I have spent much of my life in words, since returning to university in 2001, to become a lecturer in English and Creative Writing, a poet and a novelist. When, in 2022 I recovered quite miraculously from sepsis, with thanks to The John Radcliffe’s intensive care unit, I had to retire from lecturing, the very best job on earth.

I am no good at doing nothing at all, thus *RIVERING* came to life. Born in first draft form in 2024, serialised weekly as it grew on Substack, a website populated by very encouraging writers, *RIVERING* was picked up by Dr Jon Mackley of Isengrin Publishing. It will be published on 1 October 2026, appearing in hardback, paperback, eBook and audio book (narrated in my own fine actor’s voice) all at once, in celebration of my 70th birthday on 6 October and in honour of the Silent Generation, born 1925-45.

Come to my book launch at the Morrell Room on Sunday 4 October 2.30-4.30pm. I will talk a bit, read a bit and answer any questions you might have. All forms of my book will be there to purchase, but advance ordering is available through Isengrin Publishing: www.isengrinpublishing.com / email: info@isengrinpublishing.com

Thank you for being interested.

Cherry Coombe
cherry.coombe@btinternet.com



The topic described in the following article was presented by Dr Martin Wyatt at a recent meeting of the Goring Gap u3a science group. The technology described has not yet been adopted by the medical world, but the story of one man sticking to his guns to get it tested makes interesting reading and is an example of the challenging topics the science group pursues. Dr Wyatt is a member of the group and a long-term friend and colleague of Alan Mole, the scientist involved, and a fellow director of Airora. Editor

The mysterious 'Open Air Factor': from ancient wisdom to modern science

For thousands of years, people have believed that fresh outdoor air is good for health. What if this long-held intuition reflects a real and remarkably powerful natural disinfectant? And what if modern science has finally uncovered what earlier physicians could only observe?

Ancient observations: fresh air as medicine

Early medical writers espoused the therapeutic value of outdoor air. Pliny the Elder, a Roman philosopher of the first century AD, recommended the air of evergreen forests for lung disease, as did Galen a few generations later. Exposure to fresh air was recommended by physicians in the 17th century and by Florence Nightingale in the 19th.

By the early 20th century, open-air treatment had become central to tuberculosis care. During the First World War, soldiers with infected wounds healed better outdoors, and during the 1918–19 influenza pandemic, patients nursed in the open air fared significantly better than those kept indoors. Clearly, something in outdoor air was doing more than simply feeling fresh.



TB patients receiving outdoor treatment in London, 1936

The search for the Open Air Factor

In the 1960s and 70s, scientists at Porton Down were researching how to defend against biological weapons. They confirmed that outdoor air had a powerful germicidal effect. Unable to identify the active agent, they named it the Open Air Factor (OAF) and believed it might involve reactions between ozone and plant-emitted olefins – simple, reactive organic compounds released by vegetation and other natural sources. But the international Biological Weapons Convention signed in 1975 halted all this research. Academic studies continued sporadically, but as recently as 2021 a review concluded that the active agent remained unknown. Yet outside academia, one inventor refused to let the mystery drop.

Alan Mole and the breakthrough

Alan Mole, a chemist and polymath inventor, was familiar with the Porton Down research as a young man. When public-funded research ended, he continued the investigation privately for 30 years. Convinced that the OAF must arise from natural atmospheric chemistry, he focused on the reaction between ozone and terpenes – plant-emitted olefins responsible for the scents of pine forests, lavender, and citrus.

This reaction, called ozonolysis, produces highly reactive and short-lived chemical fragments (called hydroxyl radicals) described in the presentation as the 'detergent of the atmosphere.' Hydroxyls break down pollutants and are abundant outdoors, but extremely short-lived.

Academics had dismissed hydroxyls as the OAF because they seemed too sparse and too short-lived to encounter pathogens. Mole realised the key was *where* they were created. Ozonolysis happens preferentially on surfaces – including the surfaces of microbes. As the presentation notes, 'the reaction probability of ozone with surface-adsorbed terpenes is about 100 times greater than the corresponding gas-phase reaction.' Hydroxyls formed directly on pathogens are ideally positioned to destroy them.

In 2006, Mole patented a way to recreate this natural chemistry indoors, generating outdoor-level hydroxyl concentrations – but with far greater germicidal effect, because indoors all hydroxyls are produced via ozonolysis.

Airora: recreating the Open Air Factor indoors

The last 20 years have been spent turning this science into a commercial product and business model. Mole's technology, now known as Airora, has undergone extensive independent testing by the UK Building Research Establishment, the Health and Safety Laboratory, Porton Down, universities in Leeds, York and Ottawa and FDA-accredited laboratories in the United States.

The results have been striking. In controlled tests, Airora removed virtually all germs in the air and on surfaces within minutes – a performance comparable to a medical-grade liquid disinfectant. A simple 'sneeze test' showed a 99.9% reduction in germs at a distance of just two feet. HEPA filters, by contrast, removed less than 7% of airborne germs and none on surfaces. All by-products of the process have been identified and confirmed safe. Hydroxyls also neutralise allergens, odours, moulds and volatile organic compounds, improving indoor air quality far beyond pathogen control. Humans and harmless bacteria are unaffected because we evolved in an atmosphere rich in hydroxyl radicals. Pathogens have not.

A natural solution rediscovered

The story of the Open Air Factor shows how ancient wisdom, forgotten science and one inventor's persistence converged to reveal a natural, powerful mechanism for keeping air healthy – and how its benefits may now be brought indoors by recreating the chemistry that has protected life on earth for millions of years.

John Barrett

What's going to be hot (and cool) in Goring Village Hall

The hot news is that the huge heaters in Goring Village Hall (GVH) are going, giving much more space for jollity at local events. Coming in later this year are wall mounted fan units. The whole heating system is being replaced – the individual gas boilers powering the heaters are out, air source heat pumps (ASHPs) are in. The work has already started – but don't worry, disruption will be kept to a minimum and hirers kept informed.

The current gas boilers are on end-of-life care so needed replacing. ASHPs are more environmentally friendly and can cool as well as heat. Choosing them sounds like a no-brainer? Not at all. The trustees of GVH spent three years assessing the options and issues: relative costs, possible noise issues associated with the fans and the pumps, ability to cope with colder winters, choosing ground source pumps instead (too expensive and not enough outside space), installing conventional radiators – you name it, they carefully considered it. Recognising that Goring will be using this system for many years, the trustees are to be congratulated and thanked for their care and hard work in selecting the chosen system.

The chair of the village hall trustees, Mike Baker, says, 'I am delighted with the outcome of the work put in by my fellow trustees and those with whom we have worked in partnership to design the solution. We can look forward to an effective new heating system that will last for many years into the future.'

If you'd like to know more about choosing the new heating system you can read trustee Phil Davies's full report in *Genie's* latest newsletter. Go to genienews.org and click on the green 'Village Matters' icon. You'll find it in Issue 211. While there, why not sign up for future *Genie* newsletters?



Trench digging

Photo: Mark Kibble

Next Goring Repair & Exchange Cafe – Saturday 12 September 10am-12.30pm in Goring Village Hall

This is your next chance to get your broken items repaired for free – and also to swap any unwanted (but in good condition) books, games and puzzles in exchange for similar items. The event is a totally free, volunteer run service, but donations to cover expenses are welcome.

As usual, we hope to have up to 16 local skilled repairers in attendance, each with a different range of repair and sharpening skills, who will be able to tackle most items you bring in and a further 10 or so support volunteers to make sure the operation works smoothly. Our repair rate is around 65-70%, so there's a good chance of success.

Another way we can reduce unnecessary carbon emissions is to exchange products in our 'free Swap Shop' which will take place at the back of the Bellème Room and this time it's books, games and puzzles. So, instead of buying new, bring in your old ones (before 9.30am latest) and take away someone else's offering after opening time. Café Bellème opens early, should you need to wait for the 10am start time.

If you've never thought of coming along to this event before, why not try us out in September – we're sure you'll become a regular like so many other residents. Visit www.GoringRepairCafe.info, click on the graphics to see some video clips of what goes on and then check out the 'Repair' and 'Exchange' sections for full details.

So, save money, save the planet and enjoy a slice of the wonderful home-made cakes made by our cafe volunteers at the same time!



Ron Bridle
Coordinator

OUTDOOR CINEMA AT BASILDON PARK
 WWW.SECRETAVENTURES.ORG 5TH SEPTEMBER | 7 - 10 PM



 **ADVENTURE FILMS NEAR GORING, FOOD & DRINKS** **4.8** ★★★★★
 Trustpilot



**three pillars
of health**
 PILATES, WELLNESS &
 COMMUNITY

July/August 6 Weeks
 Shoulder Rehab
 Book online or
 Email for info 

Vanessa Mansergh m.07906 186912
 APPI Clinical Pilates & Cancer Rehab Instructor
 vanessa@threepillarsofhealth.co.uk

Gavin Sweeten
EXQUISITE BATHROOMS

A bespoke service, specialising in all aspects of
 bathroom installation, giving you the reassurance
 of attention to every detail and a superb quality finish.
 An exquisite bathroom.

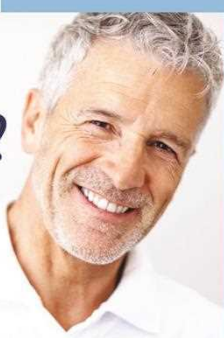
07905 531879
gavin@imakebathrooms.co.uk

The Boathouse
 Dental Surgery www.boathousedental.co.uk Tel: 01491 872394

**Are Dental
 Implants for you?**

If you have missing teeth or loose fitting
 dentures, the answer is **YES!**

*"Cool, calm and efficient with latest
 technology, great place for an implant!"*
 Mr Anthony Guy



High Street, Goring on Thames,
 Oxfordshire RG8 9AB Email reception@boathousedental.co.uk
 Call 01491 872394
 to book a consultation

BSUPA **THE SUP LIFE** 

Enjoy the river with us!

Based at The Swan at Streatley

Paddle Board Hire	SUP Events	Group & Private Lessons
SUP Wellbeing & Yoga	Gift Vouchers	Corporate Groups & Parties



Book Online at: www.thesuplife.co.uk hello@thesuplife.co.uk 0118 207 2482

**Host families
 needed for
 international pupils (age 7-18)
 from local boarding schools**

**Competitive daily rates for occasional
 weekends and half terms**

Pippa's Guardians



scan to watch our
 host family video

To find out more call 01684 252757 or
 email hostfamilies@pippasguardians.co.uk
www.pippasguardians.co.uk



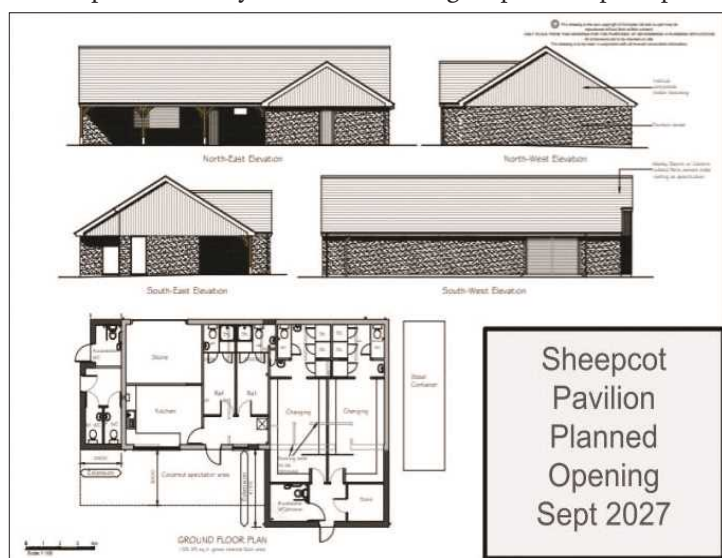
Goring-on-Thames Parish Council

Investing in Goring's teenagers and young adults

Over the past two years, Goring Parish Council has delivered two fantastic new playgrounds for younger children. With those projects now complete, our attention is turning to the next age group – teenagers and young adults. We know that many families would like to see more opportunities for older children to be active, social and spend time outdoors close to home. That's why we're developing a number of exciting projects designed with young people in mind.

One idea already attracting a great deal of interest is the creation of a bike adventure circuit. We are currently exploring possible locations and considering what such a facility could offer. Before any decisions are made, we'll be asking local young people what they would actually use, helping us create something that reflects their ideas rather than adults' assumptions.

We're also exploring the need for a dedicated space where teenagers can meet friends safely and comfortably. At present, young people often gather informally in places such as the Arcade or, on occasion, the Gardiner Pavilion because there are few alternatives. A Parish Council working group is now looking at whether Goring could provide a welcoming, sheltered 'teen space' designed with young people themselves. Over the coming weeks we'll be inviting teenagers and their parents to take part in surveys and discussion groups to help shape the project.



Replacement pavilion

Another major investment is the proposed replacement pavilion at Sheepcot Recreation Ground. The existing building has served the village well but is now reaching the end of its useful life. Modern changing facilities are increasingly essential if local sports clubs are to continue hosting league and cup fixtures at a more competitive level. We hope in addition it will encourage wider community use. The refurbished pavilion will have a larger symmetrical roof, more space, accessible toilets and a more environmentally friendly heating system. The taller roof will allow a mezzanine floor for additional storage and potential future upgrades to the building. We hope to open the pavilion for the start of the September 2027 football season.

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council Open Spaces Committee

Former Jubilee Fire Station site to support expansion of local GP services

A site that has served the people of Goring for almost 90 years will continue its tradition of public service after Goring-on-Thames Parish Council (GPC) completed the sale of the former Old Jubilee Fire Station site on Red Cross Road to Goring and Woodcote Medical Practice.

The sale will enable the practice to explore opportunities to expand healthcare facilities in the village while ensuring the site remains dedicated to community use.

Originally opened in May 1937, the Old Jubilee Fire Station was built using funds remaining from celebrations marking King George V's Silver Jubilee. The building served as Goring's fire station until 1976 before later becoming GPC offices.

As the Council's responsibilities and staffing grew, the building became unsuitable for modern office use. Following the Council's relocation, the property had reached the end of its useful life and had been used only for storage in recent years.

When considering the site's future, GPC's priority was to secure a long-term community benefit. The sale to the medical practice meets that objective by supporting the future development of local healthcare while protecting the site from residential redevelopment through provisions included within the sale agreement.

Dr Ed Capo-Bianco, GP Partner at Goring and Woodcote Medical Practice, said: 'Goring and Woodcote Medical Practice is delighted to have bought the Old Jubilee Fire Station site from the Parish Council, with the purpose of expanding our medical facility in Goring. This was a unique opportunity for the medical practice, being a site adjacent to us and remaining in the centre of the village.'



GPC Chair Toby Thurston with Dr Ed Capo-Bianco

Pickle with Purpose

The Old Vicarage, Moultsford is offering free membership of its pickleball club to local people who are willing to spend a little time getting to know and support its residents.



Top Up Fee Funding.

We have teamed up with a charity to help pay top up fees. Subject to eligibility. Please contact Charlie to find out more about either initiative:

cvl@hanninghomes.com or call **01491 651429** to find out more.



hanninghomes.com



HANNING HOMES

Anthony O'Donnell
Restorer Of Fine Furniture



jackie.brookes@btinternet.com
07748680489

Michael Franklin FINANCIAL PLANNER



A wealth of expertise on your doorstep

We provide an experienced wealth management service and offer independent advice in a wide range of areas including:

- Auto-Enrolment
- Long Term Care Planning
- Tax Efficient Savings

For further details contact Michael Franklin on:

Tel: 01491 871 033

1 Colebrook House, High Street, Goring, Oxon, RG8 9AR

Email: michael.franklin@aspect8.co.uk

Website: www.aspect8.co.uk

Aspect8 Ltd is an appointed representative of Best Practice IFA Group Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

The Financial Conduct Authority does not regulate tax advice.

A.THOMPSON
traditional builders

Traditional values - Modern standards - Exceptional results - Trusted

A family-run company built on trust, honesty, and integrity. We combine traditional craftsmanship with modern techniques to deliver exceptional results — from period extensions and conversions to bespoke new builds. With a strong reputation for quality and reliability, we complete every project efficiently, on time, and within budget.

Hungerford - Berkshire - Oxfordshire

Visit www.athompsonbuilders.co.uk or call 07909 902 435

A.B.WALKER
FUNERAL SERVICES SINCE 1826

Independent, family-run funeral
directors serving Goring and
Streatley since 1826.

Honouring Every Life

0118 304 0068 | abwalker.co.uk

Excellent ★★★★★ ★ Trustpilot



‘We are currently exploring our options for development of the site with the Primary Care Estates Team from the Thames Valley Integrated Care Board, who commission NHS GP services.’

Councillor Toby Thurston, Chair of Goring-on-Thames Parish Council, said: ‘This site has served the community continuously since 1937. Although the building itself has reached the end of its useful life, we are delighted that the land will continue serving local people by supporting the future of healthcare in Goring. ‘The Council wanted to ensure this remained a community asset for generations to come, and the sale has been structured so the site continues to be used for medical purposes rather than being lost to residential development.’

The site’s next chapter will see it continue its long tradition of public service—first as Goring’s fire station, later as the Parish Council’s offices, and now as an opportunity to strengthen healthcare provision for the community.



Goring-on-Thames Parish Council – Full Council meeting

The principal points of the Goring Parish Council meeting on 13 July are summarised below. The draft minutes are available at: www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

- The idea in principle for the GASP Art project for the Boathouse arcade phone box was approved. Terms of reference and a licence are to be drawn up for further discussion. It was agreed to apply for the S106 Art Grant to potentially help fund the project.
- Unanimously approved in principle to install CCTV at Bourdillon Playing Field. Open Spaces committee to set up a group to develop consultation and implementation within a budget of £2000
- It was unanimously approved to purchase a defibrillator and cabinet for Bourdillon Playing Field, to be sited on an appropriate lamp post. It was also approved to purchase a number of bleed kits and locate them at key positions in the village.
- The council agreed to create a new dedicated email address for residents to report any issues: report@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk
- It was agreed to replace two dilapidated benches on Sheepcot, with a maximum budget of £1400.
- The grant letter for potential Mend the Gap funding for the Ferry Lane path resurfacing project was signed.
- It was agreed to approve the creation of further professional designs to inform the discussion on Pedestrian Safety Improvement Projects across the village.
- It was unanimously approved to appoint WorkNest as the External HR and Employment Law adviser to the Parish Council.

Next meeting: Reiss Room, Goring Community Centre, Monday 14 September 6.30pm.

See: www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk from 8 September for the agenda.

Vacancy for Streatley Parish Council Clerk

Applications are now welcome to fulfil the role of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer to Streatley Parish Council. This part-time position requires approximately 12.5 hours per week which can generally be expended at times to suit the post holder.

This responsible position includes the following principal duties:

- Attendance and accurate recording of the minutes of the meeting at monthly Parish Council Meetings in the Morrell Rooms for review and publication.
- Maintenance of a true and accurate record of the Council finances against annual budgets, including financial reporting, VAT reclaims, payment of invoices.
- Maintenance of action logs and expediting of Councillor actions.
- Development of official correspondence for Chairman review and publication as necessary.
- Advise Council as to policymaking and source information necessary for Council analysis and proper decisions.
- Ensuring the website is kept up to date with current documentation.
- Actively engage in the inspection and information gathering of Council managed assets in the Parish.
- Close liaison with Councillors, particularly the Chairman, regarding Council business arising between meetings including dissemination of urgent correspondence.
- Acting as the focal point with West Berkshire Council on matters concerning planning applications and highways, responding in a timely manner.
- Take the lead for internal and external audit preparation.
- Regular review of Council policies and procedures.

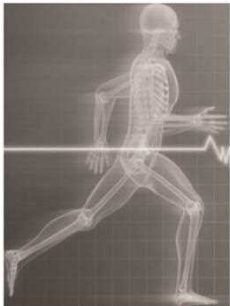
The position best suits a person actively interested in understanding and maintaining the effective operation of Parish business for the benefit of the residents, with a good working knowledge of Microsoft products.

A salary is to be agreed with the successful candidate as established in the National Agreement for Part Time Officers of Local Authorities commensurate with capabilities and experience of work similar to the above description. Full training will be provided if required.

Streatley Parish Council is committed to equal opportunities and invites applications from suitable candidates irrespective of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, race or religion.

Persons interested in this position should contact the Parish Council Chairman, Colin Smith, either by email or telephone. Email: colin.smith@streatley.org / Tel: 07917 271172

Sports Therapy Sports and Rehabilitation Massage



Jeremy Waite MSMA, MISRM

07827 926123

www.sports-solutions.net

Jeremy@sports-solutions.net

Based in Gatehampton Road, Goring.

ADVANCED PEST CONTROL SERVICE

Established 1970

HOUSEHOLD, GARDEN & FARM PESTS

Rats, mice, moles, rabbits, wasps

and all other insects

DEALT WITH PROMPTLY

Call Lee Carrington

Tel: 01491 835610

Mobile: 07970 010214



N NOT JUST
TRAVEL

Inspiring People To Have Greater Adventures

- Expert Advice
- No Call Centre Queues
- More Choice Than Online
- Beach, City, Cruise, Ski and Incredible Journeys

alexharding.notjusttravel.com

01491 733030 or 07500 785254

alex.harding@notjusttravel.com



"OXFORDSHIRES LEADING RE-UPHOLSTERY SPECIALISTS"



ASNEW
UPHOLSTERY & DESIGN



Our Services include:

- Antique and modern re-upholstery
- Made to Measure curtains and blinds
- Interior advisory consultations
- Spring repairs and restoration
- New cushion interiors
- New Headboards and Ottomans
- Loose covers

Did you know we also make new furniture and have our very own furniture range? For more information please visit our website.

Asnew Upholstery Ltd, Unit 17, Nuffield Way, Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 1RL
01235 522 770 | info@asnew-upholstery.co.uk | www.asnew-upholstery.co.uk

GS PROPERTY
Developments Ltd

Quality Property Renovations & Bespoke Construction

29 Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5TY

New Builds • Renovations • Extensions • Conversions

Contact Us Today

T: 0118 941 2227 M: 07793 444084 E: info@gs-property.co.uk

www.gs-property.co.uk



LIVES REMEMBERED

Hazel Preston Barnes 17.06.1953 – 08.04.2026

Hazel Elizabeth Manning, as she started out in life, was born in Redbourn and lived in the area for much of her early life. She was first married at the tender age of twenty, but it was not to last. She gave up a chance at university to get a full-time job as a programmer, something of a rarity for young women at the time.

She married a second time to Mike and had a son Nick. She became a programme manager after running a village shop and post office, all whilst bringing up her son. She moved to Streatley in 1997 and married for a third time to Nicholas in 2007. By 2014 her son Nick was married and within ten years there were four grandchildren, Emma, Finn, Isobel and Elodie.

Once retired Hazel became the Streatley Parish Clerk, a position that she made her own. Past chairmen will be forever grateful for the effort she put into the job, going above and beyond in making sure everything ran smoothly. She volunteered during Covid, helping with the local surgery's vaccine campaign. She also stood as the local councillor on West Berks Council but was beaten into second place.

She volunteered for the Hub (Q1 Foundation) and worked at *Goring Gap News (GGN)* for over seven years, becoming an expert in the production of the magazine. Readers of *GGN* will have seen many pages that were laid out by Hazel; always energetic and organised. Her expertise, reliability and good company were invaluable and continue to be missed.

In all her volunteering roles Hazel's efforts were greatly appreciated and it gave her an enormous sense of satisfaction to know she was helping and doing good. It looked like her retirement was not going to be pottering around the garden!

Hazel was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer in November 2025 and passed away surrounded by family in The Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, in April this year. Her funeral was very well attended, with lots of wonderful comments from friends, colleagues and family. She will be sorely missed, not least by her two Sprocker Spaniels, Tilly and Elsa.



Celia Eaststaff 27.10.1922 – 17.07.2026

Celia sadly passed away after a very brief illness on Friday 17 July aged 103.

Born Celia Prince in the North East of England, from very humble beginnings she led an active and interesting life. She began work at the age of 14 and continued to work until she was 88. Her 'retirement' was the result of breaking her hip and deteriorating eyesight.

During the Second World War she served with the Red Cross ATS at Freeland House near Witney and at Flint House. At the end of the war, she returned to work for Lord and Lady Borwick, marrying Cyril Eaststaff in 1947. Following Lady Borwick's death, she was never out of work cleaning and cooking.

In the 1970s she went to work at the Swan Hotel initially serving afternoon teas, but later managed the breakfast service. Through her work she met a large number of people including many well-known personalities. She loved entertaining and reading. She had an amazing memory and enjoyed watching quizzes, doing word and number puzzles and taking part in quizzes at the Lunch Club. She had no children but was very close to her nephew and niece and their families. A longtime resident of Goring, she was very recognisable in her hi vis jacket. She was very highly thought of by all who knew her. We will miss her.

(There was an article about Celia's life in *GGN* November 2022 Page 19.)



Christine Elizabeth Coombs 18.05.1933 – 24.07.2026

Christine was born in Headington, Oxford, where she lived with her sister, Nancy, in the family home. She was educated at Milham Ford School and later studied art and dress design at the Oxford School of Art. It was while travelling home from art school that she began talking to Trevor. They fell in love and married in 1957. After their marriage, they first lived in North London, where they cared for an ailing aunt, before buying their first home in Wilmington, Kent. Christine worked for the Woolwich Electricity Board before the birth of her two sons, Chris and Rob.

The family moved to Milldown Road, Goring, in March 1966. Later that year, Christine began working for the Oxfordshire District Health Authority as a secretary, travelling by bus to support district nurses and health visitors with their paperwork. She subsequently worked as a typist in an office in Goring. In retirement, Christine delivered hot lunches to elderly people in their homes and at Goring Day Centre.

Christine loved painting in oils and acrylics and exhibited her work in a local art exhibition. She also enjoyed making her own clothes on her Singer sewing machine, creating cross-stitch pictures and knitting for her family. Her main passion was gardening. She designed the garden with Trevor and loved spending time there, growing her favourite plants. Her interest in arts and crafts was passed on to her children. She encouraged them to design and make miniature gardens on baking



a1sovereign

now Goring & Streatley's only LOCAL Printer

5 mins drive from the Village Centre, Free parking,
Free tea & coffee... New Customers always welcome

Copying - Printing - Binding - Laminating - Booklets
Brochures - Leaflets - Orders of Service - Pads - Xmas Cards
Event Support: Banners, Correx Boards, Flyers, Programmes
High Speed Digital Printing - Variable Data - PVC ID Cards
>Design >Print >Fulfilment >Bulk Mailing

01491 871555 (Sue / Tony) a1sovereign.co.uk



AllianceCFM
Commercial and Domestic Plumbing & Heating

- Heating system installation and upgrades
- Gas and Oil Boiler servicing and repairs
- All general plumbing services

Contact:
Harry Denison
0118 230 1268
www.alliancecfm.co.uk

THAMES

♦ Building Solutions ♦

- ▼ Extensions
- ▼ Alterations
- ▼ Refurbishment
- ▼ Patios
- ▼ Brickwork
- ▼ Carpentry
- ▼ Floor & wall finishes

**The complete
building service**

Tel: 01491 680 389 / 0776 8470 198



The Morrell Room

*A beautiful
wood panelled hall*

**Seats up to 100 ~ Free WIFI
Excellent kitchen facilities**

Ideal for social
and business functions

Church Lane, Streatley
info@morrellroom.org
01491 873855
www.morrellroom.org

JACK'S WESTHOLME STORES

WE ARE OPEN TILL 9.00 P.M

(SUNDAYS TILL 8.00 P.M)

24, WALLINGFORD ROAD, READING,

RG8 0BG

01491872619

◉ SUMMER SPECIAL ◉

🍦 Ice Cream • 🧊 Ice Cubes • 🍺 Local Beers

Beat the heat with our summer essentials!

Coming
Soon...

We're delighted to announce that we'll soon be available on
Deliveroo!

You can now enjoy your favourite meals with the convenience of
home delivery.

Enjoy fast, convenient delivery straight to your door.

Keep an eye on our Deliveroo page for our launch date and special
offers...



FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE. ...

WESTHOLME STORE AKA JACKS...

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSE US WE TRULY
APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.....

deliveroo

BLOCKED EARS?

Lucinda is a qualified NHS audiologist with
over 20 years experience. Now providing
a home service for Earwax Removal.
Let her visit you in your own home to help
relieve the symptoms of blocked ears.

Full PPE equipment used to comply with
recommended Covid safety measures.



07795 268866

Lucinda@hearingscreening.co.uk

facebook.com/blockedear
instagram.com/blocked_ear

HCPC registered
Registered NHS Audiologist
Professional indemnity insurance
Hearing Screening and Testing Limited.
Registered in England No.07810066

**LUCINDA
ELLIS**
HEARING
SCREENING
& TESTING

LIVES REMEMBERED continued

trays, which they entered into the local fête in the early 1970s, winning several prizes. Christine also often won prizes for her jams at the fête, using skills learnt from her mother and pans and techniques passed down through the family. She was also a member of the village choir and later when house bound due to illness continued singing at home.

Christine spent her final years peacefully at home in Goring with Trevor. When she developed Alzheimer's disease, Trevor became her carer before they both eventually required live-in care. Christine loved her home in Goring, where she lived for more than 60 years, and always knew how fortunate they were to live in such a beautiful place.

Christine is survived by her two sons, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Despite her failing health in her final years, she remained a compassionate, gentle and kind person, often putting the needs of others before her own.

Trevor Coombs 15.08.1933 – 01.08.2026

Trevor was born in Headington, near Oxford, and lived with his sister, Valerie, in the family home close to the present-day site of the John Radcliffe Hospital. He was a child during WWII and remembered seeing bomber planes roaring overhead and accompanying his father to rescue his grandparents from the ruins of Coventry.

He was educated at Magdalen College School. His first job was at WH Smith in Aylesbury, travelling there from Oxford on his Vespa scooter. Trevor went on to have a successful career in marketing, working at Philips and Hotpoint before joining the Post Office headquarters in London, where he established the 'Post Shops' business.

Trevor moved to Goring with his wife, Christine, and their sons, Chris and Rob, in 1966. He spent much of his leisure time seeking to improve village life. He was a governor at Goring Primary School and Langtree School, both of which his sons attended, and served as a parish councillor for 25 years.

During his time as chairman of the parish council, he guided it through the tasks of reroofing the Village Hall and rebuilding the Gardiner Pavilion. In 1977, he was instrumental in organising the filming of village activities to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Some Goring residents may remember that this included a spectacular display of flaming lights on Streatley Hill, spelling out 'EIIIR' in 25-metre-high letters formed by paraffin pots laid across the hillside.

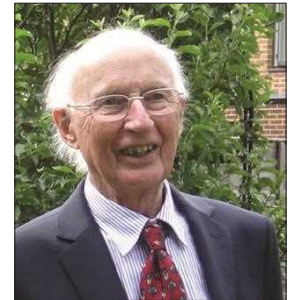
Trevor founded the Friends of Goring Library when the library was threatened with closure, and it is wonderful to see the organisation still going strong today.

In 1989, he persuaded the National Trust to acquire The Holies at Streatley, the hill to the left of the main Streatley Hill. Covering 109 acres, it is one of the largest areas of pristine chalk grassland in Berkshire. Funds were subsequently raised to reimburse the Trust. The NT purchase enables a beautiful circular walk through the bluebells around The Holies to Lardon Chase, with far-reaching views across the Thames Valley. It is a wonderful legacy for the village.

In retirement, Trevor embarked on an archaeology degree at the University of Reading, which enabled him to take part in archaeological digs at Silchester and deepen his love of history. In 2018, he wrote a book about Roman life in Berkshire.

During the earlier years of his retirement, Trevor enjoyed swimming, running, and a great deal of walking and cycling. In later years, this became a daily walk around the village. Sadly, his mobility gradually deteriorated with advancing age, particularly following several devastating falls and a stroke. He also endured various illnesses, but he never lost his enthusiasm for life, his positive outlook, or his love of communicating with others and engaging with the world around him.

Trevor leaves behind his sister, Valerie; his sons, Chris and Rob; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.



MEDICAL INFORMATION

- In an emergency dial **999**
- **For medical advice** at all times, including surgery out-of-hours, dial **111** or use <https://111.nhs.uk/> You will be told how to obtain any further help if needed
- **Local pharmacies** can offer advice and treatment for some conditions. Goring Pharmacy: **01491 872124**
- **Nearest First Aid Units:** Townland Hospital, Henley **01865 903755**, or West Berkshire Community Hospital, Thatcham **01635 273508**, or Abingdon Community Hospital **01865 903476**
- **Goring & Woodcote Medical Practice:** Monday-Friday 8am-6.30pm **01491 680686** Requests for appointments are triaged to direct patients to the correct help and should be made using the form available at www.goringwoodcotemedicalpractice.nhs.uk If you are unable to use the form, the practice can be contacted on the above number to support you.
- **Nearest Casualty Department:** Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading **0118 322 7020**
- **Emergency Dentist** – call **111** for advice
- **Goring medical equipment** – including, wheelchairs, toilet aids, mobility aids and more: **01491 874333** or **07966 245264**
- **Goring transport office** – 10am-12noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, to arrange volunteer transport to local surgeries, dentists and hospitals **01491 873565**.



Creative Catering

ALL EVENT CATERING
WEDDINGS, WAKES, GARDEN
PARTIES, BUSINESS LUNCHES &
PIG ROASTS

Moulsford 01235 850342

SHEILA 07743368373

FB Creativecateringblewbury

www.creative-caterer.co.uk

BARBARA'S ANTIQUES & BRIC-A-BRAC SHOP

Established for 45 years

The ideal place to come for that quirky gift.

House clearances our speciality

We also buy all kinds of quality items
including small furniture, bric-a-brac and jewellery.
Downsizing, moving or simply wishing to declutter?

Tel: 01491 873032

Open Mon-Sat 11am-4.30pm

Wheel Orchard Car Park, Goring RG8 9GB

See us on Facebook and Instagram



THE BATHROOM
STUDIO

Expert advice, beautiful spaces

Visit the Showroom

35 Wallingford Rd, Goring, RG8 OHL

01491 377272 | studio@thebathroom.studio

Computer Problems? PC misbehaving?

Fault diagnosis, Maintenance & Upgrades, Networking,
Data Recovery, Virus Cleaning, Broadband,
Telephone Cabling & Extensions, TV, Mobiles,
Website Design, Development & Hosting, and much more.
Home and Business Support.
Windows and Mac.

01491 680036 or 07961 476664

mail@influentialcomputers.com

www.InfluentialComputers.com

Robin, Henry and Angus Piercey

Influential Computers Ltd - A Family Run Business Since 1984



**C & G
MOTORS**

Servicing

MOT's

Repairs

**Tyres &
tracking**

**Exhaust
systems**

Welding

Diagnostics

**A/C Re-gas
(R134A &
R1234YF)**

**FREE safety
check over**

**.... And much
more!**

01491 652971

UNIT 3 WESTFIELD FARM, WESTFIELD ROAD,
CHOLSEY, OX10 9LS

GARAGE

LONG ESTABLISHED QUALITY

Family Run Garage in Woodcote Since 1979

**All Makes of Cars & Small Vans Serviced and
Repaired, Painted & MOT-Tested.**

Including JAGUAR Cars.

Contact Terry * Lee or Janet. on 01491-680286

Email tscars@live.co.uk

Web Address tscars-woodcote.co.uk

Temporary court closure at Tennis Club

Goring Tennis Club's courts have done a great job for the past thirty years but now need resurfacing.

Work is planned to start on courts 3,4 and 5 (the public court) on Monday 7 September and will last for approximately two weeks. This is being carried out with the permission of Goring Parish Council and with full adherence to safety codes.

The block of three courts will be closed during this period and as a result the public court will not be available to Goring Parish residents.

Once the courts are resurfaced the new tarmac will need four weeks to cure before painting and we plan to put down some temporary lines to allow play to resume during this period.

Please visit our website: www.goring-tennis.co.uk for updates.

Our two other courts remain in action for tennis club members and we'll continue with our social play sessions and coaching as far as possible.

New members are always welcome – please contact Alex: membership.sec@goring-tennis.co.uk

or Bob: pickleball@goring-tennis.co.uk for more information.

Jane Cartledge
Chair GTC

Cricket Club Quiz returns – Friday 18 September

The team behind the ever-popular Goring & Streatley Quiz Challenge trophy is back with the 16th edition of their quiz – featuring a wide variety of topics and rounds to appeal to teams of all ages.

The event will take place on Friday 18 September 2026 (doors opening at 7.30pm) at Goring Village Hall. Teams should have between four and six team members, with each paying £10 per member.

The 'Boundary Bar' will be open all night at the Village Hall, serving a variety of refreshments, snacks and alcohol including local real ale, lagers, cocktails and wine/fizz. Having been a roaring success at past quizzes, a variety of tasty pizza will also be available to purchase on the night.

To book your place and give your team the chance of winning the famous trophy, please contact Jonny Russell at: jonnyrussell100@outlook.com / 07825 552009

National rowing success for local girls

This summer saw unprecedented success for Streatley girls Tilly Phillips, 17, and Flo Schilizzi, 18 (and Woodcote resident Ava Dowman, also 17). Representing Wallingford Rowing Club, they won Championship coxed fours at National Schools Regatta in May, the pinnacle of the Junior rowing calendar, followed by an appearance in the final of Henley Women's Regatta, racing at Henley Royal Regatta and two silver medals at the British Championships. To cap it all, they were then selected to represent England at the Home International Regatta, competing against Ireland, Scotland and Wales in July where they came second.

Goring resident Geoff Brown also enjoyed a third successive international appearance, coaching a younger group of Wallingford RC girls to victory at the annual GB-France match for U16s, in Gravelines, northern France. Geoff, who is also Captain at the club, said: 'This was a project we had been working towards since the beginning of the season, in September. To represent Great Britain at this age group you have realistically to win the National Schools Regatta in May – which they did – then keep your form for a further two months to win the GB trials just before Henley Royal Regatta. Then they had to peak again to beat a very strong French crew, in France. I am full of admiration for this gutsy, ambitious group of girls.'

Next to Geoff in the picture is another local, Iona Butterfield, 16, from Woodcote.



GB - France U16 8+ with Geoff

Continued P37.

W.A. HINE & SON LTD

Established 1955



**BUILDERS
CONTRACTORS
AND DECORATORS**



Telephone: (01491) 872433
Email: wahineandson@yahoo.co.uk

33 WALLINGFORD ROAD, GORING ON THAMES, READING RG8 0HL

www.wahineandsonltd.co.uk

Storage and workshop
opportunities available at
Mapledurham country estate.
Please call Mathew on 07407
618138 or email

office@riverswoodsporting.com



LYNDHURST RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME



RESPIRE

RESIDENTIAL

DAYCARE



FAMILY RUN FOR OVER TWO DECADES

01491 871 325

For more info call or email lyndhurst@goringcarehomes.com

www.goringcarehomes.com

Cosmetic & Laser Skin Clinic



Professional, Caring and Confidential

- laser hair removal
- facial & leg veins
- wrinkles / crows feet
- lip enhancement
- microdermabrasion
- skin tightening
- brown spots
- skin peels • acne
- mole, cyst, skin tag
- excessive sweating
- tattoo removal

The
CHILTERNmedical clinic

Dr N. Munnely
Medical Director



1 Thames Court . High Street . Goring . RG8 9AQ

Call 01491 873989 or visit www.chilternmedical.co.uk

ARBOCARE TREE SURGERY LTD

Tree surgery
Landscaping
Grounds Maintenance



**Qualified, insured,
experienced arborists**

- Contractors to the National Trust
 - Surveys & reports
 - Patios & Decking
 - Turfing & Fencing

For more details contact us on:

Freephone **0808 155 5815**

Mobile **07778 811136**

Email mharvey31@gmail.com

www.arbocare.co.uk



- Boilers Installed/
Serviced/Repaired
- Landlord Certificates
- Power Flushing
- All Plumbing Work
Undertaken

T. 07818425018

E. contact@kwc-heating.co.uk

W. www.kwc-heating.co.uk





England U18 coxless 4 - from left to right Tilly, Ava, Elsie, Flo

The level of Junior success at Wallingford has set new records – no fewer than six gold and two silver medals at National Schools including for the first time for boys in Championship events, four crews racing at Henley Royal, twelve girls gaining GB honours (the GB-France crew and three more at U19 level) and four girls representing England. The U16 and U18 boys won gold medals at the British Championships. The club is also developing its Senior squad, resulting in a first appearance in seven years at Henley Royal Regatta, and of course continues with its very strong Masters squads for people generally aged 40+, with wins at all the major Championship events and Henley Masters this year.

For a community club with little access to funds and who are not selective (ie they take any members who wish to row, at any level) in an area with traditionally strong clubs and very wealthy private schools, it is an achievement all the more remarkable. Queries about joining the club to Geoff at: wrccaptain@hotmail.co.uk or come see us at our lovely old boathouse (a Grade 2 listed former brewing wharf house) in the heart of Wallingford.

Geoff Brown

Woodcote Badminton Club

Woodcote Badminton Club is a small, friendly Badminton Club meeting on Monday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in Woodcote Village Hall. We like to think we are competitive, but the emphasis is more on just enjoying playing and the social time together.

We welcome new members and begin our new season on 7 September. If you might be interested in joining us, please contact John Fung on: fung.johnc@gmail.com / 07421 030633

John Fung

'Beginners to Golf' afternoon for women – Saturday 12 September

Goring & Streatley Golf Club are hosting a free 'Beginners to Golf' afternoon on Saturday 12 September from 1-3pm. This is aimed at women who are new to the game and may be interested in giving golf a try.

The afternoon includes:

- 1 hour of golf tuition hosted by the head professional
- 1 hour on the range
- Coffee, cake and a glass of bubbles in the clubhouse to finish

If you have ever thought about trying golf, this is the perfect chance to come along in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

Attendees must sign up via: www.goringgolf.co.uk to secure their place.

We would be delighted to welcome any women who might enjoy discovering golf for the first time.

Kiersa Harris

150th celebrations in full flow at GCC

Goring Cricket Club's 150th anniversary celebrations have begun!

As covered in previous issues, there is a ten-day programme of events from 22-31 August – these are not just for club members to enjoy, but also for past players, supporters old and new, and the wider community.

Not to be missed events coming up in the next week are:

- Friday 28 August – 11.30am start – GCC vs Marylebone Cricket Club
- Sunday 30 August – All day – GCC Legends Day

There is a special 150th programme printed to commemorate the landmark year – don't forget to pick up a copy from the Boundary Bar. Look forward to seeing many of you during this momentous period for the club.

Jonny Russell

THE WINDOW CLEANER

Windows, frames, sills, doors, conservatories
Gutter vac cleaning system. All year service.

For a free quote, call Mike on 07967 004426
or thewindowcleaner1@gmail.com



HandyMan

Need someone to do
those little jobs in the House & Garden?
Shelves – Curtain Rails put up
Dripping Taps – Broken gates fixed
No Job Too Small
Call Barry 07989 384 065



CLINIC OF CHINESE ACUPUNCTURE

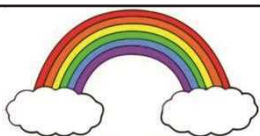
MRS. SIGYTA HART

MCA (UK 1984) MBACC MBCHM KANO



*In Private Practice
in Wallingford Community Hospital
and Goring-on-Thames*

Please telephone 01491 873972
for enquiries and appointments



Rosie Care

TEL: 01491 682437 MOB. 07966509908.
PUBLIC LIABILITY, OWN CAR, TRAINED, DBS,
EXPERIENCED, DEMENTIA, PALLIATIVE.

LOCAL HANDYMAN SERVICES INDOOR/OUTDOOR PUBLIC LIABILITY

CALL JAMES ON 07961 882281

Caroline Manley

Made to measure curtains, Roman
Blinds, cushion covers, etc.

01189 542448 07815 610007

Caroline.manley1@gmail.com

Piano Tuning Benjamin Sermon

Local tuner serving RG8
and surrounds.

email: pianoben@pm.me
tel: 07594 048 732



H & Sons Window Cleaners

Cleaners to Wimbledon Lawn Tennis

Terry Mobile: 07985 569392
Home: 0118 376 9754
Email: terry.hmwindows@yahoo.co.uk

OVEN CLEANING

Professional valeting service
Removes grease & most burn-on carbon
deposits
OVENU Reading
0118 967 2897

STEPHEN NAPPER

- Building & Landscaping
 - Groundwork
 - Brickwork
 - Fencing
- Tel: 01491 671178 or 07887 881943

Lovely & hardworking cleaners available

- High Cleaning Standards
 - Good quality products & equipment provided
 - Local references available. - Affordable rates
 - Ironing & Carpet cleaning service available
- Contact Kristina on 07593 627139



Boiler Installations, Servicing & Repairs

01235 608400 | www.eliteheatingengineers.com



Showroom at:
45 Prospect Street
Caversham RG4 8JB
0118 9463060

Chimney Sweeping, Sales & Installation
Woodburners, Fireplaces, Gas & Electric Fires

www.fireplacemagic.co.uk

Experienced Local

DJ

Music for all occasions

Quality sound & lighting equipment

Call Gary on 07776224703

Emails: gpb_blunt@yahoo.com

HELP WITH MATHS & ENGLISH FOR AGES 6-12

At your home or via Zoom

malpurdie@gmail.com
Tel. 07815 731327



Professional, family run carpet
& upholstery cleaning service
Call David on 07887 565009
Info@peacockcarpetcleaning.co.uk
www.peacockcarpetcleaning.co.uk

DMD Window Cleaning

Est. in Goring since 2004

For windows, conservatories, gutters and
fascias, please call Darren on 07971 929025
DMDwindowcleaning@gmail.com

ALL PLASTERING WORK UNDERTAKEN

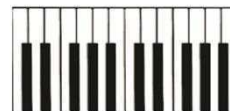
Including reskimming walls and covering
Artex ceilings. Free quotations with public
liability insurance.

Phone Steve on 07967 506522

PIANO LESSONS in GORING

For adults who've always wanted to
learn, or to pick it up again.

Call Geoff Brown ATCL 07801
034431 or geoffsbrown@live.co.uk



Goring Holiday House

Are you renovating your house?
Do you need separate space for your visiting family?
Do you have a gap between buying and selling?

My stunning 3 bed holiday home on Cleeve Rd
is available for stays between 3 and 90 nights

Photos, info and availability shown here:
<https://www.airbnb.com/rooms/17574144>

Please call Debs on 07958 748412
to arrange a viewing or to discuss availability



Tai Chi & Qi-Gong Exercise Class

Feel Stronger, Calmer & More Balanced
Perfect for over 50s/Returning to Exercise/Rehabilitation

Tuesday's from 1pm - 2pm
Streatley Village Hall (Morrell Room)

Thursday's from 8am - 9am
Goring Village Hall (Garden Room)

You're welcome to drop in or contact Peter:

078 0300 5338

peter.mfctaichi@btinternet.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

David Slarks ggn diary@gmail.com

GORING GAP LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY TALKS

2026 has been a busy year as the Society has been celebrating its 60th anniversary. Our 61st season of talks begins in September when Bret and Karen Wiles will be covering the story of the Women's Institute in World War II. The Wiless are often in the village as they live on the river and moor here from time to time. In researching this topic, they visited the Society's archives to study the reports of Goring WI activities that appeared during the war in the parish magazine, so no doubt there will be some local content. The talk takes place in Goring Village Hall at 2.30pm on Monday 21 September. Visitors are welcome at £5 to include refreshments. As well as holding monthly talks, we organise outings and publish an annual journal. To find out more about the GGLHS and its activities, visit www.goringgaphistory.org.uk

PEACE PILGRIMAGE PASSING THROUGH.

The 2026 Franciscan Peace Pilgrimage is a relay-style walking prayer across England organized by the Society of Saint Francis to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. The route passes directly through Goring and Streatley on the final leg to reach their community houses in London. They will have started in Northumbria on Lindisfarne and gone down to Dorset, then back up to Gloucestershire and down the Thames. They will be with us on Saturday 26 Sept. You can join them that day from Dorchester or go on with them to Reading on the Sunday. St Thomas' Church, Goring, will be open all day with resources for praying for peace in all its forms. We will have a vigil for peace in St Thomas's at 5-5.45pm. All welcome. For more about the pilgrimage see www.franciscans.org.uk

YOUTH ALPHA, ST THOMAS' CHURCH

Explore Life, Faith and Purpose. Sunday 27 September from 5-6.30pm. For 11-15-year-olds. A space to be listened to and ask question with games, pizza and a mocktail – everyone welcome. Contact: vicarofgsandss@yahoo.com

ART EXHIBITION

There will be an art exhibition in the village hall over the August Bank Holiday weekend, Sunday 30 and Monday 31 August. The exhibition is open from 10am-5pm both days, admission is free and the exhibiting artists will be there. A collection will be made for Great Ormond Street Hospital. This exhibition includes work by Howard Birchmore – a professional artist for over 25 years. He is well known for his ability to capture the effects of light on water, originally for his many studies of the Thames and later for the wild seas around our coasts. His seascapes of the UK coastline and Venice with its many iconic landmarks have been sold all around the world. Howard also produces landscapes; one of his commissions hangs in the offices of Warmingham Estate Agents in the High Street in Goring

PIANO RECITAL, ST MARY'S CHURCH

On Sunday 13 September at 4pm St Mary's Concerts are delighted to welcome back Ikuko Inoguchi and Sally Goodworth and to welcome Hayley Tull for the first time for *Three Friends, Six Hands, One Piano* – a concert of very lively and enjoyable pieces for six hands on one piano, including works by Hilary Collins, Cornelius Gurlitt (1820-1901), Ernest Guirard (1837-1892), Sergei Rachmaninoff and Xaver Scharwenka.

GORING SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

From 4 July to 5 September, Goring Library is participating in the Summer Reading Challenge 2026: *Read to the Beat*, in partnership with Universal Music Group UK. All children taking

part can collect stickers and rewards as they enjoy reading library books. Children who finish the Challenge will receive a medal, a certificate and entry into a prize draw taking place on 12 September.

SOUTH STOKE OPEN GARDENS

Monday 31 August from 1–5pm (last entry 3.30pm). Free parking at Recreation Ground (RG8 0JT) and disabled parking outside the Church (RG8 0JS). Not all gardens have disabled access. No dogs allowed in the gardens. There will be plants for sale. £6 adults, accompanied under 16s free. Tickets available on the day at the Recreation Ground, Church lychgate and Bridleway from Goring.

Further afield

AFTERNOON TEAS AT ALDWORTH ST MARY'S CHURCH

Every Wednesday in August & 2 September. 3-4.30pm. Delicious homemade cakes in the company of The Aldworth Giants. For further details and to book groups contact Gill Wilding [01635 578624](tel:01635 578624) or gillwilding@hotmail.com

WALLINGFORD PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Join us at Wallingford Photographic Club this September and into the autumn as we kick off a fresh season of weekly events for amateur or enthusiast photographers, whether camera or phone users. Our welcoming community offers talks, presentations, competitions, and hands-on sessions. Come meet us Thursdays at 7.30pm at Crowmarsh Pavilion. We begin on 3 September with a welcome night for new members, a look at what we've been doing over the summer, and an overview of the upcoming programme. For details see www.wallingfordphoto.club

CHOLSEY REPAIR CAFE

Cholsey Repair Café will be back on Saturday 19 September at the Cholsey Pavilion, between 10 and 12.45pm This follows the regular formula of third Saturday of odd-numbered months. Volunteers will be there to help you attempt repairs to a wide range of household items, bikes, gardening equipment and electrical goods (white goods excepted). No charge is made but if you care to make a donation, it helps to cover operating expenses. You can see more at www.cholseyrepaircafe.com or email repaircafe@cholsey.com Also look out for other repair cafés in our district.

WOODCOTE FETE

Enjoy a fun day out at Woodcote Village Fete on Saturday 12 September 12noon-5pm. Entertainment includes live music, a dog show, a Produce & Craft Show, inflatables and a tug of war. Bubbles Man will return again at 1pm to entertain the children (and adults!) with his giant bubbles. We also have a raffle with some great prizes (including £100 cash) and a variety of stalls to peruse.

There will be a bar, a traditional tea tent, Soleuna pizza van, a barbecue, Greek food, Açai Love bowls and smoothies, an ice cream van and a coffee truck. See woodcotefete.com or our Facebook page for more information and to enter the Produce and Craft show.

WALLINGFORD MUSEUM

Wallingford Museum have a Fabulous Fossils family activity on 19 September 11-1pm and 2-4pm, by the Oxfordshire Geology Trust. Normal museum prices apply: £6 adults, children free.

GeoffreyCole^{CO}

A personal service for all your accounting and taxation needs

Personal Tax Returns
Annual Accounts
Company Formation
Business Start Ups
Capital Gains Tax
Company Taxation

Xero and Sage Specialists

To arrange a free initial meeting please
call us on 0118 984 1556 or email post@geoffreycole.co.uk

Corporate Structuring
Rental Property Matters
Assurance
VAT
Share Option Arrangement
Taxation Planning and Advice



ICAEW
CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS



Accountants' Network

www.geoffreycole.co.uk

JJP Roofers

RG8 and all other areas
Local to Goring & Streatley

Replacement roofs, repairs,
brickwork, pointing, & flat roofs
Free estimates. Fully insured

jjproofers@gmail.com
01491 871521
07740 280055
07900 333635



Howard Chadwick Funeral Service

Established 1991



Howard Chadwick Funeral Service are here to support and guide you. Caring for families of all faiths since 1991 in Oxfordshire and the surrounding areas.

Our experienced and friendly team are available 24 hours a day by telephone or you can arrange a home visit.

- 24 Hour Service
- Bereavement Advice
- Transparent Pricing
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Floral Tributes
- Memorial Masonry
- Home Visits
- Prepaid Funeral Plans

Oxfordshire
01491 825222

33 Benson Lane, OX10 8ED

chadwicksfuneralservice.com

Funeral Partners



Purdy Gates

DESIGN • INSTALL • REPAIR

- Manual and Automatic Gates
- Architectural Metal Work
- Railings
- Barriers and Fencing
- Staircases
- Security

For free (no obligation) consultation:

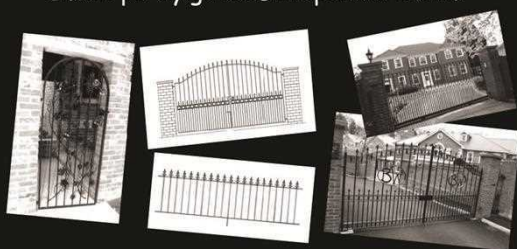
Phone: 01491 681181

Mobile: 07860 862931

Fax: 01491 682933

Web: www.purdygates.co.uk

Email: purdy.gates@btopenworld.com



Wards Farm Industrial Estate, Woodcote, Reading
DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL



**PEST
WIZARDS**
YOUR LOCAL PEST CONTROL SERVICE



**WASPS & ALL INSECTS
RATS, MICE, MOLES & SQUIRRELS
PROMPT SERVICE**

MARK DEARLOVE • 07446 377816
(01491) 833282 • info@pestwizards.co.uk

Wednesday 26 August

Genie News Copy Deadline. Genie is published twice a month. Email us: news@genienews.org

Thursday 27 August

• **Goring Gap U3a.** 10.30-12noon. GVH. *The Flanders and Swann Story*, presented by musical comedy duo Mitchell and Williams. Visitors welcome. Storytime. 10.30-11am. GL. Read to the Beat. Drop-in..

Sunday 30 August

• **Withymead,** Cream Tea Sunday. Reserve open 10am-5pm. Cream teas served 2-5pm. No need to pre-book.. More info at www.withymead.org

• **Art Exhibition.** See P39.

Monday 31 August

• **South Stoke Open Gardens.** See P39.

• **Tea and Cakes.** 2-5pm, St Mary's Church, Streatley. Lydia Davies will be playing light music in the Church between 2.45-3.30pm.

Tuesday 1 September

• **Goring Mobile Post Office.** 1.30-4pm. Westholme stores, Wallingford Rd, Goring. Every Tuesday.

• **Glib Library Book Group.** 5-6pm. GL. See library staff if interested. Full.

Wednesday 2 September

• **Goring Village Green Fingers.** 7.30-9.30pm. SL. A talk about spring bulbs from January to May by George Lockwood. Visitors are welcome at £5. www.villagegreengreenfingers.uk

• **Goring Gap News.** Copy deadline for October events. News and articles of local interest to goringgapnews@gmail.com

• **Cribbage.** 7.30pm, GSC.

• **Knit and Natter.** 3-5pm GSC. Drop-in. Weekly, every Wednesday.

Thursday 3 September

• **Goring Mobile Post Office.** 8-11.30am. Westholme stores, Wallingford Rd, Goring. Every Thursday.

• **Storytime.** 10.30-11am. GL. Drop-in. Every Thursday.

Friday 4 September

• **Goring & Streatley Wine Society.** 8pm. GVH. Tapas Dinner at Pierreponts, Spanish Wines. Presenter: Pierre Le Vin. Enquiries email gswinesoc@gmail.com

• **Bingo, Meat draw.** GSC. (weekly, every Friday).

Monday 7 September

• **Goring and Streatley Bridge Club.** 6.45pm. GVH. Held every Monday.

Tuesday 8 September

• **Lego Club.** 4.45-6pm. GL. Please book. 01865 815155.

• **Parkinson's Group.** 10.30am -12noon. GSC. Drop-in or call James Dobson 01491 872063.

Wednesday 9 September

• **Goring by Cleeve WI.** 7.30pm. SL.

Speaker from the University of Reading: *The University of Reading: Our first 100 years.* Contact Katrina Cooper: 01491 875334, kcooper@r.co.uk

• **The Soundbar Open Mic,** The Miller of Mansfield. Sign up to play from 7.30pm. Music 8 – 10pm. Fancy playing? Come along or get in touch, HelloSoundbar@gmail.com

• **Stay and Play.** 10-11.15am. GL. Drop-in.

Friday 11 September

• **GREADIES Library Book Group.** 10-11am. GL. See library staff if interested. Full.

• **Mega Summer Bingo night and Meat draw.** GSC.

Saturday 12 September

• **Goring Repair Café and Exchange event.** 10am-12.30pm, GVH. The aim is to reduce waste by providing opportunities for anyone to bring one or two items to get them looked at and hopefully repaired. www.goringrepaircafe.info

• **Prize Draw for Summer Reading Challenge.** 11am. GL.

• **Genie News Copy Deadline.** Genie is published twice a month. Email us: news@genienews.org

Sunday 13 September

Concert at St Mary's Church. See P39.

Tuesday 15 September

• **Social Scrabble Club.** 4.45-7pm. GL. All welcome. Refreshments provided.

Wednesday 16 September

• **Gap Textile Group.** 7pm. CR. This group meets monthly. Textile related activities and social get-togethers to share our love of textiles. New members are welcome. Members £2 Visitors £3.50. Contact Merete Hawkins 01491 872198.

• **Coffee Morning.** 10.30am-12noon. St Andrew's Church South Stoke. The 3rd Wednesday of every month.

• **Friends of Goring Library AGM.** 10.30am. BR. Refreshments followed by meeting. All welcome.

Thursday 17 September

Pick a Flick. 10.30am-2pm, CR. *H is for Hawk.* Contact Sarah Fraser 01491 871838 or Jenny Boyd 01491 872109 to book and to ask for transport if required. Cost: £5 per event, including a light lunch.

Friday 18 September

Macular Society Support Group. 2.30 – 4.15pm. GVH. Meeting with afternoon tea. Speaker is the Eye Clinic Liaison Officer, Royal Berks Hospital. Contact: Rowena Buie 01491 87510.

Monday 21 September

Goring Gap Local History Soc. 2.30pm. GVH. Karen and Bret Wiles: *The Women's Institute in World War II.* Contact Janet Hurst, goringgaphistory@gmail.com

Tuesday 22 September

Chess Club. Children 4.45-5.45pm.

Adults 5.45-7pm. GL.

Wednesday 23 September

• **The Arts Society, Goring.** 11am and 2pm. GVH. *The Irritating and Influential James Abbott McNeill Whistler.* Speaker: Julia Musgrave. Refreshments available at 10.30am and 1.30pm. Guests are welcome to attend for £5 through prior booking. email: info@theartsocietygoring.org.uk Further details: www.theartsocietygoring.org.uk

Thursday 24 September

• **Goring Gap U3a.** 10.30-12noon. GVH. Speaker: Colin Wade: *The Joys & Perils of being an Author.*

Friday 25 September

• **Goring Unplugged,** 7.30pm for 8, GVH. Entry is £5. BYOB + nibbles.

• **Author Talk.** 7pm. MR. Tickets £10.

Free refreshments.

Saturday 26 September

Genie News Copy Deadline. Genie is published twice a month. Email us: news@genienews.org

For more events on the Events Calendar at www.genienews.org

The following abbreviations are used:

Bellême Room	BR
Canterbury Room	CR
Free Church Hall	FCH
Goring Community Centre	GCC
Goring Library	GL
Goring Social Club	GSC
Goring Village Hall	GVH
Morrell Room	MR
Storton Lodge	SL

Live sport on the big screen at GSC:

August - Premier League (PL)

Friday 28, 8pm. Crystal Palace v Man City.

Saturday 29, 12.30pm, 5.30pm.

Sunday 30, 2pm, 4.30pm.

Monday 31 8pm. PL Aston Villa v Arsenal.

September

Friday 4, 8pm Ipswich v Liverpool.

Saturday 5, 12.30pm, 5.30pm PL.

Sunday 6, 2pm, 4.30pm PL F1 from Italy.

Friday 11, 8pm Championship, West Ham v Wrexham.

Saturday 12, 5.30pm, 8pm, PL.

Sunday 13, 2pm, 4.30pm, PL F1 from Spain

Monday 14, 8pm, Leeds v Newcastle.

Friday 18, 8pm, Brentford v Chelsea.

Saturday 19, 12.30pm, 5.30pm, PL.

Sunday 20, 2pm, 4.30pm PL

Thursday 24, 7.45pm, UEFA Nations League, Portugal v Wales

Saturday 26, 2pm UEFA Nations League, Slovenia v Scotland, 7.45pm England v Spain, F1 from Azerbaijan.

Tuesday 29, 7.45pm, UEFA Nations League, Scotland v Switzerland, Czech Rep v England.

Winged Wonders art project

Community engagement and environmental responsibility are strongly encouraged by Britain in Bloom and this, combined with Goring's entry into the national competition, provided Rosie Brooks with an excellent reason to have fun putting together a community art project, *Winged Wonders*. Once she had the idea of creating models of butterflies, dragonflies, bees and various pollinators, to fill the streets of Goring and encourage people to think how good it would be to have them in their gardens, there was no holding her back. She organised



the collective saving of waste materials suitable for making the models and her infectious enthusiasm soon led to a team of modellers working together to make the beautiful creatures. Unbelievably, they made about 700 altogether and put them up around the village (including on the back of the toilet block). If, seeing this display, you'd like to make life a little more secure for our pollinators, check out the wildlife helping ideas on Red Cross Road, opposite the cricket pavilion. See also photos opposite.

Editor



Reeds Art Gallery and Picture Framing

Bespoke Picture Framing, Local Art, unusual jewellery, Ceramics & Wood Turning in the heart of Goring on Thames

Tel: 01491 902122

2 The Arcade, High Street, RG8 9AY

dee@reedsartandframing.co.uk

www.reedsartandframing.co.uk



Group and private Pilates classes.

Beginner, mixed ability and Pilates for the Older Person, in Goring and Woodcote, email lindseykentpilates@gmail.com or go to

www.lk-pilates.net



Matthew Baker Design & Decor



Quality Interior & Exterior Decorator



FREE ESTIMATES

Telephone - Matthew Baker

01189 721895 / 07747 013517

matthewbaker2015@hotmail.com



Drought in the Gap



Photo: Dougal Thornton

Winged wonders See P42



Swan Uppers approach an unsuspecting swan



Photo: Nick Barnes

Goring Safari



Look carefully, and see if you notice anything!

Photo and artwork: Kate Ashley