

GORING HEATH NEWSLETTER

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

November 2023
Issue 194

Visit us at:
www.goringheath.com
Facebook: 'Goring Heath Parish News'
goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com



Want to help to reduce speeding?

Join the Crays Pond Goring Heath Community Speed Watch Group

The Crays Pond and Goring Heath Community Speed Watch Group has a committed, but very small group of volunteers who monitor speeding vehicles on our roads. The presence of the Speed Watch volunteers is as great a deterrent to speeding as reporting the offenders to the police.

But we urgently need more volunteers to secure the future of the group.

If you are concerned about the safety of our roads, why not get in touch?

Anyone over the age of 18 can volunteer. You can sign up for as little as one 60 minute session per month or more if you've got the time. Full training is given and you would be always be working with other volunteers during the sessions.

To volunteer, or for more information, email the CPGH CSW Group Coordinator at crayspondcsw@sent.com or via Twitter: [@crayspondCSW](https://twitter.com/crayspondCSW)



Crays Pond Goring Heath Community Speed Watch Group

Chair's Comments



The nights are drawing in, and winter has suddenly appeared. Ice on the windscreen is surely only a temporary blip before autumn returns.

The crisp weather focuses my mind on how many lovely walks we have on our doorstep in Goring Heath. Whether you want to tramp for miles, or just walk around the block, there are plenty of good paths to follow.

Walking is a good way to have some fresh air and exercise, but if you are not sure where to go, why not join the walking group? The group meets on the first Monday of the month in Whitchurch Hill, and has been led by Sally Bergmann for the last five years. Sally is moving away from the area soon, so if anyone would like to take over from her, she is happy to chat through what little she has had to do to keep the group moving. Do join in - meet some new people, have some exercise and a gossip!

Talking of volunteering, Sally is one of many who give their time to make the Parish more fun to live in. Have you got something to offer? There are several activities looking for fresh talent, from the 'Speed Watch' group to a newsletter delivery round. Contact Amanda, our clerk, for details.

My fellow councillors and myself were discussing the role of volunteers at our meeting this week and were quite surprised when we came to list all the things that are done, often in a quiet and unassuming manner, by a wide range of people.

Now the summer holidays are a distant memory and before we start to get pre-occupied with Christmas, October seems a good time to focus on volunteering. In some countries they hold a volunteer day once a year when all able-bodied people are obliged to join in a work group to help the community. Perhaps we should have our own mini version!

We are still looking for two more people to join the Parish Council. It is a really good way to become more involved in the local area and understand a bit more about how local politics works. At the Parish level we do not have any real power, but we do have some influence on how policies are implemented by the District Council in our patch. Being on the council is not onerous, just one meeting each month- and we are very friendly!

But, if volunteering is not for you, we hope to see at some of the events that take place in the village. The annual Remembrance Service will take place at the War Memorial on the hill half way between Whitchurch and Whitchurch Hill on Sunday 12th November. The hill will be closed and the service will start just before 11am with the two minutes silence at 11 o'clock.

I hope as many as possible will come to show their respects to those who fought, and died, for our freedom. With the latest outbreak of violence in the Middle East perhaps we should be particularly grateful that we live in such a peaceful country.

The recent antiques evening in the Parish Hall was a great success, as was the Autumn Show. Congratulations to all the winners - and to everyone who contributed, whether with time or produce! We are very lucky to have such a good Parish Hall, one of the best in the area.

Planning a Christmas get together, but wondering how everyone will fit into your modest house? Wonder no more - rent the Parish Hall. A great space that deserves more occupants!

This is the last newsletter of 2023. It has been a fairly quiet year for the council. Our two major projects are moving forwards. The pond restoration at Cray's Pond will hopefully start in the autumn, whilst the improvement to the play ground at Whitchurch Hill is slower to get off the ground, but is still very much work in progress. We have ordered the new kit, so hopefully it will all be installed by the spring.

Liz Collas

Chair of the Parish Council

Dates for your Diary

12 th November	Act of Remembrance, Whitchurch Memorial
18 th -19 th November	Whitchurch Art & Craft Exhibition
22 nd November	Whitchurch Pre-School Bingo Night
24 th November	Christmas Shopping Evening, Pangbourne
1 st December	Christmas Shopping Evening, Goring
4 th -23 rd December	Santa Sleigh Ride: Look out for posters for the date of Santa's visit to Whitchurch Hill!
12 th December	Reception for Goring Heath Volunteers
16 th December	Hardwick Winter Market
7 th January 2024	Woodcote 10k Run
24 th January 2024	Public Consultation on the future at Hardwick Estate (Whitchurch Village Hall)

Planning Decisions

The following planning applications, decided between 11th July 2023 and 19th October 2023 have been considered. Where a decision is not given, it means the Parish Council has not yet received written confirmation from SODC.



Premises and application details	Parish Council	Notes
<p><u>P23/S2105/HH</u> 2 Walnut Tree Cottage Crays Pond RG8 7QQ Alterations to existing garage/studio to form additional habitable ancillary residential accommodation, to include the provision of an external stair and alterations to the roof.</p>	<p>No Strong Views</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>P23/S2500/HH</u> The Sheilings Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU Single storey side extension, first floor extension, increase in roof height and new flat roof to outbuildings. (Amended plans received 27 September 2023 to show lowered roof height).</p>	<p>No Strong Views</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p><u>P23/S3109/HH</u> Boundary House Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PB Partial demolition of pool building to create an outdoor pool, and construction of a small pool house to provide ancillary accommodation.</p>	<p>No Strong Views</p>	

Planning

We would like to point out that No Strong Views is one of only three choices that SODC gives the parish council. It does not illustrate tacit approval of an application. Typically it is supplemented with specific comments from the parish council highlighting areas of concern.

District Councillor's Commentary

One of the proud boasts of South Oxfordshire is that it's in the very top ranks of the recycling league table, having the second highest rate of waste recycling in the country for the last two years.



While brown bins of garden waste contribute a significant amount of the recycled waste, its mainly down to the efforts of all the residents. Perhaps having just three basic bins, the green recycling bin, the black bin and the little food bin makes it easy. However, there can still be a problem if someone puts the wrong stuff in the green recycling bin, such as a mass of food waste or used nappies, which can result in the whole truck load of what should be recycled stuff being condemned to be burnt at Ardley.

It was shocking to read in the Henley Standard that a lazy bin man emptied a food waste bin into a residents green recycling bin. This was then emptied into the paper etc recycling truck. Luckily, it was caught on camera by a resident's doorbell camera, and the bin man, who was an agency person working for Biffa, was dismissed.

We all have had stickers recently put on our bins about recycling, not least because the SODC recycling rate while good, has not improved significantly recently, and the council is keen to continue to be a leader in this issue. Last year, 11% of the items in the recycling bin were not actually recyclable, so please check before you chuck. I don't think the 3340 tons that this 11% represents can all be work of this one rogue binman!

Some services, like the waste collection, are contracted out to contractors who can provide expertise and economies of scale, for example for buying equipment or using staffing agencies, which would be difficult to match with a relatively small and tightly run council like SODC, even though we can combine with the Vale of White Horse to have greater power. Many of the arrangements with contractors have built in inflation escalation clauses to allow for revised payments without having to renegotiate everything.

A recent Joint Scrutiny Committee with the Vale examined the contract we have with SABA to provide the car parking service, and noted that the contractor had been paid more each year, as overleaf, in line with the contract.

When challenged about some aspects of poor performance, SABA said they had difficulty recruiting, but Councillors looked at recent advertisements for staff that they had placed and found that they were paying less than comparable employers, and below the Real Living Wage.

Payments to SABA for Car Parking Services

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
South pa	£ 224,088	£ 228,122	£ 232,228	£ 234,318	£ 245,799	£ 267,430
Vale pa	£ 238,320	£ 242,610	£ 246,977	£ 249,200	£ 261,410	£ 284,414
TOTAL FIXED pa	£ 462,408	£ 470,731	£ 479,204	£ 483,517	£ 507,210	£ 551,844

At a recent Council meeting, it was agreed that the Council would move towards ensuring that all its contractors pay the Real Living Wage.

I am pleased to say that it was two Green Party members on the Joint Scrutiny Committee, the chair Kat Foxhall from the Vale and Jo Robb representing Woodcote, who dug into the detail of this contract and identified the issue.

Peter Dragonetti

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



Act of Remembrance: Sunday 12th November

Join parish councillors from Whitchurch on Thames and Goring Heath, Rev James Leach and members of the armed forces for the annual Act of Remembrance at the Whitchurch Memorial

- Road closes and service starts: **10:45am**
- Last Post: **11:02am**
- Road reopens: **11:10am**

All welcome.



Hello From Whitchurch Pre-School



Our Autumn term is going down a storm, everyone is enjoying being back in the classroom learning and exploring.

We have been making the most of our outdoor space, spending time in our dedicated allotment and getting green fingered.

Hot meals and extended opening hours

New for this term, we are now offering the option of a hot meal and a late pick up time to 3.30pm for those who need it.



Fundraising for our building improvements

This year we are doing a big push towards raising money for our preschool building. We need a new roof and better insulation. All these improvements will benefit the children and staff ensuring our building is fit for the future.

Our next event is at the Greyhound pub in Whitchurch - a Bingo night on **Wednesday 22nd November**. Tickets can be bought on our website. We hope you can join us.

Spaces available!

We currently have spaces available for new starters aged from 2 - 2.5 years upwards.

- We're open from Monday to Friday during term time, from 8.45am - 3.15pm, with an early drop-off option at 8.30am and late collection to 3.30pm
- Free government-funded places are available for 2-year-olds for 15 hours and for 3 and 4 year olds for 15 or 30 hours per week during term time.
- We are Forest School, Healthy Smiles and Hygge accredited.
- Children from out of the Whitchurch catchment area are welcome to apply.



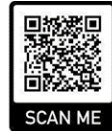
To register your interest, please use the form on our website or email: hello@whitchurchpreschool.org

3 FREE and EASY ways to support Whitchurch Pre-School

1. Become a Co-Op Member and select Whitchurch-on-Thames Pre-School. For every £1 spent 2p will be donated to our cause.
2. Shop with Amazon, go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and enter Whitchurch On Thames Pre-School, 0.5% of your order value will be given to Pre-School.
3. Sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk to support “Whitchurch Pre-School - Whitchurch-on-Thames”. This website allows you to shop with retailers like John Lewis, M&S, H&M then sends us a donation of up to 5%. Register for free at: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/whitchurchonthamespresch/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=w4

To donate anytime scan the QR code here

or go to: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/whitchurchpreschool>



Thank you for all of your support! *Registered Charity: 1183193*

Save the Date: 12th December - 7pm!

Goring Heath Parish Council will be holding an evening reception for the lovely people that help us every year.

Everyone involved with anything we do should look out for an invite, or contact the clerk if you would like to attend and get involved.

All are welcome! From the newsletter distributors, to the Speedwatch Campaigners, the litter pickers and phone box tidiers and all the other everyday helpers that make our community such a pleasant place to live!

Refreshments will be provided.

Amanda Holland, Clerk, Goring Heath Parish Council

Party hire

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

For information and booking:

goringheathparishhall@gmail.com

Whitchurch Hill WI

The members of your local WI have been keeping themselves busy.



As a very friendly group, each month sees a gathering to enjoy a short business meeting to discuss issues and plan events ahead. These are always accompanied by time for socialising, and learning. The educational aspect is provided by an invited speaker and covers a vast array of topics.

In September we enjoyed hearing about the history of Greenham Common through the ages and in October one of our own is scheduled to talk about her life as an airline steward.

To promote the social side of our group we have been enjoying regular trips to local eateries - recently The Four Points and Renegade Brewery in Yattendon.

Some ladies meet monthly too to “knit and natter” though having something to knit is not a prerequisite for attending. In fact some do knit, some take their own choice of craft, and others just natter!

We are part of a regional group too. This gives us access to other locally arranged events.

Not everyone wishes to participate in these but for those who do it gives them opportunity to meet others from the wider community, and to make new friends.

Whitchurch Hill WI meets every third Tuesday on the month in our village hall.

If you fancy coming along - or just want to learn a bit more about us, please contact Frances Strange on 01189842162.

Sally Bergmann



Obituary

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Mr Chris Uden of Crays Pond.

Chris worked hard for the community in many ways, he was a mainstay of the Covid Response Volunteers in particular.

We extend our sympathy and support to his family.



Tots on The Hill

Come along and join the fun!

Every Thursday during term time, 10:00 - 11:30 am.

Let them: play, create, sing, snack and make friends.

While you enjoy a hot cuppa and a biscuit!

£3 per family.

@ Goring Heath Parish Hall

Whitchurch Hill (opposite St John's church)

For more information check out our Facebook page or email Debbie on totsonthehill@myyahoo.com

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

Open to the Public --All Welcome

Sung Eucharist 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month

Sung Matins 2nd & 4th & 5th Sunday of the Month at 11am

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

All Services are taken from the book of Common Prayer

Chaplain: Rev Peter Dewey, -- 07784912935

revpeterdewey@yahoo.co.uk

REPAIR CAFÉ
Goring Village Hall
Saturdays 11:00am—1:30pm
First Saturday of every month

New, free repair service by volunteers to help reduce waste
Help reduce carbon emissions and Save our Planet

Bring up to two items needing repair or attention and we'll do our very best to fix them whilst you wait.

Voluntary donations are welcome to pay for hire of hall etc.

Refreshments available in Café Bellême



2023 — 1 April, 3 June, 5 Aug, 7 Oct, 2 Dec
2024 — 3 Feb, 30 March, 1 June, 3 Aug, 5 Oct, 7 Dec

Information: 07789 871620

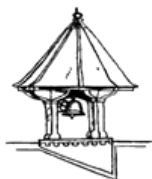
Publicise your event and increase attendance by giving us the dates.

IT IS FREE

We welcome event dates from all local charities and groups for listing in the Newsletter. Please send the details to the Editor at:

goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com

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



Goring Heath and Whitchurch Autumn Show



From the Editor

The clear and dry morning of 9th September was perfect for the fruit, vegetable and flower exhibitors at the Autumn Show to select their best specimens ready to present to the waiting judges. Meanwhile, those showing flower arranging, baking and preserves, not to forget the children's section, arrived bright and early to display their entries.

The judges, David Woodage, Sally and Lorna Woolhouse, Regula Adams and Debbie Leach, had a tough job coming to their decisions, with such a high standard of entries.

The sunny afternoon brought a good crowd to view the exhibits - including exhibitors keen to find out if they had been placed - and enjoy tea and delicious cakes provided by the WI.

This was a particularly special year as Theresa Elsome's family have inaugurated a special trophy in her memory for the exhibitor with the most points in the flower arranging section. Nick Elsome and his daughter Nellie presented the trophies to the winners this year.

Many thanks to all the judges, the organisers John Coupland, Maureen Britt and Elizabeth Robinson, the WI, the exhibitors and, of course all the visitors, for making this year's show a success. And a special thanks to David Robinson, the photographer for the day, who took the excellent pictures featured in the newsletter.





The Winners



Many congratulations to all the winners!

Trophy	Awarded for	Winner
The Allotment Cup	Most points in Vegetables and Fruit Section	John Coupland
Betty Haytor Memorial Cup	Most points in Flowers Section	David Saxon
The Theresa Elsome Memorial Trophy	Most points in Flower Arranging Section	Maureen Britt
Baking and Preserves Cup	Most points in Baking and Preserves Section	Maureen Britt
Douglas Allardyce Memorial Rose Bowl	Most outstanding exhibit in the Vegetables, Fruit and Flowers Sections	Sally Woolhouse
Children's Cup	Winner of the Children's Section	Alexandria Johnson-Cox/Lucas Ferguson
Children's 2nd place rosette		Leo Ferguson
Whitchurch Hill Trophy	Most points overall	David Saxon



Nellie Elsome presents the Theresa Elsome Memorial Trophy to Maureen Britt



The winning entry for the Garden on a Plate in the Children's section



The winners display their trophies:
(L to R) John Coupland, Sally Woolhouse, Alexandria Johnson-Cox, Maureen Britt and David Saxon (Lucas Ferguson not present)



A selection of entries in the fruit and vegetables, baking and floristry categories

THE WHITCHURCH 2023 ART & CRAFT EXHIBITION



The weekend of

18TH & 19TH NOVEMBER

in the Whitchurch Village Hall on Manor Road

**Viewings 10am to 5pm on Saturday
and 10am to 4pm on Sunday
Prize-giving at 4.30pm on Sunday**

**Entry £1 per Adult (non-exhibitors only)
Refreshments will be available.
We look forward to seeing you there!**

All the details about how to enter are available on the village website. Also look out for our Facebook event page or for more information contact Sally Woolhouse at sally@wotarts.co.uk

www.wotarts.co.uk



VOLUNTEERS FEELING UNDER PRESSURE!



“Woodcote Volunteers may have to start turning down requests for transport unless more drivers are found”.

So says Jane Forde, secretary and organiser of Woodcote Volunteers. She goes on to explain, “Requests for transport have shot up in recent months. Our amazing team of office helpers and drivers are hard-working, loyal and committed but are feeling overwhelmed by the workload. We want to do everything in our power to help out our local community but there is no getting away from the fact that we will not be able to cope without more local people stepping forward to help with driving”.

Being a volunteer driver is incredibly rewarding. You will make a real difference to the lives of others and find clients to be immensely grateful. It is interesting – you will be meeting new people, normally from the older generation, who have a wealth of fascinating life stories to tell. You will also meet many of your fellow volunteers at various social activities during the year and get to feel part of our wonderful community.

A driver can do as few as one trip a month – some do more – every little helps. Expenses are paid and you can say where you are prepared to go. There is no requirement to do regular journeys, the rota will fit around the volunteer.



To find out more, please either call Jane Forde on 07850 158274 or send an email to info@woodcotevolunteers.org.uk. Find out more by looking at the ewebsite: www.woodcotevolunteers.org.uk

Woodcote Volunteers would not exist without its volunteers, so please do consider joining their friendly team. They look forward to welcoming you!

What's happening at Checkendon Pre-school:



We are delighted to be back at Checkendon Pre-School.

We hope that everyone has had a summer filled with excitement and adventures, enjoying the lovely sunny weather. We are delighted to welcome back old friends and say hello to lots of new friends too! We are refreshed and ready for another exciting new term.

This term we are focusing on the well – loved story classic ‘The Hungry Caterpillar’, encouraging a wide variety of learning such as counting, nutrition, symmetry and the life cycle of a butterfly.

We will also be exploring their interests and incorporating this into their learning. Thinking about what we enjoy doing as well as making new friends and bonding with their key person. We will also be enjoying our new yoga class and welcome back our well- loved Diddi dance, Work out Wednesday and Little Chefs!



Ready Steady.. Yoga

We have been celebrating Halloween and Bonfire night creating wonderful artwork.

We are looking forward to celebrating Christmas with Fathers Christmas's Grotto, where the children can wrap presents at the wrapping station, write and send Christmas cards and dress up in lots of festive outfits.

We will be celebrating and enjoying many fun activities such as singing, Christmas jumper days and our Christmas party, which the children look forward to every year, and we will be expecting a visit from Jester Giggles and Father Christmas! The children will also be performing their traditional Nativity play to a live audience.



Diddi Dance



Outdoor Adventures

To find out more about Checkendon Pre-School:

- visit our website www.checkendonpreschool.co.uk,
- call us on 01491 682589,
- e-mail preschoolcheckendon@gmail.com or just pop in – we always look forward to welcoming you to Checkendon Pre-School.

New Trustees/Governors required for Langtree School

Langtree Academy Trust has just achieved its best-ever GCSE results after a very positive Ofsted inspection earlier this year. We are now looking for new trustees to join our Finance committee and our dedicated, inclusive and enthusiastic Trust Board.

Potential trustees should have financial or legal experience and be willing to actively help the Finance committee in overseeing school-budget expenditure, contributing to major spending decisions and legal obligations.

Langtree School believes that every one of our students deserves the best possible opportunities and support required to achieve their full potential, and we aim to provide not just a fantastic academic, social, and cultural education, but also abundant pastoral support for our whole Langtree community.

New trustees are offered free, online training in the first few months after appointment to better understand and fulfil their role. We encourage trustees to become involved with the educational aims and priorities of this small, but highly popular local secondary school, and expect them to attend as many of the regular committee and board meetings as possible, either in person or remotely (a total of 12 meetings per academic year).

The Trust Board would be glad to hear from interested parents - but would particularly welcome applications from members of the wider community.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about this opportunity to make a very real difference at a local level should contact me at adunstan@langtreeschool.com. Thank you!

Alan Dunstan, Chair of Trustees, Langtree School



RG8 Badminton

We play at the Langtree Community Sports Hall in Woodcote on Thursday evenings.

We welcome both junior (14 years +) and adult members. All that we ask is that you are not totally new to badminton – that you know the rules and basic shots (even if they don't always work!). Juniors should have received some form of coaching. Fees are the equivalent to £3 per session – half for juniors. If you want to know more and would welcome some fitness, fun and friendship then visit our website www.rg8badminton.co.uk or ring Julie on 07980 413026.

Whitchurch & Goring Heath History Society

“Travels With Auntie” is the title of our last meeting this year, an account of former foreign correspondent Alastair Lack’s career in the BBC.

After studying history at University College Oxford, he taught in India and worked in publishing in New York, before starting his career in the BBC in 1971. We are promised an entertaining and informative evening, dealing with events we all remember from the recent past.

The date is **Thursday November 16th**, the time **7.30pm** and the venue **Goring Heath Parish Hall**.

All welcome, non-members pay £3, which includes tea/coffee and biscuits, served from 7pm



We made some changes to the bus timetable from 4th September 2023, which hopefully will improve timekeeping where there have been problems in the past.

Please check the new timetable carefully.

The morning bus departs from The Sun in Hill Bottom at 10.22 (a few minutes earlier or later at all other bus stops on the route, including Crays Pond).

It will drop you at Caversham Library (for Waitrose and Iceland) and at the bus stop close to the entrance to Marks & Spencer in Friar Street, picking up at the same stop at 12.35 (12.41 at Caversham Library).

There is also an afternoon service at 14.01 from The Sun, returning at 14.45.

Concessionary Bus Pass holders travel free, otherwise it's £4 single or day return. Children aged 5-18 (inclusive) travel at half price.

We look forward to seeing you on board!

Mike Ward

GOING FORWARD BUSES

145-8 Goring to Reading

via Basildon Park, Beale Park, Whitchurch Hill & Caversham

TUESDAYS ONLY until further notice

Revised service from 5th September 2023

WALLINGFORD Market Place	08:48 S	09:42	11:39	13:08
Cleeve Scout Hut	09:01	09:53	11:52	13:22
GORING Railway Station Forecourt	09:10	10:05	12:10	13:45
Swan Hotel/Streatley Traffic Lights		10:07		13:47
Lower Basildon Park Wall Lane		10:10		13:50
Basildon Park A329 entrance		10:11		13:51
Beale Park A329 entrance		10:12		13:52
PANGBOURNE, Railway Stn, A329		10:14		13:54
PANGBOURNE, The George PH		10:15		13:55
Whitchurch-on-Thames, Greyhound		10:17		13:57
Whitchurch Hill, The Sun PH		10:22		14:01
Crays Pond, Beechwood Close	09:14	10:26	12:14	14:05
Goring Heath Almshouses	M	10:28	M	M
Charity Farm turn (B4526)	09:16		12:16	14:07
Cane End	09:18	10:32	12:18	14:09
Upper Woodcote Rd, Shepherds Lane	09:22	10:36	12:22	14:12
Highmoor Road, Methodist Church	09:25	10:39	12:25	14:15
Caversham Library	09:29	10:43	12:29	14:19
READING Blagrove St Stop EO/EP	09:34	10:48	12:35	14:25
READING Friar Street Stop FC	09:37	R	R	R
READING Station Road, Stop SB	R	R	R	R
READING Forbury Road Stop EL	R	R	R	R
READING Tesco Kings Meadow		10:56		
READING Tesco Kings Meadow		11:31		
READING Blagrove St Stop EO/EP	09:34	11:35	12:35	14:45
READING Friar Street Stop FC	09:37	11:36	12:36	14:46
READING Forbury Road Stop EL	09:38	11:37	12:37	14:47
Caversham Library	09:42	11:41	12:41	14:51
Highmoor Road, Methodist Church	09:44	11:43	12:43	14:53
Upper Woodcote Rd, Shepherds Lane	09:46	11:45	12:45	14:55
Cane End	09:52	11:51	12:51	15:01
Charity Farm turn (B4526)	09:54			
Goring Heath Almshouses	M	R	R	R
Crays Pond, Beechwood Close	09:57	11:56	12:56	15:06
Whitchurch Hill, The Sun PH			12:59	15:09
Whitchurch-on-Thames, Greyhound			13:03	15:13
PANGBOURNE, The George PH			13:05	15:15
PANGBOURNE, Railway Stn, A329			13:06	15:16
Beale Park A329 entrance	V		13:08	15:18
Basildon Park A329 entrance	V		13:09	15:19
Lower Basildon Park Wall Lane	V		13:10	15:20
Streatley Traffic Lights/Swan Hotel	V		13:15	15:25
The Coombe			R	R
GORING Railway Station Forecourt	10:03	12:05	13:30	15:40
Cleeve Scout Hut		12:13	13:43	15:48
WALLINGFORD Market Place	10:30	12:35	14:05	16:10

Times in red italics indicate connecting bus (service 134)

M Runs along main road B4526, not via Goring Heath Almshouses. Stops at Charity Farm turn on request

R Runs to these stops only for passengers already on the bus

V You can travel via Goring station, departing from there at 10.05, to reach these stops

www.goingforwardbuses.com Bus enquiries 07484 605888



The MedicAlert Foundation, in partnership with Thames Valley Police, have launched a dementia safeguarding programme, Safe and Found.

This new initiative supports those living with dementia and other memory or cognitive conditions.

Safe and Found is available nationally and enables people living with dementia to securely store their Herbert Protocol form digitally. This document contains information that aids a missing person search, giving the police a better understanding of who they are looking for, what they have done previously and what they may be likely to do in the future. It includes places of importance, routines and habits, their connections, medical details and more.

The Herbert Protocol is a proven strategy in reducing search time and increasing the chance of the individual being found safe and well. MedicAlert is helping to speed up the process by providing quick access to this critical information in an emergency.

Chief Superintendent Mike Loebenberg from Thames Valley Police said:

“As a MedicAlert member myself, I know this partnership will provide loved ones with peace of mind that Thames Valley Police can access important information quickly and save time in the search for those missing. I hope this offers reassurance to those living with dementia and their families.”

The support of The McLay Dementia Trust makes the Safe and Found programme even more accessible.

MedicAlert and The McLay Dementia Trust will be providing the first year of MedicAlert membership free to anyone living with dementia in the UK.

“The MedicAlert charity is making dementia a priority. We are very proud to work with Thames Valley Police and The McLay Dementia Trust. These partnerships ensure you can feel safer and more comfortable to continue being active, socialising, and living well with dementia. Wherever you go, we will be with you.” says Mark Hacker, MedicAlert CEO.

To find out more about Safe and Found or how to apply for free membership through The McLay Dementia Trust grant, please visit the links below:

- medicalert.org.uk/mclay-dementia-trust
- medicalert.org.uk/safe-and-found/



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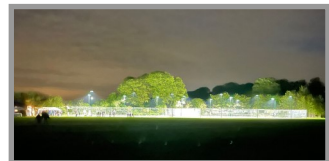
International Tennis Star comes to Pangbourne!

Pangbourne Tennis Club were absolutely delighted to welcome Tim Henman OBE to the club on Friday 6th October to inaugurate the newly installed court lights. After a fantastic fundraising campaign, the club is now able to offer evening tennis under the modern LED lights.

There's a new programme of coach-led sessions on Tuesday evenings as well as Skills and Drills on Sunday mornings. Teenagers now have a session on Fridays at 5pm.

Social tennis sessions are running on Friday evenings at 6:30pm -8pm and Saturday afternoons at 3pm to 4:30pm.

The club prides itself on being friendly and inclusive and you will get a warm welcome. Visit www.pangbournetennis.org to find out more or to join.



Hardwick Happenings by Miriam Rose, Estate Manager

Hardwick has been a hive of activity this beautiful late summer. We hope you are interested in our news and will be able to join us for some of our winter events. We would particularly like to invite you all to a public consultation on Hardwick's future which we will be holding in the Whitchurch Village Hall, with wine and cheese afterwards, on **24th January from 7 – 9pm**. This will be an opportunity to find out about the succession changes and upcoming plans and, as our local stakeholders, have your say about the future.

Hardwick Estate - Estate/Charity Manager

The search is on for a new Estate Manager to replace Miriam Rose in preparation for the Estate becoming a community-led charity.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and people-centred leader with experience of managing charities, and a passion for the environment, land and community, to take the helm of England's first community-led Estate. Hardwick Estate is a magical place on an ambitious journey and we are looking for the right person to help us become the successful, pioneering, values-driven organisation we know we can become.

Contact miriam@hardwickestate.co.uk for a job description.

Hardwick Winter Market: 16th December, 9am-3pm, Lin's Veg Shed

Hardwick Winter Market is an abundant showcase of the beautiful produce Hardwick tenants create on the estate, along with other local producers in the area. Find locally made, sustainable gifts and treats for your loved ones (including yourself!) which support small, independent producers and the local economy. With live music, drinks and snacks to enjoy while you are there, it's a great stop on your country walk and a market not to miss!



Pop-up Coffee Shop Every Saturday 9am - 3pm at Lin's Veg Shed.

Organic, locally roasted coffee and locally baked sourdough, cakes and pastries while you shop! Expect seasonal specials and festive fun. Find us at the gates of Hardwick Estate, RG8 7RA.

Upcoming Events:

30th November, 7.30pm – Tom & Justine, Hemen - Hemp, the Challenges and Opportunities

Hardwick Lecture Series at Tolhurst Organic Packing Shed, RG8 7RB

24th January 2024, 7 – 9pm – Hardwick's Future: Find out more and have your say. Whitchurch village hall, wine and cheese to follow.

25th January 2024, 7.30pm – John Twyford – Local Food Systems and the Model Farm

Hardwick Lecture Series at Tolhurst Organic Packing Shed, RG8 7RB

Drinkable Rivers Visit

On 28th September, members of Hardwick's boating community and Path Hill outdoor education centre met a group who were walking the length of the Thames to collect data on the health of our river. As their name suggests, Drinkable Rivers are an organisation looking to improve the water quality of European rivers, to the point where we could, one day, drink healthily from the Thames. They are part of an emergent movement that sees citizens who love the natural world claiming responsibility for its health, instead of relying on the word of corporations who profit from the status quo of our declining riparian environment. Members of Hardwick were there to participate in the water testing, with the hope to set up a similar routine, testing the Thames for both human and agricultural waste pollution.



You can find out more, as well as test results, at www.data.drinkablerivers.org

Organic Growers Gathering

The Organic Growers Gathering (OGG) took place at Hardwick in early October, bringing together local projects, organic growers of all kinds and others from the organic movement to cross pollinate. With the glorious weather, well over 300 participants, volunteers, workshop leaders and speakers from across the UK and Europe descended upon Hardwick for an inspirational weekend of networking, learning and skill sharing.

Last year the Hardwick Farm Hack was such a success, we were excited to host a bigger version this year, for more fruitful learning and exchanging, and having a great knees-up too! Seems there will be another next year, let's see how this grows!

Hedge Laying Courses

Would you like to learn the ancient country art of hedge laying? Well now is your chance! We will be laying the hedges around the Hardwick Community Orchard at Collins End with the aim of creating a thick stock proof hedge whilst improving their wildlife value at the same time.

Dates: January 20th & 21st 2024 and February 17th & 18th 2024

Cost: £150 for 2 days

Suitable for complete beginners, conservation enthusiasts, landowners & managers.

All tools provided.....**THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT!**

For more details and to book a place contact the tutor, Dave Jackson

Phone/Whatsapp: 07814 487578

Email: dave@thesticksmith.co.uk

Your tutor Dave Jackson (aka The Stick Smith) is based on the Hardwick Estate and has 24 years' experience in hedgerow restoration, runs a small coppice and willow crafts business from Collins End and is currently Chair of the National Coppice Federation.

COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCIL INFORMATION

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

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

Council Offices: Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon OX14 3JE
See below for dept. phone contacts www.southoxon.gov.uk

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Kevin Bulmer 35 Springhill Road, Goring on Thames, RG8 0BY
07803 005680 kevin.bulmer@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Council Offices: County Hall, Oxford, OX1 1ND
01865 792422 www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

POLICE	Thames Valley Police	0845-8505505
POLICE	PEC – Non-Emergency Calls	101
POTHOLES	-	0345-3101111

South Oxfordshire District Council New Department Numbers

Main Customer Service Number: 01235 422422

- ◆ **Planning** 01235 422600
- ◆ **Building control** 01235 422700
- ◆ **Environmental health, food and safety** 01235 422403
- ◆ **Licensing** 01235 422556
- ◆ **Elections** 01235 422407
- ◆ **Car parks** 01235 470118
- ◆ **Community safety** 01235 422590
- ◆ **Street naming and numbering** 01235 422344

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER

You can get in touch with the Goring Heath Newsletter by emailing:
goringheathnewsletter@gmail.com

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

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

To contributors to the Newsletter:-

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

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

Deadline for contributions	Publication month
12th December 2023	January 2024
13th February 2024	March 2024

LOCAL GROUPS—CONTACT DETAILS

Chiltern Society Footpath Representative	Liz Collas	01491680466
Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Volunteers	Howard Dell	01494764149
Goring Heath Parish Charity	Chris Whatmore	01189844022
Goring Heath Scouts, Brownies and Guides	Doreen Pechey	01491681236
Goring Thames Sailing Club	Jennie Wood	01491875619
Pilates (Friday Morning)	Michele Houston	01491575205
RG8 Badminton Club	Julie Drury	07980413026
South Oxfordshire Archaeology Group (SOAG)	Nancy Nichols	01189787829
Tai Chi and Qigong	Karen Pounds	07867954786
Tots on the Hill, Baby and Toddler Group	Debbie Leach	
	totsonthehill@myyahoo.com	
Whitchurch Hill Camera Club	www.whitchurchhillcameraclub.com	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath History Society	Vicky Jordan	01189843260
	vickyjordan5@hotmail.com	
Whitchurch and Goring Heath Twinning	Wendy Ferguson	01189841262
	wendyfergie@gmail.com	
Whitchurch Hill WI	Frances Strange	01189842162
Woodcote Volunteers	Jane Forde	07850158274

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

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Advertising in the Newsletter

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

To find out more, please contact us at goringheathparishcouncil@gmail.com