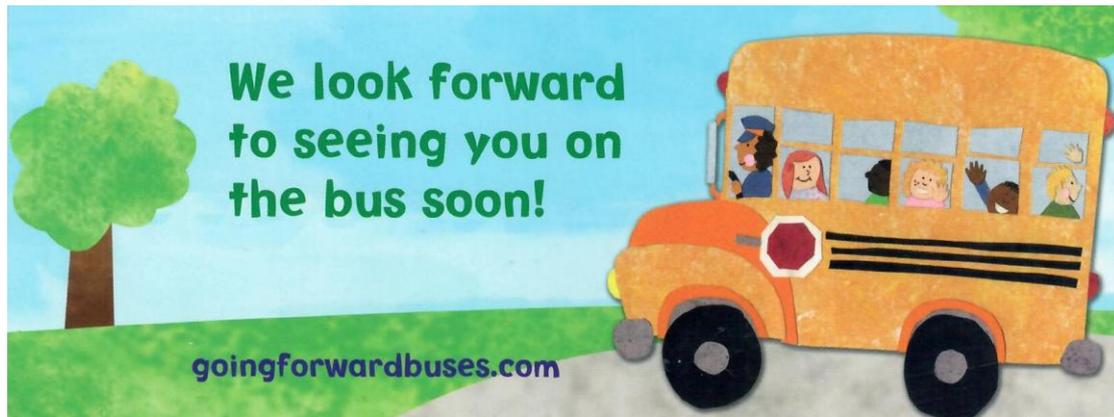


News from Going Forward Buses



We started operating the 134 route from Goring to Wallingford just six months ago, and since then we have added new routes 133, 138, 142 and 144, with another route 137 joining the network from Tuesday 8th August. You can now reach Basildon Park, Beale Park, Pangbourne, Whitchurch, Crays Pond, Caversham and Reading on the 142 service from Goring. On Sundays the 144 is a new service also running from Goring to Basildon Park, Beale Park, Pangbourne and Reading via Purley. The 133 Goring to Wallingford via Streatley and Moulsoford now runs five days a week, and is extended beyond Wallingford to Shillingford Hill and Dorchester on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (service 138). On Tuesdays it runs beyond Wallingford to RAF Benson, Ewelme and Watlington (service 137). Why not make a visit to Dorchester Abbey (and nearby tea rooms) or to the watercress beds in Ewelme (pop in at the village stores for coffee), or explore the small town of Watlington? And day trips to Basildon House and Beale Park are now easy with the 142 and 144 services.

You may have seen our Goring Parish Clerk Colin helping us out from time to time driving the bus. We are also getting help from Upper Basildon Parish Council to run an early morning service to Reading, replacing a recently axed Thames Travel journey. And starting on 17th August, the 144 Goring to Reading service should be getting a fifth journey in the early evening, assisted by volunteer drivers from Whitchurch and Goring Heath Parish Councils. Thanks to all who are assisting us in as we try to meet as many of the transport needs of the local communities as we can. Councillors in Ewelme, Dorchester, Watlington and Berinsfield have also been in contact with us and we are looking at ways to improve the public transport system for them. Without County Council subsidies this is not easy, but if we can find more volunteers to help then it may be possible to do something.

Believe it or not, we could do with another bus. If anyone knows of possible sources of sponsorship for such a vehicle, please let us know! The cost of a vehicle in reasonable condition is somewhere around £10,000 upwards. But with the possibility of more local bus service cutbacks, there could be opportunities to fill in some more gaps and help other communities in the local area who otherwise would be without any service.

There have also been a number of enquiries about whether the buses can be used for special trips, which could include excursions to the seaside, or Christmas Markets, or visits to Stately Homes and more. Another bus would make it much easier to fulfil some of these dreams!

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