



Monday 22nd July 2024

[Website](#)

Good morning {firstname},

Last month I stayed at [The Swan](#) in Streatley, this is the view from the decking along the river bank of the Thames looking across towards Goring. It's the same view as from the Coppa Club restaurant but without the window frames. The border between Streatley and Goring is probably in the middle of the river as on one side of the bridge is The Swan hotel firmly planted in Streatley and on the other side... *Welcome to Goring*. The evening we were there a brass band was practising in the Goring village hall, doors wide open, the sounds of jazz floating on the night air. This was one of those perfect English summer evenings when a post dinner walk is a pleasure just watching the boats on the river and looking in the Goring estate agent's windows thinking if only ... I haven't explored Streatley but Goring has the feel of a comfortable village environment with a grocer, a proper butcher, a lively band and some rather nice houses.

If Goring sounds vaguely familiar it may be because it's where George Michael made his home. Twenty plus years ago I was on a Bang & Olufsen senior management training course at The Swan when several large barges moved slowly past the windows carrying full size trees destined for his new garden.

Streatley is about 1½ hours drive from London, if you're very lucky. Take the M4, past Reading then turn right and up through Pangbourne. The less busy route is via the M40 and drop down through Benson. It's only a few minutes longer according to Google maps depending of course on the traffic and the time you set off. It takes rather longer from Norwich.

COMPETITION RESULT

Thank you for all your entries to the competition, there were some very imaginative answers. The winner was Paul B. in Paris, who described the image as a deep sea creature possibly some sort of Jelly fish. Congratulations Paul your signed copy of the *green on black* image will be on it's way to you very soon.

In The Journal this week...

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The Monday Picture

One image and the background story.
This photo was taken with an iPhone 15 pro.
Until next Monday have a great week.



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