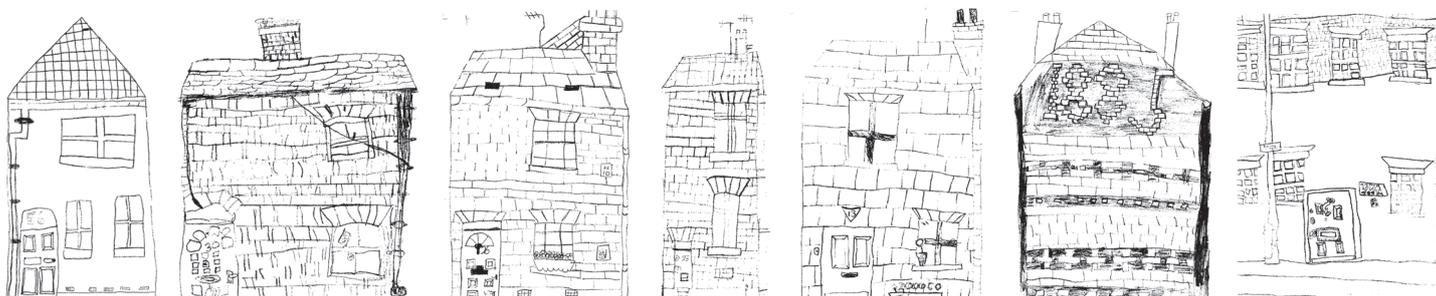


OSNEY ISLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

www.osneyisland.co.uk

NEWSLETTER MAY / JUNE 2012



COMING UP

Many apologies for conflicting information about dates for the **Osney Island Diamond Jubilee Olympics**. I can now confirm that the date set for this spectacular event is unequivocally **Saturday 30 June 12 noon – 6 pm**.

Organisation for the Games is going well thanks to a really good response for helpers – especially from our younger fitter, residents. The provisional programme for the day is shaping up as follows:

12 noon Opening of the Games by a Queen and the Around the Island lap by the Osney Island Olympic torch bearer

12.15- 12.45 Osney Mile Event starting outside The Punter

1 pm Live music on the river bank outside The Punter; street food underway

1.15 Duck Race starting at North St weir

1.45- 2.45 pm Events for ages including scooter/trike/skate board slaloms, hobby horse dressage, egg & spoon and three-legged, plus running races

3.00 Water sports including swimming, synchronised swimming, canoe race

3.30 Synchronised walking

4 pm Jubilee teas and cakes

4.45 Raft race

5.30 pm grand finale Inter-street tug of war

There'll be loads of ongoing activities like Aunt Sally at the Demos and the Hollybush and petanque at The Punter and surprise po –up events too. There'll be T-shirts for sale, a roving reporter and a photographer and special Cultural Olympic displays. What we still need: **COMPETITORS!** - so far we have one entrant for the adult 100 yards sprint and maybe one enthusiastic synchronised swimmer – and some people to take ownership of certain races. The Osney Island Olympic Committee meets in **The Punter from 8-9 pm every Monday** so come and sign up then. Three weeks before the event we'll send out a flyer with an update and two

weeks before they'll be a list of races to sign up for in The Punter (if you haven't already signed up). It's going to be GREAT!

There will be special races for very young children (2-5 years) including hobby horse dressage! No hobby horse? Louise Summers will be running a drop-in **hobby horse workshop on Saturday June 23rd @ 1.30 pm onwards**. To sign up email her on louiseandbob@gmail.com or call 721695.

Anna Hobson is making miles of Olympic bunting and would be grateful for any red, white or blue scrap material. If you've got any please deliver it to 25 East St.

West Oxford Beer Festival Sat June 23

Last summer a group of local residents got together to organise the first ever West Oxford Beer Festival (or WOBfest, as we like to call it), as a fund-raiser for West Oxford Community Primary School Playground Appeal. The mini-festival featured a range of local ales, all brewed within 30 miles of Oxford, and was a sell-out success. Encouraged by this, we have decided to hold another WOBfest. on Saturday 23rd June, 7-11pm in the West Oxford Community Centre. Tickets priced £5, gain you entry to WOBfest, and includes a commemorative pint glass for you to keep. Entrance is by ticket only. If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please contact me by email: david@wobfest.co.uk Alternatively you can send us a message via our Facebook page (just search for "WOBfest"). If you click on the "like" button you will get all our updates. As we get closer to the date we will also be updating our website, www.wobfest.co.uk, including the all-important beer list. Please get in contact if you are interested in helping out - selling tickets, pouring pints, or by becoming a beer sponsor, either corporate or individual. Without our sponsors and volunteers the festival would not be possible. We look forward to seeing you and your friends.

Films at Magdalen College

The wonderful Magdalen College Film Society's latest programme is listed here. The venue is the Auditorium reached via the Longwall entrance to the college. As always, the list is excellent value for money (£3) with lots of excellent films.

Saturday, 12 May 21:00 Free outdoor screening:
Midnight in Paris (2011)

Sunday, 13 May 19:30 Roman Holiday (1953)

Monday, 14 May 19:00 A Man Escaped (1956)
20:40 A Prophet (2009)

Sunday, 20 May 19:30 Boogie Nights (1997)

Monday, 21 May 19:30 The Full Monty (1997) 21:00
Shame (2011)

Sunday, 27 May 19:30 West Side Story (1961)

Monday, 28 May 19:00 Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986)
20:50 Zabriskie Point (1970)

Sunday, 3 June 19:30 Jaws (1975)

Monday, 4 June 19:00 Matador (1986)
20:50 Pan's Labyrinth (2006)

Thursday, 7 June 19:00 The Birds (1963)
21:00 Gremlins (1984)

Sunday, 10 June 19:30 The Tree of Life (2011)

Monday, 11 June 19:00 I Heart Huckabees (2004)
20:50 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)

Wednesday, 13 June 19:00 The Meaning of Life (1983)
20:45 End of year party

St Frideswide with Binsey

The highlight of the next couple of months is an exciting range of events.

Wednesday May 9th and Thursday May 10th at 7.30pm: The Monarch of Wit: a celebration of the life and mind of John Donne

Actor James Clarkson plays Donne in this piece which is drawn entirely from Donne's own words. £7.50 to include a glass of wine and nibbles. Post performance the Cafe at the West Oxford Community Centre will be offering a 3 course dinner for £15 a head. By reservation only at the cafe or ailsa@woca-cafe.org.uk. Actor James Clarkson will join us for dinner on 9 May.

Saturday 19th May at 10am to 4.30pm: Craft Fair

After a very successful event last year we are inviting crafts people to take a table at this selling event and demonstrate their craft. Morning coffee, afternoon tea and light lunches will be available.

For more information and to register your interest please contact friendsofbinsey.com.

Thursday 31st May at 7.30pm: A Celebratory Concert for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee performed by the St James Singers

To celebrate this great event the St James Singers will be performing their Best of British Music for a Royal Jubilee Year programme. A mix of songs interspersed with readings, anecdotes and a Capella; all performed in a light and fast-paced style. £5 which includes a glass of wine and nibbles. There will be a collection for Age UK (Oxfordshire) in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee.

Saturday 23rd June at 10.00am to 12.30pm: Family Eco Events

Children and their families are invited to join naturalist Owain Hegarty in the Church grounds and to have

fun exploring the natural world and its inhabitants. You are invited to bring a picnic to have in the grounds after the workshop. You are also invited then to visit our sister church St Margaret's Binsey to use what you have learned to explore the wildlife, trees and flowers in the country churchyard there. This is a free event with a suggested donation of £2. Children must be accompanied by an adult. With thanks to our sponsors Oxford City Council.

Thursday 28th June at 7.30pm: Organ concert by Armin Becker German born Becker will be playing a programme of work that reflects his interest in little known classical composers and the interplay between jazz and tango and the secular tradition of organ music. £5 which includes a glass of wine and nibbles. www.stfrideswideschurch.co.uk and www.friendsofbinsey.com

The Jazz Café @ WOCA

Back by popular request: Saturday, 19 May 11-12.30 Nick Gill will be giving musically illustrated talks on Billie Holiday, and Saturday 16 June 11-12.30 on Irving Berlin. Tickets £4 from EggsEtc, WOCA and on the door.

The Messiah in a day

West Oxford very own Messiah in a day on Sunday July 1 at the Community Centre. No auditions, instruments and conductor supplied; open to all West Oxonians. If you are interested call at Warlands bike shop for a form or email fiona.hedges@virgin.net

ISLAND NEWS

The Osney Island AGM held on April 24 was well attended and the full minutes will be shortly available on the website. Briefly, here are the main points of interest. We welcomed George Deutsch as new Chair, Bob Hutchinson as a new committee member and Jude Carroll as a returning member, and thanked Kate Stewart, outgoing Chair for her great work in the last couple of years. Richard Thurston reported that Oxford Flood Alliance (OFA) are trying to see if they can put in place a collective Oxford City wide policy which would spread risk and should therefore reduce the risks being taken on by insurers. Hugo Crombie described how land, now called Hogacre and leased from Corpus, is being used for beekeeping. Details of how to get involved in the Hogacre Project will be on the website shortly. Following George Deutsch's initiative, work has commenced on the 'greening of Bridge St' which has been met with (almost) unanimous approval. Following concern about fly-tipping in the summer, Steve Miles reported that the EA are willing to provide a summer litter bin for boaters next to the Osney Island boat house. The provision of grit bins has been put on hold owing to cost.

Criminals in North St

North St was the focus of attention by burglars a couple of weeks ago. They did a great deal of damage to back doors but they were caught before they could get inside. To their great credit, the police who happened to be in the Botley Road at the time, were here in nano-seconds. The culprit/s must have got wind that things might not be going to plan and legged it. One was caught in a

garden in East St, the other one got away. The message is: crime rate is normally low on the Island but don't get complacent and neglect to lock your back door.

Island talent

Everyone knows talent is attracted to Osney Island like moths to a flame but Nick Goodwin of North St has taken it to another level by appearing on Britain's Got Talent. Nick, and two friends who met at University and formed a group called Truly Medley Deeply, got through to the SECOND ROUND! Simon Cowell said the name of the band was daft – but hey! what does he know. Watch their (edited) BGT performance on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3YmJqf95X-s> and the full routine here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xoXO_QUbxU.

St Frideswide Regular Services

Every Sunday 10.30am ~ 11.30am: Sung Eucharist. First Sunday of the month is a special children and families' service, with children's hymns

St Margaret's, Binsey

First Sunday of each month, 9.00am: Said Eucharist. Evensong every Sunday at 4.30pm.

Kate Massey

We are very sad to report the death Kate Massey, a resident on the Island for 95 years. Kate was born at the outbreak of the First World War. At 14 she left West Oxford School and worked in service, mainly for the clergy, before shop work. During the war she delivered milk and the post and was often the bearer of sad news to families.. She liked to socialise with injured soldiers in the Hayfield Road cafe while they were being treated in the Old Radcliffe. She later married Frank when he was stationed at the RAF base in Heyford. Many will remember Kate by as the lady with the bell on her shopping trolley who regularly walked into town and back until she was 94. Kate's daughter Pauline would like to thank all the kind neighbours for their cards and messages and especially those who attended the service at St Frideswide. Donations to the Daybreak dementia charity have now reached over £300, for which Pauline is very grateful.

REQUESTS, FREEBIES & ACCOMMODATION

Monday to Friday let wanted

Young woman (mid-twenties) is seeking Monday to Friday accommodation in Oxford. She will be taking up a post as a taxonomist in the Oxford University Herbarium from this July and will consider a short-term let. Very good with plants and pets. Please contact Osney resident Verity Wilson at verity.wilson@hoa.ox.ac.uk or on 01865.721139/mobile 07795.443675.

Lost gold watch

From Marion Brown: Has anyone found my gold watch which I lost on Friday 4 May possibly in Bridge St? It's of great sentimental value so if you can help please contact me at 28 Bridge St, tel 240974 or email: marion.brown@path.ox.ac.uk. Thank you.

Allotments

As those who attended the Lottie AGM will know, there were many unresolved issues and the decision was taken to hold an Extra-ordinary Annual Meeting. This will

take place in early July, please keep a look out for the actual date on the Lottie noticeboards.

Gazebo hire

Anna Truelove is taking over the hire of gazebos from Pauline Martin. 3 gazebos are available for hire at £5 each for a 3 day period. Contact Anna on tel 245496 or call by at 83 Bridge St. for information and booking.

USEFUL NUMBERS

City Council, tel: 249811 (now 24 hours); *County Council*, tel: 792422; *Alan Armitage*, tel: 516115; *Susanna Pressel*, 7 Rawlinson Rd Oxford OX2 6UE, tel: 554001 email: cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk; *City Councillors: Colin Cook*, tel: 272548 (day) 721844 (evening) email: cllrcook@oxford.gov.uk and Susanna (as above); *Community Beat Officer PC Jan Warner*, tel: 08458 505505; **refuse, recycling, free collections, bulky items, street cleaning, drains and flooding tel: 252900; free advice on energy**, tel: 252197; **noise complaints**, tel: 249811; *Community Centre* tel: 245761; **on-street fines**, tel: 247090; **car park fines**, tel: 252489; **furniture recycling**, tel: 763698; **residents parking permits**, tel: 0845 634 4466; **bike theft and abandoned bikes**, tel: 0845 8505 505; **abandoned and unlicensed vehicles**, tel: 252900.

THE DIRECTORY

The following list is compiled from Islanders recommendations only. No one pays for an entry and suppliers are removed if there are reports of unreasonable rates or service. The list is only as good as the updates so please let me know if anyone has retired or dropped out for other reasons.

TRIED AND TESTED

General builder

Chris Willis mob: 07974 155 638 does general building work/carpentry eg (re)hanging doors, laying patios, decking, associated painting/decorating, as well as kitchen/bathroom fitting 'the work was carried out efficiently and to a very high standard'; **Pete Coles** tel: 01865 776319 mob: 07760 327 057 also does plumbing ('reliable, helpful and reasonable rates'); Building specialist in carpentry and joinery, NHBC registered est 1974: **R.P. Lepper** tel: 01993 882522 mob: 07801 136 4817 ('excellent, experienced workmanship'); **Mark Mavrommatis** tel: 07970 974792 to install new windows, repair old ones, paint. He did an excellent job and at the moment is very reasonably priced because he is re-establishing himself in the Oxford area'.

Building and roof repairs

Gosford Builders tel: 01865 373467 mob: 07855 373467 ('good work and very fair rates')

Plumbing and heating

Plumbing and heating: **Aquatic** tel: 01865 749999 mob: 07050 011884 (highly recommended); **Ivan Kilbee** tel: 01235 847527 mob: 07771 787585; ('good work and comes on time'); **APV Boiler Services** tel: 01865 377264 ('friendly, efficient and clean workers'); **Colin Pizzie** (electrics, plumbing, kitchens, bathrooms) tel: 01235 554655; **Jonathan Smith** tel: 01993 778244, mob: 07790 961395 ('reliable, competent and cheerful').

Electricians

RJB Electrical (rewires and new installations) tel: 01865 882723 mob: 07711 934348; J.L. Electrical (rewires, fuse boards, sockets, lights) mob: 07825 133337; CE Electrical Services tel: 01865 842598 or mob: 0778 2360 979 ('thoroughly recommended'); DEC Electricians tel: 725453 ('very good')

Domestic appliances

Baldwin Appliances tel: 01865 377484 www.baldwinappliances.com; Washing machine repairs. Contact: Chris at Oxford Domestic. Appointments can be booked online at oxforddomestic.com or tel: 01865 407494. ('skilled, timely, user friendly with very reasonable fixed prices and no call out fee')

Handyman

Jon Butt tel: 07766 144116 (lives in Witney but very willing to travel to Oxford); David Morris tel: 725875 (reasonably priced); Oli tel: 0791 900 2222 Oxford-based and former resident of Bridge Street. Reasonably priced and highly recommended ('good eye for detail for period properties') tel: 01865-236747 (very professional, prompt, organised, does a great job).

Locksmith

Davies Hardened Security tel: 01865 mob: 07711 625092 ('a rapid response within 24 hours')

Chimney sweep

Dennis Northcott tel: 01235 526617 ('does a good job')

Window cleaning

Paul Smith mob: 0797 9692 895 ('amiable and reliable')

Interior and exterior decoration

Dave Buckle tel: 848630 evenings ('friendly, efficient and good value'); Steve Brierty 01491 836762 mob: 0785 0357414 ('strongly recommended'); Rob Bennett mob: 0790 5819310 ('highly recommended')

Flooring and general carpentry

Amazon Flooring mob: 07899 918015 ('highly recommended')

Upholstery

Jan Donley tel: 249625 upholstery (I've been pleased with everything she's done); Ann Paver tel: 249129 soft furnishing including drapes, curtains but not upholstery ('highly recommended')

Sewing Services

Belinda Cockburn mending, making and alterations tel: 01865 250054 ('her sewing is first class'); Ann Paver tel: 249129 soft furnishing including drapes, curtains but not upholstery ('highly recommended')

Damp

Damprot Renovations Ltd tel: 742144 ('have done some replastering for us on a couple of occasions and are good')

Apple Macs

Bill Richardson email: bill@macfaction.co.uk tel: 01993 811197 ('excellent and will come out if not too busy'); Mac Simple is based in Osney Mead tel 07974 321064 www.macsimple.co.uk ('excellent and local')

Oven Cleaning

Wayne mob: 0791 7785 906 (doesn't use any chemicals)

Ironing services

Creases tel: 01869 347414 ('they collect and deliver - I've used them for years')

Removals

Isis Van Man tel: 01865 422342 mob: 07828 185884 email: help@Isisvanman.com ('very helpful and friendly')

Hairdressers

Highly recommended hair stylist who does your hair in the comfort of your own home! (former Art Director Mahogany and Toni & Guy) Sally Horton mob: 07815 445229; Nadine Wright ('ex-Mahogany, cheerful and comes to my home on a Tuesday') mob: 07824 660184.

Gardening Services

Marion White, lady gardener tel: 01865 245071. (Good hourly rate, great work and winner of the Oxford in Bloom (small garden category); Oxford Garden Services mob: 0755 498 7911('excellent tree surgery at fair rates - and they cleared up well afterwards')

Cleaners

Husband and wife team Rui and Marcia come highly recommended by several Islanders. Email: rrunes007@hotmail.com or text to mob: 0742 907 8580.

Thai massage, Chinese bodywork & acupuncture

Elizabeth Elliott mob: 07866 759669, offers treatment in her home on Osney. ('Highly recommended: one massage session with her is so relaxing, it's like a two-week holiday')

Boilers

Jamie Cooke Tel: 07775 700300 email: JC.Electrical@hotmail.com ('excellent service')

Lighting

Oxford Lighting and Electrical Solutions Culham No1 Site, Station Rd, Abingdon OX14 3DA tel: 01865 408522 ('an immense range of light fittings and qualified electricians to install')

OIRA COMMITTEE

Jude Carroll 10 East St, tel : 793247; Georg Deutsch 4 Bridge St (Chair); Suzanne Jeffrey 13 South St tel: 247737 (noticeboard); Bob Lawrence 42 West St; Susan Lloyd Doyley Rd; Stephen Lynam (Secretary and Vice Chair) 11 South St tel: 201334; Fiona McFarlane (Treasurer) 11 South St tel: 201334; Elizabeth Newbery (Newsletter) 3 North St tel: 793360; Kate Stewart 18 East St tel: 241856; Anna Truelove 83 Bridge St tel: 245496 (gazebo hire).

The email address for any OIRA committee member is askoira@osneyisland.org.uk

Next Committee meeting

The OIRA committee's next meeting is July 4 @ 8pm at 15 East St. If you'd like to raise an issue drop in or let someone on the committee know. You can find our agenda the minutes on the Bridge Street notice board and on the website. Next newsletter is due out mid July, last date for copy June 30. If you would like to put an item in contact: Elizabeth Newbery 3 North St. 793360, email: elizabeth@newberyandengland.com