

Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter

www.osneyisland.co.uk
March—April 2015



COMING UP

OIRA AGM

The most important event of year! It will be held on **Wednesday, 15 April, at 7.30pm in the West Oxford Community Centre**. The agenda includes the usual business items, the election of officers for the forthcoming year plus speakers about local issues. For those who make it to the AGM, there will be loads of wine and nibbles. New this year will be a raffle for a **FREE WINDOW BOX AND THE SERVICES OF SOMEONE TO INSTALL IT!**

URGENT! We are desperately in need of a secretary to act as a communication point for OIRA.

Please note: Each officer and each committee member is elected for a term of one year. If you would like to stand as a committee member or officer, please make sure that you submit your name to the secretary, Steve Lynam (11 South St, tel:201334) no later than 14 days prior to the AGM. Please give your contact details and the position for which you would like to stand, together with the names of a proposer and a seconder, both of whom must live on the island. OIRA is your association, so please come along and help to shape the future direction of your community.

Osney Island Boat Club AGM

From Simon Stubbings: The 2015 Annual Meeting will be held in the **Punter@ 8:00pm on Tuesday 14 April**. The formal purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, approve accounts, and fix club subscriptions for the coming year. The meeting is nevertheless an opportunity for members and prospective members of the Club to get together, enjoy a drink and savour the prospect of a scintillating summer on the river. Unfortunately, our boat shed can only accommodate a limited number of craft. However, a couple of these belong to the Club and are available for use by members, so non-boat owners are catered for as well. All are welcome.

Tabletop on the Towpath

The big OIRA summer event is a **giant table top event** along the towpath on **Saturday May 16**. Clear out your attic, sell things on and get rich! There will be teas, cakes and music. If you would like book a space (cost £5 which goes towards the cost of printing this newsletter) contact elizabeth@newberyandengland.com or tel 793360 asap.

WOBFest

From David Jeffrey: This year the West Oxford Beer Festival will be held on the evening of **Saturday June 13 in the Community Centre**. This will be the fifth year for “WOBFest” (as we like to call it), and once again we will be featuring a range of local ales, with other refreshment and entertainment. In previous years WOBFest has been a great success, bringing together local residents for an enjoyable evening, whilst raising money for local causes.

Entrance is by ticket only, and the price has been held at five pounds. As well as entry to the beer festival, the price includes the now-iconic commemorative WOBFest pint glass for you to keep. Tickets will go on sale closer to the date through local outlets: keep checking our website (www.wobfest.co.uk) for more details of how to buy tickets, find our Facebook page by searching for “WOBFest, look out for our posters or contact me directly by emailing david@wobfest.co.uk.

Please also 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 WOBFest would not be possible. We look forward to seeing you and your friends for what promises to be another great evening.

Open Gardens

Our autumn event is **Open Gardens on Saturday 12 September 2015**.

Anna Truelove writes: Osney gardens are as varied as the houses. Size from the miniature upward, condition from the manicured downward, design amazingly wide-ranging. For opening, variety is all and anything goes! Anyone prepared to open a garden is invited to contact Anna Truelove at 83 Bridge Street, tel: 245496. asap

ISLAND NEWS AND VIEWS

St Frideswide's

At St Frideswide's, this is a season of preparation for Easter. March has seen a continuation of Lent. Small groups continue to meet on the Island on Tuesday evenings through to 24 March. Our recently welcomed Revd. Jo Moffett-Levy has been guiding us in the very ancient, very simple practice of **Lectio Divina** -reflectively reading and discussing short passages of scripture. All are very welcome. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Laura or Ryan

(01865 203892), who are hosting the remainder of the discussions at 19 Bridge St, 8:00pm.

The local Church community also delights in celebrating Easter Week, and we are holding four services at St. Frideswide's here on the Island (Palm Sunday 10:30, Maundy Thursday 19:30, Good Friday 14:00, and Easter Sunday 10:30) and four at St. Margaret's in Binsey (Palm Sunday 16:30, Good Friday 14:00, and Easter Sunday 07:00 and 16:30).

We especially celebrate this spring the arrival of a new baby to one of the ordinands attached to the benefice. Arielle Deborah Waller was born on Friday the 6th of March to Allen and Angelica of East Street. A very different kind of new life is also returning, in our regular Thursday evening organ concerts, to be held typically on the last Thursday of each month. These will recommence in April, so be on the lookout for flyers around the island.

BITS AND BOBS

Allotments

The Allotments have had a change of management. If you would like an allotment or part of an allotment, please go to the allotments on any Sunday from 11 am – 12 pm. Even if you don't have an allotment, you can take advantage of garden supplies at good prices at the lottie shop open every Sunday from 11 am-12 pm.

Let's Sing!

Wednesdays 2 – 3 pm @ Mary Town Room WOCCA. Enjoy singing in harmony in informal classes. No experience needed as all songs are taught by ear. £3.50 – just drop in. Contact Emily on 0796 9522 368 emformusic@outlook.com

A new deli @ 61 Botley Road!

Welcome to Trevor Barnett and Cristina Campos and their Organic Deli, Wholefood Store and Café. Trevor is keen to stock things we want to buy so please let him know if there is anything you'd like. And it serves terrific coffee.

Woodlands Pharmacy

From Sophie Scott: I have received some really excellent health advice from Pupinder, who owns Woodlands on Botley Road, so have offered some voluntary help to promote the new shop. His business is that rare thing... family-run, community centred and it is offering some super services.

Firstly, they would like to know if there are any products or brands you would particularly like them to stock and will aim to offer competitive prices. If you have a moment please pop into the shop and jot down your favourite toiletry, cosmetic, natural health or pharmaceutical needs.

Here is a reminder of the services they offer:

- **Prescription ordering** - so you don't need to visit your surgery or chase if the order is late.
- **Free prescription delivery** – to your preferred address. Please spread the word to your friends as they will deliver throughout Oxford.

- **Medical reviews** - to ensure patients are aware of all aspects of their medication, such as usage and side effects. And for patients on new medication they will monitor you for the first month to ensure you are responding well.
- **Services coming soon...**online ordering, flu and travel clinics, private GP service, health checks, cholesterol testing.

They would also like to be approached by alternative therapy practitioners (acupuncturists, homeopaths, chiropractors and so on). They are happy to rent out their consultation room to anyone who can offer respected health related services.

Please do get in touch with Pupinder and his team if you would like to know more: 01865 242 649 or by email woodlands.pharmacy@npanet.co.uk.

Looking to rent

My husband and I are looking to rent a 1, 2 or 3 bedroom property in Osney or nearby. We are currently renting a house in Bridge Street until the end of June. We would love to stay in the area and will need a new home from the beginning of July 2015. Please email Fabydias06@IBEST.com.br

For rent

2 double bedroom terrace house to let Osney Island available April 2015. The house comprises large open plan sitting/ dining room (with open fire), modern practical kitchen. Easy care garden with shed. Back entrance. First floor two good size double bedrooms, modern bathroom. Third floor, large area two dormer windows suitable for office /studio or other. Decoratively new throughout. Furnished. Contact rahrah@waitrose.com. for more info and viewing.

Request

Does anyone know of anyone who can fix simple problems with TV/DVD player/remote? Please email elizabeth@newberyandengland with suggestions.

Freebie

On World Book Night, hundreds of thousands of books will be given away to people across the UK who would like to rediscover reading for pleasure. This year, Ethel (the Osney Cat), has signed up to be a World Book Night volunteer, and she will be giving away one of her favourites... **A Street Cat Named Bob** by James Bowen (a true tale of a homeless musician in London, whose life was transformed when he found Bob the Cat), If you'd like a copy, then all you need to do is pop your name and address on a postcard to Ethel through the door of 25 West Street. The first 10 people to respond will receive their free book on 23 April.

Welcome Pack

OIRA has put together a Welcome Pack especially for newcomers to the Island. It aims to give details of all things essential to life on the Island from information about parking to the nearest place to buy milk. If you would like one please contact Jude Carroll on 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk

USEFUL NUMBERS

City Council, tel: 249811 (now 24 hours); *County Council*, tel: 792422; *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: cllrccook@oxford.gov.uk and Susanna (as above); *Community Beat Officer PC Jan Warner*, tel: 101; 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, abandoned bikes, abandoned and unlicensed vehicles*, tel: 101.

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. Before recommending that someone is removed, sort the issue out between you and the supplier first – someone's livelihood is at stake. Make sure you use the most up to date list!

New category

Does anyone know of anyone who can fix simple problems with TV/DVD player/remote? Please email elizabeth@newberyandengland with suggestions.

TRIED AND TESTED

The list is only as good as the updates so please let me know if anyone has retired or dropped out for other reasons.

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'; **R.P. Lepper** building specialist, carpentry and joinery tel: 01993 882522 mob: 07801 36 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'). **Brian French**: local general builder and plasterer who will take on small jobs; mob: 07957 315303 ('came round the same day as contacted!')

Exterior and interior decorators

Andrew Turner of Oxford Exteriors mob: 07591 491 804 repaints masonry, front door and windows (excellent work, very good value and professional customer service); **Victor Szigeti**: interior and exterior painting specialising in skimmed plaster work; mob: 07799 143205 ('he made my bathroom ceiling look like new')

Building and roof repairs

Gosford Builders tel: 01865 373467 mob: 07855 373467 ('reasonable rates and business-like'); **Everest Roofing Ltd** tel: 01865 8816856 email: enquiries@everestroofing.

co.uk ('dealt fast and efficiently with a minor matter which others couldn't be bothered with')

Plumbing and heating

Plumbing and heating: **Ivan Kilbee** tel: 01235 847527 mob: 07771 787585; ('punctual, efficient, reasonable rates and business-like'); **APV Boiler Services** tel: 01865 377264 ('friendly, efficient and clean workers'); **Colin Pizzie** (electricians, plumbing, kitchens, bathrooms) tel: 01235 554655; **J Smith** tel: 01993 778244, mob: 07790 961395 ('reliable, competent and cheerful')

Tiling

Floors/Bathrooms/Kitchens: **Nick Barker** mob: 07810 356710. Excellent workmanship and extremely reliable, thoroughly recommended.

Kitchen fitters

Benchmark kitchens (helpful kitchen designers with good range of products) tel: 01865 372372; **Jashim Hussain** of Ultragranite, www.ultragranite.co.uk, tel: 01865 407555. ('I really cannot recommend the company highly enough.')

Electricians

RJB Electrical (rewires and new installations) tel: 01865 882723 mob: 07711 934348; **DEC Electricians** tel: 725453 ('very good'); **Jamie Cooke** Tel: 07775 700300 email: JC.Electrical@hotmail.com ('excellent service'); **Baldwin Appliances** all white goods tel: 01865 377484 www.baldwinappliances.com; www.tbarneselectrical.com tbarneselectrical@gmail.com ('very efficient, reliable and punctual').

Handyman

Jon Butt tel: 07766 144116 (lives in Witney but very willing to travel to Oxford); **Oliver** tel: 0791 900 2222 Oxford-based. Reasonably priced and highly recommended; **Andrew Russell** ('highly recommended handyman, painting and decorating and garden maintenance') tel: 01865 453497 mob: 07977 837675; **Sid Siddle**: skilled handyman; tel: 01865 251795 mob: 07757 214 301 Email: the.read.setter@gmail.com ('Sid made a really good job of numerous small jobs including carpentry'); **Brian Hill**: skilled handyman; tel: 01295 670276 mob: 0774 2010892 (very meticulous – he made a very good job of putting up shelves).

Locksmith

Davies Hardened Security tel: 01865 371816 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'); **Paul Selden** is a house painter (good prices, punctual and unreservedly recommended.) Tel: 077 277 59996 Email: paulseldendecorating@gmail.com

Flooring and general carpentry

Amazon Flooring, **Steve** mob: 07899 918015 ('highly recommended')

Upholstery and sewing services

Ann Paver tel: 249129 soft furnishing including drapes, curtains but not upholstery ('highly recommended'); Sewing, repairs and alterations: **Maria Skoyles** tel: 01865 721460 mob: 0759 0264 246 ('highly recommended').

Damp

Damprot Renovations Ltd tel: 01865 742144 ('have done some replastering for us on a few occasions and are good').

Apple Macs

Bill Richardson email: bill@macfaction.co.uk tel: 01865 376100 ('excellent and will come out if not too busy'); **Mac Simple** is based in Osney Mead tel: 01865 580886 mob: 07974 321064 www.macsimple.co.uk ('excellent and local'); **API Computing** contact Andy mob: 07964 796007.

Oven Cleaning

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

Removals

House and Carriage tel: 01608 811444 mob: 07769 585988 (local, reliable, polite, careful, and stress-free, for a reasonable price!)

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

Oxford Garden Solutions tel: 01235 201823 mob: 0755 498 7911 ('excellent tree surgery at fair rates'); **David Morris** tel: 01865 725875 (gardening maintenance and some diy); **Eric Bake** mob: 07591 157 180 former head gardener at Shotover Estate does garden maintenance and carpentry e.g building and repairing sheds and greenhouses fencing etc (very reasonable rates); info@oxfordgardenservices.co.uk ('excellent tree surgery')

Logs

Logsforall.co.uk offer two sizes of seasoned, sustainably sourced, local, mess free logs, delivered free, the smaller size of log ideal for smaller woodburners/fireplaces. Not the cheapest but excellent burning and reliable delivery service, strongly recommended.

Bicycles

Jon Wyver: bicycles and accessories. He will deliver and pick up in Oxford free of charge. Efficient, friendly and reliable Excellent prices. mob: 07842 901873 email: info@oxbicycles.co.uk www.oxbicycles.co.uk

Wellbeing

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.');

Inner sense yoga tel 07773 277 650 ('I whole heartedly recommend Loueze')

Computer Tutor

Judy Dendy: Lessons and basic troubleshooting in language you can understand at your own pace. No question is too daft. tel: 07554 660468 www.computerdendy.co.uk. ('Highly recommended – very friendly and helpful.')

Baby kit

Short or long rental ('strongly recommended') www.babycomes2.co.uk tel:01235 280081

Wood burning stove fitters

Lee Hill Fireplace Installer tel: 01865 787 940 - HETAS approved. ('Really helpful and knows his stuff')

Cleaners

C&S Cleaning Services tel: 01865 872395 ('very pleasant and hard working ladies')

OIRA COMMITTEE

Jude Carroll 10 East St, tel: 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk (gazebos, Welcome Pack); **Georg Deutsch** 4 Bridge St, 728050 jan- georg.deutsch@stx.ox.ac.uk (Chair); **Maureen Ergenelli** 24 East St; **Suzanne Jeffrey** 13 South St tel: 247737 (notice board); **Bob Lawrence** 42 West St tel: 792358; **Stephen Lynam** (Secretary and Vice Chair) 11 South St tel: 201334; **Elizabeth Newbery** (Newsletter) 3 North St tel: 793360 elizabeth@newberyandengland.com; **Gareth Strange** 102 Bridge st 727680; **Jula Turner** (Treasurer) 102 Bridge St tel: 07971 88125; **Anna Truelove** 83 Bridge St tel: 245496 (directory, Open Gardens).

Gazebos

If you would like to borrow the gazebos, bunting and tables please contact **Jude Carroll** 10 East St, tel: 793247.

Welcome Pack

Contact **Jude Carroll** 10 East St, tel: 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk

Webmaster

Tony Roberts is our webmaster. To add content to the Osney Island website please contact the Webmaster at <http://osneyisland.co.uk/contact7-1/webmaster/> entering the text in the 'Message' box. This will be submitted for approval to the committee and published subject to editing. To get in touch with any OIRA committee member use the 'Contact Us' feature on the website.

Osney Island email account

The new email account osneyislandresidents@gmail.com, makes message sharing amongst Island residents simpler and safer. Is it open so that people can sell things, ask for information, give away stuff or provide information.

Notice board

Suzanne Jeffrey, 13 South Street tel: 247737 email: Suzanne@dands.org.uk

Next Committee meeting

The OIRA committee's next meeting is is Wednesday, April 8 January @ 8pm in The Punter 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 May, last date for copy 30 April 2015. If you would like to put an item in contact: **Elizabeth Newbery** 3 North St. tel: 793360, email: elizabeth@newberyandengland.com or use the tear-of strip below.