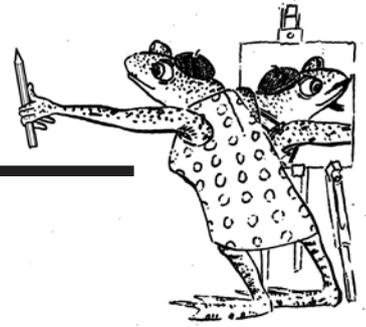


Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter



osneyisland.wordpress.com
May/June 2018

This is my 120th newsletter and since 1997 when I took it over, the content has changed. We used to have lots for items for sale and notices about areas of concern all now done by the Island email list. So OIRA has made the decision that from now on the newsletter will be quarterly and will go out mid January, April, July and October. Surveys done at various times indicated that everyone still like hard copy so it will still be delivered in the same way and also available online. Ed

COMING UP

Summer on Osney Artsweeks 12-20 May

This year Osney is showcasing artists and craftspeople:

Elaine Kazimierzuk: Paintings 2/3 North Street

Bianca Elgar and David Blakemore: Paintings, prints and textiles 15 East Street

Antoinette Ibsen: Paintings; Louise Summers: Relief Prints and Rag Rugs; Bob Summers: Basketry; Annie Wootton: Sculpture, Drawings 69 Bridge Street.

There will also be several West Oxford artists exhibiting at WOCC and at The King's Centre.

Open Gardens Sunday 13 May 2.30-4.30pm

Ten Islanders are opening their gardens from 2-4 pm. There is a children's trail available. No tickets this year but donations are welcome – look for the bucket at the tea venue!

Teas on the Towpath Sunday 13 May 3-5pm

There will be Teas on the Towpath from 3-5 pm and live music too. This year we will be asking for donations at the gardens rather than selling tickets. Offers of cakes would be greatly appreciated (contact Suzanne Jeffrey 07769 654767) as would volunteers to help set up and clear up. Please contact any OIRA members if you can help.

WOBfest

From David Jeffrey: This year the West Oxford Beer Festival will be held on the evening of Saturday June 16 in the Community Centre, from 7pm onwards. This will be the eighth WOBfest 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

£5. As well as entry to the beer festival, the price includes the now-iconic commemorative WOBfest pint glass for you to keep. Tickets will be available from Country Grains and other local outlets. Our website (www.wobfest.org.uk) has more details of how to buy tickets, find our Facebook page by searching for "WOBfest, look out for our posters or contact us directly by emailing david@wobfest.org.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

Botley Library

Children's Rhymetime Tuesday 15 May 11.00 to 11.30am Botley Library, Elms Court, Botley, OX2 9LP 01865 248142.

Children's 'Drop-in' Craft activity Saturday 12th May 10.30am to 12.00. Age from 4 upwards. All materials provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Digital helpers (for those who need a helping hand with computers, Tuesday 29th May 10.00 to 12.00 and Thursday 10th May.

St Frideswide Concerts

Our concerts are back! Thursday 24 May at 7.30pm, Piano recital by Tolga Atalay ÜN.

Entrance is £10, payable at the door. This includes a free drink and some nibbles.

West Oxford Bee Festival 2.00pm to 5.00pm, Saturday 23rd June. A family event with stalls, demonstrations, refreshments, local produce and an art competition for under 12s.

Oxford Canal Festival

The Oxford Canal Festival will be back on Saturday, 8 September, with events taking place up and down the canal from Hythe Bridge Street to Wolvercote and centred on Aristotle Lane Recreation Ground. The festival will be held from midday with activities ranging from a dog show, special events for children, the Canal Olympics, musical performances, food stalls, as well as decorated canal boats and canal crafts at the moorings along the towpath. Entrance is free and, if you would be able to help on the day e.g. with children's events, setting up and dismantling of the equipment, or would like to enter your dog in the dog show, please contact James Fry at Jfry@Lmc.co.uk or at 7 Rawlinson Road, OX2 6UE or on 01865 554001.

ISLAND NEWS AND VIEWS

Several people have expressed concerns about the proliferation of bikes. The bikes are quite controversial. On behalf of people who have contacted Susanna to complain, she has asked if they can remove some of the ones in Frideswide Square, where there is an excessive number. Here is some information from Cllr Louise Upton, the City Council's cycling champion:

'I helped draft the Code of Conduct for these bicycle companies. There is actually no legislation that covers them, we have no legal means of regulating them and so I was very happy that they all agreed to sign up to it. The idea is that they will form part of the public transport system for the city, and part of their attraction is that you can pick them up anywhere and leave them at the end of your journey, ready for someone else to use. This means that they will appear all over the city (and I have to say that I find them much more attractive than the commuters' cars that get left all over the place too).

The Code of Conduct specified that they had to start small - with just 100 bicycles each - and have a permanent team on the ground in Oxford to deal with any problems. Before each additional 100 are added they check with us. It was impossible to predict in advance what would be a good number to have. They are working with private land owners to establish hubs in some places (my GP surgery in Manzil Way has one for example), and those are a very good solution. But I think they do need the freedom to be left in places convenient for the users. Of course, that does not mean slung across pavements, and I appreciate that the system is not perfect. However the apps that you use to hire the bikes have incentives to encourage good behaviour, and I do think that in the medium term (when fewer students buy themselves a cheap bike which they later abandon) it will lead to less waste and fewer badly parked bikes. And some good news is that the citizens of Oxford are comparatively well behaved, with far fewer incidents of vandalism and theft than in other cities.

I can reassure you that the bikes don't cost the City Council anything (unlike the docked systems like they have in London which has to be subsidised by millions of pounds a year.) And to put things in context, the council has to deal with the thousands of abandoned privately-owned bicycles that we tag and removes each year, not to mention the huge numbers that the universities and colleges clear off their land at the end of every academic year. One other advantage of these bikes becoming part of the public transport system for the city is that they all have lights and working brakes - unlike some of the ones owned by our residents...

Osney Lock Hydro

From Barbara Hammond: Lots of news from Osney Lock Hydro:

We have had a very wet year so far, and so are merrily turning away as the very high water levels during February and March start calming down a bit and giving us ideal operating conditions

We have recently done some filming with Tony Robinson (of Blackadder fame) as part of his Walking the Thames

series and even had him clearing the trash screen for us. At least he didn't have to contend with a dead sheep, as our dedicated Working Group had to do a couple of weeks ago!

A lot of Islanders have said they would like to be able to visit the hydro properly, rather than peering through the fence, so we are opening up on Sunday 13th May as part of Open Gardens. Do please just turn up during the afternoon from 2-4pm and we will let you in and answer all your questions

Finally, some Islanders have also said they are keen on community gardening and we have a garden that needs looking after. If you are interested in being part of an Osney Lock Hydro Gardening Group or have ideas about what you would like to see there, do please come along on 13th to talk to us or email info@osneylockhydro.org.

Allotment News

Summer Sunday Coffee Mornings will take place at the Allotment Shop from 11 until midday on 27 May, 24 June, 29 July and 26 August.

Sew extra seeds and donate them to the shop to help raise funds for Twenty Pound and Botley Meadow sites.

As the new season gets under way, this is a reminder about rubbish. Please dispose of your waste yourself and do not leave it for others to clear up.

City Council election on Thursday 3 May

There were only three candidates this year. Here are the results:

- Greens – 537
- Labour – 1424
- Conservatives – 199

Turnout was 46%, compared with an average across the City of 38%.

Susanna Pressel said 'It's an honour to be re-elected to represent Jericho and Osney Ward. I'd like to thank everyone who voted for me and everyone who helped with the campaign.

Congratulations Susanna!

St Frideswide with Binsey

We warmly welcome everyone in the community to our regular Sunday services at 10.30am, as well as any of the following special events.

Community Festival 2.30pm to 5.00pm, Sunday 20th May. At 2.30pm, artist Romola Parish will give a short talk on her exhibition 'Crying in the Silicon Wilderness'. There will also be opportunities to explore prayer, and activities for children. At 3.30pm the St Frideswide Choir will perform choral pieces. Refreshments will be served.

Children's services are continuing on the last Sunday of every month. Our next services will be at 3-4pm on 27th May, 24th June and 29th July.

Exploring faith We are continuing to run a group for those wanting to explore the Christian faith in a very relaxed setting. Please do contact kate.seagrave@oxford.anglican.org for more information.

Other St Frideswide's church news

If you would like to use St Frideswide's church to host

an activity, please let us know by sending an email to osneybenefice@outlook.com

At the east end of the church we have an area where ashes can be buried. If you would like to find out more, please contact osneybenefice@outlook.com

If you would like to join us, you can find the times of our regular services, information about our choir, and other information on our website at <http://osneybenefice.org.uk> or on the noticeboards outside the church. You can also connect with us on Facebook.

Mary Walker

From Julia Marsh: We are saddened to hear of the death of Mary Walker who died at home in South Street on 6th April, aged 91. Mary Brookings was born at 55 West Street in 1926, moving to South Street when she married David in 1948. They recently celebrated 70 very happy years of marriage. Older Osney residents may remember Mary who worked at Woodward's the island's bakery in Bridge Street for 24 years. Mary was a keen gardener and home-maker who always had a cheery face. Back in the nineties when I lived in South Street bringing up three daughters, I especially remember Mary who was always happy to chat and listen to the occasional tale of woe or delight during those early years of motherhood. We will miss you Mary.

For sale

Pump for sale - good as new: Flotec Vipvort submersible electropump for dirty water, plus hose. We bought it when we lived on Osney, but never used it. £65 ono. Contact Richard: jollyfella@aol.com; [07747 171335](tel:07747171335).

House wanted to rent

We're looking for a min 3 bed family house to rent. If you know of anything coming up please get in touch via samevans.riverbank@gmail.com

USEFUL NUMBERS

City Council tel: 249811 (now 24 hours); County Council tel: 792422; Councillor 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). For a crime in progress tel: 999; for all other police matters tel: 101. Highway enquiries, bus passes, parking permits, street lighting, travel advice tel: 0845 634 4466. West Oxford Community Centre tel: 245761. Furniture recycling (Emmaus) tel: 763698. The best way to report things to the two councils is via www.oxford.gov.uk and www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

THE DIRECTORY

From Chris Willis: After some thirteen years of self-employment as a general builder I'm hanging up my tool belt. From now on I shall try my hand at teaching maths in secondary schools having secured a teacher training course starting this autumn. I have counted, and I reckon I have worked in more than 50 Osney Island properties; as I had only another 100 or so 'off Island' customers over the years, I want to say thank you to so many of you for keeping me in business. And also to say sorry to those whose requests I failed to deliver on!

Good luck in your new career Chris, Ed

Tried and tested

Baby kit

Baby kit for hire 01235 280081 www.babycomes2.co.uk

Bicycles and accessories

Jon Wyver 07842 901873 info@oxbicycles.co.uk, www.oxbicycles.co.uk (will deliver and pick up in Oxford free of charge)

Building and roof repairs

Everest Roofing Ltd 01865 881685 enquiries@everestroofing.co.uk

Carpentry

Lockwood Carpentry: j.everett.lwc@gmail.com, 07597 952381
Amazon Flooring: Steve on 07899 918015 (wood flooring and general carpentry)

Car repairs

Oxon Autos in Grove near Wantage 07899 762949, email oxon.autos@live.co.uk

Chimney sweep

Martin Simmonds: 07762 816185 enquiry@ashlogs.com; www.ashlogs.com (also supplies ash logs)

Cleaners

C&S Cleaning Services 01865 872395/07824 159855

Computers

Bill Richardson 01865 376100 bill@macfaction.co.uk (Apple Macs)

Mac Simple 01865 580886/07974 321064 www.macsimple.co.uk

Judy Dendy 07554 660468 www.computerdendy.co.uk (lessons and basic troubleshooting)

Bill Baxter, The Animated Laser Company 07774 412944 bill@animatedlaser.co.uk

Damp

Damprot Renovations Ltd (in Beckley) 01865 742144

Electricians

RJB Electrical 01865 882723/07711 934348 (rewires and new installations)

DEC Electricians 01865 725453 mail@decoxford.co.uk www.dec-oxfordltd.co.uk

Jamie Cooke 07775 700300 jc.electrical@hotmail.com

Baldwin Appliances 01865 377484 www.baldwinappliances.com (repairs to white goods, new appliances)

Exterior and interior decorators

Andrew Turner 07591 491804 (repaints masonry, front doors and windows)

Dave Buckle 01865 848630/07831 712872

Steve Brierty 07850 357414

Rob Bennett 07905 819310

Sam Gordon (plasterer) 07976 516941

Footcare in your home

Angie Ward 07796 881157 angiefootcare@gmail.com (nail cutting, corns, verruca, fungal treatment, foot massage)

Gardening Services

David Morris 01865 725875

Eric Bake 07756 065045 (garden maintenance, sheds, fencing etc)

A.P. Van Olsen Oxfordshire Gardens & Dry Stone Walls 01865 552036/07860 334871 www.oxfordshiregardens.co.uk

Jason 07554 987911 info@oxfordgardenservices.co.uk (gardening tree surgery)

Gas fitters

Byron of Sure Gas Boiler Repairs 07899 629629

General builders

Mark Mavrommatis 07970 974792 (installs new windows, repairs old ones)

Brian French 07957 315303 (local general builder and plasterer, willing to take on small jobs)

Oxford Refurbished Sash Windows: refurbish the wooden frame and replace the sashes with double-glazed panels
info@sashrefurbcompany.co.uk

Green builders and installers

Next Generation Renewable Energy Ltd. 01993 810130
office@ngre.co.uk (installation and maintenance of solar panels, heat pumps etc)

JoJu Solar 0800 0542 977 www.jojuSolar.co.uk (solar panels, battery charging systems)

Energy My Way 0845 371 3181 (solar panels, heat pumps, underfloor heating)

Handymen

Jon Butt 07766 144116

Andrew Russell 01865 453497/07977 837675; (painting, decorating and garden maintenance)

Sid Siddle 01865 251795/ 07757 214 301 sid@oddsandsids.co.uk (shelves, carpentry)

Heating

Heatstore in Charlbury (for Defra approved multi-fuel burners) 01608 819088 www.heatstoreltd.co.uk

Remloc Plumbing and Heating Ltd 01235 536345/07709 961655 (large and small jobs)

Home hairdressers

Sally Horton 07815 445229

Nadine Wright 07824660184

Barry 07860 895364

Locksmith

Davies Hardened Security 01865 371816/07711 625092

Logs

Logsforall.co.uk (ideal for smaller wood burners/fireplaces)

Newsagent

Delivers to Osney, Mr Patel, Court Candy Shop 01865 515506.

Oven Cleaning

Wayne 07917 785906 (doesn't use chemicals)

Pests

Avenge 01865 246195/07879 405060 (from deer to bed bugs)

Plumbing and heating

Ivan Kilbee 07771 787585 ivankilbee@lineone.net

APV Boiler Services 01865 377264/07836 212502
apvboilerservice@btinternet.com

Jules Jones (formerly Smith) 01993 778244/07790 961395
reallygoodplumbing@outlook.com

Mark Morris, 5 Simore Road, Botley 07970 342375

Removals and storage

A G Jacob and Sons 01865 762524/07977 963929 www.
agjacobandson.co.uk

House and Carriage 01608 811444/07769 585988 info@
houseandcarriage.com

Sewing services

Maria Skoyles 01865 721460/07590 264246 (dressmaking, repairs and alterations, soft furnishing)

Loose covers: Elizabeth Feast 01386 861010.

Stone work surfaces and tiles

Jashim Hussain of Ultragranite, 01865 407555 www.
ultragranite.co.uk

Window cleaning

Mark Jennings 01865 848904/07773 159198

Wood burning stove fitters

Lee Hill 01865 787940/07732 864441 (HETAS approved)

Gazebos

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

OIRA COMMITTEE

Joyce Chalmers 22 East St 07837 127883 (Chair); Maureen Erganeli 24 East St 07816 580990; Suzanne Jeffrey 13 South 07769 654767 suzanne@dands.org.uk (Notice board); Robert Lawrence (Residents' email list) 42 West 428323; Veronika Lukacs (Secretary) veronikalukacs@yahoo.com 07746 712609; Stephen Lynam (Vice Chair) 11 South St 201334; stephenroderlynam@gmail.com; Elizabeth Newbery (Newsletter) 3 North St 793360 elizabeth@newberyandengland.com; Karen Schoenemann 07718 632742; Gareth Strange 102 Bridge St 727680; Julia Turner (Treasurer) 102 Bridge St 07971 881 258; Anna Truelove (Newsletter distribution) 83 Bridge St. 245496.

Gazebos

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

Welcome Pack

New to the Island? Contact Jude Carroll 10 East St, 793247 for a free welcome pack with loads of useful local information.

A note on the Internet

OIRA website: www.osneyisland.co.uk. Contributors should be aware that the newsletter is automatically posted on the Internet just as it appears in print. Please bear in mind that OIRA can't accept any responsibility for the contents of external websites. Osney Island email account

Next Committee meeting

The OIRA committee's next meeting is Monday 9 July @ 8pm at 24 East St. Committee meetings are by invitation only. If you'd like to raise an issue please contact the Chair, Joyce Chalmers 22 East St or Stephen Lynam (Vice Chair) 11 South St. 201334 stephenroderlynam@gmail.com; You can find our agenda the minutes on the Bridge Street notice board and on the website. Next newsletter is due out mid September, last date for copy August 30. If you would like to put an item in contact: Elizabeth Newbery 3 North St. 793360, email: elizabeth@newberyandengland.com or use the tear-off strip below.

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Please use this tear-off strip to write down any requests for inclusion in the newsletter or concerns that you may wish Committee Members to raise at OIRA meetings. Post it through the door of any of the members listed above.

Name

Address

Tel. no.

Request