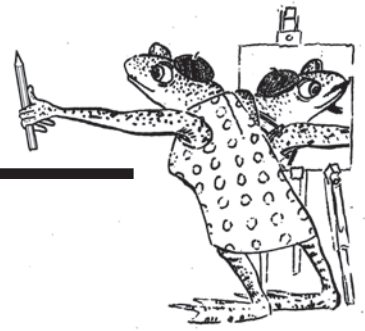


# Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter



osneyisland.org.uk  
Summer 2019

## COMING UP

### St Frideswide Bee Friendly Day

From Anne James: Learn about our pollinators and the natural world on Saturday 15th June 2pm – 5:30 pm in the grounds of St Frideswide. It's free entry with action packed fun activities for both children and adults including decorating bee biscuits, making bee masks, beeswax candles and Bee B&Bs. There'll be two bee walks on the allotments during the afternoon and bee keeping demonstrations a plant stall with Bee Friendly plants plus delicious afternoon teas with homemade cakes and fine local jams, honey and other produce to buy and raffle with great prizes including annual passes for two to the Oxford Botanic Garden and Arboretum, Massage with Annabel James, a £50 voucher for The Chester Arms and a £20 voucher for The One Bar and Restaurant. There will also be serious scientific input from Dr Tonya Lander's team at Plant Sciences on bees and pollinators in urban environments, and their current work which includes a Citizen Science element. For more information log on to [www.osneybenefice.org.uk](http://www.osneybenefice.org.uk) See you there!

price for WOBfest has been held at £5. As well as entry to the beer festival, the price includes a commemorative pint glass for you to keep.

Tickets are available online now from <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/467678> (booking fees apply), and will soon go on sale from local outlets. Our website [www.wobfest.org.uk](http://www.wobfest.org.uk) has more details including a full beer list. There will be a limited number of tickets available on the door, but we strongly recommend you get your tickets in advance to avoid disappointment.

We are also very keen to find volunteers to help make WOBfest happen. There are lots of opportunities to help: becoming a beer sponsor, helping us choose or collecting beers, general planning and organisation, selling tickets, pouring pints, etc, etc. If you would like to help or have any questions about the event, please contact me on [david@wobfest.org.uk](mailto:david@wobfest.org.uk) We look forward to seeing you and your friends for what promises to be another great evening.

### The Didcot to Oxford Branch of the Great Western Railway

From Liz Wooley: The railway line opened in June 1844 and we'll be celebrating its 175th anniversary with events at or near all five stations along the line – Didcot, Appleford, Culham, Radley and Oxford - on Saturday 15 June 2019.

The railway came rather late to Oxford, mainly due to opposition from the University which feared for the morals of its students. In particular, it was very worried about providing undergraduates with easy access to London, where they might be involved in "improper marriages and other illegitimate connexions". After several years - and two failed parliamentary Bills - the University finally dropped its opposition when it was agreed that its officials could patrol the station and physically prevent students from travelling to unsuitable destinations. Moreover, the Act of Parliament giving permission for the branch line stated that the Great Western could sell undergraduates tickets only to approved stations, and not to places like Ascot and Henley. The opening of the line to the public on 12 June 1844 caused enormous excitement and great crowds gathered in areas adjacent to the railway. Thousands of people watched enthralled as the first public train arrived from Didcot:

"...one of those rampageous, dragonnading fire-devils ... arrived at a sufficiently astonishing rate, and though gasping for breath and shining with heat, seemed to have turned not one hair more than was deemed proper by each spectator, even after its long and whirlwind chase." (Jackson's Oxford Journal, 15 June 1844)

Join us for an equally exciting day on Saturday 15 June. You'll be able to buy a special GWR ticket to take you from one station to the next, and included in the price will be

**Bee Friendly Day**  
June 15th  
2pm - 5pm

**Children's Art Competition**

**To enter:**  
Draw or paint your idea for a Bee's favourite meal and bring it on June 15th

Hmmm what's for dinner?

Will you find it in the garden?  
Is it growing in the hedgerows?  
Is it high above your head in a tree?

**See next page for more details**

[www.osneybenefice.org.uk](http://www.osneybenefice.org.uk)

### West Oxford Beer Festival

From David Jeffrey: This year the West Oxford Beer Festival will be held on the evening of Saturday June 15 in the Community Centre, from 7pm onwards. This will be the ninth 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. The ticket

discounted entry to the Didcot Railway Centre. There it'll be a special Steam Day, with locomotives which served on the Didcot to Oxford line on display. At Appleford's steam-themed fête there'll be a beer tent and barbeque; at Culham you can explore the 1844 Brunel-designed ticket office; and at Radley you'll be able to hear story tellers relating tales about the village and the railway. At Oxford we'll be based in Grandpont, very near the site of the city's first (1844) railway station, and you'll be able to enjoy rides on miniature trains, working model displays, exhibitions about the history of Oxford's railways, and free guided walks to the nearby LMS swingbridge, a national Scheduled Monument.

Take part in our photo competition What does the Didcot to Oxford railway mean to you? from 19 April to 30 May. Fabulous prizes to be won! Further details at [www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org/competition.html](http://www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org/competition.html)

For more information on all the celebrations visit [www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org](http://www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org) or contact Liz Woolley on [info@didcotoxfordgwr175.org](mailto:info@didcotoxfordgwr175.org), 01865 242760.

### **Osney Chatty Wednesdays**

*From Ellie Harriss:* I've lived on the Island for nearly 9 years, mostly on my own, and I find it hard to meet my neighbours as I'm out at a full time job as a medical librarian during the week. To conquer some loneliness and shyness, I've now both joined the OIRA committee, and had my idea for Osney Chatty Wednesdays warmly received. Would you also like to get out of the house and meet your neighbours? How about we meet up in the Punter to get to know each other! I'm going to be sitting in the Punter every third Wednesday of each month for the rest of the year from 7.30-10pm, with a red hat (to be recognisable) and a book (just in case no-one turns up!). Join me for a chat and a drink of something. The dates will be Wednesday 19th June; 17th July; 21st August; 18th September; 16th October; 20th November; 18th December. Eli Harriss: [gekh2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gekh2@yahoo.co.uk)

## **OSNEY ISLAND NEWS**

### **Summer events 2020**

Oxford Artsweeks, Open Gardens and Teas on the Towpath 2019 were successful as ever with teas taking around £350. However, the feedback is that people who are interested in opening their gardens feel that their plots are not at their best in mid May when Artweeks takes place. So, in 2020 Artweeks will take place in May as usual and Open Gardens with Teas on the Towpath will take place later, probably in June when roses are at their best.

Maureen Ergeneli, who has run Teas and Tealights on the Island for ages from her kitchen on East St, has announced her retirement from the event. We desperately need someone to run with it (with support from other helpers of course). Any offers? Contact Maureen on 07816 580990/[maukie24@icloud.com](mailto:maukie24@icloud.com) if you can help.

### **Going electric**

*From John Faulkner:* After test drives of the electric cars Leaf, C-Zero, Volkswagen E-Up and Renault Zoe, we bought a Zoe from Go Green Autos of Kingston Bagpuize (see YouTube for more). We almost always charge it from home, via a three pin plug and with the cable cunningly dropped into the metal drainway across the pavement

to avoid any trip hazard to pedestrians. Of course, this depends on being able to get the car parked one side or other of the 'slot' in front of the house! Our Zoe is an early example (2016) bought used, inclusive of the battery pack. Some have leased batteries. The latest Zoe has a battery capacity of 40 kilowatt hours giving a real world range of up to 180 miles, where ours is 22 kWh giving a range in summer of about 100 miles and in winter perhaps 75 or so. The battery is more efficient when warm and heaters, lights and wipers use up power that would otherwise be available for progress. We go about 4.5 miles per kWh used. With instant torque it is surprisingly quick from 0 to 40 mph! The car is eerily quiet and smooth with a seamless automatic transmission. Power steering and brakes are like any other modern car.

For us this is proving an ideal car and very cheap to operate (3p to 4p per mile) with low servicing costs (few moving parts) nil road tax, congestion charges and average insurance cost. Charging from public points is harder with many different suppliers, systems, charges and methods of payment. Points are often blocked by parked cars or are simply out of order.

But it's getting better all the time and should shake down to a decent standard quite quickly.

For those of you interested in further information about electric cars there is a show with cars and their owners and advice on electric car ownership in Broad St on Saturday 15 June 10 am - 5 pm.

### **Ginger Buttercake**

Coffee mornings with lovely homemade cakes and good coffee are held outside the allotment shop (or inside if its wet) on the last Sunday in the month from April to September. Here is a recipe for the delicious Ginger Buttercake recently donated by Sally Roberts which would also be wonderful served with strawberries.

*To make:* knead together 250 g (9 oz) plain flour, 200 g (7 oz) unsalted butter, 200 g (7 oz) caster sugar, together with one small beaten egg. Add 85 g (3 oz) of chopped crystalized ginger. Butter a 21 cm (8 inch) cake tin and press the dough into it. Bake at 150 C until golden brown. Turn out on to a rack when cool and cut into slices.

### **Geoff Baxendale**

We are very sad to report that Geoff Baxendale of Bridge St has died in London. Geoff first discovered Osney decades ago when he was on a river trip and fell in love with the Island. We send our sympathy to Pat, his wife.

### **St Frideswide with Binsey**

Services at St Frideswide's Church

We warmly welcome everyone in the community to our regular Sunday services at 10.30am. On Monday mornings at 9:30 am there is now a short service of Morning Prayer.

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](mailto:kate.seagrave@oxford.anglican.org) for more information. This group is also suitable for adults wishing to be baptised or confirmed.

Join our choir Our church choir is friendly, welcoming, relaxed, and non-auditioning. We welcome all who would like to sing to join us for our rehearsal at 10am before the

Sunday morning service. We would love to have you sing with us!

Services at St Margaret's Church, Binsey  
Over the summer there is Evensong at 4:30 pm.

Weekly events starting in May:  
Silent Tuesdays 7 – 9 pm at St Frideswide's  
Drop in, take some time out to be still and pray.

Saturday Stitch 10 am – 12 pm at St Frideswide's  
Add your stitches to our community tapestry or bring your own craft project to work on.

Saturday 18th May 10 am – 3pm St Frideswide's  
Community Day  
Explore the church, our community and faith with activities for all the family.

Saturday 21st July 4:30 pm Special St Margaret's Day  
Evensong at Binsey.  
Celebrate over 1000 years of Christian worship in our parish.

### **Other St Frideswide's Church news**

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals, the burial of ashes in the churchyard or hosting an event in the church, please email us. For details of our regular services, how to join the choir or other parish information, please see our website, Facebook page or the notice boards outside church.

osneybenefice@outlook.com, <http://osneybenefice.org.uk>

## **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](mailto:cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk); City Councilors: Colin Cook, tel: 285770 (daytime) 721844 (evening) email: [cllrccook@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrccook@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](http://www.oxford.gov.uk) and [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### **Need a builder?**

In response to a recent email quest for a builder, Veronica Strang suggests the following.

1 If you want a contractor for a large task:  
Mike Shephard; MJ Construction, Silverlea, Oxford Road, Frilford Heath, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 5NN Email: [mjconstruction@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mjconstruction@hotmail.co.uk) Tel 07834 321274.

He renovated numbers 5 and 6 East Street and, though he was rather slow to finish, they were pretty happy with him.

2 When I was looking for someone to do my place in East St, Pearce Alder recommended Rob Cassettari very highly. I have met him and his team and they came across very well.

Rob Cassettari NORTH HINKSEY BUILDERS  
10, Yarnells Hill, North Hinksey, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 9EY Email: [robnhc@virginmedia.com](mailto:robnhc@virginmedia.com)  
Tel: 01865 242312 M 07977 152884 M 07900 881511.

3 If you just want a smaller building job done, I had a good experience recently with:

Sabri Canaku plastering, rendering, tiling, wooden floors, kitchen and bathroom fitting, fencing, patios, loft conversion. Email: [Sabricanaku76@gmail.com](mailto:Sabricanaku76@gmail.com)  
Tel: 07376 921483.

Anna Truelove mentioned another builder to me recently, who she says has always done good work for her:  
Mike Surplice Witney Tel: 01993 883071 or 07966 074031.

## **THE DIRECTORY**

### **Tried and tested**

#### **Baby kit**

Baby kit for hire 01235 280081 [www.babycomes2.co.uk](http://www.babycomes2.co.uk)

#### **Bicycles and accessories**

Jon Wyver 07842 901873 [info@oxbicycles.co.uk](mailto:info@oxbicycles.co.uk),  
[www.oxbicycles.co.uk](http://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](mailto:enquiries@everestroofing.co.uk)

#### **Carpentry**

Lockwood Carpentry: [j.everett.lwc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:oxon.autos@live.co.uk)

#### **Chimney sweep**

Martin Simmonds: 07762 816185 [enquiry@ashlogs.com](mailto:enquiry@ashlogs.com);  
[www.ashlogs.com](http://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](mailto:bill@macfaction.co.uk)  
(Apple Macs)

Mac Simple 01865 580886/07974 321064 [www.macsimple.co.uk](http://www.macsimple.co.uk)

Judy Dendy 07554 660468 [www.computerdendy.co.uk](http://www.computerdendy.co.uk) (lessons and basic troubleshooting)

Bill Baxter, The Animated Laser Company 07774 412944  
[bill@animatedlaser.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:mail@decoxford.co.uk) [www.dec-oxfordltd.co.uk](http://www.dec-oxfordltd.co.uk)

Jamie Cooke 07775 700300 [jc.electrical@hotmail.com](mailto:jc.electrical@hotmail.com)

Baldwin Appliances 01865 377484 [www.baldwinappliances.com](http://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](mailto:angiefootcare@gmail.com) (nail cutting, corns, verruca, fungal treatment, foot massage)

#### **Gardening Services**

David Morris 01865 725875



A.P. Van Olsen Oxfordshire Gardens & Dry Stone Walls 01865 552036/07860 334871 [www.oxfordshiregardens.co.uk](http://www.oxfordshiregardens.co.uk)  
Jason 07554 987911 [info@oxfordgardenservices.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordgardenservices.co.uk)  
(gardening tree surgery)  
Ben Renals-Wells 07891 422574

#### **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](mailto:info@sashrefurbcompany.co.uk)

#### **Green builders and installers**

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

JoJu Solar 0800 0542 977 [www.jojuSolar.co.uk](http://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)

#### **Heating**

Heatstore in Charlbury (for Defra approved multi-fuel burners) 01608 819088 [www.heatstoreltd.co.uk](http://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](http://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](mailto:ivankilbee@lineone.net)

APV Boiler Services 01865 377264/07836 212502  
[apvboilerservice@btinternet.com](mailto:apvboilerservice@btinternet.com)

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

Mark Morris, 5 Sinmore Road, Botley 07970 342375

#### **Removals and storage**

A G Jacob and Sons 01865 762524/07977 963929  
[www.agjacobandson.co.uk](http://www.agjacobandson.co.uk)

House and Carriage 01608 811444/07769 585988  
[info@houseandcarriage.com](mailto: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](http://www.ultragranite.co.uk)

#### **Window cleaning**

Mark Jennings 01865 848904/07773 159198

Michel Temple 07983 767075 [Michaeltemple1@outlook.com](mailto:Michaeltemple1@outlook.com)

#### **Wood burning stove fitters**

Lee Hill 01865 787940/07732 864441 (HETAS approved)

#### **Osney Island email list**

It's never too late to sign-up to the Island email service. Join up to read and share news and opinion, buy, swap and sell, learn about our social events, and much more! The OIRA (Osney Island Residents Association) email service is free, safe to use, carries no commercial advertising, is restricted to use by its residents only, will never divulge your personal details to a third party, and any message sent to the list is checked for propriety before distribution. So, if you haven't subscribed yet, why not do so now? Send subscription requests to the list manager at [osiramanager@gmail.com](mailto:osiramanager@gmail.com)

#### **Bridge St Noticeboard**

Julia Marsh @ 26 Bridge St 247001 [btconnect.com](http://btconnect.com) is the person to contact to secure a display on the noticeboard beside the letterbox in Bridge St.

#### **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: <https://osneyisland.org.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.

#### **Changes to the OIRA Committee and email list manager**

After a lively well attended OIRA AGM we are happy to announce OIRA has a new Chair, two new members and a new Email List manager. Alan Goodwin of 2 North St has very kindly agreed to be Chair until further notice. We also welcome new members to the Committee: Nick and Jennifer Meakin of North St (who will share the membership), Eli Harris of Bridge St. and Alison Burdett who is taking over from Robert Lawrence as the email list manager.

Many, many thanks to Robert who did an expert job moderating the list and to Joyce Chalmers who was acting Chair whenever possible.

### OIRA COMMITTEE

Alison Burdett. [alison.burdett@gmail.com](mailto:alison.burdett@gmail.com) (Residents email list);  
Joyce Chalmers 07837 127883; Maureen Ergeneli 07816 580990;  
Alan Goodwin (Chair) 07765 034918 [alan@hilcot.demon.co.uk](mailto:alan@hilcot.demon.co.uk); Ellie Harris [gekh2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gekh2@yahoo.co.uk); Paul Hunter (Planning) [paul.hunter@gmail.com](mailto:paul.hunter@gmail.com); Robert Lawrence 428323; Veronika Lukacs (Secretary) 07746 712609 [veronikalukacs@yahoo.com](mailto:veronikalukacs@yahoo.com); Jennifer/Nick Meakin [jennifermeakin@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermeakin@gmail.com); Elizabeth Newbery (Newsletter) 793360 [elizabeth@newberyandengland.com](mailto:elizabeth@newberyandengland.com); Karen Schoenemann 07718 632742; Gareth Strange 727680; Julia Turner (Treasurer) 07971 881258; Anna Truelove (Newsletter distribution) 245496.

#### **Next Committee meeting**

The OIRA committee's next meeting is Monday July 15 @ 8pm at 24 East St. Committee meetings are by invitation only. If you'd like to raise an issue please contact anyone on the Committee. You can find our agenda and minutes on the Bridge Street notice board and on the website.

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