

Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter

www.osneyisland.co.uk
November—December 2015



HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

In the last newsletter we removed the Directory to separate list on the website. Feedback revealed this was that this was not a popular move! People want hardcopy apparently, so it has been reinstated together with Susanna's bits as an insert

COMING UP

Children's lantern parade

This year's traditional Osney Island Christmas carol singing and children's lantern parade will be on Saturday 5th December. Meet outside The Punter at 5pm and bring a lantern (or a tea light in a jam jar) if possible. If you would like the carol singers to stop by your house and sing, please contact Debbie Hall (debbietheduck@hotmail.com, 07779 295080) or let us know at 14 East Street. If you would like to offer refreshments to the carol singers en route then please let Debbie know as well. Everyone is welcome



Christmas concert

Ox Chamber Choir are holding their Christmas concert on Sunday 20 December at 7.00pm at St Frideswide. We sing a cappella and the programme will be a gorgeous mix of new and old seasonal music. It will last about an hour. For more information please see our website: <http://www.vox-choir-oxford.co.uk>. This will be our first visit to St Frideswide and we hope to have a good audience!

Magdalen College Films

If you are interested in seeing excellent films in a very good auditorium for only £3/film or £10/term, please contact magdcollfilmsoc-subscribe@maillist.ox.ac.uk and you will receive, details of the films coming in the next week.

A reminder of summer...

Pete Marsh's band playing at the Open Gardens event, early September



ISLAND NEWS

Residents email list

From Robert Lawrence: We are planning to introduce a new residents email list in December. As well as receiving emails of interest to Islanders, you will be able to read and respond to discussion topics via a weblink. As before, the list will be moderated. There is documentation online should you need it. All those subscribed to the current service will be invited to join the new one before it goes live. Anyone not currently subscribed and wishing to be added to the list should send an email to osneyislandresidents@gmail.com.

Allotment news

The Committee have been working hard to align plots to plot holders – which is proving to be a massive job and bit of a nightmare not least because few of the plots are actually numbered. Several new plots have been assigned but there are still several people on the waiting list. Plot holders who haven't paid have been sent a letter noting that the cut off point was Sunday November 15 after which their plot reverted back to the committee for reallocation. And if your plot is not numbered please number it NOW.

LOCAL HISTORY

Growing up in Osney

Chapter 3 of an on-going contribution from John Gaisford.

The big freeze in 1947 still comes clearly to mind when I had to push an old pram round to the old gasworks to join the queue to get coke for the fire as there was a coal shortage then. My father William worked in the Morris paint shop at Cowley where he would try and make a few bob dipping tobacco tins in the black paint and then embossing them with the Morris badge. I should have been a hairdresser if the family trend was to continue for my four brothers all trained as hairdressers in the shop owned by Cecil Smith opposite Warlands Cycles at the top of Alexandra Road. My dad said that people will always want their hair cut but I couldn't be tempted in 1951, even at 16 shillings a week! My brother Maurice opened a shop on Elms Parade in the 50s and most of the family - Dennis, Mutch, Keith and even me - sweeping up to do our bit for the family name. Brother Mutch played for the Osney Town football team that won the Oxford Junior League. As a baby, I recall seeing the lemonade factory blaze on the other side of East Street from the window at the back of no 26. East Street was to become a scene of some of the happiest and scariest moments for the Osney youngsters. More of that in Part 4.

IN FOCUS

Following in the footsteps of the excellent West Oxford Academy, this column focusses on Islanders' particular interests.

Cycling in France

From Robert Lawrence: Anyone who knows me will appreciate I love the bike and cycle touring - saddlebag, maps, phone and credit card – and so mid-September saw me set out to ride from Nice to Saint-Malo, a French end-to-end. A flight from Gatwick, and off down the Promenade des Anglais and north-west into the Alpes-Maritimes département. A wonderful ride into Provence and Gard via the Gorges du Verdon and Nesque, dizzying precipitous views down to limestone, scrub, and river. En route sleepy hilltop villages, crumbling stucco, terracotta tiles, and pastel colours, all blessed by a warm southern sun. The highlight hereabouts was an ascent of Mont Ventoux, Géant de Provence, and a homage to Tom Simpson who died there in the 1967 Tour de France. Next day brought a battering from Le Mistral, a crossing of the Rhone, and the Gorges de l'Ardèche and Tarn. Then up and over the Cévennes to Rodez and Figeac, before heading into the Dordogne and a brief rest. North of the Loire saw a dour contrast in bricks and grey slates, flat roads, countless heavy lorries and rain. Then more rain. Finally, after fifteen days on the road and a thousand miles, Saint-Malo, ferry, and home ... and already, thoughts of where next year?

Eggs

Far from being crushed by the weight of mega supermarkets, Eggs is EXPANDING! They have bought the shop next door and it will shortly reopen as Poppy & Hearts selling cards, gifts and a bit of shabby chic.

ST FRIDESWIDE WITH BINSEY

Events at St Frideswide's church

A new children's choir Our next rehearsal for the new Children's Choir will be at 9 a.m. on Sunday 6th December. Everyone aged 7 or above is welcome - all

you need is to love singing! We will be learning some beautiful music for the Advent season, and there will be buns and juice after the practice. Please just turn up, or for more information contact Sarah Lister at basileia123@yahoo.co.uk

- Friday, 27 November 7.30pm, Tango. £5 at the door includes a glass of wine and nibbles.
- Sundays in November 3.00pm, Lieder recitals, with tea.

Christmas services at St Frideswide's church

- Thursday 3 December, 8.00pm, Advent Carol Service
- Wednesday 16 December, 6.00pm, West Oxford School Carol Concert
- Thursday 24 December, 4.30pm, Christmas Eve Crib Service
- Friday 25 December, 10.30am, Christmas Day service

Christmas services at St Margaret's church, Binsey

- Sunday 20 December, 3.30pm, Carol Service
- Friday 25 December, 9.00am, Christmas Day service

For times of regular services and other information, please visit our websites at <http://osneybenefice.org.uk/StF> and <http://osneybenefice.org.uk/StM>

BITS AND BOBS

Classifieds

Free to a good home: a two-seater Habitat sofa bed. It has plain grey covers and comes with a fold-out single bed on a camp-bed style base. Well used for 10 years but perhaps useful for someone on the Island? Contact Jude Carroll 10 East St, tel: 793247 [jude@judecarroll.co.uk](mailto:judecarroll.co.uk)

Used, outgrown table, (1 or 2) chairs and/or play kitchen sought for toddlers' outdoor wendy house. If you have any to give away or sell, please contact Veronika Luckas veronikalukacs@yahoo.com

Two academics are looking for accommodation from April – June 2016. Please email pitchera@umich.edu if you can help.

Found in North Street on 5th November a small pendant (?) Call Alan on 07765 034918 if you think it might be yours.

Classes

New Yoga Classes at Osney Osteopaths
Prana Yoga Oxford is a series of classes for all levels, ages, and yoga styles in the beautiful studio above Osney Osteopaths. Instructor Simone Jacqueline offers classes with elements of Vinyasa flow (breath and movement), Hatha (held poses), and Yin (meditation and restoration). Weekly classes are 60 or 75 minutes and provide students with a variety of ways to sweat and stretch throughout the week, with a new post-natal class starting in November. All are welcome and encouraged! Class Schedule: Tuesday 9:30-10:45 AM (Gentle Flow), Wednesday 8:15-9:30 PM (Sun Salute Vinyasa), Thursday 9:30-10:45 AM (Gentle Flow), Friday 12:00-1:00PM Yoga Lunch Crunch. For pricing and more information, please see the website www.pranayogaoxford.wordpress.com or contact Simone Jacqueline at 07518673090 or simoneolsenvarela@gmail.com.

Planning

29 West Street Oxford Oxfordshire OX2 0BQ;
proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension.

The Hollybush Inn 106 Bridge Street Oxford
Oxfordshire OX2 0BD Proposal: Change of use from
Public House (Use Class A4) and Bed and Breakfast
(Use Class C1) to House in Multiple Occupation (Sui
Generis) and Office (Use Class B1). (retrospective)
<http://public.oxford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=NWGSVCMF0QY00>

23 Abbey Road Oxford Oxfordshire OX2 0AD
Proposal: Erection of part single, part two storey rear
extension.
<http://public.oxford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=NWVFQ4MFLPH00>

5 South Street Oxford Oxfordshire OX2 0BE Erection
of part single, part two storey rear extension. Formation
of 1no. rear dormer.
<http://public.oxford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=NWVJ5QMF0QY00>

29 West Street Oxford Oxfordshire OX2 0BQ
Formation of additional rear dormer window and
replacement of existing rear dormer window.
<http://public.oxford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=NXP2DUMFLWK00>

Note on the Hollybush: The planning application for Hollybush will be on the agenda at the next OIRA meeting on Nov 23 @ the WOCCA café at 8pm. If you would like to attend please contact Jude Carroll on tel: 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk so that we can tell you what time it will come up.

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!

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 (electronics, 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 (Chair), gazebos, Welcome Pack); Georg Deutsch (Secretary) 4 Bridge St, 728050 jan-georg.deutsch@stx.ox.ac.uk; Maureen Egeneli 24 East St; Suzanne Jeffrey 13 South St tel: 247737 (notice board); Bob Lawrence 42 West St tel: 792358; Veronika Lucas veronikalukacs@yahoo.com tel: 07746 712609; Stephen Lynam (Vice Chair) 11 South St tel: 201334 stephenrodgerlynam@gmail.com; Elizabeth Newbery (Newsletter) 3 North St tel: 793360 elizabeth@newberyandengland.com; Gareth Strange 102 Bridge st 727680; Julia Turner (Treasurer) 102 Bridge St tel: 07971 88125; Anna Truelove 83 Bridge St tel: 245496 (directory, Open Gardens).

Next Committee meeting

The OIRA committee's next meeting is Monday, 23 November at the WOCCA café @ 8pm. Committee meetings are by invitation only. If you'd like to raise an issue please contact the Chair, Jude Carroll 10 East St, tel: 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk. You can find our agenda the minutes on the Bridge Street notice board and on the website. Next newsletter is due out mid January, last date for copy 2 January 2016. 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.

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