

Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter

www.osneyisland.co.uk

November/December 2016
Happy Christmas everybody!

COMING UP

Christmas on Osney Children's Lantern Parade

The children's lantern parade will take place on **Saturday 3rd December**. Meet at 5pm outside the Punter. Bring a lantern / tea light in a jam jar. If you would like the carol singers to call at your house and sing please contact Debbie Hall (debbietheduck@hotmail.com or 07779295080). If you are able to offer refreshments, they are always very welcome!

Tealights on the Towpath

Sunday Dec 11 @ 6 pm. Continuing the tradition of last year's Tealights on the Towpath, OIRA will provide a Christmas tree, a brazier or two, hot drinks (mulled wine or warm apple juice). This year we hope to have carols too. If you would like to join in please bring a tea light in a jam jar (to mark the edge of the bank), a mug for a hot drink and either homemade mince pies or gingerbread to pass round. Meanwhile, we need offers to mull the wine (preferably from people on East St so no one has to carry hot wine sloshing about too far) - all ingredients supplied, and someone to lead the carol singing (we will supply carol sheets). If you can help please contact me: elizabeth@newberyandengland.com 01865 793360. If the weather is foul, we will call it off so please keep an eye open for last minute notices.

St Frideswide with Binsey

Christmas services

- Sunday 4th December, 6.00pm Advent Carol Service
- Sunday 18th December, 3.30pm Carol Service at St Margaret's, Binsey
- Thursday 22nd December, 7.30pm Christmas Carol Concert
- Saturday 24th December, 4.30pm Crib Service
- Sunday 25th December, 10.30am Christmas Day service

Other events at St Frideswide

Tango Evening Friday, November 25th@ 7.30pm.

Artweeks on Osney

From Louise and Bob Summers: For the first time in several years Osney Island will have venues open for Artweeks, May 2017. We expect there will be at least four sites as well as the Community Centre. Local artists will be exhibiting paintings, prints, printed textiles, sculpture, embroidery and baskets. The dates



are May 20-29 but not everyone needs to open every day. It's great that the Island is back on the artistic map again and we are looking at producing a West Oxford 'trail' similar to other areas. If there is anyone on the Island interested in opening their house to exhibit their work, please get in touch with me very soon - louiseandbob@gmail.com - because the deadline for registering at the end of the month is fast approaching.

Magdalen College Film Club

From James Fry: The term card (log on to: MT16TermCard.jpg) includes many superb films, and anyone can go along to see them. The cost is only £3 on the door at the Magdalen Auditorium on Longwall Street. It costs only £10 for the term, £20 for the calendar year and £45 for life. I do recommend going along sometimes, not only for the good films, but also because the Auditorium is a very good one for seeing films, since it was built during the time when the College President was a former director of the British Film Institute. By the way, you can sign up for news and reminders at magdalenfilmsociety@gmail.com

ISLAND NEWS

The North St Railings

From 2,3 & 4 North St: Oxford Preservation Trust invited us to submit our new railings installed earlier this year, for a conservation award. The Oxford Times faithfully reported the event but LEFT OUT ANY MENTION OF OUR ENTRY! - so its down to me to report it. We didn't win the top award in our category (Small Projects) but came a good second along with mighty competitors such as the Ashmolean 19th c. galleries and Pembroke College Porter's Lodge. Just in case you are wondering it was not a matter of all short listed entries winning something so we did really well! It was a very smart reception and we three neighbours mingled fearlessly with all the great and good of the architecture world. We were given a tremendous introduction by Dr Malcolm Airs, chair of the awards panel, saying it was a 'terrific little project' and complemented us on banding together, doing our research and making a difference to North St.

Martin Hill of Ironcrafts of Stroud, who fabricated the railings, and Oxfordshire Gardens & Dry Stone Walls, who did the brickwork, got special mentions - as they should. We were also grateful to the Lowe family - older residents may remember old Mr Lowe who used

to live at No 4 - for lending us family photographs of the houses when they were first built in the very early 20th century. One of conditions for installing the railings in this Conservation Article 4 area was that we had reproduce the original iron railings as closely as possible. They were taken down in WWII to help the war effort and like all such railings, when they proved of the wrong type of metal, were dumped in the sea somewhere. If anyone else feels so inclined to restore their railings, please get in touch and we can advise you on possible pitfalls. At least you won't have to first prove there were once railings on the Island as we had to do.

A big welcome to our new lock keeper

The new Lock Keeper at Osney Lock is Mark Winks. Born and brought up in the Thames Valley he has spent almost all his career involved in Inland Waterways, initially working on pleasure craft, then tug driving and, for the past 12 years in Oxfordshire, as Resident Lock and Weir Keeper of Northmoor Lock. In his time at Northmoor he worked closely with the local community on issues such as flood defence and land drainage and is looking forward to building a similar relationship with the residents of West Oxford.

West Oxford gets its own Farmers' Market!

From Anne James: St Frideswide Church is delighted to be hosting a new and fun West Oxford Farmers' Market. So do put Saturdays, 12th November and 3rd December in your diaries now! The markets will run from 10 - 1 on each of those Saturdays. The 12th November market will be opened by Oxfordshire food writer and chef, Helen Peacocke.

The markets are being organised by Caroline Casey, who will be well known to people who enjoy her markets at Woodstock, North Parade and Jericho. Stall holders include The Cotswold Game and Meat Company, who provide game as in season and this autumn that will include a wide spectrum ranging from red legged partridge and mallard to muntjac deer and hare not to mention pheasants' and gulls' eggs! Also present will be The Cheese Makers Choice, who are selling cheese making kits, so you really can try this one at home, Clive's famous Sandford pies will be on sale, plus conserves, chutneys and confectionary from Faringdon's Larder and Tuck Box, with more quality goodies, both traditional and contemporary from Sweet Fancies, and artisanal breads from Breadbyian. As well as food there will be high quality crafts, felted goods and fabric toy bags, beautiful cards and gift wraps on sale. This is an intentionally inter-active market so there will be advice and recipes on hand, a pigeon plucking workshop and the chance to try your hand at spinning wool into yarn. And this month the alpacas, who proved such a hit at the October market, will be joined by some inquisitive lamas.

In addition, St Frideswide will be open (as will its loos and baby changing) providing the opportunity to explore this beautiful Grade II* Listed building and to see the 'Alice' door, a door which was carved in the 1930s by Alice Liddell, the original Alice, of Alice in Wonderland. We look forward to seeing you there. For more information or to take a stall, please contact Caroline Casey 01993 772278

The Queen's 90th birthday

It seems incredible after all the recent fine weather, but back in April when we hoped to celebrate the Queen's birthday with a special grant from the City Council, it was a complete washout. So in mid September we had another bash at it. about 80 people turned out, good weather prevailed and a good time was had by all.

BITS AND BOBS

Allotments

From Gus Fagan: Allotments have rarely been more popular and, at any one time, the vast majority of ours are in use. However, we do have some vacant plots (and half-plots) every year, especially following our annual rent audit in September. Now is the time to get a plot ready for spring planting. Rent is very reasonable (£25 per year for a full plot, £12.50 for half a plot).

To apply for a plot at Twenty Pound Meadow, across from Osney Island, contact gus.fagan@ntlworld.com.

To apply for a plot at Botley Meadow, behind Bullstake Close, contact the Botley Meadow Field Secretary botley_meadow_plots@westoxfordallotments.org.

Osney Island website

Tony Roberts, our web master, has decided that he would like to hand it over to someone else. First of all, many thanks to Tony for his commitment over several years. Luckily, Sid Siddle has agreed to take over.

USEFUL NUMBERS

City Council, tel: 249811 (now 24 hours); County Council, tel: 792422; Susanna Pressel, 7 Rawlinson Rd Oxford OX2 6UE, tel: 554001 email: clrrspressel@oxford.gov.uk; City Councillors: Colin Cook, tel: 272548 (day) 721844 (evening) email: clrrccook@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. But before taking this step try to sort the issue out between you and the supplier first – someone's livelihood is at stake.

Tried and tested

Baby kit

Baby kit for hire 01235 28008 www.babycomes2.co.uk

Bicycles and accessories

Jon Wyver 07842901873;
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 8816856
enquiries@everestroofing.co.uk

Car repairs

Oxon Auto's in Grove near Wantage 07899 762 949
oxon.auotos@live.co.uk

Chimney sweep

Martin Simmonds 07762 816185 enquiry@ashlogs.com
www.ashlogs.com (also supplies ash logs);
Dennis Northcott 01235 526617

Cleaners

C&S Cleaning Services 01865 872395

Computers

Bill Richardson 01865 376100 bill@macfaction.co.uk
(apple macs)
Mac Simple 01865 580886/07974 321064
www.macsimple.co.uk; API Computing 07964 796007
Judy Dendy 07554 660468 www.computerdendy.co.uk
(lessons and basic troubleshooting)

Damp

Damprot Renovations Ltd 01865 742144

Electricians

RJB Electrical 01865 882723 /07711 934348; (rewires
and new installations)
DEC Electricians 01865 725453
Jamie Cooke 07775 700300 JC.Electrical@hotmail.com
Baldwin Appliances 01865 377484 www.
baldwinappliances.com

Exterior and interior decorators

Andrew Turner 07591 491 804 (repaints masonry, front
door and windows);
Victor Szigeti 07799 143205 (interior and exterior
painting also skimmed plaster work);
Dave Buckle 01865 848630;
Steve Brierty 01491 836762/0785 0357414;
Rob Bennett 0790 5819310;
Sam Gordon (plasterer) 07976 516941

Flooring and general carpentry

Amazon Flooring 07899 918015

Footcare in your home

Angie Ward 07796 881157 angiefootcare@gmail.com,
(visits people in their home nail cutting, corns, verruca,
fungal treatment, massage etc)

Gardening Services

David Morris 01865 725875 (gardening maintenance
and some diy).

Eric Bake 07874 860291 (garden maintenance, sheds,
fencing etc)

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

Jason info@oxfordgardenservices.co.uk (tree surgery)

General builders

Chris Willis 07974 155 638 (general building work);
R.P. Lepper 01993 882522 /07801 364817 (building
specialist, carpentry and joinery);
Mark Mavrommatis 07970 974792 (installs new

windows, repairs old ones);

Brian French 07957 315303 (local general builder and
plasterer takes on small jobs).

Green Builders and Installers

Next Generation Renewable Energy Ltd. 01993 810130
office@ngre.co.uk;
JoJu Solar 0800 0542 977 www.jojusolar.co.uk;
Energy My Way 0845 3713181 www.energymyway.co.uk

Handymen

Jon Butt 07766 144116;
Andrew Russell 01865 453497/07977 837675
(painting, decorating and garden maintenance);
Sid Siddle 01865 251795/ 07757 214301
the.read.setter@gmail.com (shelves, carpentry);
Brian Hill 01295 670276/07742010892

Heating

Heatstore in Charlbury (for Defra approved wood and
coal burners) 01608 819088 www.heatstoreltd.co.uk

Home hairdressers

Sally Horton 07815 445229;
Nadine Wright 07824 660184;
Barry 01865 400717 / 07860 895364.

Kitchen fitters

Benchmark kitchens 01865 372372;
Jashim Hussain of Ultragranite, 01865 407555
www.ultragranite.co.uk,

Locksmith

Davies Hardened Security 01865 371816 /
07711 625092

Logs

Logsforall.co.uk (ideal for smaller woodburners/
fireplaces)

Oven Cleaning

Wayne 0791 7785 906 (doesn't use chemicals)

Pests

Avenge (based in Binsey). 02865 246195 /
078 794050 60.

Plumbing and heating

Ivan Kilbee 01235 847527 /07771 787585;
APV Boiler Services 01865 377264;
J. Smith 01993 778244/07790 961395;
Hansons Plumbing and Heating, 01865 244172.

Removals

A G Jacob and Sons 07977 963929;
House and Carriage 01608 811444 / 07769 585988

Sewing services

Ann Paver 01865 249129 (soft furnishing including
drapes, curtains but not upholstery);
Maria Skyles 01865 721460/0759 0264 246 (sewing,
repairs and alterations)

Wellbeing

Elizabeth Elliott 07866 759669 (Thai massage, Chinese
bodywork & acupuncture)

Window cleaner

Mark Jennings tel 848904

Wood burning stove fitters

Lee Hill 01865 787 940 (HETAS approved)

OIRA COMMITTEE

Jude Carroll 10 East St, tel: 793247 jude@judecarroll.co.uk (Chair, gazebos, Welcome Pack); Georg Deutsch (Secretary) 4 Bridge St tel: 728050 jan-georg.deutsch@stx.ox.ac.uk; Maureen Ercanli 24 East St tel: 244480; Suzanne Jeffrey 13 South St tel: 247737 (notice board); Bob Lawrence (Residents' email list) 42 West St tel: 792358; Veronika Lukacs veronikalukacs@yahoo.com t: 07746712609; 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 881 258; Anna Truelove 83 Bridge St. tel: 245496.

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

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.

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