

# Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter

[www.osneyisland.co.uk](http://www.osneyisland.co.uk)  
January/December 2017



It is with great sadness that we report the death of Jan-Georg Deutch who died on 22 December 2016 aged 60. His funeral on 12 January at Binsey church, where he often walked, was packed to the rafters with colleagues, friends and neighbours. Simon Stubbings, a good friend, writes his obituary with additions from Islanders.

Dr Jan-Georg Deutsch's death brought to an end a life of many facets. Oxford University knew him as an Associate History Professor, specialising in Africa, where he inspired many students. St Cross College knew him as a loyal Fellow who participated actively in its life. Many outside Oxford knew him for other reasons. They will be writing their own appreciations.

We in Osney knew him as someone with a strong sense of community. Georg relished life on the Island where, throughout the decade and a half that he lived in Bridge Street, he felt he belonged. He loved the area, the people, the pubs, walks on Port Meadow and along the canal. However, Georg realised that successful communities need their members to contribute. He committed himself to Island activities and made his mark in many ways. A founder member of the Boat Club, he also served on the OIRA committee, becoming its chairman. The



Jan-Georg Deutch at the Osney Olympics, 30 June 2012, Photo: Margaret Frenz'

OIRA committee will miss someone who contributed his clear thinking and social concern to their proceedings. Those of us who enjoy the flower boxes in Bridge Street will recognise Georg for his role in organizing them. Veterans of the 2012 Osney Olympics will recall Georg's organization of the Tug of War (which included the provision of an impossibly heavy rope that contesting teams struggled to lift, let alone pull). Participants in the annual OxClean will remember the way he cajoled others into sharing his belief in a tidy environment: often in most unpromising weather. Despite his heavy academic workload, Georg found time to speak at the West Oxford Academy. Many of us will remember the shout and perilously extravagant wave with which he greeted acquaintances as he rode past on his bicycle. Georg felt himself, and made himself, part of Osney.

It is on individuals such as Georg that our community relies for its success and friendly atmosphere. We will all miss him.

—13 January 2017

## COMING UP

### Oxclean Saturday 4 March

The idea behind OxClean is that everybody helps to clean up Oxford. This year Susanna has kindly agreed to organize it in the Botley Road area. Meet @ at WOCC, at around 2 or 2.30 pm on Saturday 4 March. All equipment will be provided, including excellent litter-picking tongs, and all the collected rubbish will be taken away. Children are welcome.

### OIRA AGM, Wednesday 19 April, 7pm for 7.30

We are currently putting together a list of speakers – if you have an idea who you might like to hear please contact a Committee member.

### Open Gardens, Sunday 21 May, 2017

After a couple of years break, Anne Truelove has very kindly agreed to organise the very popular Open Gardens. For newcomers to the Island, this is an occasion when about 10-12 gardens on the Island are open for viewing between 2-5 pm with teas and cakes and plants available too. If you would like to open your garden, please contact Anna on 245496 or drop a note through her door 85 Bridge St.

### Midsummer Brunch, Sunday 25 June, 11am onwards

Opportunities for Island togethers are very popular – Christmas Tealights on the Towpath attracted more

than 80 Islanders. This year we will be holding a brunch on the towpath to celebrate Midsummers' Day. More details nearer the time.

### **St Frideswide with Binsey**

We are putting together our music programme for 2017. It is not yet finalised, but if you are interested please visit our website at <http://osneybenefice.org.uk> which contains up-to-date information about activities across the benefice as it becomes available.

If you would like to use St Frideswide's church to host an activity, you can let us know by sending an email to [osneybenefice@outlook.com](mailto:osneybenefice@outlook.com)

## **NEWS AND VIEWS**

### **Wanted: co-ordinator for 'Botley Bridges'**

An enthusiastic and flexible co-ordinator for local community project 'Botley Bridges'. The aim of the project is to support families with children up to the age of 11 by providing information and activities which help all children to be healthy, active and fulfil their potential. The co-ordinator will be responsible for planning and leading the programme of events, contributing to the fundraising activities of the project and supporting other paid staff or volunteers. Botley Bridges is a social enterprise company, which is currently seeking charitable status. The post is initially for 1 year and 16 hours a week (over 3 days) with the aim that on going funding will be secured and the project will continue in the future. Salary £20,000 pro rata (equates to £10 an hour) and 25 days holiday pro rata. Applicants need to have experience of family support and working with young children.

Contact [botleybridges@gmail.com](mailto:botleybridges@gmail.com) for job description and application form.

Contact Sue Dowe on 07769 275084 for more information about the post. Closing date is 14th February and interviews will be on 25th February.

### **Island email list**

From Robert Lawrence: If you've not yet done so why not subscribe 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 by sending a join request to the list manager at [osiramanager@gmail.com](mailto:osiramanager@gmail.com).

### **And speaking of which...**

The Island email list is so successful that the newsletter is now taking a slightly different direction. It used to carry quite a few things for sale or wanted – which the email list now does so well. So, I need more news please! Items such as new babies, new or departing neighbours, bits of local history and reminiscences, salacious gossip (only kidding) are perfect. If you've got news please contact me on [elizabeth@newberyandengland.com](mailto:elizabeth@newberyandengland.com)

### **Community exhibition at the Museum of Oxford**

This is a project to celebrate the contributions made by people who have lived, worked or travelled to Oxford. The Museum is collecting stories and objects from now until the end of the exhibition 'Journeys to Oxford' to open in summer 2017, so get in touch through the website [museum@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:museum@oxford.gov.uk) or 01865 252334 if you would like to contribute.

### **Woolly Hugs**

*From Ally Stott:* Woolly Hugs <http://beta.woollyhugs.com/index.php/current-projects/> (charity registration number 116741) is an online community of people making and collecting knitted and crocheted items for a variety of important causes. One of their current projects is making blankets and other items for refugees. I wondered if there were people on the island who would like to knit squares for blankets that will be sent on to refugees? I am happy to be a collection point (on West St) for the knitted squares and send them on to Woolly Hugs for them to make up into blankets. Beginner and more experienced knitters are welcome, see their project information below.

This is what Woolly Hugs are asking for:

- We need 12 inch or 6 inch squares. Knit or crochet both equally welcome.
- Yarn to be used - any good quality acrylic DK, for example Stylecraft special DK.
- Any colour, any style, it is all good.
- Squares equally welcome if made by beginner or expert. Truly.
- No one need think theirs wouldn't be good enough. It will be.

[Allysoilandsoul@gmail.com](mailto:Allysoilandsoul@gmail.com).

### **Meditation Matters on West Street**

Each Wednesday morning at 7.15 we offer a space to come together and sit in silent meditation for half an hour. Sitting in this way with an attitude of kindness and openness towards ourselves can reconnect us to the great wellspring that we already are. As we begin to taste this wellspring our experience shows us that the world is not the divided place that our thoughts appear to shape it into. Making space in our busy lives to pause, and open to what is actually happening within and around us can bring insights to help navigate our way in these times of great change, challenge and opportunity. All are welcome; no experience of meditation is necessary. For further information please contact Ally, [Allysoilandsoul@gmail.com](mailto:Allysoilandsoul@gmail.com) or Derek, [Derek@outofthewood.co.uk](mailto:Derek@outofthewood.co.uk) [www.Allystott.co.uk](http://www.Allystott.co.uk)

### **Accommodation needed**

My name is Liz Schrecklinger, I am 37 years old and seeking to move back to Oxford. I've been living in a very nice flat, but it is in a very rural location. This makes it hard for me to manage my commitments in Oxford and to work more flexible hours. I would be happy to hear about any vacant flats or a narrowboat (I am an experienced boater!) for rent from the beginning of 2017. If you can help, contact me by text

07981043287 or email to [lillired@hotmail.com](mailto:lillired@hotmail.com)

### **Ten Mile Menu**

*From Amanda Holden:* I'd like to make a recommendation for 'Ten Mile Menu' ([www.tenmilemenu.co.uk/](http://www.tenmilemenu.co.uk/)). This is a company which puts together produce from various local farms and delivers it to the door in Oxford on Fridays. You order online, either as a one-off or through setting up regular orders. The organic vegetable boxes are from Sandy Lane farm, and these are excellent, with flexible add-ons. We also buy milk, cream, and meat (including game and delicious sausages). The food is of excellent quality and very fresh, and arrives in beautiful condition. Delivery is free if you order a veg. box. They've only recently started delivering to Oxford, and I really can't recommend this company highly enough.

### **USEFUL NUMBERS**

City Council tel: 249811 (now 24 hours); County Council tel: 792422; Councilor 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: 272548 (day) 721844 (evening) email: [cllrcook@oxford.gov.uk](mailto: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 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)

### **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](http://www.babycomes2.co.uk)

##### **Bicycles and accessories**

Jon Wyver 07842901873;  
[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 8816856  
[enquiries@everstroofing.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@everstroofing.co.uk)

##### **Car repairs**

Oxon Auto's in Grove near Wantage 07899 762 949  
[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);  
Dennis Northcott 01235 526617

##### **Cleaners**

C&S Cleaning Services 01865 872395

##### **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); API Computing 07964 796007

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

##### **Damp**

Damprot Renovations Ltd 01865 742144

##### **Electricians**

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

DEC Electricians 01865 725453

Jamie Cooke 07775 700300 [JC.Electrical@hotmail.com](mailto:JC.Electrical@hotmail.com)  
Baldwin Appliances 01865 377484 [www.baldwinappliances.com](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:office@ngre.co.uk);

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

Energy My Way 0845 3713181 [www.energymyway.co.uk](http://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](mailto:the.read.setter@gmail.com) (shelves, carpentry)

##### **Heating**

Heatstore in Charlbury (for Defra approved wood and coal burners) 01608 819088 [www.heatstoreltd.co.uk](http://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](http://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

**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 Skoyles 01865 721460 / 0759 0264 246 (sewing,  
repairs and alterations)

**Wellbeing**

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

**Window cleaner**

Mark Jennings 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](mailto:jude@judecarroll.co.uk) (Chair, gazebos, Welcome Pack); Maureen

Ergeneli 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](mailto:veronikalukacs@yahoo.com) t: 07746712609;  
Stephen Lynam (Vice Chair) 11 South St tel: 201334;  
[stephenrodgerlynam@gmail.com](mailto:stephenrodgerlynam@gmail.com); Elizabeth Newbery  
(Newsletter) 3 North St tel: 793360 [elizabeth@newberyandengland.com](mailto:elizabeth@newberyandengland.com); Gareth Strange 102 Bridge  
St 727680; Jula 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](mailto:jude@judecarroll.co.uk)

**A note on the Internet**

OIRA website: [www.osneyisland.co.uk](http://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**

The island email account [osneyislandresidents@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:Suzanne@dands.org.uk)

**Next Committee meeting**

The OIRA committee's next meeting is Monday 3  
March at 10 East St @ 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](mailto: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  
March 2017, last date for copy 29 February 2016. If  
you would like to put an item in contact: Elizabeth  
Newbery 3 North St. 793360, email: [elizabeth@newberyandengland.com](mailto: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