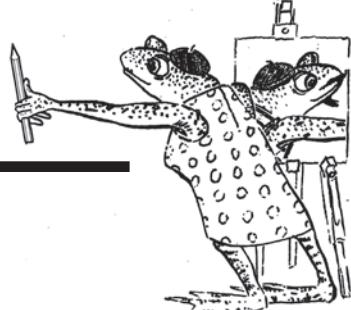


Osney Island Residents' Association Newsletter



osneyisland.org.uk
Spring 2020

COMING UP

Oxford Artsweeks (West Oxford)

16-25 May 2020

This year, more artists/crafts people are showing their work more than ever before. On Osney Island itself, in Bridge St, there will be prints, felt work, and rag rugs by Louise Summers, paintings by Antoinette Ibsen, and sculpture made from recycled paper and drawings by Annie Wootton. In North St, Elizabeth Newbery will be exhibiting slipware dishes and panels and Sue Spencer-Longhurst is showing thrown pottery for domestic use, together with paintings and prints by Elaine Kazimierczuk. In West Street, Tara Howard and Sophie Mortimer are showing hand-marbled paper, and pen and ink drawing of Oxford. Elsewhere 19 more artists are showing at 12 other sites in West Oxford and Botley. A bumper year! More details in the April/May newsletter.



Horses made from recycled paper by Annie Wootton

Open Gardens with Teas on the Towpath: Sunday 14 June

From Anna Truelove: This year we have timed Open Gardens to coincide with roses at their best in mid June. If you are willing to open your garden please contact Anna on 245496. There will be Teas on the Towpath too, hopefully with live music and a trail for children. More details in the April/May newsletter.

Its AGM time....

Boat Club AGM

The AGM will be held on Thursday 23rd April at 8pm in The Punter. Members and interested non-members please make a note in your diary and come along.

Allotments AGM

The 2020 AGM of the Osney, ST Thomas & New Botley

Allotments Association will be held on Thursday April 30th from 7.15 to 9.00pm at the West Oxford Community Centre.

All members are welcome to attend, when the Committee will be reporting back on the last 12 months and plans for the future.

The Botley Meadow allotments have suffered considerably this winter from flooding and it is likely that even when the weather improves it will take some time for the soil to drain completely and start to warm up sufficiently for planting. On the plus side though, as we always remind members – flooding over the centuries has provided both our sites with some of the best soil in Oxford! Allotment holders elsewhere constantly remark on how lucky we are not to have their clay-heavy soils that turn to concrete in the summer!

OIRA AGM,

The OIRA AGM will be held on Thursday 30 April @ 7.30pm in the Mary Town Room at West Oxford Community Centre, WITH WINE, SOFT DRINKS AND NIBBLES! It's a chance to meet your neighbours, have a say in what you'd like the committee to do in the coming year and to volunteer for events. We promise to keep the business part VERY short followed by a talk by the Environment Agency's fisheries officer Stuart Manwaring.

Electric vehicle survey

Enclosed with this copy of the OIRA Newsletter is a survey about electric cars, bicycles and parking on Osney Island. The council has a budget to install new on-street charging points for electric vehicles, and we want to see what demand there may be for them and how people feel about losing conventional parking spaces in return for charging places, bicycle parking and club car spaces. Please return your completed surveys to 2 North Street by Friday 6 March.

ISLAND NEWS AND VIEWS

The Great Osney Flood of 2007

New residents may be interested to read about the Great Osney Flood of 2007 as published in the July/August 2007 newsletter. Ed: many of the residents mentioned are still here – and I'm still writing the newsletter!!

From Friday, July 20 to Friday, July 27 2007, Osney Island was hit by the worst floods in living memory. Here are some of your memories of the experience.

Expecting something of tsunami proportions, we moved rugs and furniture upstairs and cleared bookshelves. We filled flasks, jugs and thermoses with water and transferred

emergency rations to our bedroom.'
Simon Stubbings, East St

'Walking around the streets 3am wondering is the river really going to come over this time? Chatting to everyone who was also there with similar fears.'
Maureen Egeneli, East St

'I lost conscious thought for 10 days after catching a potentially fatal illness from the water while helping to build our sandbag barrier so, I'm glad to be able to write this!'
Nancy Beaty, West St

'My memories are online at YouTube.com. Search for Oxford Flood Osney Ducks'
Mark Boyes, West Ct.

The media went into overdrive after my 'interaction' with Sue Turton'.

Rufus Burdett, East St (for those on another planet at the time, Rufus was caught on camera goosing the Channel 4 news presenter.)

'I came back from a holiday to find an old computer submerged in a cellar full of water'.

Simon Pressey, West St

'I met the Bishop of Oxford on the bridge on the Wednesday at midday, when things looked really ominous. I asked him if he'd come to part the waters and create some dry land. He laughed and said he'd come to lend his support to residents. By the evening we could see bare parts of West Street again. Divine intervention or what?'
Peter Newell, West St

'My memory is receiving worried calls and emails from places like Mexico, Japan and Bangladesh...'
Alan Goodwin, North St

'I felt like a media tart because I was asked so many times by television and radio crews to give the 'human angle'.
Jill Moss, West St

'I lost everything on my allotments except chives'
Jennifer Kotilaine, Bridge St

'The aquatic home zone gave residents freedom of the streets!'
Peter and Julia Marsh, Bridge St

'How friendly we all felt towards each other when we were suddenly given the opportunity to express it.'
Louise Summers, Bridge St

'The nice man from Eggsetcetera making an emergency dash to the cash'n'carry to get us nappies!'
Dom, Heidi and Eithne, West St

'Richard Thurston of West Street is a hero. Even when his house looked like it might be flooded he was still making tea for the firemen.'
The Hutchinson Family, West St

'The feeling of heartfelt gratitude of the superhuman efforts of Osney Islanders for keeping my house dry while I worried rather resignedly on holiday in the sun-drenched Baltic Republics.'

Miranda Jones, West St

'Osney Island is still the best place to live.'
Susan Lloyd, Doyley Rd

'John and Eric (11 Bridge St) and their impromptu 'café' at 3am (24/7) for police and firefighters who flocked to it'
The Jacobs Family, Bridge St

'I made friends with a photographer Ed Terakopian who also took the searing photographs of the London bombing. He sent me this link to his slideshow of the floods here and in Gloucester <http://homepage.mac.com/edopix/floods-slideshow/>. Osney starts about half way through the show'

From Susan Lloyd:

On Saturday 1st September 2007, lock keeper and flood hero, Ray Riches, received his gift of garden vouchers from Osney Islanders in appreciation of his work during the floods. Thank you to everyone who contributed.'

Osney island Boat Club

Are you interested in exploring the river and its tributaries? Did you know that the Osney Island Boat Club owns three kayaks and a Canadian canoe available to members to take out at any time? The boat shed is next to Osney Lock with easy access to the river. Membership currently costs just £25 per year with a £30 joining fee and is open to all Osney Island residents. This year we may be planning some club day trips too so if you are interested in joining please contact Fiona at 15 South Street (fiona@myphone.coop) for more information.

Allotment coffee mornings callout

The Allotments host a coffee morning outside the allotment shop 10.30 – 12 on the last Sunday of the month from April to September which is open to anyone. We offer good fresh ground coffee and a selection of homemade cakes for £2, juice and cakes for children £1. If you fancy showing off your Bake Off skills and making an occasional cake, buns or cookies please contact Elizabeth elizabeth@newberyandengland.com 078616 268145.

Congratulations

...to Piper and Seth Osborne whose daughter Romilly Ithaca Jessie Osborne was born on 21st August 2019.

... and to Joe Andrews and Debbie Hall for the Oxford Preservation Trust Commendation 2019 on the 'careful restoration and enhancement' work done on their house, 14 East St.

Osney hydro mosaic

From Saski Huggins: We're delighted to reveal the latest mosaic hour marker that's been completed by artist Josie Webber for our human sundial. Featuring a kingfisher and dragonfly, the artwork is part of our celebration of the local flora and fauna.



St Frideswide with Binsey

Events at St Frideswide's Church

We warmly welcome everyone in the community to our regular Sunday service at 10.30am, and morning prayer on Mondays at 9.30am.

Children's services continue with a break for half term on the 19th Feb. They are at 11am every Wednesday morning during term time for pre-schoolers and their carers.

Ash Wednesday (26th February) service with ashing at 7pm

Exploring faith

We are continuing to run a group for those wanting to explore the Christian faith in a very relaxed setting.

Contact kate.seagrave@oxford.anglican.org for more information.

Stitching Saturdays - bring your own craft project or add stitches to a church kneeler. Every Saturday morning 10-12.

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 249811 (now 24 hours); County Council 792422: Councillor Susanna Pressel, 554001 email: cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk; City Councilors: Colin Cook 285770 (daytime) 721844 (evening) email: cllrcook@oxford.gov.uk and Susanna (as above). For a crime in progress 999; for all other police matters 101. Highway enquiries, bus passes, parking permits, travel advice 0845 634 4466; street lighting 0800 317802 West Oxford Community Centre 245761. Furniture recycling (Emmaus) 763698. The best way to report things to the two councils is via www.oxford.gov.uk and www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

Illegal parking

This is a perennial problem on the Island. If you want to summon the traffic wardens to come and ticket an illegally parked car, please phone 0845 337 1138. They will come at once, if they can.

THE DIRECTORY

New recommendations

Tim Mera, KM Builders Oxford www.kmbuildersoxford.co.uk K.mbuildingservices@yahoo.com 07462971475
(Recently completed an extension for us. All trades covered. Excellent quality, very reliable, polite, competitively priced. Would recommend very highly.)

Footcare in your home: Kate Reid 07952 127534 (very pleasant and eager to enlarge her clientele on the Island'.

Oxford Roofing & Maintenance 01865 820323 or 07468429000 (After storm damage to my roof in the recent gales, they responded the same day and made good. I would recommend them.'

Tried and tested

Baby kit

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

Babysitter

Clementine 07305524076.

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

Mike Surplice Witney 01993 883071 / 07966 074031.

Mike Shepheard; MJ Construction (large tasks), Silverlea, Oxford Road, Frilford Heath, Abingdon, Oxon OX13 5NN mjconstruction@hotmail.co.uk 07834 321274.

Rob Cassetta NORTH HINKSEY BUILDERS 10 Yarnells Hill, North Hinksey, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX2 9EY robnhc@virginmedia.com 01865 242312 / 07977 152884 / 07900 881511.

Sabri Canaku (plastering, rendering, tiling, wooden floors, kitchen and bathroom fitting) fencing, patios, loft conversion. SabriCanaku76@gmail.com 07376 921483.

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, oxon.autos@live.co.uk

Cat sitter and feeder

Shirley Gibson, Binsey, 07510991213

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

Fresh fish

Kim, Cleethorpes, delivers to the Island around 6pm. For deliveries text: 07806 602776.

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)

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 Refurbed 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

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

Heating

Byron Morris, Avid Heating, 01865 703 303
info@avidheating.co.uk

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

APV Boiler Services 01865 377264/07836 212502

apvboilerservice@btinternet.com

Jules Jones (formerly Smith) 01993 778244/07790 961395
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

House and Carriage 01608 811444/07769 585988

info@houseandcarriage.com

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

Sewing services

Maria Skyles 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

Michel Temple 07983 767075 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

Bridge St Noticeboard

Julia Marsh @ 26 Bridge St 247001 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 Alan Goodwin on 07765 034918 alan@hilcot.demon.co.uk

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.

OIRA Committee

We are sorry to report that Paul Hunter has resigned from the OIRA committee. We were grateful for his work on planning in particular.

Alison Burdett. alison.burdett@gmail.com (Residents email list); Joyce Chalmers 07837 127883; Maureen Egeneli 07816 580990; Alan Goodwin (Chair) 07765 034918 alan@hilcot.demon.co.uk; Elie Harris gekh2@yahoo.co.uk; Robert Lawrence 428323; Jennifer/ Nick Meakin (Secretary) jennifermeakin@gmail.com; Elizabeth Newbery (Newsletter) 793360 elizabeth@newberyandengland.com; Piper Osborne: 07894719001; 40 Bridge Street; Karen Schoenemann 07718 632742; Gareth Strange 727680; Jula Turner (Treasurer) 07971 881258; Anna Truelove (Newsletter distribution) 245496.

Next Committee meeting

The next OIRA Committee meeting is Monday 30 March @ 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.

The Osney Island Newsletter

The newsletter is issued quarterly: February, May, August and November. If you would like to put an item in the January /February issue contact: Elizabeth Newbery 3 North St. 793360, email: elizabeth@newberyandengland.com or use the tear-off strip below. Photographs of Island events are especially welcome. Copy should be emailed on the last Friday in the preceding month. The last date for copy in the next newsletter is 30 April.