

OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No.80 March 2023

Coronation Celebrations



Waterside will be celebrating the Coronation on Sunday 7th May joining the nation in 'The BIG LUNCH'.

We shall have games, a bar with proceeds to charity, you can bring food to share and enjoy the company of your neighbours.

Everyone is welcome. More information will follow!

Waterside drop-in sessions

To ensure that you all get the opportunity to meet your neighbours and discuss your Waterside ideas and issues, we are continuing regular drop-in sessions on the 1st of each month where RA and Management Board members will attend when available:

| <i>Date & time</i> | <i>Host</i> | <i>Location</i> | <i>Special interest</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday 1 st April 10-11am | Sally Atkinson | 2 Merrivale Sq | Air source heat pump |
| Bank Holiday Monday 1 st May 11am | Kay Gordon | In Merrivale Sq or 10 MS if dire weather | OWRA Chair Children welcome! |
| Thursday 1 st June 10-11am | Caro Fickling | 29 The Villas | OWMB Chair Under 5s welcome! |

Sewage

The disgusting sewage spillage on Rutherway may finally be resolved by works in Southmoor Road, but don't hold your breath! Blockages are often caused by build up of 'rags' in our inadequate sewers, these can be caused by WET WIPES which are flushed down the toilet instead of being disposed of in household waste. They can get caught up in the system causing large 'rags' to form which block all our drains. If you think a neighbour may be unaware of this as an issue, please spread the word.

Breckon and Breckon have been complaining to Thames Water for months on our behalf – if you can add your voice to local issues such as this please do, many voices have more impact.

If your neighbourhood has a problem, all call Thames Water quoting your neighbour's original reference to the problem, this can speed resolution.

OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Kay Gordon (Chair) 10 Merrivale Square 07813 316473

Sarah Martin 49 Plater Drive 07970 100286

Jen Watkiss (Treasurer) 28 Plater Drive 514 615

Sally Atkinson 2 Merrivale Square 07788 915246

Mary Ann Dale (Gardens) 34 Plater Drive 07786 245551

We lack Rutherway residents – would you like to add your voice?

Contact us on owra.owmc@gmail.com

Oxford Waterside Management Company

Merrivale Square was originally laid out in the late 1990s and has now become very tired and unattractive. The Management Company is seeking views from all residents and owners regarding future use of the Square.

Last week those on the OWRA mailing list were sent a email from owra.owmc@gmail.com to enable participate in the consultation through a questionnaire. You can get a link (one response per household please) by contacting owra.owmc@gmail.com stating your name and address, this will also add you to the OWRA mailing list for important notifications, including the results of the consultation, and will not be shared with any third party.

The consultation will end on 19th March – act now!

Board Members

Owners in Plater Drive are not represented on the Management Board. If you are interested in joining please contact Caro or Katie.

Foliage over paths

The City Council insists that public footpaths must be kept clear of encroaching plants so that disabled persons and pushchairs can use the paths without restriction. If your garden is spreading onto a path the owner may be sent a letter requesting action and if this is not carried out within the specified time our garden contractor will cut back the offending foliage and invoice the house owner.

Bike Storage

OWMC are looking for examples of attractive secure bike storage, to discourage bike theft. Any suggestions to Katie please.

Gravel and Tarmac Parking Areas

We are reviewing all the car and bike parking areas – do you know someone who could consult on best solutions? Please pass details to Katie.

Porches

As many householders are seeking to make their homes more energy efficient there is the suggestion that a porch over the front door would be desirable.

You must seek planning permission for such work, as we are not in a 'Permitted development area'. If you are considering this the Management Company would welcome early sight of your proposal.

Rats

There is a maintenance contract covering the common areas, but you are responsible for resolving issues in your own home and garden. Because a problem is rarely confined to one house it is best to alert your neighbours and also Katie, so concerted action can be taken.

Grounds Maintenance

Nicholsons continue to deliver our gardening contract but Jane Bond has moved to a new role and has been replaced by Rachel Todd. John Krebs continues to be your contact regarding gardens (contact form on website)

Contacts: Caro Fickling caro@carofickling.co.uk

Katie Leppard Breckon & Breckon katie@breckon.co.uk