

Oxford Waterside Residents' Association

September 2017: Issue 63

Lots of new faces have appeared on Waterside this Summer – Welcome to you all and we hope you will enjoy our vibrant community. The International Lunch in early September was a lovely opportunity to meet the neighbours, and if you join our Facebook group you will be in touch with over 100 Watersiders instantly!

After a highly successful BBQ in June we were pleased to donate £300 to the Oxford Gatehouse charity which supports homeless people in Oxford.

Waterside Diary Dates

Hallowe'en 2017

Hallowe'en falls on a school day again this year, but we'd still like to do something fun to mark the occasion in Waterside. Watch out for an update on the Facebook page as to the final plan.



OWRA WEBSITE

It has been a long time since our website was up to date. We have been working on a new structure that allows easier updating and are preparing to launch a new version that we hope will provide you, and potential residents, with a really useful information resource.

We need your help! to create a new recommended **TRADESPEOPLE listing**. Please email Sarah Munro sarahjmunro@hotmail.com with details of any tradesperson you have been pleased with and would recommend to your Waterside neighbours (your name will not be shown on the final listing). Please email your suggestions in this format:

Name, What they do, Contact details. E.g.:

Drew Warren

*Carpentry, Joinery, Painting & Decorating
Loft conversions and extensions*

Tel: 01865 300977

Mob: 07973 802315

Also, we have the opportunity to include some **photographs** of the Waterside area. Please send in your suggested pics to owra.owmc@gmail.com Pictures should be high definition landscape format.

Neighbourhood Watch Launched

Thanks to all of those who have signed up to be part of the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Please contact Allison Hood (acorn21@gmail.com) @ 16 Plater if you are still interested; it's an open scheme and can be joined at any time.

In the interest of general crime prevention around Waterside, here too are a few timely reminders on keeping our properties and possessions safe:

- Keep all doors locked, even when at home
- Install a burglar alarm with visible alarm box
- Consider a Ring doorbell, with built-in video <https://ring.com/video-doorbell-2>
- Lock side gates to prevent rear access
- Keep valuables out of reach of doors and windows/ don't leave spare keys in obvious outdoor places
- Mark belongings/register with Immobilise <https://www.immobilise.com/>
- Use a timer switch to make your house look occupied, even when it isn't
- Trim overgrown hedges and bushes to remove hiding places and improve surveillance

New Resident?

Contact Kay for a Welcome Pack full of useful Waterside information

If you email us on owra.owmc@gmail.com we will add you to the mailing list for circulation of relevant useful information.

People on the list get this Newsletter by email – get on it now! If new neighbours have arrived in the past few months let us know, so we can help get them get engaged with the Waterside life

The latest addition to Waterside... a storage shed for OWRA/OWMC

In a development of this size the developers would normally include a garage or room for communal use by residents, but for nearly 20 years you have kindly fitted all our 'OWRA stuff' into your homes. Now OWMC have kindly purchased a garden shed sized storage unit to go within their fake garage in Merrivale Square. Thanks to Jonathan Finnerty and Mike Ward's generous labours we are finally able to give our equipment a proper home. We also aspire to add useful items such as a pop-up gazebo and a sack trolley to help run our social events. The Residents Association would love to hear your ideas about useful additions to our inventory. Contact owra.owmc@gmail.com

RAILWAYS

During the past few months, John Krebs, Jonathan Finnerty and our new MP, Layla Moran, have been continuing discussions about the impact of the East West Rail Developments on residents of Waterside. They met in June with the Rail Minister, Paul Maynard MP, who then arranged a meeting with Sir Peter Hendy, the Chairman of Network Rail, which took place in early September. We are continuing to argue the case for (a) monitoring of noise in zone I2 (which includes Waterside) and (b) sound mitigation measures, if these can be justified by the current and future noise levels.

GROUNDS UPDATE

Nicholsons, the new contractors, have been working in Waterside since March. During the spring and summer months they have been busy maintaining lawns hedges and borders. As the growing season comes to an end, Nicholsons will be able to focus on weeding as well as starting a number of projects to rejuvenate the gardens. Feedback from residents has helped to identify jobs that required attention and Nicholsons have been prompt in responding to these requests. Weeds growing in the gutters have been of particular concern. The Council has responsibility for controlling these and the weeds were sprayed on August 24 (thank you to Mike Ward and John Howson for this). If you have requests relating to the maintenance of the gardens please direct them to John Krebs (john.krebs@zoo.ox.ac.uk) rather than to the gardeners themselves.

Everything you need to know about FOOD RECYCLING

Waterside residents are keen recyclers – not least when it comes to food waste, which is converted to biogas and soil fertiliser. You can easily get a caddy by calling the Oxford City Council. Old/broken caddies can be recycled in your blue bin.

In a very helpful move, it is now possible to line food recycling caddies with any plastic bag – not just the compostable ones.

You can use:

- carrier bags
- supermarket carrier bags
- pedal bin liners
- any other plastic bag, such as those that have contained food items like bread bags or salad bags
- compostable bags
- newspaper
- or the food can be simply put into the caddy with no liner at all.

The only exceptions are black bin bags or anything made from textiles or non-plastic materials.

Items you can recycle in food waste:

- Dairy products (e.g. cheese)
- Fish (including bones and scales)
- Fruit and vegetables (including fruit stones)
- Meat and bones (cooked or uncooked)
- Bread and pastries
- Tea and coffee grounds
- Oils and fats (small amounts)

Do not put non-food products, packaging, glass or large amounts of oils in your food caddy.

Your OWRA committee

New members always welcome!

Kay Gordon (Chair), 10 Merrivale Sq. 420532
Patrick Kershaw (Treasurer), 11 Merrivale Sq. 311146

Allison Hood, 16 Plater Drive. 07469259510

John Krebs, 24 Balliol Court. 435255

Sarah Munro, 9 The Villas. 580650

Helen Saunders-Gill, 50 Balliol Court. 515547