

OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No.77 May 2022

If you are here in Oxford for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, you will find all the details overleaf about our Waterside activities.

*Save the date in your diary for the OWRA AGM, which will be a Summer Party held in Merrivale Square on the evening of **Tuesday 12th July**.*

In this issue we are also highlighting the Councils proposals for transport restrictions, which your Committee were given a sneak preview of last week.

Our Waterside community is very supportive of drives to increase sustainability and reduce pollution: working from home, electric vehicles, using bikes and walking are becoming normal for us. Sadly the improvements proposed to the Woodstock and Banbury Roads cycle and pedestrian ways have been shelved due to lack of funds, but we shall have 139 new electric buses.

The transport plan for Oxfordshire has set out a vision to deliver a **zero-carbon transport network by 2040** and help create a thriving county, tackle inequality, protect our environment and improve the health and wellbeing of residents.

There are three strands to the current plans:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/connecting-oxfordshire/core-transport-schemes>.

- An expanded ULEZ (ultra low emissions zone) in 2023, which will encompass a wider area than the current city centre zone which has operated since February 2022
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/oxford-zero-emission-zone-zez/charges-oxfords-zez>
This is intended to raise funds for further transport improvements.
- A series of '**Technical Gates**' in 2023, a new name for 'Bus Gates', which would cut North Oxford off from all other Oxford locations except via the A34 and A40. Even electric vehicles will not be allowed through these gates, as the intention is to reduce traffic so that all buses can run on time over an expanded area.
- A **workplace parking levy** for larger businesses of £600 pa per employee parking space, subject to govt approval.

Public consultation on these proposals begins in the Summer of 2022, and we shall keep you abreast of developments and how to participate.

The Technical Gates would have greatest impact on older and disabled drivers, and young families who are forced to use their cars to get about (eg. 14 miles return trip to the station).

YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE.

If you have not yet paid, the envelope with details is enclosed with this Newsletter. Why not set up a standing order....

THE 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 15246

We welcome new Committee members, tenants and owners make equally valuable contributions to our lovely Waterside community – join in!

In 2022 Queen Elizabeth II has been on the throne for 70 years

This is an amazing achievement and the whole country will be celebrating over the weekend of 2-5th June 2022.



From Midday on **SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2022** Waterside will be participating in the **NATIONAL BIG LUNCH**

Please invite friends and relatives to join us in this unique celebration.

Merrivale Square will be decorated with bunting and red white and blue flowers. The gazebos will be up with tables for food and drink, and the BBQ lit. The pop up bar will provide wine, beer, soft drinks and water, your donations will go to charity after we cover costs. After lunch, there will be time to meet old and new friends and participate in traditional British games, such as kids and adult tug-of-wars, three legged races, egg and spoon race, sack race, pin the tail on the donkey. Handmade portraits of the Queen and dressing up as royalty are encouraged! Stay for tea and cake.

You should bring:

Food to share – mains, salad, sandwiches, pudding, cake
(please label if ingredients not obvious)

Seating, plates, glasses, cutlery and portable table if
available. (limited supplies)

Your card or cash for drinks.

Help us (email owra.owmc@gmail.com):

By coming at 10am to put everything up and staying to
clear up/dismantle.

By manning the bar and food tables

By making tea in your huge teapot in the afternoon

**Come to Merrivale Square at 11am on Monday 6th to
join a WALK and LITTERPICK** to clear up Waterside and Port
Meadow after the festivities.

We shall have plenty litterpickers for adults and children, plus refuse bags.

OWMC are looking into planting a **COMMEMORATIVE TREE** somewhere on
Waterside this Autumn, donations towards this are welcome.