

Oxford Waterside Residents' Association

June 2016: Issue 59

Two big dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 28th June 8pm our AGM at St Margaret's Institute, jointly with the OWMC.

Overleaf is the Agenda, with a round up from your Committee about the past year's achievements and our accounts. Please come, meet us and tell us your views, and why not get involved – nominations for new Committee members are still open.

Saturday 2nd July Sports Day and BBQ. *This year we are discounting tickets bought in advance, to help us get the catering organised.*

Watch out for a Swap Shop in August and the International Picnic 1st Sat in September.

All set for Waterside's Big Day Saturday 2nd July

SPORTSDAY

The sports/games run between 2 and 4pm in and around Merrivale Square,

Please note that the Square will be closed to traffic between 2 and 4pm for the games.

There will be people running and cycling round the Square in this period so, if you are expecting visitors, please alert them to the situation. We will be as flexible as possible but safety is a prime concern. The sports and games are fun and not to be taken too seriously, so hopefully many people will join in; egg-and-spoon and sack races don't require a huge amount of training!

Proposed timings:

2-3 pm: Racing events, to include running, cycling, slow cycling and scooter races around the square.

3-4 pm: Sporting events, to include various short races such as 3-legged, sack, egg & spoon, wellie and paper aeroplane throwing competitions.

No need to register in advance but if you fancy having a particular event included, or have equipment you are willing to lend/donate, please fill out the [Merrivale Square Sports Day](http://bit.ly/1PxGJ5X) form (<http://bit.ly/1PxGJ5X>) or contact Chad Heitzenrater (chad.heitzenrater@gmail.com).

An agenda for the sport events will be posted on the Waterside Facebook page the week prior to the event.

BBQ

Adult tickets cost £5 in advance, £7.50 on the gate. Children under 15 years £3 in advance, £5 on the gate. Babies are free.....

Expect a doorstep visit inviting you to buy tickets, or call at 10/11 Merrivale Square before the AGM on 28th June.

If you have an easily transportable garden table and chairs, please bring them to the Square for the evening.

From 4pm children's food will be available (pulled pork, frankfurters and veggie option), the BBQ proper starts serving food at 6pm. The bar will be open from 4pm or thereabouts until it has all been drunk.

We still require volunteers for the following, so please e-mail us at owra.owmc@gmail.com if you'd like to help:

- Getting set up (Friday 1st June pm)
- Making chocolate brownies in advance
- Making salads in advance
- Taking/selling tickets on the gate
- BBQ-ing hot food
- Serving cold food
- Clearing away afterwards and/or on Sunday morning
- Bouncy castle supervision

Any financial surplus from the BBQ will be donated to Helen & Douglas House

OWRA AGM Tuesday 28th June 8:00, before OWMC AGM

Oxford Waterside Residents' Association

AGM 2016

8pm on Tuesday 28th June 2016
at St Margaret's Institute, Polstead Road

AGENDA

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2015 AGM (attached)
4. Report of the Committee on it's actions in the past year (attached)
5. Chairman's Statement
6. Annual accounts (attached)
7. Agree a recommendation from the Committee "That the annual fee for OWRA should remain at £5 per household"
8. Election of the Committee
9. Issues raised from the floor
10. Close

Notes on the accounts

Membership has increased from 81 to 97 households, the new envelope system and direct bank payments are really working well. We have invested in stocks of stationery to see us through the next year.

A donation of £110 from Matthew Doorly's Duke of Edinburgh award sponsorship has boosted our charitable donations to Helen and Douglas House, which was chosen as Waterside's preferred charity at the BBQ.

OWRA Income and Expenditure Statement 2015/2016

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Membership fees	485	Stuart Skyte AGM Photocopying	11
BBQ surplus	58.32	Hire of St Maggies	19
M Doorley D of E	110.00	Domain name /hosting fees	75.27
		Ink Cartridges	123.19
		Paper/ envelopes	79.63
		Other Stationery	26.28
		Fixings for noticeboard	7.46
		Magnets for Noticeboard	9.49
		Gift for former committee member	20.00
		H&D House BBQ	58.32
		H&D House M Doorly	110.00
TOTAL	653.32		539.64

Balance Brought Forward 30/04/16	1341.73
Payments In (Subscriptions)	300
Payments In (Other)	178.32
Direct Credits (Subscriptions)	185
Payments Out	549.64
Sub Total	1455.41
Less Prepaid 15/16 Subs	320
Plus prepayments	11
Plus prepaid 16/17 Subs	115
Carried Forward Reconciled balance as at 05/04/16	1261.41
Total Subscriptions:	97

Patrick Kershaw, OWRA Treasurer for 2015/16

Report of the OWRA Committee

June 2015 - May 2016

Overall Strategy

This has been a year of consolidation, maintaining the standard of new family events and activities, while continuing to develop and maintain the deep sense of community that characterises Waterside.

Waterside environment:

The lovely bench on Rutherway, much enjoyed by young and old throughout the year, has suffered from too much use, and has been replaced by a more robust and utilitarian version – the dedication to Stuart will be transferred! .

Highlights of the year for gardens: some of the Italian Alder Trees have been removed from Rutherway and replaced by three flowering cherries and one silver birch. The remaining alder trees were pruned to reduced their crown height and width. Nicholsons, the contractors, did an excellent job. At the North end of Waterside, by the path through to Aristotle Lane, a new wildlife-friendly hedge has been planted in front of the wooden fence to the South of the path. It is hoped that the hedge will not only provide food and shelter for insects and birds, but also discourage graffiti writers.

We cleaned for the Queen! In March we joined with many others across Oxford to clean up our grounds and the Spinney for Her Majesty's 90th.

A joint **OWRA/OWMC Rail Group** has continued to promote our interests during the Aristotle Lane bridge developments, updating via the Newsletter and directly with affected residents.

Waterside Events:

The 2015 **Sports Day and BBQ** was tinged with sadness, as it was the last one to be organised by our most community spirited resident. Perfectly organised and delivered it was a splendid swansong for Stuart Skyte – THANK YOU!

The **International Picnic** defied the weather to bring together many residents with a splendid spread of delicacies across the benches. Many thanks to Richard and Ying for organising this.

Our second annual **Hallowe'en Party**, organised by Emma, was astonishingly successful. By starting one hour earlier the children didn't get lost in the gloom, and the costumes were really spooky and scary!

Emma wisely ran our **Easter Egg Hunt** on the sunniest day all weekend -Easter Friday. It was very well attended by a lot of excitable kids, who were kept under control by our excellent helpers.

Christmas Carols; thanks to our resident Choirmaster David Crown we sang atmospheric carols in the Square before Christmas, now a regular feature on our calendar.

Waterside Communications:

Four newsletters have been published and paper copies distributed to all households (also via email where available).

The email list for sending OWRA and OWMC information now covers 122 individuals. Send an email to [owra.owmc@gmail](mailto:owra.owmc@gmail.com) to be added.

The new website is under construction, but has been a source of frustration, as it is still not fully functional... but once launched will be much easier for individuals to update, and will have additional pages for OWMC to maintain.

The closed Oxford Waterside Facebook group has been very successful, there are currently 63 members (see address below). Thanks to Emma Dadson for moderating this group.

Welcome packs have been updated and new residents (not all, only the ones we get told about!) briefed on how to make the most of Waterside.

Your Committee:

The Committee, comprising Emma Dadson, Kay Gordon, Richard Groves, Patrick Kershaw, John Krebs, Sarah Monro and Helen Saunders Gill, met 4 times. Richard stood down from the committee in January after 12 years, but continues organising the Autumn International Lunch.

New Committee members are always welcome, call Kay on 0118 420532 to discuss.

MINUTES of the OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

The sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the Oxford Waterside Residents' Association, 8:30pm, Friday 23rd June 2015, St Margaret's Institute, Oxford

- 1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.**
- 2. Report of the Committee (attached to Newsletter No 55)**

The Chair went through a few key points from her first year and some to come;

Communicating with young families and tenants

The creation of OWRA Facebook

New Notice Board

Childrens parties

100 plus on the OWRA email list

Banner for our activities stolen within 2 weeks.

International Lunch in the Square Saturday 5th September 2015

- 3. Annual Accounts (attached to Newsletter 55)**

Patrick Kershaw was introduced as the new Treasurer

Account balance at 30/4/2015 stands at £1341.73

Annual expenditure above usual due to purchase of a notice board and the picnic tables.

Payment for membership is now by cash using the envelope system or by standing orders.

We need to clarify to tenants that they also can be members.

This year's BBQ was an excellent event but not as financially successful as previous

years, probably due the weather. £70 was raised as a surplus which will be donated to Helen & Douglas House.

4. Chairman's Statement

Special thanks were given to:

Stuart Skyte who continues to support OWRA in many ways

Aprajita Verma who stands down after 7 years as a very committed treasurer and guardian of the email list.

Mary Ann Dale who is also standing down but continues her marvelous work with the grounds, and Emma Dadson who has single handedly invented, got sponsorship and run 2 childrens events and a Facebook group.

5. Annual Fee

A recommendation from the Committee "That the annual fee for OWRA should remain at £5 per household" was agreed

6. Election of the Committee

The following new members of the Committee were appointed:

Sarah Monro

John Krebs

Patrick Kershaw (co-opted April 2015)

7. There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8.45p.m.

NEWS FLASH
**Defibrillator grant
for Waterside
from Scottish and
Southern Energy**

Look out for more details in
your next Newsletter