

# OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER No.82 July 2023

***This year is the 10<sup>th</sup> that I have Chaired the RA. I have had a wonderful time doing this, but I need a rest and will stand down in June 2024.***

*Your committee needs more supporters if it is to survive. I am hopeful that you value the Residents Association and will like to step forward during the next few months and support Waterside through your participation. Talk to the committee members or email [owra.owmc@gmail.com](mailto:owra.owmc@gmail.com) if you and your neighbours are interested in ensuring continuity of this community resource.*

*Kay Gordon*

### **Richard Groves**

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Richard who has been battling his health issues for some time but always seemed positive and on the mend. A firm supporter of all Waterside activities over many years, he was a lovely man who did much to bring together neighbours and make everyone feel welcome. Our thoughts are with Ying and their children.

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> of each month where RA and Management Board members will attend when available:

<b>Date &amp; time</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Special interest</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> August 10-11am	Kay Gordon	In Merrivale Sq or 10 MS if dire weather	OWRA Chair Children welcome!
<b>Friday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> September 10-11am	TBA	In Merrivale Sq	Children welcome!

### **International Picnic**

This event was the brainchild of Richard and Ying, normally held on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in September. Due to depleted Committee numbers we were not able to host this year, but if you would like to act as host please get in touch asap.

### **Merrivale Square is family friendly and poop free!**

New planting, the grass has grown back, our gardeners can weed the beds again. We hope you make maximum use of it this summer, you can borrow OWRA gazebos and tables for parties and picnics – with enough notice!

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### **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

Mary Ann Dale (Gardens) 34 Plater Drive 07786 245551

We need more people – would you like to add your voice?

Contact us on [owra.owmc@gmail.com](mailto:owra.owmc@gmail.com)

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## **Local News**

There will be rail works between July 29 and August 6. These will be close to Waterside, and noisy, from July 31 and August 1. Oxford station will be closed. The works are to improve the cross overs between lines to allow more trains to run when the Oxford to Cambridge line opens. See [networkrail.co.uk](http://networkrail.co.uk)

## **Oxford Waterside Management Company**

### **Waterside Gardens**

This spring, a combination of wet weather and bank holiday Mondays resulted in Nicholsons, the gardening contractors, falling behind in their routine maintenance work. In early June we agreed a catch-up programme with Nicholsons and we reviewed progress in early July. They have been working very hard and the southern end of Waterside is now in much better shape, but there is still work to be done at the northern end. In addition to routine maintenance work, we have identified some projects to be undertaken later in the year. These include removing dead branches from several trees and refurbishing the border at the Aristotle Lane entrance to Waterside. A plan has been drafted for improvements to Merrivale Square over several years; costings are currently being prepared for review in the Autumn.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging**

Work has nearly finished on a collaborative project by all but one resident of the The Crescent East. This will provide individual eV charging capability to each home in the area of their garages. Costings are being prepared for a similar collaborative power supply to Merrivale Square East car parks.

Jonathan Finnerty is also keeping tabs on the Council approved gul-e system which runs across pavements. See the Waterside website for further info.

### **Gardeners Portaloo on Rutherway**

This is an essential resource for our male and female gardeners, who work on Waterside 2 days a week, unfortunately delivery drivers have been stopping with unhygienic results. It is being relocated to a less visible spot, out of sight.

### **Visitors Car Parking Spaces**

We have off-road parking spaces marked "Residents' Visitors", these can be used for no more than 12 hours in 24 by residents or their visitors, and are not intended for long term parking (particularly second cars!) as this would seriously inconvenience your neighbours. These off-road spaces are under the control of the Management Company and subject to restrictive covenants forming part of the house purchase contract. If you are concerned that someone parks in a 'Resident's Visitor' for more than 12 hours or does not appear to be a genuine visitor then you can contact the managing agent with vehicle details or/and download a [notice](#) to place (not stick) on the windscreen.

### **Foliage overhanging public footpaths**

We all have responsibility to keep the footpaths in front of our houses free of impediment. If your plants and hedges are overgrown you must cut it back to allow people full use of the path.

**Secure bike storage solutions** are being considered – do you have ideas?