

# NEWSLETTER

Number 57: April 2015



**Spring Community Supper  
and W.O.C.A AGM  
Sunday 26th April 2015  
5.30-8pm  
West Oxford Community Centre**

Come and meet with other West Oxford residents and share a meal together. All ages welcome!

This event costs £2 per adult

(free for WOCA members and children under 16)

Please bring a pudding to share. To be sure there is enough food for everyone please sign the list at the

Community Centre or West Oxford School

preferably before Mon 20th April

or email [westoxfordcc@gmail.com](mailto:westoxfordcc@gmail.com)

(with "Spring supper" in the subject line)

stating the number of places wanted for adults and children.

Please bring your own crockery and cutlery.

We look forward to seeing you.

This event is hosted by West Oxford Community Association

**Jazz Brunch**  
WOCA presents  
at West Oxford Community Centre  
"Listen to a magical musical tour of the Jazz Age whilst enjoying a leisurely coffee and croissant!"  
A new season of Jazz Brunches with Nick Gill introducing:  
March 28th Willie "The Lion" Smith  
April 25th Great American Songbook  
May 30th Bob Wilber  
£6 or £4.50 for WOCA members and concessions  
Doors open 11am (coffee and croissant included)  
Tickets: Available at West Ox. Community Centre  
Full details at [www.woca.org.uk](http://www.woca.org.uk)

## West Oxford Community Centre Needs You!

Increased running costs mean it's becoming harder to offer our current range of services and, particularly to make much needed improvements to the Centre building which would benefit all users. The building is supplied by Oxford City Council, but ALL running costs must be met by West Oxford Community Association.

### How you can help:

- Become a member: receive a range of benefits and provide us with much needed funds.
- Attend our forthcoming fundraising events
- Volunteer your time
- If you have any good ideas for fundraising activities/events, please let us know

### Member Benefits:

- Discounted Entry to selected WOCA events
- Free entry to the Harvest Supper and Spring Meal/AGM
- Reduced Room hire rates
- Free West Oxford Poster while stocks last!
- Free entry to our annual prize draw
- Emailed version of newsletter and updates about what's on at WOCA

**Join now and have membership through to AGM 2016 - Costs just £5.25 for people living in West Oxford**

# WOT'S ON AT WOCC...



West Oxford Community Centre

**Weekly Updates on display in the Community Centre**  
**Monthly Updates on community notice boards**  
**by 'The Organic Deli' and 'Cartridge World'**

## News from..



THE TUMBLING BAY CAFE

**Now Open**  
**10.00 – 5.00**  
**Tuesday -**  
**Sunday**

## Join in MESSY PLAY

Creative play for 2-4 year olds...  
...and their parents/carers

First of the Spring series starts Monday 13th April

Mondays (during term time) 10:00 - 11:00

more info: [messyplayoxford.co.uk](http://messyplayoxford.co.uk) COST £3

I cannot believe it has been four months since we took over the cafe! First and foremost a big thank you to all our customers.

Feedback has been very positive and really looking forward to developing and improving it. A new oven will allow me to produce an expanded menu, and with the improving weather, tables are out on the terrace. What better place to come for coffee and cakes!

On the marketing side we are designing our own website and putting the cafe on Tripadvisor. It sounds like a good way to offer customers an opportunity to express their views and to make the cafe known to the wider community.

Our days are getting busier all the time and being open at the weekend has been particularly well received. Tuesday and Thursday can be a bit quiet so if you are thinking of coming why not try one of those days?

And last but not least come and check out the new Tintin theme to the cafe in honour of a Belgian icon ☺

Best wishes to all and hope to see you soon,  
Xavier

## Wox Vox



A community singing group for adults and teens.  
No experience necessary. No auditions.  
Just great fun!

Thursdays from 730pm - 9pm, April 23rd - July 9th  
at the West Oxford Community Centre

Fee: £5 per session (drop in)

Questions? Email: [hopemcnamara@yahoo.com](mailto:hopemcnamara@yahoo.com)  
Like us on Facebook for updates: [www.facebook.com/woxvox](http://www.facebook.com/woxvox)

NB: there will be no session on May 28th

## The Fun Day is Coming!

Spring is here, which means the West Oxford Fun Day is just around the corner - well **11 July** actually - and we will be having our first planning meeting on **Friday 17 April at 5.30pm** in the Cafe. You are very welcome to come and join us - importantly, we'll have cakes provided by Tumbling Bay Cafe!

## New Wifi!

The centre has a new wifi system, installed by BT in partnership with our landlords Oxford City Council. The signal is very good, and the download speed is very fast! You'll find it listed as "**Oxford Free Wi-Fi**". We'll be removing the old 'WOCA Wifi' option in April.

## £££ Fundraising for Centre Development £££

Following a successful fundraising effort, we replaced the old Mary Town Room carpet with a lovely new red one!

We are currently fundraising for the next stage of building work at the centre, to create more storage and a coffee/tea point, and replace our existing lighting with LED lights to save energy and money in the future.

## Lost and Found Will Soon Be Gone!

Do you think you might have left something at the Community Centre, or in the Park behind, over the last few months? It may well be in our Lost and Found Bin!

We're getting cramped for space, so if you think you may have something to claim, please call in before the Low Carbon West Oxford Bring and Take Day on 9 May, when all the remaining unclaimed items will be passed on!

**For any enquiries regarding WOCA or the use of the centre, or if you have an idea for a positive activity**

☎ Keith on 01865 245761  
Email [westoxfordcc@gmail.com](mailto:westoxfordcc@gmail.com)  
☺ Call in! Office usually open Monday - Friday, 1.30 - 6.30 (except Wednesdays)  
Website [www.woca.org.uk](http://www.woca.org.uk)

## Yoga for all!

A new yoga class is starting up at the community centre running on Monday nights from 5.30-6.15pm starting on 20th April.

The first term will act as an introduction to yoga for beginners as well as a more gentle class ideal for all levels. Don't worry if you think you are too stiff, or feel yoga is not for you - just come along and give it a try.

You'll be made to feel welcome and I will be happy to adjust what we do to suit you. The class will also be ideal for anyone wanting to stretch and relax after work.

You can read more on my website [www.lucytennyson.com](http://www.lucytennyson.com) or give me a call on 0771 5207784. The cost is £9 drop-in with lower-cost 10 week passes available.

## WOBfest

From David Jeffrey

This year the West Oxford Beer Festival will be held on the evening of Saturday June 13 in the Community Centre.

This will be the fifth year for "WOBfest" (as we like to call it), and once again we will be featuring a range of local ales, with other refreshment and entertainment. In previous years WOBfest has been a great success, bringing together local residents for an enjoyable evening, whilst raising money for local causes.



Entrance is by ticket only, and the price has been held at five pounds. As well as entry to the beer festival, the price includes the now iconic commemorative WOBfest pint glass for you to keep. Tickets will go on sale closer to the date through local outlets: keep checking our website ([www.wobfest.co.uk](http://www.wobfest.co.uk)) for more details of how to buy tickets, find our Facebook page by searching for 'WOBfest', look out for our posters or contact me directly by emailing [david@wobfest.co.uk](mailto:david@wobfest.co.uk).

Please also get in contact if you are interested in helping out - selling tickets, pouring pints, or by becoming a beer sponsor, either corporate or individual. Without our sponsors and volunteers WOBfest would not be possible. We look forward to seeing you and your friends for what promises to be another great evening.

Take up tennis & feel great!

**ACTIVE Women**  
in Oxford

[www.getoxfordshireactive.org](http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org)

## Tennis Coaching for Women

Active Women Tennis Sessions are perfect for those new or returning to tennis. We are a friendly, sociable group who meet at West Oxford Tennis Courts (behind West Oxford Community Centre) on Fridays at 1.30-2.30pm.

The session, delivered by a professional LTA licensed tennis coach, includes content on technique and improves tactical understanding of the game. If you are keen to get fit and play tennis then please contact coach Tom Francis - contact details below.

No advanced booking required – just turn up and play!

For more info please call: 07747 026377 or email: [noltccompetitions@gmail.com](mailto:noltccompetitions@gmail.com)



**Did you enjoy the panto this year? Has it inspired you to take part?**

We are now recruiting for the next season. If you are interested in **writing the script, producing or directing**, please contact us.

**Do you Treasure WOPA?**

WOPA is sad to say goodbye to Gavin Anderson who has been our Treasurer for the past four years. Would you be interested in taking on this role? It's an important one but not too time consuming: just a few hours per year. If you'd like to be involved, but not *too* involved in WOPA, this might be the role for you!

**WOPA Trustee Vacancies**

Could you spare a few hours per year? Would you like to help manage WOPA? These roles are for the overall management of WOPA not individual panto's or other events.

**If you would like more information about any of these roles, please contact us at [info@wopa.me](mailto:info@wopa.me)**

## Oxford Playhouse Plays Out Presents: Hoke's Bluff

We're delighted to be able to welcome back Oxford Playhouse for another production. A huge thanks to the regular users who have kindly given up their bookings in the hall on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May** to allow this to happen.

You can read more about the production at: [www.actionhero.org.uk/projects/hokes-bluff/](http://www.actionhero.org.uk/projects/hokes-bluff/)



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### **Did you go to Lara's 70's Disco at the Centre on 7th February?**

...if so, you might be interested in the following:

"Thank you so much for going to Lara's 70s Fancy Dress Fundraising Disco. We are indebted to both you and Lara for supporting the Ovarian Cancer Appeal for a Plasmajet. The Plasmajet is a really important piece of equipment which helps protect healthy tissue and reduce side effects for patients undergoing radical ovarian cancer surgery.

We are delighted to report that through your kind donation and that of a generous anonymous benefactor that night – you have helped us achieve the £23,700 needed. The Cancer Benefactors' Board has matched the donation and so £47,400 is now Available, which means the Plasmajet is fully funded!

On behalf of our patients, the clinical staff at the Churchill Hospital and the hospital charity team – A Huge Thank You... Your help will really make a difference to ovarian cancer patients.

Marianne Julebin,  
Oxford University Hospitals"

### **Low Carbon West Oxford News**

Do you need advice and information about keeping well and warm during cold weather?

Help with high energy bills?

Do you know the range of local and national support available, the practical help schemes such as improvements to homes and heating systems?

Do you want to know about how to make your home more energy efficient?

Please call to arrange a visit, if you would like to make sure you are getting all the help you may need and be entitled to.

Last year many people took advantage of free benefit checks from CAB and small grants to cover measures for keeping warm during the winter.

This year the scheme has been extended to cover spring and summer outreach work.

Contact Anne on 01865 793049 /07401 763003

You can receive further information by email from [info@lcwo.org.uk](mailto:info@lcwo.org.uk) as well as from our website: [www.lcwo.org.uk](http://www.lcwo.org.uk), or call 07531 500955.

## St Frideswide and St Margaret's Easter Update

Spring is just around the corner and soon everything will be growing and flourishing again, but there is still a bit of tidying up to do after last year's Christmas Services. A big THANKYOU to the 70 children and 50 adults who attended the Christmas Eve Crib Service and for your generosity in raising £141 for Oxford Homestart. If local residents (big and small) would like to suggest a local charity for the church to support this year please get in touch.

In February it was lovely to welcome children from Year 1 & 2 at West Oxford Primary School and help them explore the church and answer all their brilliant questions about christenings, the organ, the services and some of the unusual carvings we have in the building. The children also met our new priest Jo Moffet-Levy who joined Clare and the team in January. Jo comes to us after a career in health research in Oxford and London and lives off the Eynsham Road with her family. She will become a familiar face around West Oxford, so please say hello if you spot her.

As well as Jo we will be welcoming our new organist Sarah Lister just before Easter and we look forward to hearing her play. Tom West will be developing a programme of concerts and organ recitals for the coming year and he wants to encourage more young musicians and singers, and younger audiences, so if you want to have a go at organising a concert, or take part in one please contact Tom via [thomas.t.west@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.t.west@gmail.com)

Work is continuing on modernising our church and it now has modern heating, a kitchenette, modern toilets, a playroom and a large area with moveable seating which creates a large and versatile space. During the year we want to explore with local organisations how to make the space and its great acoustics a busy and viable community resource. The hire charges will be similar to those of other local venues, but we will be happy to negotiate around these. Please get in touch with Anne James if you would like to use the building, or would like to help us put our plans into practice.

St Frideswide will be soon be opening a Garden of Remembrance for the strewing of ashes. We have had many requests for this facility over the years and we are pleased that St Frideswide will be able to provide this in the future.

**A date for the diary** - Michaelmas Fair at St Frideswide on Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>. If you want to be involved or have some ideas about activities and stalls please get in touch with Anne James [stfrideswide@osneybenefice.org.uk](mailto:stfrideswide@osneybenefice.org.uk)

Holy Week and Easter Services 2015		
Regular Sunday Services 10.30am – everyone is welcome		
<b>Palm Sunday</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> March – BST begins	St Frideswide 10.30am St Margaret 4.30pm	The Eucharist Evensong BCP
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Christ Church Cathedral 11.00am St Frideswide 7.30pm	Chrism Eucharist Eucharist & Foot washing
<b>Good Friday</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	St Frideswide 2.00pm St Margaret 2.00pm	A Good Friday meditation A Good Friday meditation
<b>Easter Day</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> April	St. Margaret 7.00am St Frideswide 10.30am St Margaret 4.30pm	Easter Vigil & Eucharist The Eucharist Evensong
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> April	St. Frideswide 10.30am St Margaret 4.30pm	The Eucharist Evensong BCP
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> April	St Frideswide 10.30am St Margaret 4.30pm	The Eucharist Evensong BCP
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> April	St Margaret 9.00am St Frideswide 10.30am St Margaret 4.30pm	The Eucharist Eucharist & APCM Evensong BCP

### Can you help?

**Street Reps** help WOCA deliver this newsletter. We have most roads covered now—just Roger Dudman Way and Venneit Close currently remaining.



**Sponsorship/Advertising** do you have a bit of time to help get more sponsors and advertising for the newsletter? Would you like to place an ad with us? Would you like to place an ad in the programme for the Fun Day?

**Have you got news for us?** Our summer issue deadline is 5 June. Leave copy at the Centre, email, or send via the WOCA website.

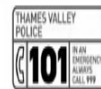
**If you can help** please contact us - details on page 2

### Art Weeks Exhibition 9 – 17 May 2015

Our local artists' group, WOCArts, will be holding their usual Artweeks exhibition in the Mary Town Room.



Please come along and have a look!  
Opening Times:  
12-6pm (Thursday 12-8pm)



### News from the Jericho, Abingdon Rd, and WEST OXFORD Neighbourhood Police Team

#### National Mobile Property Register and Immobilise

The free Immobilise property registration service is a very powerful tool in the fight against crime. Since launching in 2003, it has been directly linked to the Police National Mobile Property Register, which allows officers to search the serial numbers of recovered goods or suspected stolen property. Register your valuables with [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

#### VERA Scheme

VERA scheme focuses on identifying, reassuring and providing advice to vulnerable or elderly residents who may have been victims of crime or who may be at risk. Some residents may have mobility or health problems or memory loss which may lead to police helping them, for instance if they have a fall at home behind locked doors, if there is a sudden flood risk or if they become lost or confused.

The scheme securely holds contact details for family, carers and key holders for each resident on the scheme. Should these contact details be needed urgently if police get a call, we can help a resident more quickly. We can also signpost residents towards other agencies depending on their individual requirements and situations. If you would like to be registered on the scheme or hear more about it, please contact PC Jan Warner on 01865 266328 or via the neighbourhood policing team on [OxfordCentralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:OxfordCentralNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

## BRIAN FRENCH

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**The pepper is vacuum packed in 75g (2.64oz)  
presentation packs and has a shelf life of 3+ years.**

**A bag costs only £2.50**

**Available from Anne James**

**26, Barrett St, New Osney, Oxford OX2 0AT  
01865 725906 [riverbank26@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:riverbank26@tiscali.co.uk)**

## WOCA COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Rebecca Huxley

**Trustees:** Matt Bird, Martin Bourne, Anne Clilverd, Vicky Hirsch, Rebecca Huxley, Gayle Lonergan, Jim McMahon, Geoff Morgan, Sarah Morgan, Helen Reid, Kate Sant, Shan Saunders, and Louise Siddle.

You can contact the committee via the Centre.

**Grants** WOCA supports community projects beneficial to people in West Oxford, including help with Centre room hire. Application forms available from the centre office or at [www.woca.org.uk](http://www.woca.org.uk)

We want to support you - let us know how we can help!

## NEWS from your Councillors

Construction work on the new Waitrose Store is due to start on 27 April.

The City Council is planning to put new equipment into the Oatlands Road play area in June -- probably a double zip-wire, a 6 metre pyramid climbing frame and a new roundabout.

One of the ideas in the County Council's new transport plan is to put in "cycle super-routes" along several streets, including Botley Road.

Councillors have small budgets that you can apply for to support local groups or events. Contact them for more details.

## Your Local Democratic Representatives

Your city councillors are:

**Colin Cook**, 12 Riverside Rd OX2 0HU Email [cllrcook@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrcook@oxford.gov.uk) ☎ 721844

**Susanna Pressel**, 7 Rawlinson Rd OX2 6UE Email [cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk) ☎ 554001  
Susanna is also your county councillor.

Susanna holds a Ward Surgery on the third Saturday of each month from 11.00 until 12.00 noon at the community centre.

Your MP is **Nicola Blackwood**:

House of Commons, Westminster, London, SW1A 0AA Email [nicola.blackwood.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:nicola.blackwood.mp@parliament.uk)  
☎ 0207 219 7126 She also holds regular surgeries at the Community Centre.