

West Oxford Community Association

# NEWSLETTER

Number 48: December 2012

## CINDERELLA

### Another WOPA production!

Cinderella the Panto - by West Oxford for West Oxford.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm,  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January 3pm and 7.30pm.

Tickets £6 for adults and £4 for under 16s

On sale shortly after Christmas and from Eggs Eggsetera.

Come and join in the fun!

**Also available!** Tickets for the panto **PLUS** pre-panto 3 course supper, free glass of wine or soft drink and reserved priority seating for the performance - £20 per adult and £9 per child.

More information can be found on our website [www.wopa.me](http://www.wopa.me)



### Can You Help Campaign for the Return of a GP Surgery to West Oxford?

Our doctors' surgery, which has been part of West Oxford for many, many years, has moved from the Community Centre to Jericho where there is limited parking and no direct bus service. This makes it impossible for many older members of our community, or those travelling with young children, to get to the surgery easily. Following the closure, many people have been keen to 'do something' to get a surgery back. One thing you can do is sign the petition on the notice board at the centre, or follow the (rather lengthy) link to sign online:

<http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/west-oxford-locals-sign-the-petition-to-keep-open-a-satalite-doctors-surgery-in-west-oxford-2>

Many thanks for your help. We plan to present the petition to the PCT/.Clinical Commissioning Group early in the New Year.

### Badminton Bonanza

West Oxford has its own Badminton Club! Members can book the hall at the super-cheap rate of £6/hour, all equipment provided. To join the club, please contact Tim Kiggell ☎ 451761

There is also now a women only badminton session at Westminster Sports Centre, Harcourt Hill, on Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.00 £3.50 per person

### A message from WOCA's Chair

A very big thanks from me to all our trustees. It's a wonderfully cohesive group and we have worked so successfully together to achieve all that we have in the last few years.

If you would like to join the committee or get more involved in other ways, please get in touch. There are lots of ways to help. At the moment we are particularly keen to find a willing volunteer to take minutes at meetings.

### WOCA COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Rebecca Huxley

**Trustees:** Martin Bourne, Carol Brady, Anne Clilverd, Sarah Day, Vicky Hirsch, Rebecca Huxley, Gayle Lonergan, Jim McMahon, Geoff Morgan, Sheila Parry, Helen Reid, 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.

# WOT'S ON AT WOCC...



**Weekly Updates on display in the Community Centre**

**Monthly Updates on community notice boards by  
'Supersaver' and 'Cartridge World'**



**Open 10-5 Tuesday to Friday.  
Saturday 10-2**

## West Oxford Toddler Group Christmas Party

15th December  
10am - 12 noon



Tickets £5 per family  
Santa will be visiting and  
there will be activities for  
children plus something good  
to eat.

Tickets available from Clare  
Ashton [cljashton@gmail.com](mailto:cljashton@gmail.com)

## PARTY YOURSELF INTO SHAPE



### Zumba Fitness With Sabine

Fridays 7.30-8.30pm

£5 a class or £15 a  
month

Just turn up and join in  
the fun!

### News from Ailsa:

There are lots of exciting things happening at the cafe! Not only do we now have a super comfortable sofa but we have a new daily breakfast menu, so you can enjoy some homemade granola or eggs on toast before having a nice sit down. I'm also running an **Edible Christmas Present Workshop** on the 16th December so you can get lots of delicious homemade goodies under wraps for your soon-to-be-extremely-impressed friends and family; email me (see below) to reserve your place as space will be limited.

**Don't forget** the cafe can also provide catering for your event, whether it be a weekday dinner or a wedding!

### Still recruiting: cookbook club!

Are you interested in trying out new recipes and getting together with like-minded people to share the results? If so drop me a line if you would like to be on the mailing list to find out what book we're cooking from next and when we'll be meeting...

☎ 07810 780820 email [ailsa@wocca-cafe.org.uk](mailto:ailsa@wocca-cafe.org.uk)

### New Website!

All of this information can be found on the new website:  
[www.wocca-cafe.org.uk](http://www.wocca-cafe.org.uk).

### Zumba® class

A fun, latin-inspired, easy to follow dance fitness workout.

No experience required. Age 16-99!

Drop-in class on Monday evenings at 8.30-9.30pm  
£5 (£4 OAP/student)

Also Private Pilates sessions at WOCC or in your home. For posture, sport, rehabilitation or general health. Accredited teacher. Good rates.

Email [denise@toplinefitness.co.uk](mailto:denise@toplinefitness.co.uk) or call 07748 600620 for more info. Website: [www.toplinefitness.co.uk](http://www.toplinefitness.co.uk).

**Education for Democracy in South Africa**  
is a small West Oxford based charity raising funds to support educational projects for township children.

## EDSA invites you to an exciting and entertaining evening of FLAMENCO guitar and tales from Andalucía with MARCOS

*Stories from the birth of flamenco in India to the remarkable life of its greatest artist Camarón in Cádiz Bay*

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012  
7.30pm – 10.30pm**

At the West Oxford Community Centre, Botley Road,  
Oxford.

Tapas and wine will be served in the interval.

Tickets from: **Judy Brown 01865 248189**  
Or book online: [jude.lockbrown@gmail.com](mailto:jude.lockbrown@gmail.com)  
You are asked to make a donation for a ticket and £10 is suggested if possible, children less.

All profits go directly to South African township children's educational projects supported by EDSA.  
[www.edsa.org.uk](http://www.edsa.org.uk) Charity Number 1003795



**For any enquiries regarding WOCC 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 Thursdays)  
Website [www.wocca.org.uk](http://www.wocca.org.uk)

## CHURCH NEWS

### St Frideswide's, Botley Road (opposite the community centre)

Sundays 10.30: Sung Eucharist; with a special Family Service on the first  
Sunday of each month

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month Sunday School

[www.stfrideswidechurch.org.uk](http://www.stfrideswidechurch.org.uk) ☎ 242345

#### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

10.30am Sung Eucharist with licensing of the Rev'd Professor Judith  
Brown by the Bishop of Oxford

#### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve

3pm Crib Service and Carols

11pm Midnight Mass

#### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

10.30am Christmas Celebration and Sung Eucharist

### St Margaret's, Binsey

[www.binseystmargaret.org.uk](http://www.binseystmargaret.org.uk)

Holy Eucharist 9am, first Sunday of the month

#### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

3.30pm Seven Lessons and Carols, by candle light

#### Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

Christmas Celebration and Holy Eucharist at 9am

### Elim Church

84 Botley Rd

☎ 247746

e-mail: [info@oxfordelim.com](mailto:info@oxfordelim.com)

- Sunday services 10.30 am including Sunday School ages 3 -11
- Mondays 10am - 12 noon Toddler Group £1 per family

## WEST OXFORD C P SCHOOL

Ferry Hinksey Road

☎ 248862

[headteacher.2533@west-oxford.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher.2533@west-oxford.oxon.sch.uk)

[www.westoxfordschool.co.uk](http://www.westoxfordschool.co.uk)

### West Oxford Community Primary School Governor Vacancy

West Oxford Community Primary School is looking for someone to join their board of governors. Their vacancy for a Community Governor will be filled by someone living locally who would like to contribute a little of their time and experience to developing the school for the future.

If you think this might be you, please contact the headteacher,  
Clare Bladen, on 01865 248862 or  
[headteacher.2533@west-oxford.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher.2533@west-oxford.oxon.sch.uk) for further information.

## Low Carbon West Oxford (LCWO)

☎ LCWO on 07531500955

email: [info@lcwo.org.uk](mailto:info@lcwo.org.uk)

### Finance volunteer wanted

Do you have a financial background (formal accountancy qualifications not essential)? Can you spare a few hours a month to support your community to live more sustainably?

LCWO is seeking a friendly volunteer with appropriate experience to be its new Treasurer (a Trustee role) and Finance Officer, starting as soon as possible. This key dual role would ideally suit someone living in West Oxford or with a connection to the area.

We are an informal, friendly and active organisation committed to our aims of reducing carbon emissions in West Oxford by 80% by 2050 .

We also support local residents to save energy and money. Come and join us and make a difference!

Please contact Lorna Edwards, LCWO's Executive Officer, for further information using the contact details above.

### Free thermal image of your house

Help reduce your heat loss and save money on your heating bills by seeing where your house is losing heat, then find out what you can do about it. LCWO will be photographing houses with a thermal imaging camera at the end of January. If you're interested in having a free thermal image taken, please contact us. Numbers limited so apply now.

### Don't miss out on a government grant to make your home warmer and healthier

Eligible households should apply now for a government grant towards better home insulation or heating as the scheme will end soon. Grants of up to £3,500, which you don't have to pay back, are available through the government's Warm Front Scheme. The money can pay for:

- Insulation — loft, cavity wall or hot water tank
- Draught-proofing
- Gas, electric or oil heating
- Converting your solid-fuel open fire to a glass-fronted fire
- Replacing your heating system with an oil or alternative technology system — the grant limit for this is £6,000

To be eligible for a grant both you and the property need to qualify.

If you own your own home or rent it from a private landlord *and* you or your spouse are in receipt of certain benefits you could be eligible if your property is poorly insulated *and/or* does not have a working central heating system. If you rent your home you will need the owner's permission to have the work done.

The Warm Front Scheme provides advice, funding and even organises for all the work to be done. Several households from West Oxford have already qualified for the grant. Call Warm Front on Freephone number 0800 316 2814 for further information and to see if you qualify, or visit their website at [www.warmfront.co.uk](http://www.warmfront.co.uk)

## News from Woodlands Pharmacy

We will be extending the shop to fit a consultation room so we can offer more services, such as flu jabs and so forth. There may be noise and the normal building dust and so forth as a consequence, but the end result will be worth it for the Pharmacy and the local Community. The Pharmacy will operate as normal with no closures, but access may be slightly restricted over certain periods. The work will be phased in over the next year or so. Thank you all for your help and support.

Kind Regards Pupinder S Gatora MPharm MRPharmS Managing Director

Woodlands Pharmacy 74 Botley Road, Oxford, OX2 0BU

☎ 242649

Fax: 01865 543 177

Web: [www.yourepharmacy.com](http://www.yourepharmacy.com)

**Para's 2012 Superb South Indian Fairly Traded Black and White Peppercorns have arrived!**

*This outstanding pepper comes from the Wynad Hills, in Kerala, South India, an area with an established reputation for producing fine quality pepper. It is grown to organic standards and sun dried. The corns are hand-picked only once they are ripe, unlike most harvesting systems which simply pick every corn at one go.*

**Vacuum packed in 75 gram (2.64 oz) bags with a shelf life of 3+ years. £2.50p a packet.**

*I don't make any money out of selling the pepper, my involvement is simple and two-fold: I want other people to enjoy this wonderful pepper and I want to help secure the livelihoods of those who depend on the pepper. The plantation employs some 90 locals (mainly tribal people who remain at the bottom of the caste system), who in turn feed and support some 400 dependants.*

**Contact Anne James 26, Barrett St, Oxford OX2 0AT ☎ 725906 riverbank26@tiscali.co.uk**

**Osney, St Thomas & New Botley Allotment Association**

• Mini allotment plots

Have you ever fantasized about growing your own fruit and veg but not wanted to dig up half your garden or cope with all the hard work of maintaining a whole allotment? We may have the answer to your dreams! We have a number of 'mini' allotment plots available. There is no specific size for these mini plots, it depends on how many of you are interested and what size you would like. As a rough guide, they range from about 15 to 30 square metres.

• Allotment Shop

The allotment shop is open on Sunday mornings. At the moment, it is open from 11am to 12 midday but in spring it is open from 10am to 12 midday. It stocks a wide range of items from compost and manure to seeds and garden tools. Please feel free to come along and use the shop. We'll look forward to seeing you there.

If you are interested and want further information, please email secretary@westoxfordallotments.org or phone Sid Siddle ☎ 251795  
Sid Siddle Allotment Secretary



**Now Available At the Community Centre...An Ideal Christmas Present!**

**THE CHANGING FACES OF West Oxford**



Malcolm Graham

Acclaimed local historian Malcolm Graham's book uses the memories of local people and other sources to look behind the mask of today's traffic jams and reveal the history of this fascinating area. It recalls a time when boys played football on the Botley Road, women in Osney Town sat outside their homes and knitted on summer evenings, children learned to swim at Tumbling Bay and the smell of Frank Cooper's Oxford Marmalade wafted through the

streets. A time also when many children slept three to a bed in cold houses. Copies available at the centre office.

**Christmas Quiz Night at The Punter in aid of**



Wednesday, 12th December 7.00 p.m. (Quiz Starts 7.30 pm)

Fun quiz for all! Teams of up to six people. Nothing serious! For all levels of brain power! Don't worry if there's only a couple of you as we can make up teams on the night! Everyone welcome! Entry £3 Per Person. Charity Raffle. Bar food available 6.00 - 9.00. For more information please contact Bernie Harris ☎ 722998 / bernieblh@aol.com or Nicky Clargo on ☎ 263733 / nicky.clargo@oxfordshire-mind.org.uk

**Have you got news for us?**

News for the Spring issue, deadline 22nd March, can be left at the Community Centre or e-mailed to westoxfordcc@gmail.com We can also post your information on the WOCA website

**Can you help? -**

**Street Reps** help WOCA deliver this newsletter. We have most roads covered now—just Yarnell's Road currently remaining.

**Sponsorship/Advertising** do you have a bit of time to spare to help get more sponsorship and advertising for the newsletter, to help keep our costs down?

If you can help, please contact us - details page 2

**Your Local Democratic Representatives**

Your city councillors are:

**Colin Cook**, ☒ 12 Riverside Rd OX2 0HU

Email cllrccook@oxford.gov.uk

☎ 721844

**Susanna Pressel**, ☒ 7 Rawlinson Rd OX2 6UE

Email cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk

☎ 554001

Susanna is also your county councillor.

They hold 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

☎ 0207 219 7126

She also holds regular surgeries at the Community Centre.