



NEWSLETTER



Number 47: September 2012

West Oxford Community Association

is hosting a friendly

Harvest Supper

Sunday 7th October

5.30 - 8.00

West Oxford Community Centre

The main course will be provided free, expertly cooked by Ailsa (Woca Cafe) but please bring a pudding to share and your own plate, bowl and cutlery.

We look forward to seeing you there...

To be sure there is enough food for everyone please sign the list at the Community Centre or West Oxford School preferably before 1st October or email westoxfordcc@gmail.com (with "harvest supper" in the subject line) stating the number of places wanted for adults and children.



West Oxford Pantomime Association

Coming soon....

If you have time and energy and would like to be involved in any aspect of our next production please contact us on info@wopa.me
Keep an eye on the website for more news - www.wopa.me

Woca Choca

The trustees of West Oxford Community Association have great pleasure in announcing the latest WOCA CHOCA awards:

Abbie Bishop, Mara Talbot, Frankie Crombie

for being involved and helping with so many West Oxford occasions.

The Osney Olympic committee

Richard Mann for all his work on transport issues

Elizabeth Newbery for producing the Osney Island newsletter 6 times a year for more than 10 years*

Fiona Hedges, Leo Appel and Hannah Wilson for

The Messiah in a Day

Many thanks, and enjoy the chocs!

*Thanks also to Elizabeth and co-writers for help with copy for this newsletter

West Oxford Olympiad Reaches Incredible Levels of FUN



The Grand Procession nears its end

West Oxford Fun Day saw a Golden afternoon as many vied for the coveted Absurd Olympiad Gold Medals and Certificates of Achievement—competing in such memorable games as the Standing Jump, Picking Pegs off a Line, Giant Jenga, Egg Throwing, Banging a Nail In, and Gurning.

With record numbers of people involved in making it so much FUN, a heartfelt thanks goes out from the WOCA committee to all those who made it such a success, and all those so willing to join in the games!

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

WOT'S ON AT WOCC



West Oxford Community Centre

Weekly Updates on display in the Community Centre

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

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).
Email denise@toplinefitness.co.uk or call 07748 600620 for more info. Website: www.toplinefitness.co.uk.

Sunday morning Art Workshops

11th November: Printmaking: collagraph cards
25th November: Making Decorative Papers, Boxes and Wrappings 10am-1pm in the Cafe .
£20 including tea and biscuits!
Suitable for adults and accompanied children +9yrs
Contact vicky.hirsch@virgin.net 01865 724315 for info or booking.



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

News from Ailsa:

The cafe is going from strength to strength, thanks to everyone for your support and feedback. Just a few of the positive reviews received so far:

" thank heavens for places like WOCA's Cafe on Botley Road. Here is a haven from the pricey Oxford tourist traps and bland commercial franchises. Their menu is simple - four or five fresh, homemade and above all healthy meals which change daily. Plus home baked cakes, hand pressed juices and a ridiculously big list of imaginative herbal teas. Best of all, NOTHING will set you back more than £6."

"The chicken was good but, if vegetables always tasted this good, you'd never get me off them. I was drinking the home made ginger beer too, which tasted great and was also a lovely colour. We came away, having spent less than a tenner, and feeling more than satisfied."

"The food is definitely worth travel from further afield. Delicious, home cooked, healthy treats at very reasonable prices...Couldn't fault a thing."

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

And coming soon: cookbook club!

Are you interested in trying out new recipes and getting together with like-minded people to share the results? If so contact me for news of the first meeting.. ☎ 07810 780820 email ailsa@woca-cafe.org.uk

Beginners are Welcome

Classes are being held Thursday 4-5pm



TAI CHI TASTER SESSION
● OCTOBER 27TH AT WOCA CENTRE IN THE HALL.

Harmonize mind, body and spirit, with the ancient art of Tai Chi.

Get Running



NEW Beginner Jogging Group in West Oxford...

Tuesdays 7 – 8pm

Meet at West Oxford Community Centre

Fun, social jogging group with nutritional advice for those interested.

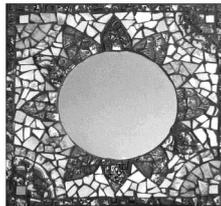
Contact Sarah for more details at missarahlay@gmail.com



For more information on these or other GO Active activities please contact Vicki Galvin, GO Active Coordinator on 01865 252720 or vgalvin@oxford.gov.uk

Mosaic-Making Craft Workshop

with Vicky Hirsch



Sun 14th and Sun 21 October 2012
9.30 - 12.30
£40 all inclusive

at West Oxford Community Centre

Create a mosaic by recycling old crockery into beautiful panels. Learn how to cut, lay and grout, and enjoy the delights of deliberately smashing china! Please bring your own broken or chipped china to incorporate. Two mornings to give enough time to complete a small panel and take away skills to try out at home. Suitable for adults and accompanied children over 9 years.

Contact Vicky 724315 vicky.hirsch@virgin.net for more info.



Arty-Crafty Kids

(formerly Messy Play)

Every Monday 9.30 ~ 11.00am
West Oxford Community Centre

Bring your 2-4 year old and do something arty-crafty. A different activity every week during term time.

Full programme on the Community Centre notice board!
Pay as you go £4 including a drink and a biscuit!

Info? Contact Vicky 724315 vicky.hirsch@virgin.net

This group is financially subsidised by WOCA

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
☺ Call in! Office usually open Monday - Friday, 1.30 - 6.30 (except Thursdays)
Website www.woca.org.uk

CHURCH NEWS

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

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

2nd and 4th Sunday of the month Sunday School

www.stfrideswidechurch.org.uk ☎ 242345

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 27th September at 7.30pm: Organ concert by Dan Chambers
£5 which includes a glass of wine and nibbles.

Saturday 6th October 10.30am to 3pm: Craft Fair and Gift Day A wide range of crafts for sale and demonstration by the craftspeople. Fun for children, Tombola, Jams and pickles for sale and much more! A chance to hear the magnificent Hunter organ played. Morning coffee, afternoon tea, and light lunches. Low Carbon West Oxford are holding a Bring and Take in the Community Centre opposite on the same day.

Sunday 7th October 4.30pm A short Family Harvest Festival Service. Please bring any vegetables and other food that you would like to donate to The Oxford Food Bank

Saturday 13th October 10.00am to 12.30pm: Family Eco Event Join naturalist Owain Hegarty in the Church grounds and have fun exploring the natural world and its inhabitants. A free event with a suggested donation of £2. Children must be accompanied by an adult. With thanks to our sponsors Oxford City Council

Thursday 25th October at 7:30pm: Organ concert by Paul Edwards
£5 which includes a glass of wine and nibbles.

Thursday 29th November at 7:30pm the exuberant St James Singers will be giving an evening of music and readings with an Advent theme.

St Frideswide's First World War Dead

Biographical details of the men listed on the First World War memorial in St Frideswide's Church are being added here:

<http://www.oxfordhistory.org.uk/war/stfrideswide/>

Eleven of the 82 men have not yet been identified. If anyone is able to help, please email stephanie.jenkins@gmail.com

St Margaret's, Binsey

www.binseystmargaret.org.uk

Holy Communion 9am, first Sunday of the month.

Evensong 4.30pm every Sunday during BST

Elim Church

84 Botley Rd

☎ 247746

e-mail: info@oxfordelim.com

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

Hogacre Common

Hogacre Common Eco Park's 2nd Annual Harvest Festival.

12pm - 4pm. Sunday 14th October

Come and celebrate harvest season with Oxford's community eco park.

Local food themed activities and refreshments. Music and games.

www.hogacrecommon.org.uk

Low Carbon West Oxford (LCWO)

☎ LCWO on 07531500955

email: info@lcwo.org.uk

Bring & Take coming soon

Low Carbon West Oxford is holding its Autumn Bring & Take event on 6th October from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Bring goods from 10.30am to 11.30 am only, and take goods anytime from 10.30am. The aim of the event is to help residents in West Oxford to reduce, re-use and recycle. By reducing the amount of goods we buy, swapping them when we no longer need them and recycling what's left over, we reduce the amount of stuff going to landfill, reduce our community's carbon emissions and save money at the same time.

There will be competitions and surplus produce from the allotments, and activities for kids such as energy and waste-themed gadgets to try out on the Green Schools Bus (for the first time at the Bring & Take).

A separate room external experts will be providing one-to-one technical advice about energy bills, energy efficiency, grants etc or other energy-related enquiries specific to your home. To make a free 15 minute appointment please contact us at info@lcwo.org.uk or on 07531 500955. Residents who signed up at our Spring Bring & Take found the assistance very useful.

Extra Session?

Also let us know (contact details above) if you would be interested in attending a Saturday **half day** session to find out about energy saving/ efficiency, bills, landlords' responsibilities, health & safety or other energy-related issues. Let us know what topics would be useful to you. If there is enough interest Low Carbon West Oxford will organise a session.

LCWO is looking for a Treasurer

Could you offer your accountancy expertise to help combat climate change? We are seeking a friendly accountancy-trained volunteer (or someone with a financial background and appropriate experience) to be its new Hon Treasurer (a Trustee)/ Finance Officer, starting in October. If you live in West Oxford or have a connection to the area come and join us and make a difference in your community! If you're interested please contact us for further details at info@lcwo.org.uk or on 07531 500955.

Help bring microhydro power to West Oxford!

Did you know that one of the few suitable sites in the city for a microhydro electricity scheme is right here in West Oxford? West Oxford Community Renewables needs your support to make our dream of a community owned microhydro scheme in the heart of Oxford a reality. Would you like to join a team of committed volunteers working on the project this autumn?

We are looking for people with the following skills: fundraising, marketing, communications and wordsmithing, legal, financial or accountancy. We'd also love to hear from any enthusiastic people who can help us spread the word or assist with crucial back office tasks. Whether you can spare a few hours or a few weeks, any support you can give would be invaluable.

To find out more about how you can get involved, please contact Saski at 5 Henry Rd, or email us at info@osneylockhydro.org.uk

WOBfest

On Saturday June 23 the Community Centre played host to the West Oxford Beer Festival (or WOBfest, for short). This is the second year we have run the event, and this year's was an even bigger success than last year. We had eighteen local ales, sold 50% more tickets, raised a healthy sum for the West Oxford School Playground Appeal, and most importantly, had a jolly good time. Many thanks are due to all who helped make WOBfest possible, and to everybody who could attend. We are already starting to plan WOBfest 2013, so if you are interested in helping out, or would like to be on our mailing list for advance notice of next year's dates, please contact David Jeffrey david@wobfest.co.uk

Messiah in a Day

A production of Handel's Messiah was held at the Community Centre on Sunday 1st July—a rare treat for anyone lucky enough to be able to attend. Modestly priced, it was a non profit event put on for the sheer joy of bringing it to the community.

The producer was Fiona Hedges, a local resident. With the help of WOCA, and donations of time, capital and gifts, this production was rehearsed and performed, as the name suggests, in one day, with local people, sometimes whole families, joining in.

Fiona thanks all involved, and if you would like to make suggestions for future productions, please feel free to email Fiona at fiona.hedges@virgin.net

The Oxford Area Flood Partnership's OPEN FORUM 2012

Town Hall Oxford
Tuesday 16th October 2012, 7:00 ~ 8:30 pm

The main part of the meeting is for residents to ask questions of Partnership representatives:

Environment Agency Oxford City Council
Oxfordshire County Council Thames Water
Network Rail Vale of White House District Council
For more information ☎ 252770

Have you got news for us?

News for the December issue, deadline 23rd November, can be left at the Community Centre or e-mailed to westoxfordcc@gmail.com We can also post your information on the WOCA website



Jericho and West Oxford (JAW) Police News

The JAW team has been proactively patrolling under the bridge opposite the community centre throughout August following reports of drug use and dealing there. The council have done an excellent job in cleaning the area, and we are continuing our regular patrols there. We do encourage you to call any suspicious activity around the bridges, on 101, no matter how insignificant you think it might be, if you witness a crime in progress then please call 999.

The JAW neighbourhood team attended West Oxford Fun Day on July 14th. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and even took part in the egg throwing and tug of war competitions! Thank you to everyone who took part in our colouring competition and congratulations to the winners!

West Oxford Matters Community Guardians

West Oxford Matters (WOM) has been awarded a County Council Active Communities grant to establish a network of Community Guardians across west Oxford. The Guardians would act as a link between WOM and their own patch.

They would listen to what local people are saying and what their concerns are, share information on any planning applications or changes coming up and work together as part of WOM to: put local people at the heart of shaping our community, develop west Oxford solutions to local need and ensure everyone has the opportunity to have their say.

The Guardians would receive support and mentoring. And each Guardian would have a small budget to spend in their area. If you would like to become a Guardian, or co-ordinate the scheme please contact

Stanley Skoglund at skogluns@hotmail.co.uk ☎ 246001
or Anne James at riverbank26@tiscali.co.uk ☎ 725906

Can you help? -

Street Reps help WOCA deliver this newsletter. We have most roads covered now—just a few remaining: Bullstake Close, Stanley Close, and Yarnell's Road

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 cllrpressel@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.