

HRA Update February 2024, our 69th edition

Save the Date: Friday 1st March, 7.30 p.m. (Doors open 7.00 p.m.)

Headington Community Productions presents:

HOW IT FEELS TO BE FREE:

An evening of music and songs to reflect the struggle for freedom and to celebrate community and diversity with acclaimed local musicians and singers

Moonaroon, Cat and Lewis, Mad Marston Hares

All Saints' Church House, New High Street, Headington (upstairs hall)

No admission charge, collection on behalf of Oxford Asylum Welcome.

Bar and refreshments. **Please bring cash** For *information: 01865 766341*



Saturday 9th March, 10.00-12.00: That thrilling social occasion, the annual HRA OxClean Litterpick! Meet by the Community Notice Board on All Saints' Rd. Come, meet your neighbours, gather up the litter and clean up our streets, then chat over refreshments. Litterpicks, high-viz jackets and gloves provided, but feel free to bring our own.

Newly on the HRA website: HRA All-Age Mini Wildlife Quiz

Go to: <https://highfieldresidents.weebly.com> then on the home page select Environment > Nature and Wildlife > Wildlife Quiz.

Top News Item: Many HRA members were extremely concerned and sent in comments about the planning application for 152 London Rd, where the Co-op and Post Office are currently situated. In case you've not yet heard: Appeal dismissed and Planning Application refused. See the Planning Inspector's Report, at the following link and click on Documents, then on Appeal Decision.

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?Caseid=3322566&CoID=0>

Incidents of careless, dangerous and other illegal driving in Headington: Headington Liveable Streets is encouraging us to report such incidents to the **Police** whenever we have photographic or video evidence. Illegal driving includes:

- driving on the pavement
- running a red light
- speeding
- failing to stop at a zebra crossing

Report incidents at: [this Thames Valley Police road traffic incident reporting form](https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/road-traffic/incident-reporting). In the text, mark the report for the attention of the North East Oxford Neighbourhood Team, attaching any video or photographic evidence of the incident.

To report road, street or pavement problems: Oxfordshire's Fix My Street, which allows anyone to report potholes, faulty streetlights and a host of other street defects and queries, has been updated. The changes have made the process much slicker, with more detail being asked up front to make sure the query goes to the right department or council. That makes it quicker and easier for the teams to resolve. Go to: <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Oxford Bus Company £2 fare extended! Until further notice, take the bus and you'll only pay £2 for an adult single local bus journey with Oxford Bus Company and Thames Travel at any time of day. The only exclusions are The Airline and most school day services: (Thames Travel BB1/BB1A, BB2, BB3, BB4, BB5 and Oxford Bus Company city3B).



Phone call scams: Do you spend time talking to scammers in order to deter them? Beware! Some scammers are now using AI (Artificial Intelligence) and recording to mimic voices and replicate them to make their scams more authentic for future use. To prevent this happening put the phone down and don't engage with them in any way.

Letter box collections: In case you find the 7.00 a.m. collection time from the letter boxes in All Saints' Rd. and Valentia Rd. inconvenient, some HRA members closer to London Rd., might prefer the London Rd letter box between the White Horse and Sandfield R, which also has a 7.00 a.m. collection. If the time of day is the problem the Post Office box in the Co-op and letter boxes outside the former Post Office have collections at **5.15 and 4.15 p.m. respectively.**

Reminder about DIY waste: Planning to visit a household waste and recycling centre soon? Use the online booking system to drop off small amounts of DIY waste for free. Items such as baths, sinks, toilets, cisterns can be dropped off at local household waste recycling centres in Oxfordshire. NB: Free allocations are limited to five standard DIY items and only apply to work you carry out yourself. For details, and to book: <https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/controlledwasteapplication>

Scammers abuse online advertising to trap drivers.: There are ads on Google that impersonate JustPark, PayByPhone, and RingGo – all of which have appeared at the top of search results on mobile phones and above the genuine websites for these companies. We are advised to avoid searching for parking apps online and instead download official apps through Apple or Google Play app stores. These sneaky scams are easy to fall for, as this link will show: [take a look at some examples so you can avoid them.](#)

Cadburys Easter Eggs: Fraudsters impersonating Cadbury are sending WhatsApp messages claiming to give away giant Easter eggs. These scams typically also ask you to share a WhatsApp link with others (to spread the scam further), so you might receive this scam message from a contact who has been lured in by the scam. If you receive this message from friends, let them know it's a scam and delete the message. If it's from an unknown number, you can report the sender on WhatsApp by opening up the chat, tapping on the sender's contact details and selecting 'Block and Report'. Dodgy websites can be reported at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-website>

Evri Deliveries: A phishing scam text impersonates Evri and tells you that due to 'damage to the outer package, 'your address information is lost' and therefore your parcel 'cannot be delivered.' This is the latest delivery attempt scam created by fraudsters to trick you into entering your details into a dodgy site. Scam texts can be reported by forwarding them to **7726** and malicious websites to <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/phishing-scams/report-scam-website>

Keep this information to hand...just in case

A suspicious email? Forward it to: report@phishing.gov.uk

A suspicious text? Forward it to 7726, or SPAM

A call supposedly from your bank? Phone 159 <https://stopscamsuk.org.uk/159>

If you think someone is trying to trick you into handing over money or personal details - stop, hang up and call 159 to speak directly to your bank.

Headington News website: <https://www.headington.org.uk/news/today.htm>

HRA Addresses:

HRA Admin: hracttee@gmail.com

HRA Chair: hrachair@gmail.com

HRA Planning: hra.oxford.planning@gmail.com

HRA Webmaster: hra.website@gmail.com

HRA Website: <https://highfieldresidents.weebly.com>

Disclaimer: The information we give in each edition is, as far as we can tell, correct at the time of circulation but please be aware that it can change. HRA's Update is now being circulated on an occasional basis, according to the information thought to be of relevance to members.