

HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Update: Thursday 18 June 2020

Thursday has come round again, and with it our eleventh Update.

From Spike and Kate: “With conditions easing slightly, shops opening, and people able to visit a bit more freely, as well as (sadly) appreciably more traffic on the roads, Spike and I have decided to plan an end to our daily concerts which we have been giving from our window in Stapleton Rd. Our final concert will be on, **20 June** (this Saturday). We have decided to raise donations for a music- and refugee-related charity as a positive to come out of this situation. We are asking anyone who has been attending, and feels happy to do so, to give a little (maybe a concert ticket's worth?) to our chosen charity, **Music In Detention**, which works with asylum seekers, through music, to help them with the despair and depression they may be experiencing whilst in detention awaiting a decision about their future. We will have a link to a Just Giving page shortly, but the charity (which is small) is only just setting up this arrangement for Gift Aid. I'll let you know when I have more details”. Since it is hugely beneficial to charities if donations are Gift Aided, you may wish to postpone donations till the Just Giving page is known. (*Ed.*)

Gardeners' friends: Frogs and toads, so beneficial to gardeners, are on the decrease due to the changing environment of fewer hedgerows and ponds, and greater use of insecticides. Why not build a pond to encourage them? NB If the sides are too steep, they can get trapped and die.



Chilling out by the waterfall in a local garden pond

And less welcome? Two lovely muntjac deer have recently been sighted in a garden off Bickerton Rd. We are advised to shut garden gates if we want to avoid these uninvited guests!

Concessionary bus pass extension: The extension that allowed holders of elderly and disabled bus passes to travel free at any time, enabling them to do early morning supermarket shopping, has ended. Normal hours now apply for concessionary travel: Mon-Fri 9.00 a.m. to midnight; and any time on Saturday and Sunday.

Finding our way round Oxford: For changes that we are led to expect see:

https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20301/coronavirus_information_and_guidance/1377/reopening_oxford

Headington is opening up: The following gives a flavour of the changes afoot:

Banks: All Headington's banks and building societies are now open, but with restricted hours. It is advisable to check on opening hours.

Headington Fairtrade: Formerly The Windmill, HFT re-opened to customers on Tuesday 16 June. New opening hours are Tues-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (NB closed on Mondays). Customers are asked to leave any refill bottles in a bag with their name clearly marked, and place them in the plastic box to the rear of the shop for collection a little later.

Supermarket shopping in Headington:

Co-op: Back to normal hours: Mon-Sat 7 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Delivery to elderly/vulnerable Mon, Weds/ Fri.

Iceland: Now Mon-Sat 8.a.m.-6.p.m., Sun 10.a.m.–4.p.m. The first hour each day is dedicated to older/vulnerable people, and the last to NHS workers.

Sainsbury's Local: Now 7 a.m.-11 p.m. daily.

Tesco Express: Now 6.a.m.-10.p.m. daily.

Waitrose: Now Mon-Sat 8.a.m.-7 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Entry is controlled and is only through the door from the car park. Restriction on numbers entering means queues may form. The first hour each day is dedicated to older/vulnerable people. NHS staff take priority at any time on production of ID.

Headington Farmers' Market: News is still awaited while the practicalities are being finalised.

Gloucester Green Market: This, is now up and running, ostensibly with the same stall-holders, Wednesday 17th having been the first day.

Churches: Many are opening their doors for individual prayer, with social distancing.

Hairdressers: The longed-for moment? NB Not applicable to Headington salons! For a touch of mirth, double click on this link, wait, click *Open*; don't be put off by not knowing the language.



Hairdressers.mov

Bikes are big business: it's not just sales of new bikes; bike thefts have also been soaring. Over the last few weeks Thames Valley Police have received reports of bicycle thefts in all areas of Oxford city; the thefts are occurring not only in public places, but also from sheds, garages, front and back gardens. They would like to remind residents to lock bicycles when leaving them in a public place, and also when keeping them in a shed or garage. We should also ensure that we have a note of the manufacturer, type and model along with the serial number, and a photograph.

To register your bike and other valuable items: <http://www.immobilise.com>

To report the theft of a bike or any suspicious incident or sighting or information call 101 or report online: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

For further bike crime prevention advice: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/theft-of-a-bicycle/>

We are asked to encourage friends, family and neighbours to receive this type of message by registering at <http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk>

Headington News website: <http://www.headington.org.uk/news/items/coronavirus.html>

HRA Committee: Chair: hrachair@gmail.com
Admin: hracttee@gmail.com

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

Useful contacts for people seeking help outside the HRA area:

Oxford Hub: <https://www.oxfordhub.org/>

The City Council provides a single point of contact for people to ask for the extra help they may need as a result of Covid-19: [oxford.gov.uk/CommunityAssistance](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/CommunityAssistance) or 01865 249 811

Disclaimer: The information we give each week is, as far as we can tell, correct at the time of circulation but be aware that it can change.

NB With the easing of lockdown, Update is likely to be circulated less frequently, until it ceases all together.