

# HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Update: Friday 6 November 2020, our twenty-third Update

**Concerts: Spike and Kate announce:** Our string quartet, OXUS, had planned two live concerts in All Saints' Church, to celebrate live music and community. Sadly, the first of these will now not be able to take place, due to lockdown. However, we very much hope to go ahead with the second concert (afternoon and evening performances), scheduled to take place on Sunday 6th December. More details, including how to book, will follow in due course - save the date!

**In need of lockdown exercise?** We are reliably informed that Farmoor Reservoir is staying open. Why not go for an invigorating walk round the reservoir or along the Couttryside Path? Take binoculars to enjoy an avian aerobatics and aquatic spectacle. Parking is plentiful and currently free. Toilets are open.



Above and right, a feral flock of Snow Geese, native to North America, coming in to land and enjoying life at Farmoor Reservoir, where they have established themselves and can be observed there- if you are very lucky!



**What the second lockdown means: With more restrictions now in place, read on if you want to check on the new rules, what they mean, and the impact on our services.**

See: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

### **Which retailers are staying open? (From the BBC website)**

Any retailer selling "essential" goods and services may stay open to the public as long as they follow coronavirus guidelines and make their premises Covid-secure. Those on the list include:

- Food shops, supermarkets, garden centres, hardware stores, building merchants and off-licences
- Petrol Stations, car repair and MOT services, bicycle shops, and taxi and vehicle hire businesses
- Banks, building societies, post offices, loan providers and money transfer businesses
- Medical services such as dentists, opticians and pharmacies
- Vets and pet shops
- Agricultural supplies shops
- Other High Street businesses staying open include storage facilities, funeral directors, launderettes, dry cleaners and car parks
- Public toilets and motorway service stations.

(PTO)

A quick check on what is open in Headington tallies with the stated policy. Our observations suggest that in addition to the afore-mentioned, estate agents are open, as are most cafés -with take-away service only. As the Headington Fair Trade shop is not classed as essential, it closed as of 5<sup>th</sup> November. Until it is allowed to re-open, it is working on setting up a click and collect service. This will enable customers to order and pay for a select range of items from the website. These can then be collected from the rear of the shop at a pre-arranged time. See: [www.headingtonfairtrade.org.uk](http://www.headingtonfairtrade.org.uk)



## HIGHFIELD LIGHT NIGHT: JOIN US TO LIGHT UP OUR STREETS FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON AND BRING SOME SPARKLE TO OUR COMMUNITY

**Be ready for the countdown and switch on at 6.00pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

*Buy some fairy lights and put them so they are visible from the road, either inside or in your hedge, on your gate, on bushes and trees or indoors in your front window – the more the merrier!*

*Make a lantern or decoration. There are some brilliant ideas here: [www.oxfordlightfest.com/get-involved](http://www.oxfordlightfest.com/get-involved)*

*This will be a doorstep celebration so wrap up warm, have a hot drink and chat to neighbours over the wall. Buy lights locally or online. A string of 200 battery solar lights costs around £15.*

**For help buying/putting up lights** [hracttee@gmail.com](mailto:hracttee@gmail.com); <https://highfieldresidents.weebly.com/>

For information: Claire 07930 366 645; Patrick 07941 210 429

**Message from Oxfordshire Libraries:** In line with government guidance, all libraries will remain closed from Thursday November 5. Loans will be extended to January 2021 and may be extended further. Please be reassured we will give plenty of notice before reintroducing fines, and no fines will be applied as a result of lockdown or individual circumstances if you are unable to return loans. This applies to all existing loans including those taken out before April, which were due back this week. This means that you do NOT need to return or renew your loans. We are investigating the possibility of operating, across a limited number of branches, a Click & Collect service in addition to some limited access to our public network PCs.

**Disposal of face masks:** Helen Bird, plastics expert for the Waste and Resources Action Programme <https://www.wrap.org.uk> said: 'Disposable PPE, such as face masks, should never be placed with your household recycling. It should go straight into your "black bag"/ green bin. Using a reusable mask, which can be popped in with your washing after each use, is safe and better for the planet.' Read more from *Which?*: <https://www.which.co.uk/news/2020/10/can-you-recycle-disposable-face-masks-some-brands-say-so-but-the-reality-isnt-quite-so-rosy/>

**Headington News** website:

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

**HRA Addresses:**

HRA Admin:

[hracttee@gmail.com](mailto:hracttee@gmail.com)

HRA Chair:

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HRA Planning:

[hra.oxford.planning@gmail.com](mailto:hra.oxford.planning@gmail.com)

HRA Webmaster:

[hra.website@gmail.com](mailto:hra.website@gmail.com)

HRA Website:

<https://highfieldresidents.weebly.com>

**Useful contacts for people seeking information or help outside the HRA area:**

Local data on Covid-19

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/coronavirus-covid-19/controlling-local-coronavirus-outbreaks/stopping-spread>

Oxford Hub:

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

The City Council provides a single point of contact for people to ask for help they may need as a result of Covid-19:

[oxford.gov.uk/CommunityAssistance](http://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 As previously mentioned, Update is being circulated less frequently, until it ceases all together.