

HRA Update October 2023, our 67th edition

Save the Date: HRA Upcoming Events

Film Night – Friday 17 November at 7.30 p.m. in the Upper Hall of Church House

‘Hugo’ (U rated): A very gripping and beautiful film made by Martin Scorsese apparently in response to a remark of his wife “Why don’t you make a film our daughter can see?” The central protagonists are two children on a quest. A story of determination, bravery and redemption. It is set largely in a Paris railway station in about 1930. Winner of five Oscars and two BAFTAs. £5 for adults, includes a free drink. Doors open at 7.00 p.m.

HRA Street Carol Singing – Friday 15 December. Do come and join Father Christmas and the rest of us in singing carols round the streets of Highfield. 6pm at the noticeboard in All Saints Road. Refreshments afterwards.

News from All Saints Church: Some readers may not be aware that our vicar, Revd Leon Catallo, has moved on to take up a new post in Jersey. Leon was licensed in July 2021 and his appointment was always intended to be temporary. The congregation wish him and Charlotte, and their children, Elanor and John, all happiness in the next stage of their lives.

All Saints is now in a period of vacancy until the appointment of a new minister. We are fortunate to have several excellent local clergy lined up to celebrate and preach each Sunday, so it will be ‘service’ as usual.

We’d like to remind readers that they are welcome at any of our services, and the following might be of particular interest: -

- Advent Carol Service – 6 p.m. 26 November
- Christmas Carol Service – 6 p.m. 17 December
- Crib and Christingle – 4 p.m. Christmas Eve (Janet Marx and James Larminie, Churchwardens)

Important information for HRA members: Your street reps will shortly be collecting subs, which remain at £3.

Could you be HRA’s new Webmaster? We are looking to recruit a new Webmaster, John Nealon having served longer than the intended term of office. To find out what this involves, please email hracttee@gmail.com

Flu and COVID boosters: eligible groups are encouraged to get Flu and COVID boosters; both are available free for all those aged 65 or over; residents in care homes for older adults; persons aged 6 to 64 in a clinical risk group; frontline health and social care workers; those aged 12 to 64 living in households with immunosuppressed people; and those aged 16 to 64 who are carers.

Recycling Banks: Oxford City Council announced that as of October it would be removing all recycling banks on its land throughout the city. This means that those at the following sites in Headington will go:

- Headington Car Park next to Waitrose (including the independent charity-run banks collecting textiles, books, etc)
- Wood Farm (Atkyns Road)
- Barton (Underhill Circus)

So what to do with textiles? Those in good condition can be taken to charity shops or put on e-bay etc. Those in less good condition should be taken to Redbridge Recycling.

Marston Cycle Path Closure: The repair work has ended more than two weeks ahead of schedule, and the cycle path is open again. Cyclists should take note that the temporary alternative route through the parks is no longer to be used.

Cuckoo Lane Footpath: Since mid-October this path has been closed north of Oxford Brookes in order to remove and rebuild the stone wall that was damaged by tree roots. An alternative route is signed. It is anticipated that the path will re-open on December 16th. Meanwhile, the only access permitted is a) for emergency services, and b) pedestrian access to premises that can only be reached from the closed section of the path.

Bus fares: Single bus fares on Sundays in December in the run-up to Christmas are set to be capped at £1, Oxfordshire having been awarded government funding to improve bus services.

Schools will merge: Headington School on London Rd and Rye St Anthony RC School on Pullens Lane are to merge in 2024 as Headington Rye School. The new Headington Rye Prep will be fully co-educational from September 2024, operating from the current Rye site.

HMRC Scam: This scam promises tax rebates. HMRC would never email you to say you are due a tax refund and would not give you an urgent deadline by which to claim it.

To report suspicious tax scams received by email, text or phone, go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/reporting-fraudulent-emails>

Voi e-scooters: The Department for Transport has set its e-scooter trials to continue until **1st June 2024**. The Oxford trial started in 2021 with just 25 Voi scooters in Headington with restricted hours, and by 2023 there were 750 Voi scooters throughout the city available 24/7. They are easily identified by their coral colour. **Full information from the County Council**

Voi press release on e-scooters in Oxford (3rd March 2023)

Voi scooters are allowed in cycle lanes but banned on pavements without lanes, and can only be used by people over 18 with a provisional or full driving licence. Riders can be banned from driving cars if prosecuted for drink-driving while riding a Voi scooter. **Privately owned e-scooters are currently illegal in public places.**

Recycling Contamination: This refers to anything in our recycling that should not be there, which can sometimes be due to 'wishcycling' i.e. when we chuck without checking, in the hope that it is recyclable. Does it really matter? YES! The presence of too many wrong things can mean that whole lorry-loads of recycling cannot be recycled.. Besides, some types of contamination can even be **dangerous** for the recycling and workers handling it.

These items need to be put in your waste bin:-

Disposable nappies and animal waste

Tissues, wet wipes, cotton buds and cotton wool, sticky tape

Glass cookware, Pyrex and ovenware, drinking glasses and ceramics

COVID-19 test waste including Lateral Flow cartridges/testing devices, PPE and face masks

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:

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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.