

HRA Update Wednesday 30th November our fifty-ninth Update

December is Tree Lights Switch-on:



Meet at 4.30 outside Treatz, by the former Barclays Bank, at the junction of London Rd and Old High St. After the switch-on there'll be carols and light refreshments.

And yet more excitement lies ahead.... with that not-to-be - missed HRA event. You are invited to come and join in the fun at **HRA's Street Carols on Saturday 17th December.** We'll gather at 6.00 by the Community Notice Board on All Saints' Rd. Bring lanterns or torches and wear warm clothes. Santa will be there with his sack to greet the children; refreshments will be served afterwards.

Headington Repair Café: Don't condemn broken tools etc to landfill! As of 10th January the Bring and Fix Café will be back every Tuesday 10.00-12.00 in the (newly-revamped) Bullington Community Centre, Peat Moors, OX3 7HS. The last session in their temporary home at the Gladstone Rd Community Centre OX3 8LL will be held on Tuesday 13th December. Experts offer to fix most small electric and household items. Tea/coffee, biscuits and parking are available; a small donation towards running costs is appreciated. For further information please phone: 07792 49 13 50

To report Illegal parking within Oxfordshire, i.e. in breach of restriction: email parking@oxfordshire.gov.uk , or <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/parking/illegal-parking>

Stand up against Harassment - Bystander Training: The last three of these excellent free online training sessions, run by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, will be on 6th December at 19.00-20.00 hrs, 8th December at 12.00-13.00 hrs, 14th December at 12.00-13.00 hrs. Sign up at: <https://www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Events/Category/events>

Be Cyber Aware during the Christmas Shopping Period: If you have received an email that you are not sure about, forward it to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) at report@phishing.gov.uk

A suspicious text message should be forwarded to 7726 (free of charge).

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, contact your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

A good cause awaits used stamps: Debbie at No 1 Bickerton Road continues to collect used stamps for the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Debbie says "As a community we have raised over £50 and we are sure with Christmas coming we could raise a bit more. Just cut your stamps off the envelope, place them in an old envelope and post them through Debbie's letter box at 1 Bickerton Road".

DVLA warns us: Almost one million UK drivers risk a £1,000 fine, having failed to renew photocard licences which expired in the past year. The figure represents 2% of all drivers, a small proportion of whom may well have stopped driving without notifying the DVLA.

Upcoming construction work on the Oxford Brookes Headington Hill site: After the current enabling works are completed, Willmott Dixon, a founder member of the Considerate Constructors Scheme and Champion of the Construction Logistics Community Safety standard, will start construction work from 9th. January 2023.

Construction of the two new buildings will take place within the boundaries of the University's Headington Hill site; the affected areas will be hoarded off, and although there will be noise during the project, any disruption will be kept to a minimum. Activity will be restricted to 7.30am-5.30pm, Monday to Friday. Although there are no specific plans to work at weekends, this might become necessary on an occasional basis.

The new teaching and purpose-built workshop buildings will help transform STEM and creative industries activity. These new, sustainable spaces will allow students, staff and researchers to, boost local collaboration and meet the needs of business. The new buildings are expected to open in September 2024.

For ongoing information see the Works Updates section of Brookes' Estates Development webpages at www.brookes.ac.uk/estates-development/ The Headington Hill section of these webpages also provides further information on the new building. Once activity begins in the new year, anyone with construction-related enquiries will be able to contact Ben Heath, Construction Manager for Willmott Dixon, on 07837 067266, or for more general enquiries lmadden@brookes.ac.uk (+44) 01865 647576.

HMRC warns self-assessment taxpayers to watch out for scams: The deadline for paper returns was 31st October and online self-assessments are due on 31st January 2023. Since messages or phone calls from HMRC instantly strike one as being very important, it would be all too easy to let ones guard slip and respond to this scam. Stop, think, and use the usual criteria for assessing whether such communications are genuine.

Recycling Reminder: Putting the wrong items in the recycling bin can spoil a whole load of 'good' recycling. Items for recycling must be clean, i.e. washed and rinsed if messy, and loose, i.e. not put in a bag.

Food waste: This is messy and can easily spoil your recycling. Leftovers like pizza or baked beans should go in the food waste caddy.

Tissues or wet towels should go in your compost heap or green bin. Only the tissue boxes or cardboard sleeves can be recycled, but equally, they can go in your compost bin.

Black bags cannot be recycled.

Glass: whereas all glass bottles and jars can be recycled, glasses such as those for wine or beer, and any other glass, cannot be recycled in the kerbside collection.

If you are unsure about what items go in your recycling bin check the Recycling and Waste link https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20004/recycling_and_waste

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
HRA Covid-19 Support Group:	hra-covid19-support@googlegroups.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.