

## HRA Update 20th May, our fifty-fourth Update

### Get ready for THE HRA GARDEN PARTY on Sunday 5th June

10.00: All Saints' Rd will be closed to traffic - do come along and help us set up if you can  
PLEASE BRING PLANTS AND FLOWERS TO TURN OUR STREET INTO A GARDEN!

11.00: Tea and coffee in the street. Come and meet friends and neighbours

12.00 - 1.30: Music from the incredible HORNS OF PLENTY fresh from their huge success on May morning - there will be dancing!

1.30: Bring and share lunch. A chance for us all to eat and celebrate together

2.00: Music from Chris - more lovely music to enjoy!

3.00: The jubilee pudding competition - bring along a pudding to be judged by our special guest judge

From 3.00: Tea and cake in All Saints' Church

5.00: Tug of war to end the day!

6.00: Choral evensong in All Saints' Church - a very special opportunity (more info to follow)

6.00: Family buffet and drinks at The Butchers

During the day... face painting, fancy dress pageant, castle building, racing corgis, water games, cricket.

*More info to follow but do save the date - it's going to be a great day come rain or shine!*

Any questions please do contact Claire ([clairelgarton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:clairelgarton@yahoo.co.uk) or 07930 36 66 45)

**Smart Motorway Safety Advice:** Smart Motorways are already in operation in many places, including parts of the Thames Valley. What used to be the hard shoulder is now a fourth lane and overhead signs above the lanes display important information such as variable speed limits and lane closures. A lane closure is indicated by a red 'X', often some way ahead of the lane closure. NB Driving in a closed lane can result in a fixed penalty of up to £100 and three points. Enforcement is carried out by National Highways and the Police.

**Do you know about Fix My Street?** It enables you to report a problem in your road such as fly tipping, street lighting, graffiti, a dead animal, dog fouling etc. Just enter details of the location, the problem at <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>, and someone will come to fix it.

### Changes to Stagecoach services 700/ 800/ 900 to Oxford Hospitals from 9th May 2022

Services 700, 800 and 900 have been combined into one route serving:

- > Kidlington (anti-clockwise loop)
  - > Oxford Parkway Park & Ride
  - > John Radcliffe Hospital
  - > Oxford Brookes University
  - > Churchill Hospital (serving Roosevelt Drive and Churchill Hospital stop C3).
- NB Stops C4, C5, C6, C7 at the Churchill are no longer served.
- > Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre (serving Windmill Road stop N5).
- NB Stops N1 and N3 are no longer served.
- > Thornhill Park & Ride.

**National Firearms Surrender, Thursday 12 May- Sunday 29 May:** Thames Valley Police is appealing to the public to hand in any unwanted, unlicensed or illegal guns during a national surrender of firearms and ammunition. During this period, those surrendering firearms can remain anonymous, and will not face prosecution for illegal possession of firearms at the point of surrender. Many firearms are held in ignorance of their illegality or are overlooked and forgotten in people's homes. Some firearms are held legally and are no longer required. Others are acquired and distributed by criminal networks to harm, threaten and intimidate their local communities. Guns and ammunition can be surrendered at a front counter at designated police stations across the Thames Valley. <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/news/thames-valley/news/2022/may/09-05-2022/thames-valley-police-taking-part-in-national-firearms-surrender/>

**Repair/Re-use/ Recycle: Here are some options!** Unwanted items, broken appliances CAN go to Redbridge, but how much better not to condemn them to landfill, but to pass them on via Freegle, <https://www.ilovefreegle.org/> which aims to increase re-use and reduce landfill by offering a free Internet-based service where people can give away and ask for things that would otherwise be thrown away.



Meanwhile, the Repair Café with its team of experienced 'fixers' that used to be at Bullingdon Community Centre has re-located to Gladstone Rd.

**AND Orinoco, the scrap store, has re-opened at 113-114 Pound Lane, Templars Square, Cowley OX4 3XH, Mobile [07763 923746](tel:07763923746).**

The surface area is bigger than that of the previous premises at the Bullingdon Community Centre. Expect to find a new focus on

workshops and crafts, 'inspiring creativity and play through re-use'... 'committed to banishing boredom and saving the world'. Orinoco has been awarded Arts Award Centre status, enabling it to offer Arts Award programmes to support children and young people. Another new initiative is the Clothes Repair Café on Weds 12.00-2.00. There is also an electrical waste repair café in conjunction with Share Oxford; items repaired there will be sold on. The new initiatives do not mean that any former items are now excluded: textiles, stationery, garden tools, DIY kit etc. are still welcome.

**Everything has its use, even used postage stamps!** Limited issue stamps have value, but so do run-of-the mill stamps. Debbie Chapel wishes to thank all who have cut used stamps off envelopes (with a reasonable margin), and put them through her letter box in an envelope, enabling her to send off 6 kilos to charity. Debbie would welcome further batches of used stamps (address 1 Bickerton Rd.)

**Water Issues:** Anyone passing along the Wildlife Corridor towards the Warneford Meadow may have noticed that the outflow near Roosevelt Drive has again been releasing strangely coloured water, albeit briefly. As in the past, Brookes acted promptly when contacted. Previously, Headington blue clay had found its way into Boundary Brook from the geo-thermal drilling at the Gipsy Lane Campus. On this latest occasion, it seems the clayey water came from elsewhere. However, Brookes has provided a further update (see [Works Updates webpage](#) ) to which it has alerted people via social media following recent posts.

Any members of the public who have concerns should contact the Environment Agency direct via their 24-hour phone line on 0800 80 70 60.

**Water safety advice:** Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service advises us that drowning is among the leading causes of accidental death in the UK: many of those who find themselves in trouble in open water had no intention of being in the water, among them cyclists, joggers, walkers who have accidentally fallen in. Uneven paths, weather conditions, poor visibility, a lapse in concentration can catch people out. There can be currents even in apparently still water, and hidden dangers may lie under the surface -anything from large rocks to machinery; shopping trolleys to syringes, fish hooks or broken fishing lines, and even on a warm day, open water can remain dangerously cold. Falling or jumping intentionally into water can result in a cold shock response.

Anyone finding themselves in this situation is advised to relax, lean back and float until they can control their breathing, and anyone witnessing someone in trouble in the water should call **999** or **112** to request help. They should not enter the water themselves, but instead throw in something that floats. Further advice, including water safety videos, is available on the water safety section of [Oxfordshire County Council's 365alive website](#).

**Oxfordshire County Council Interactive Covid-19 Dashboard:** See the facts at:

[https://phdashboard.oxfordshire.gov.uk/?utm\\_source=YourOxfordshire&utm\\_campaign=41e26f4a48-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2021\\_02\\_26\\_11\\_02&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_206c6fb447-41e26f4a48-408038548](https://phdashboard.oxfordshire.gov.uk/?utm_source=YourOxfordshire&utm_campaign=41e26f4a48-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_02_26_11_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_206c6fb447-41e26f4a48-408038548)

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

**HRA Addresses:**

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

HRA Covid-19 Support Group: [hra-covid19-support@googlegroups.com](mailto: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.