

HIGHFIELD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Weekly update: Thursday 16thth April 2020

Here is our third update. If you have a Highfield neighbour not on email, it would be a great kindness if you could print a copy of this update and put it through their letterbox.

Today: Clap for Carers. Don't forget the weekly key workers' tribute is at 8pm each Thursday, so let's be on our doorsteps/at our windows this evening to show our appreciation.



Community support is freely available in Headington: The current crisis has made everyday life more challenging. There is much support available locally in Headington, for example: collecting prescriptions/medications, picking up or organising groceries, checking people are ok, advice on services provided by local agencies. If you or someone you know in Headington needs help with day-to-day matters visit www.headingtonaction.org/ where there are details of local support contacts. For more complex needs or for emergency support get in touch with the Oxford City Council contact centre at 01865 249811 or www.oxford.gov.uk/CommunityAssistance

Easter Egg Hunt: The number of eggs on display throughout Highfield over the Easter weekend was wonderfully uplifting for those of us who ventured out on our daily walk, and the highest number found was 141! These were counted by a pair of Latimer Road hunters. Well done, boys. The street that produced the best tally was Lime Walk with 68 eggs and then came Stapleton Road with 39. So, together with the colourful rainbows, NHS banners and other art work, we may be in lockdown, but we're all supporting each other.



(How many are there in the window?)



To keep children occupied and happy:

- The **RSPB** is running a 'create a piece of art inspired by nature' competition for artists 18 or under. The prize is a £100 art gift voucher. Closing date is 28 August. <https://rspb.org.uk/wildart/>
- Win a goody bag full of books and other prizes via the **Foyle Young Poets** competition. Young people aged 11-17 need to submit a poem by 31 July. <https://foyleyoungpoets.org>

Research project: participation invited to assess how many people in the UK community are infected by the virus: <https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-in-the-uk-community?fbclid=IwAR0rWh-fSHq4Wzg6wjilvA7ugEeQotyGHTUuX9mls6Rg-gudwaXjHzsR4w>.

The Oxford Hub: The Oxford Hub is seeking street champions in Highfield to act as a point of contact between a street and the volunteer system offered by the Hub. We already have some street champions in Highfield but there are gaps for Latimer Road, The Brambles, Bickerton Road, Brookside and Barrington Close. If you are interested in acting as a street champion please let us know and we'll put you in contact with the local coordinator for the Oxford Hub.

Black Boy, 91 Old High Street: currently functioning as Community Shop and takeaway (Mon-Sat 10-5) with free delivery on orders over £50. Included in their range are boxes of dairy, veg, fruit, salad. Currently they even have FLOUR! <https://blackboyoxford.co.uk/online-order/> (01865 741137)

The 'mystery tree' planted by the Council last autumn at the top end of Stapleton Road is coming into leaf, and we think it is probably a Swedish Whitebeam. It has lobed edges to the leaves, like an Oak tree, whereas the native (British) Whitebeam has smooth edges. This variant is known to be better at thriving in urban conditions so is popular as a street tree (half of those in Gipsy Lane are Swedish Whitebeams).

We could really do with volunteers from the top end of Stapleton Road to give it an occasional watering during dry spells, such as we are in now.

And for a splash of colour –

Traffic-Free Traffic Calming in Lime Walk. The spring wallflowers and tulips in our planter boxes are now in full flower and are being watered by a team from the garden group whilst on their "once-a-day" walk.



Joke seen on a window in Lime Walk:

Q: Why did the chicken cross the road?

A: Social distancing.

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/>

RA Covid-19 support group:

hra-covid19-support@googlegroups.com