



# W O C A

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**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
FROM WEST OXFORD  
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**AUTUMN/WINTER  
'22**

**ISSUE  
81**



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Thanks to those who supplied content for this edition. If you would like to advertise or would like something included in the next edition, contact us via email: [info@woca.org.uk](mailto:info@woca.org.uk)



## **WORDS FROM WOCA**

The last year has continued to be challenging for WOCA. As we emerged from restrictions in autumn 2021, we were plunged back into them with the emergence of the Omicron variant around Christmas time, reducing our income from room hire substantially in December, January and February. Since February, income has been gradually increasing and we are optimistic that by the end of the year we will be operating at somewhere close to the level we were at pre-pandemic. However, like everyone, we face new financial challenges around gas and electricity costs.

It was great to reboot the West Oxford Fun Day this summer – it really felt like everyone needed to have some fun and it was great to see so many of you there! Thanks again to all the volunteers for their efforts. Local events such as the Fun Day wouldn't be possible without you!

The amazing success of the Oxford City Larder, saving tonnes of food from landfill and offering people affordable groceries, has been another wonderful development. It is currently the second largest Larder in Oxford.

These and other initiatives can only be supported if we are able to cover our running costs with a bit to spare.

We are asking that those of you who receive the Winter Fuel Allowance, and do not rely on it and do not already donate it to other charities that you support, to think of WOCA. While raising money is always hard work, securing funds to cover the day to day costs of running the organisation, e.g. salaries, services, cleaning etc, is the most difficult of all. Your donation will be a valuable contribution to our general funds.

On the next page are the necessary details if you are paying either directly or by cheque, and a declaration to be signed if you are in a position to Gift Aid your donation.

Our warmest wishes to you and your friends and family,

***The WOCA Trustees***

If you wish to donate, please make cheques out to WOCA CIO, or make a direct transfer to our CAF Bank Account:

Account Name: WOCA CIO

Bank: CAF BANK

Sort Code: 40-52-40

Account Number: 00016045

Address: 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

**Thank you for your support.**

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Oxford's hidden gem

Freshly made coffees, cakes, meals and more.

**Opening Hours**

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm

Saturday-Sunday: 10am-4pm



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**WOCARTS ARTS & CRAFTS  
CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The WOCArts Arts and Crafts Christmas Market is returning to West Oxford Community Centre this November!

**Saturday 26 November from 11am-6pm**

**Sunday 27 November from 11am-4pm**

Special Christmas gifts direct from the makers.

Look out for more details nearer the time.



# WEST OXFORD PANTO ASSOCIATION

For various reasons we will be unable to produce a panto this coming January.

This would have been the **10th** panto and several of us had decided that this would be our last - We've been doing this for a long time now. We've had great fun along the way and have learnt *a lot*.

But don't fret - WOPA will go on! There will still be variety and comedy nights and whatever else we can come up with!

If you have an idea for a production, or if you want to stage a panto, please let us know. There is funding available and a wealth of experience for you to draw on. Everyone who takes part, both on and off the stage has a fantastic time and it could be you that keeps it going.

Email [info@wopa.me](mailto:info@wopa.me) with your ideas!



## **WOPA PRESENTS... 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL OR TWO'**



Come and sing-a-long to your favourite carols and maybe one or two panto songs!

**Sunday 4th December from 2pm-3:30pm**  
**Free entry - Just turn up!**  
**Refreshments available**

We hope to see you there!



## **THE LITTLE HEALTH HUB**

The Little Health Hub is a thriving complementary health and talking therapies centre. Our home is the Geoff Franklin rooms at WOCC.

We have an ever-expanding team of therapists and practitioners who are well-qualified, professional and passionate about promoting emotional and physical health.

Therapies on offer include:

- Acupuncture for adults
- Acupuncture (acupuncture with or without needles) for children
- Osteopathy
- Psychotherapy for adults
- Psychotherapy and counselling for children
- Play therapy
- Teen well-being coaching

Many of our practitioners offer low-cost treatments.

For more information, please visit: [www.thelittlehealthhub.com](http://www.thelittlehealthhub.com)



# **OXFORD CITY LARDER**

*By Saman - WOCA and SOFEA Trustee and on behalf of all WOCA Oxford City Larder Ambassadors*

## **#lovefoodhatewaste**

That is our message in West Oxford.

We are now 9 months into Oxford City Larder and we are at 180 members - the second largest larder among 30 SOFEA larders! I believe this has been achieved because you have all taken the *#lovefoodhatewaste* message onboard. We are now reducing tonnes of potential landfill together and the amazing value of the membership reduces our supermarket bills.

We sometimes receive strange spices and sauces but hopefully many of you have found ways of combining them with the larder vegetables to create tasty meals. We love it when you all share pictures of your wonderful food creations on our Facebook page - it really helps when lacking inspiration! Be sure to check it out:

**[facebook.com/oxfordcitylarder](https://facebook.com/oxfordcitylarder)**

We now have over 30 ambassadors (volunteers) and continue to try and improve how we serve the community week after week. Please help us by emailing your suggestions to us:  
[oxfordcitylarder@woca.org.uk](mailto:oxfordcitylarder@woca.org.uk)

We are from the community and for the community, so join us as a member, as an ambassador or ideally both! We love seeing you all on Fridays - it's one of the highlights of our week

**Fridays at West Oxford Community Centre - 4pm-7pm**

**Please note:** 4pm, when we open, is currently very busy. If you are able to pop along a little later it will save you time queuing.

**[oxfordcitylarder@woca.org.uk](mailto:oxfordcitylarder@woca.org.uk)**  
**[Facebook.com/oxfordcitylarder](https://Facebook.com/oxfordcitylarder)**

## Want to become a member of Oxford City Larder?

Scan the QR code or enter the URL link below into your browser:



<https://app.sheepcrm.com/sofea/membership>

Alternatively, come along on a Friday and an ambassador can help you sign up.

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## WEST SIDE STORIES

You don't have to live here for long to understand that West Oxford really is an idyllic, rural, pastoral area, embedded in fields and countryside. People move here to rent, and they stay, they find somewhere to buy. Or they came back - West Side Stories moved back to West Oxford after first living in Henry Road in 1976!

West Oxford is a bit of a well-kept secret, and West Side Stories wonders whether many at the City Council, and other decision makers, actually understand the real nature, and the specialness of West Oxford. Rather, they see it as a handy retail park and as a corridor to funnel traffic through, and as somewhere that needs saving from the floods perhaps at any cost.

All of these things must happen, of course. We cannot risk a repeat, or a worsening, of the horrendous 2007 flooding, for instance. There is a concern though that with respect to many matters, decision-makers are not aware of the real nature of West Oxford and what makes it a lovely place to live; and that therefore they may make decisions that will result in the loss of the special characteristics of West Oxford.

There is something you can do. West Side Stories makes a plea to everyone to make a point of reading the items in '*Have your Say*', a new regular feature in '*WOCA Weekly*', emailed out on Fridays to WOCA Members. It includes information on upcoming local developments and public consultations. Be sure to have your say! Thank you.

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## WEST OXFORD LIGHT FESTIVAL

Oxford's Christmas Light Festival 2022 is a 3-day festival of Arts, Culture and Community.

The festival has been taking place since 2009. It's evolved over the years from a single evening's event in the city centre to a full three-day weekend that includes light and sound installations, a festive market, music, dance and lots of free activities for local communities across the city.

**This year it is coming to West Oxford!**

**Sunday 20th November from 3:30pm onwards, Botley Park**

Come along to **Botley Park** (behind the community centre) on **Sunday 20th November** from **3.30pm** where you can see a live ice-carving demonstration! Once it's dark, the trees will be illuminated and a lantern procession will take place, followed by home-made decorated sleighs pulled by 'reindeer' and 'huskies'. There will be large illuminated sculptures, music, food and plenty more to brighten up a cold autumnal night.

So come along and light up Botley Park with us!

For more information, scan the QR code  
or enter the URL into your browser:  
**[www.WOPA.me/wolf.html](http://www.WOPA.me/wolf.html)**

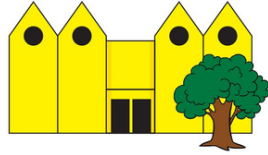


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**Clr Lois Muddiman**

# **WEST OXFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Do you enjoy reading and would like to encourage the love of reading in children?

West Oxford Primary School is looking for volunteer readers and people who might be able to support children with English as an additional language. No previous experience is necessary.

You would need to have or get a DBS check which the school can help with.

Are you interested? Please email: [office@westoxfordschool.co.uk](mailto:office@westoxfordschool.co.uk)

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## **ST FRIDESWIDE'S CHURCH**

### **St Frideswide's Church Choir - New Members Wanted**

We are looking for new members for our lovely small choir as the church celebrates its 150th anniversary.

If you like singing please do come along and join us on **Sunday mornings** - you would be very welcome.

Our Eucharist service is at 10:30am and we have a rehearsal of the hymns and short anthem of the day from 10:00am. The main door is open from 9:55am so just appear and introduce yourself.

If you would like to find out more in advance, please email our churchwarden at: [spencerlonghurst@btinternet.com](mailto:spencerlonghurst@btinternet.com)

We very much hope to see you soon.

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# **ILLUSTRATED TALK: 150 YEARS OF THROUGH THE LOOKING-GLASS AND WHAT ALICE FOUND IN WEST OXFORD**

*By Mark Davies*

**St Frideswide's Church, 20 October 2022 at 6:30pm.**

**Suggested donation on entry to cover costs: £5**

Following the success of the Alice's Day talks at St Frideswide's Church in July, resident local historian and author, Mark Davies, a trustee of the Lewis Carroll Society, will speak about some of the local associations with Alice in Wonderland.

The focus will be the intriguing story of a free-standing door in the church which was made for an East London mission church sponsored by Christ Church. The main panel shows St Frideswide in a boat on the Thames. It was carved, as Mark's new research shows, by two of Alice Liddell's sisters.

The door somehow survived the Blitz, even though the mission church itself (the inspiration for the TV series 'Call the Midwife') did not. Come and hear the story of the Liddell Door; of Oxford's patron saint and her 'Treacle Well'; and some previously unknown pertinent (and impertinent!) limericks by Lewis Carroll as part of St Frideswide's Church's 150th-anniversary celebrations.

There is no charge but donations will be welcome. A range of relevant new and second-hand books will also be available (cash only).



**AFTER SCHOOL TECH CLUB**  
FOR 7-12 YEARS

**4.00pm-5.30pm**

**Tues: WOCA, West Oxford OX2**  
**Weds: NOACC, Summertown OX2**  
**Thurs: Flo's Florence Park OX4**

**GET YOUR FAMILY READY FOR A DIGITAL FUTURE**

**CODE NINJAS**

**NEXT LEVEL**



## **BOTLEY BRIDGES**

### **Who are we and what do we do?**

Botley Bridges is a Community Charity set up when local Children's Centres closed in 2017. Our aim is replace some of the services that were lost.

We support local families from Botley, Cumnor, Dean Court, West Oxford and further afield with children under 5 by providing the following services:

- Stay and Play Sessions
- Baby Groups (face to face and online)
- Monthly Well Baby Clinic with Health Visitors
- Monthly Saturday Family play sessions
- School holiday activities (open to older children too)
- Baby Massage courses
- Family Learning workshops and courses
- Parenting courses
- First Aid courses

Plus lots more including signposting to other services.

For further information, see our website: [www.botleybridges.org](http://www.botleybridges.org)  
Visit our Facebook page: Botley Bridges  
Email: [coordinator@botleybridges.org](mailto:coordinator@botleybridges.org)

Everybody is welcome to attend our sessions.



## **NETWORK RAIL**

For the latest information about Network Rail's plans for expanding the station visit:

**[www.networkrail.co.uk/oxfordphase2](http://www.networkrail.co.uk/oxfordphase2)**

Or contact:

**[oxfordphase2@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:oxfordphase2@networkrail.co.uk)**



# **OXFORD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME**

Earlier this year we submitted the planning application for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme to Oxfordshire County Council and they held a consultation on our proposals in April. We have now received a request for further information from them, which is quite normal for a project of this size. Once we have submitted this additional information the council will run a 30-day consultation on the newly submitted information, before considering it alongside the rest of the application.

Alongside this we expect to make a separate planning application for the removal of some of excavated material by rail. Use of rail will depend on gaining planning permission to access the sidings, their availability and trains at the time of construction, and agreements with the operator of the sidings.

We also expect to submit our Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the land needed to build the scheme later this year.

Subject to obtaining all approvals, including planning permission and our CPO, we currently anticipate construction to begin in 2024.



## **LOVE FOOTBALL? INTERESTED IN PLAYING WOMEN'S FOOTBALL?**

This year, a small group of women in west Oxford have begun meeting regularly to play football in Botley Park.

We are thinking about arranging some more sessions in the autumn and would like to involve more women if we can. The sessions last for about 50-60 minutes and are a combination of training activities and a short, small-sided match (3- or 4-a-side). They are aimed primarily at women in west Oxford, aged 40 and above, although this age threshold is flexible!

If you are interested, please contact Linda by text on **07933 760307**, or by email at: **[linda.arch@gmx.co.uk](mailto:linda.arch@gmx.co.uk)**



## LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

### Worried about fuel bills and keeping warm?

With energy bills rocketing and the climate in crisis, LCWO's top 5 energy-busting tips can help you save money and cut emissions:

- **Keep your hot water hot.** If you have a hot water tank, make sure it is insulated - it's easy and cheap to fit a tank jacket if it isn't. Also, if you can reach them, wrap your hot water pipes, carrying water around your home, in insulation tape.
- **Don't overheat your home.** Keep your thermostat around 18-21 degrees. Turn the heating off overnight and when you're out.
- **Save on lighting.** Replace old light bulbs and get into the habit of turning lights off when you leave the room.
- **Ditch the dryer.** Use a washing line to dry clothes outside when you can. If you have to dry things inside, use a rack, not the radiators; put the rack in a room near an open window with the door to the rest of your space closed.
- **Stop your home leaking heat.** Stick reflective panels or foil behind your radiators to reflect heat back into the room.

LCWO is giving away free radiator foil and draft excluder tape to West Oxford residents. If you'd like some, get in touch with **Mim** at [mim@lcwo.org.uk](mailto:mim@lcwo.org.uk).

Find lots of information about cheap things you can do, plus financial support to help you through the winter and to make your home warmer and cheaper to run on our website at:

[www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk/energy-use-at-home/](http://www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk/energy-use-at-home/)



# LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

If you need help, the organisations below are great:

## Citizens Advice

Has a wealth of information on its website about energy related issues.



[www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/energy/energy-supply/)

Call Adviceline on 0808 278 7909 - Ask for an appointment with a trained energy adviser about any issues that you're having. They can carry out a benefits check to make sure you're getting everything that you're entitled to, check whether there are any grants you can access to improve the energy efficiency of your home and make a referral if specialist debt advice is required.



## LEAP

Free energy and money saving service, with visits for those on a wide range of benefits/low income/health conditions. Benefits include child benefit, meaning **any household with a child under 16 is eligible.**



For more info, visit: [applyforleap.org.uk](http://applyforleap.org.uk)



## Better Housing Better Health

Check what funding and support you could get to make your home more energy efficient and cut your energy bills. Free energy advice and free home visits.



Call free **0800 107 0044** or see [www.bhbh.org.uk](http://www.bhbh.org.uk).



# LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

Below are some free community-made resources which are available online:

## ENERGY SAVING FILMS

Our friends at Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon have made a series of 7 bite-size 2-4 minute films about how to save energy in your home, with examples from real people.

Enter the URL below into your browser to view:

**<https://bit.ly/3Lh4zSV>**



Or scan the QR code.

.....

## HOUSEWARMING GUIDES

Low Carbon Oxford North has produced six freely downloadable guides to help people who want to improve the fabric of their homes to cut energy use and carbon emissions. Prepared by independent experts, the guides walk through the options, considering key questions for each stage of any plans to ensure they will work for you and your home.

Download them here:

**<https://lcn.org.uk/energy/housewarming>**



Or scan the QR code.



A copy of each of the six guides is also available to browse at Tumbling Bay Café, while you have a warm drink – or a glass of LCWO West Oxford apple juice!





# LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

## Low Carbon West Oxford launches report ‘Not-So-Super-Stores? Are the big retailers in our West Oxford community helping or hindering climate action?’

LCWO was proud to launch the findings of its work on a retailer sustainability scorecard in Oxfordshire’s Great Big Green Week, at an event at the Museum of Oxford. Retailers Currys and Waitrose attended the event, as well as the Chair of Oxfordshire County Council and 3 key members of the City Council Cabinet.

Read on for a snapshot of our project, or download a copy of the report here: [www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk/business/](http://www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk/business/).

You can also read a copy at Tumbling Bay Café.



### **Oxford’s “big brand” retailers must improve their efforts to help the city become cleaner and greener**

As Oxford begins its annual Great Big Green Week, a report by award-winning charity Low Carbon West Oxford (LCWO) finds that some big retailers with local stores are not doing enough to help the city meet its carbon reduction targets.

Large retailers provide goods and jobs to local communities but are also responsible for roughly one quarter of the UK’s consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions. They can also have physical impacts on local communities - for example in West Oxford, which faces air pollution, serious congestion and remains at risk of flooding.



## LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

Oxford City Council has committed to reducing the city's emissions to net zero by 2040 and local public and private sector organisations and communities need to play their full part with urgent action.

Yet these giants, who average an annual turnover of £2.5bn and 340 stores each, are, on average, fulfilling less than half the sustainability standards we rated them against.

LCWO reviewed 16 big retailers who all run branches in West Oxford and found that a third of them have no publicly-stated "net zero" targets and about the same number have not made any publicly-announced emissions reductions to date.

Four of the sixteen companies - Carpetright, Schmidt, Home Bargains and Wren Kitchens - fulfilled less than 15% of the sustainability metrics we scored them on. This suggests they are taking no or at best minimal action to address the climate emergency.

Only one local manager, from Halfords, responded to LCWO's request to discuss the review of its "green" policies and practises, and that was to say that he was unable to help due to being part of a larger organisation. None of the other 15 replied.

When the LCWO contacted each retailer at its Head Office, only four responded to requests for information. *"This suggests that the vast majority of retailers have non-existent methods to engage with local residents,"* said Mim Saxl, LCWO Lead Programme Manager...



## LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD

*...“They seem to disempower their local managers and give them limited decision-making space. We found them in the main to have no, or very limited, interest in or awareness of local issues.”*

But there are also positive examples of good practice. As well as setting a target of fully recyclable or reusable own brand packaging by 2023, Currys proactively helps customers to repair broken items and recycle electrical waste.

Aldi has a strong history on carbon reduction measures, and all their stores use renewable energy. Their Botley Road branch installed community-owned solar PV through collaboration with West Oxford Community Renewables (WOCRe) and is one of their 390 stores generating solar power.

As well as being an early adopter of net zero and science-based targets, Screwfix stands out as one of only a few companies to have clear measurement and targets of scope 3 emissions - all of the emissions that are generated by the production and distribution of the products they sell before they get to the store and after they are sold.

With a net zero target, interim science-based targets, and measurement of supply chain emissions all in place, Pets At Home provide comprehensive and transparent reporting on their waste management, which is unusual.



## **LOW CARBON WEST OXFORD**

Mim Saxl, Lead Programme Manager for LCWO says, *“Local residents set up LCWO after the unprecedented summer flooding in our area in 2007 to work with neighbours, organisations and businesses to help reduce our community’s contribution to the climate crisis. There are more than 100 businesses and retailers in the local retail and business parks who we have tried to engage in the past. While a few have responded very positively, most have unfortunately not. We hope that the scorecard will help show retailers that locals – and shoppers – care not just about what they sell but also about what they are doing about their carbon and environmental footprints.”*

Phil Bloomer, local resident and executive director of the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre says, *“We West Oxford residents live on the flood plain and feel the consequences of lack of action by business on climate. The least we ask from companies, which are our neighbours is that they take the risks of climate catastrophe as seriously as we do. They need to play their part and learn quickly from other leading companies that act as good neighbours and responsible business.”*



[www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk](http://www.lowcarbonwestoxford.org.uk)

# MISSION STREET

## **Investing in Botley Road - Mission Street update on repurposing retail units for new workspace**

This summer we learned a good deal from talking to the West Oxford community about our plans for redeveloping the DFS and Carpetright site on Botley Road. We're grateful to everyone who took part in our consultation or came to our public exhibitions on 21 and 23 July. Thank you for sharing your views and feedback.

As I write, we're working hard to take the comments from the consultation through a design review process with our architect and planning team. We want to make the building the best it can be, adapting the design to reduce its impact and considering how we can apply the valued feedback and ideas we received about ways for the development to make a positive contribution to the local community.

The outcome of this process is going to be a question of balance. We want to bring forward a successful and sustainable regeneration of the site that creates a great place to work as well as a great addition to Botley Road. We want the scheme to result in the best use of the land and to deliver benefits ranging from jobs and the economy through to improved cycling and walking connections.

We'll share updates via our website – [www.investinginbotleyroad.co.uk](http://www.investinginbotleyroad.co.uk) – and continue the conversations with the local councilors and the community.

We look forward to submitting a planning application once that work is completed.

Just down the road, we're making good progress with the re-fit of the old Argos building so that too can have a more productive use as high quality workspace. The contractor team at Willmott Dixon expect the job to take approximately 12 months in total meaning we hope to have this smart new workspace ready for occupation by July 2023. We appreciate everyone's patience while that work continues.

I look forward to working with you in the most constructive way possible and to seeing many of you again soon.

***Colin Brown, Development Director  
Mission Street***

# U3A

**WE'RE BACK!** After our long summer break, which seemed to fly by, we are now back to our regular activities. This seems a good time to highlight the benefits of belonging to the u3a, an organisation for people who are retired or still working part-time. There are no educational or other entry qualifications.

**CALLING NEW MEMBERS:** If you have left full-time work and are looking for ways of meeting new people and exploring new opportunities, do think about joining your local u3a. You'll be very welcome!

**ABOUT US:** We are friendly, inclusive, informal and enthusiastic. We believe in life-long learning and we love welcoming new members (and guests).

**ABOUT OUR MEETINGS:** We meet on the second and fourth Monday of the month, in the afternoon, at Dean Court Community Centre, Pinnocks Way, Botley. We receive talks on a wide range of topics – art, history, nature, music etc. Afterwards there is tea and biscuits or, on special occasions, cake.

**ABOUT OUR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs):** We have several groups which those with an interest in particular subjects or activities can join. These are led and run by the group members. Examples are: Churches & Pubs, Cinema, Walking and Gardening.

## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:**

- **24th October:** Commonwealth War Graves Commission by Dick Richards
- **14th November:** The Heritage of Gilbert & Sullivan by Bernard Lockett
- **28th November:** The History of Shaw House by Sarah Somerville

For further information, please see our website:

**[www.westoxfordu3a.org.uk](http://www.westoxfordu3a.org.uk)**

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**Help us bring our Sicilian Extra Virgin  
Olive Oil to the UK!**

**Support our 2022 Harvest on Kickstarter**

We are a social enterprise producing extra virgin olive oil from *Nocellara del Belice* olives grown in Western Sicily. The olives are hand-picked early in the harvest season and milled to a strict standard on the very same day. Early harvest olives yield less oil but produce a more intense flavour and aroma: medium-flavoured, with a fruity taste, a grassy scent and a peppery finish.

Our olives are from ancient trees grown in Sicily by smallholdings farmers in a sustainable way. The trees are still tended to using traditional methods: organically, without the use of pesticides or artificial irrigation systems.

Help us with our Kickstarter campaign and we'll deliver our extra virgin olive oil directly to your door in time for Christmas.

**Pledge by  
5<sup>th</sup> November**  
to receive in time  
for Christmas



WEBSITE [www.ogglio.org](http://www.ogglio.org)

EMAIL [olive.oil@ogglio.org](mailto:olive.oil@ogglio.org)

FACEBOOK [@OgglioKickstarter](https://www.facebook.com/OgglioKickstarter)

TWITTER & INSTAGRAM [@ogglio](https://www.instagram.com/ogglio)

**FREE  
DELIVERY**

# **REBEL FOR LIFE LOVE & RAGE**

**Oxford XR Art Group – Installation**

**The Old Fire Station Oxford OX1 2AQ**

**24 September – 15 October**

**Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm**

Extinction Rebellion was launched in Parliament Square in November 2019 with people from Oxford very much taking part. Returning to Oxford we were inspired immediately to start silk-screening flags and painting banners. Art and creativity are central to XR protests and in Oxford many of us needed an outlet for our fears and concerns over the long-term lack of government action towards reducing the carbon output of this country. We have got together to act and create to purposefully draw attention to our planetary predicament. We warmly invite you to this exhibition at the Old Fire Station. Along with associated talks, workshops and discussions, it is a way to share with the public the rage we feel about the situation that now faces humanity, the love that is the core value of XR, and the creativity and imagination XR has always displayed. We hope to see you there!

The Oxford Arts Group

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## **A BIRD OF PARADISE, LOST**

*By Dianne Martin*

This is a story about schizophrenia, suicide, bereavement and hope. It's a story about my son's mental illness, schizophrenia, the treatment and the premature discharge from the Mental Health Services, which led to his avoidable suicide.

The purpose of the booklet is to be of help to others in similar situations and also to complement the campaigning for better mental health services.

Our MP, Layla Moran, has begun to make amendments to the Mental Health Act, whereby patients discharged from their Mental Health Team can obtain proper safeguarding and help to avoid such a tragedy in the future.

If you would like a copy, please email [improvemh@outlook.com](mailto:improvemh@outlook.com) or visit <https://www.russellturner.org/paradise.asp>

£4.99 + PP all profits go to mental health causes.

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# OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

## **To report needles, sharps, offensive graffiti, graffiti on public buildings, council properties, parks, cemeteries and bus shelters:**

Oxford Direct Services

Call: 01856 249 811

[https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20095/do\\_it\\_online](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20095/do_it_online)

They can also give advice about graffiti on private property.

## **To report dog fouling, noise, fly tipping, etc:**

Community Response Team, Oxford City Council

Call: 01865 252 969 | Email: [saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk) or visit

[www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20058/noise\\_pollution/145/](http://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20058/noise_pollution/145/report_a_noise_problem)

[report\\_a\\_noise\\_problem](http://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20058/noise_pollution/145/report_a_noise_problem)

There's no out-of-hours service.

## **To report a lost, or a stray dog:**

Dog Warden Service, City Council

Call: 01865 249 811

[https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20059/dogs/167/report\\_a\\_stray\\_dog](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20059/dogs/167/report_a_stray_dog)

## **To report Anti-Social Behaviour:**

Police on 101 (999 if it's an emergency)

Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team, Ox City Council

Call: 01865 252 969 | Email: [saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk)

## **If a road or pavement is obstructed, call the police on 101.**

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/parking/illegal-parking>

If you don't know who to call to report things that need fixing, cleaning or clearing like: potholes, noisy manhole covers, out of phase street lights, dog fouling or fly tipping | Visit: [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)

You can also contact your councillors.

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## **Cost of Living Crisis**

Age UK Oxfordshire's cost of living campaign has a range of useful tips and guides on how to help you during this time.

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/about-us/cost-of-living-campaign/>

# YOUR LOCAL DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATIVES

**Susanna Pressel**  
**7 Rawlinson Rd**  
**OX2 6UE**  
**cllrspressel@oxford.gov.uk**  
**01865 554001**

Susanna is also your county councillor.

Susanna holds a Ward Surgery on the third Saturday of each month between 11:00am-12:00pm at West Oxford Community Centre.


**Lois Muddiman**  
**cllr@muddiman@oxford.gov.uk**  
**01865 252495**

Your MP at the time of writing is:

**Layla Moran**  
**House of Commons**  
**Westminster, London,**  
**SW1A 0AA**  
**layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk**  
**020 7219 3905**

As you're probably aware, there are a few (some would say too many) redevelopments taking place in West Oxford, such as: GRAHAM redeveloping the old Power Station, A2Dominion/O.C.C redeveloping Gibbs Crescent, Cherwell College redeveloping the old Railway Club on Mill St, Mission Street redeveloping the old Argos site and DFS/Carpetright site, O.C.C/Nuffield College/OxWED redeveloping Oxpens, Oxford Uni & other stakeholders redeveloping Osney Mead Industrial Estate, the Environment Agency and their Flood Alleviation Scheme, Network Rail redeveloping the station, the upcoming Botley Road closure for the station redevelopment/fixing the water mains under the bridge and the potential implementation of 'traffic filters' (and probably a few more we've forgotten about).

Keep an eye on WOCA Weekly and the WOCC noticeboards for updates, news and upcoming public consultations regarding local redevelopments. If you find information relating to local redevelopments and would like us to spread the news, email us on: **info@woca.org.uk**

WOCA Team 

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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## OCTOBER

<b>30th Oct</b>	Hogacre Harvest Festival	Hogacre Common 1pm-4pm
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## NOVEMBER

<b>10th &amp; 15th Nov</b>	NHS Blood Donations	WOCC 1:15pm/4:15pm
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<b>20th Nov</b>	W.O.L.F Light Festival	Botley Park
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<b>26th Nov</b>	WOArts Arts & Crats Xmas Market	WOCC/Main Hall 11am-6pm
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<b>27th Nov</b>	WOArts Arts & Crafts Xmas Market	WOCC/Main Hall 11am-4pm
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## DECEMBER

<b>4th</b>	A WOPA Christmas Carol Singalong	WOCC/Main Hall 2pm-3:30pm
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Don't forget to book your flu jab, COVID booster and order your Turkey ready for your Christmas dinner!

Have a lovely autumn, see you in 2023.

WOCA

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**Thanks to those who supplied content and advertised with us this edition.**

**Thanks for reading.**

**WEST OXFORD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**[www.woca.org.uk](http://www.woca.org.uk)  
[info@woca.org.uk](mailto:info@woca.org.uk)  
01865 245 761**

**WOCA is registered in England & Wales under charity number 1171599 at  
West Oxford Community Centre, Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0BT**

