



THIS SPACE IS PAID FOR BY OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

## CITY COUNCIL NEWS

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN JULY

- Mon 3 :: Recreation & Amenities 2.15
- Tue 4 :: Housing 2.00
- Wed 5 :: Planning 9.45
- Thu 6 :: H'way & Traffic 9.30
- " :: Estates 2.30
- Tue 11 :: Env Health & Control 2.30
- Wed 19 :: Planning 9.45
- Mon 24 :: Council 3.00
- Wed 26 :: Parliamentary & Selection 10.15

Committee meetings take place either in St Aldate's Chambers or in the Town Hall. Please telephone first (49811) to confirm time and place if you wish to attend.

Council debates can go on for some time, and you can enter or leave the public gallery as you wish.

### PLANNING COMMITTEE DECISIONS

#### Former Motor Taxation Office

(Bewley Road) (A353/78)  
An application by Oxfordshire County Council for change of use to a staff social club with parking for 40 cars was deferred, so that the Planning Dept. can obtain information from the County Council as to the likely frequency of events at the club which could cause a nuisance to the neighbouring properties in Upper Fisher Row.

#### Railway Yard, Beckett Street

(A907/77 and A923/76)  
Two applications for the use of land for car parking by Post Office employees were deferred so that a full report on Post Office parking requirements could be drawn up.

### IMPROVE YOUR HOME

The City Council estimates that there are about 10,000 houses in Oxford which are eligible for renovation

grants. Over 2,000 of these properties still lack basic amenities such as a hot water system, washbasin, bathroom, internal w.c. A grant can usually be obtained towards the cost of providing these basic amenities.

The City has taken an initiative in Urban Renewal which seeks to secure the repair and improvement of between 400 and 500 houses a year throughout the City. The Council itself is giving priority to the inner-city ring and concentrating its resources primarily upon pre-1919 dwellings and those thought to be in the worst condition.

If your house already has the basic amenities listed above, but was built before 1961, you may still get a grant to carry out general improvements. These could include improvements to natural lighting and ventilation, damp-proofing, and providing an adequate kitchen.

The City Council has recently produced a booklet entitled 'A Guide to Improving Your Home'. If you live in Oxford City and are contemplating applying for an improvement grant, it would help if you were first to obtain a copy of this informative booklet. It can be had free of charge from the City Engineer at the Town Hall, the Environmental Health Office in Paradise Square, or in St Aldate's Chambers from either the City Secretary and Solicitor or from the Planning Department.

The booklet gives - in an easily understood way - all aspects of house improvement grants available, and contains a pull-out slip to obtain further advice.

## Info sheet

MARGARET HEBBLETHWAITE, OF 10 Earl Street, has been compiling an information sheet on West Oxford for the Community Association. It is thought that it will be of greatest help to new residents when they move in to the area, but others may find it handy too.

Copies will be distributed with WON to all homes in the area, and further copies will be available on request. As new people are seen to move in to houses, we will deliver them a copy. A revised edition will be issued every year. The cost - about £35 this year - will be met by the Community Association.

## History talks

AS LOCAL HISTORY has always been a popular subject in West Oxford, readers will be pleased to know that a series of talks on this topic is planned to start in September.

As things stand, it is hoped to have talks on the following subjects:

Oxford's Castle; St Thomas' through the ages; Origin of Street and Pub names in West Oxford; Oxford Shops in Victorian Times; Mills on the Thames; Cowley Works before the War.

The series will be introduced by Malcolm Graham, whose illustrated talks at the Centre last year and, more recently, to the Friends of St Frideswide's will be remembered by many.

## Please deliver WON

WON STILL NEEDS DELIVERERS in these streets:

Botley Road (west of Binsey Lane), Duke St., Becket St., Christchurch New Buildings, North St., East Street.

If you can help, please contact Bill Forrest at 101 Ferry Hinksey Road.

## Next edition

THE NEXT WON will be out on August 1st. All articles, letters, and photographs should reach WON c/o the Community Centre, Binsey Lane by the middle of July. If you want something to go in later than this, please ring 46079 to check.

## Church News

ON SUNDAY JULY 2 Bill East, who has for two years been living at 12 Helen Road, will be made deacon in Southwark Cathedral to serve in the parish of St Mary, Newington, London S.E. Both Bill and Betty have done much for St Frideswide and we wish them well in an exciting and challenging part of the Lord's Kingdom.

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ON SUNDAYS JULY 16 & 23 both our churchwardens will be away, and Tom Comber will be flogging the Welsh Canal all the way to Llangollen and back in a narrow boat. Over this period the acting churchwarden will be Niel Willings of 176 Botley Road (tel. 47341). He, assisted by Dinecke, will deal with any enquiries and emergencies and find a priest if that be necessary.

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ON SUNDAY MORNING July 16th Tim Gorrington, chaplain of Wadham College, will preside at the Eucharist and preach. I know of no one to whom I would more confidently entrust the Word of God.

On Sunday the 23rd the Regius Professor of Moral Theology in the University of Oxford, Peter Baelz, will celebrate and preach at St Frideswide, and he is looking forward to doing so. To judge by his recent book, 'Ethics and Belief', it will be an occasion not to be missed.

Tom Comber

## Every penny...

MAY WE REMIND you that the West Oxford News would have ceased publication by now without the financial support of the Community Association, which in the last issue and this one has amounted to about £25. Readers can help relieve this burden by paying for their copies: there is a tin in Gilham's shop (corner of Botley Road / Helen Road). Each copy costs just over 2p to print, and the Community Association subsidy amounts to just 2p per copy.

Take part in WON too - by coming to the editorial meetings at the Centre every Tuesday evening at 8, or by helping with advertising or typing at other times (phone us c/o 46079).



PEACOCKS PARADE AMONG THE VISITORS AT WELLPLACE BIRD FARM