



The Community magazine of Wallingford. Delivered **FREE** to over 4000 homes and businesses



SALES

HOMEBASE
PROPERTY

LETTINGS & MANAGEMENT

★ **SALES OFFICE NOW OPEN** ★

01491 824470 | info@hb-pm.co.uk

HOMEBASE

PROPERTY

★ WHATEVER YOUR PROPERTY NEEDS ★

SALES

LETTINGS & MANAGEMENT

01491 824470 | info@hb-pm.co.uk
16B St Mary's St, Wallingford, OX10 0EW

OAK FRAME SPECIALISTS

COUNTRYSIDE OAK

TRANSFORM YOUR HOME WITH AN OAK FRAME PORCH

"The quality of the work is excellent, and the experience was very smooth, highly professional"

TEL: 01491 659093 - EMAIL: hello@countrysideoak.co.uk
WEBSITE: www.countrysideoak.co.uk

Kitchen & Bathroom Fitting
Tiling • Carpentry
All internal and external building work

John Kennedy
aryhpm2019@gmail.com
07447 946 475

Find us on facebook

All Round Your Home Property Maintenance

TOM BOSHER GARDEN SERVICES

Garden maintenance, Lawn Care
Grass and Hedge cutting
Pruning and Planting, Garden Clearance

07899912442
tomabosher@gmail.com

Bachelor & Bonner

Building Services

25 years experience

New Builds • Extensions • Loft Conversions
Kitchens • Bathrooms • Paving

07837 332838 or 07948 698019

Wallingford

TILES & BATHROOMS

Shop by Video

Contactless Delivery

Click + Collect

Call Now 01491 377272

Email: showroom@wallingfordtilesandbathrooms.co.uk

ORIGINAL STYLE

JET & WASH

Pressure Cleaning

Patios
Driveways
Brickwork
Render
Decking
Roofs
Wall Coatings

Terry: 07393995148
Jetandwash@outlook.com

Welcome to your community magazine

Hi Everyone

We hope you like all the puppies on the front cover. Something cute and lovely to look at to brighten our spirits at this time. As it's Valentine's day this month its "Puppy Love".

If you are thinking of getting a dog, please do consider it very carefully. They may be cute, but they need a lot of looking after, are very time consuming, and expensive with, vet bills things they chew food, treats and training. Please do consider a rescue dog, there are so many out there in need of a loving home.

Wallingford Medical Practice deserves a big THANKYOU for the fantastic job they are doing on delivering the vaccinations.

Jean Cowley has decided to step down from being our Distribution Manager. She did a most fantastic job, and we thank her very much for her time and effort. I have been approached by a few people to take up the reins, I will get back to you very soon, thank you for your interest.

We have lots of fabulous features this month: A Dog's Life, living with dogs during lockdown, how to shop more sustainably with Beezero. What really goes on at Howbery Park, more than we thought!! Wallingford Wellbeing, how to get a bit fitter, attitude, diet and exercise, and a local company, SPC has been announced as a finalist in the global Digital Signage Awards 2021. Plus, much more.

If you are new business starting up in Wallingford, do let us know. We like to support you with our Business Bites section.

Times are still a little difficult and different just now; I know our fabulous Wallingford Community spirit is still alive and kicking out there, so keep checking in on your neighbours and friends.

We are moving towards spring, (snowdrops have been seen already) and with it renewed hope of things getting back to some kind of normality.

As always have fun but stay safe.

Naomi x

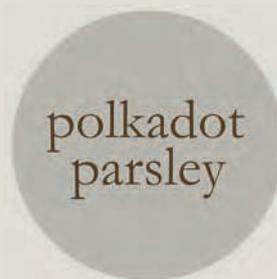
Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of information printed in the magazine, the Editor and Publisher do not accept any responsibility for the consequences of any errors that may occur.

Material published in the Window on Wallingford Magazine is copyright, but normally the Editor will be pleased to grant permission for it to be reproduced, if asked on each occasion. The opinions published in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Editor, Publisher or WoW. Adverts will continue to run unless cancelled.



Can you find what page Walli is in this month's magazine?

**Deadline date to submit adverts
and articles for February issue:
7th February 2021**



Huddled up at home after a brisk walk along the Thames towpath. What could be more comforting than tucking into a piping hot lasagne lovingly prepared in Polkadot Parsley ovenware.

Polkadot Parsley are a small family run company based in Wallingford, established by Jo Beavan, and is dedicated to creating ceramic stoneware of high quality and original design to bring life and inspiration into your kitchen.

Our customers are our best advisors and design guides, helping to shape our ideas and grow our range of cookware, serveware and kitchen accessories. One recently quoted "You eat with your eyes first!"

This is a challenging time for small businesses and we are adapting to virtual shopping rather than travelling around the country meeting our customers at trade shows and shopping events.

The new year brings new products and our new 100% French linen range of tea towels and napkins have been introduced to complement our coated linen tablecloth and exciting range of ceramicware.

**Contact us at jo@polkadotparsley.com
or call Jo on 07798 797068.**

**For our full range look on our website
www.polkadotparsley.com and Instagram, Facebook**

Editor: Naomi Reddyhoff - info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

Marketing, Accounts & Admin:

Jessica Dovey - jess@windowonwallingford.co.uk

Distribution: Naomi Reddyhoff - info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

Advertising sales:

Lesley Longden - lesley@windowonwallingford.co.uk

Feature writer:

Kev Dyer - info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

f Like us on Facebook: [@windowonwallingford](https://www.facebook.com/windowonwallingford)



WINDOW ON WALLINGFORD

To advertise in Window on Wallingford please contact us on
info@windowonwallingford.co.uk

Adverts:

Must be sent in JPEG or PDF formats in their highest quality.

Advert sizes:

95mmx53mm / 110mmx95 mm/ 192mmx50 mm

Articles:

Please provide any photos or images including logos (jpeg files)
you would like in your article.

HOWARD CHADWICK FUNERAL SERVICE

A caring family owned and managed Funeral Service

- Dedicated Private Chapel of Rest •
- Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans •
- Specialists in Memorial Stones and Designs •

33 Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford OX10 8ED
Tel: 01491 825222

www.chadwicksfuneralservice.co.uk

INSPIRATION CREATION TUITION

1 Ayres Yard, Station Road, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0JZ
T: 01491 838005 E: keri@wallingfordflowers.co.uk

www.wallingfordflowers.co.uk

Londis

38 Sinodun Road, Wallingford Tel: 01491 837932

**Fruit & Vegetables • Newspapers • Magazines
 Beers & Wines • Mobile Top-up Vouchers
 Plus the National Lottery**

best value locally

Opening hours:
 Mon-Sat. 6.00am-8.00pm
 Sunday 6.30am-1.00pm



Paddocks Pre-School

Paddocks Pre-school
 Paddock Road
 Wallingford
 OX10 9LT

A friendly preschool environment offering a wide range

- Flexible sessions for 2 - 5 year olds
- After school care available
- Pick-up from St. John's Primary School
- Government funded sessions for 2, 3 & 4 year olds
- Holiday play schemes for 2-8 year olds



For more information or to arrange a visit, please call **01491 825333**
 or email info@paddockspre-school.com
 Or visit our webpage www.paddockspre-school.com

Charity Number: 1001964

Vacuum cleaners - repairs bags & accessories
 Power washers Steam cleaners Carpet cleaners
 Scrubber driers Window cleaning poles Sanders

 **CLEAN MACHINE**

1 & 2 St. Peters Place, Wallingford OX10 0BG
01491 825600 Hire & Sales
www.machineshatclean.com
 e-mail: info@machineshatclean.com



 @cleanmachineltd  Find us on Facebook  /CleanMachineLtd

**LOVE HAIR? LOVE FASHION?
 BE A HAIRDRESSER**

Apprenticeships available now!

 Call Forresters: **01491 837 523**
 Drop in: **25 High Street, Wallingford**

Forresters4hair.com  **Apprenticeships**

KJ MOBILE HAIR

*Katie Drew
 Cutting Technician*

Phone/Text 07730400595
 Email: kjmobilehair86@googlemail.com



Contact us for a free consultation:

01491 651392
sales@spcgroup.co.uk
www.spcgroup.co.uk

 **SPC GROUP**
 Dynamic Digital Signage

Your local Audio Visual integrator offering expertise, training and hands-on support

 @SPCGroupavservices
 SPC Group AV Services
 @spcgroup_avservices

**Product Supply • Installation
 Project Management
 System Design • Technical Support
 Maintenance • Services**

 **Sunshine Painting**
 Decorating & Odd Jobs
LANCE THOMPSON
 FRIENDLY RELIABLE SERVICE
 For All Your Decorating Needs
 Call For A Free Estimate.
07780 221950

lance.sunshine@btopenworld.com www.sunshinedecorating.co.uk

 @sunshinedecorator  @sunshine_pd

FULLY INSURED | CHOLSEY, OXON

Aniko Dioszegi

Painting cleaning and repair of damaged paintings



www.brushstroke-ann.co.uk
 07450008972
 Email: ann.conservation@gmail.com
 Studio: Ayres House Studios
 Ayres Yard, Station Rd,
 Wallingford, OX10 0JZ.



A DOG'S LIFE.



Walkies... While out on a family dog walk, with our motley crew of muddy, windblown scruffs, not to mention the dogs! It suddenly struck me that they really are one of the unsung heroes of the Global pandemic. In the pre-Covid world, you could drive to the shops, walk round to your mate's house, maybe even pop into a pub or restaurant. Now we choose from scrolling social media, zooming virtually in and out of each other's lives or pounding the Peloton in a sweating frenzy of go-nowhere cycling. Alternatively you can head for the fields and a good old stomp, burning leftover Christmas calories and getting a few lungful's of fresh country air to boot. If like me, you look a bit scary at certain times of the day (especially the morning) then a dog can be a valuable sidekick. As well as lending an air of legitimacy to lurking near the woods alone, they can also break the new age taboo of conversing with strangers.

Spare a thought... Our humble family pets can play a vital role in our wellbeing too, from the simple calorie burning, muscle toning effects of walking, to hugely important benefits for our mental health. Have you ever noticed how many homeless people have dogs? When younger and less worldly wise, I was wrongly judgemental, assuming that they were some sort of sympathy inducing prop, to aid begging. Now older, wiser and having taken the time to speak to many people less fortunate than myself, I realise that people's pets are often integral to their support network. They can be the main reason for getting up every day and sometimes their only company in a lonely, often uncaring world. Dogs can provide a focal point of care for entire families as well, with everyone spending at least part of their day either grooming, feeding, walking or just plain old-fashioned cuddling up on the sofa together.



Think twice... Lockdown has dramatically increased the demand for more furry friends, with breeders and rescue centres alike, being inundated with requests for new pets. Personally, I love the thought of dogs finding safe loving homes, especially if they come from a reputable, licensed breeder or one of the over worked, under resourced rescue centres. We have our own little gaggle of appreciative, happy and loving rescue mutts, occasionally complimented by various fosters, taking up temporary residence while waiting for their forever homes. Do your research first though, dogs are blessed with their own individual personalities and a multitude of character traits across the breeds. Remember that those cute little puppies may also grow into huge slobbering beasts one day! When furlough is ended and/or working from home is no longer viable, they will still require love, attention and walkies every day. Bear in mind too, the average time to housetrain and socialise a new pup, can be anything up to two years. In all probability, the little rascals will then insist on living for at least another ten or more after that.



Here's to the future... it's probably safe to say, our furry friends can be, very often our besties, with dogs and humans being destined to cohabit cosily for the foreseeable future. They have been our constant companions for centuries now, providing comfort, security, assistance and unconditional love. Ok, they do sometimes pee or poo on the floor, savage the post or chew our favourite slippers. I'm sure you'll agree though, that for the most part they are generally faithful, adorable and cute?

Copyright © 2020 Kev Dyer All Rights Reserved

Partners in crime... Our canine cohorts have enjoyed a close alliance with humans for centuries now, and are woven into the very fabric of our lives. Their intelligence and capacity to learn a multitude of skills, has enabled us to train them in a variety of roles besides that of a family pet. From guiding and assisting less able people, to various specialist deployments with the police and military. With a sense of smell approximately 10,000 times stronger than a human's, dogs can also detect anything from illegal drugs and contraband, to cancer and even coronavirus. Human intervention in Canine evolution however, has spawned many different breeds, often with a desire to create perfect designer pooches, to fit a particular lifestyle or image. They are bred to fit into handbags and even teacups, to look tough like their owners, or simply because they don't shed unwanted hair in modern germ-free hypoallergenic homes.



FREELANCE.

KEV DYER
Freelance Writing Services

+44 7590 663 403
info@kevdyer.com

• Columns • Features • Press Releases
• Newsletters • Web Content • Blogs

We would like to invite you to
**Come and hear a message
 from the Bible**

Every Sunday 5pm - 5.45pm

Sunday School
 12 noon - 1pm
 Ages 4-14 yrs

Parents & Toddlers
 Every Thursday
 10am - 11.30am

Children's Clubs Every Friday
 Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm
 Seniors 7.45pm - 9.30pm

*'So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the
 Word of God' Romans 10:17 (The Bible)*

Wallingford Christian Assembly
 Gospel Hall • Atwell Close • Wallingford OX10 0LJ
 Tel 01491 641026 www.w-c-a.org.uk



Selling or Renting out Your Property?



- Virtual furniture & accessories styling
- Rental furniture & accessories staging
- Complete design, supply & install service

Our styled and staged properties stand out from the crowd, meaning they sell quicker and more profitably

Call: Fiona on 07779 329352
 Visit: www.fushiadesign.com
 Email: fiona@fushiadesign.com




Little Paws
 Professional Dog Day Care
 & Home Boarding
 Wallingford, Oxfordshire

4* Licensed Facility - Insured
 Canine 1st Aid - DBS Checkd
 Fully Qualified - Experienced Dog Carer

Tel: 07805 268285
infolittlepaws@yahoo.com
www.facebook.com/littlepawswallingford

Fireplace Magic

Stoves & Fireplace Sales

- Solid fuel, gas or electric fires
- Installation
- Chimney sweeping
- Woodburner servicing
- Chimney lining
- HETAS registered

Visit our showroom at
45 Prospect Street
Caversham RG4 8JB
Tel: 0118 9463060

www.fireplacemagic.co.uk

Masterfloors
 Contract and Domestic Flooring Specialists

20 St. Martin's Street
 Wallingford
 Oxon. OX10 0AL
 Tel: 01491 833701
 Free estimates

www.masterfloorswallingford.co.uk



THE WALLINGFORD BOOKSHOP
 10C ST. MARTIN'S STREET
 WALLINGFORD, OXFORDSHIRE OX10 0AL
 Telephone / Fax: 01491 834383
 Email: books@wallingfordbookshop.com

We offer friendly informed assistance and an excellent range of books, audios and fine art stationery.

Many titles not stocked can be obtained within 24 hours.

Winterbrook Garden Services Ltd
 Garden Design, Construction & Maintenance
 Fencing
 Patios
 Full Pruning Service
 Tel: 01491 838189
 Mobile: 0775 36 36 333
winterbrookgs@gmail.com



Winterbrook Garden Nurseries
 High Road, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell,
 OX10 0PS
 Independent plant nursery
 specialising in herbaceous
 perennials
 & garden curios

www.winterbrookgardennurseries.com
 @winterbrookgardennurseries

Wallingford Wellbeing

Make three choices this year; Health, health & health 2021

If there is one thing we have learned in 2020, it's that despite this virus, we need to keep our wellbeing as functional as possible. We need to stay strong, healthy and positive.

Eating well, moving regularly and being amongst people who make us feel good, can keep our fire going.

Our attitude is most significant. If we have learned anything, it is the knowledge that life has been stripped back, and we should realise the importance of the simplicity of it. We cannot go on holiday so easily, we have to comply with rules that we are not used to and we need to distance ourselves and be vigilant. How did we look at life before? I know I tried my best not to take things for granted, but if Covid has taught us anything, then we should be grateful and not complacent.



Our diet is important for immunity and keeping strong, make sure you have plenty of protein and minerals, but avoid processed food as much as possible.

Eating lots of vegetables ranging in colours, will ensure you're getting enough vitamins. Vary your diet, by eating a wide variety of different foods, and you'll be enjoying your food and health gain. Good lean protein, less processed carbs that cause obesity and diabetes, cut right down on sugar, prepare and cook your food as much as possible.



Already given up on your New Year's resolution to get fitter for 2021?



**Lost fitness due to lockdown?
Want to do something about it?**



Why not join RunWallingford a fun, friendly, supportive mixed ability running group who offer training sessions, Buddy runs and social running meet ups.

When Covid restrictions allow the group meet at Wallingford School at 7pm on Wednesday's for training sessions and Sunday mornings at 9am for a social run of 5 or 10k, all the sessions are led by qualified Run Leaders.

There is group support through social media and 1-2-1 buddy run meet ups when restrictions are in place.

Have a look at our Facebook page or message Coach Ian Robinson on 07970 807108 for more information.

RunWallingford are part of RunTogether and under England Athletics.

Liquid intake is important in today's world, as our bodies are mostly made up of water. Coffee is nice, but it doesn't hydrate and water is the best method, if you sweat, it is imperative to replenish with more liquids. If you struggle to drink plain water, try sparkling varieties or add some lemon juice, cucumber or even a dash of squash. Hydration is necessary and if not it can lead to mood swings. Water is also necessary to keep your bowels moving. By the time evening comes, your urine should be relatively clear, if it is more yellow in colour, try to increase your fluid intake. Cut down on caffeine, fizzy drinks and alcohol. Too much of any of these isn't good, especially if you use sugar in hot drinks or drink sugar laden soft drinks. Alcohol will also cause dehydration but can also lead to dependence issues.



Exercise; this is something we can all do more of, and it can be tailored to suit our own lives. Try to walk more, do a workout, or increase the steps in your daily routine. Weight training is also a great thing for our bodies. We aren't designed to sit, for most of our human existence we were hunters and gatherers, so sitting at a desk without moving regularly, is detrimental to our physical and mental health. With our modern lifestyle, we all need to be more imaginative as to how we can incorporate more movement into our daily routine. This is especially important as we get into our latter years.



We don't want to be a chunk or a drunk, lets aim to be a hunk! 2021 is here, so let's move in the right direction.

Ros Barresi; complementary therapist and writer
www.rosbarresi.co.uk



SEE PAGE 19!!!



Not All Heroes Wear Capes



As we once again enter national lockdown, Hedges Law wishes to reiterate our enormous gratitude to all those working in the NHS. Until the end of lockdown, we'll be delighted to offer a 50% discount to any NHS employee for the preparation of a Will, with video appointments available any time 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
Email hello@hedgeslaw.co.uk or call 01491 839839



A warm and welcoming pre-school established for over 45 years. Come and join our friendly group and have fun as you learn



We have spaces available for January enrolments - we offer flexible hours and accept 2 and 3 year funding (15 and 30 hours), and provide a holiday club throughout the year.

Please contact us to arrange a one to one viewing or visit our website for a virtual tour.

Rainbow Pre-School, Millington Road, Wallingford OX10 8FE
01491 826209



info@rainbowpreschool.org.uk
www.rainbowpreschool.org.uk





Electrical
Plumbing
Fire and Security

Call: 01491 835875

Email - reception@groupga.co.uk
Unit H Moses Winter Way, Wallingford, OX10 9FE




THE POSITIVE OUTCOMES GROUP




CRANFORD HOUSE

Toddler Group

Tuesdays

Join us during term time 10:00am-11:30am FREE

Cranford House Nursery School
47 Reading Rd, Cholsey,
Wallingford OX10 9HW

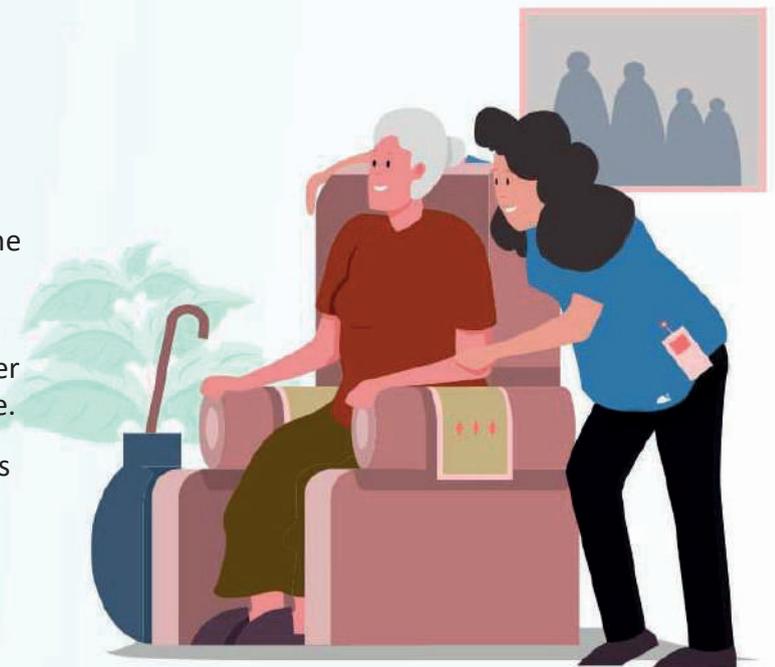
Q1 Care

Bridging the Gap

Q1 Care enables you and your loved ones to live independently and securely at home, knowing someone will be there for you.

We provide support for people living with a range of conditions and following hospital discharge. We can offer short and long-term care, and either daily or live-in care.

All our carers are well trained, DBS checked and always go the extra mile for their clients. We provide full PPE and all our carers and clients are fully supported by a skilled office team.



Home Care across West Berkshire & South Oxfordshire

Email us: Info@q1care.co.uk

Call us: 0118 932 3865

Visit us: www.q1care.co.uk





WOW! What a busy month with the Sleigh 1155 has had, it's been so well received this year and definitely helped lift the community spirit and given so much Christmas cheer. We normally start the planning of the Sleigh in November and we were considering if we should be going out in the current climate!? It was most defiantly the right decision in my opinion.

Santa and his sleigh flew through Wallingford and surrounding villages over a record fifteen evenings in December. With the help of the team the elves from a range of local children's organisations and PTAs have raised over £8.5k. All of this goes directly to the organisations involved. The whole team offer a huge thank you for your donations, which will be of enormous benefit.

One of my highlights was having Wallingford Retained Fire crew following us in their fire appliance/ engine with blue flashing lights; they are looking for new recruits if you fancy joining the Fire Service.

Our team of volunteers also litter picked at Henley and Abingdon Fireworks for Wallingford based Xplosive Events, in return 1155 received a donation that will be distributed back to the community, a huge thank you to my core team for your support.

The main aim of Santa and his Sleigh is to give children the opportunity to see Santa in his Sleigh, and it was truly heart warming for everyone involved seeing the happy faces, knowing this will be a memory for years to come. So much good cheer from all ages of residents and road users is truly wonderful. Thanks go to all you patient drivers who gave us a cheery toot and a wave, and who drove by slowly to keep safe the kids who do so much good work walking with us and collecting.

One thing I have learnt this year due to the lack of events is how much they support our volunteers get in a social and mental capacity, these events bring friendship, challenges, purpose and above all fun. Let's hope we can have some fun next year!?

Wallingford 1155 is a charity in Wallingford working for the benefit of the local community. We organise the annual fireworks, Santa's Sleigh and the Litter Pick. In order to put on these events we rely on the generosity of your time and donations. If you want to be involved and help oil the gears of our community please do get in touch.

Remember, let's keep socially close but physically distanced.

Mark Brett.



Wallingford Radio

While some of you may be aware of Wallingford Radio from their appearances supporting the Car Rally, Bunkfest and the Fireworks, the local community radio station has big plans for 2021.

Having secured an FM licence last March, they are now looking to get on your radios in time for Bunkfest this year. Station Founder Ian Fell said "I've been looking forward to having a local FM station for over 10 years now, and in the last 3 or 4 we've made massive steps towards making that a reality".

The radio can currently be heard on the internet at wallingfordradio.co.uk, and they are starting a fundraising campaign to finance the FM transmission equipment. Looking to raise in the region of £6000, the campaign will kick off with a 24-hour show in mid February – restrictions allowing.

Based on the Hithercroft Industrial estate, the station has been supporting and covering local events for the last few years. The Silent Disco they run at Bunkfest has traditionally been a source of funds, however with events in 2020 largely cancelled, this couldn't have come at a worse time for the self-funded station.

Ian explained "We're starting to firm up some advertising and sponsorship, which has been a massive help. We've also expanded our live show schedule, and now have at least one live show every day. We'd appreciate everyone's support when the fundraising campaign begins, and if you want to join us as a volunteer, host a show, or give us a local news story we'd love to hear from you at studio@wallingfordradio.co.uk".

Wallingford Radio can be heard in **KP stationers** during opening hours, and is aiming to **launch on FM** in August 2021. If you would like to make a donation, please do so via Wallingfordradio.co.uk, or keep an eye and ear out for their 'Road to FM' fundraising campaign in February.



Shaun Guard

TV & WIFI SERVICES

- **Aerials** - supplied, repaired & poor reception solved
- **Satellite** - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installation also foreign TV
- **Internet** - blackspots cured, data cables to your TVs / computer
- **TVs** - hung on your wall or set up & tuned

 OXFORD AERIALS

Call Wallingford
01491 833282
www.oxfordaerials.co.uk



WATER'S EDGE

PLUMBING & HEATING

Plumbing and Heating Services

Based in Crowmarsh, fully qualified and insured. Contact our friendly office team for a quick response to your requirements or to arrange your **FREE QUOTE**

01491 821 626

www.watersedgeuk.co.uk | contactus@watersedgeuk.co.uk

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • General Plumbing | • Shower Installations |
| • Leak Repair | • Powerflushing |
| • Central Heating | • Gas Safety Services |
| • Boiler Repairs | • Underfloor Heating |
| • Boiler Installations | • Estate Agent Services |



Proud members of

Checkatrade.com

Where reputation matters





Domestic Maintenance

- Window Cleaning
- Conservatory Roof Cleaning
- Gutter Clean / Repair
- Patio / Driveway Clean
- Waste Removal
- Gardening
- Hedge Cutting
- Painting and Decorating
- Fencing
- and much more...

For a FREE quotation please call Sam on
07926 415 176

Also follow SB Domestic Maintenance on Facebook for an up to date portfolio of completed works and monthly special offers

ADP FLOORING

Adrian Pitson

Carpet, Vinyl, Wood, LVT Flooring expertly fitted

• Over 30 years experience • Supply & fit • Professional & reliable

adpflooring@hotmail.com • 07528 210 562

Heated High Pressure Carpet Cleaner

Fully Insured

Upholstery Cleaning

End Of Tenancy Cleans



Tel: 07754023347

Email: TheCarpetCLady@gmail.com

Facebook: [The Carpet Cleaning Lady](#)

Insta: [The Carpet Cleaning Lady](#)



Paint it Green

Painter and Decorator

Create, Update and Renovate.

Paint it Green is a personal paint and decorating service where your dreams become reality in a perfect and friendly manner:

m. 07989062635 t. 01491902411
 e. paintitgreenpd@gmail.com
www.paintitgreen.co.uk

Call now for your free friendly quote

FITZCOUNT LAND LTD

Land Agents & Consultants

Have you considered your land options for your Property / Garden / Field or Business ? We can help

adam@fitzcountland.co.uk 07493170307

Retirement of a friend, business owner, mother and generally nice lady!

It comes as a proud moment, that I announce the retirement of Caroline (aka mum).

From February 2021, Caroline will be retiring to enjoy life without work. Over the last few years she has taken a back seat, while allowing Homebase to continue operating in the same way as our customers would expect, as the reigns are handed to me, Caroline's son, Chris. Homebase Property (Management) was started back in 1989, from the basement of our family home in Goring on Thames. Back in 1989, Lettings agencies were few and far between, and Caroline was working at the local car dealership in Streatley. A family friend who owned a property in North Stoke and worked overseas, asked Caroline to keep an eye on his house whilst he was away. This started off by just checking on the house and watering the garden, but developed into the owner not coming home, so he asked Caroline to find him a tenant.

Back then RightMove didn't exist, so pictures were taken and sent to the local newspapers with an advert for rent. A tenant was found, and word got around that she had arranged letting for North Stoke and people started to ask Caroline to organise tenancies for their properties. Homebase continued to grow and Caroline was looking after properties in Goring, Streatley, Pangbourne, Wallingford, Bracknell, Reading and Newbury, needless to say back then Lettings wasn't localised. In the mid 90's, after a family tragedy, Caroline sold Homebase Management to John Buck, a retired RAF man (a true gent who we sadly lost towards the end of 2020). He continued to grow the business, and took over the office in Wallingford, which back then was located on St Martins Street.

A few years later, Caroline set up another business called Swift inventories, but it wasn't the same as Homebase. Fortunately, as Homebase was growing, there became an opportunity to get back in to the company along with John, and co-owner Louise. As lettings started to become more popular in Wallingford and surrounding areas, the three of them decided to move to the office we are still located in on St Marys Street. John decided to retire, so Caroline and Louise kept things moving forwards until Louise retired in 2013. In 2013 I took the opportunity to leave my engineering background and join mum, as the business became once again, a family business. We have continued to move forward and build on the reputation, that everyone involved has established over the years, and have recently ventured in to Sales.

I would like to thank Caroline (Mum), not only for raising me and my brother, sometimes dragging us up in our teenage years, but also for the opportunity to be involved in the business, and give me such a good platform to work from. I hope I can be as successful as she has been, and continue to offer the same friendly knowledgeable approach to existing, and new clients for many years to come.

Caroline will still be helping out every now and again, but I wanted to ask if any of our clients would like to pass on messages to me and I will happily pass them on.



(Louise and Caroline)



(John, Louise, Caroline)



2021 Finalist

SPC Group, audiovisual systems integrator based in South Oxfordshire, has been announced as a finalist in the global Digital Signage Awards 2021. These annual awards recognise creative and technical innovations in the fields of digital signage, DOOH advertising and digital visual experiences.

SPC's recognition is for their latest project at London Luton Airport. Working with their long-term software partner, Interdirect, to produce a bespoke wayfinding and digital directory solution to help travellers navigate the airport and locate shops, restaurants and services available.

Housed in three highly visible, touch-activated kiosks which are designed to be fully accessible and inclusive, allowing the customer to identify the quickest route to their destination, showing accessibility options available at each step of their journey with height adjustable content for wheelchair users.



SPC GROUP

Boarding passes can be scanned for personalised flight details - boarding time, gate number with the route to the gate and average transit time. If there is plenty of time before the flight, the system will suggest places to eat or shop with their latest offers and shows the simplest route to get there.

Remote video assistance, two-way video calling and subtitled live translations to overcome the language barrier are in the development plan, plus mobile hand off capability to allow customers to take the directions with them on their mobile device without needing to download an app.

Jon Swain of SPC Group, commented: The team working on this project has been superb and I am proud to be a finalist, alongside some very large, prestigious companies, in these Global Awards.

SPC Group is an av integrator providing digital solutions into public spaces, commercial and educational environments. Skilled technical team with many years' experience providing bespoke, best in class solutions for in the UK and Ireland. www.spcgroup.co.uk tel: 01491 651392



Wallingford Castle Archers

Wallingford Castle Archers was founded in 2015 and recently celebrated its 5th year this year by winning Archery GB's Club of the Year. The club is made up of around 150 archers, with ages ranging from 6 to 70+ and all levels of competency. The club welcomes a friendly collaborative atmosphere, with opportunities for members to get involved in the club's running and as volunteers supporting its events. In normal circumstances the club and its members will take part in and or host local and national competitions throughout the year.



Archery is an all-year sport, with half the year indoors and half outdoors. We are based at Wallingford Sports Park in the summer and have a new full time indoor venue at the Donkey Sanctuary in Brightwell, allowing for shooting almost every day of the year. We have been fortunate enough to be able to return to most of our activities when not in lockdown, archery being a naturally distanced sport.



We are always interested to hear from new people who would like to try the sport. The club runs regular beginners' courses for adults, which provides the ideal introduction to the sport. Juniors (under 18's) are invited to do a 4-week trial within coached club sessions. Club equipment is available to use free of charge for all beginners. Further details on course dates and costs can be found on WCA's website.

www.wallingfordcastle.co.uk

www.facebook.com/wallingfordcastlearchers/

Wallingford Art Club

Join Wallingford & District Art Club on **February 16th** for a live online demonstration by professional artist Mark Warner.

Mark will be painting a seascape in acrylics and explaining how he goes from sketches and photographs taken on location to developing a final painting. So, if you want some artistic inspiration and feel like you are being transported to a sunny beach contact admin@wallingfordartclub.org.uk

For further information on what your friendly local art club has to offer, please do visit the website www.wallingfordartclub.org.uk where you can see a gallery of paintings by many of our members as well as the programme for the coming year.



Corn Exchange gets funding from the BFI's Culture Recovery Fund December 21st 2020

The Corn Exchange in Wallingford has been awarded a total sum of £40,700, (payable in three stages) from the government's Culture Recovery Fund, setup to ensure that arts venues are able to continue operation despite the current Covid pandemic. The award was made by the British Film Institute on behalf of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and reflects the association between the BFI and independent cinemas through the Film Audience Network. The Corn Exchange is a member of the FilmHub South East network and thus has access to a wide portfolio of British, independent and foreign films.

The Corn Exchange has been showing a broad range of films since 1980 when the dilapidated building was purchased and turned it into a theatre. Corn Exchange Wallingford Ltd operates the cinema and has responsibility for the upkeep of the building and equipment. And it has done that for the last 40 years without any external revenue funding.

So the shutdown in March was very difficult. Despite being entirely volunteer run, the Corn Exchange relies on income from the cinema to maintain the building and equipment. So it had to dig deep into the reserves to pay all the operating costs and ensure that the venue could open again at the end of September, fully Covid safety compliant.

The audience did return in September and again in December after the second lockdown. But the restriction on seat numbers because of social distancing regulations meant that only a third of the available seats could be sold. And many audience members, particularly those who are shielding, are staying away. So whilst there has been an inflow of revenue again it is not enough to balance the books.

So the BFI grant is a lifeline for us and will ensure that the new season in 2021 starts on a positive note with sufficient funds to continue operating safely and comfortably.

Fiona Smith, Chair of the Corn Exchange said "We're extremely grateful to the BFI and the DCMS for this grant. It reflects the importance to the people of Wallingford for this, their only cinema. We look forward to welcoming them back in ever increasing numbers over the next few months."

For further information contact:

John Evans, Marketing Director,
Corn Exchange Wallingford, tel 07785367512,
email marketingdirector@cornexchange.org.uk

Claire Gascoyne PR, tel 07771735117,
email claire@cairegascoyne.com



A substantial default by one of the Town's most significant tenants risks the council's financial reserves and requires a provision for bad debt to be forecast. Other areas of expenditure have been cut back temporarily to reduce the impact but it will result in an increase of £1.81 per month for an average family home. This is a decision not taken lightly or unanimously, but deemed by a majority to be necessary in light of the financial challenges we face as a Town. The Town Council continues to face a number of challenges in the coming year, which include the Town Hall essential repairs, along with the regeneration of The Bullcroft Park. In the current circumstances, prudent financial management requires the Town Council to make allowance for a possible bad debt caused by the impact of Covid on our significant tenant.

The Town Council is committed to preserving the quality of life and community facilities in the town and is obliged to maintain the Scheduled Monuments and listed buildings in its ownership, such as the Town Hall and Wallingford Museum, to a high standard. It is responsible for nearly all of the public buildings and open spaces within the town, as well as several commercial properties which are let for the benefit of the community. This is an unusually (perhaps uniquely) heavy responsibility for a local council, which is not permitted to use any of its funds for restoration work. Over the years, the upkeep of this portfolio has drained the finances of the council and it is clear to the current council that a re-think is needed in this area. A proposal was made to Full Council on 11 January by members of the Heritage Assets Working Group to set up a charity, The Wallingford Preservation Trust, to raise the considerable sums of money needed to restore our heritage and to ensure its maintenance in good condition well into the future. Council backed the move and the trust will now be set up, once legal advice has been taken.

At the same Full Council, George Newcombe was co-opted to replace Stuart Davies. At the request of electors, there is an election currently scheduled for May to fill another vacancy on the Town Council. This is to replace recently resigned former councillor and mayor Lee Upcraft, whose commitment and service to the town of Wallingford for several years was exemplary and greatly valued by council and town alike. The role, as with all other Councillors, is voluntary and pays no expenses, but if you would like to get involved, we would encourage anybody who works or lives within three miles of Wallingford to share your talent and time with the Council. If you are interested in the vacancy please email admin@wallingfordtowncouncil.gov.uk, visit www.wallingfordtowncouncil.gov.uk/town-council/vacancies, or speak to any of the councillors who will point you in the right direction.

A note of clarification for those who remain confused about recent events. According to our current Standing Orders, the council must have a chairman, who is selected by the councillors in March to take office in May. Since the late twelfth century, Wallingford has always had a mayor to lead the council, so our selected Chairman also becomes Mayor, with its attendant civic duties. He or she chooses his or her deputy,



but that deputy, not being chosen by all the councillors, does not automatically fill the vacancy should the mayor step down. In this recent instance, the councillors agreed at their Extraordinary meeting on 14 December to elect a chairman (Rob MacGregor) and vice chairman (Mike Kidley) but to leave the mayoralty vacant until the election for 2021 takes place in the normal way.

The council is exploring the introduction of 20mph speed limits in certain areas around the time, at the request of local residents. Oxfordshire County Council is responsible for such requests and has recently agreed to support a motion by County Councillor Pete Sudbury to introduce 20mph limits in residential areas in the county and to encourage the Government to amend 2013 legislation so as to adopt the limit as legally enforceable. Pilots in north Wallingford and Long Wittenham are going ahead. He is also encouraging Wantage MP David Johnston to support bids to reopen the Wallingford to Cholsey railway line for commuter travel Monday to Friday. District Councillor George Levy is also supporting the reopening of the railway.

The council is supporting SODC's work in relation to the Thames. They have appointed Cllr Jo Robb as a 'Thames Champion' and are seeking more stringent regulation and enforcement on pollution, cleaner water, accurate real-time and publicly available information on sewage discharges and enhanced public information on water quality.

Wallingford has frequent issues with sewerage and mains water which are not always dealt with as well as we might wish. Whilst we cannot help to solve any problems you might have, it would be very helpful if we could be notified of sewer or mains problems, so that we can build up a picture of the problems. If you have such a problem, please email the details to cllr.katharine.keats.rohan@wallingfordtowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Government's home insulation for homeowners is continuing to March 2022. Visit <https://cosyhomesoxfordshire.org/green-homes-grant/>. If you are not a homeowner, pass it on to your landlord. Stay warm, save money, help the environment. Watch out also for a solar power initiative spearheaded by Sustainable Wallingford.

Special thanks to our Medical Practice, now rolling out the Covid-19 vaccines on top of everything else. Here's hoping for better times for all in 2021.





Wallingford Tyres & Exhausts



**FRIENDLY, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
AT COMPETITIVE RATES**

PHONE: **(01491) 824145** FOR A QUOTE
or call in at: AYRES YARD, STATION ROAD,
WALLINGFORD, OXON.
OR BY APPOINTMENT OUTSIDE WORKING HOURS
Mon.-Fri. 8.30 a.m.-5.30 p.m. Sat. 8.30 a.m.-1.00 p.m.
(Just past the Esso Garage on the way to Didcot)

customer care without compromise



CHEQUERS GARAGE

Fullers Road, Aston Tirrold,
Oxfordshire OX11 9EN

info@chequers-garagedidcot.co.uk
www.chequers-garagedidcot.co.uk

At Chequers Garage we look after our customers as well as their cars. That's why we have courtesy cars, offer local collection and delivery, explain your invoice in plain English and every car is washed before it is returned - not only will your car run well, it will look great too!

- MOT**
- SERVICE**
- TYRES**
- AIR CON**



the Good Garage Scheme

Call today on 01235 850347

Looking for Mail Dealer car servicing, repairs & MOT
Right on your doorstep?



We'll even collect your car and drop it back off for you!!

Fully trained technicians with over 30 years' experience in the industry.

We offer:

- Car servicing to exact standards as Main Dealers – We work to identical schedules
- Car repairs & high-level vehicle diagnostics
- DVSA-approved MOT centre Class IV testing
- Work on All manufacturer marques, passenger cars & light goods vehicles
- We cover, Wallingford, Didcot & Oxfordshire

We don't talk mechanical jargon, we offer a friendly transparent service. You can even watch as your MOT is being done. We don't overcharge.

Call now or to book an appointment for your MOT or service

01491 – 837166

visit: www.brightwell-garage.co.uk

Email: info@brightwell-garage.co.uk

Brightwell Garage, The Street, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Wallingford, OX10 0RX

AIRPAL TAXIS

AIR CONDITIONED 24 HOUR SERVICE
AIRPORTS-LONDON-ANYWHERE
BUSINESS or PLEASURE

07862 721698

01491 260784

richpal@talktalk.net

JIM PINK (WALLINGFORD) LTD

The Friendly Family Firm
Serving the Motorist since 1960

NEW & USED CAR SALES • SERVICING ALL MAKES
MOT CENTRE • AIR CONDITIONING SPECIALISTS
TYRES • BATTERIES • EXHAUSTS
CAR SALES • SERVICE CENTRE

Wood Street Garage, Wood Street, Wallingford

01491 836017

01491 836022

07342 630396

www.jimpink.co.uk

info@jimpink.co.uk



G.R. Galliford

Mini Digger
with Operator
Block Paving
Driveways
Patios
Fencing
Drop Kerbs
Groundwork

Graham
07762 650 809
01491 824583



g.galliford@btinternet.com



Crosby Engineering

Latest Diagnostic Software
All Makes & Models Serviced & Repaired
Laser 4 Wheel Alignment
MOT

Air Conditioning servicing
Free Local collection
Audi BMW Mercedes VW Specialist
Family Run Business In Wallingford Since 1980

01491 834544

Unit F The Croft
Whiteley Road
Hithercroft Ind Est
Wallingford
Ox109rg



The Wallingford WI (Womens Institute) has seen a year of many challenges. We usually meet in the Ridgeway Centre on the 1st Wednesday of the month, but Covid-19 has put a stop to that! For NOW.

Our members, however, have risen to the challenges this has brought and we continue to be as active as ever. Since March we have been meeting on-line. Most of our members have increased their technical skills and we have kept in touch with everyone.

Wallingford WI offers members the opportunity to get involved, meet new people and try new skills.

We have a lively programme of presentations at our meetings throughout the year and have a number of groups that meet outside the monthly meetings. We enjoy an active book club, walking group and craft group and when government restrictions allow plan to organise visits to local places of interest.



We also have access to the wide range of on-line courses offered by the National Federation Womens Institute and the Oxfordshire Federation WI.

We would like to invite new members to discover the WI . Take the opportunity to meet new people, especially if you are new to the area, and look forward to meeting in person when we are allowed.

Our website provides an insight into our activities and gives information about contacting us. www.wallingfordwi.co.uk

Wallingford Local Producers Market

A very big 'Thank You' to all the loyal customers who have been coming along to **Wallingford Local Producers Market (WLPM)** on Saturday mornings in our new venue, **Centre 70, OX10 0DT**.

You're helping to keep local independent enterprises in business! As I write this, we are in another lockdown, so we are only able to offer essential food. We hope to be able to welcome our craft stalls back as soon as that is permitted. Keep an eye on our Facebook page @ [wallingfordlocalproducersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/wallingfordlocalproducersmarket) for the latest news and which stalls will be attending a given market.

In Centre 70 we are able to have food stalls outside with plenty of space to enable social distancing. However, if you do not wish to attend in person, many of our stallholders are still offering deliveries; please email admin@wlpm.org.uk for contact details.

Wallingford Museum News

Wallingford Museum's dedicated team of researchers are working with architectural model maker, Ben Taggart, to create a 1:300 scale model (1.5m x1.6m) of Wallingford's royal castle as it may have been in the mid-14th century.

This amazing collaboration draws on 15 years of research, unravelling the castle's history, using archaeology, geophysical surveys, LiDAR, maps, and the transcription, translation and analysis of many documentary records. Some of these records, from the 12th-19th centuries, also contain surveys with measurements, which greatly help the study.

The culmination of all this research will be this magnificent model of the castle at the height of its power, to share with everyone, once the museum reopens in 2021.

In 2021 the museum will celebrate its 40th anniversary - created and entirely run by volunteers since 1981.

We look forward to re-opening sometime in 2021.

Meanwhile the museum bookshop remains closed under the present coronavirus pandemic.

Experienced and qualified husband and wife team. Ofsted registered and fully insured.

High quality childcare in our loving family home.



Phone: 01491832055

Email: hallshappyhomecm@outlook.com

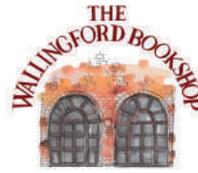
Wallingford Methodist Church

St Leonard's Square
www.wallingfordmethodistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Worship 10.30 am and 6.30 pm.
Junior Church and Creche at 10.30 am.
EVERYONE WELCOME

Thursdays 10.30 - 12.00
Call in for coffee and a chat

For details of other activities, including mid-week prayer & house groups, please contact our minister, Rev. Jocelyn Bennett
Telephone: 01235 813242



THE WALLINGFORD BOOKSHOP
10C ST. MARTIN'S STREET
WALLINGFORD, OXFORDSHIRE OX10 0AL
Telephone / Fax: 01491 834383
Email: books@wallingfordbookshop.com

We offer friendly informed assistance and an excellent range of books, audios and fine art stationery.

Many titles not stocked can be obtained within 24 hours.

Dr. A. Ratti BDS (Hons) Kings College London

ST MARY'S DENTAL PRACTICE

New patients welcome

Affordable quality private dental service from a caring team

New maintenance plan available from Jan 2018
Call for more information

01491 825 252
www.stmarysdental.co.uk



Howbery Park
Offices to let



- ✓ Inspiring location
- ✓ Range of office sizes
- ✓ Short & long-term lets
- ✓ Fully serviced
- ✓ Beautifully landscaped grounds
- ✓ Solar power
- ✓ Meeting rooms
- ✓ Café

For current office availability, visit our website or contact Estates Manager Donna Bowles on 01491 822495.

www.howberypark.com

Tom Cottrell Landscapes
EST 1974 Family Run Business

Telephone: 01491 836974

All tree aspects - Dave Cottrell

- Felling • Reducing • Reshaping
- Thinning, Removal • Pollarding
- Shrub & Tree Pruning • Dead Wood
- Removal Hedge Management
- Stump Grinding

Garden & Landscaping Services

- Turfing • Hedge & Grass Cutting
- Planting • Fencing • Patios
- General Garden Maintenance
- Garden Renovation & Construction
- Woodchip Mulch
- Seasoned Logs & Kindling Wood

www.tomcottrelllandscapes.com

Email: tomcottrelllandscapes@gmail.com

Orchard Cottage, High Road, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Nr Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0PS



**St Mary's & St Leonard's
Wallingford**
open to God, open to all



SCAN ME

Online Services
10am Streamed Live
from St Mary's

www.marylemore.co.uk

YouTube
Wallingford Team
Ministry

Team Rector: The Revd David Rice Tel: 01491 202188

Quakers

Are you interested in exploring a different spiritual path?
As Quakers we help each other as we live our lives,
guided by experience rather than doctrine.

Come and find out

Sundays 10.30 am

Quaker Meeting House, 13 Castle Street, Wallingford

Website: midthamesquakers.org.uk

WEPS

WALLINGFORD ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES

**OPEN TO THE
TRADE & PUBLIC**

01491 827825

SALES@WEPS.ORG.UK

UNIT 1 MOSES WINTER WAY

Illumin-Nation Ltd

5 St Peters Place, St Peters Street
Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0BG

allan.priddle@btconnect.com

www.illumin-nationltd.co.uk

01491 833505

Become a Volunteer at the River & Rowing Museum and join the colourful world of Elmer and Friends

Henley's iconic River & Rowing Museum has reopened with a colourful, celebratory, feel-good exhibition, Elmer and Friends: The Colourful World of David McKee.

The exhibition encourages visitors to explore David McKee's world through multi-sensory elements including colour, texture, sound and vision, using magnifying glasses, and an interactive mirrored walkway to see things differently. Already, in its first few days of opening, the exhibition is delighting younger visitors whilst taking older audiences on a trip down memory lane as they rediscover old favourites like Mr Benn.

But in order for the Museum to maintain its high level of customer service and care, the Museum needs YOU! Whatever your background, skills or expertise, the River & Rowing Museum invites you to join their friendly team of volunteers. Your help is vital to the work that the team at the Museum do, serving both residents and visitors to Henley, and supporting the Museum's future sustainability.

It's the perfect time to join the team at the Museum as it expands its invaluable team of volunteers. The Museum's volunteers enrich the work of the River & Rowing Museum by contributing their skills and time to a diverse programme of exhibitions, events, and a nationally important permanent collection.

It's all about YOU!

The joy of volunteering is that it's all about you. Volunteering opportunities are enriching across all ages, from students (over 18) to retirees, offering engaging experiences with chances to build transferable skills and gain valuable experience within the culture and heritage sector.

Sometimes these flexible experiences can be about providing a warm and friendly welcome to visitors, whilst other opportunities are also available behind the scenes, all under the supportive supervision of the team. Previous experience is not necessary. The Museum will support you as much as you support the Museum, with training, benefits, discounts and social events.

Opportunities are varied, from Grounds and Museum Maintenance to Gallery Assistant Volunteer Roles. The beauty of volunteering is that you can simply volunteer the hours that work for you. It's much more than simply getting outside your own four walls and learning different skills. There are proven mental health benefits keeping you mentally stimulated and more connected to the community around you.

Find out more or contact Juliet Harris, Museum Volunteer Coordinator on volunteering@rrm.co.uk or 01491 415 600.

For additional press information, please contact:

Charlotte Kewell, Head of Marketing:
charlotte.kewell@rrm.co.uk
Kerri Cicirello, Marketing Assistant:
kerri.cicirello@rrm.co.uk



No Place Like Home

Keep it in the family... After three years of dreaming and planning, Wallingford couple Rachael and Rob Hall launched their new venture, Happy Home Childminding. Rachael has over 16 years' experience in child care, and has also worked as a nanny. She has professional qualifications, in early years childcare and understanding childhood illness. After being made redundant, partner Rob volunteered at a local pre-school, and then went on to take a position working at the same nursery as Rachael. After five years and with his training completed, Rob had acquired NVQ certificates in early years education, and understanding autism. Together they are trained in paediatric first aid, safe guarding children, and food hygiene. Both Rachael and Rob, are also individually registered with regulatory body, Ofsted.

Home is where the heart is... Having moved back to Wallingford after an absence of six years, their family had grown with the addition of twin daughters. Rob however, felt he was missing out on valuable time with his children by working shifts at previous jobs. With their abundance of aforementioned qualifications and a shared passion for working with early years children, the couple decided to set up a childminding business from home. It seemed the obvious way to streamline their chosen careers with a healthy work-life balance. They set about preparing their home to meet strict Ofsted regulations, when they were blessed with the arrival of a bouncing baby boy. Factor in a global pandemic, and the couple have cleared several hurdles before finally opening the doors on their business on 4th January this year.

Home from home... The philosophy of Happy Home Childminding, is to provide a loving family atmosphere for the children in their care. Using a unique combination of professional skills and personal parenting experience, they hope to provide flexible childcare, in a caring home environment. The long-term ambition of the couple, is for their family business to become an integral part of the wider family we all know as the Wallingford community.

If you would like any more details or information regarding happy Home childminding, Rachael and Rob are only too willing to answer your queries.

They can be contacted on
01491 832055 or hallshappyhomecm@outlook.com

Kev Dyer

The varied nature of Howbery Business Park

Tucked discretely away on the edge of Crowmarsh Gifford, the beautifully landscaped grounds of Howbery Business Park are home to more than 50 businesses. They are based in a various styles of buildings dotted across the nature-rich park, from the historic Manor House to the purpose-built flagship buildings that are visible from the main gate.

The size and nature of the businesses on the park are as varied as the buildings. From start-ups to larger enterprises, the companies include a children's nursery, a wine merchant, an accountancy, a marketing agency, a cleaning company, a yoga studio, a human resources consultancy and a charity supporting people with learning disabilities and autism. Despite their diversity, many of the businesses find opportunities to collaborate with each other and there is a real sense of community on the park, supported by cross-company activities such as honey bee workshops and a volleyball competition.

At the heart of the grounds is the old Manor House, which houses a range of offices, characterful meeting rooms, and the newly refurbished Manor café. From the café's spacious outdoor patio, there's a lovely view of meadows and the Manor House lawn with Howbery's beehives. In usual times, the café welcomes people from outside the park, but to help reduce the spread of Covid-19, the takeaway service is currently limited to people working on site. The team is looking forward to welcoming visitors again when the time is right.



Other buildings house modern conference facilities, small and medium-sized offices, and massive labs filled with water for HR Wallingford to test out the impact of waves on coastal models. HR Wallingford's offices are in one of the two flagship buildings, while the other is home to the Environment Agency.

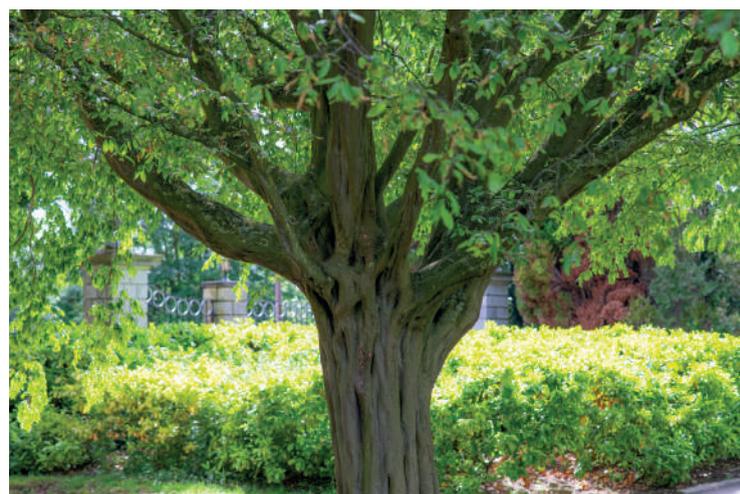
During the pandemic, the priority has been to keep the site running safely and securely for those who need to work on the park. Of course, there are fewer people on site than usual, but it's heartening that almost all the offices are still let. Some businesses have even taken on extra space, and we have welcomed some new companies to our site over the last few months.



"We are very lucky to have such a beautiful location, and we are committed to cherishing it and creating sustainable working spaces with modern facilities," says Donna Bowles, Estates Manager. "For example, around a quarter of the park's usual annual energy comes from our solar park – which you pass if walking to the site from Crowmarsh Gifford recreation ground. We have also installed electric vehicle charging points.

"To help structure our commitment to supporting nature, we have signed up to a biodiversity scheme. Last year we championed bumblebees and this year we are focusing on birds. We also have a programme in place to preserve and manage our many existing trees and to plant new ones. Howbery is home to many unique trees from all around the world – some of them planted in the Victorian era when the Manor House was a family home.

"Once the pandemic abates, we will open our gates again to the local community – during working hours – and I would encourage everyone to explore our park and make the most of its grounds.



"Meanwhile, please do also have a look at our website where you can find a video about our trees, information about our park and a list of the companies based here."

www.howberypark.com

Photos:

- The Manor House with the Café terrace
- A bee workshop, pre-pandemic
- The solar park
- The hornbeam – one of our special trees

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF LIFE?

Based on the belief that having Friends and Purpose in your life is the most important thing not only to live a good life but more critically when going through tough times*, Camerados promotes the concept of **'LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER'**. This may sound simple but is in fact transformative.

A Camerado (inspired by Walt Whitman's Song Of The Open Road poem) is someone that lies on the spectrum **BETWEEN A STRANGER AND A FRIEND**, someone who will look out for you in your moment of need, whether you know them or not and be alongside you during your 'tough time'. What is critical to understand about being a Camerado is that by embracing the **6 PRINCIPLES**** and looking out for others, not only do you make others feel better but you do too. We believe this increases a feeling of connection and resilience. Ultimately this means as a street, town, county, country people have the internal resources to get through crises better and pull on traditional services less.

HOW DO WE KNOW THIS?

This thinking is born out of the Camerados Movement Founder, Maff Potts, working for over 20 years with people living in crisis; homeless folk, addicts, offenders, domestic abuse victims and those with mental health issues, those living on the fringes of society who have little and have **FACED THE TOUGHEST OF TIMES**.

On repeatedly seeing the same people over and over again, no matter what intervention they were provided by the state, Maff began asking those living through dire times to help him. This was transformational. It gave those individuals human connection and something to do ie **FRIENDS AND PURPOSE, TAKING THEIR MINDS AWAY FROM THEIR OWN CONCERNS AND WORRIES**, even if only for a short period. People started to be recognised for what they could contribute and how they could help others. They were no longer seen as a problem. That was enough.

Maff joined with Jenny Fox to test this theory through launching the **CAMERADOS MOVEMENT** in 2015

They came up with the idea of **PUBLIC LIVING ROOMS**, places where people can go on good days and bad, that felt comfortable and homely where there's **NO SELLING, NO AGENDA, NO EXPECTATION AND NO FIXING, JUST A PLACE TO 'BE' AND LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER**. In these spaces whether they're in schools, libraries, cafes, community centres, empty shops or on the streets and in market places the environment encourages people to live by the **6 CORE CAMERADOS PRINCIPLES**.

These spaces, set up by people living in the community, have seen that people feel more connected and have the ability to cope with their lives better.

So the Association of Camerados (AOC), the small team of 4 who grow the movement by inspiring, resourcing and connecting people across the UK primarily but also now globally, took all the learning and know-how gained over 5 years and designed a **PUBLIC LIVING ROOM** in a box; a starter kit for those wanting to open a Camerados inspired space in their community.

During 2019-2020 AOC sent out approximately 100 boxes and began to see the idea take off, including 5 hospital Trusts embracing the idea of having a place where visitors and patients mixed with doctors and nurses to support each other, human to human during tough times. Then COVID-19 came along and lock down meant meeting in person in Camerados physical **PUBLIC LIVING ROOMS** became impossible.

That's when the Camerados Movement model came into its own with a Camerado from Berlin, Nadja Taranczewski from Conscious U, offered to bring Camerados mutual-aid and **'NO FIXING JUST ALONGSIDE MODEL'** into the virtual world by co-developing **SPOONROOMS**, a safe and structured space to come on-line where you meet strangers for a short period to share how you feel but also listen to others before having great conversations about whatever comes to mind. Just like in the original Public Living Rooms great conversations are had with people reporting from across the world that **THEY FEEL MORE CONNECTED AND BETTER ABLE TO COPE WITH THE TOUGH TIMES WE'RE ALL CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING**.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**** TOUGH TIME ****

There is no definition for this. For some it could be simply a bad day for others it's more severe, potentially a life condition but within a Public Living Room there's no competition about who's having the worst tough time, **IT'S ABOUT PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER AS HUMANS TO LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER BUT WITH NO EXPECTATIONS OF FIXING THE PROBLEM**.

***** 6 PRINCIPLES ****

1. It's OK to fail
2. We don't try to fix other people just be alongside
3. We mix with people who don't look like us
4. Remember to have fun
5. If we disagree level with each other respectfully
6. If someone is struggling try asking them to help you (this is the confounding one!)

Find out more at

WWW.CAMERADOS.ORG

Or please get in touch with us via **office@camerados.org** or on all social media, facebook, twitter or instagram.

Register for our
SATURDAY#SPOONROOM
WEDNESDAY#SPOONROOM
by going to our website and clicking through to 'Latest'.

WWW.CAMERADOS.ORG

CAMERADOS



CAMERADOS BELIEVE THE ANSWER TO OUR PROBLEMS IS EACH OTHER.

A.G.CURTAIN DESIGN LTD

www.agcurtaindesign.com



BEAUTIFUL
CURTAINS, BLINDS
&
SOFT FURNISHINGS
01491 834238



Made Exclusively For Your Home
Bespoke Curtains & Soft Furnishings

- 15 years serving clients in South Oxfordshire
- 1,000's of design lead fabrics to choose from
- Expert making and fitting service
- Curtains & Soft Furnishings
- Poles – tracks – finials & tie backs
- Cushions - lamp shades & headboards
- Made to order promptly & efficiently
- Free measure & quotation service

Blinds & Shutters
Modern & Contemporary

- Wooden & Venetian
- Roller & Vertical
- Perfect fit & Faux Wood
- Made to fit your windows
- Inside & Outside recess fit
- Manual & Remote controls
- For all rooms in your home or business

VISIT OUR RETAIL STORE AT 3 ST, PETERS PLACE, WALLINGFORD, OXON. OX10 0BG

Have you a Lasting Power of Attorney for Finance and Health?



HELP-PEN-HAND

Learn about LPAs for just £35.
Then you can do it yourself. If
daunted, I'll help you. Val Wolsey

01491 836820 | HelpPenHand@gmail.com



CARE DRY CLEANERS

10B St. Martins Street, Wallingford OX10 0AL
Tel: 01491 837318

- Suede Leather • Alterations • Press Services • Wedding Dresses •
- Settee Covers • Rugs • Laundry • Duvs • Curtains

SHOE
REPAIRS

ENGRAVING

KEY
CUTTING



FEET FIRST

21 St. Mary's Street, Wallingford
Contact Gary on: 01491 825224



WATCHSTRAPS
BATTERIES

STITCHING
REPAIRS

TRAVEL GOODS
LUGGAGE

WALLINGFORD TUNELESS CHOIR

singing like no one is listening

NOW ONLINE!

We don't read music, we don't hold auditions.
We don't care if we don't sound
absolutely perfect.
We just **LOVE** singing.

For more information and to find
out how to join in the fun...

Contact Naomi
Phone: 07980 - 291995
Email: wallingford@tunelesschoir.com
f Wallingford Tuneless Choir

Great fun, Great people, Great singing



SDC House Maintenance

Gardening • Painting & Decorating • Window Cleaning
Plus much more, just ask!

Simon Cowley Handyman

t. 07907 859410 e. sdchousemaintenance@yahoo.com
Covering all areas from Reading to Oxford

SCREENWYSE

- Website Design
- Website Rejuvenation
- SEO Strategy and Support

For a **free consultation**
contact David Gregory to
discuss how we can improve
your online performance.

www.screenwyse.com
info@screenwyse.com
Tel: 07472 114417

Wallingford Photographic Club

Wallingford Photographic Club continues to meet virtually, but we are offering a full programme of speakers, competitions, and other events to help you improve your photography and meet like-minded people.

The club meets via Zoom every Thursday. Evenings start at 7.30pm and run until around 9.30pm, with Zoom access from 7.15pm.

Our programme for February has yet to be fully confirmed but will include a "You Are The Judge" evening on the 11th: a chance for members to critique each other's photos and learn more about how photography competitions are judged. On the 25th, Sue Morris will give a talk called "Waiting for the Herds (Tanzania)".

Please visit www.wallingfordphoto.club to learn more about the club and find out how to get involved.

The Corn Exchange & Sinodun Players

We're pleased to tell you that the Planning Inspector has refused the planning appeal by A.C. Lester for building eight residential units on the land behind Lloyds Bank and abutting the Corn Exchange. The Inspector recognised the importance of the venue to the local community for its social and economic benefits. This gives us an assurance for the immediate future.

This legal battle has cost us £83,000 in professional fees. As the Corn Exchange has been forced to remain closed for much of 2020, fighting this Appeal couldn't have come at a worse time. This money had to come from our reserves which we were building up in order to improve the stage. Needless to say those reserves have now disappeared and we will need to look at more fund raising in the future. We are extremely grateful to South Oxfordshire District Council for their support. They worked closely with us during the whole appeal process, recognising the importance of the Corn Exchange both culturally and economically to Wallingford and the surrounding district. We are confident that they will continue to support us in the future to ensure that our venue remains fully protected.

The Appeal decision has confirmed that the site has several constraints and any development will have to have regard to the impact on the burgage plot, the listed buildings and the proximity to the noise-producing Corn Exchange. We sincerely hope that any future proposal will only be put forward following detailed discussions with the Corn Exchange so that the interests of the Corn Exchange are fully protected.

If we were ever in any doubt, this situation has shown us how much the Corn Exchange is valued by everyone who uses it. We would especially like to thank our members, volunteers and supporters for their active support throughout this process: the emails and letters objecting to the development have been vital and heart-warming. We can't wait to welcome you all back to our wonderful theatre.

Henley and District Stamp Club

New Year, New Lockdown so New Hobby, why not start or return to Stamp or Postcard collecting? Shops shut, no stamp fairs? There is a lot of help available from websites e.g. the Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS) which has links to local (Henley) and National Society's websites. And eBay is a great source of material. Henley members would be pleased to help you too.

Come to one of our Zoom meetings and see some displays and talk to other enthusiasts, all of whom have collect different topics and they would be happy to help beginners and returnees and it is Fun, Interesting and Entertaining! We are now holding meetings by Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month and although still learning the technical intricacies people are enjoying them.

If you would like to know more please phone 01491 681739 or see our website: www.henleyphilatelic.org.uk



WAGS (Wallingford Allotments and Gardens Society)

A reminder that the Wallingford Allotments and Gardens Society will be re-opening their Garden Store every Saturday Feb-July and Sept-Oct between 11am and noon. Please note that this is Lockdown permitting, please visit www.facebook.com/WallingfordAGS to see the regular updates on our opening times and stock levels. In order to observe safe distance our WAGS store team will greet and serve customers from the car park rather than inside the store.

We have good levels of stock on composts, fertilisers and nutrients, weed and bug control, plants supports, plant canes, labels, grass seed, netting, membrane, fleece, ornamental bark, horticultural grit, grow bags and more. In mid-February we will have onion sets, shallots and seed potatoes available. Join or renew membership at £4 for the year per household. We also have the Dobies Seed and Plant catalogue available with a members discount code on seed orders.

The May Plant Sale will take place early May and all being well the WAGS Autumn Show will take place on Saturday September 11th 2pm-4pm open to the public free of charge, exhibitors are asked to complete staging between 8am-11am. The Store, Plant Sale and Show all take place at Centre 70 near the Kincroft.

For all enquiries please meet us on Saturday at the WAGS Store (Feb-July and Sept-Oct) or call Sandra on Tel 01491 836527.

On behalf of the WAGS Committee please stay well and safe and we look forward to seeing you very soon.

Happy Growing!

Jayne Page on behalf of the WAGS Committee.

Avanti ITALIAN RESTAURANT



Open for takeaway
and delivery service

Tuesday to Saturday

Order online

avantiitalian.com
or call 01491835500



EST. 1995

Mr & Mrs Park's

FAMILY BUTCHERS

PURCHASE LOCALLY

Come out and find the finest local produce. All supplied from within 30 miles. You'll feel good about being part of something bigger.

FRESHNESS & FLAVOUR

Nothing's sweeter than a fresh Lamb Chop or bunch of Asparagus from on the doorstep.

YOUR COMMUNITY

You're part of the local economy, so you understand how important it is to keep this county vibrant and moving forward. We're doing that, too!

5 The Pound, Cholsey, OX10 9NS • 01491 651300 • www.mrandmrsparks.co.uk

GREAT FOOD, FINE LOCAL ALES AND A WARM WELCOME AWAIT AT THE ROYAL STANDARD PUB, ALONG WITH SKY AND BT SPORTS SO YOU CAN FOLLOW ALL THE LATEST SPORTS ACTION

**PROBABLY THE BEST
SUNDAY ROAST IN TOWN!**

CALL 01491 599105
ROYALSTANDARDWALLINGFORD.CO.UK



**ROYAL
STANDARD**

WALLINGFORD'S ROYAL: ANYTHING BUT STANDARD!



Frequently asked questions...

Get to know your local zero waste shop

"How does it work?"

1. Bring along your containers, if you don't have any we have paper bags you can use.
2. Weigh your container
3. Fill up with goodies
4. We will weigh your items again and take off the weight of the empty container
5. Pay for your shopping

"Will my shopping be more expensive?"

We keep our prices as competitive with other local stores as possible. Some items will work out much cheaper, some about the same and others a little more. However, because you are buying the amount you would like, it usually ends up more cost effective.

"Will you have a delivery service?"

We're working with Locally UK so you can order online through them for non-food items. Keep an eye out for updates on ordering food online.

If you have any questions drop in and ask or email us at info@beezero.co.uk

SARAH WELLS

CORDON BLEU COOKING
A First Class Service For All Occasions



Delicious home-cooked everyday dishes ready for the freezer, or two/three course dinner party meals delivered to your door

Enquiries welcome

Call Sarah on 07721 609600 or 01865 407538

Email: sarah@cordobleucooking.co.uk



Red Lion

Brightwell cum Sotwell

Corinne & Mouse Welcome you.

Pop in and Say Hello

The Street, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Oxfordshire OX10 0RT

01491 837 373

www.redlionbrightwell.co.uk

FB: RedLionBrightwellcumSotwell



Shellfish Com
Restaurant & Bar

28 High Street
Wallingford

www.shellfishcom.co.uk

01491 832 807

wallingford@shellfishcom.co.uk

WALLINGFORD CTEA & E COFFEE



We roast
High Grown Coffees
and we stock Quality Teas
together with a range of
Herbal beverages and Spices
plus a wide variety of
Tea and Coffee accessories

Wallingford Tea & Coffee
Company Limited

6a St. Martin's Street
Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 0AL
Telephone: 01491 836263
kitchtea@gmail.com



The new year is traditionally about new resolutions and starting fresh and lots of people use this as an opportunity to deep clean, throwing out the old and bringing in the new. But what cleaning habits can you change to ensure your fresh start is eco-friendly?

Did you know...

Each year, about 1 million tons of tiny plastic fibres are released into wastewater.

It is estimated that the average person eats 100 pieces of microplastic in each meal, and this will only get worse as more plastic starts to slowly degrade.

Thousands of chemicals from cleaning products are washed into streams and rivers. Some persist in the environment and enter the food chain.

Here are some ways you can cut down on waste and chemicals when cleaning.

Re-fillable cleaning supplies

The easiest way to make a change is to find your local zero waste shop, take your empty containers and re-fill. Not only does this cut down on plastic waste but products such as SESI's range of detergents are biodegradable so no nasty chemicals are going back into the environment. You'd be amazed at how many cleaning detergents you can refill; washing up liquid, laundry liquid, fabric conditioner, toilet cleaner, hand soap, window cleaning, vinegar, bicarb and so many more! They also collect and refill their bulk containers from stores cutting down on plastic even further.



Another option is using products like Iron and Velvet who have created cleaning product refills in dissolvable sachets. The sachets are made from Poly Vinyl Alcohol (PVA), a safe alternative to plastics and 70% of their products are fully natural ingredients. Simply place the sachet in your re-used bottle and dissolve in warm water to dilute. It couldn't be easier!



Home-made cleaning solutions

The internet is full of recipes for home-made cleaning solutions and some of them might be easier and more effective than you think. Many involve ingredients that you likely already have or are easy and cheap to obtain. Here are a few ideas for freshening up your home:

- Use coarse salt on half a lemon as a way to scrub your chopping boards clean.
- Remove limescale around your shower head by putting it in a jug filled with white vinegar.
- Freshen up your microwave by placing a couple of lemon wedges in a bowl of water and turn the microwave to high for three minutes. Leave to stand for five minutes keeping the door closed, then wipe thoroughly inside to rid unpleasant smells and grime.

Swap Your Sponges

Polyester dish sponges can be a huge contribution to microplastics in our water systems but making a simple swap to natural alternatives can make a big difference. Safix scrub pads are made from natural coconut fibres so they are not only non-toxic and biodegradable but non-scratch so they can get that tough food residue off without damaging non-stick pans. You can also chuck your plastic scrubbing brushes and replace them with wooden alternatives. These last just as long, are biodegradable and many options provide replaceable dish brush heads to cut down on waste even further.

*all eco alternatives mentioned above can be purchased at Bee Zero on Wallingford High St.





BEAVER SECURITY

Specialists in Security Systems

- Intruder Alarms • CCTV
- Access Control • Fire Alarms
- Installation • Service

01491 260 380



Sims Solar

Your local MCS accredited installer of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Battery Storage Systems



- Providing immediate savings on energy costs
- Future proofing against rising energy costs
- Benefiting from the Smart Export Guarantee (payments made on what you actually export)
- Battery backup to keep your lights on
- Never so affordable

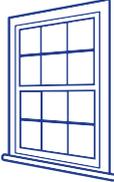
For independent advice and free quotation, please contact Paul on:
01491 836065, 07717 004240 or through our web site at www.simssolar.co.uk

APPROVED INSTALLER
MCS NAPIF



THE OXFORD WINDOW REPAIR COMPANY

WOODEN WINDOW REPAIR SPECIALISTS



Flaking paint and cracked putty on your windows and cills?

We specialise in repair and renovation to give your windows a new lease of life!

We replace old and rotten glazing bars, muntins and rails, use the latest wood treatments and high-performance fillers, and modern & traditional paint solutions to give an excellent finish

Maintenance contracts are also available for your peace of mind

All work guaranteed

Call us for your free estimate
07880 560 403
www.oxfordwindowrepair.com

Thinking of selling your artwork?




Design & Modern Art Specialist Max Fisher, is available to give free confidential valuations on any piece(s) you are considering selling at auction.

Home Visits also available

Enquiries:
01865 241 358 or max.fisher@mallams.co.uk
www.mallams.co.uk

HAVE TROUBLE WITH YOUR TREES?

NEED SOME HELP? ASK THE EXPERTS

- Tree removal
- Tree thinning
- Stump grinding
- Hedge trimming
- Tree pruning
- Tree felling
- Landscaping
- Fencing

We are city & guilds nptc qualified and insured you can feel safe dealing with us.

Call now to see how we can help Free no obligation quote

1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS

E. quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk

T. 07889 881 525
firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk



HAYNES

Car Care Centre

servicing...batteries...tyres...fantastic value

Bushells Business Park, Lester Way,
Wallingford Oxon OX10 9DD

www.haynes-car-care.co.uk

- All Makes Servicing and MOT's
- Parts & Accessories
- Air Con Re-Gas
- Courtesy Car
- Batteries & Tyres
- 4 Wheel Laser Tracking



Proud Sponsors of Wallingford Vehicle Rally & BunkFest

01491 836 097

♥ STAY LOCAL ♥ SUPPORT TRADERS ♥ SAVE BUSINESSES ♥