

Friends of Iffley Village

website: www.friendsofiffley.org



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Chair: Martin Reed
Newsletter Editor: Juliette Gammon

Winter Newsletter 2024/25

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!

I am delighted to be writing to you as the newly elected Chair of FOIV. I am particularly indebted to retiring Chair Troth Wells who brought enormous energy, skill and goodwill to the role. She oversaw a huge number of achievements, taking on new challenges like online facilities and e-newsletters; registering the Prince of Wales as a Community Asset; dealing with three very significant concurrent planning proposals; organising a large public CPZ meeting at very short notice; making donations to the Village Shop, Refugee Resource and Oxford Food Hub; holding popular events open to all; and raising substantial funds. Please read her full Chair's Report to the 2024 AGM on the FOIV website.

The AGM in the Village Hall covered a broad range of issues and the beautifully produced presentation reflected the previous committee's diverse work. In addition to Troth and the wider committee our thanks are also due to retiring Vice-Chair Ian Maclean, Secretary Hannah Newbury, and Membership Secretary Martin Lister, whose terms of office came to an end. It was great to elect four new members to the committee at the AGM, and our newsletter editor Juliette Gammon has agreed to be co-opted. So FOIV has a large and very capable team to share the work going forward. Guided by FOIV's constitutional remit we aim to conserve the essential character of Iffley village and its Conservation Area for the benefit of its residents, businesses and visitors; to monitor and guide plans proposed for the future of the Village, and to foster community spirit.

In the coming year there will, no doubt, be challenges arising from the implementation of the CPZ (see p3) and three separate major developments: the Horse Fields (planning application still open; the Environment Agency recently raised further objections), Iffley Mead (a car-free development but no details yet), and Court Place (nearing completion with c.200 postgraduates and families expected from mid-January). FOIV will be contributing a safe travel map to the Court Place welcome packs.

We are also keen to bolster FOIV's connections with our neighbours in Rose Hill and Donnington and will update you with our progress.

Martin Reed chair@friendsofiffley.org

New Committee from December 2025

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| Secretary: Eike Brazier | Treasurer: Paul Castell | Membership: Caroline Mason & Dave Broughton | Horse Fields: Rachel Falconer |
| Trees: Celia Palmer | Security: Anna di Stefano | Planning: Katrina Robinson | Peggy Seeger, Helena Newsom |
| Court Place/Barhale: Bill Beaver | Iffley Mead: Dominic Woodfield | Highways: Nick Hewlett | |

Join us on Saturday 18 January 2025 in the Village Hall at 4pm

Nature & Music event with folk singer Peggy Seeger – look out for details in the next e-newsletter

FOR YOUR 2025 DIARY

| Date | Time | Place | Society | Event |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------|---------------|---|
| Sun, 12 Jan | 3pm | Church Hall | Music | Oxford Waits Twelfth Night concert and party with mulled wine |
| Tues, 14 Jan | 7.30pm | Church Hall | Film | <i>Laura</i> |
| Sat, 18 Jan | 4pm | Church Hall | FOIV** | <i>Nature & Music</i> with folk singer Peggy Seeger |
| Tues, 21 Jan | 7.30pm | Church Hall | FOSM* | Annual Quiz with Stilly |
| Sun, 9 Feb | 3pm | Church Hall | Music | The Adderbury Ensemble |
| Tues, 11 Feb | 7.30pm | Church Hall | Film | <i>The Quiet Girl</i> |
| Tues, 18 Feb | 7.30pm | Church Hall | History | Mutiny, Bounty and Breadfruit with John Harris |
| Tues, 4 March | 7.30pm | Church Hall | FOSM* | Poetry and Puddings |
| Sun, 9 March | 3pm | Church Hall | Music | Ignas Macknickas concert inc music by Chopin |
| Tues, 11 March | 7.30pm | Church Hall | Film | <i>Wicked Little Sisters</i> |
| Sat, 15 March | 3-4pm | Church Hall | Living Stones | Tea party for volunteers past, present & future! |
| Tues, 18 March | 7.30pm | Church Hall | History | The Romans of Oxfordshire with museum curator and public speaker, Marie-Louise Kerr |
| Tues, 8 April | 7.30pm | Church Hall | Film | <i>Awakenings</i> |
| Sundays, 13 April-14 Sept | 2.30-4.30pm | Church | Living Stones | Volunteers welcome visitors to the Church |
| Tues, 15 April | 7.30pm | Church Hall | History | The Smiths of Iffley – glimpses of a 17th century family with Elizabeth Wells |
| Sun, 27 April | 3pm | Church Hall | Music | Ensemble Renard with Maki Sekiya inc music by Mozart and Poulenc |
| Fri, 9 May | Tbc | Waterperry Gardens | FOSM* | Gardens and Church of St Mary the Virgin with Geoffrey Tyack |
| Tues, 20 May | 7.30pm | Church Hall | History | Oxfordshire Country Houses with Alastair Lack |
| Sun, 1 June | 3pm | Church Hall | Music | The Garnet Horn Trio inc music by Brahms |

*Friends of St Mary's ** Friends of Iffley Village

Friends of Iffley Village – our village Membership 2025

We invite you to renew your membership or join us for 2025 – all welcome. The annual subscription is £5 per person, due in January. Please scan this QR code to pay online with your credit or debit card.



Online payment was very popular last year and is our preferred method to keep the admin simple. There is also a link for online payment on our website (www.friendsofiffley.org). Another option is a bank transfer (with your address for reference) to our HSBC community bank account: 'The Friends of Iffley Village', sort code 40-35-34, account number 52056216.

If you are already paying by standing order, please check the amount is £5 per person, ideally paid in January each year.

Any questions, please email membership@friendsofiffley.org

Court Place - Oxford University Development (OUD) and Feltham Construction thank FOIV and St Mary's for support during the Court Place build

Senior representatives from Oxford University Project Development and Feltham Construction thanked FOIV for actively promoting 'remarkably amicable' relations between the builders, Iffley and Rose Hill during the construction of pan-collegiate family housing at Court Place and restoration of the Mansion House. Jeremy Titchen, OUD's Project Delivery Lead said: "While the 71 two and three bedroom houses will play their part keeping Iffley green and sustainable, our relations with FOIV have taken us further than normal, resulting in a best hoarding commendation from the Oxford Preservation Trust and bringing us together to create a parkland from the Church down to the Isis, for the first time in centuries."

"It was a no-brainer from the beginning", added Phil Hart, FOIV's Contractor Relations lead, "and we soon secured willing participation from Mark Pettengell and the Felthams team, the University with Iain Critchlow, Jeremy Titchen and the Estates Team and St Mary's Vicar, the Revd Clare Hayns and the St Mary's Fabric Committee."

Welcoming the gratitude, Martin Reed, Chairman of FOIV, said: 'It's FOIV's role to conserve the essential character of Iffley now and in the future and we are pleased when others recognise our efforts to work collaboratively.'

Highways

CPZ: The County Council have said they are potentially looking at February 2025 for the CPZ parking scheme to come into operation in Iffley. They will write to residents regarding permit applications and this letter will specify the date at which the new scheme will come into effect.

The proposal for a three-hour parking for non-permit holders around the Church was approved. We understand that this was a concession won by Cllr Baines before the County's decision meeting. Representations by FOIV and others for a four-hour limit were not accepted. But, officers committed to a review 12 months after the implementation of the scheme.

Speeding: FOIV contacted County Councillor Brad Baines with residents' concerns about speeding, particularly on Abberbury Road/Church Way. His reply was: "I think the best approach available to tackling speeding is infrastructure interventions. As with any project it is about building a case."

He contacted relevant teams at Highways to see about possible speed surveys on Abberbury Road and also at the junction with Meadow Lane on Church Way and FOIV will be following up on the outcomes and next steps. City Councillor David Henwood also offered the use of speed cameras.

Iffley Turn: Brad Baines commented: 'The County Council has secured money from the Safer Roads Fund to install a side road entry treatment at the junction of the southern branch of Iffley Turn and Henley Road. This should prevent traffic speeding off Henley Avenue into the village. Similarly, the blind corner on this branch of Iffley Turn should be addressed by the proposed new double yellow lines as part of the CPZ. I have also requested additional 20mph signage and the painting of a 20mph roundel on the road at this junction to try and slow people down.'

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|  <p><i>Wishing all Iffley Residents a Happy New Year, We look forward to another year at the POW, Keep an eye out for upcoming events including a Monthly Paint Class with Sarah from Brush Party. Sage and Matthew, Prince of Wales</i></p> |  <p><i>We thank all the Iffley Societies for your continued support and presence at Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House. It's a pleasure having you with us and we truly value being part of this incredible community. Our 15% discount on food/drinks in our bar and restaurant continues through 2025. Wishing you all the very best for the new year. The Mercure Oxford Hawkwell House Team</i></p> |
|  <p><i>We send warm greetings to the community for a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2025. We look forward to seeing regulars and new diners at the Iffley Kitchen, and our staff will be delighted to extend a warm welcome you. All at the Tree Hotel and Restaurant</i></p> | |

Homeshare - could it be for you?

Age UK Oxfordshire's Homeshare service carefully and safely brings together an older person (or couple) seeking companionship or practical help at home, with another person (usually a professional or mature student) who is happy to lend a hand, would enjoy living with an older person and is looking for affordable accommodation in a welcoming home.

In return for the accommodation the sharer offers the householder 10 hours of their time each week as a combination of companionship and practical help. Each Homeshare is individual and carefully agreed. It may include some cooking, perhaps shopping or gardening, help with computers and technology and time spent together over a shared meal or cup of tea. A Homeshare arrangement does not involve personal care.

For many older people with Homeshare Oxfordshire, it is having someone around, someone coming in and out, and sometimes the reassuring presence of another person in the house, that is so important to them. In the words of one local Householder: "Homeshare has brought me peace of mind and I can't overemphasise this. But it's also having help with the little things around the house which, as you get older no longer feel so little, that is a real godsend. I'm constantly reminded of this



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and not least on bin day!"

Central to a successful Homeshare arrangement is the matching process and getting this just right. It's all about finding 'the right person for the right person' taking into account multiple considerations starting with the circumstances, needs and expectations of the householder. In the words of the daughter of a local householder: "I would encourage anyone thinking about Homeshare to first just give the local Homeshare Oxfordshire team a ring. Nothing beats the

personal nature of the service. They really do take time to listen very carefully and I've seen first-hand the care and experience they put in to matching people."

As well as the practicalities, careful thought is given to how a householder envisages the shared living – and for many it's about striking the balance between maintaining independent lives, not being in others pockets, while at the same time enjoying time spent together.

A monthly fee is payable to Age UK Oxfordshire by householder and sharer. This enables Homeshare Oxfordshire to operate as a sustainable scheme and more people to benefit. The fee covers the costs of the checking and vetting, the setting up and facilitation of the match, and the provision of regular, ongoing in-person support for the duration of the Homeshare, and not forgetting the unmissable Homeshare Oxfordshire social gatherings for those who wish to join them.

Homeshare Oxfordshire can be contacted by phone or email below and would be very happy to hear from any Iffley residents who would like to find out more.

01865410670 / homeshare@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk / www.homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk

We hope that Iffley residents will look into the Homeshare option which seems to be a great opportunity both for homeowners and people seeking a home.