



OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST

“We kept our land open”

We have all been so lucky with the glorious weather over the Spring/Summer and into the Autumn, and we have been delighted to see so many people enjoying OPT green spaces, walking, picnicking and meeting with friends. We have loved hearing about you discovering new places and finding out more about OPT. We welcome our new members and thank everyone for staying with us, and continuing your support in these difficult times.”

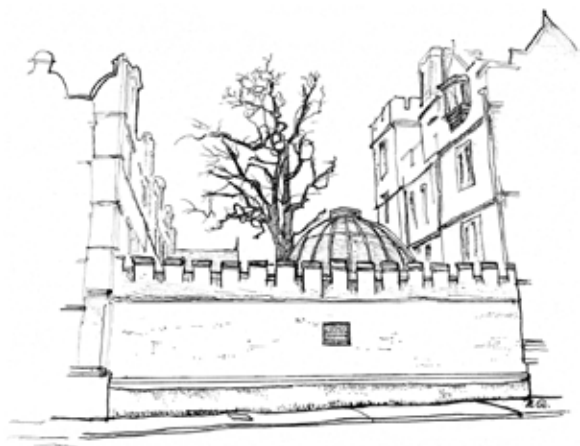


Oxford in a Box

Book 6 'On Foot from the High to Trill Mill' is the last in the **Oxford Heritage Walks 'On Foot'** series, and marks the completion of an extraordinary journey through Oxford's streets which began over ten years ago when local historian **Malcolm Graham**, head of the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, and **Edith Gollnast**, Conservation Officer, retired within a few months of each other taking with them a wealth of knowledge too good to lose. These books are the result with wonderful drawings and fine words to paint a picture of heritage past and present, guided by the well-known and characterful maps of **Alun Jones**. They are both charming and important in recording Oxford's more fragile heritage and are already much loved. Book 6 and the Box Set are now available (*see enclosed leaflet*).



We launched the last book on 19 October marking **50 years** since **Malcolm** first began working at the Oxford Library. Malcolm and Edith chose to have their photo taken at the Head of the River pub where the Salter's Yard crane, saved in 1977 remains.



The Covered Market

We are back on site and working in partnership with the City Council and a great team to restore these three units, full of character and ready for new tenants to move in early next year. We hope to have a celebration event and have included the market in our programme (see page 6). Thanks go to the William Delafield Charitable Trust for their support.



BEFORE



SITE VISIT



AFTER

OPT News...

Get Outdoors...

As we go into a second lockdown we have made sure our **Hidden Heritage** and **Green Spaces** walks and activity sheets from Oxford Open Doors are available on our website for you.



Shakespeare's Birthday...

On 23 April we raised a glass to the Immortal Bard and the NHS.



The **OPT garden** was the place to be when High Sheriff, Amanda Ponsonby joined our Chair, William to launch Oxford Open Doors Goes Outside.



Keeping in touch

Thank you for letting us know how much you have enjoyed our regular news bulletins, letters, phone calls and keeping in touch by social media. Here is your favourite photo taken on Land Officer Lindsay's family farm in the Spring.



Welcome to the Team

A selfie of **Heritage Assistants**, Katie Wylie and Lucy Inskip who are a bubble in more ways than one as they have rented a flat together.



Virtual Events...

Liz Woolley, William Whyte, David Radford and Malcolm Airs are all well-known names who have joined us in learning the delights of the webinar. From Oxford's Most Hated Buildings, through St Thomas's parish, to the 'dream that failed' at the Pitt Rivers Museum we have all learned so much more about Oxford and we now have the recordings for the future.

OXFORD OPEN DOORS

Goes Outside

We hope you enjoyed our programme from the virtual to self-guided walks, and some pre-booked opportunities to get out and about.

The 'Green Spaces', 'Hidden Heritage' and 'Partner' walks were so successful that they are still available, so no need to miss out.

This year's challenge was our inspiration to try something different and reach new audiences, and we will include some of the best ideas next year.

Debbie Dance, OPT Director



I had no idea there would be quite so much to do!



Open Doors is one of my yearly highlights, and you didn't let us down despite the pandemic

26,500
virtual
views

69% new
audience

80
events

With the support of the University of Oxford and Historic England, we were able to go ahead with **Open Doors Goes Outside** this year and we are looking forward to sharing our positive experiences with the wider heritage sector. Thanks go to all our partners who helped make this weekend happen and to Louise Long for her stunning photography (@louiseelong).

Stop Press - Rewley Road Swing Bridge

We will be on site before Christmas with the support of **Network Rail**, **Railway Heritage Trust** and **Historic England**. We have plugged the funding gap caused by the lockdown delay and we look forward to sharing more as things develop.

In the meantime, do check out the 1970s archive footage of the Swing Bridge turning or follow one of our two self-guided Heritage Walks on the website.

Trustee Tom Hassall, and former Railway Manager, David Mather were on-site to welcome visitors at Oxford Open Doors *Goes Outside*.



East St Helen Street, Abingdon... Made from the finest Baltic timbers the original medieval decorated window at our merchant's house, the oldest house in the town, dates from 1430. Good progress has been made with specialist Dan Miles carefully repairing and piecing in new timbers to ensure its future survival.

OPT Awards 2020

Thanks go to our sponsors Carter Jonas, Matthews Comfort and Critchleys whose continuing commitment and support has allowed the **OPT Awards 2020** to continue. The Awards were launched in January with 45 entries received across Building Conservation, New Buildings, Small Projects, Landscape and Public Realm, Temporary Projects, and our new Green Award. The timetable has inevitably slipped with the judging happening in the late Summer, and we are looking forward to confirming a date for the Awards evening.





Virtual OPT Events

Tuesday 1 December, 5pm

'Oxford's Changing Landscape: A review of 2020'
with OPT Director, Debbie Dance

Wednesday 13 January, 5pm

'Oxford Landscapes and trees' with OPT Trustee,
Julian Munby

Tuesday 26 January, 5pm

*'Turning the bridge – saving the Rewley Road Railway
Swing Bridge'* with OPT Trustee, Tom Hassall

Thursday 11 February, 5pm

'A jewel in the crown – Oxford's Covered Market'
with author and historian, Dr Malcolm Graham

Thursday 25 February, 5pm

*'The Invisible Barrier – the story of Oxford's historic
railings'* with David Clark

Thursday 11 March, 5pm

The Chairman's Lecture – *'a plan for Broad Street'*
with award-winning landscape architect, Kim Wilkie

Tuesday 23 March, 5pm

'Stories of Oxford Castle: from dungeon to dunghill'
with author and local historian, Mark Davies

To book events visit...

**www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk or call
01865 242918.**

Oxford Heritage Fund 2020

Thank you to everyone who has contributed
to the **£20,000** raised so far - your support
is crucial.



We have had to put our **Land Work Parties** on hold but hope to be out and about soon. We thank our volunteers who have done such valuable work this Autumn come rain or shine.



A Legacy for Oxford

We are asking you to help us keep Oxford special and to ensure that future generations can enjoy our green open spaces, landscape and views. Help us to continue our work building a positive future for the city by leaving a **gift in your Will**. Large or small, your contribution will mean a great deal.

Why not let us know of your gift so we can thank you in your lifetime. Contact Debbie director@oxfordpreservation.org.uk or Stephen s.dawson@oxfordpreservation.org.uk for more information.



Oxford is growing. Its growth may be guided but should not be grudged. The work of the Trust is not to hamper Oxford but to help it... Oxford is not a museum piece. It is a living thing.

OPT First Annual Report (1927)

It is hard to put a price on the city's green setting, landscape and views and once lost they are gone forever, so that when William Morris opened his car factory in 1927 and the City expanded, OPT was founded and began to acquire land. We now have 1000 acres of green open space either owned or protected by legal covenants and Oxford's setting lies at the heart of our regular planning work. Our protected green places have never been more crucial as plans come forward which will see green fields developed for housing around the edge of the city, regardless of its Green Belt status, and in places which would have been quite unthinkable a few years ago. We are actively looking to engage with developers and the authorities to see what role OPT can play in balancing the need for bricks and mortar, with good access to countryside and a healthy environment, and where our family of barn owls at OPT's Heyford Meadow can also thrive.



Oxford's uncrowded streets have provided some wonderful images over lockdown as well as giving time to reflect on how the city's streets and spaces could be used differently. A resurgence of interest in the **plans for Broad Street** (2004) has seen us beginning to work with partners across the city to see what can be achieved (See K Wilkie lecture).

Oxford Castle and Prison was 'Good to Go'

and had welcomed over 7,500 visitors before this second lockdown, with its guided tours, education workshops, and outside events including the Shakespeare Monologues. We hope it won't be too long until it reopens, and meanwhile are using the time wisely to carry out repairs to St. George's Tower.

With advice changing all the time do visit our website for the latest developments. We will be providing regular updates to you but if you want to contact us we are always available in office hours on info@oxfordpreservation.org.uk or 01865 242918.



*Already a member?
Pass this to a friend*

Join Oxford Preservation Trust Today!

Support our work and make a positive difference to Oxford

Send to OPT at 10 Turn Again Lane, Oxford, OX1 1QL

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If household/joint please give additional name _____

I would like to:

Become a member

- Individual £30
- Household £50
- Life £600
- Joint Life £1000
- Student £20

Benefits include:

- FREE access to Oxford Castle & Prison and the mound
- 10% discount at the Castle Gift Shop and Castleyard Café
- Full Events Programme - with discounts
- Special Members Only Events
- Twice-yearly informative Newsletters
- Oxford Open Doors brochure delivered to your door
- Discounts on all OPT publications
- 10% discount at The Victoria Arms, Old Marston

Make a donation/regular gift

We are a charity and depend on donations & legacies to continue with our work

Make a single gift of £

Make a regular gift (monthly) of £



The easiest way to pay your annual membership fee is by Direct Debit.

GIFT AID

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Oxford Preservation Trust.

Signature: _____

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

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