



Press Release

March 2013

Photography exhibition Showcases Oxford On Your Doorstep

Oxford Castle Unlocked will welcome seven talented amateur photographers from the Oxford Photographic Society (OPS) to exhibit their work during Artweeks from 4 May onwards. The exhibition, entitled 'On Your Doorstep' will display the wonders of landscapes, flora and wildlife that can be seen close to home, with all the photographs taken within 30 minutes of Oxford city centre.

From the fritillaries at Ducklington to snow covered open countryside near Didcot, from the Red Kites at Watlington to the woodpeckers at Eynsham, and many things and places in between, the series of 100 photographs will showcase the county and the picturesque public sites where the photos were captured.

Ivor Porter and Tim Simmons, lead organisers of the exhibition and long-time members of OPS, commented: "Our exhibition aims to inspire people to give photography a go and discover just what is 'On their doorstep'. It's incredible how many locations there are in Oxford and the surrounding areas that are easily and freely accessible for the public to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of these sites."

The seven photographers taking part all enjoy membership with the Oxford Photographic society ranging from 10 years to over 25 years. Their individual interests vary from landscapes to birds and mammals as well as the more technical macro photography.

Michael Speight, general manager at Oxford Castle Unlocked, commented:
“We’re delighted to welcome such a fascinating exhibition to our Castleyard. I knew Oxford offered some spectacular sights but this exhibition really showcases the natural beauty that lies so close to the city. We’re excited to see the exhibition bring the Castleyard to life and to be a proper part of Artweeks for the first time.”

‘On Your Doorstep’ opens on Saturday 4 May at Oxford Castle Unlocked Castleyard. Oxford Castle Unlocked is open daily from 10am to 6pm, offering guided tours of the 1000 year castle buildings. For more information, visit www.oxfordcastleunlocked.co.uk or call 01865 260 666.

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For further media information, images or to arrange a visit to *Oxford Castle Unlocked* please contact: Ellie Stokes on 01865 260 666 / 07713 307 925 or email estokes@oxfordcastleunlocked.co.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Oxford Castle Unlocked is open daily from 10.00am to 5.30pm (last tour 4.20pm). We are closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Admission prices from 01 February 2013: Adults £9.25, Children £6.95, Concessions £7.95, Family ticket (2 adults, 2 children) £29.95.

Oxford Castle Unlocked opened on 2 June 2006 and gives visitors the opportunity to learn about the real people who lived and died throughout the site’s turbulent past. Visitors are able to walk through the ancient buildings and experience the stories that connect the real people to these extraordinary events.

The guardians of this important historic site, The Oxford Preservation Trust were awarded a £3.8 million grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund to restore the castle and site buildings. The post of Learning and Access Officer is funded by Oxfordshire County Council.

Oxford Castle Unlocked is operated by Continuum - visitor attraction operators and specialists in the tourism and leisure industry. See www.continuum-group.com