



## Let's Paint the town

Volunteers from across Oxford were out in force at the Headington headquarters of Orinoco, the Oxford Scrapstore, on Saturday and Sunday. They met to begin sorting out their household paint store and ensuring their sale stock is ready for the big DIY demand that marks the end of winter.

Howie Watkins of Orinoco said, "We may be languishing in the depths of winter, but Spring and its accompanying Big Clean are just around the corner. When people start looking to patch up their paintwork, re-work their emulsion and gee-up their gloss we need to be ready for them. We need all our paint to be sorted in advance".

But there's something special about the paint stock at the Orinoco Scrapstore: housed in the Bullingdon Community Centre, Peat Moors Road, Headington. All the paint is second hand. Orinoco sort and redistribute waste paint collected at the Redbridge Recycling Centre. The initiative forms an important part of Oxford County Council's waste reduction measures and receives financial support from the Authority. Orinoco also receives support from Community Re>Paint.

Over 414 million litres of paint are sold in the UK each year (retail and trade) of which an estimated 80 million litres (enough to fill 50 Olympic-sized swimming pools) is stored in homes and garages or just thrown away. This paint tends to be stored and then disposed of in landfill or incinerated. By sorting the paint, and making the best tins available for re-use, schemes such as this are playing a big part in reducing the amount that is wasted each year.

If you fancy browsing the stock to find that perfect shade of yellow for your spare bedroom, pop along to the Bullingdon Community Centre, Peat Moors Road, Headington; any time between 12pm and 4pm on Wednesdays or between 11am and 4pm on Saturday. For more information on special opening times, text PAINT to 07960 661748 or call us.

Orinoco - The Oxfordshire Scrapstore is a registered charity (No.104798) and company limited by guarantee that collects and reuses good quality, commercial and domestic discarded objects from businesses and householders in Oxfordshire. These discarded objects often serve as valuable resources for children's art and school projects as well as useful and creative projects for adults. Reusing objects which would normally end up in local land-fills also improves the Oxford environment.

## Further Details:

Photographs of the volunteers in action and paint are available and can be emailed as hi-resolution JPEG images. Photo call at the store of volunteers and paint can be easily accommodated on Wednesday afternoon.

## Contact:

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[www.oxorinoco.org](http://www.oxorinoco.org)

From Left to right: Zohra, Rosalind and Peter sort through a rainbow of emulsion



Efsun Checks a paint tin



Rosalind puts the last tin on its shelf





Paint, ready for resale.  
Sorted and labelled at  
the Orinoco Scrapstore

