

The Sprout



Installing solar panels

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 162 November 2021

The Sprout

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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Issue 162, November 2021

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From the Editor

In view of the vital importance of the COP26 talks in Glasgow this month, the November *Sprout* is dedicated to local initiatives to combat climate change and support biodiversity. The Botley Green Guide, inserted with this issue, is funded by the parish council and full of good ideas. It was launched at the public meeting that set up Sustainable Botley, the band of local people eager to get things moving that are better done working together. In this issue you will find two articles on retrofitting your house (pages 19 and 23), one on cultivating your garden for wildlife (p11), and other items on recycling and energy-saving. (The picture on the cover shows a team installing solar panels in a 2017 government initiative to put them on 800,000 low-income houses.) On other subjects, Botley School kids have been running in a marathon (p9) and Lucy Monks has been reading one (p27). The original Botley Health Walks, set up by Briony and Roy Newport in 2002 (p21) has decided to call it a day and hand over the baton to someone else. Since we received the article, we have heard the sad news that Roy died on 14th October. We send our heartfelt sympathy to Briony. Roy was an early *Sprout* supporter and a power in the community – an obituary will follow in due course.

Ag MacKeith

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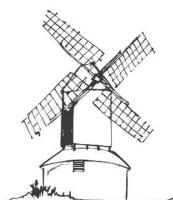
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Botley and the Climate Crisis – where do we come in?

As you read this, politicians and climate experts from across the world will be arriving in Glasgow for the United Nations COP26 Conference. This is shaping up to be the most important event so far in the history of environmental concern: the lead up shows promise, but we need more than words, words, words: *we need action!*

Glasgow and the UN may seem a long way from Botley, but we have our part to play. Global agreements need national laws to turn them into action, and that action happens where we live.

But we can do more than just react to national decisions. We can influence change in various ways:

- **We can recognise what needs to be done locally and help do it.** That can range from the simple actions in the 'Green Guide' through to installing solar panels on our roofs or helping with local conservation initiatives.
- **We can push for change.** Our councillors and MPs tend to focus on issues that worry their constituents. A letter about the need for more effective action across Oxfordshire shows them that you are worried and want them to act.
- **Above all we need to accept the need for change** – and get others to do so. Changes are needed in how we heat our homes and how we travel – and what we eat. We need to play our part and support the politicians making what may be hard decisions.

There are plenty of ways to get involved. The new Sustainable Botley group is getting going and there are other groups already active here and across Oxford. Other articles in this *Sprout* have more ideas and advice.

And there's one immediate action for us all – get involved with the **Global Day of Action for Climate Justice on Saturday 6th November!** There are events happening all over the world as well as online. Everyone can add their voice to demand real and fair action from their local and national governments. There will be a March and Rally in Oxford – starting from Manzil Way on Cowley Road at 1.30pm and ending at 3pm with a Rally in Broad Street.

At 11am we will also be holding a short event here in Botley at Church Way. We'll be meeting to send a photo message to the



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Prime Minister and sharing that on social media as a warm-up to the Rally. Please join us with banners, placards, musical instruments, green balloons and anything else to send a strong visual message! Others will be doing the same across the county at the same time.

Making sense of saving energy

It's always made sense to save energy – we pay for it so why waste it? But much waste is down to the nature of our homes rather than about switching lights off. UK homes are badly insulated compared to the rest of Europe, and account for around 20% of the UK's 'greenhouse gas' emissions, so this is a key area for action. As energy prices rise, it makes even more sense to look hard at how we can save energy and money. We need government support, but we can all play a part in cutting energy use.

Recent government announcements on energy focus on grants for heat pumps, available from next April. But there's little point in investing in new equipment if energy is still being wasted. The simplest and cheapest ways to save are around cutting draughts – so do these first. Check where the draughty parts of the house are, and get it sorted. Other simple actions are in the Green Guide and here: <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/>

Saving energy isn't a one-off, it takes long-term planning and getting everyone in your household engaged. It's also something to focus on if you are having any home improvement work done. Two articles (pages 19 and 23) show ways people have set to work retrofitting their Elms Rise homes.

You can work out where and how to invest time and money with the help of this official website: <https://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk/> It has never mattered more!

Chris Church



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Recycling – Time to Step It Up

Here in the Vale we're amongst the country's recycling leaders. We have a good collection rate for residential recyclable materials (63.3% March 2021). But we could do more. Over 80% of household waste can be recycled. According to WRAP, the recycling charity, "Now more than ever it's vital we do everything to protect our planet and go that extra mile. Most of us recycle, but we need to do more to combat climate change. It all adds up." The UK's current recycling saves 18 million tonnes of CO₂ every year, which is the same as taking 12 million cars off the road.

We need people to look at what they are (and are not) putting in their bins. It's not just about putting more into our green recycling bins (or the communal facilities, if you live in a flat) but also about being mindful about what's *not* wanted in these collections. Contamination is an on-going problem. Nappies, garden waste, batteries, dirty food packaging, clothing and textiles need to be kept out. Putting them in can cause whole loads to be rejected at the processing plant. There is no need to bag recycling (and no black bags please). And remember to rinse and squash containers, too.

Not sure what can be collected in our door-to-door recycling collections? The Vale has a list at: <https://bit.ly/valewasteinfo>

Over one quarter of food waste still ends up in the wrong bin. The Vale has a separate weekly collection so please use it for all food scraps and un-edible items like bones. It is sent to a local facility, which captures gas to make electricity and a soil conditioner for nearby farms.

And what happens to the black bin? Most of Oxfordshire's residual (non-recyclable) waste goes to the Ardley Energy Recovery Facility where it is burnt, creating enough energy to power 54,000 homes.

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More recycling is important. But it's also important to think about how we can reduce and cut our waste, and how we can reuse materials. The Botley 'Green Guide' has more ideas on how we can do this **Jan McHarry**

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Botley School Running Club

Running a half marathon (13.1 miles) can be quite daunting for some children, but if you spread the miles out so that children can run a little bit 3 times a week, it becomes a palatable idea. This is what we offered to KS2 children at Botley School: a running club for 15 minutes, three times a week for 5 weeks. The commitment demonstrated by the regular attendance, the happy (and red!) faces that we saw when the morning bell rang and the smiles and positive energy released by physical activity was worth everybody's efforts.

Being able to run the final mile at the Official Oxford Half 2021 on 17th October, alongside other children who had also run the 12.1 miles before the race, was an exciting occasion, which will definitely be worth organising again next year.

All the children and parents arrived, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, at 8.30am. Their adrenaline was clearly pumping even on a brisk Sunday morning! We entertained the children on the leafy lawns of Balliol College with songs, games and a leaf display – as well as a warm up conga (see photo)! This was led in part by our fantastic Year 6 School Sports Leaders.

As we rolled out to the starting line, the hours of training paid off. Botley children felt genuinely ready for that last mile – so ready in fact that we took 2nd and 3rd places in the actual race. What is more, everybody finished the race safely, to earn their first running medal. It goes without saying that our committed staff at Botley School helped make this magic happen.



As someone wise once said: *it's not the winning that counts but the taking part*. Never has this been truer than during the last five weeks at Botley School, as sport connected so many families and friends, through chilly, wet and muddy mornings to medals on Broad Street. We will be back even bigger and better next year – can't wait!

Alex Neil



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How Green is Your Garden?

This article isn't about Botley in Bloom, or any other competition. It's not even just about front gardens. It is an attempt to encourage everyone to think about what they can do in their own outside space to make Botley greener and help mitigate the damaging effects of climate change. Even if you don't consider yourself to be a gardener you should be aware of the issues.

In my role as one of the judges of Botley in Bloom Front Gardens, I've long been considering one of our competition categories. It's unarguably the most important one of all, namely that of 'Best Cultivated Wildlife Front Garden'. We had to add 'cultivated' as probably the best gardening for wildlife would be to do nothing at all – but that doesn't add up to a competition! The physical and mental benefits to us of gardening are well documented. Even if you only have room for a window box or a balcony, read on for some ideas of how to garden responsibly.

Wildlife-friendly gardens

We have some lovely gardens in Botley and those at the front are enjoyed by the whole neighbourhood, so here are a few tips to ensure our local wildlife enjoy them too:

- Choose hedges rather than fences.
- Add climbers to walls – ivy is particularly good for wildlife.
- Ensure you plant pollinators, check out bee- and butterfly-friendly plants.
- Try to use native plants as they support a greater diversity of wildlife.
- Ensure you have 'wildlife corridors', i.e. spaces in your boundaries to allow hedgehogs and other mammals to move around the local area.
- Don't remove seed-heads until the birds have helped themselves.
- Cut your grass much less often (if at all). Uncut grass quickly becomes a meadow.
- Never use pesticides, herbicides, or insecticides anywhere.
- Make a log pile. A great hiding place for insects and invertebrates, it will also attract many other species looking for a tasty snack.
- Have water in your garden. Even the smallest pond attracts frogs, toads, newts, and a host of insects including damselflies and dragonflies.

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These last two points merit an article of their own and are great projects to involve the whole family.

We know that we have serious pollution problems along the A34. Did you know that gardens can operate as net carbon sinks, absorbing more carbon dioxide from the atmosphere than they release?



Planet-friendly gardens

I love lists so here's another. If you are lucky enough to have a garden, these are some further points to bear in mind for all outside spaces:

- ALWAYS buy peat-free compost. It will be labelled as such. Peatlands store a third of the world's soil carbon, and one metre of peat takes 1,000 years to form. They are being alarmingly depleted.
- Make your own compost from garden and kitchen waste.
- Install a rainwater butt. Rainwater is much better for your plants anyway.
- Mulching will keep soil healthy and reduce moisture loss.
- Recycle, upcycle, or try to use local materials where possible.
- Re-use plastic pots and seed trays and avoid buying new plastic.
- We need to park our cars safely but *don't be tempted to pave over your front garden.*



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Reasons not to replace your garden with a car park

Here's one reason why. Did you know that if you pave over your front garden (or make it impermeable in some other way) you could be contributing directly to sewage being released into the Seacourt Stream? This startling and unsavoury fact came to light during a discussion on the importance of greening our gardens. Rainwater that cannot be absorbed into the ground goes directly into the drainage system. But this wasn't designed to cope with the extra water from the downpours that have now become normal. Heavy rain opens the Combined Sewer Overflow valve, which drains into the local river. Driveway legislation was introduced in 2008 to reduce the impact of flooding. Any new driveway over 5m² must provide a permeable area for the water to run to. If it doesn't, you need to have planning permission, and failure to do so is an offence carrying a hefty fine.

Two more reasons: Firstly, hard surfaces soak up heat during the day then release it into the surrounding environment at night, contributing to overall warming of the environment. Secondly, paving over front gardens hits wildlife and biodiversity hard. Insects and other small organisms lose their habitat with a knock-on effect for mammals and birds.

Is it time to rethink your own front garden? If more people were able to plant up their front gardens then there would be more continuous wildlife habitat, greatly benefitting the environment. You may even wish to enter next year's Botley in Bloom Front Garden competition.

I'm sure you can think of many more points to add to my suggestions above. The *Sprout* would love to hear your ideas.

Viv Smith

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Citizens Advice on coping with Universal Credit shortfall

This year, the month of September ushered in more ominous portents than chilly winds and dark nights: the Government reduced Universal Credit payments by £20 a week. This move could put many floundering people in a critical situation. Rising prices and the coming end of the pandemic furlough have joined other negative trends to put millions in serious debt, unable to pay vital bills and about to see life get even worse.

But, if you are in this position, remember that support and help are available and you need not suffer alone.

Take charge of your situation. Start by making a list of what you owe and add up what you need to pay out each month. This list puts your financial position clearly in front of you in black and white. Next, prioritise your debts. There is advice on the Citizens Advice website to help you do this: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money>. Some bills are more urgent than others. Rent or mortgage arrears, fuel bills and Council Tax count as priority debts as there could be serious consequences if you don't pay them.

Get in touch with the companies to whom you owe money. Not everybody feels confident about doing this, but the organisations expect such calls, and they might be able to help by letting you pay smaller amounts over a longer period, or even take a temporary payment break.

The government-backed Breathing Space scheme could also give you extra time to pay. See our website for details or www.gov.uk. If you are eligible, you could get 60 days during which your creditors can't contact you, take any action against you or add interest and charges to your debt. A Citizens Advice adviser can check your debts to see if they are covered by the scheme.

If you need more specific support, or don't feel able to manage your situation alone, call the Citizens Advice debt helpline on 0800 240 4420. It really helps to make personal contact with somebody who understands. You can also call our Adviceline free on 0808 278 7907 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) or try our webchat (click on "chat with us online about debt").

Darius Halpern



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Getting to Net Zero

When I moved to Elms Rise in 2007, I had good intentions to get external wall insulation on my solid-walled house. I've worked on energy and climate change since the early 1980s – from researching renewable energy to supporting groups and individuals in the journey towards sustainable living. My own tendency is towards frugality and it was a big thing to think about major improvements to the house – much easier to wear extra clothes in winter and hunker down in the sitting room with my woodstove.

In 2017 lots of things started happening around climate action. At COP15 in Paris, governments had agreed that we needed to limit global warming to “well below 2°C” and preferably below 1.5°C. The report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2018 set out how nasty things could get with 2°C of warming. It also made it clear that we would have very few years to get to net zero global greenhouse gas emissions if we wanted to be sure of staying below 1.5°C. Extinction Rebellion picked up on this, demanding a commitment to net zero by 2025.

I realised I'd owned my house for over ten years and wasn't about to move – and I really needed to sort it out as it was cold, damp and mouldy. I decided to go for the Passivhaus retrofit standard ('EnerPHit'), which involves high levels of insulation for the walls, roof and floor, triple glazing, airtightness and mechanical ventilation with heat recovery.

Oxford architects Transition by Design and Cumnor-based builder Alex McCarthy took on the work. Alex started on-site in February 2020 so it was a real lockdown project. Joju Solar provided the PV and battery, and I got a small air-to-air heat pump which gives 4-5kWh of heat for each 1kWh of electricity it uses.

Most of the solar electricity gets exported to the grid and I expect the CO₂ emissions embodied in the build to be paid off by 2025. Last winter I used 200kWh of electricity to maintain the house above 16°C. Heating to 20°C would need about twice as much. The average house uses around 12,000kWh of gas. I don't expect the reduced cost of heating to justify the amount I spent on the rebuild – it was more about doing what felt right. I learned a lot in the process and I'm happy to share what I can.

My house is one of the smaller semis at the bottom of Elms Rise. If

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you pass it you'll recognise it as the one that's now bright yellow, with windows that look somehow different from the neighbours, and saplings growing in what used to be the parking space at the front. If you'd like to know more about the technicalities there's a case study and a webinar here: <https://www.greenbuildingstore.co.uk/oxford-enerphit-plus/>. And if you'd like a chat, do come and say hello or drop me a line at laurie@livingwitness.org.uk. Laurie Michaelis

Farewell from the original Botley Health Walks



It has been decided not to resume the walks again after the various lockdowns and social distancing measures. We started on 9th September 2004 after training as walk leaders by the then national Look After Your Heart Campaign. Our trainer left her job straight after, and none of the local authorities seemed to have been told we existed. Two years later Oxfordshire County Council contacted us to find out what had taken place. The Government were keen to have statistics about what "health issues" were being addressed, so Botley Health Walks were mopped up and put on the OCC map. The *Sprout* was always supportive and listed us in the clubs' section – which was of great help as a non-supporter removed all our advertising posters overnight.

Over the years many participated, the youngest was two years old (in a pushchair) and the oldest a visitor called Ida, at 88. Various walk routes, all pre-tested and not more than three miles, included hilly and flat ones. We enjoyed social events together, visits to woods, bluebell walks, walked around Farmoor, Wytham and Abingdon, had meals together and a Christmas meal every year.

We would like to thank those who supported Botley Health Walks over the years. We all nattered noisily together, had lots of fun together and new friendships were enjoyed. There are other walk groups and ventures in the locality and we hope these will be as well supported. The picture shows one of our last walks in 2019.

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Retrofitting a 1950s Semi on Elms Rise

We started a slow retrofit of our 1950's semi on Cedar Road after we moved in around 6 years ago. We don't have a large pot of savings, so we have kept control of the various stages of construction by compartmentalizing each stage, and subsequently each trade. We've been going around in circles about how to do this efficiently and cost effectively. When we bought the house, we understood that there was a great deal to do to achieve anything close to current building regs, let alone EnerPhit standard.

The first step was cavity wall insulation. Next came the extension. We wanted access onto the back garden, but we didn't want to put triple glazing into badly built walls, so we insulated them externally. The contractor thought we were mad, but we managed it, although the new Velfac window in the kitchen only opens halfway. Velfac windows, unlike normal ones, are installed after the wall is finished and they have a specific opening mechanism, which requires more space. It was an important lesson for us: we are both architects, but most of our work has been on large construction projects.

At the same time, we replaced the old PVC front door with a triple glazed Velfac front door. And we replaced the plasterboard ceilings on the first floor with insulated plasterboard, as loose insulation cannot be inserted easily into this space. One easy win was adding a lot of loose insulation into the roof space – we probably have around 400mm of insulation up there now.

Since that first stage, we have been desperately trying to work out how to proceed with the rest of the house. There are so many issues to deal with and each decision has knock-on effects. But finally, the cold bridge caused by the concrete gutter/lintel/wall plate (very efficient use of concrete at the time) was driving us mad. The mould, which would not have been a problem in the past, when gas was cheap and we overheated our homes, was becoming annoying, and difficult to resolve. So, the next stage began. We employed a company to remove the gutter and extend the joists by one tile, so we had enough space under the gutter to butt up the 100mm insulation. Peter was up on the scaffolding frantically shoving insulation into the new void while the new fascia was being installed, much to the contractor's amusement. But it was worth it.

The next stage was the insulation and new render on all the parts of

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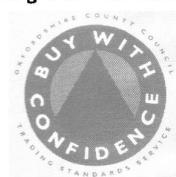
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the house that were already white and rendered. Research suggested that the only company that genuinely knew what they were talking about was in Wales. This stage is now complete, and we have had the window manufacturers down to measure up the openings for the new triple-glazed windows (as per earlier lessons in this process), to replace the very old and leaky double glazed PVC ones. It turns out that the little window in the bathroom is too small for the type of window we are using, so it will need to be adapted when we move onto the next big construction stage.

The job is still far from finished. We will need to find a suitable ventilation system for this more airtight construction. We need to rebuild the wall of the lounge to take new triple glazed windows, and we really need to think about how we are going to reduce the heat loss through the floor... but we are getting there, slowly. Fingers crossed, next time we re-mortgage, we will be able to gain some benefit from having a more energy-efficient house – which apparently is a factor now in the interest rates.

What has become apparent during this process is how much the construction sector has to learn about retrofitting to achieve a reduced carbon future in our current building stock. But they – and we – are learning all the time, and every single project increases that knowledge.

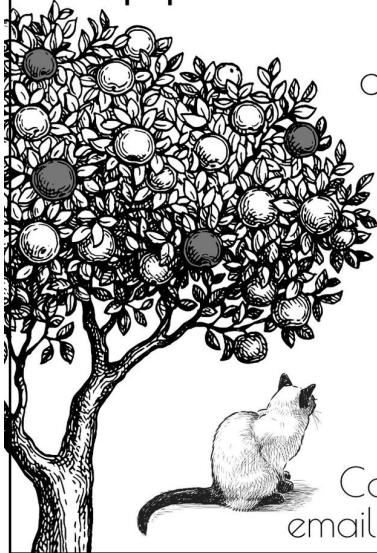
Melissa Kinnear and Peter Newton

Parish Council Remembrance Day Service

Following last year's minimalist NHPC Remembrance Day Service, this year's service will be returning to its traditional format. The Service, to be held in the Commonwealth War Graves plot within Botley Cemetery on **14th November** between 10.45 and 11.45am, will see participation by members of the United Kingdom's Armed Forces, the Commonwealth, and representatives from those other countries whose Service Personnel are laid to rest within the Cemetery. Involvement from the Parish will include Scouts, Guides and pupils from Matthew Arnold School, alongside local voluntary and community organizations, dignitaries and religious leaders. All members of the Parish are warmly invited to attend the Service and to participate in the Act of Remembrance, commemorating those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Cllr Graham Fairclough

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Lucy's Marathon

- How old are you, Lucy? *I'm 8 years old!*
- You have read 26 books in 26 weeks for charity. That's a wonderful achievement! What gave you that idea? *I like challenges and I like reading :-) My Aunty asked me to help her with her fundraising for the London Marathon and let me choose a charity. I did 26 books because there are 26 miles in a marathon and I wanted to make a "Marathon of Books"!*
- What was your favourite book of the 26? The least favourite? *My favourites were A Boy Called Christmas and the Truth Pixie, because Matt Haig is my favourite author. My least favourite was probably Fairy School: Fairy Dust.*
- Has reading so many books put you off reading more, or inspired you to read more? *More, more, more!*
- You raised an amazing £290 for the Botley Bikers, who cycle into Oxford to bring food to people experiencing homelessness. Why the Botley Bikers? *Because it is a local charity. I also help them by baking cakes or biscuits to deliver once a week, and I wanted to help them more.*
- The money will go towards buying milk, bananas, satsumas and cheese. Which of those do you like best? *All of them! Cheese on pizza, especially :-)*
- Lucy, what do you do when you're not reading books and baking cakes for homeless people? *Lots of things... Football, Cubs, Brownies, swimming, play with my friends and I'm learning to roller skate. I love drawing and art, and I LOVE dogs. And I go to school and do my homework (boring!).*



Rike Therivel



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Botley Medical Centre progress report

First some questions from the PPG exec.

Q. *GPs are in short supply at BMC. What can patients consult the other clinicians at the practice about?*

A. Such appointments can be forward-booked. Our receptionists will guide you to the most appropriate clinician, as follows:

Pharmacists: can carry out medication reviews, request and issue prescriptions, review and set up Dosette Boxes, and help with medication queries including adverse reactions. They apply their expertise to patients discharged from Hospital or secondary care. We have an in-house Lead Pharmacist and two PCN Pharmacists. We are recruiting a pharmacy technician to help process prescriptions.

Physiotherapists: can assess, diagnose, treat, and manage musculoskeletal (MSK) problems and undifferentiated conditions and discharge a patient without a medical referral. They usually treat back pain, foot and knee pain, etc.

Minor Illness Paramedic: sees ear and eye infections, minor pain management, abdominal pain, chest infections, colds, coughs, skin rashes, and urinary tract infections.

Advance Nurse Prescriber: can see Minor Illness, and Asthma and Contraception.

Physician Associates: treat the same conditions as GPs but do not prescribe. They are supervised by an experienced GP.

Social Prescriber: can support a wide range of people's social, emotional or practical needs, to improve their mental health and physical wellbeing. They can support those with mild or long-term mental health problems, complex needs, and social isolation.

Q. *Are the appointments bookable online through the NHS and PatientAccess apps still underutilised?*

A. The five Face to Face appointments daily for every GP working are often un-booked, usually by 15 appointments per day.

Q. *Why keep these online bookable appointments available if they are under-utilised?*

A. NHS England and CCG require us to provide patients with flexible access to appointments. This is a more efficient way to book.

Q. *These apps ask for your NHS number. Where can I find it?*

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A. You can look it up here: <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/find-nhs-number/>

Q. *What if there are no more appointments for the Flu jab and I haven't had mine through the practice?*

A. This has never yet happened. If it did patients can still get a vaccination from their community pharmacist.

Livi appointments going well: over 1,500 patients have now registered. 120 appointments were used in the last week of September with good feedback (4.78 / 5 stars). You can find more on our website, and at the practice.

Recruitment Update: a Reception Manager and Medical Secretary joined in early October and six interviews are lined up for mid-October for roles in reception and admin.

Flu vaccinations: the website has the latest information about the upcoming flu clinics – we will update this as soon as we are notified about more supplies coming. PPG will relay this information.

COVID Boosters: The practice is not offering booster jabs. If you are due a jab the NHS will contact you through the national COVID-19 vaccination booking service. Boosters are being given at the Kassam Stadium in Oxford, designated pharmacies and other sites.

General Winter Healthcare Please be proactive in taking care of your health this winter - hospitals are already busy without Covid-19. We advise that you wear your mask and keep socially distanced.

Message from the PPG – The PPG welcome patients to their meetings. Please contact the Secretary – csugden@ocrpl.org.

Cumnor Choral Society

CCS are happily rehearsing Handel's "Messiah" in Cumnor Old School at 8 pm each Friday. The concert is planned to take place in the church of Saint Peter and St Paul, West Way, Botley on the 27th November at 7.30pm.

Tickets will eventually be available from Caroline Cockman. Tel: 07961 900670 or cockman.caroline@gmail.com

New singers are very welcome and the only requirement is that you enjoy singing in sociable company.

If you would like more information please contact John May, email johnmay@btinternet.com

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good time had
by all.
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year!*

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

| | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| <u>P21/V2542/FUL</u> | 4 Stanley Close. Change of use to HMO including extensions. <i>Target Decision Date: 28 Oct</i> | 2 Sept. |
| <u>P21/V2439/HH</u> | 129 Southern Bypass. Erect detached residential annex. | 13 September <i>TDD: 8 Nov</i> |
| <u>P21/V2695/HH</u> | Bladon House Stanton Rd. Existing single-storey replaced with new single-storey extension. | 21 September <i>TDD: 16 Nov</i> |
| <u>P21/V2746/HH</u> | The Forresters 54 Hurst Rise Rd. Extensions & alterations to existing dwelling & new garage annexe. | 27 September <i>TDD: 22 Nov</i> |
| <u>P21/V2775/HH</u> | 82 Westminster Way. Single storey rear extension. | 29 September <i>TDD: 24 Nov</i> |
| <u>P21/V2801/FUL</u> | 26 West Way Square. Illuminated sign, retractable awning, fan extractor and 2 compressor units. | 30 September <i>TDD: 25 Nov</i> |
| <u>P21/V2901/HH</u> | 46 North Hinksey Lane. Single storey side & rear extensions, part first floor rear extension, loft conversion with dormer window.. | 11 October <i>TDD: 6 Dec</i> |

Randoms

District councillor surgery

Missing Bean, Saturday 3rd December 1.30 to 3pm

Botley W.I.

Our next regular meeting is on **2 November** when Jenny Millin will talk about her family history in India. All welcome. The Eynsham Markets ladies will be with us then. A Skittles evening will be held at the WI hall on **19 November**, 7pm. Christmas Fair on **28 November** at the Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksey Lane (see diary on back cover). We are looking for a Santa to help us out! Call 07598 251161, Santa, we need you!

Alison Jenner

Are you grieving for a loved one?

Join us for our annual service to Remember those we have Loved on Sunday **14th November**, 5.00pm at the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, West Way, Botley.

New Botley Health Walks

Come and join this new initiative. We meet outside Botley Library every Tuesday morning at 11.00am and walk to a local green space. The walk usually takes about an hour and is free of charge. See our Facebook group 'Botley Health Routes' (email botleyhealthroutes@gmail.com.) See www.getoxfordshireactive.org for other Wellbeing walks in the district.

Service of Remembrance

Commonwealth War Graves, Botley Cemetery, 14 November, 10.45.

Oxford Area Quillers

I hope you enjoyed reading about our existence in last month's issue. If you are looking for a new hobby for the dark winter evenings, or indeed a new hobby for any other time, then you are welcome to come and join us. We meet on a Saturday once a month at the North Hinksey WI Hall, from 10.30 until around 3 (but people can drop in and out at times to suit). Remaining dates for this year are **6th November** and **4th December**. We hope some of you may come along and give quilling a go (if you don't enjoy it then there is no pressure to join us).

Angela Arnold

Organizations: If your organization is not listed here, please send details to editor@thesprout.org.uk or telephone 724452 for inclusion.

| | |
|--|--|
| 1st Botley Brownies Girls aged 7–10 | Dean Court Community Centre Thur 6–7.30 Jean Metson, firstbotleybrownies@gmail.com |
| 2nd Botley Brownies Girls aged 7–10 | Rosary Room, Yarnells Hill. Tues 6:15–7:45 Alison Griffin 2ndbotleybrownies@outlook.com |
| 4th Oxford Scout Group Beavers, Cub Scouts, Scouts | mail@thefourth.org.uk Website: http://www.thefourth.org.uk/ |
| 15th Oxford Scout Group Boys and girls welcome | Fridays, Cubs 6.30–8, Scouts 8–9.30, 1 Church Way, Botley Amy Cusden (Cubs) 07887 654386, Tom Freeman (Scouts) 07837 623768 xvoxfordscouts@yahoo.co.uk |
| Baby & Toddler Group | Tues/Thurs 9.15–11, SS Peter & Paul Church Hall |
| Badminton Club | Thurs 7–8pm at Matthew Arnold Sports Hall. Garry Clark 0777 3559 314 garryclark13@gmail.com |
| BikeSafe. B4044 community path campaign | Wants to connect Botley to Eynsham. Meets every 6–8 weeks. Contact via website B4044path.org |
| Books on Wheels R.V.S. | Free Library Service for housebound Ox. 248142 |
| Botley Boys & Girls F.C. Football teams from ages 8–16 | Jason Barley Ox. 242926 jbarley1@sky.com or Brendan Byrne 792531 brendan.byrne999@gmail.com |
| Botley Community Larder | Thursdays, 3.30 to 5.30 at St P&P Church Hall, West Way, contact us via Facebook or email botleylarder@gmail.com |
| Botley Library | 07922 849680. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays). |
| Botley Seniors Lunch Club | Alternate Thursdays. Seacourt Hall. Jackie Warner Ox.721386 |
| Cumnor Choral Society | Rehearsals Friday 7.45 to 9.45 pm John May 07795 054142 or www.cumnorchoralsociety.wordpress.com |
| Cumnor Chess Club | Thurs 7–9pm Cumnor Old School. Steven Bennett 862788 www.cumnorchessclub.co.uk |
| Cumnor & District Historical Society | Last Monday of the month 7.30–9.00 Cumnor Old School. 01865 724808 |
| Cumnor Gardening Club | http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/ or phone 01865 721026 |
| Harmony InSpires, Ladies' Acappella Singing Group | Wed 7.30 at Appleton Village Hall. C. Casson 01235 831352 or harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk |
| Hill End Volunteer Team | Contact: David Millin on david.millin@hill-end.org , call 863510 or visit www.hillend-oec.co.uk |
| Lawn Tennis Club, N Hinksey | Family club Email: Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org |

| | |
|---|---|
| Let's Sing! – singing group | Weds 2pm, WOCC, Emily 07969 522368 or email emformusic@outlook.com |
| Morris Dancing – Cry Havoc | Barbara Brett 249599 or bag@cryhavoc.org.uk |
| North Hinksey Preschool and Childcare clubs | Mon–Fri 7.45am–6.00 pm. Tel 794287 or email nhps.manager1@gmail.com |
| N Hinksey Art Group | Weds 10– 12.00 W.I. Hall Christina 07931 707997 |
| N Hinksey Bellringers | Contact: Ray Rook 01865 241451 |
| N Hinksey Conservation Volunteers | Meets at weekends Contact Voirrey Carr 07798743121 voirreyc@aol.com |
| N Hinksey, Friends of | Annual Cricket Match/ Walk. Douglas Bond 791213. |
| N Hinksey Parish Council | Sharon Henley, clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk |
| N Hinksey Youth Club | Weds at LM pavilion, Daz: 07791 212866 or F'book |
| Oxford Flood Alliance | R Thurston 01865 723663 or 07973 292035 |
| Oxford Flower Arranging Club | 4th Thursday Cumnor. Dympna Walker: Ox 865259 |
| Oxford Harmony Men's Acappella singing group | Meets Wednesdays 7.45 pm at Seacourt Hall, contact pro@oxfordharmony.co.uk |
| Oxford Otters | Swimming for people with disabilities. Sundays, twice monthly. Contact: Alan Cusden 723420 |
| Oxford Rugby Club | Boys and girls from 5, kevin.honner@ntlworld.com Seniors, training etc jbrodley@chandlings.org.uk . |
| Raleigh Park, Friends of | raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk |
| Seacourt Hall Management Committee | Michael Cockman 07766 317691 michael.cockman@gmail.com . |
| Shotokan Karate Club | 6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450 |
| Walking for Health | 2nd & 4th Saturdays 9.50 Louie Memorial Field car park, Arnolds Way. Alan 07941 610913 |
| West Oxford Bowls Club | Contact details on www.westoxfordbowlsclub.co.uk |
| West Oxford Taekwon Do Club | Mon, Thurs 6.30-8pm, MA gym, contact Chris Hall 01865 570291 www.wotkd.co.uk |
| West Oxford U3A | (Uni of the 3rd Age) http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/ |
| West Way Day Centre | Mon & Fri 10–3pm, Field House, 07740 611971. oxfordshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk |
| Women's Institute (Botley) | Alison Jenner 07598 251161 alisonjenner@yahoo.com |
| Weight Watchers | Thursdays 6pm at SS Peter & Paul Church Hall Banso tel: 07779 253899 bansob@aol.com |

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| Baptist Hall 1 Church Way | Contact: Diane Melchert 01865 243664 hall rent botleybaptistchurch@gmail.com |
| The Rosary Room Yarnells Hill, Elms Rise | Contact Maria Brown, Tel: 01865 247986. |
| SS Peter & Paul Church Hall, West Way, Botley | Contact: 01865 242057 or osneybenefice@outlook.com . |
| Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksey Lane | Contact: Val Warner Tel. 01865 245273 |
| Seacourt Hall, 3 Church Way | Contact: Lottie White on 07452 960100, or email admin@seacourthall.org.uk |
| Pavilion, Arnold's Way, Elms Rise, Botley | Contact: Darren Blase 241254 louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com |
| Oxford Rugby Club, North Hinksey Village | Contact: Mary Bagnall mary.bagnall1@btinternet.com . |

North Hinksey & Botley Churches

Times of Services (once resumed) and Contacts

St. Lawrence, Church of England, North Hinksey Lane

1st, 2nd, 4th Sunday, Sung Eucharist 11.30 a.m.

3rd Sunday, Matins 11.30 am

St. Peter and St. Paul, Church of England, West Way

2nd Saturday each Month, 4–6pm Messy Church for children and their carers

1st Sunday of the Month, 9.30am All Age service of Holy Communion

All other Sundays, 9.30am Holy Communion with activities for children

Every Wednesday, 10.30am Holy Communion at Field House

Rev Clare Sykes, Tel. 01865 242345 or revclare@btinternet.com

Our Lady of the Rosary, Roman Catholic, Yarnells Hill

Saturday 6.30 pm. Mass

Sunday 9.15 am Mass

Fr Daniel Lloyd. 07584 323915

dlloyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Botley Baptist Church, 1 Church Way

Sunday Service 11 am.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study 7.30 p.m.

Choir practice Thursday 2p.m.

Diane Melchert, secretary 07847 62534

www.botleybaptistchurch.org

Calvary Chapel

Sunday services held at Botley School 10.30–12 noon

Pastor Philip Vickery 01865 864498

[calvarychapeloxford@yahoo.co.uk;](mailto:calvarychapeloxford@yahoo.co.uk)

www.calvarychapeloxford.org.uk

Sprout

November 2021

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| Tues 2nd | 1 to 3pm, Seacourt Hall, Baby and Child First Aid Course, run by Botley Bridges |
| Thur 4th | 12 for 12.30, Seacourt Hall, Botley Seniors Lunch Club |
| Sat 6th | 10.30, W.I. Hall, Oxford Area Quillers |
| Sat 6th | 11am, Church Way, "Botley wants Action on Climate Change" photo call |
| Sun 14th | 10.45 Botley Cemetery, Service of Remembrance |
| Sun 14th | 5pm, Ss Peter & Paul Church, Service to remember Loved Ones Lost |
| Thur 25th | 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, N Hinksey Parish Council meeting |
| Thur 21st | Seniors Lunch club, as above. |
| Sat 27th | 7.30, Ss P&P, Cumnor Choral, Handel's "Messiah" |
| Sun 28th | 10–1.30pm, W.I. Hall, Botley W.I. Christmas Market |

More local events and information on www.botleyhinksey.org.uk