

The Sprout



The newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 127 May 2018

The Sprout

Issue 127, May 2018

Contents

3 Letters to the Editor	29 Electrifying theatre!
5 Botley Canal	31 Artweeks at the Pavilion
9 Science at Botley School	33 Planning Applications
11 Local Cadet Force	35 Police latest
15 Talking about Dying	37 Shopping Centre Update
19 Being Brownies	39 Randoms
23 District Update	43 Local Organizations

From the Editor

Quite a range of local material this month! There's the history of the Botley Canal that so nearly happened (p.5). Canals were the modern transport of the day, and the whole of Oxford might have been a different shape now, if this had gone ahead. Martin Harris (p.39) is looking for ideas for an article about Botley's literary associations, and on page 29 there is a review of an exciting production of *West Side Story*, which featured some of Botley's youthful talent. There's a final call for works of art to exhibit at the Pavilion during Artweeks in May (p.31), and next month we'll feature a map showing how to find our local artists. For the younger element there are accounts of the 2nd Botley Brownies (p.19) and the local Army Cadets (p.11), while for us mature adults there is a thoughtful article describing an End of Life conference (p.15) inspired by a book co-authored by Dr Elaine Sugden of North Hinksey Village. Our district Councillors have provided a comprehensive update on local affairs (p.23) and on page 37 you'll find the latest on the new shopping centre. This month's cover shows our youngest deliverers – as far as we know – seven-year-old twins Ale and Sophie, who help with the Hutchcomb Road round. Lovely to see such enthusiasm – thanks, kids, your contribution is much appreciated!

Ag MacKeith

Letters to the Editor

I have worked in Botley for many years, and two years ago my partner and I bought a house near Elms Parade. I have lived in Oxford for 12 years so I know the city and its neighbourhoods well.

After reading many *Sprout* issues, I gave up as I never felt it represented my views, nor my neighbours', work colleagues', or anyone who lives in the 21st Century (I am well past middle age, so don't assume I'm a millennial!). So I never read it anymore. However my partner got hold of the last issue and was surprised to read the letter published on p3 titled "The heart has its reasons." I was very pleased that you finally decided to publish such views. I couldn't agree more with the person who wrote the letter, which summarises very well the views of the silent majority.

For years I have walked every day from Minns to the Botley shops, well before the new development was even a topic. To me, Elms Parade has always been a depressing, poorly kept area with nothing appealing, and if I go there it is because I don't have time to prepare a lunch box. The only attractive places are Taylors, the dry cleaners, the butchers and the florist. Everything else is, and has always been for as long as I can remember, a bunch of grumpy, dirty, unkempt shops and cafés. I even visited the library as soon as I started working in the area years ago and was dismayed at its state and atmosphere.

Now that Botley has the opportunity to get a revamp, potentially nice places, new architecture that is not an eyesore, I can't comprehend why people keep complaining and trying to block its development. Object to a cinema??? A hotel?? Why would you want to object to all that? What is there to preserve in Botley? A bunch of old, musty shops, an incredibly ugly, unkempt group of buildings, uneven & dangerous pavements, lots of potholes, and patches of overgrown bushes covered in litter. It's been like that all the time I've lived in Oxford, and it's not fair to blame this on the new development. And how do you know that the new place won't be a community hub? For starters, it will be up to code and accessible for people with mobility issues, wheelchairs and scooters.

Finally, to those that keep nagging about how the new development is going to affect traffic, I'd advise they do as I do: take the bus.

Well done for publishing a letter that brings a breath of fresh air to your publication. I'd like to think that this shows *The Sprout's* willingness to produce a less biased publication.

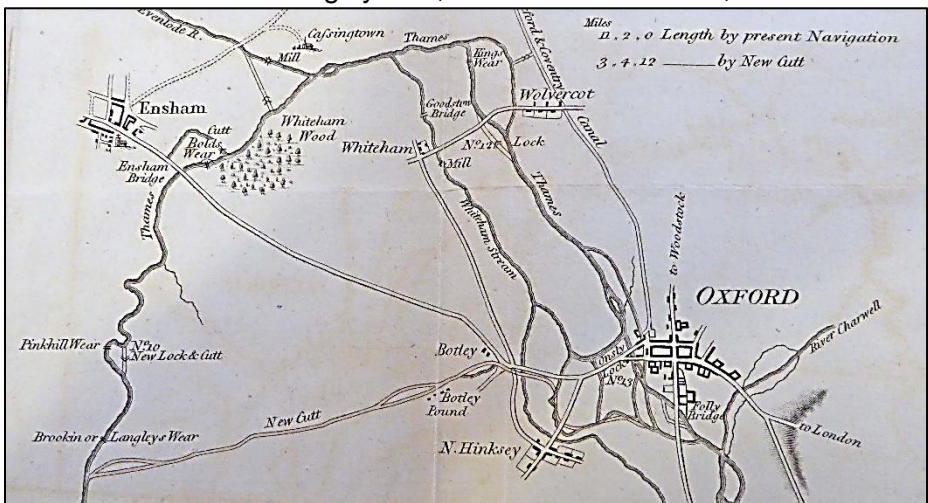
With best wishes, **Carolina**

The Botley canal that almost was

Two centuries ago, water transport was crucial for moving heavy or fragile goods. The Thames and Severn Canal (1789) and the Oxford Canal (1790) brought new business to the river Thames navigation, but other proposed waterways threatened to bypass it and take trade away. The Thames Commissioners built new locks to replace flash weirs, dredged shallow parts of the river and began to create a continuous towing-path which would enable horses to replace teams of men hauling barges upstream. In West Oxford, Osney Lock was built in 1790 and the Osney millstream was widened to form today's main river channel, replacing the old meandering route via Bulstake Stream.

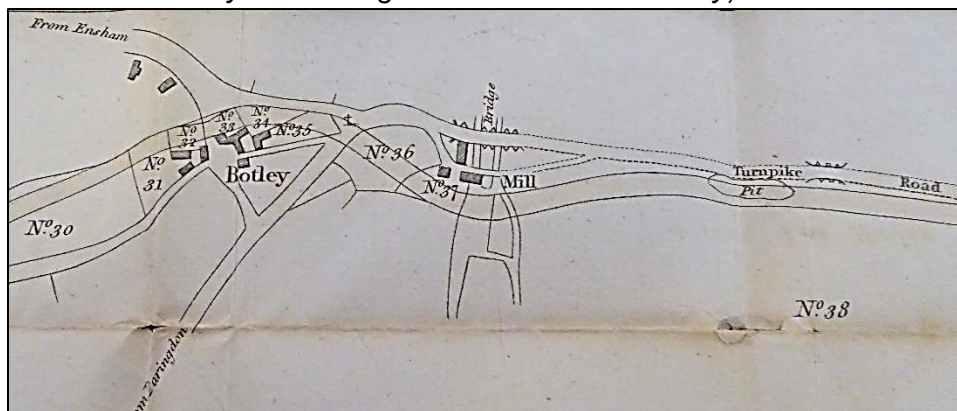
Despite these improvements, the state of the navigation remained poor, especially above Oxford. Only one or two barges a day could set off from Lechlade to Oxford when the river was low; when it was high, barges had to be partially unloaded to get through narrow arched Godstow and Folly bridges. In 1794, it was taking three days for a barge to travel from Lechlade to Oxford and another five to reach London.

Reducing the distance was one solution and, in January 1802, the surveyor Robert Mylne was asked to report on the feasibility of a new cut from the main river at Langley weir, south of Pinkhill Lock, to the Seacourt



stream below Botley Mill (see 1802 map above). This canal would cross Cumnor Meadow, now partially lost beneath Farmoor reservoir, on the way to Dean Court and then keep to the north of Eynsham Road before

crossing West Way near today's McDonald's car park to reach Botley Mill. From there, the main river below Osney Lock could be reached either by improving Seacourt Stream or by continuing the canal south of Botley Road to join the Bulstake Stream (see 1802 map of the proposals below. *N.B. 18th Century road configuration around Old Botley*).



Mylne praised the route in May, stating that 'there is no case in this kingdom where a valley passes so happily on low ground between two high swelling hills as rise on the side or it; and, so much *shorter* than the course of the River.' The difference between the proposed cut and the circuitous river channel around Wytham Hill was indeed considerable – just 3½ miles instead of 11. The estimated cost of £15,000 excluding land purchase was not initially viewed as a problem and the Thames Commissioners eagerly set about advertising for a loan and negotiating to buy land from the Earl of Abingdon.

Snags soon became evident. It would be too costly to maintain the old water course as well as the new cut. The 1788 Act which permitted new cuts specified just three miles of new waterways and this canal would take the commissioners over the limit. In August 1802, the commissioners had to admit that they could not proceed with the scheme, but they hoped that 'a Company of individuals' might apply to Parliament for the necessary powers. In November 1805, the Earl of Abingdon dashed any lingering hopes that the Botley canal might be built, declaring in a letter to the commissioners that, 'much as I wish to promote the Public advantage, I cannot consent to a measure that will so entirely ruin a principal part of my Property.'

Malcolm Graham

(Illustrations ©British Library Board BL Maps 30b 79)

Science Fair at Botley School

Do you like science? You should have been at Botley School's fun Science Fair on 13th March! All the stalls were organised and run by the children who were in the middle of a Science Week full of excitement and amazement. Mr Pearce started the week with a brilliant science assembly, where he showed us magic magnetic tins, static electricity in balloons, the wonders of gravity ... and lots more. Mrs Griffiths had a magic trick for sound using water ... and she tricked some of the teachers and got them soaking wet!

So, back to the Science Fair, here are some of the experiments we learned from... **Cleaning dirty coins** with coca cola, vinegar, lemon juice and washing-up liquid – which do you think worked the best??

One team made **cornflour slime** and **died it** red and green!

We learnt what happened with **dry ice**, we looked at the spooky events that followed. Volcanoes exploded, flowers changed colour, bubbles were blown. And do you know what happens when you put Mentos into fizzy pop? ... **BANG!!** What about putting soda and vinegar into a balloon ... guess what happened? *The balloon inflated!*

Damian demonstrated how **magnets help the Bullet trains to 'float' above the train tracks** with his special toy. Electronics, sound waves

and much more were organised by the pupils ... and they taught the teachers all about it!! Another fun afternoon at Botley School.

By Class 3AN

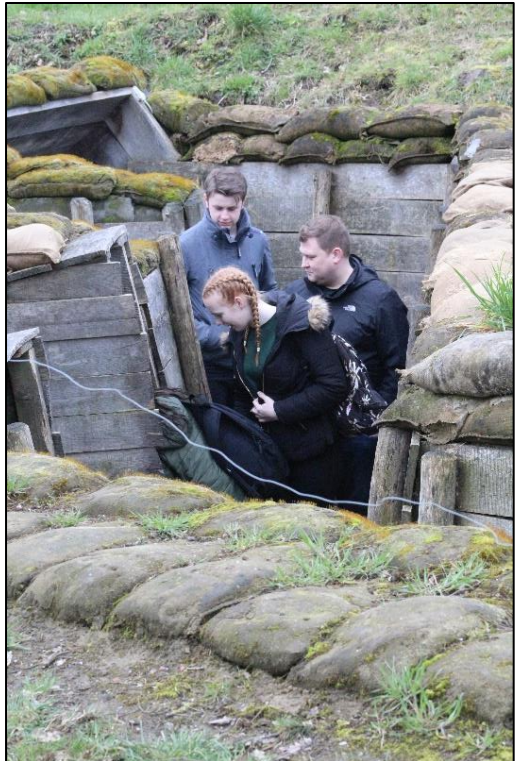


Oxpens Detachment, army cadet force

The background: Oxpens Detachment was formally opened as part of an expansion project in Botley that used to parade in the scout hut on Arnolds way. The detachment was further expanded to include Botley's surrounding villages and down the Botley road. This expansion came with a move into Falklands House, which increased our facilities to include a climbing wall, a gym and an indoor shooting range.

Belgium Battlefield tour 2018: In mid-March, Cadets from Oxpens Detachment joined likeminded others from around West Oxfordshire on a Battlefield tour of Belgium. The tour itself looked like it was in jeopardy when the unseasonal mid-March snow disrupted the scheduled weekend. Some frantic last-minute organisation meant that it went ahead as planned, two weeks later.

The Cadets started by visiting Tyne Cot war grave cemetery, the largest collection of Commonwealth War Graves. The sheer scale of the cemetery was a touching sight. The next stop was a tour around the Passchendaele Memorial Museum that gives a fascinating insight into life in a WWI trench. The tour ended with a trip to the iconic Menin gate at Ypres. The Cadets found the tour very interesting



and took the chance to pay their respect to the fallen soldiers. It gave perspective to what had previously been covered in military history lessons.

Detachment guest visits: Oxpens Detachment recently invited a sporting rifle shooter to give a talk on the principles of marksmanship. This talk explained classes of sport shooting, including the classes that

are being held at the Commonwealth games. The Detachment found out that sport shooting requires serious patience and body control, some of the gold medallists even slow their heart rates down to shoot in-between the beats. The lecture was interactive, as the shooting expert brought along his sporting rifle for the Cadets to see.

What else do we do? When we are not doing specially organised trips or talks we have a core set of training activities that includes navigation and expedition training and outdoor survival – all of which were useful for our field training weekend where we spent all weekend learning military tactics and survival tactics, camping outside.

One of our main aims in the Army Cadets is to challenge our cadets by taking them out of their comfort zone, largely through Adventures training. We use our 8-meter climbing wall and abseil platform at Oxpens detachment to develop trust, courage and self-confidence. Does this sound like something you'd like to be part of? You can contact me at **2038thomps@armymail.mod.uk** to find out more.

2nd Lieutenant **Mark Thompson** (Oxpens Detachment Commander)

A C Rendell Builders

- Local builder
- Over 25 years' experience
- All types of building work undertaken –
extensions, floor & wall tiling, bathrooms & kitchens,
patios, bricklaying & fencing, driveways & block paving.

***All Enquiries to Andy
Tel: 07973 362241***

Amanda and Andrea's Companion Care

We provide care and services that enable the elderly stay independent in their own homes. We can help with getting dressed, bathing, administering medicines, cooking, laundry, form filling, shopping and transport.

References available.

**01865 424906 / 862663 or 07916 147034
amandaandandreacc@gmail.com**

Talking about Dying

Two hundred health care workers, priests, patients, relatives, economists, scientists and teachers gathered in St Catherine's College in November to "Talk about Dying", sponsored by the Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice in Health and Social Care and the Oxford Healthcare Values Partnership.

Evan Davies, presenter of Newsnight, chaired the discussion. He noted what goes wrong in decisions about death: the relatives might defer to the doctors and the doctors want to ensure that they have done everything possible and in so doing fail to allow nature to take its course and give an opportunity for a peaceful death.

A panel started the conversation, opened by Dr Elaine Sugden, North Hinksey resident and co-author with Philip Giddings, Martin Down and Gareth Tuckwell of "Talking about Dying" (Wilberforce Publications 2017, obtainable for £7 from csugden@ocrpl.org) which was the catalyst for the event. Mrs Pamela Richards, herself undergoing experimental treatment for a life-threatening cancer, spoke of the support of people praying for her, and how she thought the trial might do her some good and help other

patients. She was warmly applauded. Joel Ward, a recently qualified doctor on the panel, observing events in hospital, said things went better when people had thought ahead about whether they wanted resuscitation and when they were treated by the same doctors throughout.

Honest conversations with patients and, where appropriate, their family and friends, promote a better death. The assumption among medical professionals that everyone wanted to prolong treatment was unhelpful, even among younger patients. Dr Graham Collins, a haematologist on the panel, spoke of a patient in her twenties who, after several courses of treatment, decided not to

Yoga 1 to 1

Yoga lessons
(Vinyassa Flow)
All levels welcome

Where? North Hinksey

When? Every Monday

6.30pm – 7.30pm

(Mats provided)

Private lessons available

Addressing Posture alignment
Physical therapeutic needs
Developing a home yoga practice

Further details from:

07710 099965

galleryattache@gmail.com

continue. Different metaphors were needed to describe people's experience: a "battle against cancer" may be initially inspiring, but the inevitable outcome means that everyone has been defeated.

Only one among 50 medics thought that the current practice of trying resuscitation in every case unless people had specified "Do not attempt to resuscitate" (DNAR) should continue. In the absence of DNAR, calling the 'emergency crash team' for every cancer / organ failure or care home patient can cause distress for all involved. (Unlike in television soap-operas, real-life resuscitation is rarely successful.) The importance of making advance decisions was stressed.

Everyone agreed that hospice places should be available to all when needed. "Making palliative care services available for everyone would be one thing I would change." Do doctors treat to prolong life, or to help prepare for a good death with loved ones around and out of pain? Dying was not a failure, a bad death was. A fascinating development was the emergence of the issue of "what comes next?" and "hope". Hope did not necessarily mean "Where there is life there is hope", which might lead to further unneeded treatment. Philip Giddings asked: "What values underlie a positive outcome?" Dr Collins noted that hope in life after death could transform the conversation.

Chris Sugden

Pete the Plumber

Your local heating & plumbing engineer. Plus full bathroom installation



07930 286442

No Job too Small



Private tutoring

with qualified teacher

Maths years 7 to 13

Physics up to GCSE

01865 422279

07877 873250

habaee@gmail.com

Isobel Dunnet Acupuncture

At Raleigh Park Clinic or in your home

- Arthritic/lower back pain
- Fertility & pregnancy
- Migraine/tension headache

Contact Isobel on

01865 240643 / 07751 477476

belokuk@gmail.com

www.isobeldunnet.co.uk

Member of Acupuncture for Childbirth Team (Oxford)



Being Brownies

The rescheduled Litter Pick actually happened despite the freezing temperatures which then produced yet more snow the following day. A hardy band of 2nd Botley Brownies and adult volunteers turned up at the allotted time and place and after everyone had received an OxClean hi-viz jacket, a litter grabber tool and a safety briefing we were off in small groups, clearing litter and sorting it into bags for recycling or landfill. We covered Westway Shopping Centre and Elms Parade – hopefully you saw our poster outside the Co-op to say we'd been. We found a huge number of cigarette butts and the precision of the grabbers meant that we were able to pick up each one individually. One



group was delighted to find an almost whole pizza near a cash machine and insisted that they posed for the camera with it before it was binned. [*Here it is, girls – see photo*] This group also enjoyed pulling crisp packets out of the nearby shrubs. The other groups did not have anything out of the ordinary to report except one group found a mower blade. The girls were quite enjoying themselves and making a clear difference but after an hour's litter picking the wind-chill had got the better of us and we left our tidy pile of bags at the designated spot and went, as promised, to McDonald's to reward the hardy team of volunteers with a hot meal and a drink.

The following week saw our unit off to Beanwood for the day to complete the Out and About badge organized by Little Owl as part of her adult leadership qualification. While the weather was not as cold as the previous week and the snow had gone it was a little drizzly but that didn't dampen enthusiasm. We walked up through the woodland, each carrying our lunch plus some equipment for the day. After a briefing the girls set about earning their Out and About badge. During the day they synchronised lighting tea lights, learned to use a compass, to read a map

and to understand the Green Cross Code, Country Code and Water Safety Code. Then there were acting sketches to be performed before our leisurely lunch hour could happen. Day trip lunches always seem to taste so much better than weekday school or work ones, and we had time to savour these and chat among ourselves after a hectic morning's learning. After a fabulous (if a little difficult) scavenger hunt we settled down around the campfire for a sing-song and marshmallow toasting, using our newly purchased, super-duper, extendable toasting forks (see *photo*). Squeezing a nicely toasted marshmallow in between a pair of chocolate digestives to make a summere, and then sitting back around the campfire to eat it, finished the day off a treat. Generally two more summores were needed to fortify each happy participant for the walk back down to waiting parents.



Lucy Howes

~~~~~  
*Hi Folks,*

*Just a **HUGE THANKYOU** to all the kind people who helped me on Friday 2nd March in Lime Road Recreation Ground, when I was tobogganing with my grandson and sustained very painful ligament damage to my right knee caused by two dogs playing!*

*Many thanks to the ladies who messaged my son, offered me a lift to the John Radcliffe, and offered to look after my grandson. Also to the very strong and fantastic gents who gallantly pulled me all the way to my son's house on a sledge (I hope that you are both fully recovered). I cannot thank you all enough and apologies for taking so long to send this. With much appreciation to you all, yours sincerely, **Margaret Mangan***

## District Update from Cllr Emily Smith

*It's been a busy few months, as ever, so I thought a brief update from your District Councillors was in order.*

**West Way Development:** While we both spoke against the development at planning committee, now the Mace/BDC plans are going ahead we are both focused on mitigating any harm and maximising the benefits of the development to the community. At the time of writing Debby is working on an objection to removing the ramp between the two levels of the car park and the potential increase in traffic on Arthray Road, and Emily is working with County Councillor Judy Roberts on questions for the Cabinet Member for Transport about the new pedestrian crossing over West Way and making the pavement on the northern side wider. We are both in regular contact with the developers but you can contact them yourselves with problems or questions via [dan@spbroadway.com](mailto:dan@spbroadway.com).



**Leisure Facilities:** We are very pleased with the emerging plans for a new Pavilion/Scout hut and play equipment at the Louise Memorial Playing fields and the work that Nortoft (funded by the Vale at our request) and North Hinksey Parish Council have done. We continue to make the case for capital funding from the sale of land at West Way being spent on this project and others to improve the quality of life for residents in Botley.

**Growth Deal for Oxfordshire.** All district councils within the county voted to accept the deal offered by Government for £215m more money for infrastructure, affordable homes and capacity funding. In exchange, districts agree to build 100,000 new homes, and to produce a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan to guide development throughout the county. Your Vale councillors did not vote in favour of the deal – we raised concerns about the small amount of funding the deal represents, the lack of information about whether ANY of the £60m for affordable housing or £150m for infrastructure projects would benefit Vale residents. We talked about the poor track record of Oxfordshire's six councils in delivering complex joint projects, the loss of democratic oversight of planning from Councillors to the Growth Board, and the potential financial penalties for



not meeting the housing targets in the deal. Debby is now working to establish effective scrutiny arrangements of this complex project.

**Oxford to Cambridge Expressway:** Widening the A34 through Botley would be devastating for our community – and could require the demolition of houses, school(s), shops and possibly the Commonwealth War Graves – so I am hopeful that this route will be avoided. I have written to Highways England making this point, questioning the lack of public consultation about both the corridor and the investment in new roads at a time when rail electrification is being cancelled and local roads are in such a poor state. Whichever corridor is chosen will have huge implications for the environment and the communities it will pass through, but for now we just have to wait until July when the preferred corridor will be announced.

**Vale Local Plan 2031, Part 2 Hearing:** The Secretary of State has appointed David Reed as the planning inspector to carry out the independent examination of the local plan. Mr Reed will examine the plan, the evidence that supports it and the comments received, before making his decision on whether the plan is 'sound' and 'legally compliant'.

LPP2 includes additional housing sites to help meet Oxford City's unmet need, as well as Park & Ride sites at Lodge Hill and Cumnor. Dates for the examination have not yet been announced but it should take place this summer. Debby and I will be there to represent residents.

**Air Quality Management:** I recently asked the Cabinet member for Environmental Health about what progress had been made on the council's Air Quality Action Plan of 2015. The answer was 11 out of 10 actions have not been actioned – mainly due to a lack of resource. I had to express my disappointment in February when the new budget didn't include any extra money to

## Mobile Hairdresser

For Ladies & Gentlemen  
Qualified for over 40 years  
Experienced with  
elderly & disabled

Shampoo, set & blowdry £7.50  
above with cut £15.00

Cut only £8.50

Perms inc. £28.00

Gentlemen's cuts £7.00

Hairdressing in the comfort of  
your own home



**Call Peter**  
**01865 708216**

deliver the Air Quality Action Plan as promised in 2015. We continue to push the administration for more action on air quality management in Botley.

**Homes in Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Regulation Change:** National changes coming later this year will redefine HMOs as all houses with 5 or more people from 2 or more households (they will no longer have to be 3 storeys). This means that Vale's current handful of HMOs subject to regulation will likely become several hundred. This is good for the most vulnerable of renters, who often have little protection from rogue landlords.

**Community Grants:** The Vale award capital, revenue and events grants to community groups. There are two opportunities to apply this year, the first opens from 25th April to 6th June. In the last few months local groups have been awarded the following grants:

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Botley Bridges                 | £1,518  |
| Oxford Rugby Club              | £2,820  |
| North Hinksey Pre-School       | £15,000 |
| Branches Youth Support Service | £6,805  |

To apply for a grant visit **[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants)** for the forms and additional information. We are happy to help groups from our ward with applications if needed.

**Have you downloaded the Binzone app?** It's a great way to keep track of which bin is being collected which week, and around bank holidays it updates you on changes to collection days. Download Binzone to your smartphone from **[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/binzone](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/binzone)**

**Sign up for Planning Applications notifications:** Anyone can sign up on Vale's website to receive email notifications of new planning applications in their area. To sign up, use this link: **<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/news-and-events/keep-me-informed/email-alerts>**

**Keeping in touch:** Thanks to everyone who came along to our Councillor Surgeries. We had a positive turn out so will announce more dates soon. In the meantime, you can get in touch with us anytime via Facebook or by email or phone like this: Cllr Emily Smith phone 07986 877 933 and email **[emily.smith@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:emily.smith@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)** and Cllr Debby Hallett by phone on 01865 240031 or by email **[debby.hallett@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:debby.hallett@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)**

You can access our monthly reports to parishes, Debby's email bulletins and more at: **[www.cllrdebbyhallett.com](http://www.cllrdebbyhallett.com)**

**Emily Smith**

## Electrifying theatre!

Some people may feel that the Sprout does not pay enough attention to the Arts. It is true that, apart from its choirs and art exhibitions at the church, Botley can't really claim to be a cultural hub. But the theatre does bring excitement into our daily lives, and so I thought you might enjoy an account of the electrifying performance of *West Side Story* by Oxford Youth Music Theatre that I saw last night.

If you aren't familiar with this tragic tale, you should know that it's loosely based on *Romeo and Juliet*, only the two rival gangs are in 50s New York. There are the less recent immigrants – the Jets (see photo) – defending their patch from the latest incomers – the



Sharks, from Puerto Rico. A Jet boy falls for a Shark girl, there is a catastrophic fight in which things get out of hand and people get killed. Misunderstandings and mixed messages spiral to a tragic finale.

The music is by Leonard Bernstein and it was originally conceived as a modern ballet directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins, which explains why the dancing is so much part of the story. The 'book' was written by Arthur Laurent and the lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and it is packed with memorable numbers like 'Tonight', 'Maria' and 'America'.

Maria, the 'Juliet' of this production, is played by a former Matthew Arnold pupil, Nicola Trinder. She is outstandingly good. The depth and power of her final scene had the audience in tears.

There were other stellar moments – the riotous cast ensemble of 'Officer Krupke', for instance, the thrilling duet in which Maria sings down stricken Anita's pain and grief, and persuades her that love must prevail.

There are weaknesses in the production, inevitably: these players are still very young (ages range from 14 to 19) and are still learning. I prefer to dwell on its strengths. There were many: the athletic and vigorous dancing; the spot-on timing; the beautiful expressive singing that did justice to those numbers I have loved since I was a child; the colourful costumes; and the energy and enthusiasm of the youthful cast.

Quite a few of these were a credit to Matthew Arnold's Drama department. As well as Nicola Trinder, there was Ailis Young, memorable as Anita, Alex Jacobs as Baby John, Finn Whelan as Chino and Laura Stone, a feisty Anybodys.

I should have mentioned the band, but they were so good I took them entirely for granted! Besides, they were invisible. It can't have been easy playing behind screens at the back of the stage, and it was certainly a challenge for the cast to cram those fast, energetic dances into the remaining space. Still, everybody managed the constraints triumphantly. Let's hope that next year they can play in a theatre that does them justice. If it's half as good as this year it will be worth seeing. I'm looking forward to it very much.

**Ag MacKeith**

~~~~~

Artweeks at the Pavilion

Don't forget the Community Art Exhibition at the Louie Memorial Pavilion on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th May. Do you have a piece of artwork we can hang this in the space? We can have 3D work as well, if you have a piece of sculpture, knitting or a model to submit. The deadline has been extended to Monday 30th April.

As we need to know what we have to fit, please let us know as soon as possible. Contact Emmett or Catherine on 01865 427519 or email **emmettcasley@gmail.com** There is no age limit to submitting work. It is a non-selling exhibition, but please do include contact information for visitors if you wish to.

If you don't feel you can exhibit anything, then just come and have a look. We are running a cafe to entice you in, open 11–5 on both days, with all proceeds going to supporting the Pavilion. If you would rather donate a cake or volunteer behind the scenes in the kitchen, that too would be wonderful.

Just a very small team is running this event. Emmett has his own Art Weeks exhibition this weekend (as do Ali & Jane Hogg - Venue 227, Mark Clay – Venue 227, Kate Hipkiss – Venue 224, Lihua Yuan – Venue 223) so pop down to 5 Crabtree Road before or afterwards. As you can see, Botley has more artists than ever exhibiting in this year's Art Weeks.

Catherine Casley

(Not entirely a cultural desert, then. Ed)

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P18/V0616/HH	26 Sweetmans Rd. Demolish rear 1-storey, porch and garage. Build 2-storey extensions to flank and rear, 1-storey to rear, front porch, new windows and add deck.	12 March <i>Target Decision Date: 7 May</i>
P18/V0640/HH	16 Chestnut Road. Two-storey extension at the side of the house.	12 March <i>TDD: 7 May</i>
P18/V0315/HH	23 Lime Road. Two-storey side extension and loft conversion.	13 March <i>TDD: 9 May</i>
P18/V0578/HH	33 Raleigh Park Rd. Amendment to P17/V3103/HH. 1 flat roof dormer replacing 2 single dormers. Flat roof to 1-storey rear extension.	20 March <i>TDD: 15 May</i>
P18/V0708/HH	18 Hazel Road. 2-storey side & rear extension, with 1- storey at rear.	20 March <i>TDD: 15 May</i>
P18/V0625/HH	37 Cedar Road. Single storey rear extension.	22 March <i>TDD: 17 May</i>
P18/V0686/LDP	9 Chestnut Road. Extension to rear of property.	23 March <i>TDD: 18 May</i>
P18/V0820/HH	106 West Way. Double garage to bungalow under construction. Planning apps P16/V1470/FUL + P17/V2078/HH 3 spaces approved to be replaced by double garage + space in front.	6 April <i>TDD: 1 June Comments by 2 May</i>
P18/V0787/FUL	96 West Way .Erection of apartment block of 6 apartments (4 x 2 bedroom and 2 x 1 bedroom).	10 April <i>TDD: 5 June</i>



Cumnor Clinic



Chiropractic & Craniosacral Care for Children,
Acupuncture, Therapeutic & Holistic Massage, Reflexology, Lymphatic
Drainage Therapy.

NEAL'S YARD REMEDIES,

Also Essential oils and supplementssee our website for details

Reception is open Tues to Sat 9.30 -12

Tel: 01865 863646 Website: www.cumnorclinic.com

Neighbourhood Policing

Priorities: The main subject of concern on our area is burglaries. The Neighbourhood Team has increased its patrols, provided crime prevention advice and helped to set up 'SmartWater streets'. We would like to further appeal to residents to maintain their vigilance at this time and call in any suspicious activity. SmartWater is a security marking product and to find out more about it please visit www.smartwater.com

There has been an increase in workmen in the area going door to door offering goods and services. While many of these are legitimate, the current situation has caused tensions and further issues. If you do get one of these visitors and you do not want what they are offering, please just decline politely and close your door. If you believe that you are a victim of a rogue trader, or are concerned that a neighbour or family member may be, please report it to Trading Standards via 03454 04 05 06. If you feel threatened in anyway, call 999.

Witness appeals: Between the 2nd and 4th March, a shed was broken into on Norreys Close in Cumnor. The offender forced entry and removed tools. It is believed more sheds were broken into also as other items have been found discarded in the area. • On March 13th, a house on Eaton Road, Appleton was burgled at 8pm. Offenders forced access via a downstairs back window. Jewellery, car keys and other items were taken • On April 2nd between 6 and 9pm, a ground-floor window was forced and a property was broken into on Hids Copse Road in Cumnor. Cash, Jewellery and other personal items were taken.

Have Your Say – Active Communities On 17th March PCSO Adi Wright held a 'Have your say' meeting at Dean Court Community Centre, concerns were raised regarding burglaries including sheds. There are a number of crime prevention steps that can be taken, many of which can be found online. However if you have particular concerns please come along to the meetings detailed below, or contact us in the following ways: via police non-emergency number 101 (dial 999 in an emergency); via email abingdonouterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. (but don't use this email to report crimes or other urgent matters). You can find information on your neighbourhood team on the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. If you register at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk you can get free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice. Our Twitter feed is [@TVPSouthandVale](https://twitter.com/TVPSouthandVale). The next HYS session will be on 12th May 2018, 2pm – 3pm at Dean Court Community Centre, Pinnocks Way, Oxford.

Shopping Centre Update

Work on the temporary accommodation: Works on Grant Thornton and Elms Court are continuing, to provide temporary accommodation for Tesco, Co-op, Lloyds' chemist, Seacourt Hall and the Baptist Church. Mace expect that these will take up occupancy in June or July. Before Tesco and Co-op can open, the new access from West Way to Chapel Way (for deliveries only, not for general traffic) needs to be opened.

The through route, Chapel Way, from Elms Parade to Westminster Way is expected to remain open during the temporary arrangements. Seacourt Hall and the back end of Grant Thornton will be demolished and Chapel Way re-aligned where these currently stand. The existing road will become the access for the demolition and re-build of the West Way shopping centre (Phase 1 of the development). The conditions on the planning consents for both the temporary accommodation and the full development will need to be discharged before this will happen.

It is disappointing that Mace's contractors (in this case Maylarch), have been parking on public roads and driving lorries along Eynsham Road, which is contrary to their statements at the public exhibition and in their construction traffic management plan. We are assured that they will now comply with these conditions, which are in place to preserve the safety and amenity of local people. In the event of further issues, the contact at SDC (Mace's main contractor) is by phone on 07920 847256.

Art work in West Way: If you visit West Way shops regularly you will have seen that as well as art from Botley School children local street artists have also been at work on the boarded up shops. This project is run by Oxford Street Art Collective and features work by a number of well known Oxford street artists.

Application for changes to the plans, ref P17/V3298/FUL: At the time of writing, the application is expected to go to planning committee at the end of May. This has been delayed again as there are still issues within the plans which have to be resolved before going to committee.

As far as we are concerned, now that the plans show Church Way closed off to general traffic, the main issue is the impact on Arthray Road and other residential roads:

1 Car Park access: Around half of all vehicles visiting the centre will come and go via Arthray Road, either from Westminster Way, or from Hurst Rise Rd via Springfield Road and Hutchcomb Road.

The ramps linking the two levels of the car park were an important feature in the approved plans. Their inclusion lent credibility to the notion that the main access to the centre by car would be from Westminster Way. The issues in the current proposals arise from the decision by Mace to remove the ramps such that traffic to the upper deck has to come off Arthray Road, since access from West Way via Church Way has been closed off. No reason has been provided for it being necessary to dispense with the ramps, our view is that this change to the plans should not be approved.

2 Delivery route changes: Arthray Road becomes the main access to the centre by all HGVs: HGVs will be delivering to all three foodstores, passing through the centre and unloading either in Church Way pedestrian area, or in a lay-by on Westminster Way.

Arthray Road is **completely unsuitable** for the volume of traffic which will result. Although NHPC have not objected to the current proposals, in spite of the Arthray Road issues, Oxfordshire County Council's comments have weight and have to be addressed.

There are other issues in the application, particularly relating to the landscaping of the pedestrian areas. See more in our comment on the application which can be seen at <http://bit.ly/wwccmarch18>.

Viability and delays: It has been said on a number of occasions that the viability for this development is doubtful, in the sense of the developer making the required profit. At the recent Community Liaison Group Mace assured us that they do not intend to walk away, and would see the project through to completion.

As we know, delays to projects cost money, but any delays so far have been as a result of the proper planning processes which have to be followed. This gives the public chance to comment on things that affect our environment and community, and West Way Concern will continue to do this, and support others who wish to do so. You can find out more via westwayconcern.wordpress.com; facebook.com/westwayconcern; [twitter .com/westwayconcern](https://twitter.com/westwayconcern); and westwayconcern@gmail.com

Mary Gill (chair of West Way Community Concern)

Randoms

Botley W.I.

This month we have had an excellent talk by Ian Jones, MBE on "Bomb Disposal." It was a gripping account of a lifetime's work seeking to protect us, leavened with some poignant moments and elements of dark humour. For our next meeting (on May 1st at 7.30), we shall have advice from a firefighter. The walking group will meet at WI Hall at 10 am on May 14th to go to Harcourt Arboretum. At the craft evening at 7.30 on May 15th, members will be decorating bags and making poppy wreaths. Book group meets on 23rd May, and there will be a visit to Sudeley Castle on 6th June; members £15; non-members £25. Come and join us!

Alison Jenner

Coming soon (with your help) ... Literary Botley

In a future Sprout, I'm planning on writing about some of our locals, past and present, who have had books published. Please let me know of any that you think I should mention, whether they have written fiction or non-fiction. The author can be internationally famous, an academic or just have had books published locally. As long as he or she has lived, however briefly, in this parish they should be included. Is it true that Desmond Morris, who wrote *The Naked Ape* in 1967 once lived here?

Matthew Arnold – the School – remembered: I'm also looking into the possibility of having a display about Matthew Arnold School. Do you have any old photos or reminiscences? Were you there the day the school opened in 1958?

Martin Harris

Botley Library

Children's 'Drop-in' Craft activity Saturday 12th May 10.30am to 12.00. Age from 4 upwards. All materials provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

U3A talks

14 May Mark Davies. James Sadler, The first English Aeronaut.

Mark is a historian who lives on a barge in Oxford. His research is largely about Oxford characters, stories, and places. 'King of Balloons' James Sadler, defied constraints of his upbringing to build and fly a hot air balloon in Oxford 1784. Subsequently he had a career as an engineer, designer of armaments and a chemist in the Navy. He and his son set

numerous records while ballooning from some 40 towns in 40 years. Despite his achievements he ended his days in Oxford in impoverished obscurity dying in 1828.

11 June Mark Walsh. 'Here's a funny thing'.

A biographical talk on the life and times of the comedy legends George Formby and Max Miller. Since his childhood, Mark's idol has been the 'one and only George Formby' OBE. Well known singer and comedian in 1930s and 1940s, one of his best known songs being 'with my little stick of Brighton Rock. Max Miller known as 'The Cheeky Chappie' was widely regarded as the greatest stand up comedian of his generation. Mark will present a biographical talk with a flavour of these iconic entertainers.

Dean Court Community Association | Part Time Administrator

We're recruiting! 12 to 15 hours to suit the right applicant. We know we need positivity, friendliness and amazing organisation skills, you tell us what else you can bring to the role! Pay £8.75ph. Closing date 6th May 2018. E-mail jobs.deancourtcc@gmail.com for a job description and application form... We look forward to hearing from you!

Anna Pearson

Christian Aid Week runs this year from 13th–19th May

For more than 70 years, with the help of our supporters, Christian Aid has been changing the lives of people, of all faiths and none, living in poverty around the world. Please look out for the red envelopes coming through your door to receive your donation. There will be a **Christian Aid Big Brekkie** on Saturday 12th May 9.30am–11.30am at St. Peter & St. Paul. Come and enjoy breakfast for a good cause. On **Monday 21st May** there's a **trip to Coventry Cathedral** organized by St. Peter & St. Paul. £20 per person. Contact Janet Budd on 01865 863682. **Rev Clare Sykes**

New club

Is anyone interested in joining a Cake/Sugarcraft Club if we were to start one up? We would meet at a local venue about once month for 2 hours. We'd book demonstrators to show us new skills, and have some hands-on workshops etc. Meetings would be evenings or weekends as we appreciate many people (myself included) work full-time. Even if you do not actively make and decorate cakes but have an interest in learning some techniques you would be welcome to come along. Contact me on 07340 646904 or AngelaArnol@aol.com if this sounds like you.

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 Fiona Wheeler, firstbotleybrownies@gmail.com
2nd Botley Brownies Girls aged 7–10	Rosary Room, Yarnells Hill. Tues 6 -7.30 : Alison Griffin 01865 379247
4th Oxford Scout Group Beavers, Cub Scouts, Scouts	Scout Hall, Arnolds Way; mail@thefourth.org.uk Website: http://www.thefourth.org.uk/
15th Oxford Scout Group Boys and girls welcome	Meet Fridays, Botley Baptist Hall Contact: Julie Tatham 01865 863074 or Amy Cusden 07887 654386
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
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 Ox.792531 brendan.byrne999@gmail.com
Botley Health Walks	Wednesday 9.30 a.m Contact: Briony 246497
Botley Library	01865 248142. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays).
Botley Singers	Thur 7.30, St Andrew's Church, Dean Court. Angela Astley-Penny Ox.242189 angastpen@aol.com
Chair-based Exercise Class	Tuesdays 10.30 – 11.30 a.m. Seacourt Hall Contact Lizzie, Oxon Age UK, 07785 425601
Community Fridge	For all. Put food in, take food out. Ss P&P church, Mon–Sat 9–5, Sun 11–5. Riki Therivel 07759 135811
Cumnor Choral Society	Friday 7.30 to 9.30 pm Contact: 01235 533726 or 07552 786127 or www.cumnorchoral.co.uk
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	Details on website at http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/ or phone Chris Impey, 01865 721026
Fit Steps – exercise based on dance	Friday 6–7pm, Seacourt Hall. Email Rosalie on rosalie.crane@btinternet.com
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 01865-863510 or visit www.hillend-oec.co.uk
Let's Sing! – singing group	Weds 2pm, WOCC, details Emily 07969 522368 or email emformusic@outlook.com
Morris Dancing – Cry Havoc	Barbara Brett 249599 or bag@cryhavoc.org.uk
Mum and Baby Yoga for babies from 6 wks to crawling	Mondays 10.30 at Dean Court CC, contact Jacqueline Rice via https://yogawithjacqueline.co.uk

North Hinksey Preschool and Childcare Clubs	Mon–Fri 7.45am –6.00 pm. 01865 794287 or email nhps.manager1@gmail.com
N Hinksey Art Group	Weds 10 – 12.00 W.I. Hall Tel: 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 Horticultural Soc	Contact: Ann Dykes Ox 251821 anndykes@hotmail.com
N Hinksey Parish Council	Alan Stone 01865 861992 nhpcclerk@msn.com
N Hinksey Youth Club	Wednesdays at Arnold's Way pavilion, call Daz on 07791 212866 or see Facebook
Over Sixties Lunch Club	Every other Thursday. Seacourt Hall. Viv Smith 01865 241539 or Jackie Warner 01865 721386
Oxford Flood Alliance	R Thurston 01865 723663 or 07973 292035
Oxford Flower Arranging Club	4th Thursday Cumnor. Dymrna Walker: 01865 865259
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 .
Oxford Sports Lawn Tennis Club, N Hinksey	Family club: Melanie Riste 848658 or melanie_riste@hotmail.com
Parkinson's Disease Soc	Contact: Pen Keyte, Branch Secretary 01865 556032.
Raleigh Park, Friends of	David Brown raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk
Royal Voluntary Service (West Way Day Centre)	Mon & Fri 10–3pm, Field House, 07740 611971. oxfordshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk
Saturdads Botley Bridges	Fun activities and trips for Dads and under 5's 10 am–noon 1st Sat of month. Tel: 243955
Seacourt Hall management committee	Contact: Michael Cockman 07766 317691 michael.cockman@gmail.com .
Shotokan Karate club	6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450
Weight Watchers	Thursdays 6pm at SS Peter & Paul Church Hall Banso tel: 07779 253899 bansob@aol.com
West Oxford Bowls Club	Contact: Marion Bostock 436277
West Oxford Taekwon Do Club	Mon, Thurs 6.30-8pm, MA gym, contact Chris Hall 07815 899698 www.wotkd.co.uk
West Oxford U3A	(Uni of the 3rd Age) http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/
Which Craft?	Pavilion, Arnold's way, fourth Monday, contact whichcraft.botley@yahoo.co.uk
Women's Institute (Botley)	Liz Manson, 244175 email liz.manson@virginmedia.com

