

The Sprout



The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 178 June 2023

The Sprout

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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Issue 178, June 2023

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From the Editor

Quite a range in this month's *Sprout*: there's local history in 'The Rise of Elms Rise (p9) and the exhibition of Oxford's River Bathing Places (including Tumbling Bay) (p15). Where health is concerned, we are lucky to have the hard-working Patients Participation Group, who are keeping us informed of developments at the medical practice (p17) and if your child needs a jab, there are details of the School-Aged Immunisation Service on page 5. Page 25 investigates the downside of vaping. The results of the recent local elections are on page 7, and there's an overview of the response to the planning application for the new skatepark (p21). The most recent planning apps are on page 31. On other pages, Chris Hall's Taekwondo students are winning belts (p19), the Brownies have been doing coronation-themed activities (p13), and our cover shows the beacon getting its third outing on 6th May, when Cumnor chose to light it with its rain cover still on, as can be seen from Caroline Cockman's photo. It quickly melted and flew away, as you might imagine (and hopefully was quickly rescued). The Coronation capers on the field were more low-key than last year's Jubilee, but still enjoyable. About 200 people turned out to socialize with their neighbours, and to squelch up the muddy track to the beacon. Randoms reminds you this is your last chance to enter Botley in Bloom, our front garden competition (p34). There have been very few entries this year, so you have a good chance! A letter on the subject on page 3, suggests a reason. Could the writer be right? Could the competition have a different focus? Comments please to Editor@thesprout.org.uk.

Ag MacKeith

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Letters to the Editor

Botley in Bloom

I saw your recent announcement of the Botley in Bloom competition. You seem to have continued with similar categories as previously, namely: **Best Overall, Best Cultivated Wildlife, and Best Use of Vegetables.**

Given that we are experiencing a cost-of-living crisis, and since many of the front gardens in our community are paved (often by previous homeowners or by current landlords) or otherwise built up to serve a functional purpose, I would like to ask you to consider a category that could be phrased around the idea of **Best Low Cost** or **Limited Space.**

For instance, in my own house a previous owner paved the front garden and while we love to install a pop of colour and support the wildlife through a couple of planters, a bee house, and a green border in front of our front fence, we are not in a position to "open up" more green space by taking up the paving. I would imagine that many others who have similarly paved front gardens or are renting a house where the front garden is fully paved are in a similar position.

I think it would be a good idea to enthuse folks like us to participate in the competition and take a bit of time to think how they may be able to support wildlife or greening their front garden, even if that was in a more modest way owing to finances or to the existing infrastructure.

I wish that organizing a nice community event such as the Botley in Bloom competition would be underpinned by a somewhat more thoughtful reflection of the kinds of front gardens and living situations that exist in our community. For instance, while a category about vegetables is an interesting idea and done with the best of intentions, many of those with front gardens that face a busy road just would not be cultivating vegetables so close to a constant source of pollution.

But please take this suggestion as nothing more than my two cents! I really like the competition and in an ideal world I'd love to see every front garden starting to showcase colour, creativity, and great ideas when the competition draws closer. I just think in terms of setting the competition categories with some more thought you could encourage few more folks to participate this year!

In any case, thanks a lot for considering my suggestion and thanks for running the competition!

Local resident (name and address supplied)

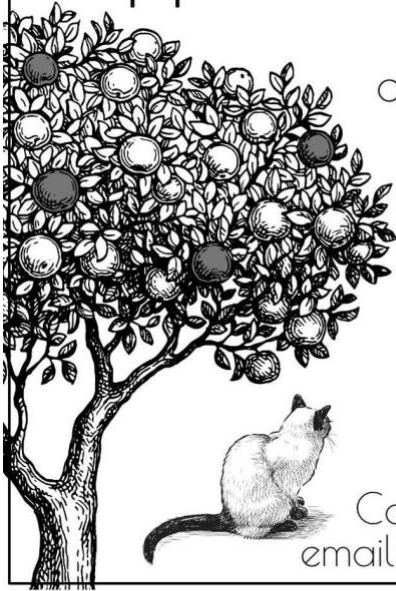
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I thought you'd like to know that the egg topper [or *Eierschalensollbruchstellenverursacher*], featured in the March issue, also appeared briefly in a recent episode of BBC1's cult soap 'Eastenders'. The gadget was wielded on his breakfast eggs by the rascally Reiss Colwell, squeeze of the saintly Sonia Fowler.

Grant Nightingale

[Thanks, Grant. We like to be in the swing! Ed]

~~~~~

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## How Did They Get On?

Following the elections on 4th May, we now have a new **Parish Council**. How did the voting go?

### Elected:

Lorna Berrett: 744 votes, Ag MacKeith 731, Chris Church 714, Lisa Barnes 652, David Kay 623, Nekisa G-B 616, Jamie Spooner 611, Shazia Keily 582, Alistair Bastin 546, Adam Rankin 540, Laura Jones 532, Nicola Johnson 509, Martin Dowie 505 and Erica Davis 502.

Who are your new councillors? Here they are on the right: **Nekisa, Lisa, Erica, Shazia, Nicola and Jamie.**

### Not elected:

James Poyser 499, Julie Lesniarek 498, Chris Hall 492, Julia Hammett 487, Andrew Pritchard 450, Rod Chalk 428, George Nicholls 424, John Marriott 402, Calum Byrom 332, Linda Morrison Allsopp 286, Matt Scarborough 248, Nick Wedd 230.

We were voting for our **District Councillors** too, and the results were very clear: Emily Smith 1184 votes, Debby Hallett 1155.

None of the other candidates got more than 327 votes.



~~~~~

The Sprout team sends heartfelt apologies to Matt Scarborough, who sent in his photo and few words in good time for last month's *Sprout*, but, unfortunately, they got overlooked in the rush to print.

~~~~~

Also worth noting – the council has changed its name to Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council (BNHPC). New email and website addresses are still being put into place.

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## The Rise of Elms Rise

The building of houses on Elms Rise began shortly after the opening of the Southern Bypass (now part of the A34) from South Hinksey to Botley in 1932. Oxford was a fast-growing city, boosted by the motor industry in Cowley, and regular bus services as well as expanding car ownership encouraged people to live outside the city boundary. House builders took advantage of cheaper land in places like Kidlington, Wootton and Botley to supply modern houses that were affordable, at least to those with regular incomes.

The Southern Bypass provided Elms Farm with a new road on its eastern boundary. Stephen Howse, the owner of Elms Farm on what is now West Way, was quick to appreciate the potential development value of his farmland. A layout plan for the estate was prepared, presumably by a local architect, which included what were to become Arthray and Montagu Roads, Finmore and Crabtree Roads, St Paul's Crescent and the cul-de-sacs that we know as Hawthorn Close, Maple Close, Cope Close, The Garth and Stanley Close. No shops or commercial buildings were to be allowed on the purely residential estate as Howse sought to channel customers and businesses towards his Elms Parade shopping centre, opened in 1937.

Elms Rise was built by several different firms, each of which acquired a portion of the estate and erected houses there following the overall layout plan. The Southern Bypass frontage, now Westminster Way, was most attractive to builders because there were no road making costs. Two Coventry firms, Bayliss Bros, and Stanley & Co, were building three bedroomed semi-detached houses there by May 1934, and these were subsequently advertised for sale at £895, offering uninterrupted views of the Oxford spires. This development extended into the future Montagu Road where a London firm, Freehold Homes, acquired the land to build Elms Garth, now The Garth, in 1936. The tile-hung and half-timbered houses built here cost £785 and they were stylistically quite different from the Art Deco inspired properties in Westminster Way with their jazzy glazed doors and windows.

Behind Elms Farm, R Gardner & Son appear to have been responsible for building houses at the eastern end of Arthray Road, named after Howse's son, Arthur Raymond, and on the east side of St Paul's Crescent. Further along Arthray Road and up on to Elms Rise as we know it, Frederick Minns & Co, Ltd, builders then based in St Aldate's, built on a larger scale, claiming to have sold over 100 houses on the estate by



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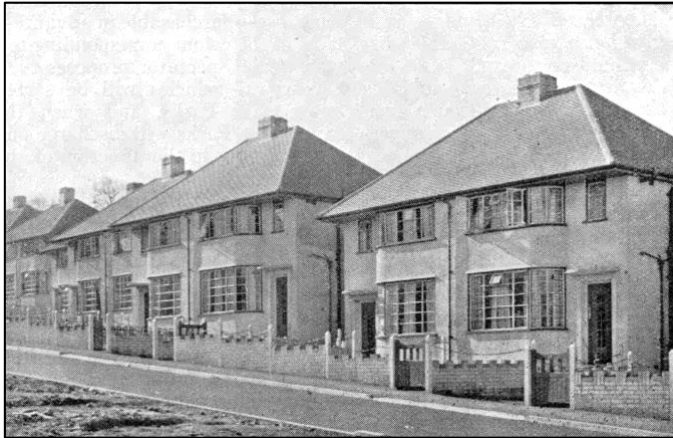
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March 1938. Their semi-detached houses had round-ended metal Crittall windows, some with rising sun glazing in upper panels. Most of these windows have been replaced and very few of the original

crenellated front garden walls with wooden posts and chains now remain. Minns' Elms Rise houses were on sale for £575 in 1938 and, with the growing threat of war, you could have an air raid shelter in your garden 'at a price to suit your pocket.'

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It took several years for these various developments to coalesce into a single estate. Kelly's Oxford Directory for 1936 notes only named houses on the Elms Farm Estate, the modern Westminster Way. By 1939, the directory records a confusion of numbered and named houses on Elms Farm, Elms Garth and Elms Rise as well as individual properties in Arthray Road and The Crescent. House-building came to an abrupt halt when war broke out in September 1939, and Abingdon Rural District Council was able to regularise naming and numbering the streets on Elms Rise.

**Malcolm Graham**

*Photos show: New houses in Cope Close, March 1938.*  
**Advertisement for Minns' houses on Elms Rise, March 1938.**

*(Illustrations © Oxfordshire History Centre, Oxfordshire County Council)*

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## Brownies Get Busy

Following on with our official Girlguiding programme for the year we next attempted the Made to Measure section of the Innovate Stage 2 Skills-BUILDER Badge. Each Brownie was given a piece of paper, half a washing up sponge, a cocktail stick and some sticky tape. Using only the equipment provided each girl had to design and then build her own small boat which was able to glide along on top of the table. Once all the boats were designed and built each Six was then given a tape measure and had to record how far each of their boats had travelled. They were then encouraged to tweak their design to see if they could improve on their boat's performance. Each girl was allowed three attempts on three different designs. The mean average distance was then taken from each design to which one had performed the best. However, one Six came to the conclusion that a lot of the winning boats seemed to have a girl with a good amount of puff to blow it further than anyone else, no matter the design!



The following week we tackled another of our official Unit Meeting Activities (UMA) to each make a pop-up card. As it was the week before the Coronation, Tawny Owl decided her activity would not be just any old pop-up card but one a bit more regal. So, after much concentration and incredibly careful cutting out and sticking down a "Pop-up Crown on the Royal Cushion" was created by each girl. We even had time to learn how keyrings are filled and everyone then made a keepsake memento of the day in the form of a 2nd Botley Brownie Unit personalised keyring commemorating the date of the first Coronation for 70 years.



After a few meetings with so much designing and crafting we decided we needed a meeting consisting of just fun running-around games to let off some steam. Unlike the military personnel on parade that we had seen during the Coronation, we had to use rubber floor-spot markers to make a perfect grid for the girls to stand on so that we could



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play Cat & Mouse. We then played 'All the Fishes in the Sea' followed by a game of Fruit Basket. As usual, we swiftly put all the chairs correctly away and still had time for a song before the meeting ended. The girls we have in our Unit at 2nd Botley Brownies are a credit to their families – they are polite, welcoming, capable and just fun to be around! And since our last month's article we have had two new joiners – so don't be shy and give us a try! (Goodness, we seem to be poets too!).

## **Brown Owl**

### **River Swimming in Oxford**

Locals who have enjoyed swimming at Tumbling Bay over the years may be interested in a new exhibition at beautifully refurbished Oxford City Museum in St Aldates. "Dive In! A History of River Swimming in Oxford" is a new exhibition running until the 30th of September. The Museum is free to enter with donations encouraged, and is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

Exploring the vibrant history of Wolvercote bathing place, Tumbling Bay, Long Bridges, Dame's Delight and more, the display presents photographs, newspaper cuttings, maps and artwork relating to a period from the 1600s to the early 1990s, when the last of the official bathing places was officially closed.

Volunteers are also now being recruited: if you have memories of Tumbling Bay (for instance) and would be happy to tell your stories to a trained oral historian; or if you would like to take free oral history training and conduct one of our interviews yourself, get in touch for more details at [oxfordbathingplaces@gmail.com](mailto:oxfordbathingplaces@gmail.com).



The picture shows the ferry that took children from Jericho to Tum for swimming lessons. It was the only access for years. The concrete dock (right corner) is still there on the river bank, but the willow trees opposite, where the tidy hedge is in the photo, are a long way in the future.



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# Patients Participation Group Report

These questions have been submitted by our seventy PPG members to those making the appointment of the new doctors to run Botley Medical Centre and Kennington Health Centre. They set out aspirations and concerns that we would like the new doctors to take note of and address. They may not all be answered.

1. Will patients each have a named doctor?
2. Will patients be able to make appointments for a doctor a day or two in advance?
3. How many doctors will be present at each surgery?
4. Will surgeries be open full time?
5. Will each of the two current surgeries be available for the new GP Practices to operate from?
6. Will patients be triaged first before being referred to a doctor?
7. Will patients be contacted by a doctor or other clinician when they are discharged from a hospital appointment?
8. How do the incoming providers intend to manage the practice? Will it be left for the Practice Manager to run day-to-day?
9. What systems will be put into practice which are proven to work?
10. Will the potential providers be made aware of the demographics of the catchment areas and will they have experience of similar demographics?
11. What procedures will they put in place to liaise properly and instil a more open and understanding attitude towards patients?
12. What procedures will they put in place to ensure staff are properly trained?
13. What are the staff turnover levels where they currently operate?
14. What procedures will ensure there is continuity of care for patients?
15. What are your experiences of working with your Patient Participation Group?
16. Will Receptions be open full time and will patients be encouraged to attend Reception to make appointments?
17. What procedures will avoid patients having to ring at 8am and wait in a queue to speak to a doctor?

18. A lot of patients want to be able to receive care locally and not have to travel to a surgery. How can this be ensured?
19. Is there a plan for a situation in which contracts are sought for only one of the two surgeries?
20. The PPG would like to draw attention to the delivery services of local pharmacies, especially for repeat prescriptions.
21. How many doctors are proposed for each surgery to ensure a safe and proper service is available?
22. How will the providers ensure that services never again get to where we find them today, as this situation has been years in the making?

**The following questions have also been submitted relating more to the existing arrangements.**

23. How are partners and current staff managing their workload and stress levels?
24. How will the Berks, Oxon and Bucks Integrated Care Board ensure that services are provided at a safe level between now and September?
25. The current prescription form says Botley Medical centre practice telephone number will change on 1 September (year not specified) to a number which has been in use for over 2 years. As well as being irritating, this may also cause confusion for some people. Can this be amended please?

Please note, the current complement of doctors is

Dr Ballestero – Partner. Dr McEwan – Partner

Dr Chapela – Salaried. Two days a week in Botley

Dr Martinez – Locum based in Kennington

Doctors can also be contacted online via Livi and Medloop.

To join our PPG please contact the secretary on **csugden@ocrpl.org** or 07808 297043

**Chris Sugden**

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## Reason to Celebrate

West Oxford Taekwondo students have reason to celebrate as three of their own recently achieved significant grading milestones. Fraser, Dougie, and Pablo all demonstrated their dedication and commitment to the martial art by passing their respective tests with flying colours.

Fraser, a determined and focused student, achieved his Red Tag (3rd Kup), which means he is now only two gradings away from being able to take his coveted Black Belt (*first photo*). This is a significant achievement and a testament to Fraser's hard work and determination.

Dougie, on the other hand (*second photo*), achieved his Green Belt (6th Kup), which marks the beginning of his journey towards becoming a senior coloured belt. Dougie has shown tremendous improvement in his technique and discipline, and his achievement is a reflection of his commitment to the art.

Pablo has just gained his Yellow Tag (9th Kup). This is the first step in a long and rewarding journey in Taekwondo. Pablo has demonstrated incredible resilience and a passion for the art, and we can expect great things from him in the future (*third photo*).



These achievements are a testament to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of the West Oxford Taekwondo students. They have demonstrated that success is achievable with discipline, focus, and perseverance. As their journey continues, we can only expect more success and greater achievements from these dedicated students. Congratulations to Fraser, Dougie, and Pablo on their fantastic achievement, and we wish them all the best in their Taekwondo journey.



**Chris Hall**

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## Skatepark Latest

I have just carried out a quick survey of the online responses to the Skatepark planning application, now the consultation period is over. Well, it wasn't very quick! There are 96 responses!

Of these, 68 were enthusiastic, positive and supportive. Most were from parents of young children and teenagers. Some were from skaters, some were from former skaters who are now the parents of young children, and a few were names I recognized from the heady days of the first skatepark campaign, when they were eager teenagers themselves. The general sense was that skateparks are always controversial, but a welcome opportunity for children to get away from screens into the fresh air, growing their self-confidence as they acquire skill and balance, and giving them a place to socialize that is sadly lacking locally.

Some four comments were supportive with reservations, and the reservations were sometimes based on misunderstandings. For instance, the fact that the contractors' visualization doesn't show any trees behind the site doesn't mean they will be cut down! They won't. And there are no plans for floodlights, so owls and night creatures won't be alarmed.

Some 22 comments were negative, many for reasons that would be good ones if they were based on fact. No one in their right mind would want to concrete over our only playing field – and this is not what is proposed. The planned skate park is tucked away in the corner behind the zip wire and trampoline. It will not displace the trim trail. It will not interfere with the wildlife corridor down the side of the field. Run-off will be filtered and directed away from the fen. Nor will it be expensive to maintain: the contractors have sent a detailed maintenance regime, which will be reinforced by weekly visits from our groundsman to remove litter and keep an eye on any graffiti. As to noise, the skatepark will be no nearer to houses than the earlier bowl, so this should not be a problem. Concerns were raised about toilets – the new pavilion will have outside



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Shout out from the Library

Botley Library has a team of volunteers happy to drop books off to people who find it hard to get out, and with time to stay for a chat if wanted. So, if this would suit you, phone them on (01865) 810259

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access to toilets that kids can use. As for the costs – grants exist for the provision of facilities to get children outside and active, and it is hoped to raise money from these, although if anyone knows of a likely source of funding please do get in touch with the PC (details below).

Assuming the planning application gets the go ahead, various things will start to happen. The first will be a pop-up café on a Sunday afternoon at the playing fields to celebrate moving on to the next stage. We are hoping the winners of Matthew Arnold's *Battle of the Bands* will play for us.

Then the fundraising will start in earnest. If you can help with that, please get in touch with the parish council skatepark working group on **norththinksey-pc.gov.uk** – but be warned, the PC is shortly to change its name to **botleynorththinksey-pc.gov.uk** so if one doesn't work, try the other.

Once we've got the money, we can start to build, but probably not till next year. When the park is completed, Canvas Spaces, who have built very many skateparks, are planning a Gala Opening Event with professional skaters, competitions, prizes and some training sessions for would-be skaters. We're all looking forward to this very much – hopefully it will be in place in good time for the 2024 summer holidays.

Ag MacKeith

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Completely Wasted

The cigarette packets have gone! The streets are free of those shiny packets with distressing images of cancer and diseased lungs on the outside. The world is a cleaner safer place – *not!* Quite the reverse!

What we have instead is the detritus of vapes. Elf Bar, Crystal Bar, Lost Mary, SKE, Vuse Go. All in fruity flavours. Every street and every gutter in Botley, in Oxford city centre, and throughout the world, is littered daily with the cardboard packaging, the used plastic or metal tubes and batteries of vape addiction.

They look so yummy and smell so delicious that they could not possibly be harmful. Could they? The names on the discarded packaging were intriguing and I had to look them up. One brand offered me 40 different flavours from cotton candy ice through blue razz lemonade to bubblegum watermelon. Just the sort of product labelling that I would expect to see on a packet of sweets created to appeal to children. Because that is exactly what they are. Not a product designed to appeal to a hardened, 40-a-day smoker, but to an underage non-smoker. Brilliant thinking by a tobacco executive who has been tasked with regaining the profits lost through a decline in cigarette smoking.

The UK now has a serious nicotine addiction problem in individuals who are officially too young to buy cigarettes. We have only just woken up to the ease with which teenagers can buy them from stores without any mandatory age checks. Australia has grasped the problem and is already moving to ban vapes. Meanwhile, the British government is planning to give away free vapes “to reach those who are finding it too difficult to give up smoking”. Allegedly.

So, what is in a vape? The ELF bar brand is an acronym for “e-liquid flavour stick”. (I can’t believe that the name ‘Elf’ was chosen by chance: it sounds like a character from a children’s story.) The e-liquid contains “high quality nicotine, vegetable glycerine and propylene glycol” and is contained in a pre-soaked cotton wick. A battery converts it into a cloud of nicotine and flavour which is inhaled into the lungs. One Elf Bar contains 20mg of nicotine which is the equivalent of 48 cigarettes. All built into a “convenient, pocket-friendly body”, in bright, attractive, rainbow colours. This packaging, it is true, does say that the product “contains nicotine which is a highly addictive substance”. Along with a skull and crossbones and a DANGER sign. It also says “DISPOSABLE”. It is hard to know what disposable means, exactly, other than you can throw it away like a cigarette butt. Disposable in the sense that wet-wipes are

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disposable and currently causing serious problems when sewage companies flush them out into rivers. Disposable in that vape paraphernalia are now a major component of plastic debris on British beaches. No doubt being swallowed by coastal birds and marine life even as we speak.

Last month, I picked up a squashed vape tube. which was showing a flashing blue light in the exposed wires. I put it in the nearest bin. Not recommended apparently, as they can ignite and start fires. House fires have already been caused by the rechargeable ones left unattended.

So not really disposable at all. Certainly not by throwing them in the street. Or on the beach. A recent report referred to smoking substitutes as a "quadruple threat". Not only are they a fire risk, they generate much more waste than cigarettes. The waste is considered hazardous because of the toxic chemicals it contains. Binning 3 million vapes a week in the UK creates a huge amount of non-biodegradable plastic waste that will mostly end up in landfill. The fourth threat is the loss of valuable metals, lithium, aluminium, copper and steel, from the batteries and electrical material, which are not entering the recycling stream.

Around 90% of vape producers are failing to adhere to their legal obligations to prevent waste. As yet there have been no prosecutions. So.... not the benign anti-smoking companies they would like to be seen as. Drug pushers wilfully harming children and distributors of hazardous waste. *Nice.*

Linda Losito

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Meet Diana Bollard and the Knit and Natter Club

The Knit and Natter group's weekly meetings start with "What are we knitting today, Diana?" It could be tiny hats, adult mittens, stuffed animals, blankets...

The group started in 2017 in an Abingdon care home, as a fun activity for residents. Local people are also invited. Initially the group was small, and focused on knitting sets of hats, blankets and two bonding squares for babies with

Trisomy (a genetic mutation) for a hospital in Milton Keynes. Bonding squares are 5-inch knitted squares: the baby wears one and the mother wears one, and they get traded regularly, so that mother and baby bond through smell even if they can't be together.

Everything shut down during Covid, but when the group met again in June 2021, Diana Bollard became the organiser, and they have done amazing things since then.

'We knit traffic light sets for the babies in incubators for South Hallamshire Hospital in Sheffield and the Calderdale Birthing Centre in Halifax,' says Diana. 'The babies in critical condition get red hats and red blankets that are draped loosely over them – that is all they wear in the incubators. When they start getting better, they wear yellow hats and blankets, and when they are ready to go home they get a green hat and blanket.'

'We're constantly getting requests from the JR's baby ICU unit, stating what is needed and colour. And for the Royal Free and Barnet Hospitals we knit orange hats for babies that need regular observation. Each hospital is getting 100 hats.' (100!!!)

'For the Nasio Trust in Kenya, we knit hat and pull-on-top sets in the brightest colours we can find. These are for babies born to mothers with AIDS. We can't have any white in the sets because that is the colour of death over there. They go into a larger parcel that also includes toiletries and undies for the mother. Sometimes these sets are called 'fish and chips' sets because the alternative might be that the baby gets carried home in newspaper to keep it warm. We also knit red jumpers for children going to nursery there.'

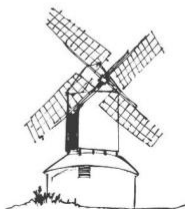


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The Knit and Natter team also knit adult hats, gloves and small blankets which the Botley Bikers deliver to people experiencing homelessness in Oxford. The blankets are particularly appreciated: they cover the legs of people in wheelchairs, keep dogs cosy, and provide colour and warmth to people who have very little. The team also knit blankets for babies with hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar). They are hoping to start knitting trauma teddies that children in ambulances or on hospital wards can cuddle. Less cheerfully, they knit bereavement blankets for the babies that don't make it.

The knitters meet every week in the winter and every fortnight in the summer. They currently range in age from mid-60s to 99. Diana buys the wool in bulk, and the knitters buy it from her at cost price. They all chip in for the cellophane wrappers – since Covid, every article is individually wrapped and labelled with a date and the knitter's name. About 20 people come to each meeting, but many of them also knit during the rest of the week.

'It's a social time for us, and we are doing something good for others,' says Diana. 'It's really nice when people thank us for what we have done.' She shows me a big pile of thank-you cards, as well as a list of almost 1000 items that those amazing women have knitted. I am in awe.

**Riki Therivel**

~~~~~

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

<u>P23/V0882/HH</u>	22 North Hinksey Lane. Erection of greenhouse.	13 April <i>TDD: 8 June</i>
<u>P23/V0896/FUL</u>	Land at 31 West Way. Demolish existing building & erect two office buildings. <i>(This is the former Baptist Chapel on West Way)</i>	18 April <i>Target Decision Date: 18 July</i>
<u>P23/V0923/HH</u>	33 North Hinksey Lane. Side entrance porch & rear garden studio.	19 April <i>TDD: 14 June</i>
<u>P23/V0914/LDP</u>	11 Montagu Rd. Single storey side extension.	21 April <i>TDD: 16 June</i>
<u>P23/V0989/HH</u>	94 Westminster Way. First-floor side & part first-floor rear extension.	4 May <i>TDD: 29 June</i>
<u>P23/V0952/HH</u>	40 Hurst Rise Rd. Single storey side & rear extensions & loft conversion.	9 May <i>TDD: 4 July</i>



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Randoms

Botley W.I.

Botley WI gathered on Tuesday for our own celebration of the coronation. Cakes, fizz and shortbread were enjoyed with a coronation quiz.

Our June speaker will be Janine Kilroe telling us about 'Seven Years Inside'. Also in June, we are holding a race night where we will be sporting our Ascot hats. Please come on the 17th June from 7pm. Entrance is £5 and bring change for a small bet. Good fun is always had by all. Phone 01865 722998 to secure tickets.

On the second Saturday of each month, WI will be holding a stall at the Seacourt Bridge pub. It opens at 10.30 and there is always a variety of homemade items to purchase, including bags, summer bunting, cards, and cushions as well as many home-knitted goods, clothing and toys.

Your support will be much appreciated.

Bess Harris

IT help needed

Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South & Vale are looking for volunteers to help with IT in all of their sites: Abingdon, Didcot, Henley, Thame. They need people with 7 hours a week to spare to act as first point of contact for staff and volunteers needing IT technical support.

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If this sounds like something you could do, please email their recruitment team at recruitment@citizensadviceosav.org.uk giving your contact details and saying where you'd be able to work.

ffennell Festival

This year's ffennell Festival will be on Saturday June 10th between 11am and 4pm during Great Big Green Week. There will be bushcraft, willow weaving, pond dipping, sail training, forest tots, story-telling, live music, bbq and much, much more. Costs £5 adults and £2 children, and booking is essential.

Opera for kids

Oxford Opera are holding a series of opera workshops for ages 10-14 and 15-18 in Oxford city over the summer. These are the only operatic workshops currently available in Oxfordshire, so they offer something truly unique to children and young people in the area. There are four full bursaries for each workshop, on a first-come-first-served basis.

These are the operas:

25 June : *Carmen in a day* for 10 – 14s

22 July : *Make your own opera in a day* for 10 – 14s

12 August : *Hansel and Gretel in a day* for 10 - 14s

20 August : *Pirates of Penzance in a day* for 15-18s

There's more about Oxford Opera on <https://oxfordopera.uk/education/>
To find out more about the workshops, phone Katie on 07901 764582 or email her at education@oxfordopera.uk

Botley in Bloom

Last call! Send in your entries by 5th June. Judging in week beginning 12th June. Results announced on Monday 19th.

Enjoy a visit to local gardens and support health charities

On Sunday 11th June between 2.00pm and 5.00pm five local gardens will be open to the public as part of the National Garden Scheme. A single-entry fee of £5 gives you access to all five gardens – Children get free entry. There are home-made teas and plants for sale. One of the gardens was a winner in last year's Botley in Bloom competition. The gardens are:

86 Hurst Rise Road 6 Scholar Place 23 Hids Copse Road

10 Eynsham Road (Teas and plant sales) and 3 Halliday Lane (2022 BiB winner, plant sales.)

Look out for the yellow signs on the day. Maps available at the first garden you visit. Refreshments & plant sales at 10 Eynsham Road are in aid of Flexicare. All other money from entry tickets and plant sales goes to the National Garden Scheme which in 2022 donated £3,110,000 to beneficiaries, providing critical support to nursing and health charities including Marie Curie, Macmillan Cancer Support, Hospice UK, Queens Nursing Institute, Carers Trust and Parkinson's UK.

You can access detailed information at about these gardens at:

<https://findagarden.ngs.org.uk/garden/42601/west-oxford-gardens>

More information about the National Garden Scheme in Oxfordshire can be found here: https://linktr.ee/ngs_oxfordshire **John Fleming**

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, Pavilion, Fogwell Rd. 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
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	Terri Matthews: clubsecretarybbgfc@gmail.com
Botley Community Larder	Thursdays, 3.30 to 5.30 at St P&P Church Hall, West Way, Facebook or email botleylarder@gmail.com
Botley and Kennington Patients Participation Group	Second Tuesday in the Month, early evening. Contact csugden@ocrpl.org
Botley Health Walks	2nd & 4th Sats 9.50 Louie Memorial Field car park, or Tues 11 am Library botleyhealthroutes@gmail.com
Botley Library	07922 849680. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays).
Botley Memory Lane Café	Thursdays 10-12 Seacourt Hall Lounge, Diccon James 07740 611971
Botley Seniors Lunch Club	Alternate Thursdays. Seacourt Hall. Jackie Warner Ox.721386
Botley Youth Club	botleyyouthclub@gmail.com
Cumnor Choral Society	Thursdays, 19.30-21.30 St Andrew's Ch. Steve Morris, chair. www.cumnorchoralsociety.wordpress.com
Cumnor Chess Club	Thurs 7–9pm Cumnor Old School. Steven Bennett 01993 684494 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/ tel 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	Family club Email: Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org 07824 881680 www.oxfordsportsltc.org
West Oxford Singing Circle	Weds 2-3pm, WOCC, Emily 07969 522368 or see www.emilyschoirs.co.uk
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	clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk
Oxford Flood Alliance	R Thurston 01865 723663 or 07973 292035
Oxford Flower Arranging Club	4th Thursday Cumnor. Dympna Walker: Ox 865259
<i>Oxford Harmony</i>	<i>Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.30 pm at Seacourt Hall</i> Contact <i>pro@oxfordharmony.co.uk</i>
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	Email: raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk
Seacourt Hall Management Committee	Contact Lottie White, 07452 960100, or see https://www.seacourthall.org.uk
Shotokan Karate Club	6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450
Stagecoach Botley	Botley School, Saturdays 9:00am–3pm <i>Performing Arts for 4-16 yr-olds</i> 01865 590510 or 01235 390810
West Oxford Bowls Club	Dave Ellerker 07931 603801 wobc.membership@gmail.com
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/
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

Botley Baptist Church, 1 Church Way	Contact: Building Manager 07742 662668 botleybaptist@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, 5th Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion
3rd Sunday 11.30am Matins

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

Sundays 9.30am Holy Communion
Wednesdays 10.30am Holy Communion in Chapel of Holy Spirit
1st Saturday each month, 4–5.30pm Messy Church for children and carers
Rev Clare Sykes, Tel. 01865 242345 or revclare@btinternet.com
See table above for Church Hall enquiries.

Our Lady of the Rosary, Roman Catholic, Yarnells Hill

Saturday 6.30pm Mass
Sunday 9.15am Mass
Fr Daniel Lloyd 07584 323915 dlloyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Botley Baptist Church, 1 Church Way

Sunday Service 11 am
Wednesday Zoom Bible Study 7.30pm
Choir practice Thursday 2pm
Diane Melchert **07742 662668** www.botleybaptistchurch.org

Calvary Chapel

Sunday services on 1st Floor, 1 Church Way at 9.30am *with crèche, children's Sunday school and youth group*
Pastor Steve Vickery 01865 586332
contact@ccox.church website: www.ccoxford.church

What's On

June

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| Thur 1st | 12.30, Seacourt Hall, Seniors Lunch Club (£5) |
| Mon 5th | 7pm, Seacourt Hall, Annual Public Meeting of the Seacourt Hall management trust |
| Sat 10th | 11-4, Hill End Camp, ffennell Festival, booking essential |
| Sun 11th | 2.00pm-5.00pm West Oxford Gardens open under the National Garden Scheme (see inside) |
| Mon 12th | 2.30pm, Dean Court Community Centre, U3A talk: Richard O. Smith, The Oxford Alphabet, Z to A pt 1 |
| Thur 15th | 12.30, Seacourt Hall, Seniors Lunch Club (£5) |
| Thur 15th | 7.30, Seacourt Hall, Parish Council meeting |
| Sun 18th | 12 noon and then 3pm, Tap Social Movement, Curtis's Yard, Big Fish Little Fish, Father's Day events for 1-8 year olds |
| Mon 26th | 2.30pm, Dean Court Community Centre, U3A talk: Eugene Matthias, The Ugly Duckling and the Magic Wand |
| Thur 29th | 12.30, Seacourt Hall, Seniors Lunch Club (£5) |

Through the week, plenty of different activities in the Library