

The Sprout



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The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 190 September 2024

The Sprout

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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From the Editor

Summer holidays are over, but there's plenty going on in September, as you can see from the packed diary on the back cover. Skatepark construction is scheduled to start this month (p17) – and don't miss the 'Through the Decades' Quiz on 7th September, where we can drink a toast to the success of the project. Opposition to the shabby treatment meted out to west Oxford residents on account of the bridge works is gaining strength (p20). On page 25, Ali Hogg interprets the new mosaic in the shopping centre in his last farewell note to Botley. There is a chance to be part of the discussion on our public art at the West Way Art Day on 21st September (p29). Thatching is an art too, according to Master Thatcher Richard Gregory (p7). Go and see for yourself his latest masterpiece in North Hinksey village. And on page 19 you can meet Juliana Earl, legendary fundraiser of Westminster Way, and get a glimpse of her colourful life. *Happy reading!*

Ag MacKeith



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BEAUMONT ELMS PRACTICE



As we come to the end of summer some items to highlight are:

We welcome to the team...

Dr Rosa Avino joined the practice in June. Dr Avino works in the Beaumont Street site on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Dr Eve Lancaster joined the team in August. She works across both Elms Rd and Beaumont St sites on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

We will be welcoming **Dr Katy Horder** in September and she will work across both sites on Mondays and Tuesdays.

We now have a paramedic in the team. **Sam Kenna** joined us in August and will be working in both sites on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

We will be sorry to say goodbye to **Dr Prince Deemor** at the end of September. He has been with us as a locum since we took over the care of some Botley patients in October 23. We will miss him and wish him well in his next adventure.

Beaumont Elms at Parkrun

On Saturday 8th June, Beaumont Elms staff joined Harcourt Hill parkrun. We had a great time! Thank you parkrunners for making us so welcome.

We are aware that the facilities at this site will be closing at the end of the month which is a terrible blow for local residents.



RSV, flu and covid vaccines

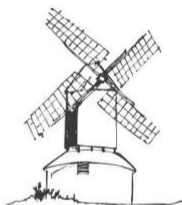
From early September those people aged between 75 to 79 will be eligible for a free vaccine to protect them from respiratory syncytial virus

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(RSV). RSV is an infectious disease of the airways and lungs which often causes symptoms similar to a cold.

Covid and flu vaccines will be available from October across both sites.

RSV isn't normally given at the same appointment as COVID-19 or flu vaccines, but you can receive your shingles or pneumococcal vaccine at the same time as the RSV vaccine. Covid and flu vaccines can be given together.

Parent parking in the practice car park

We appreciate that, due to everyday pressures, some parents need to drive their children to school. However, we would politely ask that parents DO NOT park in the patient car park at the Elms Rd practice. It makes the car park very busy and can make it difficult for patients, who may be unwell and/ or elderly, to be able to get to the surgery at all or on time for their appointment. This can cause additional stress for the patient and for the staff at the practice if the patient arrives late or needs to be rebooked and an appointment is lost.

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Some of you will have seen that we are collecting old glasses. All donations are examined by a member of the Lions team. Sorted pairs of glasses are then sent for grading and distribution. Lions Club sends spectacles directly to eye clinics in Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Ghana, Nigeria, and Nepal.

In addition, they supply volunteers from the Unite for Sight charity to take with them on missions to countries across the world.

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Kate Price, Practice Manager



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The Master Thatcher

Thatch has been used as a roofing material for thousands of years. Evidence has been found of thatched roofing in archaeological sites dating from the Neolithic period (around 10,000-4,500 BCE) across Europe, Africa, and Asia. Thatch has continued to be a popular roofing material throughout history, due to its availability, insulating properties, and durability. Thatching became a popular roofing method in the UK during the 11th century, after the Norman Conquest.

As a master thatcher, I've worked on numerous heritage restoration projects in the South of England since I left school at the age of 13. Despite starting so young, I overcame challenges posed by severe dyslexia and thrived as a thatcher. I am thankful to Kit Davis of Master Thatching for taking

me on as an apprentice, and for the 19 years we worked together. During my career I've had the pleasure of working on cottages locally. Some readers may recognise me from the rethatch of Ruskin cottage in 2017 (there aren't



many ginger Thatchers around!). This summer we thatched the cottage across the road from there.

With experience in prestigious projects for HRH the Queen, the Globe Theatre, and MPs (to name just a few), now, at 36, I am the proud director of my own company, Oxfordshire Master Thatchers Ltd, dedicated to delivering high-quality thatching, using traditional methods. In March this year, I was thrilled to learn that we had been awarded the prestigious title of the Best Thatched House for the year 22/23, by the National Society of Master Thatchers. The NSMT is the closest thing to a governing body for Thatching in the UK and this is one of the highest accolades you can achieve in our industry.

Working together for 20 years combined, my team operates with military precision. There are five of us, all passionate about our art. Between us

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we have over six decades of hands-on experience. I love the combination of tradition, artistry, sustainability, and the sense of accomplishment that comes with working on thatched roofs. Thatching allows for creativity and artistry in shaping roofs, creating unique patterns, and showcasing skilled craftsmanship: designing and constructing thatched roofs is a joy.

Thatching is a craft that requires time, passion, and care, using tools like leggits, spa hooks, and shearing hooks. At OMT, we use high-quality English hand-twisted hazel spas (my rough hands and constant blisters attest to this!) and traditional methods. Plastic alternatives and corner-cutting methods are available but they don't provide quality results that last. A high-quality ridge should last 15+ years with care and maintenance, and a full thatch should last 20–25 years.

The craft requires quality materials and sustainable supply chains, but modern farming practices have led to challenges in sourcing them. Traditional heritage varieties of straw have been replaced by shorter, faster-growing types, resulting in a brittle quality unsuitable for roofing. Changes in land and forest management have also reduced the availability of coppiced hazel.

To address these challenges, OMT collaborates with conservation contractors and marsh men in Norfolk who work to restore, harvest, and maintain habitats for water reed sourcing. Additionally, our hazel merchant focuses on woodland restoration for coppicing, ensuring a sustainable supply of quality materials for thatching projects.

Through these partnerships and sustainable practices, we are dedicated to preserving heritage and landscape while upholding a traditional art. OMT was founded in 2021 with a commitment to sustainability, and we have prioritized implementing a sustainable supply chain from seed to roof and from roof to disposal. All materials are sourced in the UK, and we have established close working relationships with suppliers in the south of England, Somerset, and Norfolk.

Our philosophy extends to the disposal of materials after roofs are stripped: we ensure safe disposal and recycling. Whenever feasible, materials are donated to local farms and repurposed as bedding for livestock in cattle sheds.

Our combined skills and knowledge ensure that thatching continues, and support the preservation of traditional craft practices and ecosystems. I feel privileged to play my part.

**Richard Gregory**

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## Challenges of Old Age course

There's a free course running in the autumn at St Andrew's Orchard Road, Dean Court.

- **16 Sept 2.30 The Challenges and opportunities of older age** ('You're only as old as you feel?')
- **30 Sept 7.30 Social Care – what is to be done?** Sir Andrew Dilnot – author of *Dilnot Commission on Social Care 2011*.
- **7 Oct 2.30 Supporting older people** (visiting, palliative care, health, 'assisted living')
- **21 Oct 2.30 'My mind is going'** (living with and ministering to people with dementia)
- **4 Nov 2.30 Talking about dying** (power of attorney, making a will, funerals, talking about death, Christian hope)

Speakers include doctors, lawyers and pastors, with a faith reflection on the main topic in each session.

*Recommended reading: Talking about Dying* by Philip Giddings and Elaine Sugden (Dictum Press £9.99 also [www.talkingaboutdying.org](http://www.talkingaboutdying.org) )

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## Brownies in Beanwood

As you may know, 2nd Botley Brownies went off on our planned “Fun Day at Beanwood” just a couple of Saturdays before the end of last term. Our Brownies, plus a number of their invited friends, spent a full day up at Beanwood, a cottage in a clearing deep in Wytham Woods, owned by Girlguiding Oxfordshire.

As we slowly wended our way up, we left the everyday behind us. En route, we paused to lift some corrugated iron sheets on the meadow, and the giddy chatter hushed as we slowly revealed mouse nests, chewed hazelnuts and then – finally – four slow worms basking in the glorious warmth.

The aim of the day was to have fun, earn a vintage Brownie Interest badge and make some great childhood memories to tell their children in due course. The day was busy as they had some learning to do to help them easily answer questions about the Countryside Code, the Green Cross Code and the Water Safety Code, as well as doing some crafting and playing some games. We ran two scavenger hunts, a wool trail, made friendship bracelets in pairs and wool-spun keyrings. Then we made lolly-stick spinners and lined up for a friendly competition to see who could throw theirs the furthest. The photo shows them all lined up.



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The day should have ended with a traditional campfire (having first gathered and graded the required wood) and the toasting of marshmallows to make s'mores. However, after the leaders had safely extinguished the campfire, the girls, fuelled by a s'more-related sugar-rush of excitement, encouraged Brown Owl to splash

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them with her tiny cup of water in an impromptu water-spilling story. It was a joy to see them jumping up and down, clapping, giggling and squealing.

After a full eight hours the girls returned down the hill to tell their waiting parents and grandparents all about the magical time they had just spent up at Beanwood. Sometimes it is the simple things that are best – no batteries or screens required – just fun and fresh air.

The new year starts in September, when we will be able to tell you all about the activities we have planned – spoiler alert – it will include the ever useful first aid!

We can be contacted at [secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com](mailto:secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com)

**The Owls & Robin**

## LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

|                                      |                                                                                                                                                        |                                                       |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1361/PDH</u></a> | 69 Montagu Rd. Single storey rear extension.                                                                                                           | <b>21 June</b><br><i>TDD: 2 Aug</i>                   |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V0905/LDP</u></a> | 108 Westminster Way. Garage conversion to habitable use, with windows & rear bi-fold doors.                                                            | <b>24 June</b><br><i>TDD: 19 Aug</i>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>P23/V2843/S73</u></a> | 34 North Hinksey Ln. Variation of conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, & 12 P20/V1661/FUL. Variation of condition 2, change house plans on permission P16/V2166/FUL. | <b>28 June</b><br><i>Target Decision Date: 23 Aug</i> |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1502/S73</u></a> | Whitwick, Grosvenor Rd. Variation of conditions 2, 3, 4, 5, & 7 on P23/V2579/FUL.                                                                      | <b>11 July</b><br><i>TDD: 5 Sept</i>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1358/HH</u></a>  | 8 Crabtree Rd. Single storey rear extension.                                                                                                           | <b>15 July</b><br><i>TDD: 9 Sept</i>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1601/HH</u></a>  | 92 Westminster Way. Raise roof over garage from flat to hipped roof + 3 roof lights to side elevation.                                                 | <b>25 July</b><br><i>TDD: 19 Sept</i>                 |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1575/LDP</u></a> | 17 Stanley Close. Build 1-storey side extension & hip to gable loft conversion with flat roof rear dormer & rooflights.                                | <b>30 July</b><br><i>TDD: 24 Sept</i>                 |
| <a href="#"><u>P24/V1682/LDP</u></a> | 3 Springfield Rd. Use of land for siting mobile home as ancillary to main dwelling.                                                                    | <b>2 August</b><br><i>TDD: 27 Sept</i>                |

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## SKATEPARK – On your marks, get set...

GO! The news is all good! Further grants flew in over the summer – £20,000 from the National Lottery's Community Fund, and £10,000 from Cumnor Parish Council were added to the £100,000 made available earlier by FCC's Community Action Fund. The outstanding amount will come from the Council's fund of CIL money – developers' contributions to the local community – plus contributions of various kinds from local businesses. The contract is in the process of being signed as I write, and work up on the Louie Memorial playing fields should start on 2nd September.



The Skatepark itself will be as innovatory as the famous Botley Bowl which it replaces. Instead of an actual bowl, there will be the flowing curves of a modern skatepark, plus the only mini-ramp for miles around, and a flat section for street skaters. It will cater for all styles of wheeled sports and all levels of skill. The final design was agreed after two years of intense discussion by a representative panel of skaters and parents, guided by Canvas Spaces, our highly experienced contractor.

Of course, this has implications for the football season. An access track will be laid down from the double gates past the MUGA to the site, so that lorries can get in without churning up the field. The track may be fenced off, but there will be gaps so that football teams can get to the pavilion. In due course there will be a temporary footpath to the new skatepark from the road until the pavilion is replaced and a permanent path can be installed.

One of the attractive elements in Canvas Spaces' original tender was their promise to orchestrate a launch event as a complimentary service. It will include a number of skateboards, scooter and BMX items to give away as prizes and permanent mementos, as well as some boards and protective clothing for those taking part in coaching sessions. There will be competitions with prizes of several hundred pounds' worth of product, including priceless signed giveaways. Lots to look forward to, then, when we launch our lovely new skatepark over the Easter holidays.

Meanwhile, there's Botley Sk8s' exciting 'Through the Decades' Quiz and Raffle at Seacourt Hall on 7th September. Be there or be sorry you missed out!

**Ag MacKeith**



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## Meet Juliana Earl...

I was born in Garsington in 1938. One of 11, eight girls and three boys, and I was number 10! Growing up there was fun. I joined the local church choir when I was eight-years-old. I loved it! We would sing carols at Christmas, usually at the manor, which is a massive country house. We also had three pubs. What's not to like about that!?

I've lived in Botley since 2002, moving from Rose Hill, where I used to run Earl's Newsagents. People here may know me for my *Sprout* deliveries. I



I once got biscuits as a tip, so I think people appreciate me handing *The Sprout* to them! I like walking, so I love doing it, although I do get help from Malcolm and Janet now, so I don't have to do the whole of Westminster Way like I used to. Thank you both!

Another thing I'm known for in Botley is my charity work. I've raised money for charities that help find cures for all sorts of illnesses: heart disease, motor-neurone disease and so on. Although I'm 86 now, I still give blood, and recently for the 80th time. More people should do this – it is such a vital service.

The charity work that I'm most proud to be a part of is what I do with the Order of the Amaranth. It's a worldwide order related to the freemasons, whose primary purpose is to fight diabetes, and we've managed to raise over £17 million for research. The aim is that, one day, the money we raise will help find a cure. Here's the thing about this group: it's a secret organisation, so when my friend asked me to join, just over 20 years ago, she didn't tell me what it was about!

But, then, I was amazed with what I saw. Everyone was dressed up very smart, the men wearing waistcoats and cummerbunds of matching material. The women, though, were in long white dresses and red shoes, for the flag of St. George. It wouldn't be long before I got a dress of my own!

We're all flown out to a Supreme Court every year. There, a giant cheque with the money that we've all raised will be handed in. Now, where it is will depend on where the Supreme Royal Matron is at the time, but I've seen places such as: Sydney, Tasmania, Singapore, Hong

Kong and Toronto just to name a few. Fabulous, fabulous places. Seeing the CN Tower for the first time was so amazing. I've been all over the world! In fact, my travels have taken me on all kinds of interesting adventures. I'm very lucky. I've been on Concorde and the Orient Express, both three times!

But the most unforgettable experience of my life was none of those things. Instead, that would be when I flew on British Airways, 25 years ago. The day I saw the solar eclipse.

It was absolutely phenomenal. Even now, I still can't describe it. I was on the left-hand side of the plane, flying down to Land's End, and I could see it getting closer and closer. Then, when I saw the eclipse right in front of me, *WOW!!* I cried and cried. It truly was a once in a lifetime experience. I felt sorry for the people in the right-hand side of the plane. They missed it!

So, that's my life really.

**Jack Webb**

~~~~~

Bridge Closure – the fightback speeds up

WestOxfordAccess is a Facebook group open to anyone living or working in West Oxford or travelling into Oxford from the West. It was set up in 2021 by three community groups from the roads on this side of the railway bridge. Julian Le Vay, their spokesperson, says that, since no one seems to be listening to the people so badly affected by the never-ending closure of the Botley Road, they have decided to collect statements as to the impacts and send them to the minister, MPs, national journalists and so on, in an effort to make them realise what is being done to us.

"There are three groups mainly affected," he says. "People with mobility problems who previously got into Oxford on a single bus journey or by taxi now have to walk about 400 yards from the bus stops on the Western side of the bridge, through the tunnel that's frequently overcrowded, sometimes with bikes and motorbikes forcing their way through. On the return journey the crowd round the bus stops forces people into the road and there's nowhere to sit or shelter. A taxi round the ring road, if it comes at all, costs £40 rather than £10. As a result, many disabled and elderly people aren't able to get into their own city.

"The second group is local businesses. Customers from the rest of Oxford have stopped coming, while delivering goods round the ring road takes far longer and is more expensive. Family businesses are being forced into closure. The economic loss to West Oxford is substantial – my estimate is upwards of £15 million to date. About 100 jobs have been lost. Frequent changes of plan by Network Rail make it impossible for businesses to plan to adapt to the closure.

"The third group? The taxpayer. Network Rail won't say how much it's overspent but I think it must be around £50 million, and rising. And meanwhile work on the station itself, due to complete this October, has barely started!

"Our city's been divided in two for 18 months, with no end in sight. It's a scandal, and we mean to get it recognised as such."

Ruth and Neil Cameron are in full agreement. Now they are in their eighties, ease of access into Oxford is critical to maintaining their quality of life. Their statement details all the things they have had to give up since the bridge was closed.

The County Council say it's nothing to do with them. "Our [only] role is to manage the effect on the highway in the most appropriate manner, and we have done that in close collaboration with partners." But this is disingenuous, according to Julian. "The proposal to widen and deepen the road under the bridge is definitely a highways, not a railway, project

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and we have obtained documents stating the county council's requirements for this work. Moreover, the council contributed some modest funding via Oxlep.” He adds: “I believe the way the County Council has washed its hands of the roadworks has been a major factor in the disaster the project has become. This extends to confusion about who exactly is responsible for approving the arrangements for pedestrian access under the bridge, and for the organization of bus stops on the western side of the bridge, which is totally unacceptable and indeed, dangerous. It is unclear who is making these decisions but the county council cannot wish away its statutory responsibility.”

Now the fightback has speeded up. Ruth Deech has joined the fray, and is focussing her efforts on the Equality Act. As someone with mobility problems who needs to commute to London, she has spoken up about the obstacle course between the WOCC bus stop and the station. She organized a meeting in August with representatives of Network Rail to look at ways this could be mitigated. There are two gates on our side of the station, either of which could be accessible if the will was there. She’s certainly bringing an energy to the discussion which is galvanizing resistance! Watch this space!

AgM

~~~~~

## **Kennington Memory Club**

On sunny summer days, a loved one’s dementia may not seem much of an issue. But moving into the shorter, colder days of autumn and winter can change the view and a carer may begin to feel the burden. Just a few hours respite could make all the difference. It’s for this very reason Kennington Memory Club came into being. The club’s staff and volunteers provide a fun-filled day for the person living with dementia and much appreciated respite for their carer – we know because they tell us. If you and your loved one might benefit from joining, please don’t leave it too late. Being further down their dementia journey can prevent someone settling at the club. For more details about what a typical day might include, call Kay, the Organiser, on 07852 883496 or take a look at the website **[www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk](http://www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk)**. Kay will be happy to arrange for you both to come and have a look.

On 7th September we will reprise last year’s successful fundraiser, the Ladderthon, raising funds for Kennington Memory Club, Oxford Brain Injury Services, and the MacIntyre Centre, all very important charities for the local area. Get in touch if you’d like to help carry the ladder.

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## A Pure View

The second of artist Clare Goodall's Botley Precinct mosaic designs is up. It's called 'Connection to Nature'. Have you spotted it? It's on the side wall of Loomsbury café?

Remit: To design and make a relevant, inclusive, timeless, ageless, visual artwork with wide public appeal, that aims to connect, inspire and give enjoyment to our community, on a limited budget... I was eager to see the final piece and talk to Clare about the process and ideas behind her creation.



The mosaic has five tiled background 'sets' and seven aluminium profiles which stand out from the tiling. The 'sets' (left to right) are: 'Heart-shaped sunshine', 'Of the earth', 'Cathedral', 'Orchard/meadow' and 'Infinite awe'. The aluminium profiles (left to right) are: 'Humans and nature intertwined', 'Toil and endeavour on the land', 'New growth – shoots and roots', 'Gratitude and meditation', 'Nourishment', 'Celebration' and finally 'Love, friendship and hope'.

Clare offers us some considerable themes and symbols as food for thought don't you agree?

Clare worked with several local community groups, and at least two

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workshops were open to all Botley residents during the making. People have the POWER and small steps make BIG changes! She then took the work and ideas to her studio to begin creating.

She aspired to find parallel symbols and meaning that are universal, and at the same time resonate with our OWN community – so we have references to our community orchards and allotments, John Ruskin's road to Oxford, our local places of worship and community groups where people meet and begin new friendships ... but underlying ALL of this is the human spirit which strives for a better world. The human spirit which is OUR community, pervades every background and every detail, depicted with simplicity, beautifully balanced and proportioned, and full of energy and colour.

This commission (as with most public art projects) can be overwhelming – IS overwhelming. Think about it... Clare has clearly relished the challenge and has created a work of significance and elegance (such a pity that it is not fifty times larger!), leading us all into a newer, more positive and determined vision of Botley in the years ahead. Next time you're passing, stop, look, and think – perhaps you will find something in there that lifts your day.



*Thank you, Clare!*

**Ali Hogg**

### **Local Councillor Surgeries**

*District Councillors Debby Hallett and Emily Smith: Sun 10th November, 2pm Missing Bean Cafe, Church Way, Botley*

*County Councillor Judy Roberts: Sat 7th September, Botley Library, 10am (and first Saturdays of the month thereafter)*

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## West Way Art Day – Saturday 21st September

I hope everyone has had a chance to see the new mosaic recently installed in West Way Square on the side of the Loomsbury building. This is the second work by artist Clare Goodall after the mosaic panels on the outside of the Library building, installed last year. Both works have been produced with the help of local residents of all ages. Together with Alex Wenham's standing stones with hare and inlaid mosaic by Clare, they form part of the public art commissioned by the Parish Council with developer funds for public art obtained via the



District Council. (See page 27 for an account of the thinking behind it. Ed)

On Saturday 21st September you are invited to attend an Art Day event in West Way Square and Seacourt Hall to welcome the new artworks, meet the artists, give your feedback and ideas for the next pieces to be commissioned, and enjoy tea, cake and art activities for children.

### **10:30am – 11am: West Way Square:**

- Unveiling plaques for the three artworks in West Way Square

### **11am to 1pm: Seacourt Hall:**

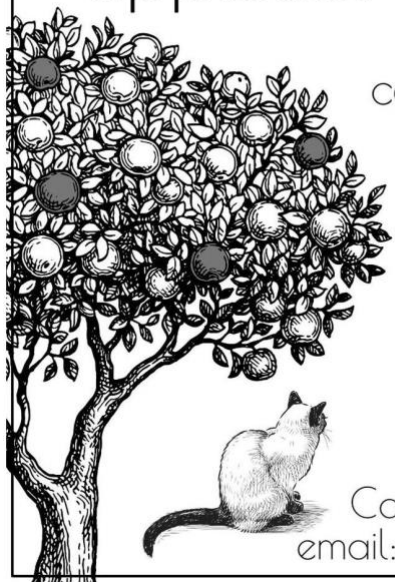
- Meet the Artists
- Consultation on ideas and locations for the next artworks, and details of other public art projects in Botley
- Tea and cakes
- Art activities for children
- Join a walk around the site and consider new locations for artworks

We hope to see you there.

**Lorna Berrett**, BNHPC Public Art Working Group



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- Make a real difference to people's lives, contributing to improving their wellbeing
- Have a sense of belonging to the community, developed through working with people from all backgrounds

A new adviser training course begins in early October 2024, so apply now!

### **IT specialists will:**

- Help to maintain our IT systems and support the service
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### Quiz and Raffle for the Skatepark

Botley Sk8s is holding a 'Through the Decades' quiz and raffle for the new Skatepark at the Seacourt Hall on 7th September. It's the final fundraiser of the summer, and they hope the whole of Botley will be there. It will be worth it for the raffle alone! There were so many great prizes donated earlier in the year, that an event that brought the whole community together was planned, to give them the widest possible exposure. There will be a bar, and the event is open to everyone over 18. Doors open at 7.30, £5pp entry, teams of up to six. So get your teams together, skatepark supporters, and prepare for a fun evening!

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### Botley W.I.

After the holiday month, we will resume our monthly meetings at 7:30 pm on Tuesday 3rd September with a talk by Katherine Bradley on "Creative Women." On 5th September we will follow up on a moving talk on the mission and history of the Commonwealth War Graves with a visit to Botley Cemetery. Our "Greenish Fingers" group will be

at Waterperry at 2pm on Tuesday 17th September, and the Craft, Chat and Cuppa group will run from 2:30–4pm the same day, in the Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksey Lane, OX2 0LT. All are welcome to visit us and see if you enjoy our range of activities. For more information, call 01865 245273 or email [botleywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:botleywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)

**Alison Jenner**

### **September at the Library**

**County Councillor surgery**, with Judy Roberts on 7th September, 10am.

**Age UK** 'scam awareness' drop-in session at 2pm on 26th September

Plus regular **Rhymetime** for under 5s, all-age **Lego Club**, adult **Craft Club** and **Digital Helper**, dates on the back cover.

### **September at Hill End**

Lots of outdoor autumn events at Hill End this month. There's a **Bat Walk** on Saturday 14th, 6.30–8.00pm and **Family Bushcraft** on the morning of Sat 21st, starting at 10 am. To find out more go to <https://hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events>. There are also some training events for adults as follows: **Making the Most of Your Trees**, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> 4.00–6.00pm, and **Knife and Carving Skills** on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>, 10am –1pm, details on <https://hill-end.org/news/adult-training>

### **Learn about paper quilling**

Oxford Area Quillers meets monthly at the WI Hall in North Hinksey Lane, from 10am until 2pm (usually the first Saturday of the month, but please check before coming as we do sometimes change dates). We welcome new members at any of our meetings (with expert tuition where needed right from strict beginner onwards). Tea/Coffee and biscuits are provided, bring your own packed lunch. On 14/15 September we are taking part in the Oxford Open Doors event and will have a stand at County Hall in Oxford. This is a chance for you to come along and see what we do, and to have a hands-on session. We will be there both days for the whole time that it is open. If you'd like to know more, email [AngelaArnold@aol.com](mailto:AngelaArnold@aol.com) or phone me on 01865 244265.

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| <b>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b>                                      | Tues/Thurs 9.15–11, SS Peter & Paul Church Hall                                                                                                                                |
| <b>BikeSafe. B4044 community path campaign</b>                       | Wants to connect Botley to Eynsham. Meets every 6-8 weeks. Contact via website <a href="http://B4044path.org">B4044path.org</a>                                                |
| <b>Books on Wheels</b> R.V.S.                                        | Free Library Service for housebound Ox. 810159                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Botley Boys &amp; Girls F.C.</b><br>Football teams from ages 8-16 | Terri Matthews: <a href="mailto:clubsecretarybbgfc@gmail.com">clubsecretarybbgfc@gmail.com</a>                                                                                 |
| <b>Botley Bridges (for under 5s)</b>                                 | Mondays, 9-11, Stay & Play Botley School, and Fridays 10-12, Baby Group at Seacourt Hall <a href="http://botleybridges.org">botleybridges.org</a>                              |
| <b>Botley Community Larder</b>                                       | Thursdays, 3.00 to 4.30 at St P&P Church Hall, West Way, Facebook or email <a href="mailto:botleylarder@gmail.com">botleylarder@gmail.com</a>                                  |
| <b>Botley Health Walks</b>                                           | 2nd & 4th Sats 9.50 Louie Memorial Field car park, or Tues 11 am Library <a href="mailto:botleyhealthroutes@gmail.com">botleyhealthroutes@gmail.com</a>                        |
| <b>Botley Library</b>                                                | 07922 849680. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays).                                                                                |
| <b>Botley Memory Lane Café</b>                                       | Thursdays 10-12 Seacourt Hall Lounge, Diccon James 07740 611971                                                                                                                |
| <b>Botley &amp; North Hinksey Parish Council</b>                     | <a href="mailto:clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk">clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk</a>                                                                                     |
| <b>Botley Seniors Lunch Club</b>                                     | Alternate Thursdays. Seacourt Hall. Jackie Warner Ox.721386                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Botley Youth Club</b>                                             | Weds 7pm-9pm in term time. Louie Memorial Pavilion. <a href="mailto:botleyyouthclub@gmail.com">botleyyouthclub@gmail.com</a>                                                   |
| <b>Cumnor Choral Society</b>                                         | Thursdays, 19.30-21.30 St Andrew's Church OX2 9BH <a href="http://www.cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk">www.cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk</a>                                             |
| <b>Cumnor &amp; District Historical Society</b>                      | Last Monday of the month 7.30-9.00 Cumnor Old School. 01865 724808                                                                                                             |
| <b>Cumnor Gardening Club</b>                                         | <a href="http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/">http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/</a> tel 01865 721026                                                                                       |

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| <b>Harmony InSpires, Ladies' Acappella Singing Group</b> | Wed 7.30 at Appleton Village Hall. C. Casson 01235 831352 or <a href="mailto:harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk">harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk</a>                                                      |
| <b>Hill End Volunteer Team</b>                           | Contact: David Millin on <a href="mailto:david.millin@hill-end.org">david.millin@hill-end.org</a> , call 863510 or visit <a href="http://www.hillend-oec.co.uk">www.hillend-oec.co.uk</a>          |
| <b>Kumon Maths and English</b>                           | After school classes, Seacourt Hall, Tues & Sat. 07377 430063 <a href="http://www.kumon.co.uk/oxford-botley/">www.kumon.co.uk/oxford-botley/</a>                                                   |
| <b>Lawn Tennis Club</b>                                  | Family club Email: <a href="mailto:Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org">Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org</a> 07824 881680 <a href="http://www.oxfordsportsltc.org">www.oxfordsportsltc.org</a>                    |
| <b>Morris Dancing – Cry Havoc</b>                        | Barbara Brett 249599 or <a href="mailto:bag@cryhavoc.org.uk">bag@cryhavoc.org.uk</a>                                                                                                               |
| <b>North Hinksey Preschool and Childcare clubs</b>       | Mon–Fri 7.45am–6.00 pm. Tel 794287 or email <a href="mailto:nhps.manager1@gmail.com">nhps.manager1@gmail.com</a>                                                                                   |
| <b>N Hinksey Art Group</b>                               | Weds 10–12.00 W.I. Hall Christina 07931 707997                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>N Bellringers</b>                                     | Contact: Ray Rook 01865 241451                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>N Hinksey Conservation Volunteers</b>                 | Meets at weekends Contact Voirrey Carr 07798 743121 <a href="mailto:voirreyc@aol.com">voirreyc@aol.com</a>                                                                                         |
| <b>N Hinksey, Friends of</b>                             | Annual Cricket Match/ Walk. Douglas Bond 791213.                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Oxford Flower Arranging</b>                           | 4th Thursday Cumnor. Dympna Walker: Ox 865259                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Oxford Harmony</b>                                    | Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.30 pm at Seacourt Hall Contact <a href="mailto:pro@oxfordharmony.co.uk">pro@oxfordharmony.co.uk</a>                                                                            |
| <b>Oxford Rugby Club</b>                                 | Boys and girls from 5, <a href="mailto:kevin.honner@ntlworld.com">kevin.honner@ntlworld.com</a> Seniors, training etc <a href="mailto:jbrodley@chandlings.org.uk">jbrodley@chandlings.org.uk</a> . |
| <b>Raleigh Park, Friends of</b>                          | Email: <a href="mailto:raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk">raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk</a>                                                                                                          |
| <b>Seacourt Hall Management Committee</b>                | Contact Lottie White, 07452 960100, or see <a href="https://www.seacourthall.org.uk">https://www.seacourthall.org.uk</a>                                                                           |
| <b>Shotokan Karate Club</b>                              | 6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Stagecoach Botley</b>                                 | Botley School, Saturdays 9:00am–3pm <i>Performing Arts for 4-16 yr-olds</i> 01865 590510 or 01235 390810                                                                                           |
| <b>West Oxford Bowls Club</b>                            | D Ellerker 07931 603801 <a href="mailto:wobc.membership@gmail.com">wobc.membership@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                   |
| <b>West Oxford Taekwon Do Club</b>                       | Mon, Thurs 6.30-8pm, MA gym, contact Chris Hall 01865 570291 <a href="http://www.wotkd.co.uk">www.wotkd.co.uk</a>                                                                                  |
| <b>West Oxford U3A</b>                                   | <a href="http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/">http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/</a>                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Women's Institute (Botley)</b>                        | Alison Jenner 07598 251161 <a href="mailto:alisonjenner@yahoo.com">alisonjenner@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                      |

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| <b>Botley Baptist Church,<br/>1 Church Way</b>               | Contact: Building Manager 07742 662668<br><b>botleybaptist@gmail.com</b>            |
| <b>The Rosary Room<br/>Yarnells Hill, Elms Rise</b>          | Contact: Maria Brown,<br>Tel: 01865 247986.                                         |
| <b>SS Peter &amp; Paul Church<br/>Hall, West Way, Botley</b> | Contact: 01865 242057 or<br><b>osneybenefice@outlook.com</b> .                      |
| <b>Women's Institute Hall,<br/>North Hinksey Lane</b>        | Contact: Val Warner<br>Tel. 01865 245273                                            |
| <b>Seacourt Hall,<br/>3 Church Way</b>                       | Contact: Lottie White on 07452 960100, or<br>email <b>admin@seacourthall.org.uk</b> |
| <b>Pavilion, Arnold's Way,<br/>Elms Rise, Botley</b>         | Contact: Darren Blase 241254<br><b>louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com</b>              |
| <b>Oxford Rugby Club,<br/>North Hinksey Village</b>          | Contact: Mary Bagnall<br><b>mary.bagnall1@btinternet.com</b> .                      |

## North Hinksey & Botley Churches Times of Services (once resumed) and Contacts

### **St. Lawrence, Church of England, North Hinksey Lane**

1st, 2nd, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> 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 at Field House, West Way  
Rev Clare Sykes, Tel. 01865 242345 or [revclare@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:contact@ccox.church)      website: [www.ccoxford.church](http://www.ccoxford.church)

# What's On

## September

- Tues 3rd** 3.30pm, Botley Library, Lego Club for all ages (and on 10th, 17th, 24th)
- Thur 5th** 2pm, Botley Library, Adult Craft Club (and on 12th, 19th, 26th)
- Fri 6th** 10am, Botley Library, Rhymetime for 0-5s (and on 13th, 20th, 27th)
- Sat 7th** 10am, Botley Library, Cllr Judy Roberts' surgery
- Sat 7th** 10–12pm, Botley Library, Digital Helper (and on 21st)
- Sat 7th** 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, Botley Sk8s Quiz & Raffle
- Mon 9th** 2.15 Dean Court Community centre, U3A talk: Phil Holt, 'Donald Campbell, Across the Lake'
- Thur 12th** 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, Parish Council Meeting
- Sat 14th** 6.30pm, Hill End Camp, Bat Walk
- Thur 19th** 4-6pm, Hill End Camp, adult training, Making the Most of your Trees
- Sat 21st** 10am Hill End Camp, Family Bushcraft
- Sat 21st** 10.30am, Seacourt Hall, etc, West Way Art Day
- Mon 23rd** 2.15 Dean Court Community centre, U3A talk: Stephen Bruce, 'Tales from the Auction Room'
- Thur 26th** 2pm, Library, AgeUK 'scam awareness' drop-in
- Sat 28th** 10am-1pm, Hill End Camp, adult training, Knife Skills

## October

- Tues 1st** Oxford Town Hall, Older People's Day
- Fri 4th** 7.30pm, St Michael's Church, Cumnor 'Salt and Light' (gospel drama)