

The Sprout



Thatching in North Hinksey

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 189 July 2024

The Sprout

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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From the Editor

It's been a right squeeze to get everything in this month. A hot topic is the imminent closure of the Harcourt Hill swimming pool, which Brookes inherited from Westminster College (p3). Children of 12 local schools currently learn to swim there, so it can't be allowed to close without a fight! D-Day celebrations filled the news in early June, and our own Adam Rankin was on the scene to tell us about it (p11). Then 17th Scouts were at Youlbury (p9), the annual ffennell Festival took place at Hill End (p23) and Botley School is providing an ox for the city-wide Oxtrail over the summer (p27). The Litter Bug Trail (20 July - 11 August) has been adapted to run through our patch, scan the QR code to find out where (p27) and there are free tickets for under-25s to concerts at the Oxford Chamber Music festival over the summer (p17). We were sorry to say goodbye to Monica White, retiring after 30 years at the Library (p5). And we had to hold over an account of the masterly thatching going on in North Hinksey village until our next edition in September, but the photo on the front cover will give you an idea of what's in store.

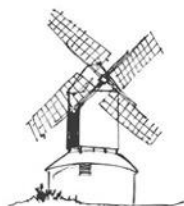
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Letters to the Editor

June Sprout

What a thoroughly good read *The Sprout* was today. I read it from cover to cover just after I had received it. I was delighted to see the postcard of Botley pre the A34 and the Flyover. Yes, how very different it was then! I remember it as if it were yesterday. Seacourt Farm (and Elms Farm with the Library in it), a dairy, just Elms Parade and the Co-op store on the corner of Poplar Road, opposite the Seacourt Bridge Inn. I looked at it and went back down Memory Lane to a Botley that only a few of us remember. No A420 either and a piece of common ground behind Elms Parade with a muddy footpath plus a stile which took you to a very new Arthray Road. I always refer to Elms Rise Estate as the new estate!!!!!!! I remember looking out of the front bedroom window of 32 Hazel Road and watching the steep Hutchcomb Road being built. But that was then and now is now, and it is time for an older lady to creep into bed. The rest of the family are fast asleep and the house is very quiet!!! Regards and best wishes,

Jenny Holloway

~~~~~

**DID YOU KNOW THAT BROOKES SWIMMING POOL WILL BE CLOSED FROM SEPTEMBER, FOLLOWED BY THE LOSS OF THE GYM AND SPORTS FACILITIES NEXT YEAR, when Brookes quits the campus?** The parish council are collecting stories and signatures to make the case to keep them open. Please visit the BNHPC webpage ([botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk](http://botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk)) or scan the QR code, to lend your voice to the cause,



~~~~~

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Meet Monica White

I can see why Monica White's colleagues are so keen for me to interview her: she is a marvel! On 30 August, Monica will be retiring from working at the Botley library, after 30 years of cheerfully helping our community to choose good novels, find out information, and learn to read.

Monica is a through-and-through Botley-ite. She was born in Botley, in one of the Isis Self-build Housing Association houses behind the Catholic Church on Yarnells Hill. Monica's father and other men, mostly Catholics, came



together to build the 14 houses at Westminster Way. They all had full time jobs but agreed to spend 20 hours a week in the evenings and weekends at the site. What a feat it was! It took them two years just to dig out the drainage. Monica grew up next door to her first cousins, so it was idyllic.

Monica went to primary school in Botley, then grammar school, and always came to the library as a child. But she didn't want to go to university, and went straight to work after she finished school. "I worked in Boots from 1977 to 1983," she says. "Boots was different then. They sold all kinds of things: handbags, paintings, records, gardening tools. I met my best friend, Eileen, there". She then worked at British Telecom from 1983 to 1988, helping the engineers, ordering stores. She liked working at BT because it was more money and she didn't have to work on Saturdays.

Monica and her husband Simon got married in the local Catholic church in 1983. She has been a parishioner there for her whole life. She stopped working when she had her son, but when Chris was five, Monica applied to be a Saturday morning library assistant. This was in the old library at the base of the Grant Thornton building*. "Library users would get five tickets, and those tickets would go into the book envelopes. I'd stamp the return date on the book. Chris would come in after school sometimes and help to put the tickets in order. If a book was late, the user would get a handwritten postcard. If it was very late, the user would get a typed letter," says Monica. "Beware the typed letter!"

Monica describes Botley's readers as "a bloodthirsty lot": crime is the

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most popular genre. In the early days of being a library assistant, Monica also helped people to find information. Initially this was from an encyclopaedia or reference book, but now library work has become computerised, and the internet has taken over as a source of information.

In early 2020, the library was moved to its current location. "The new library is so much bigger and nicer," says Monica. "The basement of the old building would always flood. We don't miss it." The new library is always busy. It hosts a weekly craft group, weekly rhyme time for children, monthly book groups, and acts as a processing point for bus passes and blue badges. There are also visits by authors such as Simon Mason, Cara Hunter, Mick Herron and Olivia Kiernan.

Monica says that she has lots of plans for retirement: "More time for reading of course, and I know my cat, Toby, will love having more fuss! As well as travelling in the UK, the Northern Lights are a bucket list destination. I will continue singing with Cumnor Choral, which I've done for about 25 years. Music was in our family, and both my husband and son are guitarists. In the dim distant past, I also sang in a band with my husband! I love making hand-made greeting cards, so will have more time to do this. The problem I have with this is that I can never give any

of my friends or family a shop-bought card. I start making my Christmas cards in September!"

"I will miss the library," says Monica. "I know so many of the library customers by their first names and it's such a friendly place to work. Most of all, I will miss my colleagues. I have made lifelong friends there and, although it's a cliché to say it, we are more like a family. My faith is a big help to me and I love being with people. I want to enjoy life!"

We will all miss Monica's can-do cheerfulness at the library, and wish her and her husband a lovely retirement.

Riki Therivel

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Youlbury adventures!

The 15th Oxford Cub and Scout troops had a busy month in May. On the 11th, Arthur, Grace, Freddie & Huckle (Cubs) and Zachary, Emeth and Elliot (Scouts) attended the Oxfordshire Scouts County Award Day to receive their Silver and Gold Chief Scout Awards from one of the Deputy Lieutenants of Oxfordshire! These are the highest awards Cubs and Scouts respectively can receive, and it takes commitment and dedication to achieve them. The day was superb, with the sun shining and plenty of activities to take part in.

The weekend after saw the whole of the troop back at Youlbury for a District Camp, this time alongside more than 900 other young people from Oxfordshire-based Troops. This was a brilliant event for all our cubs, scouts and young leaders to attend, where they could enjoy all the facilities that Youlbury has to offer, singing round the campfire and meeting new people. But first there was the night hike up to the site on the Friday evening, with our Cubs joining early Saturday morning to take part in a range of activities such as caving, rock climbing, face painting and axe throwing.

Being outdoors and learning the skills to flourish in this environment is something that the 15th are passionate about – we pride ourselves on our ‘back-to-basics’ ethos and all our young people are a huge credit to us in this.

In September we will have spaces in our Cub and Scout



troop and would welcome new members to join us. We meet every Friday at the Fogwell Road Pavilion on the Eynsham Road. Cubs runs from 6:00-7:30 and Scouts from 7:30-9:00.

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D-Day: Commemorating Home & Away

Each year five friends and I visit somewhere significant in World War 2. This year it is 80 years since Operation Overlord, when 156,000 allied troops invaded Normandy, the first day of which is known as D-Day.

Prior to this excursion, I was privileged to attend a service, in May, at the Commonwealth War Cemetery in North Hinksey Lane, organised by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC), who ensure that those who died in service or as a result of conflict are commemorated. As the 80th Anniversary of D-Day will soon be beyond living memory, the CWGC are keen to ensure that future generations are aware of the sacrifice so many paid to ensure our liberty.



Through their programme, Lighting Their Legacy, they have been holding services at Commonwealth War Cemeteries to inspire remembrance and reflection in younger generations. Here, at Botley, after a short service, it was poignant to see a lit torch passed along a line of schoolchildren to engage them in reflection for those who voluntarily gave up their liberty for ours or were the unfortunate victims of war.

Our trip to Normandy saw us boarding a ferry to Caen on June 4th. This turned out to be very special, as there were 31 veterans, supported by various charities, aboard the ship. As we sailed out of Portsmouth Harbour, pipers played, the crew of HMS Prince of Wales saluted the veterans lined up in the stern, tugboats blew columns of water in the air and an RAF Atlas C1 encircled the ship a number of times. During the crossing, the ferry company laid on D-Day quizzes and the Bluebirds, dressed in WW2 RAF uniform, sang wartime numbers, while the veterans were treated to a banquet in the restaurant.

I had been to D-Day commemorations in 2009 (65th), 2014 (70th) and 2019 (75th), but this anniversary was attended by much larger numbers



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and had many more organised events all along the coast than previously. This had been made apparent when we tried to find somewhere to stay 18 months earlier, without any luck. Nevertheless, equipped with tents, sleeping bags, BBQs and stoves, we eventually found an available pitch at the eighth campsite we tried.

On 5th June, we visited the British Memorial at Ver-sur-Mer, where we watched rehearsals

for the service the following day and saw an impressive and poignant installation called Standing with Giants, which was put together by a Woodstock artist and installed by locals from Oxfordshire. The silhouettes of 1475 servicemen, heads



bowed, remember the servicemen from land, sea and air who lost their lives on 6th June 1944. At the British Memorial, the name, rank and age of every serviceman who gave his life there is engraved on the pillars, along with key speeches of the leaders at the time, in French and English.

After leaving Ver-sur-Mer, we wound our way towards the Abbaye d'Ardenne, finding, *en route*, the Green Howards memorial. The Abbaye d'Ardenne remembers the massacre at the Abbaye and the murders at Authie, where the North Nova Scotia Highlanders and the 12th SS Panzer Division engaged in a bloody battle. 156 Canadians surrendered as POWs, about 40 of whom were murdered, some run over by Nazi traffic. Later, in '45, Colonel Kurt Meyer was convicted of war crimes for his part in these atrocities.

Moving on from the Abbaye d'Ardenne, we took a local recommendation and arrived at Hill 112 where we found a display of old military vehicles and various locals dressed in 1940s dress. We chatted with the organisers of the event who run a charity for Hill 112 and were invited to a village bash with plenty of French cider and more 1940s singing.

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The actual 6th June saw us arrive at Arromanches-les-Bains at 5:30 in the morning. We



stayed until lunchtime, then visited a gun battery at Longues-sur-Mer, part of Hitler's "Atlantic Wall". This battery still has some of the guns in the bunkers that show how formidable the defences of Normandy really

were. Here, opposite the gun emplacements, was quite a large, re-enacted encampment of French with US military equipment and vehicles.

The following day, we ventured up towards Utah beach, the remains of Mulberry Harbour (destroyed by storm on 7th June 1944) and the town of Saint Mère-Eglise. Saint Mère-Eglise was holding a huge encampment of WW2 militaria at the entrance to town, with the most accurate soldiers and paratroopers we'd seen. There was a wide variety of US WW2 vehicles, largely belonging to Czech and Dutch owners. We spent a long time viewing a particular tank transporter; one of only two in the world, amazed at the armour and the scale of the engineering. In the centre of town, we witnessed a veteran, chest full of medals, dancing with a local outside a café, serenaded by a piper.

After leaving Saint Mère-Eglise, we visited the memorial to the 101st Airborne (Band of Brothers) and the site of the famous Brécourt Manor Assault, where Easy Company took out the four German 105mm howitzers that were disrupting the beach landings. This is still used today as an example of how small-unit tactics can overcome a much larger force. Lunch at Utah beach, visiting another Nazi gun bunker and the Utah Beach Memorial.

Every time the six of us go away on a foray, we bring something more back in our minds. Predominantly, it's how the small stuff mattered: how the small events knit together to form a much larger significance. Just like the allied forces landing in Normandy, who got lost and mixed up with other companies and battalions, we've all grown together with a bond of common interest.

Adam Rankin



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Fun with the Brownies

The inclement start to “flaming June” did not curtail the activities of 2nd Botley Brownies, and we managed to still have lots of fun out of doors.

We did, however, have one evening inside where the Brownies were challenged to complete several tasks using just one hand, the other being held behind their backs so they weren’t tempted to use it. Each girl had to build a tower of plastic milk bottle caps to see how high they could get it, to transfer 50 tennis balls from one bucket to another, to try and keep three or more silk juggling scarves in the air. Then, for the last task, the girls were allowed to use two hands to tear some scrap paper into “doll size” clothes but still only use one hand to hang those clothes onto a washing line. From the sound of the “oohs & arrhs” and the laughing and giggling, it did seem like a good time was had by all.



The meeting before Father’s Day, the girls crafted a CD window hanger and card to thank their dads for everything they do for them.

We do get some lovely feedback from readers who are (“unfortunately” they tell us!) slightly older than ten years of age. This is great – but if you have enjoyed reading about us and sharing in all that we do, and if you are a girl aged between seven and ten years old, then please do ask a parent to make contact so you can join in the fun, as we would love to see you. Come on, give us a go! We can be contacted at **secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com**

The Owls & Robin

~~~~~ **Calling All Music-Loving Families!**

Oxford Chamber Music Festival is holding its Summer Concert and Party at Christ Church Cathedral on July 6th from 7.15pm. The ticket price includes pre- and post-concert receptions and one hour concert of sublime music by Ravel and Brahms, played by world-class musicians. Thanks to the Cavatina Trust we are able to offer FREE tickets to anyone between 8 and 25 years. To reserve your tickets, please contact the Oxford Playhouse Box Office on 01865-305305 or book online: **www.ocmf.net**. The same young people offer will apply to many of our Festival concerts (September 23-28th) – more dates for your diary!

The Importance of Being Invested

Now could be the time to cash in on your cash holdings and get the money invested. This should come as welcome news for those with maturing plans and those thinking about the next move. As financial planners, our message is two-fold and very simple:

- If you've got excess cash – consider getting it invested!
- Then, look to stay invested!

Why get invested?

Cash is not always king! Despite the high(ish) rates on offer, financial assets tend to outperform cash over the longer-term.

Sadly, investing is not always a smooth ride, especially when investing over shorter periods. The longer you remain invested, the greater the chance of growing your money and the lesser chance of losing money.

This brings us on to our next point: look to stay invested!

Having short-term cash as a rainy-day fund always makes sense, but having big pots of your wealth sitting in cash is likely to erode your wealth in the long term, as inflation will eat into it.

Also, when deciding the best time to invest, we would always advocate that the best returns come from “time in the market and not trying to time the market”.

Wren Sterling remains optimistic about the opportunities in investment markets currently, as we continue to see inflation falling and the likelihood of reducing interest rates too.

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As we look forward to a long and sunny summer (hopefully!) some items to highlight are:

Patient Participation Group (PPG) meeting

The latest meeting with the PPG was held at 19 Beaumont St on 21st May. During the meeting we discussed the outdoor lighting at the Elms Road site which is due to be installed over the summer as the current lighting is unusable – a much bigger job than we thought. We also informed the members that the practice had contacted the farmer who looks after the field next to the practice regarding the flooding. He has explained that the soil has become compacted and that there is a plan to subsoil the field in the summer which should alleviate the problem.

The next meeting will be held in September at Elms Rd.

Patient Access and the NHS App

Following on from the information in last month's update from the practice, we are aware that Patient Access and NHS App have increased their level of security for access. So, you may receive a request to set up additional authentication. We are aware there are scam emails circulating asking you to click on a link so please do remain vigilant.

Patient Access – patients will be asked to enter a 6-digit passcode each time they sign in. To access the passcode patients will need to install an authenticator app. You may not have to do this if you have Face or Touch ID. You can also use your NHS login instead, if you have one.

NHS App – we have informed by some patients that they have had to confirm their login details for the NHS App. But if you log in using Face or Touch ID this should remain unchanged.

These additional security measures have been implemented by NHS England and are outside the control of the practice.

We would take this opportunity to remind patients that not only can you use the NHS App to order prescriptions, view your record and appointments, but hospital and information from other NHS services is starting to be included in the app.



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Reminder that the practice has some Saturday clinics which are held every 2-3 weeks at either the Elms Road or Beaumont St sites. Clinics usually consist of 3 clinicians: GP, nurse or pharmacist, and a healthcare assistant. The clinics are held in the morning between 8.30am and 12.30pm.

~~~~~

## Miles Gomme

On the afternoon of Saturday 13 July in Botley Library, Jennie Hopkins of Botley Arts is talking to photographer Miles Gomme about his current exhibition in SS Peter & Paul Church and the inspiration behind his pictures. The Q & A session will start at 2.00pm, finishing around 4.00pm, with tea, coffee, and biscuits generously provided by the Library. There is no entrance fee.

## LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

|                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>P24/V1078/FUL</u></b>                                                                   | 10 Eynsham Rd. Change use of part of ground floor. Erect garden building c 5 x 7m.                                                                | <b>13 May</b><br><i>TDD: 8 July</i>                               |
| <b><u>P24/V1080/HH</u></b>                                                                    | 27 North Hinksey Village. Build timber shed in garden.                                                                                            | <b>14 May</b><br><i>TDD: 9 July</i>                               |
| <b><u>P24/V0995/S73</u></b><br>Section 73<br>application for<br>amendments to<br>P23/V1043/HH | 23 Hazel Rd. Bring 1st floor extension in line with ground floor. (Double storey & single extension at rear and double storey extension at side.) | <b>20 May</b><br><i>Target<br/>Decision<br/>Date:<br/>15 July</i> |
| <b><u>P24/V1127/S73</u></b><br>Approved planning<br>app P23/V1042/HH                          | 21 Hazel Rd. Variation of condition 2. Double storey extension to rear of property.                                                               | <b>21 May</b><br><i>TDD: 16 July</i>                              |
| <b><u>P24/V1191/FUL</u></b>                                                                   | 2 Crabtree Rd. Loft conversion with flat roof dormer to rear. Change of use from dwelling house to 8-person HMO.                                  | <b>28 May</b><br><i>TDD: 23 July</i>                              |
| <b><u>P24/V1268/HH</u></b>                                                                    | 44 Arthray Rd. 1- & 2- storey rear extension, loft conversion. Box dormer to rear & rooflight to front.                                           | <b>7 June</b><br><i>TDD: 2 Aug</i>                                |



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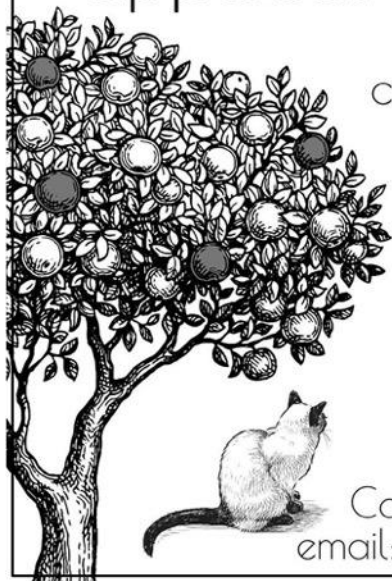


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## ffennell Festival 2024

Our annual festival is a wonderful chance for us to open our doors to the local community, and we were delighted to welcome over 450 people on 8 June – a huge thank you to everyone who came along to support our charity and enjoy lots of outdoor fun!

Named for the philanthropic ffennell family who gifted Hill End and Wytham Woods to Oxfordshire for education, this event allows the public the opportunity to enjoy our stunning natural



surroundings, normally only open to schools and similar organised groups. It was particularly fascinating to speak to so many adults who had first visited as children – and also to those who had never been to Hill End before but always wondered what secrets lay behind the totem pole at the entrance...

What you may not have realised is that the festival is entirely organised and run by our tireless 'Friends of Hill End' volunteers, with all the activity providers and bands giving their time and expertise for free. There are far too many to name individually, but they included woodcrafters, weavers, circus skills, nature art, pond-dipping, history and nature guided walks. We had bushcraft from Ultimate Survival, pond-dipping, Al's Owls, Real Kingdoms adventure fun, Oxford Sail Training and of course, the



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ever-popular downhill racers go-carts – we aren't called Hill End for nothing! Music from our brilliant bands – Acappella Sunday, Barefoot Molly, Poison and Wine and the Chalk Horses – provided the perfect atmosphere for a sunny BBQ or picnic.

A huge thank you to them all, and particularly to Lesley Williams and her team of 'Friends' for the months of effort that go into making the event a success. The funds raised go towards vital educational resources, equipment, tents and more to support the outdoor education that we provide and help keep costs down for all our visitors. If you're interested in helping the Friends for future events or throughout the year, please do just get in touch.

### **Family Campout – weekend 27th July**

Would you like to experience the fun of a Hill End sleepover for yourself? A rare opportunity to stay in our bell tents, and immerse yourself in nature this summer. For details visit: <https://hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events> Other contact details are: 01865 863510 and [www.hill-end.org](http://www.hill-end.org), [admin@hill-end.org](mailto:admin@hill-end.org) Facebook: @HillEndOEC, Twitter: @Hill\_End and Instagram: hill\_end\_centre

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## Botley School supports OxTrail 2024

The OxTrail is a fundraiser for Sobell House, where lots of oxen will be placed around Oxford as a trail. Sobell House is a charity which raises money to help people who are really ill, so it is a really important charity. We have raised money through cake sales, non-uniform days, a book swap and selling Christmas decorations which we designed and decorated.

We made our ox as inclusive as we could by having every child and adult in the school draw themselves as a stick figure on different coloured paper. We then stuck the pieces of paper onto the ox, but left gaps where we wrote our school values: respect, kindness, creativity, inclusivity, resilience and teamwork. All the money we raise (hopefully £1000) will go to Sobell House and our ox will be put on the Ox Trail this summer where everyone can see it.



**Rose** (on the School Council)

**The Ox is peeping through the curtains. We're not allowed to show it in full yet!**

### Get detecting on the Litter Bug Trails!

This summer, young children will love following our Litter Bug Detective Activity Trails in parks across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. Follow the trails, get detecting and learn lots about recycling!

Everyone who completes a trail has the chance to win a £20 'Love to Shop' voucher and a rainbow coloured bench for their school, made from recycled plastic!

To find where the trails are and to download the trail maps, just scan the QR code.



**And here's something else for kids to do this summer!**

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## Botley Arts – Giles Barraclough

Botley Arts is delighted to support the first exhibition of local artist **GILES BARRACLOUGH**. Opening at the beginning of July and continuing until the end of August in St Peter & St Paul Church on West Way, the exhibition features some lovely paintings.

Giles Barraclough is a self-taught artist who has lived in West Oxford for forty years. He tells me that he took up painting on retirement, and his favoured medium is acrylics. He also does all his own framing, buying the actual frames where he can. Giles is a member of the Oxford Art Society.

This is what Giles has to say about his artwork:

‘All my paintings are started because I see something that I am urged to record. It could be some particular feature of the landscape or an emotional response to it. And this is what I try to show in my paintings. The landscapes are generally quite recognisable.’



An example of Giles' work is shown here albeit in black and white. I urge you to visit the church to see the paintings in their colourful glory! The usual Church opening times for visiting the exhibition are 10.00am-4.00pm Monday to Saturday and 12.00-4.00pm on Sundays.

## Viv Smith

### ~~~~~ Botley W.I.

On 17th June, the Botley WI Walking Group visited Witney Lakes in beautiful weather and had a lovely walk around the lakes. The sun was warm, there was a clear blue sky and everyone enjoyed it.

**Jenny Holloway**



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## Cumnor Choral Society – Autumn Programme

Rehearsals for the choir start on September 19th, 7.30-9-30, in St. Andrew's Church, Dean Court.

The Concert on November 30<sup>th</sup> will feature the Schubert Mass in G. It will be held in St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Botley at 7.30. Tickets will be available from our website via Ticket Tailor.

We are very keen to welcome new members, especially Tenors and Basses.

We have a wonderful Music Director, Ben Goodall, whose infectious enthusiasm is inspiring the choir to new levels. Do visit our website **[cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk](http://cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk)** for contact details or you can email our Chairman, Steve Morris, at **[seamouse1827@gmail.com](mailto:seamouse1827@gmail.com)**

We would also like to invite you to become a Friend of Cumnor Choral Society. For £50 per year, you will receive two complimentary concert tickets. Our purpose is not only for choir members to enjoy singing together, but also to spread the joy of music to the wider community. Your support will help us to continue to do this. **C.C.**



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# Kennington Memory Club

Living well with dementia



## July's Monthly News Blog

Summer time, holiday time. What do you remember of holidays in the past?

For many older people the memories of holidays in our childhoods are of time on the British beach, well wrapped because it wasn't invariably sunny and warm. One dip in the sea per day was allowed for us as children because we had to change out of those woollen swimming costumes afterwards. They took sooo long to dry and were prone to stretching down towards our knees when wet. Let's hope this year the summer weather is sunny and warm enough for enjoyment of all the seaside or any other holiday destination has to offer.

Over the summer months many people find their routines are substantially changed when activities are suspended in August. But for those living with dementia, keeping to a routine is beneficial, and Kennington Memory Club does not close. Our Day Support Centre continues with its Monday and Thursday sessions, providing both consistency for the person living with dementia and much appreciated respite for their carers. The only exceptions are Bank Holidays, when our hard-working staff get the day off themselves!

If you'd like to know more about the Club and Day Centre for people who are living with dementia, or to arrange for someone to come along for a visit or a free taster day, email the Club Organiser Kay [organiser@kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk](mailto:organiser@kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk) or phone her on 07852 883496. If the phone is not answered straight away, please do leave a message and she will always get back to you very shortly. More information can also be found on the website [www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk](http://www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk). We look forward to welcoming you to the Club.

**Isobel Birse**

## Randoms

### How did you feel on leaving hospital?

Have you, or an adult that you look after, stayed in hospital during the last 12 months? If so, Healthwatch Oxfordshire would like to hear from you! The county's independent health and social care watchdog is looking into people's experience of leaving hospital, and any care and support they get in the first few weeks afterwards. They would particularly like to understand what worked well and what could be improved, so it can help shape the support people receive when they leave hospital.

You can share your views and experiences by completing this anonymous survey [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/leavinghospital](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/leavinghospital)

The survey also includes an option to leave your contact details so that Healthwatch Oxfordshire can get in touch with you for a more in-depth conversation about your experience.

If you would like a paper copy to complete, would like it in another format or language, or would prefer to speak to someone about this, please contact Healthwatch Oxfordshire on **01865 520520** or at [hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk](mailto:hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk) For more information about this work see [www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/news/leaving-hospital](http://www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk/news/leaving-hospital)

### 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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**Organizations: If your organization is not listed here, please send details to [editor@thesprout.org.uk](mailto:editor@thesprout.org.uk) or telephone 724452 for inclusion.**

|                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1st Botley Brownies</b><br>Girls aged 7–10                        | Dean Court Community Centre Thur 6–7.30 Jean Metson, <a href="mailto:firstbotleybrownies@gmail.com">firstbotleybrownies@gmail.com</a>                                          |
| <b>2nd Botley Brownies</b><br>Girls aged 7–10                        | Rosary Room, Yarnells Hill. Tues 6:15-7:45 Alison Griffin <a href="mailto:2ndbotleybrownies@outlook.com">2ndbotleybrownies@outlook.com</a>                                     |
| <b>4th Oxford Scout Group</b> Cubs<br>Beavers, Scouts, Explorers     | <a href="mailto:mail@thefourth.org.uk">mail@thefourth.org.uk</a> Meets every weekday evening. Website: <a href="http://www.thefourth.org.uk/">http://www.thefourth.org.uk/</a> |
| <b>15th Oxford Scout Group</b><br>Boys and girls welcome             | Fridays, Pavilion, Fogwell Rd. Amy Cusden (Cubs) 07887 654386, Tom Freeman (Scouts) 07837 623768 <a href="mailto:xvoxfordscouts@yahoo.co.uk">xvoxfordscouts@yahoo.co.uk</a>    |
| <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. Dymrna 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 Otters</b>                                     | Swimming for people with disabilities. Sundays, twice monthly. Contact: Alan Cusden 723420                                                                                                         |
| <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 <a href="mailto:botleybaptist@gmail.com">botleybaptist@gmail.com</a>                 |
| <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><a href="mailto:osneybenefice@outlook.com">osneybenefice@outlook.com</a> .                      |
| <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,<br>or email <a href="mailto:admin@seacourthall.org.uk">admin@seacourthall.org.uk</a> |
| <b>Pavilion, Arnold's Way,<br/>Elms Rise, Botley</b>         | Contact: Darren Blase 241254<br><a href="mailto:louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com">louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com</a>        |
| <b>Oxford Rugby Club,<br/>North Hinksey Village</b>          | Contact: Mary Bagnall<br><a href="mailto:mary.bagnall1@btinternet.com">mary.bagnall1@btinternet.com</a> .                   |

## 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

## July

- Tues 2nd** 3.30pm, Botley Library, Lego Club (and on 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th) and in August on 6th, 13, 20th and 27th
- Thur 4th** (7am-10pm), Ss P & P Church Hall, General election
- Thur 4th** 2pm, Botley Library, Adult Craft Club (and on 11th, 18th, 25th) and in August on 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th.
- Fri 5th** 10am, Botley Library, Rhymetime for 0-5s (and on 12th, 19th, 26th) and in August on 2nd, 9th 16th, 23rd, 30th)
- Thur 11th** 12pm, Seacourt Hall, Seniors Lunch Club (and 25th)
- Sun 14th** 3-5pm, Louie Memorial Pavilion SPROUT AGM
- Thur 18th** 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, Parish Council Meeting (no meeting in August)
- Sat 20th** 10am, Botley Library, Cllr Judy Roberts' surgery, and in August on 3rd.
- Sat 20th** 10–12pm, Botley Library, Digital Helper and in August on 3rd and 17th
- Wed 24th** Schools term ends
- Sat 27th** Hill End, family camp-out weekend

## August

- Fri 30th** 1-5pm, Botley Library, Tea and cakes and a chance to say goodbye to Monica White, retiring from the library after 30 years' service.

*(No Sprout in August)*