

# The Sprout



**Skatepark ideas**

**The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley**

**Issue 161 October 2021**

# The Sprout

## The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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# The Sprout

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### From the Editor

As you can see from the long list above, things are opening up again with a vengeance. We decided to sprinkle all those inviting new activities throughout the pages, instead of collecting them all at the end, so see the contents list for all that's going on. Other items of interest this month are an update from the Botley Medical Centre, who continue to work on improving their service (p17), an insight into the worrying implications of the proposed Oxford-Cambridge Arc (p29), a cheering account of a local tree saved against the odds (p15), and some apple recipes ready for Apple Day on 17th October. Our cover shows skatepark designs under scrutiny on 5th September (see page 9). Following on from the public meeting on 25th September to explore what community action can do to avert the climate crisis, next month's issue will be dedicated to local initiatives on this front.

Ag MacKeith

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## Afghan crisis – how we can help

The lethargy brought about whilst suffering from the effects of Covid forced me to my sofa and a binge of TV. I'd not kept up with the news much, not least the announced withdrawal of U.S. and British troops from Afghanistan. I found myself watching report



after report live from Kabul, the shocking images of Afghans clinging to wings of planes and that baby being handed over to a U.S. soldier. How desperate must one be to do that with one's own child? As a mother I could not process that. I felt unsettled.

As a family we've been helping Gazan Palestinians over the years and have made many dear friends, some of whom have become like family. It's impossible to put into words the rewards experienced from doing a small piece of good.

The last of our children has just left home so we have room in our house to offer someone in need. Surely everyone has the right to a safe and dignified life? But it's not that simple. After some investigation it's clear this is going to be a waiting game, as people need to be processed and matched to a family.

Taking someone from a refugee background into my home is not done light-heartedly and honestly I'm nervous, but I've experienced the rewards of similar kindness in the past, so I'm up for it.

There are many ways people can help other than hosting, such as donating goods, services, or your time, or lobbying your MP. If you feel you may be able to offer a room to enable that person or family to rebuild their lives, register at [www.roomsforrefugees.com](http://www.roomsforrefugees.com). Transform a life and your life will be transformed. Here are some useful addresses: [www.positiveactions.org](http://www.positiveactions.org) , [www.refugeesathome.org](http://www.refugeesathome.org); [www.unhcr.org/uk/supporting-refugees-in-the-uk](http://www.unhcr.org/uk/supporting-refugees-in-the-uk)

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## Botley School is Back

As we start our new academic year at Botley School, I find myself looking back on one of the most challenging years of my career. During our assemblies last year we talked a lot about having a positive mind-set and looking out for the good in every day. With that in mind, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on what we managed to achieve, despite the challenges.

Foremost in my mind is the speed with which staff, pupils and parents alike learnt new computing and IT skills in the world of online remote learning. How brilliantly that was achieved was demonstrated by the accelerated progress our children made, which we measured in the assessments we carried out in July. This progress was made despite the gloomy predictions that our children were going to fall behind in their learning.

We creatively refashioned traditional events for a socially distanced world. There was our Lantern Parade around the Quad; those Christmas performance videos shared online; the virtual author visits and competitions on World Book Day; Comic Relief fundraising; remote Whole School Assemblies every week; the Macmillan Coffee Morning; and the Remembrance Day assembly and other activities, to name just a few.

We also managed to squeeze in a visit from our local MP, Layla Moran, at the beginning of July, linking in to our recent work on democracy and the Year 6 transition project on the environment. The children's questions were mature and insightful and demonstrated how much children do want to understand the world around them.

**The giant pumpkin the children grew in Forest School lessons. We are hoping to carve it for Hallowe'en.**



And now we are looking forward to the year ahead. The first week back was a joyous start for a number of reasons: the children are collaborating in groups again, we can gather as a school for

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assembly and sing our welcome song. We have been able to reintroduce hot school meals in the dining hall. The school was a calm, happy and focussed place of learning and the children came back and settled into their new classes and routines beautifully.

With fewer restrictions we are also hoping to create more chances to bring our community back together face to face. We are looking forward to holding performances and fundraising events, and to restarting our clubs and enrichment programmes. We are delighted that Botley Bridges are now back on site and holding regular family sessions again. Soon we will be able to restart parent and adult learning classes in our Caterpillars community room. Over the summer break the hall and canteen were decorated, making the start to this new school year seem brighter and fresh!

Finally, we would like to discuss our School Vision and Values with our parents and the local community. Invitations to a consultation evening in November will be sent out over the next few weeks. We are hoping for input from local organizations and community leaders from different faiths, so please do keep an eye out for them.

But for now, welcome to the new school year. We look forward to keeping you updated on all our adventures here at Botley School.

**Jo Reid, Headteacher**

---

### ***“Oh, yes you do!”***

If you are looking for something different to do this autumn/winter, there might be an opportunity to join West Oxford's 10th Pantomime. They have been looking for Dames, leading ladies, comedy double acts and anybody with lots of enthusiasm. No previous experience necessary.

There are parts for children (from Year 2 upwards), teenagers and adults. If you are not comfortable on the stage, why not volunteer for a back stage role such as costume making, hair and make up, prop making, etc, etc

It is a lovely opportunity to work as part of a team, make new friends and most importantly have fun! Register online [www.wopa.me](http://www.wopa.me)

Auditions were in September, but it might not be too late. *Worth an ask, anyway.*



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## Our new Skatepark

The Botley Bowl Skatepark Campaign gained momentum as we shared our plans and ideas at the pop-up cafe on September 5th.

The event was well attended by Botley locals and those from further afield who are excited and curious about the potential of the bowl coming back to Botley. Skaters from Eynsham and Oxford Wheels Project and even some of the people who were part of the original Botley bowl came to offer their support and advice.

The public were asked to complete a survey, indicating the features and style they would prefer. From the survey, the pop-up cafe and professional advice we've had we'll produce a design brief to put before the parish council to approve, and move forward with the tendering process.

From a personal point of view this was an incredible event that reminded me why this is such an important facility to bring back to Botley. I used to live on Cedar road back in the 80s and 90s when the original skatepark was built. I was 8 or 9 at the time, and a bit younger than the other kids who were part of the campaign for the original bowl. My friends and I couldn't believe how lucky we were and how special we thought Botley was that a skatepark would be put up in our area!

There were regular skate events held there and at Botley school. On any given day we could see professional skaters from around the UK – the world, even – come to Botley to share their skills. For us it was inspirational, somewhere we could go anytime to challenge ourselves, learn from each other and have fun. It inspired me to take up one of the most difficult but rewarding sports around. Skateboarding is hard! To get good you need determination to keep getting back up when you fall. Bravery to push yourself to drop in for the first time. Creativity to discover new tricks and new lines around the park. Practice, you need to practise a lot! What perhaps I loved the best is the community we found there with older kids and adults teaching younger riders the many techniques you need to get good and to be safe.

Botley really had something amazing back then that wasn't probably appreciated by any of us until now. Having moved away when I went to University then coming back to Botley to start a family I was heartbroken to find one the very best things about Botley was no

longer there. Long story short, this is why I'm here and why we have an enthusiastic working group pushing to create a sport facility to put Botley back on the map and inspire our children to get out and challenge themselves, and learn new skills, and make new friends.

Next step is to get the tender process under way, approve a design, appoint a contractor and raise the funds?!! We'll be back for your support on all of these points and welcome any new comers to support the working group.

**Francis Prime**

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## **NORTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL SEEKS FULL-TIME CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER**

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## Magic Sounds

Monkey Music Oxford have come to Botley. They launched their award-winning classes in the new Seacourt Hall in September. This is how they describe their programme: "We introduce small babies from three months into a gently paced session with other little ones of similar age, keeping class numbers low and intimate, so that carers and babies often become

friends for life. Babies are captivated by magic sounds, and find opportunities to discover they too can make music with instruments which are perfectly sized for little hands. There is lots of parental involvement. We listen to rhymes together, sing along, and help our little ones to develop their emotional, social, language and physical skills. As the babies grow, so they progress through tailor-made



music classes, to become inquisitive toddlers and then more independent children who will be even more ready for nursery or big school having had such a fun learning experience at Monkey Music. Our 30-minute classes are packed with age-appropriate activities to keep all the family engaged, with many great resources to stimulate the children's



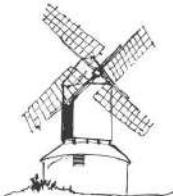
natural desire to learn and be little sponges, absorbing so much from the vast range of traditional and original songs, musical games and busy movement activities." The first class is free and can be booked through their website: [www.monkeymusic.co.uk/area/oxford](http://www.monkeymusic.co.uk/area/oxford) or email enquiries to [oxford@monkeymusic.co.uk](mailto:oxford@monkeymusic.co.uk) .

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## BOTLEY W.I.

Our speaker on 5th October will be Christine Ramsey, talking about Flowers (she will Zoom, we shall be in the hall) – visitors are always welcome!

The monthly walking, green-ish fingers, craft, music and book groups will have events too. Contact 07598 251161 for details or see our Facebook page, Botley WI.

Quiz night and Ploughman's Supper on Saturday 23rd October, 7pm, maximum six to a team; £8 per person, bring your own drink. Call 01865 245273 to book. .

Car boot/tabletop sale 11:00--13:30 on October 10th, at Botley WI hall, North Hinksey Lane, OX2 0LT. £10 per table or car park space. Outside if fine, indoors if wet. Refreshments available. Call 01865 245273 to book your space. **Advance notice:** Christmas Fair, 28 November.

**Alison Jenner**

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## BOTLEY SENIORS LUNCH CLUB

I'm pleased to report that Botley Seniors Lunch Club successfully opened its doors again on Thursday 9th September.

Keeping Covid-19 precautions in mind, the volunteers cheerfully prepared and served a 2-course lunch for the 36 diners who came to the Seacourt Hall to meet friends and chat over a meal. It was lovely to see so many regulars as well as welcome a few new faces after the longest break in the nearly 50 year-old history of the club. A favourite meal of sausage meat pie, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas, followed by meringue nests served with whipped cream, strawberries and grapes seemed to go down a treat amidst lively chatter from the elderly diners.

If you would like to join in with the Seniors Lunch Club sessions, they are held fortnightly, on alternate Thursdays, always in the Seacourt Hall. Be there at 12.00 for lunch at 12.30, and please ring Jackie Warner on 01865 721386 to check that there is a place available before you come for the first time.

**Viv Smith**



# Tap Social Movement

What's been happening at Botley's own Tap Social Movement, based in Curtis's Yard? The place that's been consoling us since 2016 for the loss of four of Botley's five pubs?

Well, they have grown and flourished, despite the pandemic, to such a degree that we now find we must share them with Banbury and South Oxford. Ours no longer! And only open now for three days a week. The opening hours are Thursday from 5 to 11pm, Fridays from 4 till 12, and Saturdays between 2 and 12.

Still, they continue to host a wide range of events including live music, charity fundraisers, yoga classes, food trucks & festivals, cinema nights, etc. And there's usually some form of street food, in case you suddenly don't feel like cooking. Did anyone go to the Waste to Taste jamboree on 26th September, that marked the end of Oxfordshire's contribution to the Great Big Green Week? (If so, please feel free to send us a review!)

This year, Tap took over the White House pub on the Abingdon Road. The new space, open 7 days/week, is a community cafe, bar and kitchen, serving seasonal food and all day brunch, speciality

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coffee and their own locally brewed beer (amongst other guest beers and drinks). They also opened a new bar in Banbury's Lock29, where they sit as anchor tenant in a 'vibrant food and market mixed-use space'. Could be worth a trip.

The good news is that, as a result, they have been able to expand the employment opportunities available for those who have come into contact with the criminal justice system. People from prison can now work across a range of jobs in brewing and packaging, delivery driving, front of house hospitality, and cooking/baking.

## Tale of a Tree

I'm telling this tale, not to blow my own trumpet for having done a good deed for once, but to show that citizen action really can work.

Here's what happened. Walking back from the shops one Monday afternoon, I turned into North Hinksey Lane where the roadworks are now under way, and noticed a yellow line drawn across the grass. I asked if they were planning to cut a trench there, as it would be a pity to damage the roots of the young oak tree that is doing so well on that patch. Well, no, said the kindly man in charge of the team, but it wouldn't matter anyway. That tree's coming down on Wednesday. 'WHAT!' I gasped. "You can't be serious! It's doing so well. It's such a nice shape! I watered it when it was just a stick." Well, he was very sympathetic, but what could he do?

I went home and got on with the things I had to do, but that night I woke up at about 3.30am, so boiling with rage and grief at the pointless loss of a healthy young tree – in the name of greening the road, what's more – that I couldn't sleep. So I got out my phone and sent an email to Andy Warren, in charge of the Botley Corridor road improvement scheme. I said that if I'd noticed that was on the plan, I'd have opposed it with all my strength. I asked if alternative routes had been considered, urged the good work the tree was doing in reducing noise and pollution, and asked him to copy my letter to the County Tree Officer. I decided there and then that I'd sit by the tree and defy the chainsaw on Wednesday, and sent a letter to the Oxford Mail saying so.

To cut a long story short, I had an email later that morning saying the matter was being looked into. And one from the Tree Officer saying he'd like to phone me, could I send my number. When he rang half an hour later it was to say that Andy Warren had called off the felling while the other options were looked at. He himself had opposed the destruction of the tree last January. And then, on the Monday following, I had a further email from Andy Warren saying that on reflection, they had tweaked the bike path and would keep the tree.

The moral of this story is this: when you see something happening that you really feel is a mistake, don't just shout and tear your hair. Try calling your local councillor, because they just might know who to contact. It's knowing where to target your efforts that makes all the difference.

**Ag MacKeith**



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**Livi appointments live from 1st September:** BMC patients can now access digital appointments with a Livi GP through their smart phones or computer. Livi doctors can offer medical advice along with prescriptions delivered to a pharmacy near you. This increases the appointments offered to our patients by 100 per week. You should have received a text containing a link to download the app. Our website has more information about the system. At the practice we have leaflets, other material and our receptionists can tell you more.

- If you are our patient and you didn't receive the text, we don't have your current phone number. Please provide your updated contact details by going to the Quick Links / Online Services in the right-hand sidebar at our website.

**Call back system:** works well for patients, thank you to the PPG for passing on this feedback. A very long wait for a call-back was reported following the late August Bank Holiday. We had over 300 calls that morning. More calls than usual come after a weekend, doubly so after a long weekend, so please avoid calling at those times if possible while we remain short-staffed. You may have to wait longer for a call-back during busy times. We're monitoring the time it takes to receive a call back and will provide an update next month.

**Temporary closures of Kennington reception:** occasionally, we have to close the Kennington reception from 4pm. Planned appointments will still be available. Please check in using the electronic check-in system as usual.

## Who can I see at BMC and how?

*A guide to our services and how to book them:*

At BMC appointments with the following clinical staff can be made, subject to availability:

GPs, Nurses, Health Care Assistants, Midwife, Physician's Associates, Paramedics, First Contact Physiotherapist, Clinical Pharmacists, Care Coordinators, Social Prescribers, Primary Care Healthcare workers (from Mind), and we are recruiting a Mental Health Practitioner.

Please give the receptionist a brief description of your clinical needs so that they can book you an appointment with the most appropriate



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clinician. Call after 11am to book an appointment with a clinician other than the GPs, for up to 4–6 weeks in advance.

### **GP appointments:**

- Currently, you can only book appointments with a GP on the day by calling early in the day.
- You can also book an appointment online to see a GP face to face. Please request online access at the practice. Once it is set up, download the PatientAccess app on to your smartphone, tablet or home computer. Please follow a number of steps, including information to identify yourself. When your account is set up you will be able to log in safely and securely. This service can only be used for 'on the day' appointments after 8am and will only offer a slot if one is available that day. Five appointments are reserved per GP per day. Please book an appointment this way if you can. Blood test results can also be seen through the app.

### **Healthcare services you can book independently:**

You can refer yourself to the following NHS services in Oxfordshire, without a GP appointment first:

- For muscle- or joint-relates issues, Healthshare's physio service is here: <https://healthshare.org.uk/refer-patient>
- For Adults with mild or moderate depression and anxiety, TalkingSpacePlus provides the IAPT service here: <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/talkingspaceplus/>

**Recruitment Update:** recruiting has been slow over the holiday season. Some excellent students who worked with us over the summer have moved on. A medical secretary, social prescriber and two Mind workers will join the team shortly. We continue to prioritise recruitment as vacancies remain.

## **NEXT**

**CQC update:** CQC are pleased with our progress and will soon publish a report about our recent interim inspection.

**Flu vaccinations:** Flu jabs are delayed. We are waiting to hear when they will be delivered. We will receive notification seven days before delivery and set up Saturday clinics on both sites to deliver them. We will send a text message and put a notification on our website when you can call in to make the appointment. People who



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**Contact us to book your free consultation**

happen to be seeing a Nurse / HCAs / Physician Associate or GP during this period will be offered a flu jab at the same time, if appropriate.

**Covid Booster vaccinations:** will be delivered in line with national decisions. We await further information.

## LATER

There will be a fresh CQC inspection towards the year-end. Meanwhile, the PPG Executive have suggested this Q&A section:

- Q.** How do I find out who my registered GP is?  
**A.** Ask when you call for an appointment, or find their name on your prescription.
- Q.** What if patients need to use more than 100 Livi appointments a week?  
**A.** Livi expects a lot of use in the first few weeks and will deliver these appointments flexibly. There is no hard cut-off at the 100th appointment.
- Q.** What vacancies are there at the Practice?  
**A.** We have vacancies for 4 GPs, 1 nurse, 5 receptionists.
- Q.** How many doctors are full time?  
**A.** All four current GPs are full time, and currently work longer than normal hours to cover the vacancies.
- Q.** What's the best way to order repeat prescriptions?  
**A.** Through your pharmacist, or using patient access, via email to [botleymedicalcentre@nhs.net](mailto:botleymedicalcentre@nhs.net), paper forms. Please order as far in advance as you can while we are short-staffed.

The Next PPG meeting will be on Tuesday October 12th at 6pm and will include a presentation on non-GP staff available for consultation. Please email our secretary [csugden@ocrpl.org](mailto:csugden@ocrpl.org) for the Zoom link.

**Chris Sugden**

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## Botley Library Information

We're so pleased to say that our opening hours have reverted to the pre-Covid ones which are: **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday** 9.30am to 5.30pm; **Wednesday** Closed; **Friday** 9.30am to 7.00pm and **Saturday** 9.30am to 1.00pm. Our email: [botley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:botley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk) or you can phone us on 07922 849680.

Now that the Autumn has arrived it's time to stock up on some books for those cosy nights to come! Don't forget you can download ebooks too with our library app. You can also visit the library pages on [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk) to see what else there is to offer. Do you know that you can access the daily newspapers on-line with **Pressreader** and also stream music with **Naxos**? Please ask a member of staff for more details.



In half-term, October 25th to 29th, there will be spooky crafts to make in time for your Halloween decorations. All supplies will be provided, but children will need an adult in tow.

If you haven't yet visited the library then please do pay us a visit. It has been so lovely to see our regular customers coming back and we look forward to welcoming new ones! You will see the familiar members of staff, but we also have some lovely new colleagues too.

### Botley Library Staff

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## *BOTLEY APPLE DAY*

South View House  
Old Botley OX2 0JR  
SUNDAY 17th OCTOBER  
3pm – 5pm



Are apples going to waste in your garden? Bring and share them at Botley Apple Day. People-powered apple press to turn bruised apples and leftovers into juice. Apples identified. Apple recipes and storage ideas. Bring knives, juice containers. No apples? Just come anyway. Fun for all the family! Phone 01865 724452 for details or just turn up

## Apple recipes

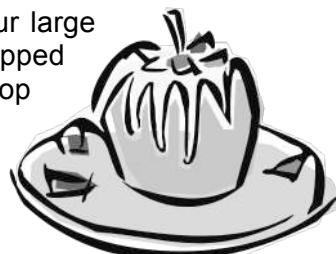
This year's crop has come rather late, and was somewhat affected by late frosts and unseasonable downpours, but there is still enough to enjoy. There's no sign of the usual Oxfordshire Apple Days, just Waterperry, which is hosting Not the Apple Day on the weekend of 9th and 10th October, 10-4pm.

"Because of the unusual climatic changes," they explain, "apple weekend will not be the same as usual. So, instead of an abundance of apples cascading off our tables for you to taste and buy, we will be concentrating on tours and education showing the visitor in a very real and practical way the challenges the orchard team face. Our guests should get an insight into the life cycle of the apple tree, the wonders of grafting, the reason for pruning, and the measures we are now putting into place to try and ensure we have a good harvest in the future. You will be able to see juice being made, taste our wonderful single variety juices and ask questions of the experts." Go to [www.waterperrygardens.co.uk](http://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk) to book.

Our own Apple Day will be on 17th October (see previous page).

**Apple and beer fritters**, adapted from Sue Clifford and Angela King's excellent *Apple Source Book*. Whisk 150ml beer, 110g self-raising flour and 1 tablespoon sugar together to form a thick batter. Leave to stand for an hour. Cut four eating apples into slices, dip them in flour, shake off excess, dip them into the batter several slices at a time, and deep fry until golden.

**Baked apples:** Remove the cores from four large apples. Fill the holes with raisins and chopped almonds. Place a small knob of butter on top of each filled hole. Drizzle on some golden syrup, and pour some water into the dish so they don't dry out. Bake for about 40 minutes at 180C.



**Apple cobbler**, a variant on apple crumble adapted from Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's *River Cottage Year*. Peel, core and slice 1.5 kilos of cooking apples. Simmer gently with 150g sugar and a couple of tablespoons of water until a smooth puree is formed, about 15 minutes. Pour into a large ovenproof dish. Make the cobbler topping by mixing together into a soft dough 100g self-raising flour, 100ml milk and 75g butter that has been

gently warmed so that the butter melts, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, 100g ground almonds and 50g sugar. Place the topping on the apples in large, evenly-spaced spoonfuls. Bake for about 30 minutes at 180C and let cool slightly before serving.

**Apple-cheese pancakes:** An American recipe based on the *Moosewood Cookbook*. Mix together 1 cupful cottage or ricotta cheese, 1 packed cupful of grated apples,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cupful of flour, 1 tablespoon of sugar, 4 egg yolks, and any combination that you fancy of lemon juice, chopped almonds, cinnamon and salt. Beat 4 egg whites until they are stiff, and fold gently into the batter. Fry in butter on both sides until the pancakes are brown.

**Barbequed apple slices:** Stir together 3 tablespoons of melted butter, 2 tablespoons sugar and 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon. Add two tart eating apples, sliced, and stir until the slices are fully coated. Wrap the slices in aluminium foil, place on a barbecue grill, and cook for 30 minutes until soft and caramelised.

**Riki Therivel**

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## Celebrating in Style

Cumnor Cricket Club marked its 125th anniversary in style with fun for all the family at Park Field.



A junior cricket festival, BBQ, bouncy castle and exhibition cricket match attracted around 500 people across August's Bank Holiday Sunday. The event also hosted a lively performance from the Cumnor Mayor's Band, Five O'clock Somewhere, before the evening was capped off with a superb fireworks display from Storm Fireworks.

The club would like to thank the Cumnor community for dropping by throughout the day. It was really great to see so many new faces who hadn't been down to the cricket club before. Our raffle and auction raised some much-needed funds for our club, which we plan to put towards refurbishing the clubhouse bar. The feedback has been really positive from all who attended, so the event may become an annual one – watch this space!

**David Clapton**





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## Swamped by the Arc

*Government is consulting on the ‘Ox-Cam Arc’ until 12 October – please make your voice heard!*

The Ox-Cam Arc is a Government plan to increase the total number of jobs, houses and people in Beds, Bucks, Cambs, Northants and Oxon by more than 60% by 2050 to help “achieve the area’s full economic potential”. This would mean 1.1 million more jobs, one million more homes and about two million more people in the area: the equivalent of almost two new Oxfords in Oxfordshire.

The government documents do not mention this scale of growth. They imply that the Arc can do everything: provide great economic growth AND a wonderful environment AND make everyone healthy and happy. *But we know that isn’t possible.* Doubling the area of built-up land will definitely affect the environment. A focus on high-tech jobs will leave many people behind.

Government argues that the ‘agglomeration effect’ of linking the high-tech centres of Oxford and Cambridge will be ‘transformative’ in terms of economic growth. However this will require rapid transport links, vastly increasing the number of car journeys across the region. Covid has shown that Zoom allows people to work anywhere, so why do we need a vast physical ‘Arc’?

Government has also not considered whether other areas would benefit more from rapid growth as part of ‘levelling up’. An independent study considered five ‘alternative Arcs’ (Leeds– Bradford–Huddersfield, Manchester–Salford–Bolton, Newcastle–Sunderland–Teesside, Derby–Nottingham, and Wolverhampton–Birmingham–Coventry) and found them all to be more sustainable and more economically beneficial than the Ox-Cam scheme.

Government is deciding our future in almost total secrecy. Plans for an Ox-Cam Arc have been around for years, but this is the first public consultation on it.

If all of this bothers you – or, equally, if you are in favour of transformative growth in Oxfordshire – please FIRST fill in an alternative survey which gives more information on the points above ([tinyurl.com/5MinArcSurvey](https://tinyurl.com/5MinArcSurvey)) and THEN fill in the official survey with plenty of comments in the ‘anything else to add’ boxes. Useful background information and suggestions on how to fill in the Government consultation can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/OCAsurveyhelp>.

Riki Therivel

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## Carmen Caldera

Carmen's beautiful book of black and white photos of local families, Botley Under Lockdown, has now been printed, and will be presented to Botley Library this autumn at an event to be announced. Carmen herself has abandoned the Law, and launched her new career as a family portrait and event photographer. You can find details of events and prices along with a gallery of photographs on [carmencalderaphotography.com](http://carmencalderaphotography.com) . The *Sprout* wishes Carmen every success in her new vocation.

## Give the Sprout wings

Now life is starting to return to our patch, the Sprout would welcome some new writers and artists. Could anyone manage a comic strip, or a cartoon? Are there any scouts or brownies who'd like to earn a journalism badge? – please get in touch. We once had a children's corner, a gardening column, and a regular recipe slot. Would anyone like to take on any of these again? All ideas and suggestions seriously considered by [editor@thesprout.org.uk](mailto:editor@thesprout.org.uk) and the editorial team.



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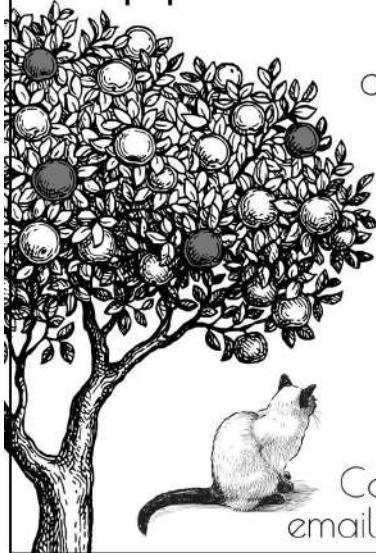
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<a href="#">P21/V2188/HH</a>	4 Chelsie House 104 West Way. Erect a double garage.	<b>9 August</b> <i>TDD: 4 Oct</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2309/FUL</a>	3A Cumnor Hill. Change of use from small HMO to two dwellings.	<b>9 August</b> <i>TDD: 4 Oct</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2329/HH</a>	34 Beech Rd. Single storey rear extension, loft conversion with rear flat roof dormer, home office in back garden + paving for parking at front.	<b>11 August</b> <i>Target</i> <i>Decision Date: 6 October</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2400/LDP</a>	36 Westminster Way. Certificate of lawfulness for conversion from residential dwelling to House in Multiple Occupation (HMO), maximum of 6 people.	<b>18 August</b> <i>TDD: 13 Oct</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2370/HH</a> and <a href="#">P21/V2372/LB</a>	Old Manor House, 20 North Hinksey Lane. Conservation repairs to windows & other features internally and externally. Some historical works are also cited.	<b>19 August</b> <i>TDD: 14 Oct</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2462/FUL</a>	West Way Junction of North Hinksey Lane. Replace existing 15m monopole and cabinets with 20m monopole, 12 antenna, & 4 equipment cabinets	<b>25 August</b> <i>TDD: 20 Oct</i>
<a href="#">P21/V2096/HH</a>	15 Yarnells Rd. Construction of single storey side extension.	<b>31 August</b> <i>TDD: 26 Oct</i>



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## Oxford, Venice and other works by Glenn Larder

Botley Arts' current exhibition features a variety of works by Glenn Larder, including views of Oxford, flowers and fantastic creatures. Here's how he describes his career to date:

"I started painting back in the 1970s when living in London. The medium I used in those days was coloured inks. I didn't become a regular painter for many years, more of an occasional dabbler, just picking up my brushes from time to time. I didn't have any formal training and often thought about getting involved in an art course but never took the idea any further, a source of considerable regret now.

About eight or nine years ago I finally enrolled for art classes with Abingdon and Witney College, and up to the start of the pandemic I was attending these classes on a regular basis. I am hoping they will resume later this year. I have had my paintings hanging in a number of group exhibitions, but this is my first solo exhibition and I'm very grateful to Botley Arts for giving me this opportunity." The picture shows a self portrait entitled, after Tennyson [The mirror cracked from] **Side to Side**.



The exhibition is on view in the church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul until mid November.

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## Oxford Area Quillers

Our regular monthly meetings have resumed, and we have also had a very successful exhibition as part of Oxford Open Doors at County Hall. During this exhibition it came to our notice that many people didn't know our group existed. We seem to have been "hiding our light under a bushel", so we would like to apologise for this and hopefully be able to periodically provide some information for "The Sprout". Our next monthly meeting is on Saturday 2nd October at Botley WI Hall in North Hinksey Lane. We meet from around 10.30 (people arriving from about 10 in order to get a cup of tea and chat before we start properly) and finishing around 3pm. The club is very flexible in that people can leave at lunchtime if they don't want to stay longer. The first meeting/lesson is free to see if you like it, all we ask is that you bring your own packed lunch and a cup for a drink. Everything is provided for the first session. After that if you enjoy quilling and would like to join us, the cost is £6 each session to cover the hire of the hall. Should you decide to take up the hobby, materials can be bought from the club at cost price (or less). If you are interested in coming along or finding out more then please contact Dilly Aspland at [dillyquillers@yahoo.com](mailto:dillyquillers@yahoo.com) or phone Jenny Green on 01993 703910. If you're wondering what all this is about, we now have a Facebook page where you can see pictures of our work.

**Angela Arnold**

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## Mystery Object

Have you ever seen one of these?  
At Oxford Open Doors, for  
instance (*clue*).  
What could it possibly be?

Suggestions to the Editor at  
[editor@thesprout.org.uk](mailto:editor@thesprout.org.uk)



## U3A Talks for October

U3A talks are on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, at 2.30pm.

**Monday 11th October:** 150 Years of the London Underground by Mark Ovenden. Mark is an author and BBC presenter and producer. He will focus on the design, architecture, cartography and signage used in transport.

**Monday 25th October:** Lady Poisoners of Victorian England by David Allen. Our speaker's life as a solicitor, actor and storyteller has enabled him to research and deliver a great range of macabre tales.

Zoom presentations will continue to the end of November; they may be viewed at home or at Dean Court Community Centre.

From January 2022 the talks will be given by the speakers in person at Dean Court – back to normal at last.

**Hugh Manson**



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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> 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> 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> Beavers, Cub Scouts, Scouts	<a href="mailto:mail@thefourth.org.uk">mail@thefourth.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.thefourth.org.uk/">http://www.thefourth.org.uk/</a>
<b>15th Oxford Scout Group</b> Boys and girls welcome	Fridays, Cubs 6.30-8, Scouts 8-9.30, 1 Church Way, Botley Amy Cusden (Cubs) 07887 654386, Tom Freeman (Scouts) 07837 623768 <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>Badminton Club</b>	Thurs 7-8pm at Matthew Arnold Sports Hall. Garry Clark 0777 3559 314 <a href="mailto:garryclark13@gmail.com">garryclark13@gmail.com</a>
<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. 248142
<b>Botley Boys &amp; Girls F.C.</b> Football teams from ages 8-16	Jason Barley Ox. 242926 <a href="mailto:jbarley1@sky.com">jbarley1@sky.com</a> or Brendan Byrne 792531 <a href="mailto:brendan.byrne999@gmail.com">brendan.byrne999@gmail.com</a>
<b>Botley Community Larder</b>	Thursdays, 3.30 to 5.30 at St P&P Church Hall, West Way, contact us via Facebook or email <a href="mailto:botleylarder@gmail.com">botleylarder@gmail.com</a>
<b>Botley Library</b>	01865 248142. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays).
<b>Botley Seniors Lunch Club</b>	Alternate Thursdays. Seacourt Hall. Jackie Warner Ox721386
<b>Botley Singers</b>	Thur 7.30, St Andrew's Church, Dean Court. Angela Astley-Penny Ox.242189 <a href="mailto:angastpen@aol.com">angastpen@aol.com</a>
<b>Cumnor Choral Society</b>	Rehearsals Friday 7.45 to 9.45 pm John May 07795 054142 or <a href="http://www.cumnorchoralsociety.wordpress.com">www.cumnorchoralsociety.wordpress.com</a>
<b>Cumnor Chess Club</b>	Thurs 7-9pm Cumnor Old School. Steven Bennett 862788 <a href="http://www.cumnorchessclub.co.uk">www.cumnorchessclub.co.uk</a>
<b>Cumnor &amp; District Historical Society</b>	Last Monday of the month 7.30-9.00 Cumnor Old School. 01865 724808
Cumnor Gardening Club	<a href="http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/">http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/</a> or phone 01865 721026
Harmony InSpires, Ladies' Acappella Singing Group	Wed 7.30 at Appleton Village Hall. C. Casson 01235 831352 or <a href="mailto:harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk">harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Hill End Volunteer Team	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>Lawn Tennis Club, N Hinksey</b>	Family club Email: <a href="mailto:Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org">Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org</a>
<b>Let's Sing! – singing group</b>	Weds 2pm, WOCC, Emily 07969 522368 or email <a href="mailto:emformusic@outlook.com">emformusic@outlook.com</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 Hinksey Bellringers</b>	Contact: Ray Rook 01865 241451
<b>N Hinksey Conservation Volunteers</b>	Meets at weekends Contact Voirrey Carr 07798743121 <a href="mailto:voirreyc@aol.com">voirreyc@aol.com</a>
<b>N Hinksey, Friends of</b>	Annual Cricket Match/ Walk. Douglas Bond 791213.
<b>N Hinksey Parish Council</b>	Sharon Henley, <a href="mailto:clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk">clerk@northhinksey-pc.gov.uk</a>
<b>N Hinksey Youth Club</b>	Weds at LM pavilion, Daz: 07791 212866 or F'book
<b>Oxford Flood Alliance</b>	R Thurston 01865 723663 or 07973 292035
<b>Oxford Flower Arranging Club</b>	4th Thursday Cumnor. Dympna Walker: Ox 865259
<b>Oxford Harmony Men's Acappella singing group</b>	Meets Wednesdays 7.45 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>	<a href="mailto:raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk">raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk</a>
<b>Saturdads at Botley Bridges</b>	Fun activities and trips for Dads and under 5's 10 am–noon 1st Sat of month. Tel: 243955
<b>Seacourt Hall Management Committee</b>	Michael Cockman 07766 317691 <a href="mailto:michael.cockman@gmail.com">michael.cockman@gmail.com</a> .
<b>Shotokan Karate Club</b>	6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450
<b>Walking for Health</b>	2nd & 4th Saturdays 9.50 Louie Memorial Field car park, Arnolds Way. Alan 07941 610913
<b>West Oxford Bowls Club</b>	Contact details on <a href="http://www.westoxfordbowlsclub.co.uk">www.westoxfordbowlsclub.co.uk</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>	(Uni of the 3rd Age) <a href="http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/">http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/</a>
<b>West Way Day Centre</b>	Mon & Fri 10–3pm, Field House, 07740 611971. <a href="mailto:oxfordshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk">oxfordshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk</a>
<b>Women's Institute (Botley)</b>	Alison Jenner 07598 251161 <a href="mailto:alisonjenner@yahoo.com">alisonjenner@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Weight Watchers</b>	Thursdays 6pm at SS Peter & Paul Church Hall Banso tel: 07779 253899 <a href="mailto:bansob@aol.com">bansob@aol.com</a>

<b>Baptist Hall West Way Place</b>	Contact: Rev Kalyan Das Tel. 07841 867967
<b>The Rosary Room Yarnells Hill, Elms Rise</b>	Contact Maria Brown, Tel: 01865 247986.
<b>SS Peter &amp; Paul Church Hall, West Way, Botley</b>	Contact: 01865 242057 or <a href="mailto:osneybenefice@outlook.com">osneybenefice@outlook.com</a> .
<b>Women's Institute Hall, North Hinksey Lane</b>	Contact: Val Warner Tel. 01865 245273
<b>Seacourt Hall, West Way Place, Botley</b>	Contact: Lottie White on 07452 960100, or email <a href="mailto:admin@seacourthall.org.uk">admin@seacourthall.org.uk</a>
<b>Pavilion, Arnold's Way, Elms Rise, Botley</b>	Contact: Darren Blase 241254 <a href="mailto:louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com">louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com</a>
<b>Oxford Rugby Club, North Hinksey Village</b>	Contact: Mary Bagnall <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, 4th Sunday, Sung Eucharist 11.30 a.m.  
3rd Sunday, Matins 11.30 am

**St. Peter and St. Paul, Church of England**, West Way  
2nd Saturday each Month, 4-6pm Messy Church for children and their carers  
1st Sunday of the Month, 9.30am All Age service of Holy Communion  
All other Sundays, 9.30am Holy Communion with activities for children  
Every Wednesday, 10.30am Holy Communion at Field House  
Rev Clare Sykes, Tel. 01865 242345 or [revclare@btinternet.com](mailto:revclare@btinternet.com)

**Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Roman Catholic**, Yarnells Hill  
Saturday 6.30 pm. Mass  
Sunday 9.15 am Mass  
Fr Daniel Lloyd. 07584 323915 [dlloyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dlloyd@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Botley Baptist Church**, West Way Place  
Sunday Service 10.30 am.  
Mid Week House Group 8.00 p.m.  
Family Worship Service 5-6pm on Saturday  
Rev Kalyan Das 07841 867967 [www.botleybaptistchurch.org](http://www.botleybaptistchurch.org)

**Calvary Chapel**  
Sunday services held at Botley School 10.30-12 noon  
Pastor Philip Vickery 01865 864498  
[calvarychapeloxford@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:calvarychapeloxford@yahoo.co.uk);  
[www.calvarychapeloxford.org.uk](http://www.calvarychapeloxford.org.uk)

# **Sprout**

## **October 2021**

- Thur 7th 12 for 12.30, Seacourt Hall, Botley Seniors Lunch Club**
- Sun 10th 11-1.30 pm , W.I. Hall, North Hinksey Lane, Car Boot Sale**
- Mon 11th 2.30, U3A talk, Via Zoom at home or at Dean Court Community Centre: 150 years of the London Underground**
- Tues 12th 6pm via Zoom, BMC Patients Participation Group meeting. Email [csugden@ocrpl.org](mailto:csugden@ocrpl.org) for the link.**
- Thur 14th 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, N Hinksey Parish Council meeting**
- Sun 17th 3–5pm, South View House, Botley Apple Day**
- Thur 21st Seniors Lunch club, as above.**
- Mon 25th 2.30, U3A talk, Via Zoom at home or at Dean Court Community Centre: Lady Poisoners of Victorian England**
- Half term week 25th-29th Spooky Crafts for kids at Botley Library.**

***More local events and information on [www.botleyhinksey.org.uk](http://www.botleyhinksey.org.uk)***