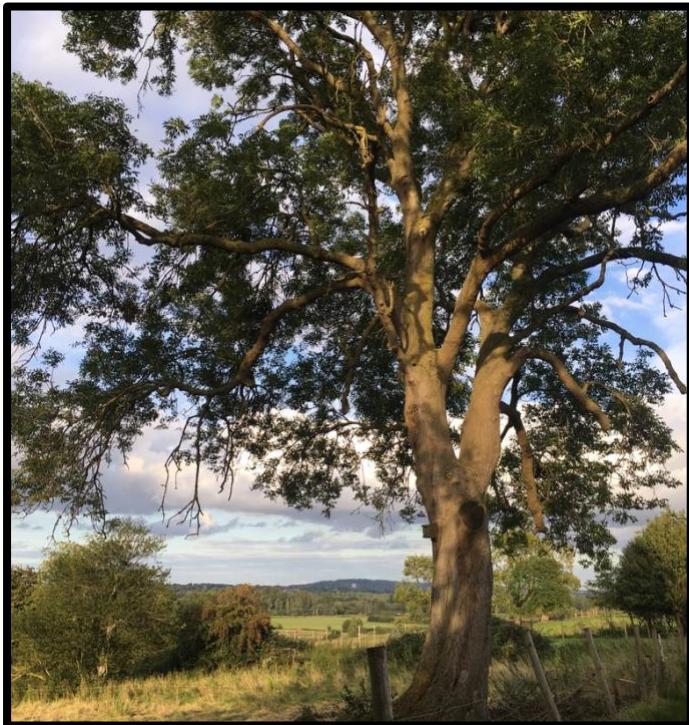


The Sprout



View from Hinksey Heights Nature Trail

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

Issue 186 April 2024

The Sprout

The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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Now also available online at <https://archive.thesprout.org.uk/>

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The Sprout

Issue 186, April 2024

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From the Editor

April's already here, and it's the earliest Spring for years. Time to celebrate Botley's green spaces (p7 and cover) and to think about how we can conserve them. You did get back to us to tell us more about your back-page organization (pp5 and 17), but that's just two of the forty or so we list, so keep them coming! We're still waiting for your book recommendations, too. There must be dozens of Book Groups in Botley – is there a book you particularly enjoyed? We'd love to hear! There has been some inspiring action among our young people this month. Sam Miller outlines his trajectory from his first introduction to ice hockey at the age of 6, to his latest appearance on the England and Great Britain Under-16s teams in Finland and Latvia this month. He's looking for sponsorship to help with the costs, so if you can help, let him know! North Hinksey school's bold adventure into opera gets a review on page 31 – fantastic what such young children can do! And good news for the older kids: Botley Skatepark has attracted a huge grant from FCC, which means we can build it this year (p30). For the less young and active, KMC is a lifeline for people with dementia and their carers (p19) and if you've got Parkinsons, there's help at hand in the community (p29) for you, too. Lots going on, then, and you can read all about it in *The Sprout*.

Ag MacKeith

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Rising Star

Hello, my name is Samuel Miller, I am 15 years old, and I go to Matthew Arnold school. I have been playing ice hockey since I was six. My journey started back in 2014 with my first public skate at Oxford Ice Rink. After a trial at the stick and puck session, I knew immediately that I wanted to play ice hockey. I joined the Learn to Play Programme and it took me a whole year to work through the levels to join Oxford junior stars as an U9. By the age of eight, I had a dream that one day I could play for Great Britain...

I stayed with the Oxford club until October 2020, when I moved on to Guildford. A successful few years followed, as I competed in the South West Conference and Showcase Team, represented England South against the Scotland Ice Hockey Team and represented Great Britain U16s in a tournament in Latvia. I now play for Nottingham Ice Hockey Club, where I get to train with the senior team.

It hasn't always been easy, but with lots of hard work, dedication, long hours of training on and off the ice, fast forward a few years and now I am seeing success.

On January 14th, I flew out to South Korea to represent Great Britain in the men's three-on-three at the 2024 Winter Youth Olympics. We played against Austria, China, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Spain and Poland in round-robin stages. The competition was tough against some very strong and well-drilled teams. We were ranked sixth and finished sixth overall. I was extremely proud to play in the Olympic Games and represent my country on the world's stage; it was an amazing experience and one that I will never forget.

After ten months of trials, I have successfully made the England U16s team in a tournament in Finland and the Great Britain U16s men's team in the Riga Cup in Latvia, both in April 2024.

Unfortunately, ice hockey is expensive and both my parents work very hard to support me. My recent



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success has not come cheap. I need help to subsidise new equipment, apparel and travel expenses. Any ideas *Sprout* readers can offer in the way of grants and sponsorship will be very welcome. Does anyone know of a business that could sponsor me? In return, I can advertise it on my social media platforms, and in other ways. If this could be possible, please could you contact jenmiller382@yahoo.co.uk or call 07909 448966.

My long-term goal is to become a professional ice hockey player and, with lots of hard work and dedication, I know I can be successful. Any help would be greatly appreciated to further my journey. Thanks for reading.

Samuel Miller

You asked about the organizations at the back of the *Sprout*, so I thought I should tell you about North Hinksey Preschool. We are a community based “Charity Preschool” situated on the site of North Hinksey Primary school, first set up in 1972, originally at Elms Road Nursery. We provide secure, flexible and high-quality childcare and education for 2- to 4-year-olds in a happy and relaxed atmosphere, focusing on “learning through play”. From Monday to Thursday we also provide an extended day from 8–5.



& Childcare Clubs

NEW From the Easter Term we are accepting 15 hours of funding for 2-year-olds of working parents, and both 15 and 30 hours of funding (universal and extended) for 3- and 4-year-olds. We also offer 15-hour places for 2-year-old children eligible for government support.

Visit our website: northhinkseypreschool.org for more details, or email Ruth, our manager, at Nhps.manager1@gmail.com. You can follow North Hinksey Preschool and Childcare Clubs on Facebook and Instagram. To find out more about Early Years Government Funding, go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

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Botley's Green Spaces – what and where?

Botley is fortunate to have a great variety of green spaces in and around our neighbourhood. We are also lucky enough to have some great groups of volunteers who help look after them.

This month Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council invite you to get to know some of those green spaces better. We are organising a guided walk around four of our local nature sites on April 13th, and there will be talks about them the following Saturday, April 20th.

The Botley's Green Spaces guided walk is on Saturday April 13th at 10.30am (there may be a second one later in the morning if demand is high). We will start from the Women's Institute car park on North Hinksey Lane at 10.30am to visit four sites:

- Our own Nature Reserve on North Hinksey Lane
- Raleigh Park
- Oxford Preservation Trust's Harcourt Hill Meadow
- The Hinksey Heights Nature Trail (*see photo*)

At each site there will be a short talk about the site and what can be seen there by a local volunteer who helps manage the sites.

Parts of the walk are likely to be muddy so please wear suitable boots. The walk may take about two hours, including talks. Refreshments will be available afterwards at the 19th Hole café on the Hinksey Heights golf course, next to the Nature Trail. The total distance is about two miles. Places are limited so please book now. You can do this easily online here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/botleys-green-spaces-guided-walk-tickets-865460233857?>



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There are of course many other green spaces in Botley – join us at the Seacourt Hall on Saturday 20th April from 1.30 – 3.30pm to talk about how we can protect and improve them.

The Parish Council is developing our Local Environment Action Plan and we'd like to get your ideas on how to protect and improve our green spaces. We'd also like to know how we can help you play a part in keeping Botley green. We'll have talks on topics including:

- ‘Greening your garden’ ideas and advice
- Botley’s wildlife
- Hedgehog Streets
- Elms Rise grass verges – what can we do with them?
- Our ‘Alkaline Fens’ – why do we have them and why are they so important?

If you have other ideas let us know what you would like to talk about. For further information, please contact Chris Church on chris.church@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk or 07710 409590.

Chris Church

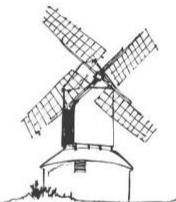


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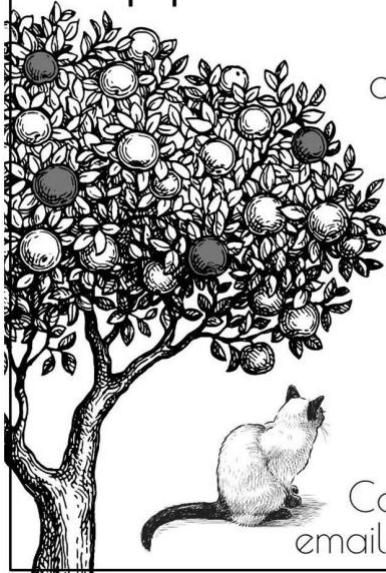
By the time you read this the Beaumont Elms team will have been working from the Botley site for 6 months! How time flies, it seems like only yesterday we opened the doors to a warm welcome – and the phone lines to 1200 calls on our first day!

Items to highlight this month are:

- Our website address has changed. The helpful and informative website can now be found at www.beaumontelmspractice.co.uk
- On 18th April we welcome Dr Mary Purcell to the clinical team.
- Our reception team has also grown with the addition of 3 new staff, to help us to answer the 12,000 calls we receive each month a little quicker!
- The covid booster spring campaign begins again on 22nd April. Eligible groups are people aged 75 or over, some (but not all) patients who are immune-suppressed and residents of care homes for older adults. Provisional dates for our clinics are 27th April at Elms Rd and 11th May at the Beaumont St site as well as additional smaller mid-week clinics at both sites. Dates and appointment numbers will be entirely dependent on vaccine supply. These dates will be confirmed on the website and on notices in the practice nearer the time. Invites will be sent to those who are eligible. If you are housebound and will need a visit, we will be able to arrange this, but only if we know you are housebound – please check that we have this recorded by contacting reception. We will be arranging visits to Chawley Grove and Shrublands care homes.

We are also inviting patients for pneumococcal and shingles vaccines. If you think you might be eligible and haven't yet received an invite (we have quite a few to get through!) please either check or get in touch with the practice. The reason for having a shingles vaccine is obvious from the name whilst the pneumococcal protects against not only pneumonia but also septicaemia and some types of meningitis. Shingles and pneumococcal can be given at the same time, or alongside the covid vaccine – although, not all three together!

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We regularly invite patients but please contact reception to book a half an hour appointment if you would like a check and think you may be eligible.

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Kate King

LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P24/V0318/HH	1 Halliday Lane. Single storey front extension.	13 February <i>TDD: 9 April</i>
P24/V0252/HH Amendment to P23/V2347/LDP	48 Yarnells Hill. Hip-to-Gable raise & creation of rear facing dormer with juliet balcony, to create loft conversion.	14 February <i>Target Decision Date: 10 April</i>
P24/V0372/LDP	10 Eynsham Rd. Use part of house as a business. Erect garden building.	16 February <i>TDD: 12 April</i>
P24/V0297/HH	2 Hurst Rise Rd. Single storey rear & side extensions with doors opening to west & south plus roof windows.	21 February <i>TDD: 17 April</i>

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More Challenges for the Brownies

For the “Disco Dance” challenge each Brownie had to teach the other girls in her Six a new dance move. Some of the girls felt a little silly at the thought of it, but Brown Owl started us off by showing us some classic “Saturday Night Fever” moves. Tawny Owl and Snowy Owl then followed by leading us all in the YMCA dance. Surprisingly, although music from later decades was played, the Brownies kept coming back to classic seventies disco music. Certainly, its upbeat tempo meant it was very dance-friendly. Everyone soon forgot to feel shy and the newly learned moves were easily put together for all the Unit to enjoy.

Our next challenge was to learn how to make secret boxes with lids but without glue or tape. First we were shown how to make a square from an oblong piece of paper, then how to fold, turn and crease the paper into a perfect square box. To make the lid the same size of paper was used but with 5 mm removed from two of the sides. Once a couple of the paper prototypes had been assembled by each Brownie, they were given lightweight card to make a firmer box, a little bigger this time. The girls found, to their satisfaction, that the two boxes nested inside each other like Russian dolls.

On the last Tuesday before Mothering Sunday the Brownies decorated cards to give to their mums. We learnt that Mothering Sunday is always the fourth Sunday in Lent, exactly three weeks before Easter, and that is why the date changes from one year to another. The girls were given a blank card and free rein to create their own designs, using the craft items supplied. Before we started, we asked the Brownies what their mums did for them. As might be expected, answers included, “she makes my breakfast”, “she does all the washing” but our favourite was, “she tucks me up in bed at night”.



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Shotokan Karate Club

The Oxford City Shotokan Karate Club is one of the organisations listed at the back of the Sprout. As someone who has never come close to a martial art, I am grateful to Martyn King, who runs the club, for explaining the rudiments of karate to me, and telling me more about the club.

Karate is a dynamic martial art that combines powerful strikes, blocks and kicks for self-defence and physical fitness. It is one of several martial arts: others include judo, kung fu and tae kwon do.

There are several different styles of karate, with Shotokan being one of the main ones. It is a 'traditional' style, known for its deep stances and powerful, linear techniques, emphasising discipline, strength and precision. Other types of karate focus on closer range and/or more rotational techniques (This is all super-condensed and broad brush. Martyn says that he will be happy to tell you about it – for a couple of weeks! – if you are interested).

Martyn has been teaching karate for about 35 years. About eight years ago he wanted to form a club in west Oxford, and ended up taking over a small existing club when the instructor retired. The club has since grown from six to sixty members, mostly through word of mouth. Club members range in age from 6 to 70+. Martyn and other instructors teach six classes per week, of which three are at West Oxford Community Centre. Most of the classes are mixed ability, so lower grades can learn from watching higher grades. However, one class in Marston is just for kids, and on Sundays there are separate classes for the coloured belts and the more advanced brown and black belts.

Club members also go to championships, have social events together, attend national and international courses and events, and get visits from karate masters. Excitingly, two of the club members – Cyrielle Moroteau (see photo) and Ayako Frellesvig – will be competing





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as part of the England team in the Japanese Karate Association's European Championships on 6 April in Ghent.

Karate competitions feature two distinct disciplines: "Kata", where competitors perform set moves in pre-determined forms showcasing dynamism, precision and artistry; and "Kumite", where controlled sparring tests skill, speed, focus and strategy.

Martyn is as proud of his club's overall spirit and mutual support as he is of his high-flying competitors. "We have a great team spirit in the club. Everyone supports each other," he says. "I love seeing the gain in self-confidence when someone learns something new." He adds "It's about half male and half female. Really anyone can do karate." The club is always looking for new members, and the first class is free, so do have a look at <https://www.oxfordcityskc.co.uk/> for more information.

Riki Therivel

Kennington Memory Club

Happy Easter, everyone! Enjoy the Springtime.

At Kennington Memory Club, we are delighted to announce that we have a new Day Centre Organiser. Kay Welch joined us recently to take on this role. She took up the reins a few weeks ago and is proving to be a wonderful addition to the excellent staff team. She has a wealth of experience in relating to people with dementia, having worked previously in another day centre, for NHS Professionals in support roles in local hospitals, and for AgeUK.

Kay is ready and waiting to respond to enquiries about places at our Day Centre, so if you or someone you know with dementia would like to find out more, or arrange a visit to the Club, do give her a call on 07852 883496. Carers are welcome too for visits and for as long as it takes for a member to settle in. Once membership is determined and the new member is relaxed at the Club, a carer can then take advantage of the few hours respite they get, knowing their loved one is content and in good hands. Days of fun, activities, laughter, music, companionship and support await them.

Stop Press : The Vine Inn in Cumnor will be hosting one of their ever-popular quiz nights in May when the proceeds will benefit Kennington Memory Club. Pencil Sunday evening May 12th into your diaries for this event. More details in the May Botley Sprout.

Isobel Birse

Which is better, an ISA or a pension?

When looking to invest for a brighter retirement, both ISAs (Individual Savings Accounts) and Pensions offer potential growth within a tax efficient environment. So which is more suitable for you?

- **Tax free environment** - Both pensions and ISAs grow in a tax-free environment. The difference between them occurs when saving and withdrawing funds.
- **Easy access** - Pension savings are locked away until age 55 (57 from April 2028), but you can access ISAs whenever you want.
- **Tax relief** – You get tax relief on pension contributions, but when it comes to pension withdrawals, only 25% is tax-free and the rest is taxable. ISAs don't offer tax relief but they offer 100% tax free gains on exit.
- **Maximum contributions** - The maximum you (and others on your behalf such as your employer) can normally contribute to your pension each year tax-efficiently is £60,000, although your own contributions only receive tax relief up to 100% of your earnings (or £3,600 if more). The annual limit for ISAs is currently £20,000.
- **Your legacy** - ISA funds will typically form part of your estate for inheritance tax (IHT) purposes. Pension Fund Death Benefits normally do not. It is possible to pass pension funds down through the generations, tax efficiently.

There may be a place for both ISAs and pensions in your retirement strategy. In the long term, pensions offer advantages over ISAs, as the added tax relief compounds over time. As always, which one is more suitable for you will depend on your needs and financial goals.

If in doubt, we'd always recommend seeking tailored advice from a qualified professional like Wren Sterling.

<https://www.wrensterling.com/contact-us/>

This information is based on our understanding of current tax law and pension rules. The value of an investment and income from it can go down as well as up. The levels, bases and reliefs from taxation are subject to the individual circumstances and may be subject to change. Financial Conduct Authority does not regulate tax planning or estate planning. You should not view any of this information as advice. If you'd like to discuss your own strategy, contact your independent financial adviser.



Thinking About Funerals

Death is a part of life, but not something we usually want to think about unless forced to. Sadly, for us all, the death of a loved one, or our own impending death touches us all at some point. Planning about how we can help our family and friends say goodbye appropriately to us is doing a kindness to them, and being prepared to talk about it helps too. Grief is a natural process that can begin before death – we grieve as we see someone in their last illness, sad for them and for what we too are losing. A funeral service is an important stage on the journey of grief, helping us to fully recognize that our loved one has gone; giving opportunity for family and friends to celebrate their life, and praying for them and ourselves as we move beyond the funeral. Professional celebrants – both ministers of religion and civil celebrants are trained to work with families and funeral directors to offer practical help and pastoral support through this difficult time and beyond, and are very happy to do advance planning to anyone for whom that would be helpful. Do contact me if I can be of any help.

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Carter Jonas

News from Botley School

Last month at Botley School has been full of music. Years 3 and 4 were treated to a visit from a fabulous local recorder soloist, Catherine Latham. Catherine has performed and recorded with world-class baroque ensembles, so it was an honour to welcome her. She demonstrated music familiar from the pupils' recorder lessons, including a Bach concerto. She took time to show them all her different recorders and demonstrate how each one sounds. The ultimate awe-inspiring moment for the children was when she played them the theme from Harry Potter! Huge thanks to Catherine, who gave her time voluntarily to enrich the music curriculum for our pupils.

Year 6 had their own awe-inspiring musical event at Young Voices 2024, in Birmingham's Resorts World Arena. The children sang their hearts out, and had a brilliant time, dancing the night away with 5,300 other primary school pupils. They behaved beautifully during the trip and were fantastic ambassadors for Botley School on a huge stage! This is one of the highlights of the music curriculum at Botley, and our pupils had an experience they will never forget.

Years 3 and 4 went to Cadbury World to find out more about Mayan culture and the history of chocolate. They toured the displays, had a go at writing with chocolate (as you can see from the photo) and experienced the 4D ride.

STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) included coding our new Micro-Bits, undertaking scientific investigations and mathematical problem-solving. Year 1 and 2 pupils looked into new biodegradable forms of plastic, less harmful for the environment, and investigated clouds with the help of shaving foam, water and coloured dye. Years 5 and 6 had a day out at Science Oxford for workshops on Forces and on Earth and Space.

The school buzzed with excitement, for World Book Day. The costumes were fantastic, and the book swap was a great success. At the time of writing, we are just finishing Assessment Week and looking forward to a major highlight of the year – the school disco!

Botley School Team





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Meet Ruth Abrahams

Two months ago, Botley resident Ruth Abrahams won silver prize for Producer of the Year at the 2023 Audio Production Awards, for the podcasts and programmes she has made for the Guardian and BBC Radio 4. Congratulations Ruth!

Ruth started out as a print journalist after studying English at Edinburgh University. She worked for *The List* (an Edinburgh version of *Time Out*) for three years, but then decided to focus on radio. "I like hearing people tell their stories", she says, "and the best place for doing that is the radio". Podcasts didn't exist at the time, but she gained experience at BBC Radio Scotland, and then moved to London because more opportunities were available there.

"Radio is an idea-hungry industry," explains Ruth. "I pitched ideas to everyone I met, and after six months of knocking on doors the independent production company, Whistledown Productions, said that I should come in for a chat. It led to a commission with Radio 4 for a half-hour documentary on the rise and fall of working men's clubs, which took me up and down the country recording in some of the remaining clubs."

That alone wasn't enough to pay the bills, so Ruth also got a freelance job at BBC Radio 1 Xtra, producing two overnight shows per week, 2-6am. "That nearly killed me, although the DJs I was working with were lovely". Ruth then got an in-house job at the BBC, launching and managing their early podcasts, but that became difficult when she started a family. She was forced to make the tough decision to quit, after being given the choice of working full time or not at all.

After juggling freelancing and small children, and a two-year spell in Montreal with her husband's work, Ruth and her family moved to Botley in 2015. "Botley has a really nice vibe," she says. "I like the space for gardens and the community feeling." Ruth started working at the University of Oxford Department of Psychiatry. That may seem like a weird career move, but it led to her major breakthrough into podcasts. Some of the department staff were fascinated by a book called *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, written by an Oxford scholar, Robert Burton,



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and published in 1621; original copies are in the Bodleian library and Christ Church. “Much of that book is very relevant today. It is about depression: causes, symptoms and how to treat it. I made a 10-part series using sections of it as jumping off points to help people understand human responses that are common over time, and also the latest thinking which has some clear connections with 400 years ago.” That took two years. It got me back into audio after five years away. I was doing that on top of a full-time job in the university’s central press office, with the final stages during lockdown, and two children at home. It’s difficult to balance earning money and doing something creative!”

Now Ruth makes her podcasts from home, with the help of a stable wifi and editing software; and she records her material using a little portable recorder and mic. One of the things she loves about being an audio producer is being able to have an idea, research it, write it, record it and edit it into its final version.

Ruth was given the award for a 30-minute portfolio of podcasts and radio programmes made over a year. They include one presented by Lyse Doucet featuring, snatches of phone calls between Ukrainian men and their mothers who moved to the UK as refugees when Russia invaded Ukraine; and one about a journalist coming to terms with childlessness, who interviews other childless women. In all cases, the process involves painful editing. “But it’s amazing how much you can distil into 15 or 30 minutes,” concludes Ruth. “Every single word counts. It sometimes becomes almost like a poem.”

‘The New Anatomy of Melancholy’ and ‘Mothers and Sons of Ukraine’ are available on BBC Sounds; ‘Today in Focus: Embracing a Childfree Life’ is available on *The Guardian* and all podcast providers.

Riki Therivel



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People with Parkinsons

Every Friday between 10.30am and 12.00 a group of People with Parkinson's (PwP) meet in Seacourt Hall under the guidance of Sarah Wheatley from Age UK Oxfordshire. The subsidised cost is £3, and includes a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake afterwards. People come to the sessions to find a friendly face to discuss any Parkinson's related issue – at the very least we can signpost other services. The next sessions for both PwP and Carers will be on the 12th April.

Exercise is a fundamental way to relieve the symptoms of Parkinson's and to keep the condition at bay, so OxPUK also use Seacourt Hall for Alexander-Technique-based classes – Posture & Poise on Tuesdays between 2.30-4.00pm. Apart from our various classes (voice, ballet, wellness, etc), we also take trips out. We go to Christmas markets, spring lunches, and host a range of speakers, scientific and otherwise, at our monthly branch meetings. Through our £5 membership fees, and fundraising events, we subsidise and encourage PwP carers to take short breaks. We also subsidise much needed respite care.

Our next big fundraiser will be a Big Cream Tea at the Seacourt Hall from 3pm on 13th April – Homemade Scones, with Rodda's Clotted Cream and Tiptree Jam and lashings of Tea and Coffee with an entry into a prize lottery, all for a princely minimum donation of £6.00. You will also be able to buy extra cake and try your hand at a Tombola.

This event is not just about raising funds but also raising awareness of a condition that affects over 150,000 people in Britain, and which is on the increase with no known cause. Oxford University's Department of Physiology, Anatomy & Genetics will be on hand to walk you through a large inflatable brain and explain how it works and what does not work well in Parkinson's. Oxford is a centre of excellence in both research (which the branch donates to) and local branch activities.

Lona Fedorowicz

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Opera for Beginners

In a display of youthful talent and creativity, the Year 3 and 4 pupils of North Hinksey Primary School took to the school stage on an afternoon in March with an innovative rendition of Mozart's beloved opera, "The Magic Flute."

You may wonder how it is possible to render down such a complicated work to a point where it can be performed by young children. The answer is that the Royal Opera House really believe that opera is for everyone, so they have created flexible primary-level programmes designed to be easily implemented by non-specialist teachers, with no familiarity with opera or ballet.

The result was a triumph. The audience were delighted by the blend of spirited acting, clear narration and tuneful singing. There were lots of different on-and-off stage roles, so the kids got to take responsibility for all aspects of the production, including sound and lighting. Coached by their dedicated teachers, they tackled tricky phrases and rhythms that are very different to singing a pop song, and did it with lots of confidence and energy! Particularly memorable were their renditions of songs, named by one young pupil as, "Walk on Tiptoe," "The Trials Begin," and the arias of Tamino and Papageno.

The children's ability to memorise and clearly deliver each word of their songs and narrations was impressive and you could see that a lot of hard work had gone into perfecting the show.

The children were storytelling, drawing the audience into the magical world they had created on stage. 'You'll see their parents burst with pride' one of the songs predicts – and



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Botley Arts

It's not too late to catch the Botley Arts exhibition of local artists Eleanor Apps' and Amy Boyd's lovely paintings in St Peter & St Paul Church on West Way. Their exhibition is open until the end of April during the church's usual hours of 10.00am–4.00pm Monday–Saturday and 12.00–4.00pm on Sundays.

WI March Report

This Month we listened to a most interesting and moving talk about the charity Super Shoes, who provide unique shoes to children who have cancer.

We now have our new committee for the year 2024/2025 and are publishing our new programme of speakers and events. Coming up we welcome a mystery speaker and then Sonia Robinson talking about Friends Against Spams. We will have afternoon teas, visits to places of interest, and we will be making a garden mosaic in our next workshop.

A few of us are taking part in a community project to make a quilt representing human rights. Our next craft group is on Tuesday 19th

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March at 2.30pm. We welcome new members. Come and give it a go for two meetings before deciding.

Baby and Child First Aid

Would you know what to do in an emergency? Botley Bridges is running a first-aid course for parents on Monday 22nd April, at WOCC between 1 and 3pm, or at Botley School between 5 and 7pm. Costs £25 per person, or £45 for a couple. Tells you about CPR, choking, bumps, bleeding, breaks, burns, Febrile Seizures and Meningitis awareness. Book a space via coordinator@botleybridges.org

April in Botley Library (*All are free and no booking required.*)

Cllr Judy Roberts Surgery. Saturday 6th April, 10am

Rhymetime for ages 0-5yrs. 10am Fridays. April 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

Lego Club (all ages). 3.30pm Tuesdays. April 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

Adult Craft Club 2pm Thursdays. April 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

Digital helper 10-12pm Saturdays. April 6th, 20th.

Author talk by Neil Clark: 'Champion Jump Horse Racing Jockeys'

Saturday 27th April, 2pm. Refreshments

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of a large sailboat with its sails partially unfurled, sailing on the water. The boat has a prominent 'M' on its sail. In the upper left corner, there is a logo for 'FindersKeepers™' with a stylized flower icon and the word 'Property. Property.' below it. The main headline reads 'We can guide you to success'. Below the headline, a subtext says 'Trust our team to navigate you through your property journey'. At the bottom left, contact information is provided: email (central@finderskeepers.co.uk), website (www.finders.co.uk), and phone number (01865 297999).

Organizations: If your organization is not listed here, please send details to editor@thesprout.org.uk or telephone 724452 for inclusion.

1st Botley Brownies Girls aged 7–10	Dean Court Community Centre Thur 6–7.30 Jean Metson, firstbotleybrownies@gmail.com
2nd Botley Brownies Girls aged 7–10	Rosary Room, Yarnells Hill. Tues 6:15-7:45 Alison Griffin 2ndbotleybrownies@outlook.com
4th Oxford Scout Group Cubs Beavers, Scouts, Explorers	mail@thefourth.org.uk Meets every weekday evening. Website: http://www.thefourth.org.uk/
15th Oxford Scout Group Boys and girls welcome	Fridays, Pavilion, Fogwell Rd. Amy Cusden (Cubs) 07887 654386, Tom Freeman (Scouts) 07837 623768 xvoxfordscouts@yahoo.co.uk
Baby & Toddler Group	Tues/Thurs 9.15–11, SS Peter & Paul Church Hall
BikeSafe. B4044 community path campaign	Wants to connect Botley to Eynsham. Meets every 6-8 weeks. Contact via website B4044path.org
Books on Wheels R.V.S.	Free Library Service for housebound Ox. 810159
Botley Boys & Girls F.C. Football teams from ages 8–16	Terri Matthews: clubsecretarybbgfc@gmail.com
Botley Bridges (for under 5s)	Mondays, 9-11, Stay & Play Botley School, and Fridays 10-12, Baby Group at Seacourt Hall botleybridges.org
Botley Community Larder	Thursdays, 3.00 to 4.30 at St P&P Church Hall, West Way, Facebook or email botleylarder@gmail.com
Botley Health Walks	2nd & 4th Sats 9.50 Louie Memorial Field car park, or Tues 11 am Library botleyhealthroutes@gmail.com
Botley Library	07922 849680. Open till 7 on Friday and 1pm on Sat, otherwise 9.30 to 5.30 (closed Wednesdays).
Botley Memory Lane Café	Thursdays 10-12 Seacourt Hall Lounge, Diccon James 07740 611971
Botley & North Hinksey Parish Council	clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk
Botley Seniors Lunch Club	Alternate Thursdays. Seacourt Hall. Jackie Warner Ox.721386
Botley Youth Club	Weds 7pm-9pm in term time. Louie Memorial Pavilion. botleyyouthclub@gmail.com
Cumnor Choral Society	Thursdays, 19.30-21.30 St Andrew's Church OX2 9BH www.cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk
Cumnor Chess Club	Thurs 7–9pm Cumnor Old School. Steven Bennett 01993 684494 www.cumnorchessclub.co.uk
Cumnor & District Historical Society	Last Monday of the month 7.30-9.00 Cumnor Old School. 01865 724808

Cumnor Gardening Club	http://cumnorgardens.org.uk/ tel 01865 721026
Harmony InSpires, Ladies' Acappella Singing Group	Wed 7.30 at Appleton Village Hall. C. Casson 01235 831352 or harmonyinspires@hotmail.co.uk
Hill End Volunteer Team	Contact: David Millin on david.millin@hill-end.org , call 863510 or visit www.hillend-oec.co.uk
Lawn Tennis Club	Family club Email: Tennis@OxfordSportsLTC.org 07824 881680 www.oxfordsportsltc.org
Morris Dancing – Cry Havoc	Barbara Brett 249599 or bag@cryhavoc.org.uk
North Hinksey Preschool and Childcare clubs	Mon–Fri 7.45am–6.00 pm. Tel 794287 or email nhps.manager1@gmail.com
N Hinksey Art Group	Weds 10–12.00 W.I. Hall Christina 07931 707997
N Hinksey Bellringers	Contact: Ray Rook 01865 241451
N Hinksey Conservation Volunteers	Meets at weekends Contact Voirrey Carr 07798 743121 voirreyc@aol.com
N Hinksey, Friends of	Annual Cricket Match/ Walk. Douglas Bond 791213.
Oxford Flower Arranging	4th Thursday Cumnor. Dympna Walker: Ox 865259
Oxford Harmony	Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.30 pm at Seacourt Hall Contact pro@oxfordharmony.co.uk
Oxford Otters	Swimming for people with disabilities. Sundays, twice monthly. Contact: Alan Cusden 723420
Oxford Rugby Club	Boys and girls from 5, kevin.honner@ntlworld.com Seniors, training etc jbrodley@chandlings.org.uk .
Raleigh Park, Friends of	Email: raleighpark@raleighpark.org.uk
Seacourt Hall Management Committee	Contact Lottie White, 07452 960100, or see https://www.seacourthall.org.uk
Shotokan Karate Club	6+ WOCC twice weekly Martyn King 07836 646450
Stagecoach Botley	Botley School, Saturdays 9:00am–3pm <i>Performing Arts for 4-16 yr-olds</i> 01865 590510 or 01235 390810
West Oxford Bowls Club	D Ellerker 07931 603801 wobc.membership@gmail.com
West Oxford Taekwon Do Club	Mon, Thurs 6.30-8pm, MA gym, contact Chris Hall 01865 570291 www.wotkd.co.uk
West Oxford U3A (Uni of the 3rd Age)	http://westoxfordu3a.org.uk/
Women's Institute (Botley)	Alison Jenner 07598 251161 alisonjenner@yahoo.com

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

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

St. Lawrence, Church of England, North Hinksey Lane

1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday 11.30am Holy Communion
 3rd Sunday 11.30am Matins

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

Sundays 9.30am Holy Communion
 Wednesdays 10.30am Holy Communion at Field House, West Way
 Rev Clare Sykes, Tel. 01865 242345 or revclare@btinternet.com
See table above for Church Hall enquiries.

Our Lady of the Rosary, Roman Catholic, Yarnells Hill

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

Botley Baptist Church, 1 Church Way

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

Calvary Chapel

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

What's On

April

- Tues 2nd** 3.30pm, Botley Library, Lego Club (and on 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th)
- Thur 4th** 12pm, Seacourt Hall, Seniors Lunch Club (and 18th)
- Thur 4th** 2pm, Botley Library, Adult Craft Club (and on 11th, 18th, 26th)
- Fri 5th** 10am, Botley Library, Rhymetime for 0-5s (and on 12th, 19th, 26th)
- Sat 6th** 10am, Botley Library, Cllr Judy Roberts' surgery
- Sat 6th** 10-12pm, Botley Library, Digital Helper (and on 20th)
- Mon 8th** 2.15pm, Dean Court Community Centre, U3A talk: Jan Cox: Paul Nash and Oxford
- Sat 13th** 10.30am, meet at W.I. car park, North Hinksey Lane, Botley's green spaces guided walk
- Sat 13th** 3-5pm, Seacourt Hall, Big Cream Tea for PwP
- Thur 18th** 7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, Parish Council Meeting
- Sat 20th** 1.30-3.30, Seacourt Hall, Botley's Green Spaces, Talks about volunteering and LEAP
- Mon 22nd** 2.15pm, Dean Court Community Centre, U3A talk: Jon Tyler: Woodland Wildlife – the Ever-changing Life of an English Wood
- Mon 22nd** 5-7pm, Botley School, First Aid course for Parents
- Sat 27th** 2pm, Botley Library, Author talk: Neil Clark, Champion Jump Horse-racing Jockeys, all welcome