

# The Sprout



Apple Day

**The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley**  
**Issue 191 October 2024**

# The Sprout

## The Newsletter for North Hinksey & Botley

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# The Sprout

## Issue 191, October 2024

### Contents

3 Skatepark Quiz	23 Postcard Postscript
7 Botley School	25 Botley Bridges' summer
9 Seniors Lunch Club	27 Beaumont Elms Practice
10 Glen Larder	29 Make a Book Bag/ Planning Apps
15 Many Helping Hands	30 Kennington Memory Club
17 West Way Community Concern	31 Singing in Botley
21 'The Girl He Left Behind'	32 Randoms
	35 General Organizations

### From the Editor

The cover pic reminds us of the fun of Apple Day, but sadly, we will not be holding it this year. The earliest we could manage is 13th October, by which time there will be hardly any apples left. Plenty of other things have been going on, though. Botley Bridges' summer outings get a review (p25), WWCC have been keeping a beady eye on developments in the shopping centre (p17), Botley School has been gearing up for the year ahead (p7) and are looking forward to their annual fireworks night display. There's a new exhibition put on by Botley Arts (p10) and the parish council has acquired an Ox called Stampy on our behalf (p32). The pre-war Botley postcard from the June issue has attracted a postscript (p23) and there's a book review on page 21. It's disappointing that the skatepark has still not broken ground at the time of writing – the contractor is held back by work in Wales – but the fundraising quiz was a stonking success. Read all about it on page 3.

Ag MacKeith

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**Checkatrade**

## Skatepark Quiz Night

On Saturday 7th September the Botley SK8s fundraising team held a quiz and raffle night at the Seacourt Hall. Attendance exceeded our expectations, with people queuing to get in...we nearly ran out of chairs!

The quiz theme was 'Through the Decades', which gave everyone a chance to answer questions. Volunteers helped to run the bar – which kept them busy and everyone else happy!

We had some great raffle items to give away including champagne and chocolates donated from Waitrose, a deck from SS20, a Harrison's Beauty gift voucher and many, many other brilliant prizes.

I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped before, during and after the event. It couldn't have gone as smoothly as it did without everyone helping out. It was a great evening and a hugely successful community 'get together'. We're hoping to host a similar event in the future, so keep an eye out for this!



Congratulations to the winning team – Curious Orange (named after a track by The Fall)

Oh – and one final note, we raised £968! *Incredible!*

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## **Such a night!**

When I walked through the front door the hall was already packed, with a buzz of chatter around every table. The mood was jovial, and my evening began with a trip to the bar and catch-ups with friends I hadn't seen in a while, coupled with some pre-quiz competitive banter. My team was a newly formed entity, and as the organizers circulated and made sure everyone was set to begin, we enjoyed speculating about our particular strengths in random areas of trivia and our chances of victory (which we judged to be slim).

When the quiz masters spoke, we settled into the business of the night. They knew how to work the room, keeping us moving at good pace but with well-timed jokes that stopped us from taking ourselves too seriously. Through round after round, we dug deep for memories of television shows, popular tunes, sports teams, names to go with faces in the picture round, and major events that we vaguely remembered from childhood. There were multiple teams jointly in the lead during the first half, so the (still cheerful) tension mounted as every lost point counted and the field stretched out. We were still in contention going into the final round, but we just missed out on the top spot and instead cheered on the two teams locked in battle for the final tie-breaker question (which took us back to Shakespearean times). Cheers erupted as the winning team was announced, and a group photo captured the effusive spirit of the night.



**The winning team**

The fact that it was a successful fundraiser for the skatepark sealed the feelings of fun and achievement. Congratulatory messages circled on WhatsApp the next day as the total raised was announced. While some of us were moving a little slowly on Sunday morning after all the conviviality, there was a definite sense that we should do this again. *Pavilion quiz night, anyone?*

**Caroline Potter**

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**Carter Jonas**

## **News from Botley School, plus a plea for help**

We had a great start to the school year with a focus on our school values of Respect, Resilience, Kindness, Creativity, Inclusivity and Teamwork and how these link to our school rules:

- We will treat everyone in the Botley Community with respect and kindness
- We will ensure everyone feels included and part of the team
- We will work creatively and with resilience in our learning

The classes all made their own charters for how they are going to support each other to keep to our values and our school rules. In the first week of term, we also voted in our pupil leadership teams for this year: Pupil Council, Eco-Warriors, DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Champions, Sports Leaders and House Captains. It's been a busy time!

Our wonderful school grounds are a great asset but we need a bit of help. Does anyone out there have a few hours a week to spare to become our Volunteer Gardener and spruce up some flower beds and pots? It doesn't even have to be weekly! It would make a big difference. We would love to hear from you if you might be interested. If this sounds like you, please email [operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk), by 18 October if possible.

Finally, our annual community fireworks display will be on November 8th. It's a lovely family-friendly event so please do save the date and come along! Here's a picture from last year to whet your appetites.

**Jenny Ayres**



### **Clr CHRIS CHURCH**

Congratulations to our esteemed parish councillor, Chair of the Environment Committee and leading light in Sustainable Botley (among all his other environmental credentials), for being one of the three Climate Action Champion finalists in the Oxford 2024 Climate Awards. The winner will be announced on October 17th.

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## **Running Botley Seniors Lunch Club**

Our local lunch club for senior citizens meets on alternate Thursdays in the Seacourt Hall. A two-course meal is served by volunteers at 12.30 promptly and diners can arrive from about noon onwards to meet and chat with friends. I thought you may be interested in how we operate.

All food is bought locally and the first jobs of the morning are to fetch the shopping and clean the kitchen surfaces before work can start on preparation. We buy our meat from Hedges Butchers on Elms Parade and the majority of other things, including vegetables, from local suppliers such as Aldi and the Co-op. We then get stuck into preparation, cooking, washing up, serving, clearing tables, and more washing-up.

Once we had registered with the local authority (i.e., Vale of White Horse) we became eligible to be inspected each year by their Food Safety Officer. The local authority is responsible for making sure that food is processed safely, and they will also make recommendations for the following year. This means that rigorous standards have to be met, not only of good food hygiene, but including keeping records of each meal served, and awareness and display of potential allergens. However, the inspectors are incredibly helpful and understand that we are providing a service for the community. We are proud to have obtained a 5-star hygiene rating at our first inspection some years ago, which we have retained.

One requirement is that all Lunch Club volunteers involved with food preparation must be trained in Food Hygiene & Safety, and subsequent certificates are filed for inspection.

The Food Standards Agency gives guidance and provides online food allergy training. An allergens notice is on display whenever we run Lunch Club. This year we have all completed the training course Food Hygiene & Safety, Level 2. Level 1 was done by all volunteers some time ago.

The courses cover things such as: Handling of food/How to store food/How food should be prepared/Cleanliness of facilities/How food safety is managed.

Level 1 also covers basic information for both cooking and serving, e.g., cooking temperatures, handwashing, use of clean aprons, when hair should be tied back, jewellery etc.

Level 2 is more in-depth and covers areas such as microbiological hazards that live on food, understanding pathogenic (harmful) bacteria, and recognizing symptoms of allergic reaction, among other topics.

But it's not all hygiene training and record keeping. There is still time for creative fun. A couple of years ago, we found we had some spare cash, so we made Christmas hampers for our diners, and Christmas dinner is always a special occasion. Here is a photograph from 2022.

Botley Seniors Lunch Club is always pleased to hear from willing volunteers who'd like to join our team and you can pop in around our coffee break at 10.30am on alternate Thursdays – October dates are 3rd, 17th, and 31st. If you'd like to dine with us, come along between midday and 12.30 to enjoy a tasty lunch! It only costs a fiver!

**Viv Smith**

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## APPLE DAY 2024

Sad to say, Apple Day will not be happening this year. Changed weather patterns mean there were fewer apples than usual, and most have already fallen.

Let's hope for a better year in 2025.



~

## Botley Arts – Glenn Larder

Botley Arts is very pleased to announce a new exhibition of paintings by Glen Larder. It opened on Monday 30 September and continues to the end of November in St Peter & St Paul Church on West Way. Opening times are given at the end of this article.

**Glenn Larder** started painting in London in the 1970s and this exhibition is a mixture of his industrial paintings and other subjects. Glenn writes:

'My time spent working as a picture restorer in Fulham was the inspiration to take up painting. The work I did there involved the relining of fine art paintings, replacing old backing canvases with new ... A few years on from then my painting ceased as other things took over my time. There followed a long period of many years when I didn't do any painting until



12 or 13 years ago when I enrolled in classes at Abingdon and Witney College. Since then, I have been attending classes regularly. I have learnt a lot in that time and seen my artwork develop and continually improve. My tutor throughout this period has been Tatiana Wise, an inspirational and encouraging teacher.

Back in those early days the medium I used was coloured inks. When I resumed painting, I started with gouache and later on discovered watercolour – a medium I love to use. I find working



with watercolour is a very relaxing process, I love the way the paint flows and the colours merge. Most watercolour paintings

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I make tend to take some time, as the way I work is by laying down lots of thin washes until eventually I have the desired strong, bold colours I am aiming to achieve. Four years ago, I tried acrylic paint for the first time and since then a lot of my paintings have been made using this medium. It is a much quicker way of painting compared to watercolour and the more I use acrylics, the more I like them.

During this more recent period I have further developed an interest in industrial architecture as a subject for painting. To me there is a strange beauty in these majestic edifices, at times they can appear quite eerie and haunting. In the process of making such pictures I try to capture these atmospheric qualities.'

If you are interested in purchasing any of the works on display or would like to see more you can contact Glenn by phone on 07712426727, or by email: [glenn2105@larders.plus.com](mailto:glenn2105@larders.plus.com). He can also be found on Instagram: [instagram.com/glennlarder](https://www.instagram.com/glennlarder). SS Peter & Paul Church's usual opening times for visiting Glenn's exhibition are 10.00am-4,00pm Monday to Saturday and 12.00-4.00pm on Sunday.

### Viv Smith

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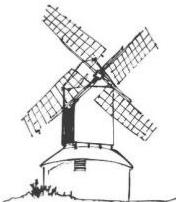


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## Many hands make light work

Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council manage several green spaces across the parish, some with a higher profile than others. Most will be familiar with the Louie Memorial Playing Field, Woodland and Fen, where you can use the play and sport facilities, walk your dog, stroll amongst the tall trees and take pride in the unique flora that grows in the Fen. BNHPC also tend North Hinksey Village Green and manage St Lawrence's churchyard for biodiversity.

But how many know about our other gem? Tucked away next door to the Women's Institute on North Hinksey Lane there is a lush Nature Reserve. The Nature Reserve used to be unloved allotments, but in the early 2000s it was transformed into a public access space. There is an orchard full of plum, apple and pear trees, a pond teaming with creepy crawlies and a semi-enclosed memorial garden, dedicated to Frederick John Minns, whose firm built much of the original Elms Rise Estate. The Parish Council received a donation from the Minns Estate in his name to fund the transformation.

A small group of residents tend the orchard, pruning the branches and strimming the grass below when the time is right. Grass paths are cut regularly through the meadow grass, which the Oxford Conservation Volunteers (OCV) scythe twice a year. The Memorial Garden, however, requires a more concerted effort to keep the virulent weeds in check.

Early in September eight helpful volunteers, not all of them members of the *Friends of North Hinksey Nature Reserve*, brought their gloves, loppers and forks and set to work on the overgrown garden. The transformation in those short two hours was astounding. When we began, you could barely see where the path met the flower beds, but by the end countless wheelbarrows of overgrowth had been carted away, most of the beds had been dug over and the bindweed and





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brambles had been tamed. But the job was not yet done. The next phase, which is due to take place towards the end of September, is to finish digging over the beds and plant some bulbs, and there is a further ambition to put down woodchip on a weed suppression layer, and plant some low maintenance shrubbery.

So if you live close by, if you would like an excuse to meet people, and if you want to feel the satisfaction that comes from spending some time outdoors for a good cause, then please get hold of the Clerk of the parish council ( [clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk) ) to find out how to become a friend of the Nature Reserve and lend a helpful hand.

**Emma Gordon**

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## **West Way Community Concern update**

West Way centre is in Botley & North Hinksey parish, but it is the local centre for residents of Cumnor parish too.

### **Construction**

The construction of the large block on the corner of West Way and Westminster Way is nearly complete. The currently forecast handover date for the block is early December. The external landscaping works will continue until then behind the fencing, but this will gradually change from solid hoardings to fence panels.

We understand that the client for this block is Grainger plc, who describe themselves as 'one of the UK's largest professional landlords'. The block contains 150 one-, two- and three-bed apartments, over eight floors.

The ground floor of the block has seven retail units, and some commercial office space. We have no further information as to what sort of units they are to be, or what progress has been made in attracting tenants for these units.

### **Church Way**

A condition of the planning consent was that Church Way (the through route between West Way and Arthray Road) would be semi-pedestrianised, with traffic only allowed between the hours of 4pm to 10am. There would be no parking on Church Way, other than deliveries. There are now concerns over the safety of Church Way – poor barriers and signage, unclear and unenforced rules, dangerous driving and

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parking that makes the route unsafe for shoppers and visitors of all ages, and can prevent access by emergency vehicles. There is no evidence that the owners or operators of the site take any action against those who park illegally.

The Vale of White Horse District Council and Botley & North Hinksey Parish Council have requested that Church Way become pedestrianised at all times, with only deliveries and emergency vehicles being able to use the route. Both councils continue to chase Mace, Botley Development Company (BDC) and Savills (the managers of the centre) to achieve the required outcome.

## Contacts

WWCC's role is to provide a means of communication on the development and to raise issues of concern with Mace, BDC and their contractors, and also to monitor the planning conditions until the development is built. Our email is [westwayconcern@gmail.com](mailto:westwayconcern@gmail.com).

To ask questions or raise concerns about how the centre works, e.g., parking or pedestrian areas, contact the Facilities Manager for the centre – Lisa Himpson of Savills, who is regularly on site and can be contacted at [Lisa.Himpson@Savills.com](mailto:Lisa.Himpson@Savills.com)

## Mary Gill



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## The Girl He Left Behind by Lesley Hayes (book review)

In this work, Lesley brings to life notions and thoughts that can plague anyone. Am I real: have I properly loved anyone? What is love anyway? She hints at an answer to the last question in the penultimate paragraph.

After having left her husband after a short and unhappy marriage, Kat goes to her local estate agency to buy a house. Alex is the stunningly attractive female agent who deals with the detail of Kat's purchase. At their first meeting she secretly conceives a powerful sexual desire for Kat. From having had no inkling of gay leanings, Kat is quickly persuaded by Alex's personality and her skill at lovemaking that she is, and always was, a lesbian.

But over the next twenty years, their relationship is marred by Alex's selfishness and lack of concern for Kat's feelings, and sometimes, Alex's outright aggressive behaviour. Alex is haunted by feelings of unreality, of lacking a sense of who she really is. But through all these challenges, Kat maintains an all-consuming love for her. During a lengthy break in the relationship, Kat meets and falls for Annie, with whom she has a far more positive, loving bond.

When Alex decides that she was never really a woman and opts to become a transgender man, she continues to look to Kat for support. By

this time, Annie has gone through two miscarriages and has endured the knowledge of the continuing strength of Kat's bond with Alex. She issues an ultimatum. She wants Kat to visit Alex to seek closure for this impasse. Kat discovers a middle-aged, greying man, who now feels that transitioning was not the complete solution for his sense of self. Kat realises that this was her last meeting with Alex. Kat remarks: "Alex filled me up with Alex. Annie has always filled me with love."

The book was published in 2017, and you can buy it as a paperback on Amazon or rent it on Kindle.

**Grant Nightingale**



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## **West Way postcard – postscript**

Ian Allott has been in touch to say that the anonymous postcard view of West Way published in June's *Sprout* is in fact one of a small number of Botley photographs on the Francis Frith Collection website – <https://www.francisfrith.com/botley,oxfordshire/photos>

Frith's have dated these images to c. 1950, but they must have been taken just before the Second World War. The West Way postcard – BOTY-5 – is numbered B733005 on the website and it was reproduced in *Changing Faces of Botley and North Hinksey, Book 2*, p. 8. From the website numbers, we can deduce that BOTY-3 would be Hurst Rise Road (see *Changing Faces Book 2*, p. 52) (*reproduced here – apologies for the quality. Southern Slopes, now Hazel Road, is going up in the background*); BOTY-4 Third Acre Rise; BOTY-6 Elms Parade

looking

west;

BOTY-7

Elms

Parade

looking

east;

BOTY-8

Old Botley

(see

Changing

Faces

Book 1, p.



27). The Frith website provides no evidence for a BOTY-1 or 2, but it does feature a Henry Taunt photograph taken in 1892 showing Beaters of the Bounds of the City enjoying a drink at the George [now Richer Sounds], one of our lost pubs. You can find this image and many others at <https://heritagesearch.oxfordshire.gov.uk/images/POX0113331> on Oxfordshire County Council's Heritage Search website.

**Malcolm Graham**



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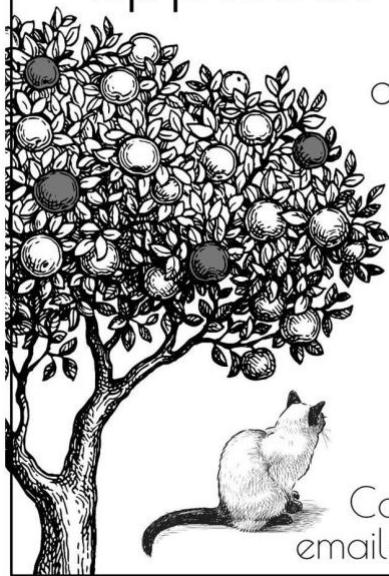


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## Summer with Botley Bridges

Although lots of groups stop running during the summer, not only do Botley Bridges continue with their regular sessions, they provide even more!

We visited local parks to hold three themed stay and play sessions. These sessions are particularly popular as they give families the opportunity to discover local parks that they may not usually attend. Pinnocks Way Play Park was an ideal venue for our seaside themed session due to the beach (large sandpit) that is already there. We took along playdough for an ice-cream parlour, a water tray with shells, sealife and boats, and a pirate ship – as well as lots of seaside themed arts and crafts.

At Glebe Road Park, we used the fabulous maze for a Dinosaur hunt. We took along some dinosaur eggs (made from ice) and the children had a great time getting them to hatch.

Our Teddy Bear's Picnic, which was supposed to be held in Botley Park, had to be relocated due to rain, but we still had fun in Botley School designing our own Bear Hunt maps, decorating salt dough bears and making bear heads using potato printing.



*Over 120 families attended at least one of our sessions during the summer holidays.*

Baby Group is held weekly at Seacourt Hall on Friday mornings which is a great chance to meet other local families, learn songs to sing with your baby and learn about baby's development with our weekly topics. The Health Visiting team join us on the last Friday of each month and we also run a Buggy Walk in the local area on Wednesday mornings.

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Our Monday morning Stay and Play has now returned to the usual time of 9–11am and our Saturday sessions continue on the first Saturday of each month from 10–12noon.

We have more Forest School sessions coming up, a new singing and rhyme session as well as a four-week long Positive Parenting course in November on Monday afternoons from 12.45–2.45pm.

For more information, visit our website [www.botleybridges](http://www.botleybridges), follow us on Facebook or contact [coordinator@botleybridges.org](mailto:coordinator@botleybridges.org)

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**BEAUMONT ELMS**  
PRACTICE



At the end of August the practice announced, with great sadness, that the Senior Partner had died unexpectedly of natural causes. Dr Chris Kenyon joined the surgery over thirty years ago and was a much-valued friend and colleague. He was a hugely experienced GP and we know he is greatly missed by many. In happier news, Patricia Goncalves joined the nursing team in September. She is a highly experienced nurse and will work mainly at the Elms Rd site, so many of you will have met her already!

### **Covid and flu vaccines**

The autumn and winter covid and flu vaccinations begin in early October. As previously, we are inviting patients by email and SMS, calling patients for whom we only have a landline. Appointments can also be booked in person at reception. Patients who are registered as housebound will be contacted to arrange a home visit. The covid and flu vaccines can be given simultaneously. Neither can be given at the same time as the new RSV vaccine.

### **RSV vaccines**

The RSV vaccine is a new inoculation which helps protect against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), a common virus that can make babies and older adults seriously ill. It's recommended during pregnancy and for adults aged 75 to 79. The practice held clinics in both sites in September. But if you are eligible and haven't yet had your vaccine there is plenty of time to get one as, unlike some vaccines, the RSV injection is given all year around.

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## Make a Book Bag

Fancy a little DIY project?

As part of their efforts to reduce the use of plastic in the school, Matthew Arnold have decided to hand out their library books in cloth bags instead of the plastic sleeves they have used up to now. It's an initiative of the Librarian, Caterina Balistreri, and has led to a summer of craftwork for parents, pupils and friends. Caterina has put together a supply of strong cloth for the outer layer

and finer materials for the smooth inside layer, along with a template and ties of various colours.



The bags are simply made from four rectangles of cloth, 230mm by 280mm, with ties, and there is plenty of scope to be creative with the colour of the linings, the ties

and embellishing the outsides. Did you make one? Send us your photos and *The Sprout* will be happy to print them. Would you like to? Contact Caterina via the school email address [office@maschool.org.uk](mailto:office@maschool.org.uk) AgM

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## LOCAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS

<a href="#"><u>P24/V1754/A</u></a>	The Kimmeridge, West Way Sq. Signage for new residential & car parking development, including illuminated primary signs.	<b>12 August</b> <i>Target Decision Date:</i> 7 October
<a href="#"><u>P24/V1785/HH</u></a>	46 Lime Road. Single-storey side extension.	<b>19 August</b> <i>TDD: 14 Oct</i>
<a href="#"><u>P24/V1842/LDP</u></a>	18 Yarnells Hill. Single-storey rear extension.	<b>29 August</b> <i>TDD: 24 Oct</i>
<a href="#"><u>P24/V1938/LDP</u></a>	3 Springfield Rd. Loft conversion + rear dormer & front rooflights.	<b>6 September</b> <i>TDD: 1 Nov</i>
<a href="#"><u>P24/V1773/LDP &amp; P24/V1887/HH</u></a>	17 Stanley Close. Single storey rear extension & loft conversion.	<b>14 August &amp; 11 Sept</b> <i>TDD: 6 Nov</i>



# Kennington Memory Club

Living well with dementia



We are now well into autumn and it's the season of conkers, windfall apples and autumn leaf colours changing the natural landscape from the greens of summer to the oranges, reds and browns of autumn. October also heralds in Halloween with pumpkins galore. Although we can all enjoy the colours and fruits of the season in the moment, some of those with dementia lose their sense of the bigger picture of the seasons changing as the year progresses. Each season will trigger memories for us all. Playing in the crispy, dry fallen leaves and jumping into the piles as they are raked up is one of my abiding memories of helping in the garden in autumn with my dad. Reminiscences like these are so important in providing connections with our past and reinforcing our family relationships as we get older. This is why Kennington Memory Club puts a great store in recalling past events and personal memories, encouraging our members to remember the highlights of their lives and share their experiences.

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**

*There are other memory clubs locally, both in Botley and in Cumnor, and we hope to bring you information about these in a future Sprout. Will anyone write about them with such fresh and poetic insights as Isobel, though? We can only hope! Ed.*

## A Celebration of All Things Classical

On Saturday 30th November, Cumnor Choral Society will be holding their next concert. In the first half they will be singing Schubert's Mass in G. The second half will include various pieces, including The Heavens are Telling from Haydn's "The Creation", Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus" and Franck's "Panis Angelicus".

The programme will also include string quartet music.

Venue: St Peter and St Paul Church, Botley, OX2 9JY 7.30pm.

For tickets visit [cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk/future events/Book Here](http://cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk/future events/Book Here)

### Dates for your diary

Saturday 15th March 2025 – Concert Stainer's "Crucifixion"

Saturday 31st May 2025 Come-and-sing Faure's "Requiem". Booking on website.

If you would like information about joining the choir, please visit the website [cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk](http://cumnorchoralsociety.co.uk)

**Caroline Cockman**

## Singing in Botley

There's no shortage of opportunity in and around Botley for people who like to sing. Not just Cumnor choral for the classical stuff (see above), but a ladies' acapella singing group called Harmony Inspires that meets weekly in Marcham, and sings every kind of song (see general orgs on p36). Then there's an acapella group for men, details on the facing ad. And, of course, the singing that goes on in churches all around, the music sessions run by Cry Havoc in the Seacourt Bridge pub on Thursday evenings and the roaring sea shanties on the first Sunday of the month at the White Hart in Wolvercote.

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## Randoms

### End of an Era

From September 14th, Joe and Terri Devlin will no longer be selling fresh veg and fruit at Pickle & Lime. They will continue – for a while at least – to sell coffee and snacks, but expect complete closure in due course. Joe's roots as a trader in Botley Road stretch back almost 50 years. His mother launched the Eggs Etcetera delicatessen in 1975 and he turned it into Pickle and Lime in 2020. "I've had enough" he said. "I don't enjoy it anymore. If we had a decent offer, I'd sell up tomorrow. We just want to have a life again." It is yet another casualty of the mismanaged closure of Botley Road, while the station is updated and bridge replaced.

### Thank you, *Sprout* readers

For rallying round in response to a call for new deliverers. The shortfall has now been met, and we hope you're all enjoying the fresh air and exercise, not to mention the warm glow that comes from doing a good deed.



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## West Way Art Day

At 10.45 on the morning of September 21st, a small crowd assembled to applaud as Clare Goodall unveiled plaques beside her mosaics in the shopping centre, and sculptor Alex Wenham did the same beside his piece with the hare, after which the artists took a photo opp (*on right*). The crowd then repaired to the Seacourt Hall to meet the artists and consider how to spend the rest of the funds set aside for the purpose of public art. The numbers grew as the rain came down, and ideas flourished. The general feeling was that both artists had done us proud, and we were glad to think that they would be commissioned again. Cllr Kay surprised us with a bird's eye video of the whole shopping precinct, taken by drone, to help us see which spaces would be most suitable for decoration. We also met the Botley Ox, and named it Stampy. It will be put out to grass in the Seacourt Hall, or possibly the library.



## Botley WI

We started this month with an inspiring talk from Katherine Bradley about creative women in the Arts and Crafts movement between the 1860s and the 1920s. Some of our ladies will be going to Ardley recycling centre for a tour. We have several groups: active walking (see photo), a book club, green fingers (visiting gardens, etc) music groups (who go to shows and concerts), and craft, chat and cuppa (doing various craft projects, and meeting at 2.30 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month). Our next meeting will be 1st October at 7:30, when we look forward to hearing Simon Wenham talking about 'Sculls, skiffs and steamers'. We welcome anyone to join us. For more information call 01865 245273 or email [botleywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk](mailto:botleywi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk)



Janet Watanabe

## October at the Library

**County Councillor surgery**, with Judy Roberts on 5th October, 10am.

**Rhymetime** ages 0-5yrs: 10am, Friday October 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th.

**Lego Club** for all ages 3.30pm, Tuesday October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

**Adult Craft Club:** 2pm, Thursday October 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st.

**Digital helper:** 10-

12pm, Saturday 5th and 19th October.

### Thank you, Monica

Teacups were raised in a fond farewell to Monica White, who retired on 30th August after thirty years working at the library. The photo shows her with Mark

McCree, Service Manager for Libraries and Heritage, and Nicola Gubbins, Group Library Manager.



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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>
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<b>15th Oxford Scout Group</b> 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> 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

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

<b>Botley Baptist Church, 1 Church Way</b>	Contact: Building Manager 07742 662668 <a href="mailto:botleybaptist@gmail.com">botleybaptist@gmail.com</a>
<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, 3 Church Way</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>	<b><a href="mailto:louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com">louiememorialpavilion@gmail.com</a></b>
<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 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**

## **October**

- Tues 1st    Oxford Town Hall, Older People's Day
- Tues 1st    3.30pm, Botley Library, Lego Club for all ages (and on 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th)
- Thur 3rd    12noon, Seacourt Hall, Botley Seniors Lunch Club (and on 17th and 31st)
- Thur 3rd    2pm, Botley Library, Adult Craft Club (and on 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st)
- Fri 4th      10am, Botley Library, Rhymetime for 0-5s (and on 11th, 18th, 25th)
- Fri 4th      7.30pm, St Michael's Church, Cumnor 'Salt and Light' (gospel drama)
- Sat 5th      10am, Botley Library, Cllr Judy Roberts' surgery
- Sat 5th      10–12pm, Botley Library, Digital Helper (and on 19th)
- Mon 14th     2.15 Dean Court Community centre, U3A talk: James Taylor, 'Grace Darling and the Fine Art of Saving Lives at Sea'
- Thur 24th     7.30pm, Seacourt Hall, Parish Council Meeting
- Mon 28th     2.15 Dean Court Community centre, U3A talk: Two Spoons Tea, 'Tea, the Journey from Bush to Cup'

## **November**

- Sun 10th     10.45, Botley Cemetery, Remembrance Sunday Service in the Commonwealth War Graves
- Sat 30th     7.30pm, St Peter and Paul Church, Cumnor Choral concert