

Can you bake a pie?

AT LONG LAST the aroma of stews, casseroles, shepherd's pies and delicious puddings fills the community centre on a Thursday lunchtime. The OAPs' lunch club opened in the middle of April and a small group of people (we can only cater for 12 initially) have been coming to have their lunch together at 1 pm.

We hope that this venture can grow and become a focus for more social activities for the elderly in West Oxford. Later at 2.30 Mrs Corby and the Happy Circle meet at the centre, and newcomers are always welcome to this group.

MORE HELP, MORE LUNCHES

For us to be able to provide more, we need more support. We need cooks, waiters/tresses, washers-up - and drivers to collect and return the old people.

Do you have an hour to spare on Thursday lunchtimes? Could you come and wash dishes, peel potatoes, or cook a pie? Your help would be very much appreciated: all the people who have come to lunch so far have been very pleased, and it has been a pleasure to provide this service.

Please let us know if you can help - or if you, or anyone you know over 65, would like to come to lunch. The person to contact is Lindsay Rawson at 9 Outlands Road (phone 41242).

Allotment class

DO YOU RUN an allotment? Do you know expert allottees? Perhaps your knowledge can be shared. We hope to hold an evening class this autumn on running an allotment, and are looking for a speaker. Any offers? - leave a note at the centre, or ring Diana Parkin on 42666 (mornings).

Sew
sew



THE SEWING CLASS has resumed for the summer. On Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 there is expert tuition by a qualified teacher for all ages and abilities. You have the chance to make your own summer wardrobe, or renovate your favourite clothes economically.



THIS SPACE IS PAID FOR BY OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

CITY COUNCIL NEWS

JOB SWOP SHOP IN GLOUCESTER

GREEN

Planning permission has been given for the change of use of a building on the corner of Dispensary Road and Worcester Road (beside the 'Greyhound') for the Oxford Job Swop Scheme.

This is a scheme which was first devised by Age Concern to help retired people make their skills available to the local community. The Oxford scheme is more broadly based, and can help people of all ages. The sort of work involved varies from gardening and baby-sitting to reading aloud and playing chess (but not jobs which might prove dangerous in the hands of an amateur like electrical work or roofing. Old and young can exchange jobs - babysitting in return for shopping done or library books exchanged, for example.

It is hoped to develop links with similar groups elsewhere.

The centre is open Mondays to

Thursdays 10 am - 2 pm, and the phone number is 724207.

It is a basic part of the scheme that no money changes hands: services only are offered in return.

DUSTBINS FOR CANAL USERS

A timber compound is to be erected to accommodate dustbins in connection with the mooring bollards at the Hythe Bridge Street end of the canal. But permission is only temporary - until the end of September - and local residents' comments will be very important when it comes to the question of renewal. The City Planning Department will be keeping a record of correspondence and making checks throughout the summer.

35 PARK END STREET

A PATISSERIE HAS been given planning permission to take over the premises in Park End Street at present used by A1 Print. Baking is to be done on the premises, and there's to be a shop too.

PROPOSED BOX JUNCTION AT FERRY HINKSEY ROAD

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE a number of factors that contribute to delays to traffic along Botley Road in both the morning and evening peak periods, one of the most significant is that of vehicles turning right into Ferry Hinksey Road. In the evening, vehicles leaving the city sometimes stop during the traffic signals green period to allow someone to turn right. If people would only allow this to happen during the Botley Road 'red' period, less time would be lost to main road traffic. But there are also times in the evenings when there is a hold-up further west, and the queue tails back across the junction.

The Highways Committee considers that a box junction marking across the southern half only of the junction would help to keep it clear and allow the best use to be made of road space at both morning and evening peak periods.



The meeting of the PCC (Church Council, not Chit Chat) on Friday 12th May was as usual lively. Somebody had suggested that we might flog our Angels! But St Frideswide's is better known for its angels than for the congregation itself. They are certainly exemplary in regular attendance. To the casual visitor all churches look much the same, but only St F. has Angels. They assault the eye, and if one responds, closer examination reveals that each of the seven on the south side holds a musical instrument and those on the north side bear a reminder of the Lord's crucifixion. No one knows for certain how the Angels came to roost in St F. but there are various stories. Not everyone in the PCC likes them. Some who take their worship a trifle self-consciously reel that they are, as it were, playing football and being watched by 14 cheerless, silent and probably disapprov-

ing, spectators. Others, that the Angels make us rather higher church than we really are. At they were not to be flogged, however broke we are, unanimous. And when we have the money and muscle for the job, they should be elevated to the roof joists, to look down in kindly dispensation upon the mortals below. That seemed most appropriate, and was carried unanimously.

More interestingly, the PCC had some time ago voted that 10% of the Freewill Offering (which at present amounts to £340 a year) should be given to worthy causes. But what causes? - there are so many, and so deserving. It was decided that £5 should be paid to each of the following:

- Christian Aid
- The Simon Hostel
- A Society for the Blind (£3 can restore sight to one of India's 5½ million blind persons)
- The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (two children in Britain are battered to death every week)
- A local children's home

The fund to help retired clergy failed to qualify, and the bid for the Conservation Society was withdrawn.

The Friends of St Frideswide are planning to hold an Arts

Festival in Church, and the PCC suggested it should be held on Saturday 30th September.

Opinions about 'Hymns Ancient And Modern' and 'The English Hymnal', both of which we use, were as various as about the Angels. Tom Comber weighed in heavily against them and succeeded in selling '100 Hymns for Today'. It was agreed to buy 30 copies on condition that (a) we did not abandon the older hymn books entirely, and (b) that we should hold a voluntary Sing Practice every Sunday at 10.30 a.m., i.e., half an hour before the morning service.

Other matters, graver and vastly more expensive were discussed. Priorities for expenditure were thought to be:

- * the Roof, which in certain places offers no resistance to the rain
 - * Wiring, which at 40 years of age is highly dangerous, and
 - * Heating, of a similar vintage, which is probably the most extravagant and inefficient in Christendom, a conservationist's nightmare. And
 - * Water. We have none, and so have to make do with sherry.
- But all items were well within the deliberative powers of the PCC.