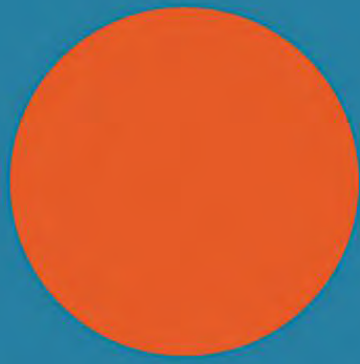


FOREVER



FIELDS

HELP US SAVE 3400 ACRES OF THREATENED OXFORDSHIRE COUNTRYSIDE





Forever Fields

A three day exhibition of over 160 artworks by nearly 100 artists, seen by over 1100 visitors

The Forever Fields Project Team is very excited to present the book based on the open art exhibition held at Worton Hall, Oxfordshire in late November 2023. It was a hugely successful event showcasing people's creative response to our countryside, celebrating the beauty, productivity and biodiversity of the fields and settlements that will be lost for at least 40 years under solar panels if Botley West Solar Farm is built.

We knew that our communities were full of creativity, and we wanted to show it off! This exhibition was an opportunity to share artistic skills. Taking the fields of the Botley West area as inspiration, this book shows the artwork that was created to convey the sights and sounds, and the feelings and knowledge of local people about this landscape.

The book forms part of an archive of all the work exhibited, which will stand as a record for future generations of the nature of the landscape and how people responded and celebrated it today. Our countryside is valuable to us in myriad ways and we want this to be known and not forgotten.

The book is made up of photographs of the artwork that was displayed, and links to some audio visual recordings. Nothing can convey the same emotion as seeing this art in situ at the exhibition with the magical sounds playing in the background; just as nothing can replace the real landscape that is threatened. But we remember and pass on a snapshot in time.

The Forever Fields Team





Original poster, designed by [REDACTED]

The idea for Forever Fields

The idea came after I'd read a book by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in early 2023: 'Spring Cannot Be Cancelled'.

It struck me that 3,200 acres of fields were about to be 'cancelled' by speculation and greed. What I didn't appreciate at the beginning was that local democracy and community were also being threatened with 'cancellation', and that so much is at stake.

To protect our world we need to make tough decisions to move from fossil fuels towards renewable energy. Solar power is a critical part of the jigsaw of solutions that will help move our world to a better place.

It is however, just one part.

This is because 'a better place' means protecting biodiversity, green spaces, the natural world, our heritage; supporting renewable energy **and** our communities taking part on the journey. This idea needs balance, not cancellation.

The gigantic proposal called Botley West Solar Farm is out of proportion and driven by speculators who only want to maximise their profit. It does not achieve balance. It isn't democratic either. But then, greed tends not to be balanced. Greed tends not to be democratic. Greed tends to cancel things, not create things.

Then, as I thought about the community impact, I started to worry even more. The pressure to deliver renewable energy at any cost seemed to be impacting local community as much as local democracy.

This is because the process to approving this vast scheme is not democratic. One politician will ultimately make the decision as to whether the scheme will be approved or not, regardless of

expert opinion, local council representation, or what local people think or feel.

Ignoring what local people think and feel has the potential to cancel more than just fields. It runs the risk of cancelling democracy itself and ultimately the very heart of communities. Powerless, irrelevant, cancelled community.

Is this what we want?

The sadness and hope in this story is that the decision need not be quite so binary and so negative. We can develop solar power locally and drive stronger, more inclusive communities.

To achieve this means that we all need to shift our thinking. We need to respect each other. We need to welcome diverse opinion and listen to potential solutions that work for everyone.

Politicians need to be brave, landowners engaged with communities, developers sensitive to the local environment, and the community flexible to change. Most of all we need to remove the speculators and the greed and focus on the positive.

We need to be creative and innovate.

I wondered if others felt this way and asked myself if there was a way of inviting creative expression - allowing local people to share their thoughts about the proposal and to start a fresh dialogue about what 'cancelling' fields feels like.

I thought that by starting with art, we might end with a more positive solution.

Forever Fields came into being with a small team of volunteers who set two objectives:

- to invite local people to use art to express their feelings about the prospect of losing so much green space
- to create an Art Archive which can be used if Botley West goes ahead, so that in 40 years' time the fields can be returned back as they are now

Forever Fields is not a campaign. It's about a community expressing its feelings in a positive and creative way. However, the theme that resonated through the exhibition that followed was a sense of potential loss. We were connected by that potential loss, and the feeling of powerlessness, lack of democracy, and not being heard.

What also emerged was a sense of hope and community. A strong community of artists all looking for balance in the arguments for and against.

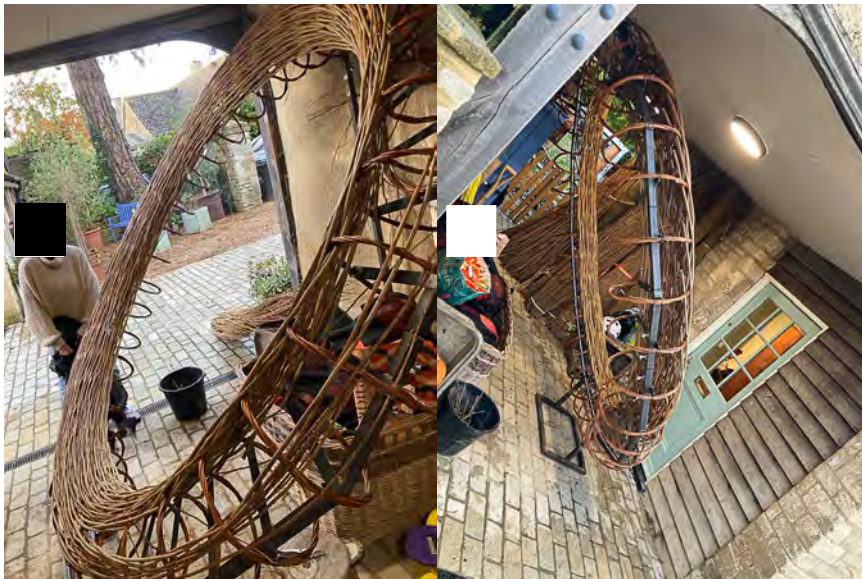
It was decided to commission one piece of work to kick-start the exhibition and start the debate: 'Connected', by [REDACTED], with help from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. They say:

'A circle is a sign of totality, wholeness and unity. The two willow circles represent humankind and the natural world, each now depends on the other, humankind is destroying nature and in turn nature could destroy humankind. Our futures are intertwined, we must find a balance of equal respect, support and space to live, that is connected.'

Let's hope that Forever Fields helps to restore balance in this debate, and that neither side of the argument tries to cancel the other. We need green energy and we need green fields. With collaboration we can achieve both.

[REDACTED]
Church Hanborough, 2024





Connected, willow sculpture, Eynsham

Timeline

March 2023

Initial meeting to air the idea of Forever Fields based on Hockney's 'Spring Cannot Be Cancelled'.

April 2023

Posters and flyers designed by [REDACTED]. The message is 'everyone's invited' to participate, adults and children living, working or going to school on the BWSF patch. The project team formed by volunteers with different skills from the different villages.

May 2023

Forever Fields advertised to visitors and artists during Oxfordshire Artweeks.

June 2023

The Eynsham Art Window dedicated to Forever Fields.

July 2023

Stall at Eynsham Carnival. Outdoor art trip to Swinford Meadows, 1000 year old water meadows under threat from cabling and tunnel under the Thames.

August 2023

Art trip to Cumnor Hill painting the view to Farmoor Reservoir and Denman's Farm, at risk of being covered in panels and a huge new substation.

September 2023

Art trip to Church Hanborough. Exhibition venue donated by Worton Hall, Cassington, the heart of the central area



of the BWSF patch. Sculptural centrepiece commissioned from Willow Coppice to express our vision. Autumn version of the poster created. Over 100 expressions of interest but we need to start tying people down!

October 2023

Efforts focused on confirming entries; planning the exhibition events; sourcing display screens; updating media; putting up posters; attracting publicity and local politicians. Outdoor art trip to Purwell Farm, Cassington: all fields growing food, but under threat of destruction.

November 2023

The Exhibition weekend!

Wed 23rd The willow sculpture, 'Connected', completed on site and moved into the Hall. Art delivered.

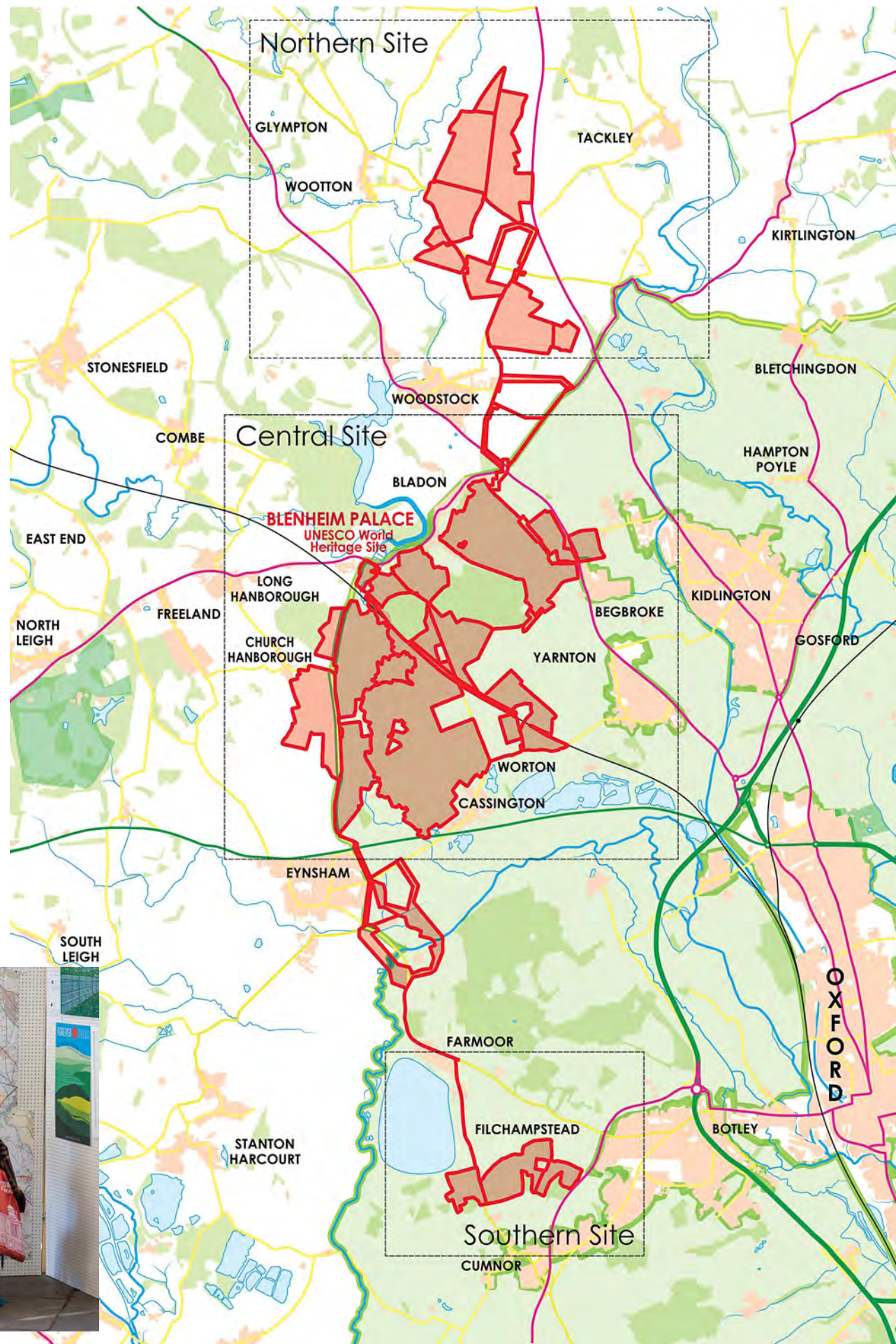
Thu 24th Art hung and photographed; video and audio installations set up; media interviews.

Fri 25th Hanging and set up of art completed. Opening event attended by over 200 people.

Sat 26th Media interviews, live poetry and music.

Sun 27th Mandolirium band.

Mon 28th Art taken down and venue cleared.



The proposed site for 'Botley West Solar Farm'

3,200 acres
15+ villages affected
75% on Green Belt
11 miles long
4 miles wide

Over 2 million solar panels
110 km of security fencing
affecting 35 km footpaths

All the exhibits were created and inspired by the landscape in this unique area

Map by [REDACTED]





Pause : Summer, by [REDACTED]

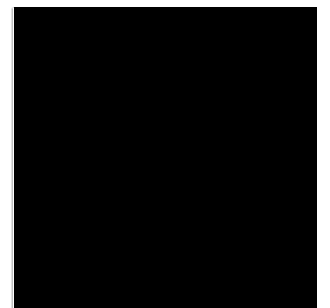
‘How do we engage with the momentum of the natural world, which is living all the time everywhere, when we barely pause long enough to notice it. Is 41 seconds an impossibly long time to spend in a moment?’

Video installation, Eynsham

There are additional sound materials at
www.foreverfields.co.uk

Use the QR code to link to the video from which this image comes. Ideally have the video and soundtrack playing in the background as you browse through the book.

Listen out for the cuckoo.





View to Church Hanborough from Purwell Farm - NOW, by [REDACTED]

'I wanted to show the wonderful long view from Purwell Farm across the Evenlode valley and up to Church Hanborough with its distinctive Church spire in the distance. The pair of this NOW picture is the WHAT IF picture with overlay by my graphic artist friend Elaine showing what this view might look like IF panels were installed.'

Photograph, Church Hanborough



View from Purwell Farm to Church Hanborough - WHAT IF? by [REDACTED]

‘The potential devastation of the long open view from Purwell Farm across the Evenlode valley to Church Hanborough is shown by the overlay of solar panels.’

Photograph, Church Hanborough



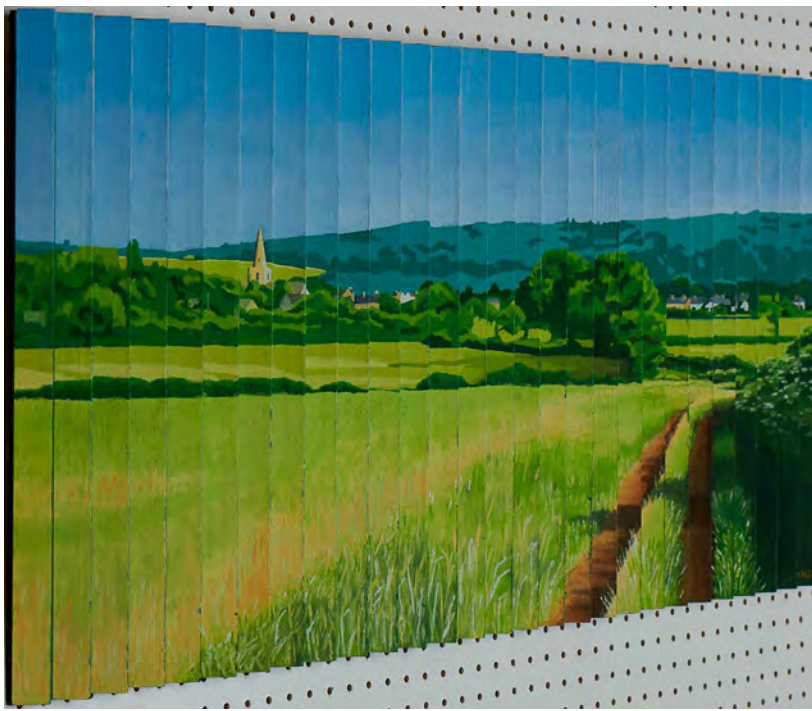
The Track, Cassington, by [REDACTED]

Photograph, Cassington



Visitor Comments

Visitors to the exhibition recorded their responses to what they saw. All of their comments have been included and they punctuate the art and writing reproduced here

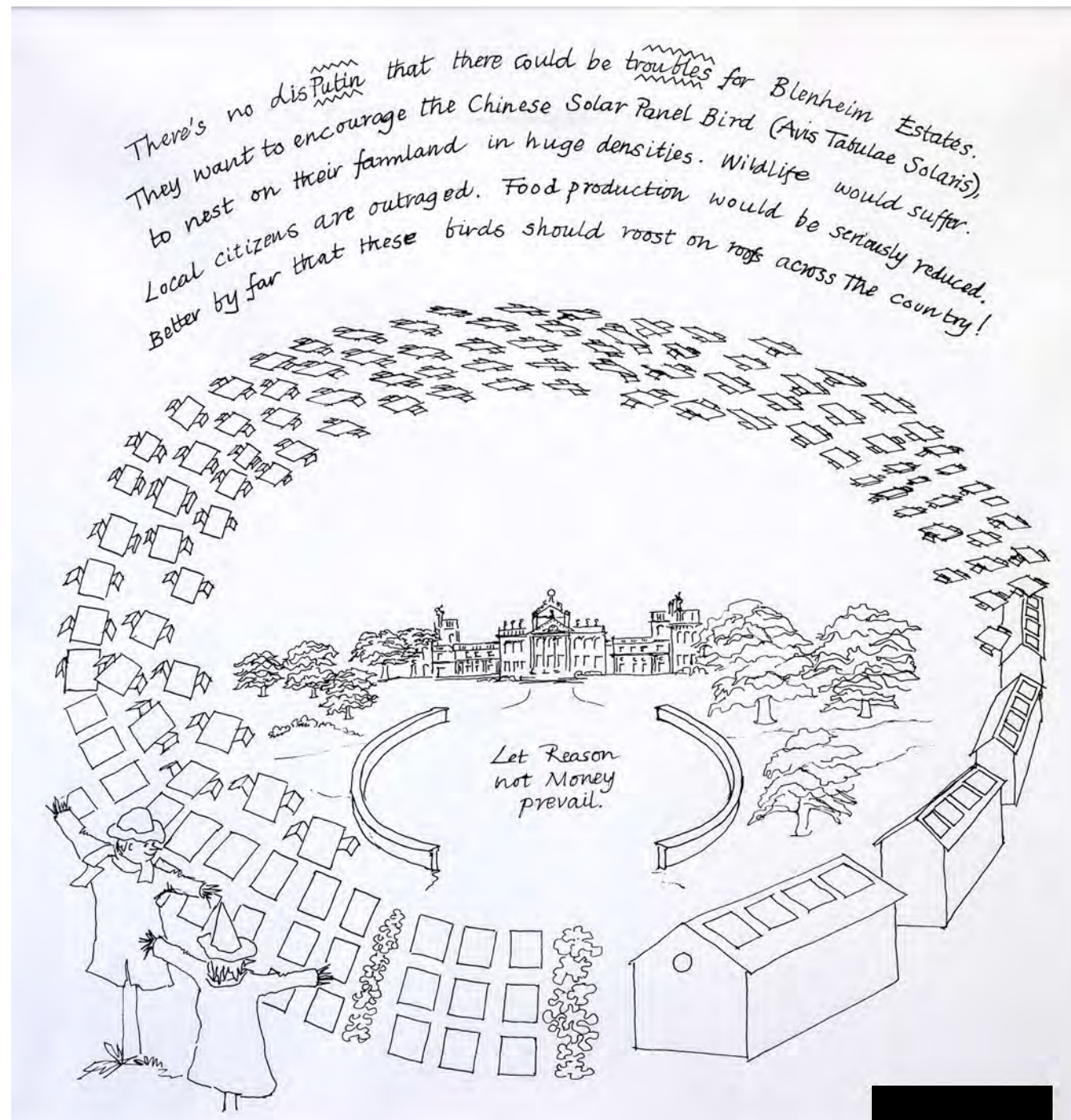


A good walk spoiled, by [REDACTED]

'I have chosen to highlight how the proposed solar farm could change the outlook on a familiar walk, the track in Cassington. From one angle you see open fields, from another you see how this view may be spoiled.'

Oil on constructed zigzag wooden panel, 3 pictures of the same image from different angles, Cassington





Allegory of the Solar Panel Birds, by [REDACTED]

'The proposal to cover huge areas of farmland with solar panels, in very high densities. Solar Panel Birds, grazing on fields, are driven away by scarecrows so that they roost on roofs where they belong.'

Black pen on white paper. Allegorical recognisable image of Blenheim Palace, Bladon



Wild and Free, by [REDACTED]

'To highlight the possible extinction of a beautiful ancient wild meadow close to my home'

Acrylic, Eynsham



Raves-lushly-recall, by [REDACTED]

'Recording a changing landscape'

Pastel, Church Hanborough



Cumnor Churchyard, by [REDACTED]

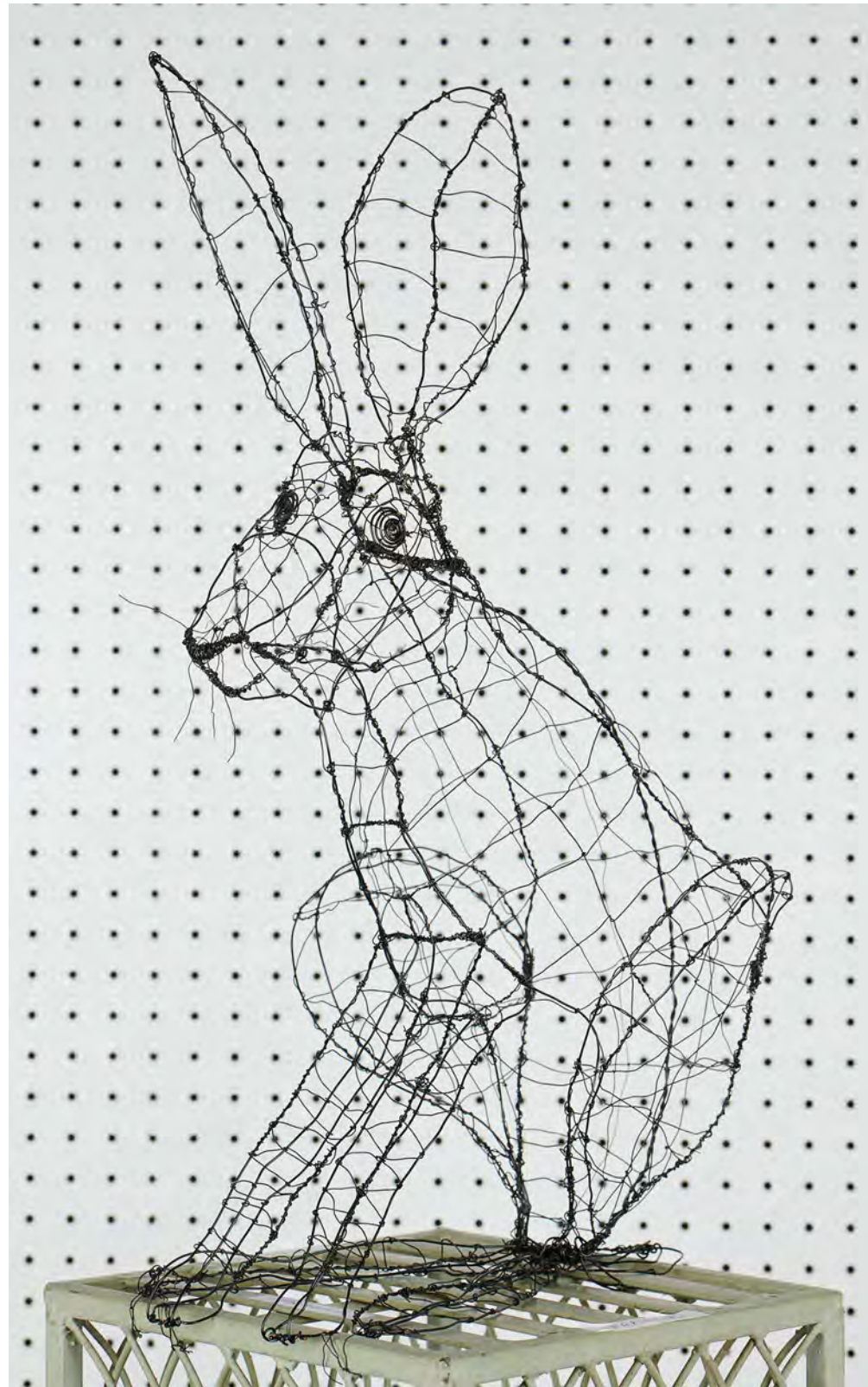
‘My grandfather came to Cumnor in 1933 and I still live here. I learned to ring bells at this church, and value the village, with its pleasant green spaces, open fields on 3 sides, and a wide variety of wildlife.’

Acrylic, Cumnor

Hare and Gone, by [REDACTED]

'The thrill of encountering a hare while out walking along Spring Hill starts my day well. Ever watchful, he is up and away at the first sight of an intruder, leaving me smiling.'

Wire sculpture, Yarnton





From Water, by [REDACTED]

‘My work relates to memories of ‘landscapes in absentia’ especially in relation to man’s connection with water.’

Natural plant dyes, copper oxide, earth pigments, gum arabic, Woodstock



Towards Cassington, by [REDACTED]

'A view over the fields towards Cassington, which will all be covered by solar panels if Botley West goes ahead!'

Mixed media, Cassington

A stunning exhibition.
How very sad it would be to
lose this countryside
can't happen.



So very important to
maintain our beautiful
environment + natural world
essential to our well being +
our survival.
A moving exhibition
to much experience
appreciation. Thank you.



Seeing this beautiful
exhibition brings it all
home - The loss of our
beautiful fields + trees.
What happens after 40 years
we wonder.



So Sad we will be
importing more
food as our fields
will be gone.



Let us use our memories of this
brilliant display of our beloved
undulating and productive farmland to
reinvigorate our energies to defeat the
destruction of it by developers led by, and encouraged
by, Blenheim Bosses who should be acting as
stewards not our excuse example of
the unacceptable firm masquerading
as saving the planet.



Walking and running
in the fields is
as essential as breathing.
Let nature change with the
seasons and our eyes - and
minds - feast and nourish.
will not do.



Oxfordshire is a
beautiful county if you
take the time to stop and
look. It doesn't have the
impact of the Lake District or
the Scottish valleys but
stop, look and listen
will come to you.



Go Green
but not grass.
Nurture Nature



SOLAR PANELS MEAN



- We are all part of nature -
If we destroy our natural environment,
we destroy everything that lives there
including ourselves.
- we are totally dependent on the
humblest earthworm, the smallest
hedgehog, we are on a
world that we live on.



This wonderful exhibition
brought tears to my eyes -
tears of joy and appreciation
and tears of despair.



Fields For
food &
life



Such beautiful responses
to such a destructive,
greedy project.
Shame on you Btley West! Your
name will go down in history as
destroyers of life, not as saviours
of the planet. No one is fooled by
your true f f motives. And
your Blenheim
investment.



This event and exhibition
are totally inspiring and
celebrate human creativity and
imagination.
May this go on the day -
for ever.



What is 'green' about solar
panels? They should be
mandatory on roofs of the vast
new 'sheds' 'distribution centres'
which already disfigure our land.
This land is needed for growing
food & nourishing wild life and
our physical and mental well-
being. Where can we
meditate, where can we





Ripe for Harvest, by [REDACTED]

‘This field is up our farm track in Cassington. A much-loved walk for villagers. I wanted to show how the village is nestled at the bottom of the fields and the abundance of the crop.’

Water mixable oils, Cassington



Cassington Fields, by [REDACTED]

'The walk I often take in Cassington'

Oil on canvas, Cassington



Cassington View, by [REDACTED]

'A view from the path where I walk in Cassington'

Oil on board, Cassington



Caught in the rain, by [REDACTED]

'Investigating the climate emergency through my work'

Mixed media, Church Hanborough



View to the church, by [redacted]

‘There is a lovely view across the field towards the spire of the church of St Peter and St Paul in Church Hanborough, which I see through the changing seasons whenever I return home from Oxford. It seemed a suitable subject for my first attempt at enamelling.’

Enamel on copper, Church Hanborough

Heavenly Meadows, by [REDACTED]

‘My inspiration was our wonderful meadows wildflowers growing within. My reason for painting is to show our most beautiful colours nature has provided us to enjoy and to keep our meadows safe.’

Soft pastels, Eynsham





Bladon Fields in August, by [REDACTED]

'An English Summer Day: painted on location in the fields.'

Oil on canvas, Bladon



View from Tumbledown, by [redacted]

‘We have been walking these fields for over 20 years. I have looked towards Beacon Hill from my home for even longer: either from here in Cumnor or from the West, in Eynsham, before the bypass and new estate were built. I have also walked many of the footpaths between Eynsham, Bladon and Church Hanborough: all set to be built over by the solar power station.’

Water-soluble oils, Cumnor



Next generation's memories, by [REDACTED]

'We will be very sad not to be able to look at the lovely countryside from Granma and Grandpa's house'

Painting / drawing, three watercolours in one frame,
Church Hanborough

FIELDFARE



Fieldsfare, by [REDACTED]

'Fieldsfare celebrates community on the 'Cassington track'. It tells of friendships between all ages in foraging for food and how Purwell Lane is a space of laughter, mishap, and healing. A space for faring well amongst the fields.'

Poetry, Cassington

Fore word

‘The track’, as it is known to Cassington folk, is just over a mile of public footpath that runs from the village green to Purwell Farm. This path also goes by its earlier name of Purwell (pronounced ‘Purrell’), Lane. It’s marked on early maps of the village as a road that connects Cassington northwards across the fields, turning eastwards to Burleigh Farm where you could pick up the old road to Woodstock.

The poems that follow celebrate life on the track amongst the fields. ‘Fare’ from the Old English verb ‘faran’ means ‘to go’. Morphed into a noun, ‘fare’ means ‘staple’, ‘food’, and ‘wellbeing’. Some of my happiest times with friends have been spent finding food along Purwell Lane. The joy of discovering that the little yellow buds and ferny leaves underfoot smell of pineapple and make delicious tea. The hilarious shock of gorging on plums that turn out to be sloes. Making improbably tiny quantities of ketchup and sauce from bags and bags of berries, the annual blackberrying topped off with a crumble. Finding a feast of edible fungi where once there were sheep. Tasting and teasing in equal measures.

Cassington track is what the philosopher [REDACTED] calls ‘a space of appearance’. It is a place of words and actions that brings people together. It holds a space for them to fare, but only if the activities that brought them there in the first place are able to continue. Were the fields to be cabled, covered in steel and glass, and the hedgerows replaced by high metal fences and security cameras, there would be no food. And no sharing of it with friends. The fields through which Purwell Lane passes are ‘a space of appearance’ for foraging, for friendships, and for forging community. For faring well.

I wanted to record that while it lasts. ‘Lasts’ derives from the Old English word ‘læst’ - a track.



i

“We can all chip in you know,
if you’re short, feeling the pinch,”
it’s become a standing joke.
I know you all think I’m eccentric,
poking around in the hedgerows
when it’s a five minute drive to Tesco’s

I point to the bold blue clumps
and tell you they are plums
so we pluck some
down them like nightclub shots
and our mouths burst hot
with fruity lava
tears of laughter

I protest my ignorance
we’ve never picked them since –
not even for gin -
though you often mention sloes
when we’re walking our dogs.

–6–



–7–

ii

Birds searching warmth
 spiral into dots
 not a trace of squall now
 in the wind-scrimmed sky
 as afternoon sun bravely lights
 our only walk

supper's laid out for us
 the taller ones black parasols
 and little white dolmens
 freshly sprung
 not yet sprinkled
 with a turning black

plucked milk dusted in mud
 we unfurl their folded wings
 damp with tenderness
 half angel
 half swan
 it seems a sin to eat them

but we do
 with softly scrambled egg
 you have your fork half raised
 when I seek your eyes
 there's a tiny freckle of inkcap
 buttery
 on your upper lip.



iii

You'd never seen them wild
for you, there was no countryside,
latched onto leasehold foster homes
and library books on loan.
I intone some advice about ripeness.

You give me one of your side eyes,
and, without a backward glance,
you pluck a tiny ruby gem,
glistening in all its insouciance,
and drop it into my trug.

We have a good brambling – a glut.
later, we make a crumble,
golden, gurgling, hot.
no-one tops your topping.



iv

You're distinctly unimpressed
everything's red fly paper sticky
a squelching gloop of foragingness
insistently stickle-backed pippy.
"I had my nails done yesterday"
you inform me plaintively.

"mind if I take a little break?"
you scrub your hands, turn up the volume
on Schubert's third impromptu
and uncork the Beaujolais.

when I bring you the saucer
dotted with syrup and a blob of chutney
'Condiments courtesy of Hips and Haws'.
you laugh. you laugh uproariously.
it's the first time I've heard you do that – actually –
since you started your course.



V

Camouflage king
 on a mission
 boy beaver busy
 poking pulling picking

you've been so thorough
 you're completely covered
 you're your own bouquet
 an open fan display

proud with pineapple weed

Purwell Lane comes to Cassington

to make iced tea.





Pigeons over Bladon fields, by [REDACTED]

Watercolour, Bladon

An inspiring
and moving
exhibition —
demonstrating what
must be



I'm from Witney - on the
edge of this proposed disaster.
We are all certainly 'on the edge'
if this goes ahead.



Tolkem saw this
future and illustrated
his fears powerfully. It
seems we are still having to
fight the battle with the
dark lord of destruction.



I THINK IT WAS
GRANT SHAPPS WHO SAID
THERE MUST BE NO MORE
OFF SHORE WIND POWER PLANT
IN UK AS IT "SPOILED THE
LANDSCAPE"
WHAT DOES THIS CURRENT
GOVERNMENT SAY ABOUT
OFF SHORE SOLAR



Are we brainwashing
caregivers of our world?
to hand over to our children,
our grandchildren and our
great grandchildren.
What will they think of us if we allow
all our wonderful country side to be
destroyed by greed.
Did my grandpa fight hard enough to stop
Battersea



Such an excellent idea
So beautifully executed
How inspiring & fortifying
How brilliant people care enough.



This is countryside vandalism!
It cannot just be recreated
afterwards, once lost -
always lost.



Let's let the trees do solar
naturally - that is what they
do best to benefit the earth,
wildlife and us!



What will we be without the trees, plants
and interactive animals

It is very obvious
that there are many people
who care & equally
obvious that some do
Don't let



The meadows at
Swinford bridge have
been my go-to place for peace
and healing for years
--- it would be a
disaster to destroy



We feel disenfranchised
with no voice to make a true
difference.

The "natural" landscape is a gift
we should all share and treasure
for future generations
There will be alternative proposals
it's our responsibility to achieve this.



Nature is life. Nature
is community. Don't let
political blindness and greed destroy
what is precious. It is a wonderful
treasure and we must all
stand up and say no to the way to oppose



I meet many happy or
healing people as I wander
these fields.
I am worried who I will meet if
'this' goes ahead. Perhaps they will be
sad and wounded.



This Botley waste
proposal is frankly
heart-breaking.
Thank you for Forever Fields
for the wonderful exhibition.
STOP BOTLEY WASTE
Scheme on the development
Let's listen



Going Green is a good
thing, but not like this,
and not on fields used for
growing food





Meadows protest, by [REDACTED]

'I live in Oxford and heard about this project from my friends in Yarnton, who are greatly sad about the planned Botley West Solar Farm and its impact on the area. I have enjoyed walking on these fields, and it feels awful to know that all the lovely views will be soon spoilt for a very long time, even forever, apart from undoubtedly having negative consequences on the wildlife, local economy and general welfare. I deeply hope that this art project will help to reflect on the situation and will bring some comfort to the residents with our support.'

Watercolours, Bladon



Potentially lost fields from Church Hanborough towards
Cassington, by Steve Howells

‘The possible loss of these lovely fields’

Photographs, Church Hanborough





A strip of land beneath the sky, by [REDACTED]

‘The landscape from Cumnor looking towards Farmoor reservoir and beyond, to the distant Cotswold Hills. This tranquil view will disappear with the proposed Solar Farms, so I wanted to capture it in all its summer beauty.’

Oil on board, Cumnor



Long Mead in high summer, by [REDACTED]

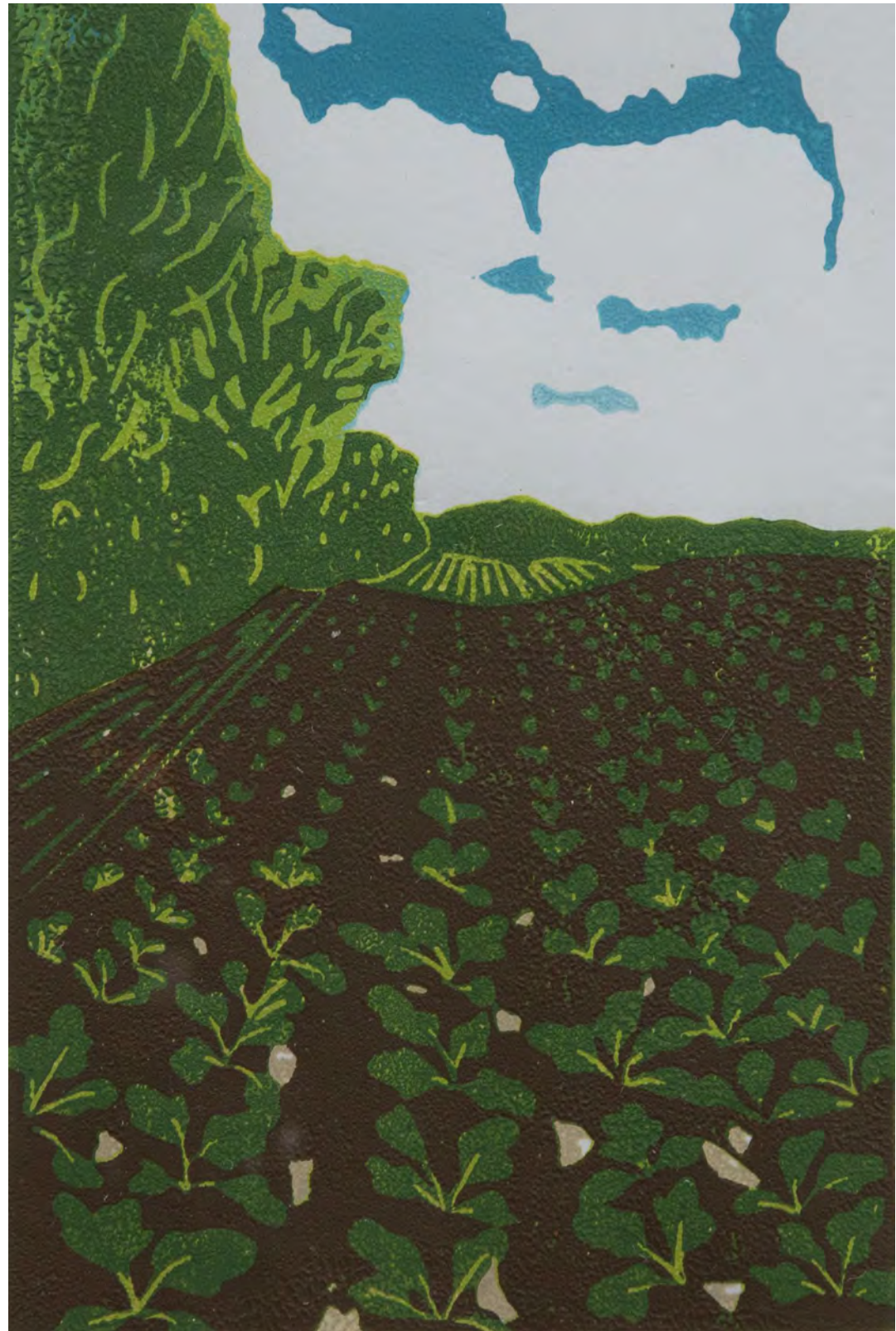
‘Long Mead is an extraordinarily rare, precious, and magical place which is the centre of a meadow conservation project along the Thames. It has recently been identified as a potential cable route for the proposed Botley West solar farm, posing an unthinkable threat.’

Watercolour/mixed media, Eynsham

Farmland, Wildland, by [REDACTED]

'My work is inspired by the natural world, often using images taken on walks around this area. I liked how this view includes the regular lines of the crops, contrasting with the wilder hedgerow and cloud shapes. I chose to do this as a reduction print as the block is gradually destroyed as each layer is carved. This felt like a good metaphor for the destruction of the countryside, both wild areas and farmland.'

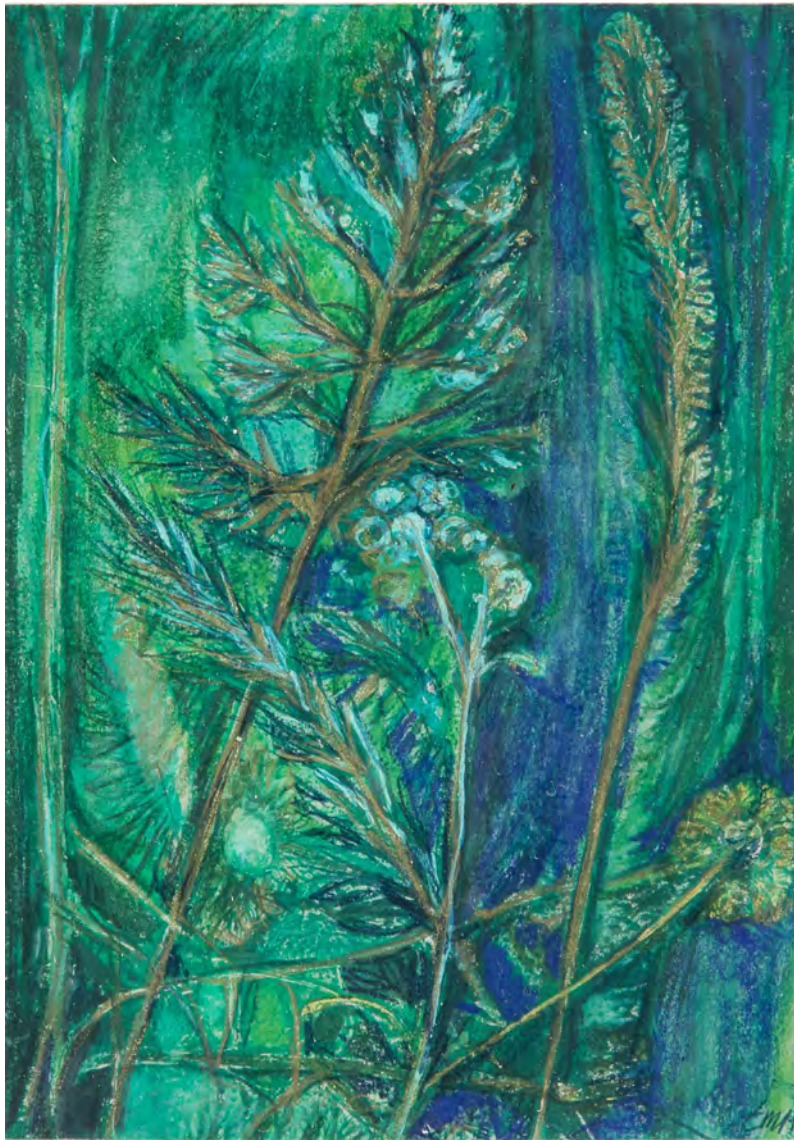
Reduction lino print, Wootton, Field 1.5





Eynsham Green towards Farmoor, by [REDACTED]

Acrylic and pastel, Eynsham



Wild Grasses , by [REDACTED]

'The wild grasses and flora on the meadow lands nearby.'

Painting / drawing, Eynsham



A Brighter Future? by [REDACTED], illustration by [REDACTED]

'My poem laments the irreplaceable loss of our heritage and legacy, the green fields and the wildlife. It is also an homage to 'On Wenlock Edge' by [REDACTED] - himself a lover of the history held within an ancient landscape.'

Poetry / written work, Eynsham



At Botley West the land's in trouble
As rumours come and rumours go,
Of a massive brand-new installation
On beloved fields the locals know...

No more the hare, no more the skylark,
No more flitting butterflies,
Instead a mass of man-made structures
Sucking power from Summer skies.

Our hearts go out to nature's creatures
Lost and homeless, left bereft...
Should glass and metal solar totems
Really be all that is left

For insulated generations
Starving for the wilder touch,
While it seems a tiny handful
To their hearts a fenced-in future clutch?

For land that's old is land that's sacred
A legacy for all to share,
And green fields have a deeper meaning
For the ones who really care.

Because history lives in every acre
Of that land our forebears knew,
The past is gone but not forgotten –
Now the future lies with you...



British Thrushes, by [REDACTED]

'I regularly see five of the six species of British Thrushes in the fields and hedgerows of West Oxfordshire. Where will these birds go if we destroy their habitat under a sea of glass?'

Watercolour, Freeland

Evenlode: The Last Three Miles

It's a little over three miles (as the crow flies) from the point where the Evenlode river receives the Glyme to where it finally merges into the Thames. This stretch is the true end, or beginning if you prefer, of the Cotswold Hills, which are traditionally defined by their five rivers: Churn, Coln, Leach, Windrush and Evenlode.

Across this distance the Evenlode meanders through a quietly beautiful, broad and open valley, which holds the village of Church Hanborough, the vanished medieval hamlet of Tilgarsley, a minor road and two ancient woods; but the rest is fields, still actively worked by a dozen farms in 2023. The highest point is marked for miles around by the elegant spire of the thousand-year-old church in the village.

To walk or cycle in this valley, even to drive along Lower Road as thousands do each day, is to experience sweeping views, huge skies, larks and linnets, wild flowers, a patchwork of fields and the rhythm of seasonal farm work.

Botley West Solar Farm threatens the complete obliteration of that farmland – and far more besides – within its Middle Section. For this reason I've chosen to make my focus the Last Three Miles.

 *Church Hanborough*

The Evenlode

 1910

I will not try to reach again,
I will not set my sail alone,
To moor a boat bereft of men
At Yarnton's tiny docks of stone.

But I will sit beside the fire,
And put my hand before my eyes,
And trace, to fill my heart's desire,
The last of all our Odysseys.

The quiet evening kept her tryst:
Beneath an open sky we rode,
And passed into a wandering mist
Along the perfect Evenlode.

The tender Evenlode that makes
Her meadows hush to hear the sound
Of waters mingling in the brakes,
And binds my heart to English ground.

A lovely river, all alone,
She lingers in the hills and holds
A hundred little towns of stone,
Forgotten in the western wolds.



Fields from the church, by

'Fields from the church: field numbers (top)
2.66 to 2.44 to 2.84 – (bottom) 2.84 to 2.54 to
2.115, Aug 2022'

Photographs, Church Hanborough



Footpath to Eynsham, by

'Footpath to Eynsham: 2.118, 2.115, 2.114, Nov 2022'

Photographs, Church Hanborough





Along Lower Road, by

'Along Lower Road: field numbers (top) 2.84 to 2.80 to 2.89, Nov 2022 - (middle) 2.63, 2.64, 2.65, Dec 2022 - (bottom) 2.61, July 2023'

Photographs, Church Hanborough





West of Lower Road, by

‘West of Lower Road: field numbers (top) 2.116,
April 2023 - (bottom) 2.62, Dec 2022’

Photographs, Church Hanborough



Green field with permanent marker, by

'I founded The Oxford School of Drama in farm buildings between Woodstock and Wootton in the 1980s. Students since then have benefitted enormously from access to the landscape and surrounding countryside, for their health and wellbeing but also for their art. You can't fully appreciate fundamental human truths without access to a landscape that changes with the seasons and yet is eternal.'

Gouache, paper, watercolour and Sharpie pen, Wootton



Green 01, by [REDACTED]

Acrylic paint, Cassington



Towards Farmoor Reservoir, by [REDACTED]

‘To support the Forever Fields initiative’

Mixed media using ink, and acrylic paint, Cumnor



Cassington Fields, by [REDACTED]

'To capture the view'

Painting / drawing, Cassington



Yaffles, by [REDACTED]

‘Green woodpeckers are frequently seen around here - I know they need to move freely between woods and open areas where they feed on ants. They will be badly affected by change of use in open areas and loss of biodiversity.’

Acrylic painting, Cumnor





Summer productivity, by

‘Very productive farmland destined for solar panel coverage adjacent to Church Hanborough’

Photographs, four photos in one frame, Church Hanborough



Fields torn apart - bereft of wildflowers & life, by
 [redacted]
 Ceramic wall plaques, Eynsham





The Track, Cassington, by

Photographs, Cassington





I can see for miles, by [REDACTED]

‘Love of the local landscape and all the artwork it has inspired over the years’

Acrylics, oils and collage on canvas, Church Hanborough

Uplifting & potentially
heart breaking!
Hope not
No [redacted] but not let
[redacted] best do this



A new marine exhibition
[redacted] news of
[redacted] people.
[redacted] that 'common sense'
prevails & we keep our glorious
surroundings



God created our beautiful
world, letting animals roam
flowers to grow, food to be
produced and remember without
bees, hoverflies, bumblebees
people wouldn't be fed, so
with little land free of
solar panels. These will all
not to be [redacted] flourish,
and the [redacted] driving through
Cannock and down Tumbledick will
be ruined. Think what you're proposing! and stop it.



[redacted] imagine
[redacted] landscape
[redacted] of a 3,400 acre
park statue.
It must be shocking and ruinous
for our rural idyll.



I love seeing the abundance
of wildlife along the track
to Furze... deer, hares and the wide
range of butterflies to name a few. Solar
panels on roofs not fields. We can
achieve our "green" targets. [redacted]
the solution. STOP SOLAR WEST



How dare Blenheim
even consider covering
these beautiful fields
with solar panels.
This would be vandalism



Why are there
no solar panels on the
roofs here @ Worton
Park?



They hang the man & flay the woman
That steal the goose from off the common,
But let the greater villain loose
That steals the common from the goose.
The law demands that we atone
When we take things we do not own,
But leave [redacted] & ladies free,
Who take [redacted] that are yours & mine.
circa 1764. English Nursery Rhyme.



[redacted] NOW THE MORNING
[redacted] THIS BEAUTIFUL
[redacted] HAS THE
FEELING OF GREAT POTENTIAL LOSS.
THE ELAQUENT WOODS BEHIND EACH WORK
ARE SO IMPORTANT. A BEAUTIFUL ROOM IN
WHICH THIS EXHIBITION IS TAKING PLACE - IT
IS A WONDERFUL VENUE. VERY
AS I WERE THANKFUL TO ALL WHO
HAVE MADE THIS EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE



Such an incredible
sense of beauty mixed
with sadness in all of
these beautiful works of art.
The feeling of loss is almost
overwhelming and brings to life
what we [redacted] to lose. It makes
me even [redacted] determined to
fight this terrible proposal.



[redacted] you, thank
you!
[redacted] greed!
[redacted] Blenheim!
I hope sense overcomes you and
these solar panels do not happen.
my poor grandchildren!



The uniformity of solar power
kills the diversity of nature.
We need the variety of life
to breed healthy individuals
Yes to solar power in the right place
On the rock tops of all the mountains
Keep the variety of the [redacted]



It makes me very angry and sad...
- The sheer scale, transforming the whole region
- The feudal arrogance of the "like it or
leave it" landlords (Blenheim)
- The Russian money and dodgy company
behind it
- The lack of ethics & greed
- The lack of any body to have an overall
strategy on all solar land



We take this beauty
for granted until we realise
it might be lost forever.
Thank you for this exhibition as
helping us realise how much this
area is [redacted]



So Sad to See the
Wonderful place and the
land where I grew up being taken
away. The views from my bedroom
will be gone forever.
We need the fields for food!





May morning over Bladon fields, by [redacted]

'A piece of land which may be lost if the Botley West solar farm goes ahead.'

Oils, Bladon



Summertime in England, by [REDACTED]

Painting / drawing, Glympton



Farmoor View, by [REDACTED]

‘I wanted to portray the natural beauty of this landscape.’

Acrylics and mixed media, Cumnor



Down The Track Towards Cassington, by [REDACTED]

‘The humble farm track which leads from Cassington towards Purwell Farm is a very important amenity for the villagers, allowing them to connect with the natural world, to observe the changing seasons and to appreciate the biodiversity that surrounds them. It’s a hub for neighbours to stroll or run together, a tranquil escape from the daily grind to destress, reflect, and rejuvenate. The loss of the green vistas from this footpath will ruin the enjoyment of our landscape, should the Botley West Scheme be approved.’

Linocut / mixed media, Cassington



Wharf Stream Meadow, by [REDACTED]

‘My piece depicts one of the Wharf Stream Meadows (near Eynsham Lock). I wanted to show the beautiful biodiversity of plants and the delicate balance of the ecosystem which will be jeopardised and lost if it is dug up and replanted with solar panels. There is no research evidence to show that solar farms are a win for biodiversity. Like many others I walk daily in this area; the act of being out in nature connects me to the planet and to myself. We can use this awareness to guide our actions, to avoid further harm and instead work in harmony with the ecosystem.’

Ink and watercolour, Eynsham



Hedgerows- containers of wildlife I, II and III, by [REDACTED]

'I walk in the fields near Woodstock and cycle in the lanes. Hedgerows provide shelter and sightlines for my journeys. These containers for wildlife are boxes decorated with paper and fabric which I ecoprinted using local hedgerow leaves. Hedgerows stitch our landscape together, nurturing wildlife to regenerate. Simple stitches enhance the prints and attach found objects from oak and beech.'

Three stacking (large, medium and small) round covered boxes with ecoprinted paper inside and ecoprinted fabric lids/lid inserts, with stitching and plant material (oak, beech), Woodstock

Looking Towards Cassington, by [REDACTED]

‘The beautiful view of Cassington Village Church spire through the trees over the meadows.’

Charcoal on paper, Cassington





Summer field, by [REDACTED]

‘To capture the beauty of the trees at the edge of the field in the morning mist’

Painting / drawing, oil on paper, Wootton



Oak, sheep, fog, by [REDACTED]

'I walk this path nearly every day and always stop underneath the ancient oak. This was a cold February morning, with a low sun struggling to burn off the fog. The lack of any manmade structures gives the image a timeless quality.'

Photograph, Cumnor



Hay Bales 2, by [REDACTED]

‘Forever Fields’

Photograph, rendered image, Eynsham

Green conflict I and II; loss of fields, by [REDACTED]

'Sadness due to the potential loss of these fields to solar panels as far as the eye can see.'

Acrylics, Eynsham



Enjoying the Rest, by [REDACTED]

‘The warmth and pink glow of the sun towards sunset across the fields where I live. I wanted to portray the feeling of comfort and safety we can experience when we immerse ourselves in natural surroundings’

Oil and acrylic on canvas, Eynsham



Settling In, by [REDACTED]

‘The pink light across the horizon as the sun starts to set at the end of the day over the landscape and the warmth and comfort this can bring to our wellbeing when we spend time outside.’

Oil and acrylic on canvas, Eynsham

5 cows on the path to Worton, by [REDACTED]

'Walk to Worton most days'

Acrylic on canvas, Cassington



Frogwelldown Lane, by [REDACTED]

'The view'

Acrylic on canvas, Cassington



Small Sketch Book, by [REDACTED]

'The landscape we may lose at Hanborough and Cumnor'

Pen, ink and coloured wash, Hanborough and Cumnor



Large Sketch Book, by [REDACTED]

'The landscape that we might lose in Cumnor and Hanborough'

Pen, ink and coloured wash, Church Hanborough and Cumnor at the site of the substation proposal



Cassington Lane, by [REDACTED]

'This beautiful track deserves to be looked after and preserved! Not swamped by solar panels.'

Inks, Cassington



Looking south from Church Hanborough, by [REDACTED]

‘One of our favourite local walks is on a footpath going north from Eynsham to Vincent’s Wood, Freeland and then east to Church Hanborough. From there we turn south, back to Eynsham. A short way along the track reaches a clump of trees, and the view opens out to this glorious vista of fields and hedges, sloping away to Beacon Hill and Wytham Woods in the distance. If the Solar Farm goes ahead, all the fields on the left of this painting, behind the hedge and almost as far as the eye can see, will be covered with solar panels - and this wonderful view will be lost for ever.’

Painting / drawing, Church Hanborough



Sunflowers in the sun, by [REDACTED]

‘Beautiful fresh morning’

Photograph, Woodstock

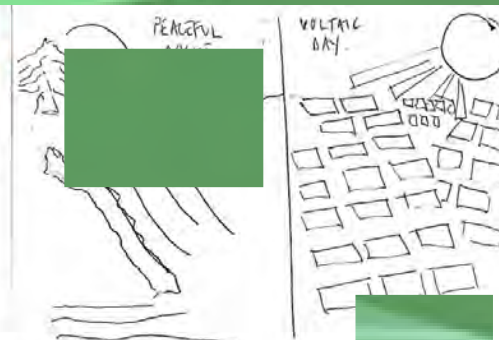
I am a peaceful
man, but I will men
the barricades to stop this
abomination!



A [redacted] has
re [redacted] that I
[redacted] fine part of
the [redacted] should remain
untainted so that future
generations can also feel the
same.



Incredibly moving
I checked up when contemplating
some of these paintings so
photographs
What [redacted] wonderful landscape
we [redacted]
It must be treasured.



S O P



We have a responsibility to conserve
our landscape for the benefit of
future
generations.
We should not
allow greed to
destroy our
children's
inheritance.



Solar panels on brown-field
+ ~~not~~ ^{flat} roofs:
What about Didcot Power site?
Let us save as much as we can of
this green ~~pleasant~~ ^{pleasant} land



A beautiful, inspiring exhibition
of our natural surroundings,
hopefully not soon to be lost...
a record of what exists today and
for the future!!
Thank you for reminding us of
our beautiful countryside



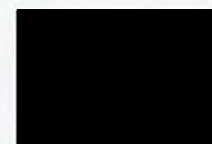
Save our habitats and
wildlife.
Panel on roofs not fields...



[redacted] mals
[redacted] when Point?



Blenheim is
ruining our
Countryside.
This is a
fendal state.



BLENHEIM



A wonderful evocation
of all we may lose.
Perhaps this exhibition
will trigger a spark of
feeling in the developers
hearts.



Small patches of
solar panels for
power for local communities
are fine perhaps but I wonder
if frequent flyers and private jet
owners are offsetting their carbon
usage at the expense of everyone
else?



Flower power in
fields
Solar panels on roofs





Boxing hares on the fields to left on the footpath from Cassington to Purwell farm, by [REDACTED]

‘The hares boxing on early spring afternoons are a unique sight that warms your heart. Where will their scrapes be? I fear not under Solar Panels. So sad to lose these magnificent creatures. They should be protected.’

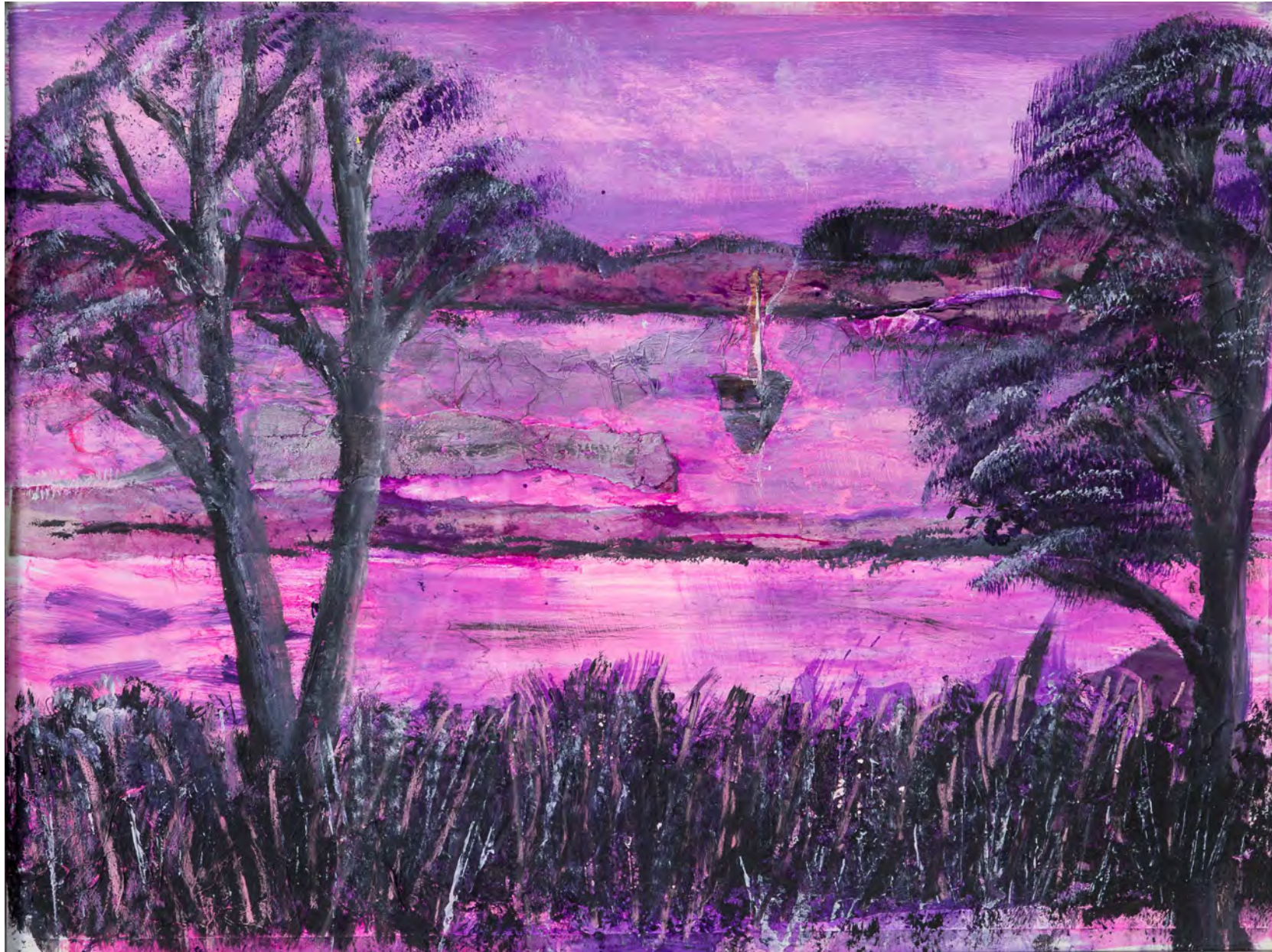
Acrylic and pastel, Cassington



■■■■ butterfly cushion, by ■■■■

■■■■ love of butterflies'

Fabric work, Cassington



Watery habitats, River Windrush and gravel pit lake, by Andrea Price

‘Local landscapes. Changing habitats for wildlife with increased gravel production producing more lakes for waterfowl.’

Mixed media, Ducklington



By-way Margins, by [REDACTED]

'Covid summer'

Painting / drawing, leather and barley too, Glympton



Ointment Sunset over Eaton, by [REDACTED]

‘My favourite pub when I lived in Botley was one of a kind, a very rural type, of which few remain: the Eight Bells in Eaton, not far from the quintessentially English village of Cumnor. A stone’s throw away from it, on the walk down to Bablock Hythe, this view greeted me one balmy summer evening. It would be soothing ointment to any who bear wounds. The fields in this region are threatened with being covered with the monstrosities.’

Painting, Cumnor



Fields, by Heather [REDACTED]

‘The Forever Fields project has made me look at our beautiful landscape surrounding Eynsham and Farmoor with both fresh eyes and nostalgia due to the plans to disrupt and dig up these areas.’

Mixed media, Eynsham



Autumn View, by [REDACTED]

'Appreciation of our local fields, trees and hedgerows and their ever changing colours.'

Gouache, Eynsham



The Harvest Ceremony, by [REDACTED]

'The beauty of the countryside'

Watercolour, Glympton



Bladon fields, views from the quarry, by [REDACTED]

‘The work has been created from the same recycled box, illustrating sections of areas around the back fields of Bladon at different times of the year and merging them together. The lack of any other colour other than the brown cardboard and black ink is to celebrate the little details. There are many layers and levels to a small village, many delicate and hidden beauties. The use of cardboard hopes to emphasise the fragility of the situation our local environment finds itself in at this time.’

Sculpture, recycled cardboard and Indian ink, Bladon

Swinford Meadow, Eynsham, by

Acrylic and pastel, Cassington





Insects on wildflowers, by [REDACTED]

'The beauty of small insects busy about their lives on meadow flowers'

Painting / drawing, Eynsham



Earrings made from maps, by [REDACTED]

'The proposed solar farm is the inspiration; it's a comment about my objection to the proposal.'

Jewellery, Cassington



360 degree views of fields rejuvenating under the life-giving Sun, by [REDACTED]

‘The 6 ceramic bowls I made allowed me to sgraffito around the outside and make the point that our view of the land at present is in all directions as it is in reality ‘in the field’. The Sun is ever present as a life-giving source for plants to photosynthesise naturally and give us the air we can breathe and nutrients to the soil as well as supporting ecosystems of wildlife.

It is representative of all fields. But it is the extended views from the Eynsham to Church Hanborough footpath when I was made aware of the 360 degree views that will be lost should the Solar Farm go ahead.’

Ceramic, Church Hanborough.



Wild Swim 1, by [REDACTED]

‘Love of the water and swimming in the Thames’

Mixed media, Eynsham

Green or Greedy? by [REDACTED]

'This image is the size of just one solar panel (1.102m X 2.187m). The 'Botley West' developer has stated that there will be at least 2.5 million panels in the scheme; so there are 2.5 million dots on this image to represent them all. The narrow strip of yellow dots on the left-hand side represents the Southhill Solar Farm near Charlbury, which is community led and consists of 18,000 panels. Green energy is a vital part of the journey towards zero carbon, and responsible solar power development must be a key part of our renewable energy strategy. Greed has no place here.'

Print, Church Hanborough





Three Walks 1973-2023 Church Hanborough to Eynsham Footpath, by [REDACTED]

‘We have walked this path since the early 1970s when my daughters were small children. This path has always been a solace. We have seen it in all seasons, and we’ve seen badgers, foxes, deer and rabbits enjoying it too.’

Photographs, Church Hanborough





Threatened Tree on Blenheim Estate, by [REDACTED]

Oil on linen, Tackley

Ecoprint on cotton, by [REDACTED]

‘To create an archival record of leaves from the hedgerows in summer, this work records the natural dyes from leaves released through steaming, transferred to cotton. Fragments of brown onion skin enhance the colour transfer.’

Ecoprint, cotton, Woodstock



Late summer grasses, by [REDACTED] (background)

'The word Biodiversity is frequently used, but to appreciate the concept one must actually take note, look at what is there. Here, a handful of grasses from a field margin at Begbroke reveals many different species with subtle variation in appearance.'

Flowering grasses collected at Begbroke in August and dried, Begbroke



Walking back to Begbroke, by [REDACTED]

'Field sketches in situ on a changeable summer day. A circular walk from Begbroke over unexplored fields with my sons, sketching on the way in fields 2.12, 2.13 and 2.15 and imagining the landscape lost under a sea of solar panels.'

Charcoal, chalk and pencil on light brown card, Begbroke



Walking out from Begbroke, by [REDACTED]

‘Field sketches in situ on a changeable summer day. A circular walk from Begbroke over unexplored fields with my sons, sketching on the way in fields 2.12, 2.13 and 2.15.’

Painting / drawing, charcoal and chalk on light brown card, Begbroke



Stunning exhibition.
Please keep it permanently,
if artists/photographers
prepared to




How do
we live
without




Fantastic exhibition -
such a huge variety of
media, not to say talent!
Such a wealth of natural images,
reminding us of our rapidly depleting
countryside, far from
Simply, I do so much love the vast solar
panel enterprise and the view of
Surrey's green




Greenland, it designated to
prevent the spread of urban areas.
Having been so identified and designated,
the presumption is that it shall be used for
improvement of the amenities available to those living
nearby.
Not for housing. Specifically, To prevent the loss of the special character
of the landscape.
Not for industrial use. To prevent the loss of the special character
of the landscape.
The regulations. It is
the National Planning Policy Framework 2012




We are dust of the earth and
have an affinity with the land
around us. Without it, we
don't thrive. We thrive amongst the
beauty of field, forest and water, caring
for it and enjoying the fruits & harvests.
Many live here because they love
these views, these tracks
that bring whole exhibition
Thank you for the exhibition
which







These beautiful
Scenes must never
disappear




Countryside
Before Green.
We have all the rural
countryside and will never
lose it. But we have
lost the beauty of the
countryside for the
selfishness of the




Don't destroy
the beautiful
countryside



STOP
botley house
from



Covering fields
with panels is madness.
Put them on rooftops,
over cars and let
the waves be in the



A beautifully put
together exhibition - thank you
We also need to consider
not just the beauty of an
area but our world - climate
change is happening, communities
are being destroyed and after
the



Torn between knowing
we need greener energy
sources for the good of the
planet but knowing that
it makes no sense to
do it in the
Please don't let
landscape of childhood.



Sometimes pictures
say more than words
but we need words too to
persuade ---



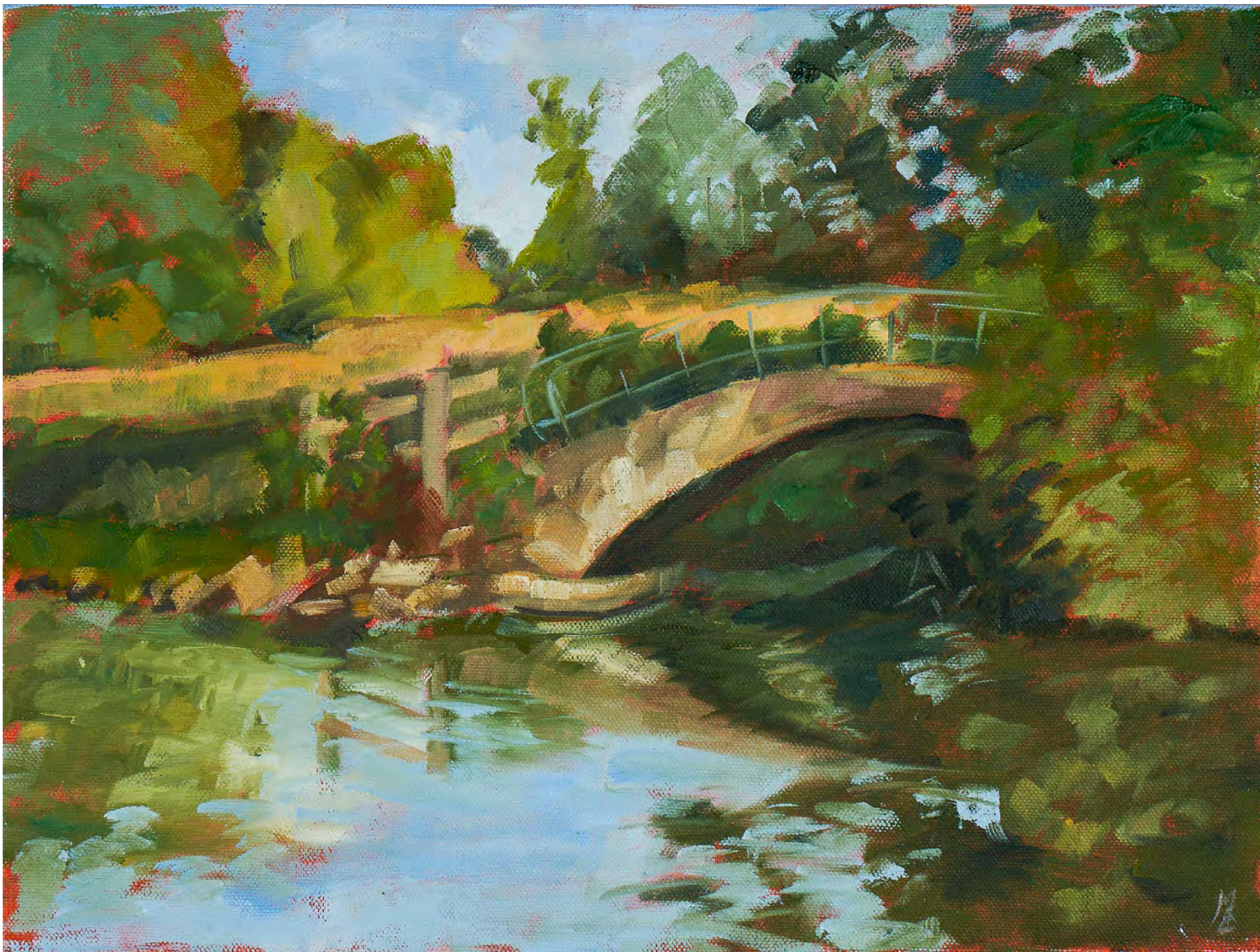
Merry Christmas
take your gift!



Also



All this art speaks
for itself.
No one living around here will
be able to enjoy what these
artists have created except in
their work.
Great work but in the
future will just be
a memory



Hidden Bridge, by [REDACTED]

'I liked the bridge and the backwater's quietness and semi-hidden quality. This is actually a bridge over the Cherwell viewed from the northeast corner of the University Parks.'

Oil painting on canvas, Yarnton



Kite over Pink Hill Meadows, by [REDACTED]

'Arriving in Eynsham in 2019 I have been charmed by the flight of red kites'

Cardboard, Eynsham



Glacial Pebbles, by [REDACTED]

'The geology of an area informs our place in it.'

Mixed media, Church Hanborough

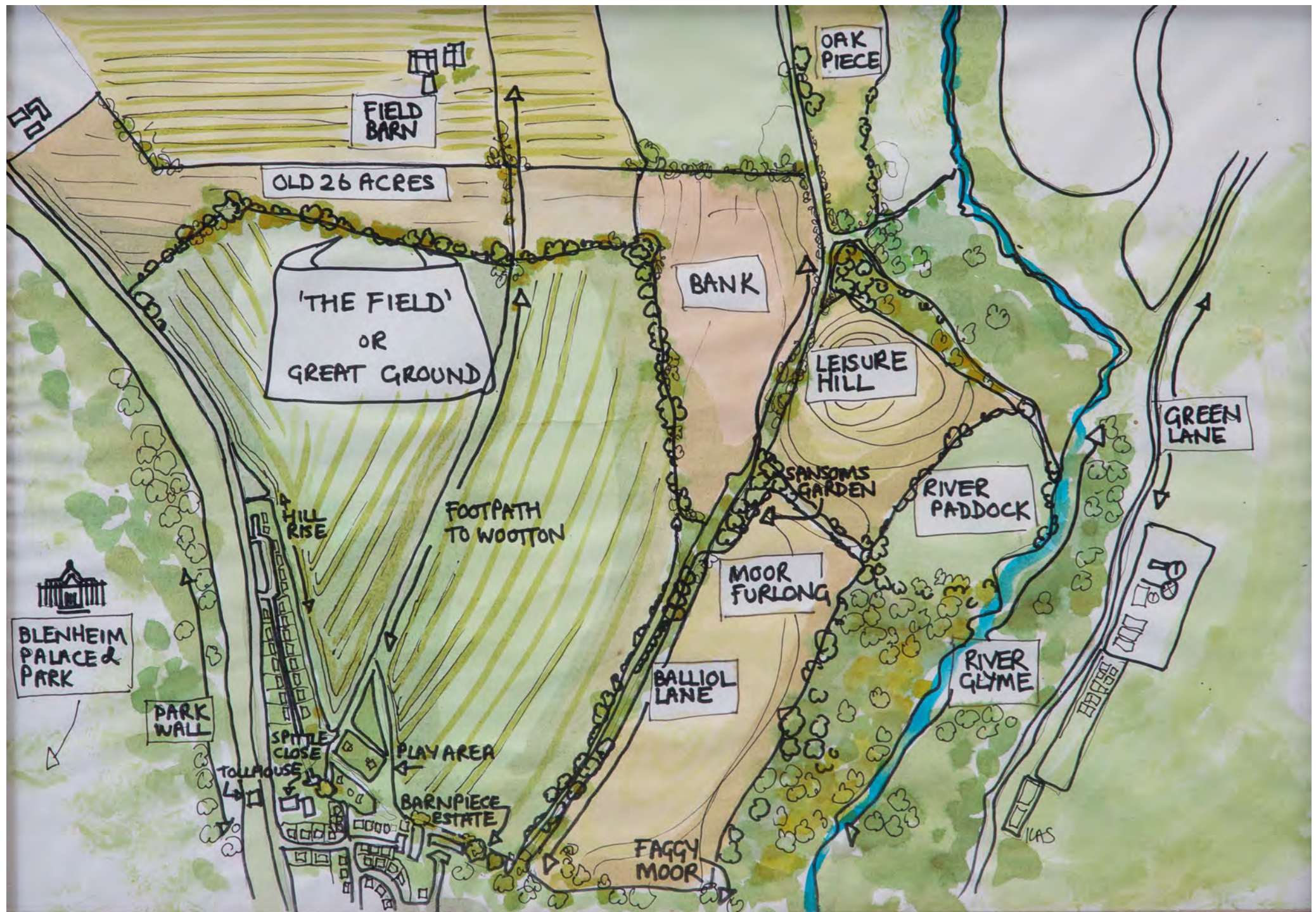


Undulating countryside fearing obliteration, by [REDACTED]

'We will be very sad not to be able to look at the lovely countryside from Granma and Grandpa's house.'

Watercolours, Church Hanborough





The Field, or Great Ground, by [REDACTED]

'In trying to stop Blenheim building over a much-loved field in Old Woodstock and researching its history, we mapped out the area and found the old field names. This picture captures them and the character of Old Woodstock's setting. Unfortunately, the campaign was lost and most of this land is now designated for Blenheim/Pye Homes development, despite a massive community response and planning permission initially being denied.'

Painting / drawing, Woodstock



Bladon Fields, by [REDACTED]

Painting / drawing, Bladon



Green Fields, by [REDACTED]

'Stop Botley West'

Painting / drawing, Bladon



For me, the countryside
is a place where I can
get away from the stresses
of city life.

Not see [redacted] me!

★ SOLAR
PANELS
★ SHOULD BE
PUT ON HOUSES
★ OR APP [redacted]
★ ED [redacted]
★ DIFFERENTLY!!

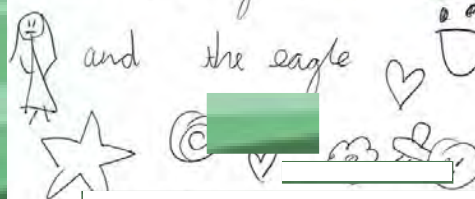
I can't believe the quality
and quantity of art work
produced as part of the effort to
save our fields. I am a member of
the local [redacted] and very sad
that they have not put their weight
behind this [redacted] "..."

A wonderful depiction of
our amazing landscape
which we are & changes
& [redacted]

SCALE IT
Down
on [redacted]

We have to keep
fighting to save this
Beautiful landscape for
Birds, Bees, Wild [redacted]

I like flowers
and the eagle



Artwork by local
people express connections
between land and us
Beauty, harmony heals
Mind, body, heart and spirit
Human Flourishing
Solar on this scale
[redacted] - so roof
Across [redacted]

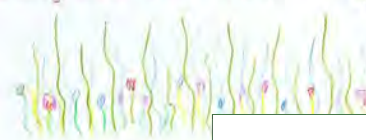
You have worked
very hard into making
the exhibition a very
interesting place for everyone
to look and [redacted]
Hopefully it [redacted] for
ever.

Need,
not greed.

Solar farms should be
small and community led
We must care and
value the [redacted] we have
left for us a [redacted]
to [redacted] and [redacted]

What an amazing
Exhibition showing what we can
enjoy now but if this monstrosity
goes ahead our children & our
children's children will never know
or see [redacted]

Please Stop
Botley Water Solar Farm



Build it [redacted] W!

An amazing, beautiful
and moving collection of
art work inspired by our stunning
countryside. Please don't ruin
what we have - please don't
it down or put [redacted]
on existing buildings

No

No

Trees & fields:
markers of time, place
& season, companions to
our lives. This was
such a fabulous &
important project to
highlight the beauty
of the [redacted]
in everyday [redacted]



Water Meadows, by [REDACTED]

‘Deep concern over the loss and disturbance of the natural world around us.’

Painting / drawing, Bladon



A Walk into Calm, by [REDACTED]

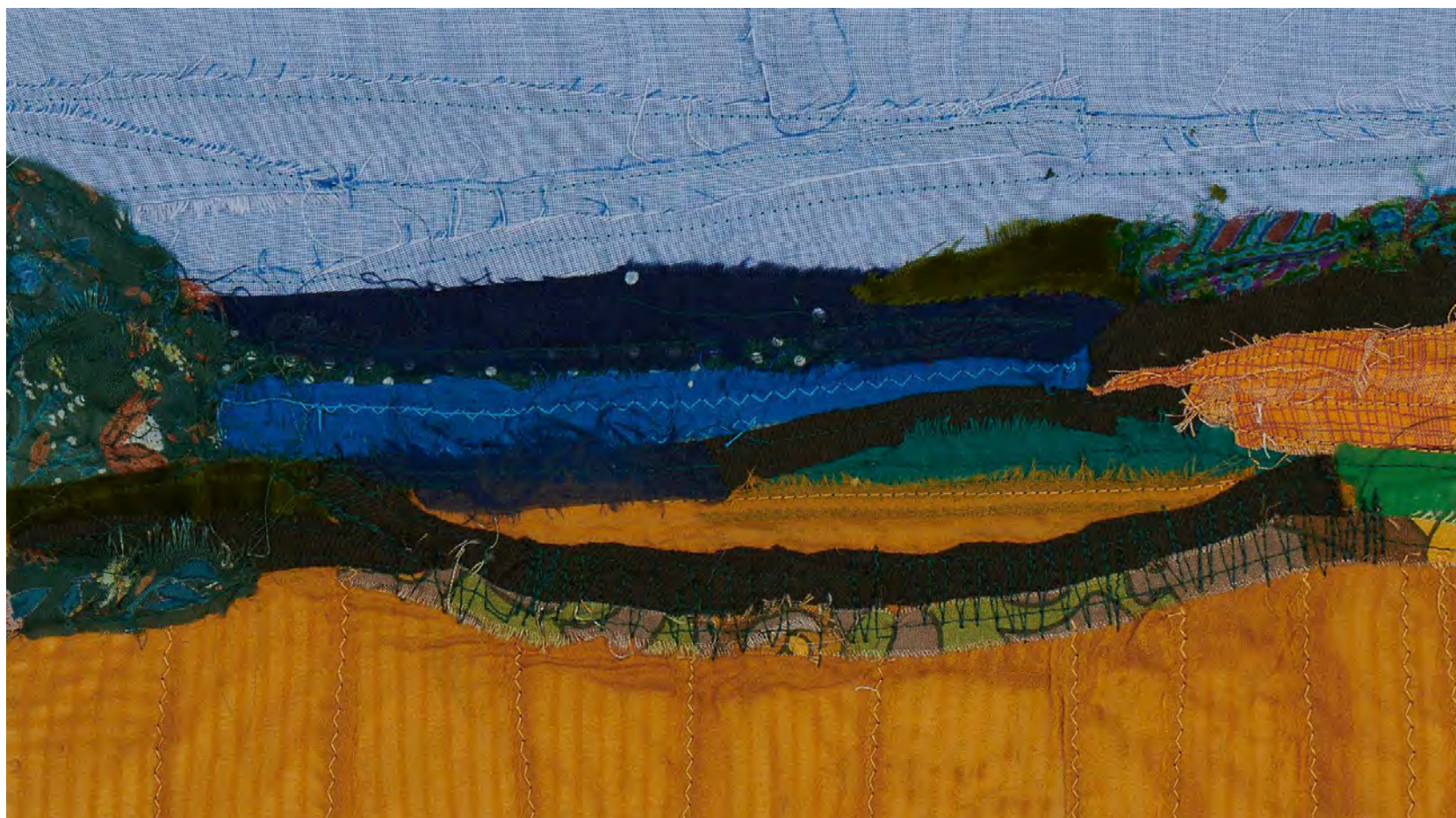
'The sights and movement along our farm track'

A floral display, Cassington

The Fields from Home, by [REDACTED]

Acrylic on board, applied with cardboard, Cassington





Fields of Gold, by [REDACTED]

'It is the view from Denman's Lane, Cumnor towards Farmoor and Wytham Woods. This is a late summer view from our regular walk near our home with 'fields of gold'. I wanted to create a permanent reminder of how they look now in case they are lost...'

Machine embroidery, Cumnor

These Lands, by [REDACTED]

'The value of Long Mead for the different generations, over time, as well as for the flora and fauna we share the world with. The meadows are so precious in so many ways, and they need honouring and protecting.'

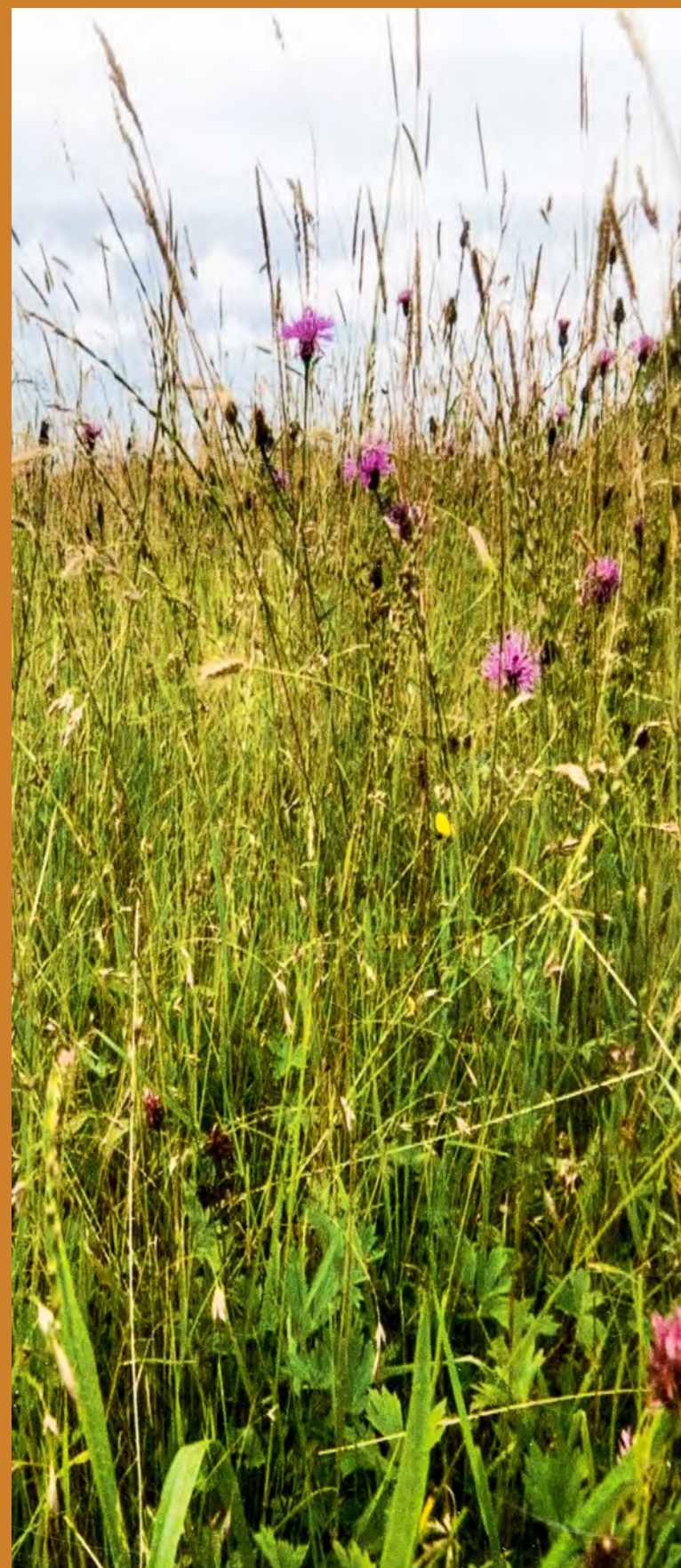
Poetry / written work, Eynsham

These lovely lands,
Where children run free
And tumble and squeal —
They are nursery lands,
Nurturing hands,
Gently shaping
Minds and bodies
As they grow.

These precious fields,
Where stories are shared,
And secrets whispered,
Where thoughts are freed,
And breath released
As footsteps tread —
They are caretakers of the soul;
Caregivers.

These verdant spaces
With their blue skies, or grey,
And their passing clouds
Shimmering in waters
That flow and spill —
They absorb worlds
And reflect them,
They give life
And nurture it.

These beautiful meadows,
So rare, so delicate —
They are the heritage of
generations.
May they thrive, unharmed,
For generations to come.



Fields near Lower Road, by [REDACTED]

'The Evenlode Valley alongside Lower Road has an understated beauty that would be largely destroyed by the arrays of solar panels proposed by PVDP/SolarFive. My contribution attempts to capture some of this beauty in the hope of preserving it.'

Photographs, prose and poetry, Eynsham and Church Hanborough

Forever Fields Project 2023

Field Numbers - 2.120, 2.118 and 2.119



A field of future food

From hedgerow to treeline
a field full of flowering beans,
those nitrogen-fixers that do us
the favour of giving back more
than they take from the soil.

Field number - 2.115

They came from Cassington parish and stayed for a while,
caught not by a camera, but a haiku:

Forty swans have settled
in a field of winter vegetables.

Doesn't the farmer mind?

(Apparently not.)

Field number - 2.113



under a growing crop this field
serves as a green moat protecting
the northern edge of an outpost
where muntjac and roe deer feel safe
in a winding strip of woodland
linked to neighbouring habitat

Field numbers - 2.113, 2.112 and 2.92

Naiad ~ Spirit of Hanborough Brook

Sometimes she is speaking in the creaking willow
branches; more often she's too modest to be noticed.

Normally she whispers like a solitary priest
at vespers, but after heavy rain can imitate
a mountain stream.

She likes to wind herself limpidly through the trees,
a looking-glass for heron, duck or kingfisher,
but hides herself in cloudiness when run-off
from the farms can desecrate her purity
and dull her gleam.

She guards the parish boundary and will choose to flood
the fields as warning to outsiders of their hubris,
then slips through crops to meet the Evenlode, by day
a spark of sudden gold beneath the sun, by night
a silver seam.



*Field numbers - 2.115, 2.116, 2.114, 2.113, 2.119, 2.118
and 2.120*

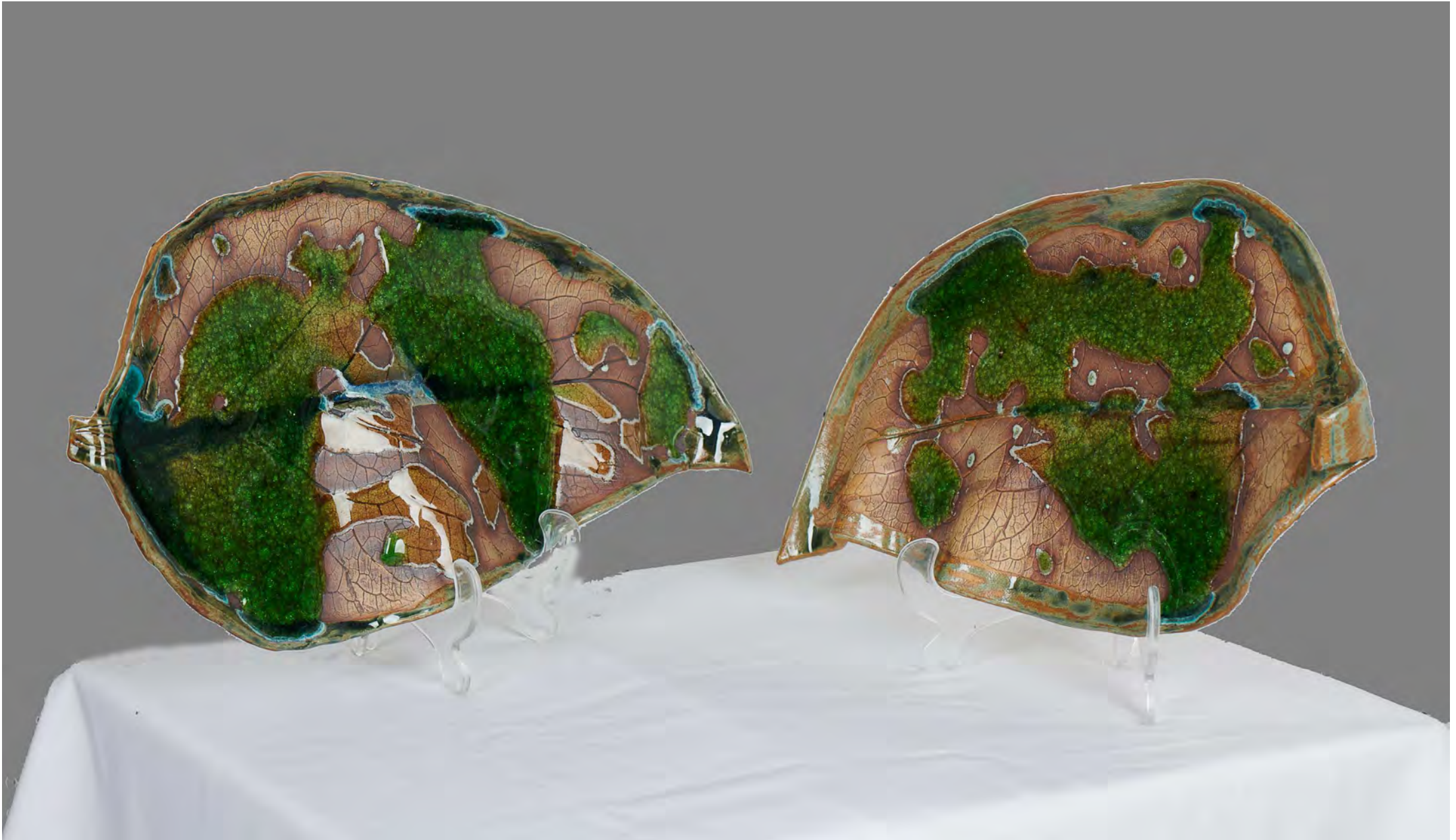
'At Home on the Earth'

There is a pausing-place on the way up
where the traffic fades to an osmosis
of quiet, south-facing to a distant
dado rail of downs beyond a wainscot
of thicket woodland.

It has potential
for a bench, sheltered by Enclosure's hedge,
engraved "in loving memory" perhaps
of two who enjoyed the view . . .



Text and Photos ©



Photosynthesis- What solar does best, by [REDACTED]

‘To make the point that if the land isn’t able to function naturally, harnessing solar energy, our land will become barren.’

Two large ceramic leaves impressed from wild comfrey. Representing growth in one summer, Eynsham

Where can my soul
weep and retreat should
the sweet scent of summer,
autumn, winter and spring in our
sacred lands be lost?



A beautiful exhibition
which
loves talent
that captures beautifully
what would be lost
if we don't stop
Botley West



I simply cannot bear to
imagine the loss of our
stunning views and beautiful
countryside - what will happen to our
physical + mental health + wellbeing?
Build Salt Cross Garden Village with
solar panels on the roofs + preserve
our glorious heritage.



Surely big business
and profit cannot
be allowed to deface this
wonderful area of natural
beauty -
I hope to decision
makers are not influenced
by their argument.



Countryside should be cherished
- so important for the community,
mental health & general health
life & the world has many challenges
and the beauty of nature is uplifting &
should be preserved for those currently
& future generations



GO OUT AND
TAKE PANELS POINTLESS
SIDE GO OUT
WHEN GREED OVERRIDES COMMON SENSE
AND WHAT HAS LIVED TIMELESSLY
BECOMES DARK ALSO



Conflicted over this as
with so many of the day-to-day
issues affected by climate change.



To lose our countryside for energy
or to lose it in the longer term to the
effects of Climate Change.
Is this really necessary to save ourselves
and our countryside or is there a
better way? Roofs + car parks, etc.

Why don't you put
them on our roofs??

Yes - Norton Park has
acres of roof & not one solar
panel that I can see



Not only solar → can
scale of this development.
2.5 MILLION panels impossible to
concentrate but may



are for agriculture.
for.



BEAUTIFUL ANTIWOMB
THAT I FOUND VERY
MOVING.



THE SCALE OF THE
"Farm" ... COME ON!
WTF

not necessarily
is all
will
is gone



Heartbreaking but
beautiful exhibition with
a very serious message that
we're all rightly concerned
about. Why are we
this to our countryside?



PLEASE CAN THE
'ARCHIVE' OF THIS STUNNING
EXHIBITION BE (ALSO)
AVAILABLE IN PAPER/HARD
COPY AND PLEASE NON DIGITAL
NON ELECTRONIC.



There are other
ways for us to create
new power!



Yellow meadows, by [REDACTED]

'The prospect of losing the beautiful view
across the golden rape seed fields to the
church spire at Church Hanborough'

Painting with text, Church Hanborough



Out in the yellow meadows, where the bee
Hums by us with the honey of the Spring,

[REDACTED]



Fields towards Bladon Pits, by [REDACTED]

'Late summer beauty, after the corn harvest in Bladon'

Oil on canvas, Bladon





Field Tracks, by [REDACTED]

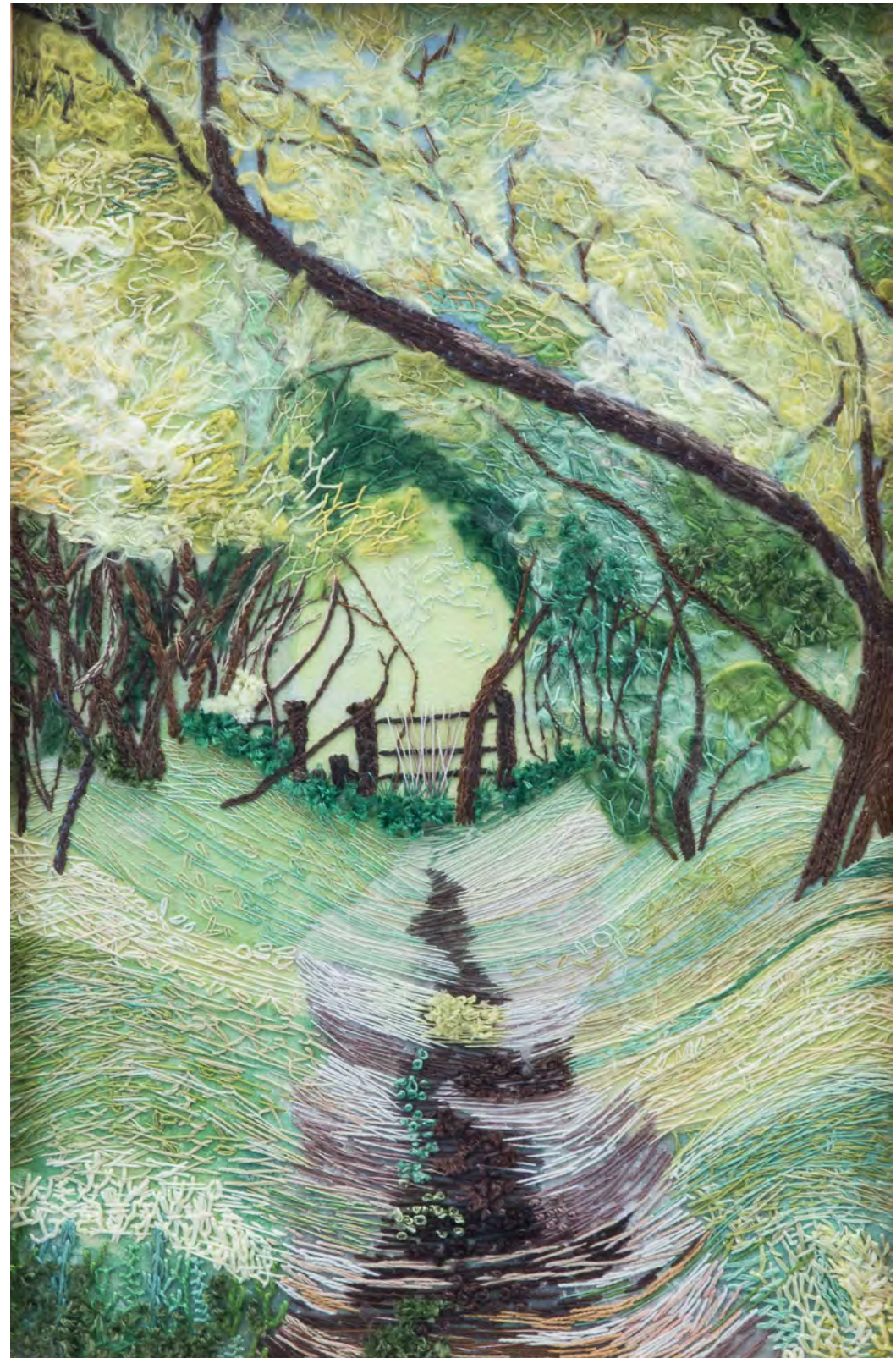
'I love the way a path or track invites you to follow, to discover what lies beyond, but also to enjoy the following. I'm a big walker, and tracks and trails speak to me of journeys through landscape and the interplay of people and the natural world.'

Oil painting, Cumnor

Path to the woods, by [REDACTED]

‘The pathway to the woods gives the anticipation of enjoying the walk ahead.’

Needlework, Church Hanborough





Old Farm Gates, by [REDACTED]

'I was inspired by the angles of the gates and the way they frame the view of the open fields beyond. The combination of strong and subtle contrasts lent itself to a monochrome palette.'

Ink and gouache, Cassington



Purwell Farm, by [REDACTED]

‘Views of open farmland are marked by ancient lines: paths, roads and boundaries; the silhouettes of trees, hedgerows and buildings; and close-up, the familiar outlines of sprouting arable crops. All of these elegant nuances of shape will be lost to our visual lives if the land is hidden under millions of dark rectangles.’

Ceramic, Cassington

A Dream, by

'I think this recurring childhood dream gave me a compulsion to try to look after things, not to spoil them or waste them, but if I can, mend them and care for them. Our environment needs cherishing, more than anything.'

Poetry, Cumnor

That dream – the childhood unforgotten dream –
smooth warm white (a sheet on the ironing-board,
or linen tablecloth that had seemed
involute) suddenly stained with wine or blood –
or smooth cold white of freshly fallen snow
spoiled by the footprints of some brutal twit
who could not see the perfect and let it go
but only the chance to make a mark on it –

maybe the dreamer, growing up, might long
to find somewhere that promised glimpse of peace
in unspoilt places without stains or footprints;
not knowing that dreamers, growing old, might find
rain-forests lost and plastic in the seas
and flowering prairies ploughed to dust and gone.



$\text{green} = \text{green}$



LEAVE
OUR LANDSCAPE
ALONE!

WE LOVE IT, IT MAKES
LIFE SO MUCH BE
FOR ALL LIVING THINGS

The Past is history...

Tomorrow is a mystery

But today is a gift.

That is why we call it the ~~present~~ **PRESENT!**



Master Dogway

How can you put
a value on landscape
and community — it is
invaluable. Can PVDP or
Stenhouse not understand
that?

How much water or washing liquids will be needed to keep the panels clean enough to produce this modest gain?

Small wonder that Thomas Water was talking about the need to triple the size of their properties bill for new reservoirs.
Poor Old Fields, but poor Old Thomas

Poor Old Fields, but poor Old Thomas

Many days I walk back from
School. The sun sets over
the hills. Soon to be
ruled by industrial
plants is the urban
sprawl on houses
not fields.

H.M
Chun

We must choose a better solution.
They must listen to the community voice. We don't have an ulterior motive.
A balance is always the severe option.
It is not too late to implement this
and put a better solution in place.
Preserve our planet and our fisher forever.



DURING the 2nd WW,
PM Churchill allocated money
to the ARTS. Asked why, during a
war he had done so, he replied
"to remind us of what we are fighting
for."

ART is so important and powerful
in times of adversity
well done "forever fields."

He grew up in these
countryside
as people -
the next generation
to have the same opportunity

♥ Let the fields be forever



SSR on Industrial
buildings.

STOP the GREED at
BLINDNESS.

2.9 Wd

Walking through the fields from my home in Cumnor has always brought me peace and pleasure, never more so during lockdown.

Don't destroy our local green spaces.



Give them eyes that
hear & eyes that
see. Greed should not be
apart of this journey
money can never replace
the journey that u



Produce more
electricity from the
Thames using hydroelectric
plants.
leave the fields alone





Spring Hill - Distant View, by [REDACTED]

‘A memorable view, which could be lost, looking towards Spring Hill from a point on the footpath from Church Hanborough to Eynsham.’

Coloured crayons, Church Hanborough



Swinford Meadow, Oxfordshire, by [REDACTED]

‘The Forever Fields project has made me look at our beautiful landscape surrounding Eynsham and Farmoor with both fresh eyes and nostalgia due to the plans to disrupt and dig up these areas.’

Mixed media, Eynsham



Field mice, by [REDACTED]

'I felt inspired to create this piece due to studying the changes in the natural environment, seeing the real impact climate change is taking on the world and how it will affect my future and generations to come.'

A collage made by using old magazines and paper carrier bags, Woodstock

We have cancelled our
annual Blenheim Palace Party

go [redacted] Blenheim + Botley Wood



Grieving for what is disappearing.
Love + Loss.



exhibition
fully captures
the sadness that all local
people feel about the threat
to our countryside which we
all value & love.



The Solar panel project
is short term gain
for those involved
but long term pain for
Nature and the Beautiful
Countryside. ☹



It's been quite hard
holding back the tears
walking round "Forever Fields"
- all the easily recognisable landscapes
from our daily walks and undervalued
(by me at least) ones that we may never
see again / never discover and that our
children & grandchildren will only appreciate
in snippets of art if Botley Wood goes ahead
Goodbye swans, goodbye horses.



Fields mean Food
and exercise and
well-being and beauty
they should not be
sold to the highest
bidder to destroy



The countryside needs
protecting as it is now
- balanced ecology
These messages need to
go to the Secretary of State
M.P.s and the Prime Minister



Solar Panels
should be on roofs
and brown field sites
not productive agriculture



[redacted] and not
even green.



CLOAKING YOUR GREED
IN GREEN WILL BE
OUR WATERLOO...



Love life!
Love all life!
We co-exist.
Do not destroy "the other".
Forever fields; forever life
Forever love



Beautiful exhibition
Showing the wonderful nature
we have around us. We do
need to become greener with our
power usage but can't we find a
better way than obliterating this
source of food and nature?



Inspiration
Can we
preserve it?



What a wonderful exhibition!
Well done! Beautifully
presented. Talented artists.
It is a privilege to be able to
exhibit here. I am sad to leave what
is so special. What should we look
for in return? A million lives saved?
A 100 million not having to leave their
homes? A coral reef? A polar bear?
One less dam burst? 5
What cost the countryside?
I think of a Roman legion for
goodbye to their soldier son. The Bible



Life is Forever





The Track, Cassington, by [REDACTED]

Photograph, Cassington



Achillia millefolium, by [REDACTED]

'Deep concern over the loss and disturbance of the natural world around us.'

Painting / drawing, mixed media



Fields, by _____

‘I wanted to celebrate our local countryside as a feast for the senses’


A collection of photographs, Church Hanborough



Ode to a Field! by [REDACTED]

'Sorrow at the potential loss of countryside'

Poetry, Cassington



Oh fields of golden blowing corn
Growing here before I was born
No more this sight my eyes will see
Gone to supply electricity

The meadows which once with flowers bloomed
Are now by solar panels consumed
The bees that feed on them for honey
Will no longer find these uplands sunny

No scent of flowers my nostrils fill
No space for golden daffodil
No birdsong will my ears delight
Just static crackle: day and night

The crops that grow my daily bread
Will not be grown: the land is dead
Instead our food will be imported
So many air miles – that's not sorted!

So does this mean we've stemmed the tide
Destroying our local countryside
Well sadly not - the carbon cost
Of building panels means –
we've lost....

February Fields, by

'Seasonal change in fields'

Acrylic, Eynsham





VIEW FROM THE BENCH OFF DENMAN'S LANE

AUGUST 2023

- 1) National Grid Pylons crossing Tumbledown Hill en route to the NG Electricity substation at Osney.
On the left hand side of the picture is the 3.8 ha site of a **permanent** 165 x 135m sub-station with 15 m high structures for a project called Botley West Solar Farm proposed by Photovolt Development Partners on behalf of SolarFive Ltd (the applicant) ??? to be built on
- 2) land considered unsuitable for productive agriculture !
- 3) Harvested cereal fields on the sites of Botley West and Red House Solar Power stations

Irreplaceable Agricultural Land to Be Lost? by

‘To show the irreplaceable productive agricultural fields that need not be swallowed up by the Red House Solar and Botley West Solar Power Stations. The proposed solar panels could all be installed on the numerous industrial buildings and housing that already exist.’

Photographs and text, Cumnor



The Green Man Brings Spring to Chapel Meadow, by [REDACTED]

'The meadow opposite our house, an ancient wildlife corridor, is threatened with annihilation by "development". So I thought I'd better record – in a painting – some of the meadow's magic, in case it's lost forever. What better way than to do that than by imagining the Green Man – the folkloric woodland spirit of life and regrowth – joyously parading across the meadow, bringing spring and spreading hope and life?'

Watercolour, Freeland

Abide in me, by [REDACTED]

'Swinford Water Meadows, cultivated by Eynsham Abbey monks in 16C. Layer upon layer of history under my feet, overwhelming peace, beauty, continuity, hope for the future... will we be trustworthy caretakers of God's beautiful creation?'

Painting / drawing, Eynsham

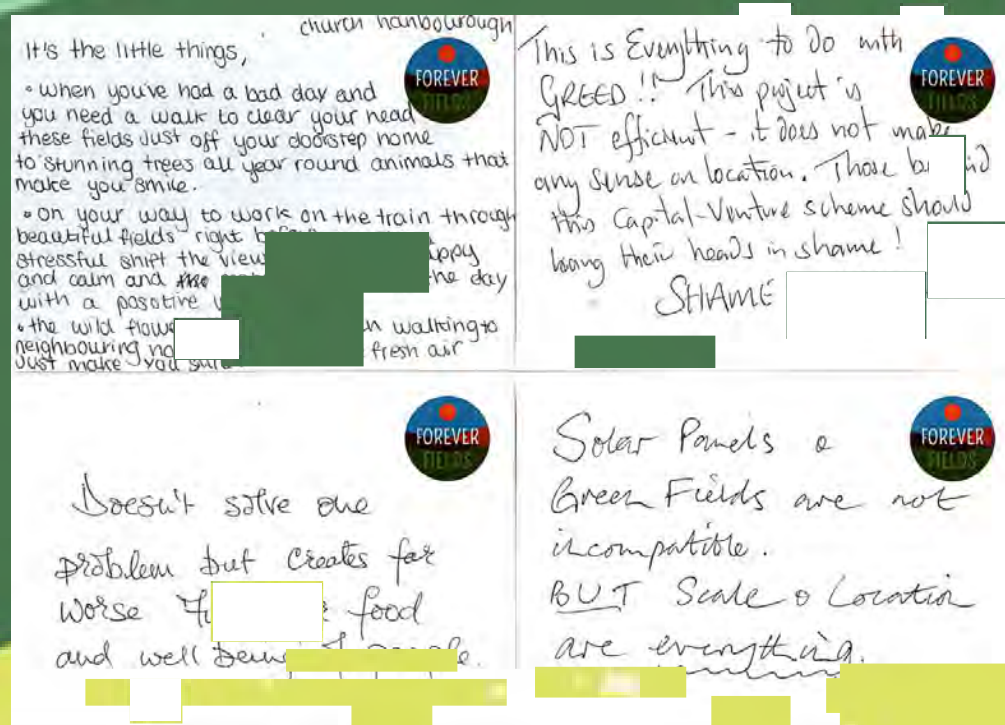
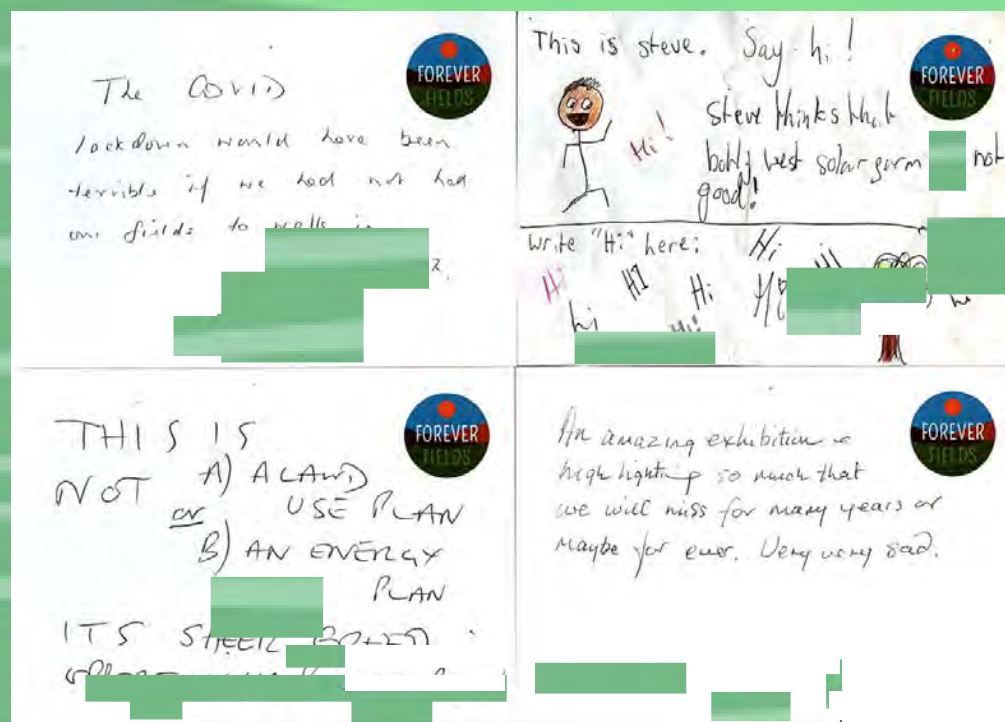


Field 3.11, by [REDACTED]

‘This is a summer grass field seen from the Merlin oak tree, in evening sunlight after a day of showers. Nearby sheep were grazing. It would be a tragic loss for Cumnor for it to end up covered in solar panels.’

Acrylic, Cumnor







To Church Hanborough, by [REDACTED]

Fabric, tissue paper, paint, stitch, Church Hanborough

Storm brewing, by [REDACTED]

'A stunning dark sky lowering over a brilliant light-filled field of rape just begged to be painted. It's a field on the edge of the village, constantly changing through the seasons. The play of light against the darkening sky was fascinating.'

Water mixable oils, Cassington





Summer flood, by [REDACTED]

'To capture the stillness of the fields on an early autumn day'

Ink on paper, Wootton



Storm's Approach, by [REDACTED]

‘Caught in a rain shower during our daily dog walk, we saw a larger storm approaching. Hastening home to beat the impending downpour, we seized a brief window of opportunity to launch the drone and capture the approaching tempest over the village of Cassington.’

Panoramic drone photo, Cassington



Fields Under Fire, by [REDACTED]

‘Caught the start of a nice looking sunset at the end of the dog walk, and sent the drone up when I got home’

Panoramic drone photo, Cassington.

CONFLICT

Con
Conflict
Confliction

Confusion	Contention
Confiscation	Concern
Confinement	Constricted
Control	Condemned
Confrontation	Consumption
Contravention	Contempt
Contradiction	Contested
Contamination	Consternation

Consequences

More Cons than Pros

'Con'
Rob
Fool
Scam
Trick
Cheat
Hustle
Exploit
Mislead
Bamboozle
Pull the wool

More Cons than Pros

Greenwashing
Profiteering
Speculating

CONSIDER

How, what with and where are solar panel manufactured?
How are they to be disposed of?
What is the cost to the environment, local economy and food production?

More Cons than Pros

What is the environmental impact of the largest currently proposed scale solar power station in the UK on local farmland, wildlife, environment, and human recreational activity?
And is it worth it? In the short, medium or long term?

CONTENTIOUS

The need to decarbonise is understood – this is the
CONFLICTION
CONFLICT
(CON?)

November 2023

Conflict, by

'Sadness and confliction about solar panels covering the local fields'

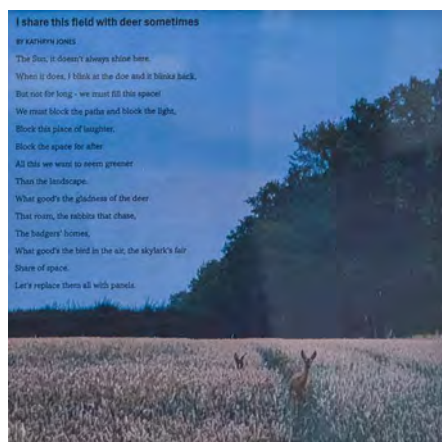
Poetry, Eynsham



Up The Track and Back, by [REDACTED]

'The challenge to go up the track and back is one that our family enjoys when we need fresh air, exercise, thinking space, freedom from routine and a little adventure. Sometimes it's a race, sometimes we'll spot a new flower or a new bird. Sometimes we see the fields flooded, sometimes ripe with crops or ploughed full of promise. Once our kids rode with the farmer in the combine at sunset. Sometimes it rains or gets dark when we've lingered too long. Any time of day is good when you go up the track and back.'

Three photos, Cassington



I share this field with deer sometimes, by [REDACTED]

'Dismay at the mess of Botley West'

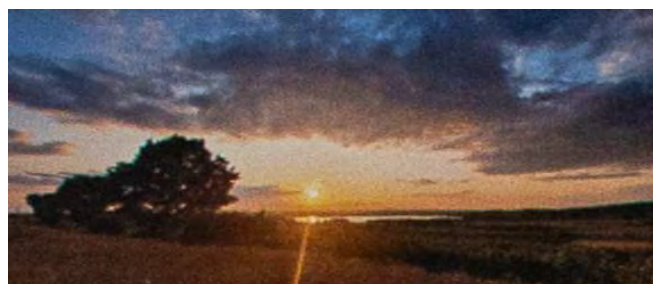
Poetry, Long Hanborough



Feed The World Before Profits, by [REDACTED]

'We import more than 50% of our Grain, if we cover more fields in Solar Panels we will be importing even more and not just Grain, adding more to our food bills. Photos taken on Burleigh Road Cassington.'

Photograph, Cassington



Sunset over Farmoor from Denman's Lane, by [REDACTED]

'The glorious sunlit view over the fields and water'

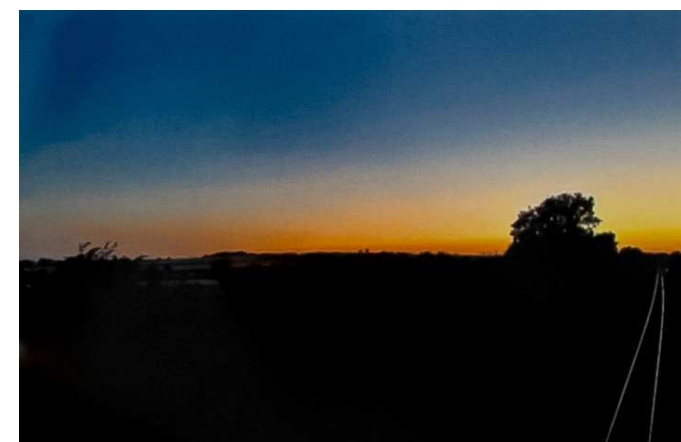
Photograph, Cumnor



Phacelia, by [REDACTED]

'Photo from May 2020 when the tenant farmer was sowing less productive areas of the fields with crops for birds and pollinators. It was so lovely to see the increase in birds and insects.'

Photograph, Bladon



Sunset from the Railway bridge, by [REDACTED]

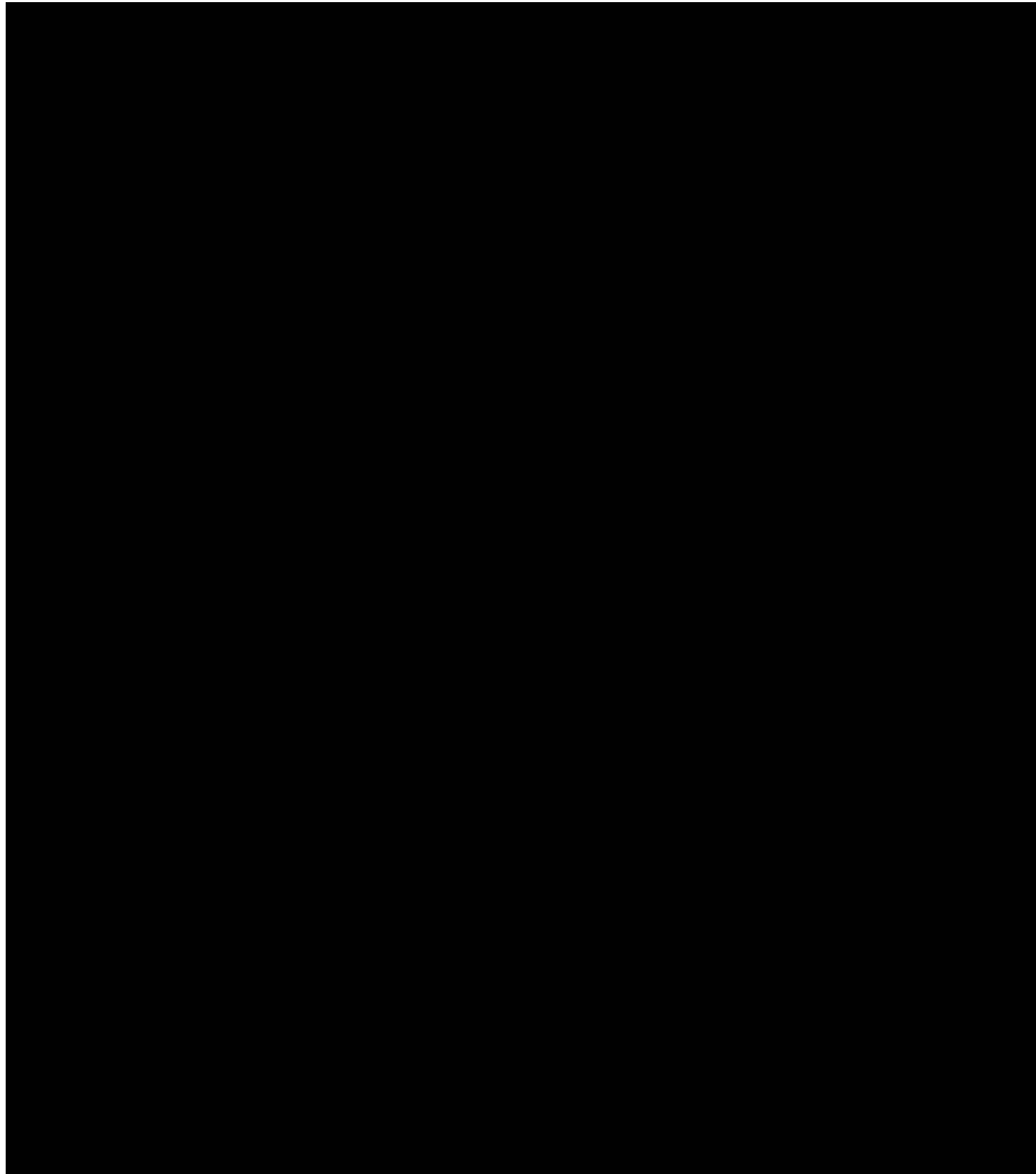
'Fabulous sunset, but after seeing it I realised the fields in the distance will not be visible in the future as they will just be black, covered by solar panels.'

Photograph, Cassington





The Artists

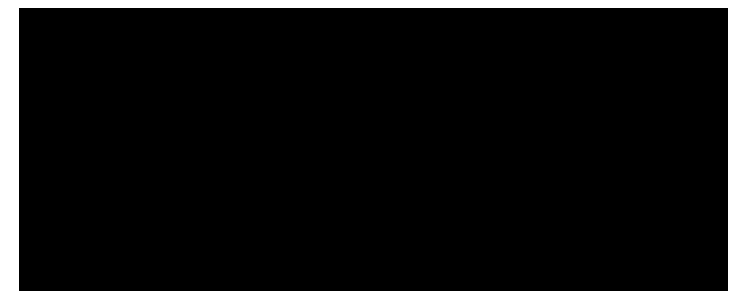
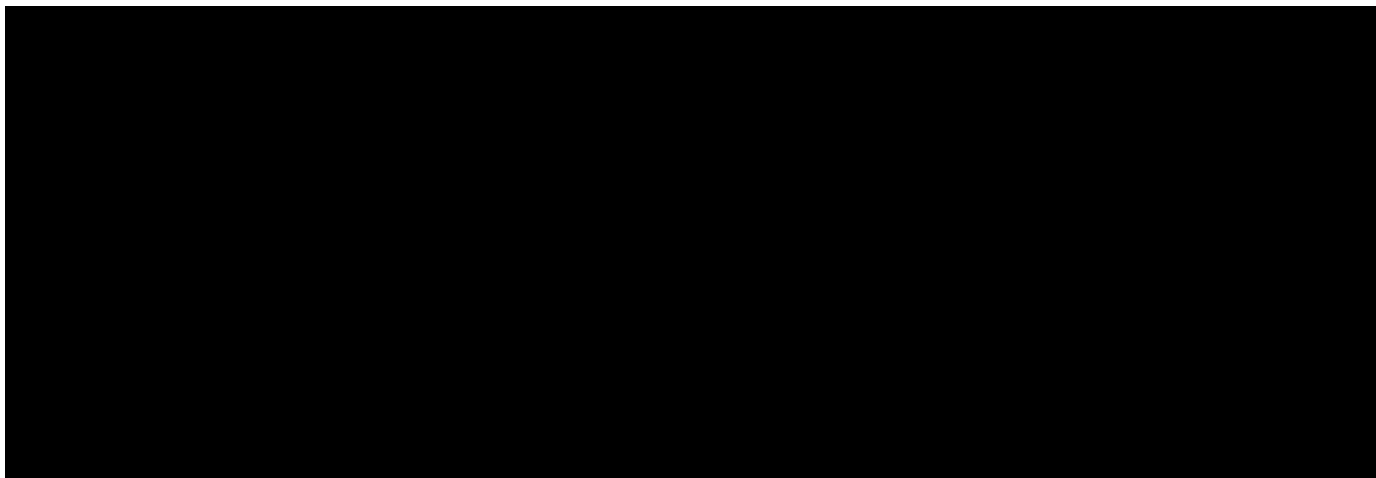




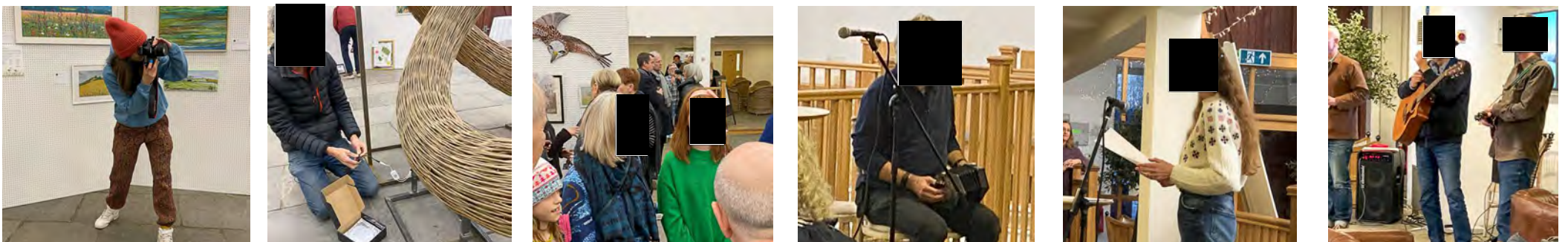
The Team



and thanks to . . .



. . . and everyone else who helped to make it a successful and memorable event.



 - 2024



