

Do you remember...

Botley's Sporting Past

I am indebted to Mark Hancox (now living in Stonesfield) for this snapshot of life on Elms Rise during the late Eighties. "I and all my friends (and our Dads) still remember the Fair Rosamund with great affection, and we still recount all the old stories when we get together, which sadly these days is less and less. A lot of us have moved away to all different corners of the county now (and some even further afield), or we have got to an age where it seems like hard work to go out, plus the wives won't let us!...

We played football for Botley on Saturdays and Sundays, enjoying some of the best parts of our "youth" in and around the pub. Our Sunday side, "Fair Rosamund" rose from the bottom division all the way up through the leagues, creating a reserve team as well. We even had our own publication "Up The Top", built around the characters of the pub and football teams.

One of my earliest memories is of the 1977 Queens Jubilee when it seemed like everyone from the whole estate came out to have a street party and celebrate !... "

Does anyone have a copy of '*Up The Top*' for the *Sprout* archive? I'd love to see it, or any photographs of memorable sporting events that you care to share. Now the Pavilion is being renovated, it would be great if local teams could play 'Up the Top' again. And how about those 1977 Jubilee parties?

Ag MacKeith