

IT'S PARTY TIME ON ROSE HILL!

PREPARATIONS are in full swing for another amazing Rose Hill Community Christmas event. This year it will be on Saturday 7 December at 5pm – 7pm.

For this event we are being supported by 2Cousins Access, DW Contractors, SSE Contracting and Dave Seamer Entertainments—all of whom are lending their time, staff and equipment to the GreenSquare Lottery team to make sure that the event is a really big success. We are extremely grateful to these local businesses for their wonderful support.

Residents are in for a festive treat with an official switch-on of the Christmas lights by Father Christmas, carol singing, music, and an international food festival. Father Christmas and his elves will be talking to every child, spreading festive cheer and handing out presents!

Fran Gardner, Rose Hill Community Worker at GreenSquare, has organised the event with funding provided by the GreenSquare's Big Lottery Fund grant.

Fran explained: "Our light switch on event has now become a tradition in Rose Hill and this year promises to be yet another fantastic community celebration!"

"Although everyone in our community celebrates Christmas in different ways, this time of year is perfect for people of all cultures to come together with family and friends, to celebrate, socialise and have fun. I hope the residents of Rose Hill come along and enjoy getting into the spirit of things."

The lights will be officially switched on at 5pm by Father Christmas and the celebration will continue until 7pm in the community centre at Rose Hill.

■ For more information, please contact Fran Gardner on 07770324277 or keep up to date with the details via our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP

TOP: 2Cousins Access and DW Contractors are already on site preparing the Christmas lights for the event and Lottery project volunteers, friends.

RIGHT: Residents get in the party mood!
Photo by Jodi Middleton



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ROSE HILL NEWS

ISSUE 26
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013

ROSE HILL NEWS is a not-for-profit newspaper dedicated to providing news and information to the whole Rose Hill community. We are not affiliated to any political party, and we operate an equal opportunities policy. We encourage any resident to get involved in our work.

Produced with help from the Leys News Editorial and Design team

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Produced with the support and financial assistance of:



Do you enjoy reading Rose Hill News?

Then why not get involved in the next one?

We are always looking for local residents to write articles, send in pictures and help produce future issues of the newspaper.

07770 324 277

rosehillnews@gmail.com

ANSWERS TO QUIZ ON PAGE 11

1. One thousand. 2. Milky Way. 3. Hydrogen. 4. Five . 5. Honey. 6. A kid. 7. George. 8. Madrid. 9. Brazil. 10. A Christmas Carol



Thank you and goodbye

ROSE HILL NEWS would like to say a huge thank you and good luck to Ali Hall who left her role as Rose Hill Volunteer Coordinator last month.

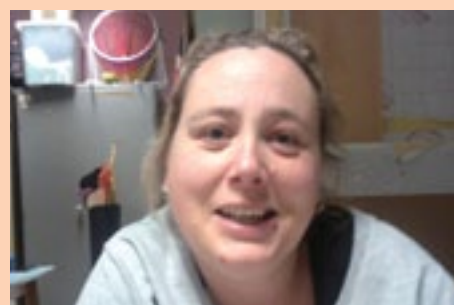
As many of you know, Ali was instrumental in helping to run the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club and she was a fantastic asset to the Lottery Project and Rose Hill. She has been replaced by Rose Hill News editor and volunteer Jamie Clark who has some tough boots to fill!

Ali said: "I have absolutely loved my time in Rose Hill, it has been brilliant to be a part of such a diverse community of people. I have moved to Birmingham to work for Whizz Kids, where I am supporting volunteers to lead services for disabled people and young people.

"I am having a great time here but looking forward to catching up with everyone at the Rose Hill Christmas Party!"

We all wish her the very best of luck!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



● On the 24 November Max Ballard (*right*) celebrated his 8th birthday. Happy birthday!
Love Mum, Dad, Lacy and Josh x

● At 6pm on 4 December at the Oxford Town Hall there will be a debate regarding the Oxford Greyhound Stadium.

● Everyone at Rose Hill News sends their good wishes to Michael Fernandes and wish him a speedy recovery.

● Happy birthday to Lindsay Baggett (*left*) who turned 33 on 25 November.
Love Steph x

● A great big happy congratulations to Aga and Aenaes Ward, who celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary on 22 November.

● Happy birthday to Eshaal Abbas, who turned three on 21 November!

● A massive happy birthday and thank you to Fran Gardner who celebrated her birthday on 24 November! Love from the Rose Hill News Team and Readers!



COMPETITION

Where is this in Rose Hill?

ROSE Hill News photographer Shane Leach took this photo in Rose Hill, but where is it?

If you know where it is, email rosehillnews@gmail.com or message us on Facebook with its whereabouts and you'll be entered into a draw to win a £10 voucher.

Deadline for entries is 5 December.



ROSE HILL'S GREEN OASIS

RESIDENTS pitched in to lay a 40-metre long hedge haven for wildlife at Rose Hill's nature reserve.

The hawthorn hedge was re-laid along the Rivermead Road side of Rivermead Nature Reserve in Rose Hill.

Hedge-layer Hefin Davies taught 30 residents the ancient woodland craft.

He said: "It went very well, it is a lovely hedge. It had been there for 26 years and it was starting to die out and was very overgrown. It's now very good for small birds to nest, insects and field mice to use. A seven-year-old boy with his mum and grandmother even helped out."

The project was part of Oxford City Council's Cleaner, Greener Rose Hill campaign, which started on October 14.

Volunteer Coordinator for Oxford City Council Parks and Open Space, Chris Whitehead said: "The work that was carried to lay the hedge is part of an on-going plan to make Rivermead a more accessible site for all the residents and visitors who wish to enjoy this green oasis."

Facebook Winner!

CONGRATULATIONS to Emma Jane Allen who won our Facebook competition and received a £10 voucher.

After amassing over 100 likes for our Facebook page we entered everyone who likes the page into a draw and Emma was the lucky winner.

Emma said: "The page is really good and as I am now taking part in courses and events it's really helpful.

"It's also good to find out about all the different sessions that are on, and it has helped me to meet new people within Rose Hill. It feels like a community."

You can visit and like our Facebook page by typing into Facebook the words 'Rose Hill Regeneration Project' or by going to www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP.

We're currently at 110 likes and are always looking for more.



We help to keep you updated with what's going on in Rose Hill and run regular competitions on the page.

We're always keen to have your input on how to improve the page so if you have any ideas, get in touch and get liking!

Enjoy a FUN evening out in Rose Hill

YOUNG people aged 15 – 21 are invited to get involved in a FREE street dance and fitness inspired session at Rose Hill Community Centre, every Thursday from 5.30 – 7pm.

Sessions are led by a fully qualified street dance instructor who has plenty of experience to teach you funky dance moves and give you plenty of dance floor swagger.

If that's not enough, these classes also have a sneaky fitness circuit class thrown in which will help you get fitter and leave you feeling great!

These sessions are delivered through Oxford City Councils Youth Ambition programme in partnership with Rose Hill Community Association.

■ For more information visit our website: www.oxford.gov.uk/communitysport or contact the sports development team: e: sportsdevelopment@oxford.gov.uk t: 01865 257292

CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME AT ROSE HILL

Saturday 7 December 5pm at The Oval, Rose Hill

**Official switch-on of the Rose Hill Christmas tree lights • Food Festival
in the Community Centre • Carols, music, disco and dancing**

Father Christmas
and the elves
will be arriving
with presents for
the children

**ONLY 50p ENTRY
FEE PER PERSON**

COME TO OUR CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

আমাদের কমিউনিটির উদযাপনে আসুন

हाम्रो सामुदायिक उत्सवमा आउनुहोस्

کمیونٹی کے لیے ہماری تقریب میں تشریف لائیں

تعالوا إلى احتفال جاليتنا

Luna Kawamoto sherehe ya jumua yetu

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dla lokalnej społeczności mieszkańców

PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS EVENT BY GREENSQUARE. IF YOU WOULD NOT LIKE YOUR
PHOTO TO BE USED BY GREENSQUARE, PLEASE LET A MEMBER OF STAFF KNOW



For more information please text or phone Fran Gardner on 07770 324 277.
You can also email fran.gardner@greensquaregroup.com or message us on
Facebook www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP.

Contact GreenSquare on 0800 980 9272 (freephone) 01865 773000.

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CHRISTMAS

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Christmas in a Polish home



Aga's husband Aenaes with daughter Anna. Photo by Kasia Bus.

By Aga Ward

POLISH Christmas starts on 24 December and the Christmas tree is put up, decorated and kept until February.

The Christmas meal brings all the family together and the table is laid with a white tablecloth. We then say a prayer and read from The Gospel about the birth of Jesus.

After the reading we share with each other blessed Opaltek, which is a consecrated bread wafer similar to that used during Holy Communion.

We exchange wishes of good health, success and any misunderstanding is forgiven. My father then takes the Opaltek first and give us all piece of it.

This is sometimes very emotional as family members that haven't spoken for a long time will forgive one another before they sit together to eat.

One additional place is set for an unexpected guest who, especially that night, should not be turned away. By doing this we remember that Joseph and Mary were looking for the shelter that very night.

Usually there are 12 dishes on the table but if not it must always be an even number. We don't eat any meat and hay is put underneath the table.

We eat our dishes in small portions and try every dish on the table. After the meal we open our presents that are under the Christmas tree, sing carols until midnight and then go to church for the Midnight Mass or Pasterka.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT ON OUR DOORSTEP!

What is Universal Credit?

Universal Credit is a new benefit that has started to replace six existing benefits with a simpler, single monthly payment if you're out of work or on a low income. Universal Credit is intended to help you to be better off in work, start a new job or work more hours. Universal Credit will eventually replace:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit

When will it affect me?

Universal Credit was introduced on 29 April 2013 in selected areas of Greater Manchester and Cheshire. Universal Credit will be gradually rolled out to the rest of the UK and extended to more groups of people from Spring 2014.

From next year, Universal Credit will expand to six new job centre areas, the nearest to Rose Hill is in Bath.

We don't yet know when other parts of the country will be affected. We will keep putting updates in Rose Hill News when we know more.

What can I do to make sure I'm ready for Universal Credit?

- Make sure you have a bank account

WHY? If you live with your

partner, and you're both eligible for Universal Credit, you'll get a single monthly payment which can be paid into either a joint or an individual account. You will need a bank account to receive your benefit payments, and to pay bills by direct debit.

● Check whether you can set up automated bill payments

WHY? If you get help with your rent, this will be included in your monthly payment—you'll then need to pay your landlord yourself. You can set up a direct debit to do this automatically for you. Please ask your landlord how if you need more details.

● Draw up a monthly budget

WHY? Because Universal Credit is paid monthly, you may need to make changes to the way you budget, especially when you move from the old to the new system. Also, many bills, such as utility bills, are charged monthly. This will make it easier to manage your finances.

● Make sure you have access to the internet

WHY? You will be expected to claim Universal Credit and manage your account online. Also, there are other advantages to using the internet. You can shop around to find the best deals. Many gas and electric providers offer discounts if you have an on-line account.

■ Information on changes to benefits and managing budgets can be found on www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk

FAIR BANKING WITH CREDIT UNION

OXFORD Credit Union is an ethical bank owned and managed by members who live or work in Oxfordshire. They offer a savings facility and affordable loans as well as being local and ethical.

Chair, Mark Luntley said: "I'm passionate about the Oxford Credit Union because it's a practical way of putting all Oxfordshire residents in control of their own money. Instead of borrowing at unfairly high

interest rates, individuals can both save and borrow at fair rates.

"Our credit union is local. Money saved stays within the community and the board is made up of people who have funds in the credit union. This is a real example of grassroots democracy."

■ To find out more visit www.oxfordcreditunion.co.uk or phone 01865 777 757

FILM REVIEW - Home Alone

By Tom O'Dell

LOTS of mouth-watering food, fantastic fun and a wonderful film is what brings families together and gets you in the Christmas mood.

Home Alone is a family film which will make you wish the festive period never ends!

Kevin McCallister gets what so many young boys want - freedom from his family. He gets to live alone, be his own boss, and do whatever he wants.

But Kevin quickly realises how much he misses his family, after they comically forget to wake him up for their family trip to Florida.

The resourceful, blonde-haired eight-year-old must protect his big family home from a pair of devilish yet clumsy thieves, who are thwarted at every turn by Kevin's inventive traps.

It's a wonderful, fun tale which reminds the viewers of how much family means around Christmas time.

It's bound to have you laughing as you huddle up around the TV with tea and snacks to enjoy and celebrate one of the most wonderful times of the year.

So sit back, and enjoy what's so great about Christmas - love and fun.

SPICK AND SPAN ON ROSE HILL! Successful community litter pick for a greener cleaner Rose Hill

RESIDENTS of Rose Hill were out in force for a successful community litter pick on Saturday 19 October.

Fifty two volunteers from across the community took part, and an impressive 15 bags of landfill and 20 bags of recycling waste were collected.

This event was organised as part of the month long Cleaner, Greener Rose Hill campaign.

Councillor John Tanner, Board Member for a Cleaner, Greener Oxford, said: "This was a really successful event and I was pleased to see so many local residents getting involved to help improve their community. I want to say a big thank you to all those that took part."

As well as cleaning up the estate, the dog warden registered and tagged approximately a dozen dogs

and handed out free dog fouling bags. The RSPCA were also present and micro-chipped four dogs.

Graeme Larkin, Branch Treasurer said: "It was a very successful day and we had a steady flow of dogs for micro chipping."

"We do a number of similar events each year, it's an excellent way of helping local people to safeguard their pets against theft or loss."

Local residents were also able to visit a recycling information stall for advice on how to manage their household waste and the Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon group were also on hand to give advice.

Volunteers enjoyed a fantastic lunch provided by the Asian cooks Jamila Begum and Tahira Naseem at the Children's Centre and pizzas were also donated by Papa Johns in Rose Hill.



Paul Davis from the CR Team with litter pickers! Photo Kasia Bus.

Rose Hill News Interviews...

By Jamie Clark

IN THIS feature of Rose Hill News we get to meet a member of the Rose Hill community to find out a little bit more about them.

For our Christmas issue, we spoke to Comfort Oluwayomi Otunba and asked her about Rose Hill, her life and her plans for Christmas.

For those readers who don't know, can you tell us who you are and what you do?

My name is Comfort and a mother of two girls and a boy, Sharon, Victoria and my son Joshua. Presently I'm a full time mother.

When did you move to Rose Hill?
I moved into Rose Hill four years ago when I was about to have my son. I have really enjoyed living here and I haven't regretted the decision to move once. It's a great community and my children enjoy the Junior Youth Club.

What changes have you seen since you moved to Rose Hill?
I have seen lots of changes. I love the transportation link from Rose Hill to Cowley Centre (bus 20) because it is so convenient and regular. The new buildings in the community have really brightened the place and the new cultures I have met in Rose Hill have been very friendly.



Photo: Jodi Middleton

Are you religious?

I am a Christian and practice my faith.

What do you think and like about Rose Hill News?

What I love about Rose Hill News is how clear it is. As we have a lot of different ethnic groups it makes it easy to understand what's going on.

What are your plans for Christmas?

I am looking forward to Christmas, and I want to take my children on a day out and have a fun time.

HAPPY VOLUNTEERING ON ROSE HILL!



Photo: Kasia Bus

STAR VOLUNTEER

By Fran Gardner

OUR STAR volunteer for this edition is Tahira Naseem. She was born in Sheikhupura, a city in Pakistan. She says that she was a very naughty child—but doesn't want her children to know that! Despite being naughty and her lack of interest in study she gained a degree in

Economics—all credit she says goes to her mother because she constantly encouraged Tahira and gave her the confidence she needed to get through all her studies.

Tahira married ten years ago and came to Oxford with her husband. Despite being in a new place Tahira was very lucky to have many family members who supported her in those early days in Oxford. She now has three beautiful children Zagum, eight,

Maahum, seven, and Eshaal three.

Tahira was introduced to the Rose Hill Children's Centre by a friend and she enrolled on training courses there and found that her children loved being in the happy play atmosphere of the centre. Tahira's confidence grew and subsequently she joined the Asian women's group – HEERA as a volunteer, setting up training courses for the women and becoming a committee member.

Tahira has always been a supporter of the Rose Hill Lottery project and has acted as an interpreter for the team as well as a helper at many of the community events.

When the Lottery Project took on the running of the weekly Asian lunches at the centre we approached Tahira to oversee the management, finances, food ordering and stock control.

She now keeps a tight rein on the finances while making sure that the lunches both look and taste wonderful. She has encouraged the cooks Sajida and Jamila to produce some new and tasty editions to the menu.

Without doubt Tahira is an incredibly valuable member of the Lottery volunteering team and can often be found not only in the Children's Centre but rolling up her sleeves and helping cooking activities at the Junior Youth Club—a star indeed and very much appreciated.



Photo: Jodi Middleton

MY NAME is Nikita Bull and I am a volunteer for the Rose Hill Lottery Project. I saw an advert in Rose Hill News about volunteering so I decided to give it a go. In only a couple of months I have given my time to a variety of sessions.

As I love to work with children, I have been volunteering at the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club and I'm really enjoying it. I love to help and engage with children and the volunteering is giving me experience and confidence. My aim is to become a youth/support worker, so being able to work at the club is really valuable.

They're a great bunch of people and everyone I've met has been really helpful. The project is giving me and other people the opportunity to expand my skill-set and I'm happy I replied to the advert.

When you first suspect your child has “Special Needs” PART 2

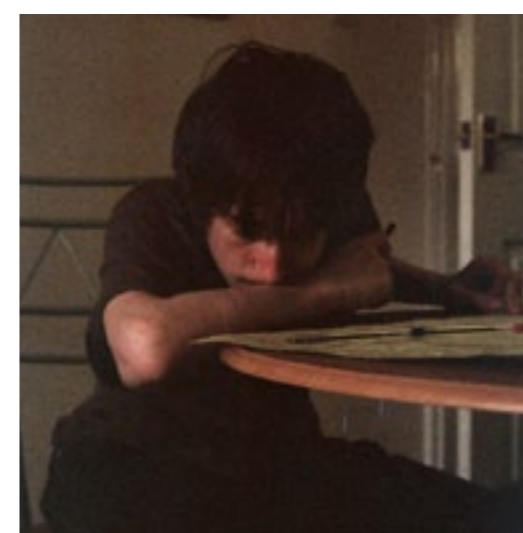
A local resident shares with readers a three part serialisation of his experiences of dealing with a son who has a form of Autism.

WE WERE told the genetic fault came through his mother. There was no support to help her take in the news and realise that it was not her fault. Nobody is guilty for the genes we pass on and have passed down to us. Two years of suspecting autism for my son's odd behaviour of lots of screaming, biting, charging at walls and destroying about ten toilet seats. He did not speak but just screamed or would sit rocking, not making eye contact very much. Mostly his gaze went to nowhere.

Many health and educational development experts tried to say I was not talking enough with him. They saw my illness and that I was a man and assumed too much. I had learned how to manage my illness better, having now been diagnosed with M.E. /CFS or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

I had a break-through with my son when he kept lining up bricks in a perfectly straight line whilst I was trying to work in the garden. I mimicked him several times but got one or two slightly out of line. He looked me in the eyes, annoyed. He spoke for the first time in two years “You are not an idiot” he said. I laughed and cried at the same time and hugged him even though he then hated hugs.

I learnt to gain and keep his attention



and taught him how to play with others with help from a specialised nursery. I had to go through and over the soft-play obstacles first and the mums of other children thought I was crazy until they saw his progress. What people thought of me did not matter, if it helped him to socialise and play with other kids.

If you suspect your child has Autism then contact: The National Autistic Society or do a web search for support groups in your area.

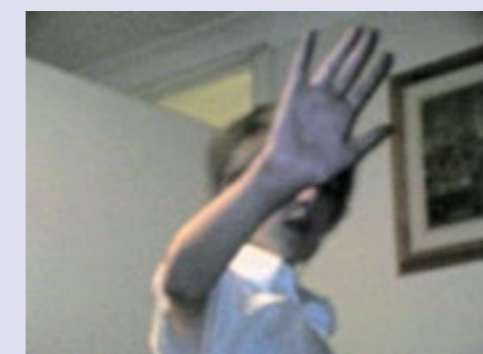
Continued in the next issue.

WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism is defined by The National Autistic Society as: “Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with, and relates to, other people. It also affects how they make sense of the world around them.

“It is a spectrum condition, which means that, while all people with autism share certain difficulties, their condition will affect them in different ways. Some people with autism are able to live relatively independent lives but others may have accompanying learning disabilities and need a lifetime of specialist support.

“People with autism may also experience over- or under-sensitivity to sounds, touch, tastes, smells, light or colours.”



Is heat leaking out of your house?

Find out for free how to stop it and save money!



Problems: Every house is different. In this Rose Hill house, the red and yellow areas on the thermal image show where heat is leaking through the front door and the wall below the downstairs window.

Solutions: In this house, a reflector panel could be placed between the window radiator and wall. The front door could be insulated with the old trick of a thick curtain!

Thermal imaging fortnight 17-31 Jan 2014

Local not-for-profit community group Rose Hill and Ifley Low Carbon are offering free thermal imaging of properties in Rose Hill in January. If you would like a thermal (heat) photograph of your house please complete the form below. You are also invited to our free follow-up advice evening in February to find out how you can reduce your energy bills - details to be confirmed.

Your name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Tick which evenings when you could have your house thermally imaged (note - you don't need to do anything except leave your heating on all evening so the photo shows where heat is escaping):

Jan 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 all

Please return this form to Sarah Northall, Church House, The Oval OX4 4SE by 7/1/2014. Alternatively email Laura Barnfield at lbarnfield@gmail.com or leave your details on our website - rosehillandiffleylowcarbon.wordpress.com



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- email us at hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk
- call us on 01865 520 520.



Putting the 'C' into community singing

ROSE HILL Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) have agreed to give funding for an electric keyboard for the Rose Hill Community Choir.

The TRA decided to help with funding after hearing glowing reports from residents.

Councillor Ed Turner and Councillor Michele Paule have also matched the TRA funding so that the singing group can play on!

The group's teacher, Hannah Powell, said that she was delighted with the news: "I am thrilled! It's great news and the group is very thankful.

"The choir has been a huge success so far. Each week a new member turns up with great enthusiasm and they all have a willingness to learn. Even though the choir has a wide range of ability they have managed to sing in four part harmony and it sounds fabulous. We are always looking to take on new people that are willing to sing and have fun."

Alice and Margaret resident Irene Fowler, who attends the group said: "It's a mixed age group and it's so nice to see the young and old having fun together. The teacher is lovely and puts a lot of pride into what she does."

The group will be performing at the Rose Hill Christmas Party on 7 December so come along and get into the festive spirit with them!

■ To find out more about the choir, or to join in the fun, call Hannah on 07512 364367

INDEPENDENT AND UNIQUE: The Individual Funeral Company

AS THE name suggests, The Individual Funeral Company is a company with a difference!

Opened in September 2013 by funeral director Lucy Jane, Lucy said: "I spent four years as a funeral arranger for the Co-Op. However I wanted another challenge so I left and became a motorcycle rider for Motorcycle Funerals.

Although she enjoyed her new role, the change wasn't enough for Lucy and she decided that she wanted a bigger challenge.

"I decided to go it alone and after a lot of hard work and an enormous amount of help from friends and family, I formed the company."

The Individual Funeral Company - based on Rose Hill Parade - offers a wide range of funeral services, from traditional

horse drawn carriages to a motorcycle hearse. A fire engine and an Only Fools and Horses van have also been used in the past!

"As long as it's within the law I'll try to fulfil a customers wishes. I can be involved as much as they'd like me to be. I'm happy to arrange the entire memorial or if they'd just like someone to do the paperwork I can do that too. It's completely the client's choice.

"I take my job to heart and I treat every funeral in the same way that I would treat a funeral of one of my own family members."

With a warm and friendly atmosphere and a stunning window display, The Individual Funeral Company is definitely unique!

■ If you would like more information, you can pop in for a chat with Lucy or visit the website www.theindividualfuneralcompany.co.uk



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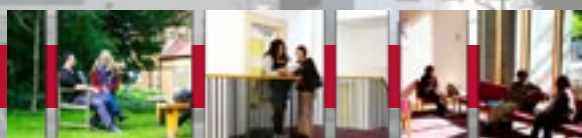
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"Without coming to Ruskin I would still be in the same job not realising my full potential"

"I feel more able to change my life"



Craft Corner

Felt Christmas Decoration: Gingerbread House

THIS cute Christmas decoration could be easily crafted by you and your kids.

You will need:

- Brown, white and red/green craft felt (third colour is optional)
- White and red/green sewing or embroidery threads (second colour is optional)
- Narrow ribbon, about ten inches long
- A few beads
- Stuffing
- Scissors, needle

Instructions:

1. Draw out the paper patterns below and cut them out. Pin the patterns to the felt and trace with black pencil or pen, then cut the shapes out. Don't forget to use the side with no pencil marks as the front side.
2. Put the roof shaped piece on top of the house shaped piece and align the curves of the top line together. Stitch together using simple stitches with two strands of



thread. Embroider with stars, and add a bead in the middle of every star.

3. Stitch the door to the front of the house, using running stitch with two strands of white thread. Embroider a white star at the top middle of the door. Put the smaller window piece on top of the bigger piece and stitch to the house using upright cross stitch (two individual stitches that cross each other) with a little cross in the middle.

4. Make a loop by folding the ribbon, and sew this in at the top of the back side of the embellished house piece using a whip stitch. Make sure that you sew the ribbon through one layer of felt so

that stitches will be hidden inside.

5. Layer the two house shaped pieces with back sides together. Sew together using running stitch and coloured thread. When only an inch opening remains, fill the 'Gingerbread House' with stuffing. Finally, finish the stitching to close the opening.

You could change the colours and embellishments, and you can decorate one or both sides of the Gingerbread House.

Let us know how you get on!





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Rose Hill Junior Youth Club

AS MANY of you know, to kick off the new autumn term we split the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club up into two sessions.

On Wednesdays we open our doors to kids aged six to eight, and on Thursday we welcome children aged between nine and eleven.

The session split has been a huge success, and we've been amazed at how many new faces we've seen! Since the middle of September, over 80 children have used the club.

We've had boxing, football, table tennis, hockey, drumming and dancing. Not to mention a whole host of special activities on the art table, and visits from the Oxfordshire Play Association and the Oxford Playhouse.

Our healthy tea at the end of each session is going from strength to strength, with the kids helping the adults in the kitchen to prepare pizzas, pasta and lovely puddings! Parents are always welcome to join us from 5pm to sit down and enjoy good and healthy food.

In the run up to Christmas, we're hoping to design a banner and decorations for our Christmas party, and play as much football as possible!

We hope to see you there!

Junior Youth Club is an inclusive club, running on Thursdays in term time from 4–6pm at Rose Hill Community Centre.



ABOVE AND BELOW: Here are a some of the Christmas themed drawings from Rose Hill Junior Youth Club's budding artists.

THANK YOU Playhouse Theatre!

On 4 December, 50 children from the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club will be enjoying a night out at the Playhouse Theatre.

The club has been invited to come along and watch the Christmas pantomime. Robin Hood is riding into Oxford Playhouse for the very first time in this action-packed new panto. Expect non-stop thrills and spills as Robin and his Merry Men battle the evil Sherriff of Nottingham in this classic tale.

With sing-a-long tunes, stunning dancing, slapstick, silliness and lots of chances to join in, it's going to be the perfect festive entertainment for the JYC kids!

We would like to say a massive thank you to the Oxford Playhouse for being so generous and inviting us along.

Littlemore Library News

Read all about it!

Events

The Rhyme-time, Story-time and craft session event for Halloween went very well and a good time was had by all. We will be holding another craft and fancy dress event for Christmas on Saturday 7 December 11am – 12 noon so please come and join in the fun.

Audio Books

Come and have a look at our Audio Books for adult readers, which can be found by the large print books.

Did you know you can download bestselling eBooks and eAudio titles to your computer or portable device for free?

The eBook and eAudio library is a partnership with OverDrive, offering free eBooks and audio downloads to Oxfordshire library members. You can borrow up to three items for 7, 14 or 21 days using your library card number and PIN. If a title is on loan you can add it to your wish list and be notified when it is available. Loans automatically expire at the end of the loan period so there are no fines!

More details of compatible devices and how to become a member at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk (search 'download ebooks'.)

Reading Group

Our Littlemore Reading Group meets every four weeks on a Thursday morning and this month we are reading Gabriel's Gift by Hanif Kureishi.

Unfortunately, we currently don't have spaces available for new members, but if you would like to set up your own Reading Group, please contact me for details.

Computers

Please remember we have computers and internet access for public use. Just give us a ring to book a session or drop in when you are passing.

Christmas closing

We close for Christmas 6pm on Monday 23 December and reopen on Thursday 2 January 2014 at 9.30am.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sharon Ingram (Manager)
Tel: 01865 714309
littlemore.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Our opening times are:

Monday	2.00–6.00pm
Tuesday	2.00–4.30pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	9.30am–12.30pm and 2.00– 4.30pm
Friday	9.30am–12.30pm
Saturday	9.30am–1.30pm

Helping to keep generations of families smiling



IF YOU'RE looking for a family dental practice, local dentists Robin Nagi and Raj Rattan have been serving generations of local people for 30 years.

Robin and Raj graduated from University College London Dental School and took over the practice in October 1983. The practice is a Gold member of the RDA Good Practice Scheme which is a quality assurance scheme.

It consists of five surgeries, operated by six dentists with five nurses; two receptionists and a practice manager who herself celebrates 20 years loyal service.

As a family practice many of the current patients have been with them for many years including some third and fourth generations of families in their care.

They offer service to both private and NHS patients.

The Rose Hill Crossword



Across

1) Terminate (e.g. mission) (5)
4) Marine mammal (5)
10) Pungent vegetable (5)
11) Hoydens (7)
12) Similarly (8)
13) Parasitic insects (4)
15) Club (6)
17) Optimistic (6)
19) Slightly wet (4)
20) Old and feeble (8)
23) E.g. beans or peas (7)
24) Japanese capital (5)
25) Amends text (5)
26) Neutral colours (5)

Down

2) Edge (5)
3) Famous (8)
5) Song of praise (4)
6) Resembling a lion (7)
7) Pamper (11)
8) Store secretly (5)
9) Pretentious show of wealth (11)
14) Person driving or running equipment (8)
16) Harmed (7)
18) Untidy (5)
21) Jail (US slang) (5)
22) Leave out (4)

ROSE HILL NEWS SPORT

It's 'winner stays on' in Rose Hill News' PREMIER LEAGUE PREDICTOR!

IN THE first round, Rose Hill Children's Centre worker Rafael Borja (right) came top of the table and won a £10 voucher. Can you beat him?

The person who scores the most points in this round will again win a £10 voucher and be invited to predict the next round of fixtures.

We'll also be keeping track of all your predictions and at the end of the season the winner will receive a mystery prize.

Games to predict will take place on the weekend of 7 December:

Man Utd v Newcastle Utd
Crystal Palace v Cardiff
Liverpool v West Ham
Southampton v Man City
Stoke v Chelsea
West Brom v Norwich
Sunderland v Tottenham
Fulham v Aston Villa
Arsenal v Everton
Swansea v Hull

■ Email rosehillnews@gmail.com or message us with your predictions on Facebook by going to www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP.



Rafael Borja: 8
Amir Teherabadi: 7
Brendan McCarthy: 7
Steph Ballard: 6
Terry Kirkby: 5
Jamie Clark: 4
Jamie Bourton: 4
Kevin Staff: 3

Terms and conditions:

- Three points for a correct score
- One point for the correct result
- Predictions emailed or messaged in after midday 17 December will not be accepted
- Only one entry per person.
- Multiple entries will automatically disqualify the entrant.

KEVIN MORTON, Sainsbury's Store Manager, ran in the half marathon on 13 October and raised over £1000 for Sainsbury's charity partner Headway Oxfordshire.

Kevin said: "I decided that I wanted to raise some money for our store charity, Headway, and thought I would give the half marathon a go!"

"The weather conditions on the day made it a challenging time for all the runners who took part but it was worth it. Due to the extreme generosity of my colleagues, customers and friends we were able to raise over £1300 for our charity."

Well done Kevin!



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN OXFORD UNITED FAN

By Orliter

UNBELIEVABLE! I need to mull over that one simple, single word. What does it actually mean, I ask myself? Unbelievable!

The Oxford University Dictionary states the adjective means beyond belief, far fetched, inconceivable, and other unbelievable words. Well, I believe they all describe the enigmatic world famous, table topping football team Oxford United.

Yes. The famous Yellows are

number one in Division Two of the football league, are still in the F.A. Cup with a good possibility of progressing to play in the big team stage in January. Should they win the little matter of beating Gateshead from the North East and Wrexham from the North West the Man U's, the Chelsea's, the Arsenal's and the Toon from Newcastle enter the pot and then who knows where the Oxford team would finish up.

Since the U's first game away to Portsmouth, victors by 4-1, to the game at Mansfield, 3-1 winners, they have remained unbeaten away from home in the league and will now carry that amazing record into December. Unbelievable!

However, my faithful pooch,

Briggsy, the incredible football playing dog, suggests that we remain focussed and keep practising penalty shoot-outs.

He's right, as during the past month just one digital clock and an antique cup have been knocked off the dresser. Yes they broke, but I didn't much care for the clock anyway. Unbelievable!

So as Christmas and the festive season approaches, all Rose Hill supporters of Oxford United might like to join me and Briggsy in wishing every one of the readers and staff of the internationally known Rose Hill News a very Happy Festive Season. C'mon you Yellows.

Unbelievable!

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Iffley Dental

2 Rose Hill, Iffley, Oxford, OX4 4HS

Telephone: 01865 777648



TAPPING FOR CHRISTMAS!



Photo: Shane Leach

LIL TAPZ, the Rose Hill tap dancing school for children aged between three and ten, will be performing at the Rose Hill Christmas Party.

Tap-dancing teacher and manager Steph Ballard said: "The children are so excited about the Christmas display and I'm loving every minute of the preparation.

"I am very grateful to Alison Timadger, Stacey Gregory and Lucy Gregory for helping me make my dreams a reality. I am so proud of all the girls and cannot wait to show them off at the Rose Hill Christmas event on 7 December."

The school runs on Saturdays at Rose Hill Community Centre. Each session costs £2 and session details are as follows:

- Ages: 3–5 | 10am – 10.30am
- Ages: 5–7 | 10.30am – 11.15am
- Ages: 7–10 | 11.15am – noon

■ To find out more about the school go to <https://www.facebook.com/LilTapzRoseHill>

Weekend fun at Saturdads!

SATURDADS, the only male carers play session, takes place every Saturday morning at the Rose Hill Children's Centre.

Dads and male carers can drop in any time between 10.30am and 1.30pm to have a chat, eat and most importantly play!

The playroom is open, and play workers Jamie Bourton and Rafa Borja help dads to develop their skills and confidence as carers.

■ To find out more about Saturdads call 01865 716739 or email reception.sure-start@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Photo: Shane Leach

Your local councillors and MP

City Councillor



Ed Turner
Rose Hill and Iffley ward – Labour
☎ 01865 778358
E: cllreturner@oxford.gov.uk



Michele Paule
Rose Hill & Iffley Ward - Labour
☎ 07766 775716
E: cllrmpaule@oxford.gov.uk

County Councillors



John Sanders
Cowley – Labour
☎ 01865 761856
E: john.sanders@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Gill Sanders
Rose Hill and Littlemore – Labour
☎ 01865 761856
E: gill.sanders@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament



Andrew Smith MP
Oxford East – Labour
☎ 01865 595790
E: andrewsmith.mp@virgin.net

Andrew holds advice surgeries in Rose Hill at the Rose Hill Community Centre on the first Friday of each month between 6.00 and 7.00pm. Andrew sees all constituents but as surgeries are always busy it helps if you make an appointment—please ring 01865 305080 (also for details of other advice surgeries in the area).

Kids Quiz

1. How many years are there in a millennium?

2. What galaxy is Earth located in?

3. What is the first element on the periodic table of elements?

4. How many sides does a pentagon have?

5. Bees create what sweet substance?

6. What is a baby goat called?

7. What is Pepper Pig's younger brother called?

8. What is the capital of Spain?

9. In which country will the 2014 World Cup take place?

10. Ebenezer Scrooge is a character in which Charles Dickens novel?

Answers on page 2

CHURCH NEWS

THE WORD 'joy' crops up a lot at Christmas. It's often used in Christmas cards and carols. It's first used when the angel greets the shepherds in the Christmas story. I wonder what it's all about?

Here are some thoughts. Joy is something we can sometimes experience welling up within us. It can never be forced. It just happens and it can happen not only when we are feeling happy and peaceful but also it can break through in times of real difficulty and pain. Joy is quiet and warm and ripples gently in our souls a bit like a smile. It is an inner quality of life that is eternal and cannot be engineered or manipulated. It is a gift.

At the first Christmas joy broke through into our world like a blade of grass forcing its way through concrete! God became a little helpless baby. The angel had to go and tap the shepherds on the shoulder to announce the good tidings of great joy otherwise no-one would have noticed that this gift of joy had been given! It all happened in Bethlehem quite quietly and silently—"How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given" we will soon be singing in one of my favourite Christmas carols!

May God bless you with his gift of joy this Christmas.

Andrew McKearney

Rose Hill Methodist Church

www.rosehillmethodists.org.uk
Our usual Sunday morning service begins at 10.30am and our Christmas services include:
Service of Carols and Readings – 10.30am Sunday 15 December.

A reflective Communion Service – 10.30am Sunday 22 December.

Come and worship Christ, the Light of the World – 10.30am Christmas Day.

Minister: Rev Rosemary Davies
Tel: 01865 763676
Email: minister@limewalk.org.uk

Deacon: Deacon Carole Smith
Tel: 01865 712880
Email: carole.smith316@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Iffley

www.iffley.co.uk
Every Sunday there are services at 8am, 10am and 6.30pm and our Christmas services include:
Music and Readings for Advent – 6.30pm Sunday 1 December

Christmas Carol Service – 6.30pm, Sunday 22 December (please be seated by 6.15pm)

Christingle Family Service – 3pm, Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve Midnight Communion Service – 11pm, Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Day Communion Service – 10am, Wednesday 25 December

Vicar: The Revd Andrew McKearney
01865 773516
mckearney@windmillweb.net
Curate: The Revd Sarah Northall
01865 579695
revsarahnorthall@gmail.com

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We are always looking for local residents to write articles, send in pictures and help produce future issues of the newspaper.

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BUT THAT
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I LIVE!
They are
having a
laugh

Rock Enrol!

*You must apply to register to vote at www.oxford.gov.uk/youngvoters
Young people aged 16/17 are able to apply to register to vote if they turn 18 in 2014.

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