

We're getting ready to party!



THE annual Rose Hill Christmas Party will take place on Saturday 6 December from 5-7pm.

For this event we are being supported by 2Cousins Access, DW Contractors, SSE Contracting and Dave Seamer Entertainments – all of whom are freely giving 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, dancing by Lil Tapz 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 said: "The Lottery team really look forward to this wonderful community event – especially when the lights are turned on and transform the trees on The Oval. Do come along and join us."

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 07770 324277 or keep up to date with the details via our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP**

Sainsbury's Heyford Hill fundraising for Restore

SPONSORED 'walkers' from the Heyford Hill branch of Sainsbury's have raised over £600 for Restore following a sponsored walk.

The walkers trekked from Heyford Hill to the Westgate shopping centre and back to raise funds for the mental health charity Restore.

Thanks to Leanne Mundy, Daniel Fullick, Anita Smith, Louise Bowen, Judith Allison, Elaine Merrills, Carol Rose and Holly Grundy for their time and commitment.

Lenthall Road Rose Hill Allotment Association update

THE Lenthall Road Allotments were successfully awarded a grant by the Community Regeneration Fund to build two raised beds for disabled allottees who require the use of wheelchairs.

The designs were produced by Brookes University Architectural students who then constructed them as part of their second year course. The beds, which come complete with their own parking places will be available to rent from the New Year.

The Allotment Shop is now under new management and is open most Sundays between 10am and 12.30pm and is open to all.

Winter market at Oxford Spires

EVERY December Oxford Spires Academy is transformed by the hustle and bustle of Christmas, and this year it is going to be even better.

This year's Winter Market will be held on 10 December at the Oxford Spires school. The whole community comes together at this festive event in order to create funds for Helen and Douglas House, Barnados charity, SeeSaw and the Mulberry bush charity.

The event starts at 5pm and ends at 7.30pm and is an evening of high energy entertainment where there will be special performances from the dance troupe Messy Jam and the OSA choir.

There will also be a pantomime, Santa's Grotto and even a donkey in a stable. Add this festive event to your Christmas diary as it will be too good to miss!



ROSE HILL LAUREATES
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ROSE HILL NEWS

ISSUE 32 DECEMBER 2014

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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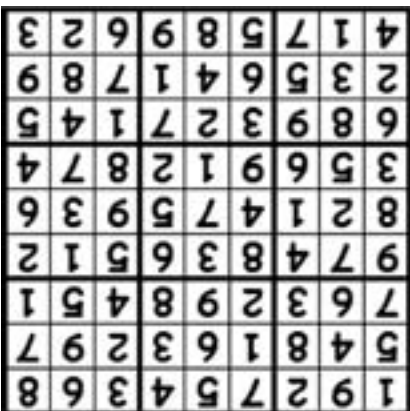
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Cleaning up in Williamson Way

OXFORD City Council Streetscene Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance teams have recently combined forces to perform a Deep Clean at Williamson Way in Rose Hill. This was in direct response to concerns of excessive encroachments of moss and grass over hard surfaces as expressed by local residents during consultations with Cheryl Snudden (Oxford City Council Neighbourhood Locality Officer) who promptly contacted Streetscene. Other miscellaneous cleansing issues were also addressed and future improvements identified including the replacement of damaged and missing sections of trip rails. Deep Cleans usually consist of roadside and communal area cleans and horticultural improvements that are performed proactively in the form of a schedule of location's and reactively, when unexpected environmental issues and concerns arise that warrant urgent attention.



Answers to quizzes and games on page 10
1) False. 2) Bethlehem. 3) Cupid. 4) Two Turtle Doves (and a Partridge in a Pear Tree). 5) Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. 6) Answer – B Oslo. 7) We Three Kings. 8) Hogmanay. 9) Brandy. 10) Australia

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IT IS GOOD to see work has commenced on the new Community Centre. Once it is complete the existing Community Centre will be demolished, as will the present site of the Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre (to be rehoused in the new building) and the adjacent former scout hut. It has always been the plan to use these two sites for new much-needed housing. Fair enough. It is to be hoped that the local community will have an input into what form of housing will be built. The old Community Centre, while having no particular architectural merit does form a focal point on The Oval. It will remain the bus terminus. What replaces it should look good with some architectural merit and be tidy. The last thing we want is houses which are subsequently bought up by speculative landlords with gardens that are untidy. Our estate is already blighted by such properties.

Perhaps council or housing association flats with maintained gardens offer the best bet, though no more than two storeys high, possibly with undercroft parking. One and two bed flats would offer suitable accommodation for those tenants wishing to downsize yet remain on the estate near family and friends. This would in turn release more family homes. A similar argument can be made for the housing to go on the other site. To a certain extent the focus of the estate will move to this area in Ashhurst Way which again should look decent both in the short and longer term. An inevitable result of more housing is more traffic. Perhaps S106 / developer contributions generated by the new housing could be used to improve the junction at the bottom of Ashhurst Way. Lights would be ideal, there is also room for a roundabout.

Peter Wilkinson

ROSE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2:30 – 4:30

Tombola

Raffle

Sale of Jars

Cake Sale

Golden Bucket

Name the Teddy

AND

Come and meet
Father Christmas!

CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME AT ROSE HILL

Saturday 6 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 جالیتنا

Luna Kawamoto sherehe ya jumua yetu

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dla lokalnej społeczności mieszkańców

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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.

housing people, building communities



LOTTERY FUNDED

ROSE HILL AND IFFLEY LOW CARBON GROUP

Solar what?

By Eleanor Watts

"WHAT on earth's that?" asked Helen nervously as a shiny black table-top walked through the Community Centre bar. We all dodged nervously as the UFO sailed past. "Oh I know – it's one of those solar things that go on roofs." Under the strange object was Tim Nicholson from the Renewable Energy Co-operative. He had come to tell us about solar energy. Tim explained nice and simply for those who, like me, are technically challenged, that there are two main ways to get energy from the sun – solar thermal panels and solar PV.

Thermal panels help to heat water for our taps and central heating. PV panels generate electricity. Most of the talk was about solar PV – which is becoming more attractive as the price of installing it comes down and energy prices go up. Basically, every building with PV panels is a mini-power station. The stronger the sunshine, the more electricity they make. People in the building get to use that electricity for free and any un-used electricity is exported to the national grid, which pays for it.

We've also helped to promote the Low Carbon Hub's drive to fund solar PV on local schools and businesses. Low Carbon Hub

■ rosehillandiffleylowcarbon.wordpress.com

(www.lowcarbonhub.org/) has now helped to fund solar energy on eight Oxfordshire schools, including Lark Rise in East Oxford, and has plans to work with eighteen more.

While it's important to change the way we generate electricity, we also need to reduce our energy use, so it is important that our homes are well insulated.

Thermal imaging can help show where heat is leaking from a house. We are planning to offer more free thermal imaging on Rose Hill this winter. If you would like us to take some thermal images of your house please email rosehill.iffley.lowcarbon@gmail.com or ring 01865 453354.

It would also help us if you could let us know which houses in our area are poorly insulated. We could then try to identify where the problems are and help solve them.
<https://rosehillandiffleylowcarbon.wordpress.com/tag/rhilc/>



LIBRARY NEWS

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 6 December from 11am and on Saturday 13 December from 11am.

We will be singing Christmas Songs and eating some Christmas treats, so please come and join in the fun.

Our Teen Book Club meets on a Monday 3pm–4pm and 4pm–5pm on the last Monday of the month. If you are interested in joining the club please contact the Library.

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

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More details of compatible devices and how to become a member at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

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.

We close for Christmas on Tuesday 23 December at 4.30pm and reopen on Friday 2 January 2015 at 9.30am.

Our opening times are as follows:
Monday, 2pm – 6.00pm
Tuesday, 2pm – 4.30pm
Wednesday Closed
Thursday, 9am – 12.30pm and 2pm – 4.30pm
Friday, 9am – 12.30pm
Saturday, 9.30am – 1.30pm

ROSE HILL & DONNINGTON ADVICE CENTRE

Eyes down for festive fundraiser

ON WEDNESDAY 3 December the Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre will be holding a Christmas Prize Bingo at the Rose Hill Primary School in order to raise funds for the small independent advice centre.

Tickets for the event cost 20p and are available now from the advice centre. Tickets can be bought on the day but only a limited number will be available. Bingo book, flyer and raffle tickets are to be purchased separately on the night.

Among the impressive list of bingo prizes are: tickets to Cotswold Wildlife Park, a trip to Blenheim Palace, brunch for two at Malmaison and much more! The Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre offers free, confidential advice and can

represent clients at Reviews and Appeals on any type of Benefit.

■ **For more information you can call the advice centre on 01865 438634 or visit Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre, 60 Ashurst Way, Rose Hill, Oxford, OX4 4RF.**

PLACE: Rose Hill Primary School Canteen, Rose Hill
DATE: Wednesday 3 December
TIME: Doors Open at 7.00pm, Eyes down at 7.30pm

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Breaking new ground!



Beard Contracts Manager Brendan Rourke, Community Centres Operations Officer Natalie Oakley, Neighbourhood Locality Officer Cheryl Snudden and Site Manager Peter Joyce. Photos by Kasia Bus.

CITY COUNCIL members, officers and representatives of design and construction companies joined Rose Hill residents for a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the Rose Hill Community Centre development.

The official first turf was cut by Bill Buckingham, who is a longstanding active resident in the Rose Hill community and a previous local councillor and Lord Mayor. Mr Buckingham was one of the key people who helped to build the

original community centre and also establish the Rose Hill Community Association.

Of the new build, Natalie Oakley, Community Centre Operations Officer said: "My role is to make the new Community Centre able to deliver the services that Rose Hill want and need, responding to local priorities and those of the Council in building strong and sustainable centres at the heart of communities. I will be out and about across the city but you will see me regularly

in Rose Hill to support this project. If you do have any questions about this please contact either myself or Cheryl Snudden on 07833404411."

The £4.764 million community centre will be built by Beards and is planned to be opened by Christmas 2015. The centre will be the new home for the Rose Hill Social Club, Rose Hill Community Association, Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre, a community gym, new sports changing rooms, Thames Valley Police, the Scouts and a

health facility.

Ed Turner, Rose Hill and Iffley councillor, said: "It is excellent that work is getting underway, and there is nobody better placed to be cutting the first sod than Bill Buckingham, who has dedicated all his adult life to serving our community. This will be a great

facility, well worth every penny of the multi-million pound cost, and I can't wait for it to be finished!"

Michele Paule, Rose Hill and Iffley councillor, says: "This is great news for Rose Hill, and the new centre will be a real asset for the whole community - young and old alike."

Timetable of works

- Temporary site fencing path have been installed
- Site accommodation is planned to arrive this month
- Foundations ready for the steel frame to be erected in mid January
- A fuller update will be provided in early December

Greening the grid

Homes in Rose Hill to capture and store the sun's energy for community benefit

ROSE HILL has been selected for an innovative new community energy project that will see residents' energy bills reduced and environmental benefits.

Up to 100 homes in Rose Hill will receive power-generating solar panels, smart battery storage and low energy LED lights to demonstrate the benefits of generating and using green energy within a community, rather than exporting it to the national electricity grid.

Oxford, like much of the UK, has seen a rapid growth in rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on homes in recent years. Typically, only a small proportion of the electricity they generate is used on site with the rest being exported to the grid.

This is beginning to place significant stresses on local grids during the

sunniest periods. This project offers Rose Hill residents the opportunity to trial a new system for maximizing the amount of solar power generated and used locally, using batteries to store it on site.

Electricity from the solar panels generated during the day, typically when demand is low, will be used to charge a battery, which in turn can power household lighting and devices in the evening when demand is higher.

This technology can make a major contribution to cutting power bills, boosting the spread of solar and other renewables and increasing security of energy supplies while at the same time helping to reduce climate-changing carbon emissions.

Moixa Technology will lead this two and a half year, government-funded



project with local charity Bioregional, Oxford Brookes University, British Gas Solar, Scottish and Southern Power Distribution. They will be working in partnership with GreenSquare, Oxford City Council and Rose Hill and Iffley and Low Carbon.

The project will begin in January 2015 and recruitment of households will begin shortly afterwards. For further information please contact Andy Edwards from BioRegional, andy.edwards@bioregional.com

Wild Rose Hill



ON SATURDAY 6 December from 10am-3pm you can discover the wild side of Rose Hill at the Rivermead Nature Reserve.

The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) and volunteers will be working to uncover valuable fen habitat on the reserve and improve the site for people and wildlife.

Andy Gunn, Wild Oxford Project Officer, said: "Anyone is welcome to come along and help cut down trees and remove scrub from the area. No experience is necessary and hot drinks and cake will be provided!"

■ For more information or if you'd like to come along, contact Andy Gunn on 01865 775476 or email andygunn@bbowt.org.uk. All tools will be supplied but please bring wellies and wet weather gear.

ਰੋਜ਼ ਹਿੱਲ ਨਿਊਜ਼ - ਰੋਜ਼ ਹਿੱਲ ਦੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਲਈ ਅਖ਼ਬਾਰ ।

ROSE HILL JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

You're a star!

NIKITA BULL has been volunteering for the Rose Hill Lottery Project for over a year and during that time she has become a valuable member of the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club team.

Since joining the Lottery Project Nikita, a Rose Hill resident and mum of two, has completed courses in Paediatric First Aid, Food Hygiene and Safeguarding. She is currently working her way through a Level 2 qualification in Play Work.



Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Clark said: "At all times I have found Nikita to be dependable, reliable, conscientious and a lot of fun!

"She is fantastic with the children and very quickly created strong bonds with children who were previously introverted and difficult to manage."

Nikita said: "I have enjoyed volunteering as I believe I have gained a wide range of experience and qualifications.

"I've made great and valuable friends with children, the staff and other volunteers. My favourite part of volunteering is seeing everyone work and play together. I feel as if I have become part of a team."

In the future Nikita plans to continue her work with children and to learn more about child development and play. Thank you Nikita for all your hard work – you're a star!

It's all change at the RHJYC!

FROM 1 November, children in Years 1 (providing your child is six years old), 2 and 3 can attend the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club on a Wednesday with Years 4, 5 and 6 coming along on a Thursday.

In order to give all children plenty of staff attention, access to lots of games and space to enjoy themselves the RHJYC team decided over the October half term to make the change.

Play Leader, Jamie Bourton, said: "The club has been so successful that we were running out of space! We are still seeing nearly 90 children a week and the change has helped to make the club even more inclusive!"

The Rose Hill Junior Youth Club takes place at the Rose Hill Community Centre with the aim of including and providing a playful arena for local children aged 6-11.

The cost is 50p per session and parents/carers must register their child at the first session. The club is open term-time on Wednesday and Thursday between 3.30-5.30pm.

■ **For more info text or call Fran 07770 324 277 or message us on Facebook www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP**



Photo by Alex Hammonds.

Rawz: Rose Hill Play Worker and rapper

By Gabrielle Westhead

HAILING from Greater Leys, Rory Campbell is a play worker for the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club. Also known as Rawz, he is also a rapper with a huge community spirit. Gabrielle Westhead interviewed Rory about his youth work and rapping career and his vision for his music.

What inspired you to become a youth worker?

After attending some free music courses, I started my business The Urban Music Foundation delivering lyric writing and poetry workshops. I took on some other youth work jobs to supplement my income and here I am six years later working at The Ark T Music Project, Leys CDI, Rose Hill Junior Youth Club and still running The Urban Music Foundation.

How did you get started as a rapper?

I've been writing lyrics since I was about 15. I remember I started to learn how to rap by memorising every line of Coolio's 'Gangsta's Paradise'. Me and a few other local MCs started a group called 'The G Block Family' and it was with them that I made my first recordings and got my first gigs.

Do you think your youth work and rapping career go hand-in-hand?

Music doesn't play such a major role at Rose Hill JYC but for me Hip-Hop has always been about sharing knowledge and caring for your community so elements of



Photo by Alex Hammonds.

that definitely sit well with youth work.

What do you like to rap about?

My music is always about personal feelings and how I see the world. I love to tell stories, ask questions and highlight issues that I feel are important. My latest album 'The Difference' (available at www.rawz.bandcamp.com) looks at the contrasts and hypocrisies we see in our everyday lives. It was inspired by living in Oxford which is a city of contrasts.

What do you hope your audience will take away from your music?

I hope that my music makes people ask questions about themselves and the world we live in. I'm trying to plant a seed for social change with my music. One of the comments from a fan I'm most proud of is that my

music helped them get through a tough time in their life. I think it's wonderful that music can do that.

Do you have any advice for young aspiring rappers?

Practice, practice, practice and work hard! Don't think that because you've written a song you've made it. Any art requires constant learning and self-analysis, always try to make your new verse better than your last! Listen to other people's feedback but know that the lyrics and delivery must come from you. You'll never be a finished product; the journey is half the fun!

■ **If you would like to keep up-to-date with Rawz, like his Facebook page (www.facebook.com/realRawz) or follow him on Twitter @realRawz**



Photo by Alex Hammonds.

RHJYC goes global!

MEMBERS of Rose Hill Junior Youth Club have been awarded funding to create their very own television channel – Rose Hill TV.

This exciting news will see the RHJYC partner up with Film Oxford, Pegasus Theatre and the Oxford Playhouse to deliver a global smash hit! Supported by local filmmaker Roly Carline, the RHJYC will write, direct and produce Rose Hill TV, a video showcasing the many different activities that children engage in at the club.

When watched, the video will make the viewer feel as though they are sitting in front of a TV with a remote control and flicking through various channels.

Film maker and RHJYC play worker Roly said: "Rose Hill TV is a brilliant opportunity for JYC to show Rose Hill all the amazing things that happen at our club, from cooking, to sports, dance and art work.

"It's a chance for everyone to learn new skills, especially our young leaders who we are hoping will have a hand in the filming, editing and production of the project."

Rose Hill Community Worker Fran Gardner said: "We are looking forward to working with Oxford Playhouse, Film Oxford and Pegasus and when it's all finished we plan to show it to everyone as part of a big celebration of the club and the project."

■ **To find out more for about how YOU can get involved in Rose Hill TV call or text 07770324277 Fran Gardner on or email fran.gardner@greensquaregroup.com**

HERE at Rose Hill Junior Youth Club (RHJYC), we have a new group of children who have been trained to become 'Young Leaders' within the Club - some of the older group from the Thursday session who also come along and help with the younger children at the Wednesday session.

The Young Leaders (YLS) also get to learn new skills – this week it's journalism! The YLs interviewed each other to find out about what they do!

What are Young Leaders?

Hermela: We help the younger children, and show them how to do things like how to use equipment. And we also show them how to behave by behaving well ourselves.

Tamzin: We work with young people and play with them.

Leah: We help young children when they need help, like if they are upset. If they are angry we can calm them down.

Nosheen: We do things to help and we get to cook.

Anna: We help the younger children.

How do Young Leaders help the Club?

Leah: We help the Club by working with the young children.

Nosheen: We help by cooking and

Young Leaders interview the Young Leaders!



Young Leaders Tamzin and Leah. Photo by Alex Hammonds.

serving the food.

Ewan: We help people if they need it.

Hermela: We help the staff and we help the young children to do stuff if they are stuck.

What's the best thing about being a Young Leader?

Ewan: It's fun because I like to help and you get to work with young children.

Fabiha: You get to be like the Play

Workers.

Leah: I love working with the little kids.

Tamzin: It's fun!

Over 50 and looking for a Sole Mate?



AGE UK's Jo Fowler and Rose Hill resident Eileen Timmons. Photo by Kasia Bus.

By Daniel Breach

ROSE HILL Lottery Project in partnership with AGE UK, now offer a foot care service for Rose Hill residents over the age of 50. This excellent service is part funded by the Lottery project ensuring that it is affordable to everyone.

Once a month on a Thursday, Jo Fowler from Age UK visits the Rose Hill Community Centre from 11.30am-3pm.

Fran Gardner, Rose Hill community worker, said: "Falls in older people are often caused because when nails are uncut they cause discomfort and people resort to wearing loose fitting slippers or shoes. Without the support of a shoe a slip or trip is much more likely.

Eileen Timmons, who has lived in Rose Hill for over 50 years, said: "I couldn't get my legs up to do it myself so this is a real help. I've been coming here for a year now - it's a very good service and Jo is friendly and welcoming."

So if you're over 50 and feel you need some advice or help with your foot care why not go along and treat your feet with the help of a sole mate.

■ For more information on this service call or text Fran Gardner on 07770324277



Photo by Alex Hammonds

By Aimee Winkfield

LIL TAPZ, Rose Hill's finest tap dancing club, are gearing up to host their very own Disney styled show on Friday 12 and Saturday 13 December at Rose Hill Primary School.

Over the last year the Lil Tapz tap dancing group have certainly provided the community with great entertainment and amazing achievements.

When asked to reflect

TAP AND CLAP!

on Lil Tapz and the fantastic year they've had, founder Steph Ballard said: "We have achieved a massive amount in one year and are looking forward to more of the same next year."

With successful examination results and numerous performances at

community events, including the Rose Hill Christmas Lights switch-on party, the Lil Tapz team are on form for a spectacular show this Christmas.

Steph added: "The children love being involved in something like this. We have made around 200 skirts for the

performance and everyone involved has worked really hard, so make sure you come along and watch!"

Tickets priced at £1 are being sold for "Lil Tapz do Disney" at the Rose Hill Primary School, all proceeds to the School.

■ For more information on Lil Tapz or to enquire about their Christmas show visit www.facebook.com/LilTapzRoseHill

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COULD you use your experience supporting someone who has died to help others who may be approaching the end of their life?

Maybe you have cared for a loved one who died? Or are you a retired care professional? Do you hope to have a career in care? Or are you 'just' a special person who wants to help others?

The lessons you have learnt and your experience and knowledge could make a real difference.

Oxfordshire Befriending for Life (OxBEL) recruits and trains volunteers to befriend people who are facing the end of life and may be isolated and alone or just need someone to talk to.

Bethany Whittle (*pictured*) who volunteers for OxBEL said: "For the past two years I have volunteered for OxBel, and the experience has been great.

"I have met some amazing people and been privileged to listen to their stories. My listening skills have also improved, and I feel more connected with my community."

OxBel offer top quality training, regular one-to-one support, bi-monthly peer support groups and the opportunity to really make a difference to someone's life.

Part of preparing to die well involves living life well, and to the full, now. There can be fun and laughter as well as serious conversations. It can come as a surprise to some current volunteers just how rewarding the role turns out to be. Every friendship is unique.

■ If you're interested or would like more information call 01235 849427 or email enquiries@oxbel.org.uk



OxBEL Volunteer Bethany Whittle



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News please call John on 01865 711756

International recognition!



ROSE HILL welcomed Mayors and top civic representatives from Oxford's four twin cities Bonn, Grenoble, Perm and Leiden. They were particularly interested in learning more about our communities and work that the Communities and Neighbourhood Team are doing to support our local areas.

While on Rose Hill they heard more about the plans for the new Community Centre and how the community had an active input into the design. The delegates showed great interest to come back and see the centre when it is completed.

Rose Hill Laureates

CONGRATULATIONS to Rose Hill resident Habibah Ahmed and ten year-old Suan Hatzaw who both won the Rose Hill News Poetry Competition and each received a £10 voucher.

The team was delighted at the level of quality received and couldn't choose between these two entrants so decided to call them both victors!

Of her poem, Habibah said: "My poem is written in the point of view of my camera. I wanted to write a poem that was unusual and not unexpected but still had an element of fun."

Suan's poem "Footsteps" will be printed in the January edition of Rose Hill News.

Picture Perfect

By Habibah Ahmed

Ughh, she irritates me so much!
She disrespects me,
Throws me around like a piece of trash.
She treats me like dirt.

And what do I not do for her?!
I bear her taunts,
Her screams
And her never ending poses.
Oh God, those poses,
She can come up with a new pose
Everyday...

If I count how many photos,
Out of 500
Is of her on my memory,
I'd get about 486!

She screws at me
When I don't get the picture right.
She'll just delete a part of me
And replace it with a new one.
I hate it,
I hate it so much.
She doesn't appreciate me,
But I try,
I really do.
I really try and get it perfect.
Picture perfect.



Photo by Kasia Bus.

The benefits of volunteering



Photo by Kasia Bus.

By Daniel Breach

VOLUNTEERING. Others will tell you about how it will improve your confidence, how you can meet more people or feel good that your efforts have helped others. For many of us who do volunteer these things matter more than if the work experience ever leads to paid work.

For me, the volunteering has been relevant in many ways to my degree course and so has become an inspirational part of my course curriculum.

I feel proud to contribute because I believe that giving people a chance to take a break from the routine in their lives can give enrichment and boost self-esteem. My favourite part of volunteering in Rose Hill was when I led an art class and helped some senior citizens discover they could draw and paint. All they needed was the right positive encouragement rather than negative comments when they were young.

There are a number of ways in which you can volunteer so why not give it a go? Volunteering – it's a great thing!

ROSE HILL TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Terry Kirkby, Chair

AS MOST of us will be thinking of present giving and seasonal food in the very near future, your Rose Hill Tenants and Residents Association are also busy planning the presentations at the forthcoming December meeting. Once again we will be entertained by our own Community Choir who will perform some new songs and old favourites.

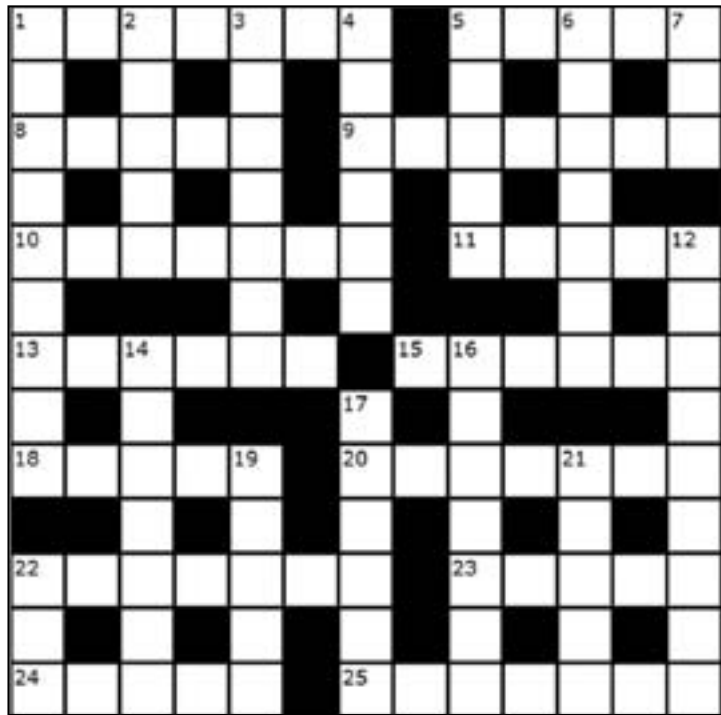
Presentations will be made in the form of donations to the Silver Threads for their festive party.

The Junior Youth Club leaders will also be presented with a cheque enabling them to carry on the excellent work they, the Officers and volunteers do in the community. A special gift of a musical instrument donated by a member of the Tenants and Residents Association will be made to the Head of the Rose Hill Primary School. There will be festive food and soft drinks to suit all tastes and all at the Community Centre at 7.30pm on 2 December all free of charge and all welcome.

The members, committee and officers would like to wish everyone on Rose Hill A Great Festive Time.

FUN AND GAMES

THE ROSE HILL CROSSWORD



Across

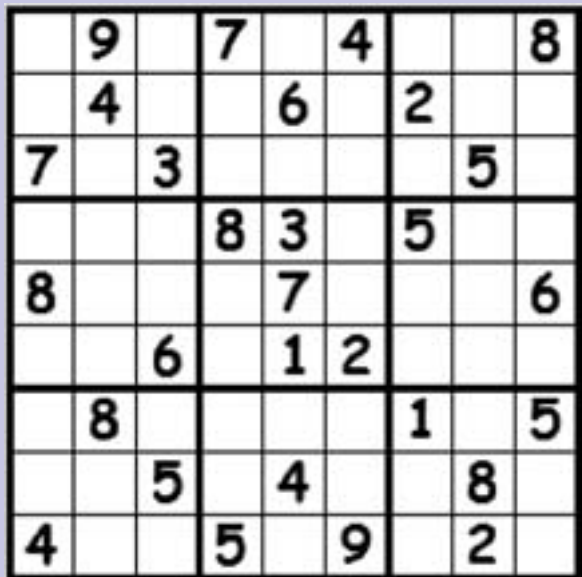
- 1) Idler (7)
- 5) Flood defence (5)
- 8) Artificial fibre (5)
- 9) Great ape (7)
- 10) Decorative shoulder piece (7)
- 11) Informal vocabulary (5)
- 13) Set on fire (6)
- 15) Cheerful (6)
- 18) Dutch cheese (5)
- 20) Inspect closely (7)
- 22) Wetlands (7)
- 23) Decree (5)
- 24) Heaped (5)
- 25) Less advanced in years (7)

Down

- 1) Roaming (9)
- 2) Latin American dance (5)
- 3) Curl (of hair) (7)
- 4) Illuminates (6)
- 5) Entices (5)
- 6) Small group of houses (7)
- 7) Period of historical time (3)
- 12) Improve (3, 6)
- 14) Not taking sides in a conflict (7)
- 16) Level area of high land (7)
- 17) Pullover (6)
- 19) Plant-parasitic insect (5)
- 21) Topping on the cake (5)
- 22) Clean (e.g. the floor) (3)

Solution on page 2

SUDOKU



Solution on page 2



James Lusanta and family. Photo by Kasia Bus.

SPOT THE WINNER! Congratulations to James Lusanta who won the October 'Spot the difference' competition and received a £10 Sainsbury's voucher.

James said: "It was fun to do it but it was really hard because of the pumpkin. It had two mistakes on it. It took me nearly a day to get it right."

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

AND WIN A £10 VOUCHER!

The Wilson's are celebrating Christmas in style but can you spot the FIVE differences? If so, you will be entered into a draw to win a £10 voucher.

Email your answers to rosehillnews@gmail.com message us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP or text Jamie on 07768 600935.

The deadline for entries is 5pm on Sunday 14 December.



"After stuffed turkey, mulled wine and much seasonal cheer came the annual showdown; this year, a high octane chase through the manic streets of San Fransico!"

Christmas Children's Quiz!

1. True or false: only male reindeer have antlers?

2. Which city is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus?

3. Which of Santa's reindeer shares its name with a god of love?

4. According to the song, on the second

day of Christmas, what did my true love send to me?

5. Traditionally, what are the gifts brought to Jesus by the Three Wise Men?

6. The Christmas tree in London's Trafalgar Square has been a gift to the people of Britain since 1947. Which city is it given by - A) Berlin B) Oslo C) Paris?

7. From which Christmas carol do the following words come? "Westward leading, still

proceeding..."

8. What is New Year's Eve called in Scotland?

9. Which spirit is traditionally added to butter and served with Christmas pudding?

10. Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean is owned by which country?

Answers on page 2



"Adoration of the three kings" by Brian Whelan.

Many thanks to Pete Appleford for the quiz, crossword and sudoku, and to Matthew Keleher for the spot the difference competition.

Promote the vote!



Lisa Birch and WEA tutor Kate. Photo by Alex hammonds.

By Aimee Winkfield

WHY VOTE? Why not!

A recent WEA course about voting has been inspiring members of the Rose Hill community in the run up to next years general election.

The Why Vote course, which took place at the Rose Hill Children's Centre in November, discussed the voting system and answered questions related to the election. The course provided numerous discussions with active engagement and debate, giving the community a much needed voice whilst letting people know why it is so important to vote.

Attendee Lisa Birch said: "I feel very inspired after attending the course. It offers

a great introduction to Political engagement and Kate's passion made what can be seen as a boring topic, become an interesting debate.

"Communities need to unite and collectively engage in political activity to improve life for the many. This feels like a good first step to achieving this."

Following on from the workshops the attendees have been invited to visit the Houses of Parliament in the New Year to see for themselves where the big decisions are made.

■ **For more information and to keep up to date on courses available to the community, please like the Facebook Page www.facebook.com/RoseHillRP**

CRAFT CORNER

By Lina Vosa

TO GET into the Christmas spirit and make this fun Christmas pudding hairband you will need:

- Soft pencil
- Paper for templates
- Scissors
- Felt - brown, green and white / cream
- Three red buttons
- Needle
- Thread - white, red and green
- Hairband

When doing more complex or detailed crafts I like to make a paper template first. To make a template:

- Draw two same size circles on the paper – about 7.5cm diameter
- Draw the cream "topping" on one of the circles
- Draw a holly leaf (you will be making two leaves but you only need one template). If you can't draw, find a holly leaf outline on the internet

Cut the templates out of the paper. You will have templates of one circle, one cream "topping" and one leaf. Now you can:

- Place the circle on the brown felt, draw around it with a soft pencil and cut it out
- Place the cream "topping" template on white or cream felt, draw around it and cut it out
- Using the leaf template, draw two

■ **Don't forget to send in your craft questions, comments or ideas to me at rosehillnews@gmail.com**



Photos by Kasia Bus.



leaves on green felt and cut them out

And now it's time to stitch everything together:

- Place the cream "topping" on the brown circle, making sure the top is properly aligned, and stitch all around with two strands of white thread using running stitch
- Embroider "veins" on the leaves with green thread and stitch them to the top of the pudding, together with three red buttons (use red thread for the buttons)
- Stitch the hairband on to the back of the pudding

You could also make a Christmas card with the same templates – just cut them out of coloured paper and glue to a blank card.

Merry Christmas!

YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

CITY COUNCILLORS



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



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

COUNTY COUNCILLOR



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

Councillor surgeries held at the Rose Hill Children's Centre:

- 13 October, 9.30 – 10.30am: Ed Turner
- 10 November, 10 – 11am: Gill Saunders
- 10 December, 9.30 – 10.30am: Michele Paule

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Andrew Smith MP
Oxford East



Labour
☎ 01865 595790
E: Andrew.Smith.MP@gmail.com

Andrew holds advice surgeries in Rose Hill at the Rose Hill Community Centre on the first Friday of each month between 6 and 7pm. 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).

CHURCH NEWS

ONE of the particular things we do at Christmas is to send cards to people we see often as well as those to whom we only write at this season of the year.

Those who are fortunate to have family members close by can offer greetings in a much more personal way face to face.

Whether we send cards or meet people in the flesh, we are showing them that we want to keep in touch and that they are important to us.

We care about them and we want to assure them of our love and concern.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Rev Andrew McKearney, Rev Sarah Northall, Deacon Carole Smith and Rev Rosemary Davies.

God has always loved and cared about people even if they have not been too bothered about Him.

At Christmas we remember how God decided to show His love in a very personal, human way and came in the flesh as a defenceless baby so people could meet God face to face.

The Christmas story reminds

us that God's love reaches out to us, often in unexpected ways. God shares in the joys and sorrows of human life. So may you receive God's gift of love to you at Christmas for He cares about you and you are precious to Him.

Rev Rosemary Davies

visit website.)

Vicar:

The Revd Andrew McKearney,
01865 773516,
mckearney@windmillweb.net
Curate: The Revd Sarah Northall,
01865 579695,
revsarahnorthall@gmail.com
Hall enquiries:
www.iffley.co.uk/hall-booking

■ **Fairacres Convent**
(access via Fairacres Road)

Christmas Eve
11.30pm, Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day
11am, Mass with Carols.

■ **Rose Hill Methodist Church**
www.rosehillmethodists.org.uk

Saturday 13 December
Christmas craft activities for all.

Sunday 21 December
10.30am Carols and readings telling the Christmas story.

Christmas Day
10.30am Service to celebrate Christ's birth.

Usual Sunday morning services begins at 10.30am.

Minister: The Revd Rosemary Davis,
01865 763676,
minister@limewalk.org.uk

Deacon: Deacon Carole Smith,
01865 712 880,
carole.smith316@gmail.com

Bookings: Mr Jeremy Dawe, 01865 779070

■ **St Mary's Church, Iffley**
www.iffley.co.uk

Sunday 21 December
6.30pm, Carol Service with St Mary's choir.
Please be seated by 6.15pm.
Collection for homelessness projects in Oxford, Mince pies and mulled wine in the Church Hall after the service.

Christmas Eve
3pm, Christingle Service
Especially suitable for families with young children. Collection for The Children's Society.
11pm, Communion for Christmas night.

Christmas Day
10am, Communion for Christmas morning.

Every Sunday there are services at 8am, 10am and 6.30pm, (for full details please

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ROSE HILL NEWS SPORT

Don't let the cold weather keep you in this winter!

IT MAY BE cold outside, but don't let that stop you from getting out and enjoying the great range of sports sessions on offer in and around Rose Hill.

All sessions are open to young people aged 14–21 and are FREE to attend so round your mates together and join the big chill (with some sports thrown in to keep everyone active). Take part in a multi-sports session right on your doorstep every Thursday, 8–10pm in the hall at Rose Hill Primary School. Sports include skills and drills, dance, fitness, badminton and more!

If you fancy a stroll over to the Oxford Academy we have a couple of great sessions there too:

- Monday and Wednesday, 3–5pm with Inspired Young People's Project
- Saturday, 2–4pm with Global Smile

By simply attending these sessions you will also earn Bounts reward points, which can turn in to some great prizes such as Oxford United match day tickets, Love2Shop vouchers and more! Ask the instructor for a key tag if you don't have one and for more info.

■ **For more information please visit www.oxford.gov.uk/communitysport or call 01865 252729. You can also download a free app called Bungee which will tell you everything going on in your area that you can get involved in!**

Remember to 'like' us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/oxfordyouthambition

A Night with Aunt Sally

By Daniel Breach

I TURNED up early at Rose Hill Social Club on Wednesday 29 October to have a night with Aunt Sally, as invited by Jamie, the editor of RHN.

While waiting for the teams to start I aired the question, jovially at the table, "Is Aunt Sally exclusive to Oxfordshire?" No answer was offered but dear Wikipedia suggests the pub game Aunt Sally is still played in the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire.

When it originated is not clear, nor whether it had anything to do with a low-life character known as "Black Sal" in the time of Charles Dickens. Or if it went back to the English Civil War and involved "Royalists" having a fun game with chickens.

From watching the players take their turns throwing with differing techniques of underarm - kind of sideways and over the top - I noted that the throws cover a fair distance more than darts but with equally as much skill.

The banter is jolly and good natured. As Steve Harris said "It is a good night out with mates and a good work out too, so a couple of drinks go down and treat!"

Women are welcomed as players too, though the majority are men. I asked the youngest one I could find about how he got into the game. He told me: "My neighbour introduced me to it and I have enjoyed playing Aunt Sally for 12 years now."

The only thing to come to mind was to ask him: "Do you think you will still be playing at 70?"

Luke replied: "Definitely!"

I have no idea what the score was but I can definitely say that it was a fun night out and I would thoroughly recommend it.



Brian Lovatt midgame. Photo by Alex Hammonds.

RHN PREMIER LEAGUE PREDICTOR

CONGRATULATIONS to Jamie Bourton (*right*) who scored nine points in the second round of the Rose Hill Predictor and won a £10 voucher.

Darren Allen leads the table with Jamie Bourton now in second place. Previous winner Amir Terabadi sits in third position.

Jamie said: "I'm aiming to win it this year, so bring it on!"

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.

So can you beat Jamie? If you think you have a chance, why not give it a go? And remember, the person with the most points at the end of the season will win a mystery prize. It's not too late enter!

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

Terms and conditions:

- Three points for a correct score
- One point for the correct result
- Predictions emailed or messaged in after midday on



Photo by Alex Hammonds.

Games to predict will take place on the 13, 14 and 15 of December:

Burnley V Southampton
Chelsea V Hull
Crystal Palace V Stoke
Leicester V Man City
Sunderland V West Ham
West Brom V Aston Villa
Arsenal V Newcastle
Man Utd V Liverpool
Swansea V Tottenham
Everton V QPR

Saturday 13 December will not be accepted

- Only one entry per person.
- Multiple entries will automatically disqualify the entrant.

A day in the life of an OXFORD UNITED FAN

Oxford United FC – The Enigma Machine

By Orliter

WRITING about the fortunes of any football team poses many problems for the writer. Writing of the Very Famous Yellows of Oxford United is so very different.

While not easy, the team from the suburbs of Blackbird Leys mostly defy logic never knowing what might happen next. But examples of teams who are consistently poor, lose most matches and languish at the bottom of the league and of course are dumped out of all cup competitions and the writers who have to be positive in their musings...no chance.

Now the Yellows are so inconsistent one never knows if at the end of the season they will be promoted... ha! ... or relegated... mmmm. As my furry friend Briggsy reminds me it's been many years since that happened to Oxford United.

Perhaps the great years of the nineteen eighties when the side leapfrogged from the bottom to the very top league, collecting the Milk (league) Cup on the way at Wembley. As my football mad

dog tosses the ball up for me to smash through the balcony doors and knock two hanging baskets to the street below, I ask him how he knew of these facts?

He is after all just five and a half years young but his measured response was typical and that in human terms his age is thirty eight making him ten years young in nineteen eighty six. I had forgotten that he could read and write and hold meaningful conversations while standing at the bar of a local pub.

So where does all this leave Oxford United at the present time I wonder? The last notes in the October issue of the Rose Hill News showed them almost rock bottom of division two and yet playing football that would grace the Nou Camp in Barcelona. Then the new management team caught on that not scoring goals meant not winning matches and so decided to play a raw eighteen year old in attack who, on his full debut scored twice and followed up on his second game with the winner.

So summing up I can safely write that before the season's end The Very Amazing Yellows will be safely positioned between the top and the bottom of the league and my hanging baskets will be back in place but without flowers! Makes sense doesn't it? Come on you Yellows.

NEW Rose Hill Runners



Come and join our fun and friendly jogging group. Let us help you start jogging or just join in our weekly 5km route.

Mondays 7pm

Meet at The Oval, Rose Hill

FREE!

Beginners, improvers and experienced joggers all welcome!



For more information visit
www.RoseHillRunners.co.uk
or contact Zoe@RoseHillRunners.co.uk



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