

Project ERIC comes to Rose Hill!



Resident Mr Dillon with Andy Edwards from BioRegional and Chris Wright of Moixa. INSET: Fitting solar PV panels on roof. Photos by Alex Hammonds.

AN EXCITING new project started in January 2015 that will see homes across Rose Hill turned into a localised power station for the community.

This year Project ERIC (Energy Resources for Integrated Communities) is bringing clean, green solar power and battery energy storage to up to 100 homes in Rose Hill. Some of these homes will also receive state-of-the-art low energy LED lighting.

The project aims to show that by generating and using green electricity within a community it can cut energy

bills, benefit the environment and give residents more control over the way they use their energy.

The system works to cut levels of electricity exports at peak times while reducing imports from the grid, making entire communities more energy self-sufficient.

60 of the 100 households have already been recruited with installations ongoing since the start of February. GreenSquare housing resident, Laura Laubeova who lives on John Parker Close was amongst the

first to be recruited:

"I am excited to have been selected for this project. I hope it will make my bills more friendly looking. I also feel that any such initiative is extremely positive for the future of our children and their children."

60 homes will receive installations of solar PV and battery storage over the next two months. The installs take less than a day and allow residents to start generating and storing clean solar electricity immediately.

Chris Wright from Moixa

Technology, lead partner in the project and developer of the smart battery storage said,

"We are delighted to be working in Rose Hill with Oxford City Council, GreenSquare Group and the local community. Project ERIC is an exciting opportunity for residents to get involved in an innovative way of generating and using electricity that will bring down residents' electricity bills, reduce climate-changing carbon emissions and build the case for a cleaner, fairer energy system."

Project ERIC is jointly funded by Moixa Technology, the UK government, Oxford City Council and GreenSquare Group and will bring considerable investment to the local area over the next two and a half years.

■ **For further information, and to find out how you could get involved please contact Andy Edwards from BioRegional, andy.edwards@bioregional.com or Fran Gardner from GreenSquare 07770 324 277**



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ROSE HILL NEWS

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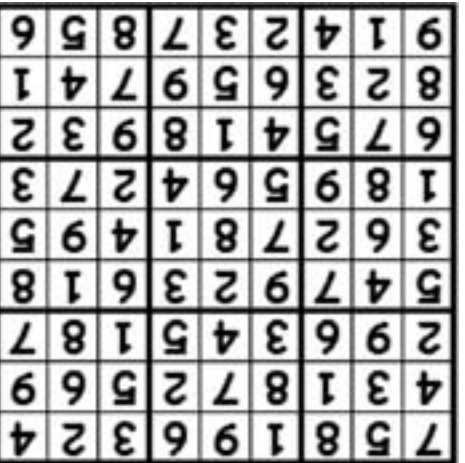
ROSE HILL NEWS is a not-for-profit newspaper dedicated to providing news and information to the whole Rose Hill community. We are not affiliated to any political party, and we operate an equal opportunities policy. We encourage any resident to get involved in our work.

Produced with help from the Leys News Editorial and Design team.

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Answers and solutions to games on page 10
1. 30' 2. Octagon; 3. Asia; 4. Arm;
5. William Shakespeare; 6. Saturday;
7. Zeus; 8. 15;

Update from Beards on the new Rose Hill Community Centre

**By Brendan Rourke,
Contracts Manager
Beard Oxford**

THOSE of you who have been close to the site of the new Rose Hill Community Centre, will have noticed some large cranes on site, erecting the steel frame for the new building.

We are pleased to confirm that the steel frame is now complete and we are now working to construct the new first floor and ground floor and will shortly be starting on the roof structure and covering.

The building has a large flat roof and we are working with the Oxford City Council and the design team, to ensure that none of the space up there is wasted. The roof will be used to site some of the large items of mechanical plant, which are required to provide a comfortable environment for the users of the new centre.

All remaining space on the roof will be used to site a large photovoltaic panel system. These panels will be used to generate electricity, some of which will be



utilised within the new building, to reduce electricity bills, and some of which will be fed back into the power grid. This is a very sensible use of what could have been a wasted space and also helps us to minimise our impact on the environment.

Our Site Manager Peter Joyce recently gave a morning assembly talk to the pupils of Rose Hill Primary School, to update the pupils on our progress on site and also to warn them of some of the potential hazards that can be found on construction sites.

A series of site visits are planned over the coming months, for some of the older school pupils, where they will be able to see progress at close quarters and have the opportunity to wear hard hats and high visibility clothing.

We have just started on the demolition of the old changing pavilion, as this will be the location of the new floodlit Multi Use Games Area.

Finally, new sports changing facilities form part of the new community centre and we are confident that these will be appreciated by local sports teams once the building has been handed over.

How I celebrate Chinese New Year

By Bee Cheng Khoo

AS A MALAYSIAN Chinese person, the only occasion I celebrate is Chinese New Year. The first day of Chinese New Year is 19 Feb and it is the year of Goat.

Chinese New Year celebrations traditionally run from Chinese New Year's eve until the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the first month, making the festival the longest in the Chinese calendar.

On New Year's Eve we have The New Year's Eve Feast. This is a 'must do' dinner with all the family members reuniting to celebrate.

This contributes to a huge travel rush throughout the country. As my family are also Malaysian Chinese, we have a steamboat dinner meal on this special day. Parents will present their children red envelopes in the evening, with good wishes for their kids health and wealth in the coming year.

These red envelopes will always have money in them as this is believed to bring good luck.

We believe that what we do on the first day on the Chinese lunar calendar will effect our luck in the coming year, so the moment Chinese New Year arrives there is a crescendo of fireworks and firecrackers all around. Fireworks sound like cannons and explosives, and chains of firecrackers make machine gun noises.



Photo by Kasia Bus.

On the second day of the Chinese New year, the married daughter will visit the house of her parents and from the third day to the seventh day, people will visit relatives and friends.

On the third day, people may go to visit the tombs of their relatives. However, some people don't like to go outside on the third day because it is believed that evil spirits may be roaming around.

The eighth day is the end of the New Year holiday for most and people go back to work. All government agencies and businesses reopen by this day.

The fifteenth day of the New Year is the Lantern Festival. It is the traditional ending of the Spring Festival celebrations.

People send glowing lanterns into the sky while others let lanterns float on the sea, rivers, or set them adrift in lakes. This special day is also known as 'Chinese Valentine's Day'.

Happy Chinese New Year!

Open day display

By Aimee Winkfield

ON SATURDAY 24 January, the University of Oxford hosted its annual Open Day East event in Cowley.

Held throughout the afternoon were a wide range of diverse workshops. Some included languages like Chinese and Italian, whilst others focused on Politics and History.

Tutor Noel White provided an engaging talk about Scriptwriting which certainly impressed those who came along, as it overran due to interesting discussions on films!

Part time student Marie Harrison, who currently studies English Literature with the programme said:

"It's a fun course, but naturally hard work! It's great value for money.

"Doing the course part time allowed me to ease myself back into a learning environment, which really helped me."

The open day was no doubt a success and the programme appears to be a great way for adults to further themselves or get back into higher education. With a diverse variety of courses offered online, there's something for everyone.

■ **Head to www.conted.ox.ac.uk/events/eastoxfordopenday for more information on all the courses available.**

The Leys Health Centre – Important changes to the appointment system

WHAT does this mean for patients?

- No 'Walk-In' (Open Surgery) appointments starting on Wednesday 4 February 2015.
- Patients should continue to book routine appointments with their GP or nurse as they usually do.
- If patients have a medically urgent condition, and they need an appointment, they should

telephone the practice on the day, preferably before 11am.

- Patients will be asked to provide some basic information about their medical condition when they call to request an appointment.
- The doctor will contact the patient by telephone and assess their condition. If it is medically urgent, they will be offered a same-day appointment.

■ **For further information, please look at our website www.theleyshealthcentre.co.uk or pop into the surgery and pick up a leaflet**

Buy local at the Lenthall Road Allotment Shop

THE Lenthall Road Allotment shop is now open for the 2015 season every Sunday morning from 10.30am–12 noon.

The shop sells everything you need to prepare your flower and vegetable beds for the spring, including fertiliser, compost, canes and seeds. Cash or cheque only.

Kick off your weekend with Saturdads



THE Saturdads session at the Rose Hill Children's Centre is a great place for dads and male carers to have free quality time with their children.

The session takes place from 10.30am–1.30pm and are a fun, relaxed and enjoyable way for fathers within Rose Hill to spend a Saturday morning.

There are creche facilities, art activities, sports and free play opportunities which give dads the chance to bond with their children and other dads through playing and learning.

Senior Children's Centre Worker Rafa Borja, leads each session alongside Rose Hill Junior Youth Club Play Leader Jamie Bourton.

Rafa said: "There is a massive need for these types of sessions within Oxford. It's a wonderful environment and I have met some truly amazing people over the past few years."

"I love to see people develop socially and we have created an inclusive place for this to happen. If you're a dad in Rose Hill you're very welcome to come along and become a part of it. We're always looking to meet new people."

The centre also offers one to one support and drop in sessions. To find out more call 01865 716739 or drop in to a Saturdads session this Saturday!

WHY I ATTEND THE SATURDADS SESSIONS...

Kevin Hennessey

The sessions are a good place to come with my kids because the guys here offer support and good activities. It's also a laugh for the dads. I've been coming here for over a year and I really enjoy meeting all the other dads and building relationships with different people and my children. It's not often you get the chance to spend time with your children so this is great for that.

There are lots of art and craft activities here and a good lunch so what more could you want? In the Summer you can take your children to the park or on days out but in Winter this place is fantastic as it's somewhere to play and mix with others away from the cold.

Brendan McCarthy

The main thing for me is that this place is open every Saturday. This is important as it becomes a routine for both myself and the children to get used to. We all look forward to coming here and bonding with our children in a relaxed and fun way.

Dads also get the chance to invent activities for the children and the workers here

are really interested in what we have to say. Rafa and Jamie have been great over the years.

Activity wise, there's the chance to engage in all types of fun. There's wet play, free play, messy play and a whole raft of creative play. Play is so good for a child's development and it's good to know that the children are having fun but are safe at the same time.

I believe it's important for a father to spend quality time with their children. It's important to feed, care and take responsibility for your kids and take some of the pressure away from the mother. I'm the longest member of the Saturdads



group and I can't thank Rafa and Jamie enough for their time and non-judgemental support. They have created a really relaxed environment and it is a joy to be a part of it. I can remember a time when services like this didn't exist and so I know how important it is to make the most of it.

Clint Moyo

This is somewhere for my son to play others and have fun. It's also good for me as I get to get out of the house and interact with people. It's a place where I can find out about work and training and meet with other dads that are in similar situations.

Alladin Mark Seymour

This provides a brilliant service for parents who otherwise may not get time to have this kind of social time with their children. Kids can be demanding so it's great to have this type of support network in place.

The dads help out at times during the session and we all muck in together to create a community feel. The staff are supportive and share their knowledge of child care and child development. It's a great place to be.

Clockwise, starting top left: Kevin and his daughter, Dad Leslie and his family, Brendan and his boys, Rafa Borja and Rose Hill News' Jamie Clark. All photos bt Kasia Bus.



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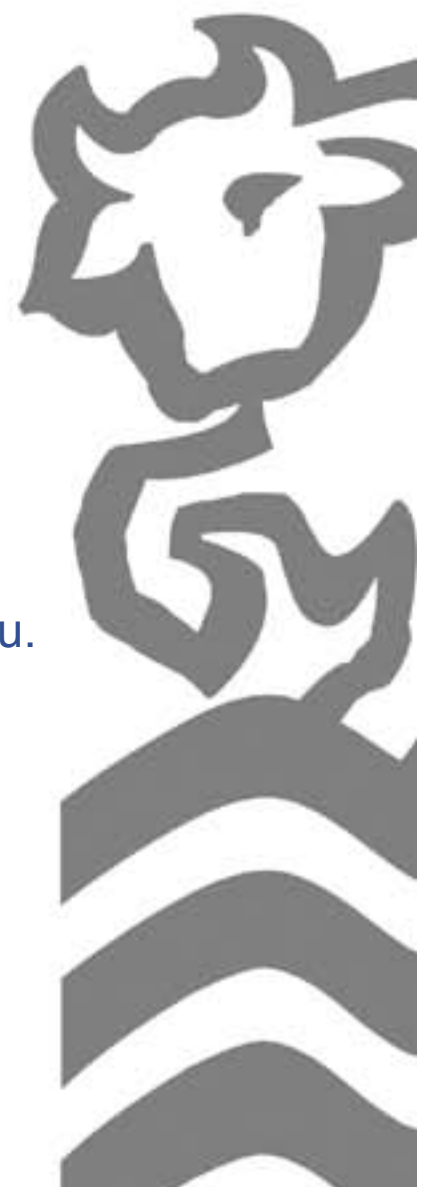
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Community First Funding – a success!

By Gabrielle Westhead

THE Community Development Foundations' Community First Funding stream was active in Rose Hill and Iffley during the last 4 years, with the final funding round closing in December.

The aim of the funding was to encourage new volunteer-run community groups – and friendships – to form and develop in Rose Hill and Iffley.

Local community groups could apply for up to £1,200 from the £33,910 funding pot. The application process was made as easy and accessible as possible, supported by Oxford City Council officers and GreenSquare to complete paperwork.

All funding applications were submitted to the Rose Hill and Iffley Community First Panel, a panel organised by Oxford City Council to include members of the community.

Over the four years, the panel assessed 35 applications, approximately eight per year, and have successfully allocated £30922 to

local good causes and volunteer activities that cover an inclusive range of ages, cultural groups and interests – to support bringing the different strands of the community together. HEERA, an Asian women's group, began a programme of activities for their members, such as cooking and baking sessions, sewing, glass painting, Driving Theory tests and English classes. The group intend to widen the scope of HEERA by actively offering the sessions to all women from Rose Hill and Iffley.

The Nepalese Oxford Community Group organised a fun sports and cultural programme day for the community. The African Ladies Group ran a six-week weaving workshop which catered for beginners and those more advanced as well. It offered a skill that could be developed into a small business for group members, by making and selling items that have been woven.

To celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee, the Rose Hill Community Association successfully hosted a street party on the estate with their funding. Not only did it allow more people to pay tribute to the Queen's 60 years on the throne, it also brought everyone in Rose Hill together.

■ **To find out more about the opportunities that the funding has given to Rose Hill residents visit <https://www.facebook.com/RHIffleyCFF>**



The funding also funded a cookery programme for the Junior Youth Club. Photo by Alex Hammonds.

Tapping along

By Aimee Winkfield

FOLLOWING a jam packed first year, the tap dancing group Lil Tapz has certainly achieved a lot, from amazing exam results to fundraising in the local community.

A magical Disney inspired performance at Christmas raised an impressive £713, which will be going to the foundation stage at the Rose Hill Primary school.

Founder Steph Ballard said: "All the children worked so hard, it was a great success and I am extremely proud of them all."

Lil Tapz have already started

doing a number of displays around Oxford and are now starting to work on their exams which will be held in May. The exams are specially designed and are being trialed at the class for all pupils, even those younger than two years old.

Steph is keen to include more children in her sessions, from boys and girls aged two upwards. And more classes have been created due to popular demand. Adult classes are also available on Wednesday evenings if you are looking to be a part of this fantastic group.

■ **For more information contact Steph on 07745295258 or visit www.facebook.com/LilTapzRoseHill**



Lil Tapz's Steph Ballard. Photo by Kasia Bus.

And the winner is...

ON SATURDAY 6 December, Oxford City Council's Communities and Neighbourhoods Team attended the Rose Hill Christmas Party to get more residents engaged in their local Community Partnership.

At the event, Cheryl Snudden – the Council's Neighbourhood Locality Officer – invited residents to

take part in a free Christmas draw for a £10 M&S voucher. The lucky winner was local resident Brian Spacey. Well done Brian!

■ **Remember you can follow the Council on Twitter www.twitter.com/OxfordCity or on Facebook www.facebook.com/OxfordCityCouncil to find out local information, get event details and enter competitions.**

■ **If you are interested in getting involved then please email Terry Kirkby on mrtkirkby@yahoo.com or meet us on 7 March at 10am on The Oval.**



The winner is Brian Spacey.

Oxclean 2015

ROSE HILL Tenant and Residents Association has been working in partnership with Oxford City Council and the Oxford Civic Society to

arrange OXCLEAN 2015 on Rose Hill.

The aim of the event is to have a spring clean around Rose Hill by way of a community litter pick.

ROSE HILL AND IFFLEY LOW CARBON GROUP

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! There are lots of people to thank in this issue.

Tree planting

Number one thank you goes to the 23 Year 6 children from Rose Hill School for helping us to plant more than 200 trees at the edge of the Recreation Ground on 28 January. And thank you to the four adults who came with them, eleven volunteers from the community (including four-year-old Oliver) and of course the four City Council workers who brought the saplings and showed us how to plant them.

Now the Year 6 children are planning to bring their own children along to play around the trees in 20 or 30 years' time!

Bring or Take Swap Shop

Number two thank you goes to all who helped and supported us at our great recycling event. 39 people came along and exchanged a wide variety of goods including bicycles and books, cups and coats, toasters and towels.

Everything was free so people were able to pick up a bargain and get rid of unwanted clutter. Thank you to the helpers, cake-makers, PAT-testers and tea-brewers. Thank you to those who



Tree Planting with Low Carbon.

took un-exchanged goods to the Helen Douglas House Charity Shop or the little that remained to the Redbridge Recycling Centre. Many thanks also to the Rose Hill Advice Centre for allowing us to use their premises without cost.

Thermal imaging in the coldest days of February

Number three thank you goes to Paul Skinner, Laura Barnfield and their thermal imaging team. We leafleted 600 houses in Rose Hill to offer householders free photos that show where heat is leaking.

The team went out on cold, dry evenings because that's when the photos are most accurate. All those who responded have since

had thermal images of their homes explained at a no-cost advice session on 28 February. Rose Hill Primary School also asked for our help.

Their photos will enable the school to identify where to insulate the building before next winter, so they can keep their pupils roastie-toastie.

Next big event

We hope to see you at our next big event – a FREE CYCLE REPAIR WORKSHOP on Sat 2 May, 12 am – 12pm at The Oval (or, if wet, at Rose Hill Community Centre). So get that squeaky old bike out and make it into a smooth, speed machine for the summer!

■ rosehillandiffleylowcarbon.wordpress.com

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- International Labour and Trade Union Studies: Saturday 21st February - 11am-2pm
- International Labour and Trade Union Studies: Saturday 18th April - 11am-2pm
- International Labour and Trade Union Studies: Saturday 9th May - 11am-2pm
- International Labour and Trade Union Studies: Saturday 6th June - 11am-2pm



To book a place on an open day,
contact Hannah Jones on:
T: 01865 759604
E: hjones@ruskin.ac.uk

To book a place on one of the International Labour and
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ROSE HILL JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

OVER 100 Rose Hill residents took part in the first filming session for Rose Hill Junior Youth Club's film project Rose Hill TV.

On Thursday 5 February, the Rose Hill Junior Youth Club organised a special 'Come Dine With Rose Hill' event, which was filmed and will play a major part of the final film.

Youth club attendees arranged a disco and entertainment for the event, whilst some of the children showcased their singing, gymnastic and dancing skills. Residents, volunteers and parents also helped out by providing the food for a large buffet.

Rose Hill resident Donna Wood said: "I thought it was a really fun event that really brought the community together"

Young Leader at the youth club Leah Carron said: "It was amazing and I loved seeing how talented everyone is. The food was great too - I'm proud to have been a part of it."

When finished, Rose Hill TV will be presented as if someone is watching TV and flicking through the channels - each of which will show a different activity that the children take part in at the club. The channels will include: news, music, sport, nature, cooking, arts and drama.

■ If you would like to get involved with the Rose Hill TV project, either by making set designs, filming, editing or acting, get in touch with Fran Gardner on 07770324277 or email fran.gardner@greensquaregroup.com



All photos by Kasia Bus

Busy times at the Youth Club

WELL what a few weeks it has been! We're well on the way with Rose Hill TV and attendance to the club is continuing to grow and grow! From March onwards there's a whole host of activities planned. There will be a trip to Oxford City Football Club's stadium, wildlife activities at the Rivermead Reserve, drama

workshops, dance classes and much more! And don't forget our famous Healthy Tea at 5pm. The tea is cooked by the kids, for the kids, with the focus on fresh and healthy food which is really tasty. We normally serve pasta in sauce, cheese, salad, coleslaw, bread and a fabulous pudding such as home made flapjack, fruit and custard. Our thanks go to the Oxford Food Bank and Fareshare for giving us the ingredients to create good, nutritious food. Club sessions are always a lot of fun, so if you're

interested in taking part, why not pop in and see what you think? The Rose Hill Junior Youth Club is an inclusive club for 6-11 year olds, and takes place at the Rose Hill Community Centre during term time: Wednesday - Years 2 and 3 - 3.30pm - 5.30pm Thursday - Years 4, 5 and 6 - 3.30pm - 5.30pm

■ For more information on the youth club contact **Jamie Clark** on 07768600935 or email **jamie.clark@greensquaregroup.com**



Hold the front page!

A NEW Rose Hill newspaper has been set up by Rose Hill primary School pupils to rival Rose Hill News. The paper, Rose Buds, has been created by pupils with the help of Rose Hill News editor Jamie Clark and will be available to read in late March.

The Rose Buds editorial team consists of Nosheen Mullick, Gomcarlo Silverio, Anya Ward, Ayeisha Timadjeer and Maria Besevic. And as of May 2015, each Rose Hill News edition will feature articles from the Rose Buds team.

Maria, Fashion editor for Rose Buds said: "I wanted to write for the newsletter because as well as informing children about all the important things it also has a lot of



Nosheen and Ayeisha of the Rose Buds team. Photo by Alex Hammonds.

fun things and activities."

Features editor Ayeisha said: "I want to bring joy to the readers of the paper so they don't have to

read other boring adult news!"

It looks like Rose Hill News has some competition so watch this space!

■ If you'd like some more information on how you could get a copy or Rose Buds, email **jamie.clark@greensquaregroup.com** or call **Jamie** on **07768600935**.

Rose Hill's Got Talent

ON FRIDAY 6 February Rose Hill Primary School held it's very own Rose Hill's Got Talent show.

Over 50 children took part and acts included comedians, singers, dancers, a pianist and gymnasts.

The whole school turned out to watch and parents were invited too! It was a fabulous event and the level of talent of all who performed was outstanding.

Altogether a very enjoyable afternoon - thank you to everyone who took part.



Award for Tahira

ON WEDNESDAY 4 February Tahira Naseem, Community Food Coordinator for the Rose Hill Lottery Project won an Individual Volunteer Award at the Oxfordshire Charity and Volunteer Awards.

Mrs Naseem proudly received her award the Oxford Town Hall and said: "I am very happy to be recognised in this way."

Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Clark, said: "Tahira is an incredibly valuable member of the team."

"Tahira acts as food coordinator, translates for other Asian women during training courses and encourages other Asian women from the community to volunteer. She is an inspiration to others and more than deserves her award."

Stories from our volunteers

By Kasia Bus

VOLUNTEERING for Rose Hill News is an amazing experience. I felt welcome from the very first day.

After contacting the paper I was introduced to the Lottery Project team and the volunteering role was explained to me. Importantly I felt as if the team listened to my thoughts and I was given flexibility to adapt my role.

This was three years

ago. At the time I was new to the community and volunteering gave me the opportunity of getting to know my place of residence in no time. Being surrounded by friendly and welcoming people gave me a sense of belonging. It felt great to be stopped on the street for a little chat by people I photographed before and who had found their photos in the newspaper.

Every photo-shoot is an adventure - it gives you an insight into someone's life, which I find extremely interesting. Most of all I enjoy being festival photographer as I can



Photo by Kasia Bus.

wander unnoticed with the camera capturing the atmosphere and the people in the crowd.

It is the best experience to be able to record bits of Rose Hill Regeneration Project and to be a part of it at the same

time. To watch and photograph the development of the estate and to see different cultures coming together is something that I wouldn't change for anything else!

they had for me until they got to know me and my name!" "The amazing thing about it all is how brilliant the team has been in accepting me into the fold. I have been really humbling and I am very grateful. Volunteering is giving me the experience I need to have a go at making a career for myself in this type of work."

Volunteer Coordinator Jamie Clark said: "Jonny has been an absolute revelation since he started volunteering with us. He's incredibly hardworking, has a great sense of humour and gets along with everyone. We're very lucky to have someone like Jonny."

Jonny is currently studying for a playwork qualification and in the

future he hopes to become a student at Ruskin College and continue his youth work in Rose Hill.

Thank you Jonny for everything that you have done!



Photo by Alex Hammonds.

STAR VOLUNTEER: Jonny Griffin

JONNY has been volunteering with the Rose Hill Lottery Project since October 2014 and has made quite an impression within Rose Hill! After coming on board as a volunteer for the junior youth club, Jonny has since volunteered his time to every session, helped out at community events and is now giving his time as administrator for the project. Jonny said: "I enjoy volunteering at Rose Hill for a number of reasons. The kids there are really something special. They instantly made me feel at home with the funny nicknames

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The Why Vote Gang at the Houses of Parliament. Photo by Alex Hammonds.

WHY VOTE?

ROSE HILL learners enjoyed a trip to the Houses of Parliament on Wednesday 11 February, thanks to WEA. Residents who attended the course were rewarded with a free trip to see where the big

decisions are made.

Jabu Nala'Hartley said: "I enjoyed learning about the history and battles for the right to vote. Not just for Women but also the common man."

Rose Hill News photographer Alex Hammonds said: "All round, everyone had a great time and got to meet new people, whilst learning why we should all vote."

CRAFT CORNER

By Lina Vosa

THIS beautiful hand made bracelet may add a touch of distinction to your outfit or could be a unique gift for someone you love. To make a felt bracelet you will need:

- Black and pink felt (or your choice of colours)
- Five black seed beads and sequins
- Thread – black and pink
- Scissors
- Needle
- Soft pencil
- Sewing pins
- Ruler
- Tape measure

1. Measure your wrist with the tape measure, subtract 0.5cm from the length. Cut out a strip of this length by 2.5cm wide from black felt. Round off the corners a little bit.
2. With a soft pencil draw five little circles on the pink felt. You can use a 1p coin for this purpose. Carefully

cut out the circles.

3. Evenly space pink circles on the strip of black felt and pin them in place.

4. Thread the needle with two strands of black thread and knot the end. Sew each circle using straight stitches from centre to the edge. Space the stitches evenly. To add a sequin, push the needle through the centre of the pink circle from underneath the black felt and pass the needle through one sequin and one seed bead.

Then go back to the sequin in the opposite direction so that the bead sits on top of the sequin. Make a knot to hold the sequin in place and then sew on all five circles the same way.

5. Place the strip of black felt with circles on top of the pink felt. Stitch around the edge with two strands of pink thread using running stitch. When you finish, make a knot and hide the thread between two layers of felt. Cut out bracelet leaving 1mm pink edge around black felt.



Photos by Kasia Bus.

6. Cut six strands of pink and black thread about 30cm long and thread them through the end of the bracelet. Align the ends and tie all strands into a knot as close as you can to the end of the bracelet. Divide the strands into

three equal parts and start braiding. Tie a knot on the end, cut off the excess thread leaving about 0.5–1cm behind the knot. Do the same on the other end of bracelet.

And now you have a wonderful felt bracelet!

■ Send in your craft questions, comments or ideas to me at rosehillnews@gmail.com

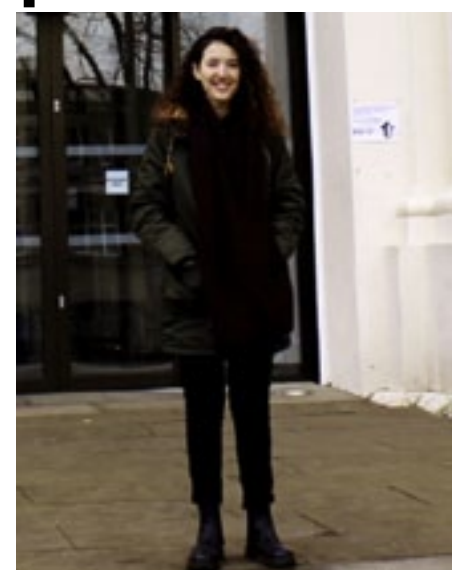
My university experience

By Yasmine Hajji

UNIVERSITY was a strange process for me, but the initial phase of selecting which university to go to, what course I wanted to study and the fear of 'fitting in' bypassed me a long time ago. Strangely enough, my whole application process had been somewhat smooth aside from my decision to defer a year when I realised I still had nowhere to live yet while at university just weeks before I was due to begin my studies.

This seems laughable now when I realise that I am here and I am genuinely enjoying it. If you are considering university, I cannot recommend the transition into further education highly enough. Although you may go through some trials and tribulations, the end result is amazing, and if you know you want to pursue your curiosity for a subject even further, take the academic route. Personally, I am in my first year of undergraduate Media and Sociology, a course which is challenging in some respects but extremely eye opening and informative.

Living in London is perhaps the best part about my university experience, and also the worst, because there are always so many opportunities to pursue



Yasmine Hajji outside Goldsmiths.

and never enough time! I am thankful I have always been dead set on coming to Goldsmiths, University of London because it is a creative environment which thrives off its roots in the South East and always has something to see or do.

Moving away from home is the biggest benefit and as clichéd as it may sound, throwing yourself into a new space with new people is one way of getting the most out of life while you are still young.

IMAGINE...

IMAGINE sitting in a meeting with as many as seven professionals who are discussing your child and their Special Educational Needs, possibly using jargon you don't understand.

IMAGINE coming away, not clear what has been decided, unhappy that you hadn't felt brave enough to say what you really felt and wishing there had been someone there to support you.



Now, **IMAGINE** you are the person there to offer support. You've had a chance to talk things through before the meeting with the parent or carer so you know what they want to say. At the meeting you can encourage them to have their say, check with them they understand the jargon, perhaps even ask the questions the parent is reluctant to ask. Afterwards you can discuss the meeting with them, perhaps help them follow up what was agreed.

Just **IMAGINE** the difference you could make as a **volunteer Independent Parental Supporter?**

Training and expenses are provided, you won't be thrown in at the deep end or out of pocket.

INTERESTED?

Ring Parent Partnership Oxfordshire
on 01865 810516

or email: parentpartnership@oxfordshire.gov.uk



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FUN AND GAMES

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE AND WIN A £10 VOUCHER!

The Wilson's are getting ready for Spring 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 15 March.



On the first of spring, all creatures grand and small leave hibernation to forage for good food...

THE ROSE HILL CROSSWORD



Across

- 1) African carnivore (5)
- 4) Large gun dog (7)
- 6) Gathering of former associates (7)
- 7) Woody plant (5)
- 9) Social insect (3)
- 10) Persistent preoccupation (9)
- 11) Insight (6)
- 13) Protect (6)
- 15) Failed to care for (9)
- 16) "Thus" (Latin) (3)
- 17) Handled, coped (with) (5)
- 18) Branches of the trachea (7)
- 20) At low cost (7)
- 21) Stone-worker (5)

Down

- 1) Foolish (11)
- 2) Escape (5)
- 3) Muhammad ..., former boxer (3)
- 4) Discipline (6)
- 5) Wood-eating insect (7)
- 7) Hang (7)
- 8) Blessing (11)
- 10) Consume too much food (7)
- 12) Improvement in service (7)
- 14) Short and broad (6)
- 16) Foot coverings (5)
- 19) Unit of electrical resistance (3)

Solution on page 2

KIDS QUIZ!

1. How many days are there in June?
2. What shape has eight sides?
3. Japan is based in which continent?
4. On which part of your body would you find the humerus?
5. Who wrote the play 'Hamlet'?
6. On what day is Saturdads open?
7. In Greek mythology who was king of the Gods?
8. What is the next number in this sequence? 3, 7, 11...

Answers on page 2

SUDOKU

	5			9	6			4
		1						9
2		6				1		7
		7			3	6		
3				8				5
		9	5			2		
6		5				9		2
8						7		
9			2	3			5	

Solution on page 2



Comfort Otunba with Rose Hill News' Jamie Clark. Photo by Kasia Bus.

Spot the Winner!

CONGRATULATIONS to Lottery Project volunteer Comfort Otunba who won the Christmas 'Spot the difference' competition and received a £10 Sainsbury's voucher.

Comfort said: "I am very happy to have won the competition. Thank you very much!"

The deadline for entries is 5pm on Sunday 15 March.

ROSE HILL TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION UPDATE

THE Rose Hill Tenants and Residents Association meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the Community Centre at 7.30pm to discuss all issues concerning Rose Hill.

Since the last meeting, the Association has been successful in persuading the County Council and Oxford City Council to repair the carriageways in Rivermead Road, Court Farm Road and Mortimer Road.

Also three new drop kerbs have been installed at the Oval and the Childrens Centre with a complete resurfacing of the path between Lambourn Road and Desborough Crescent.

The February meeting featured the Leader of Oxford City Council, Cllr Bob Price and Maggie Dent who represented the Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

Maggie brought us the sad news that the new Community Centre was not, after all, going to get a Doctors surgery but would have other medical facilities.

Invitations have been extended to the chief executives of the NHS for the Thames Valley, the OCCG for Oxford and Healthwatch who make recommendations for the improvement of health in our area. It is hoped that a full explanation will be given at the next meeting and future meetings.

Why not come along and join in the big-talk and make a difference to our area?



Terry Kirkby, chair of Rose Hill Tenants and Residents Association. Photo by Kasia Bus.

CHURCH NEWS

By Andrew McKearney
Vicar of Iffley

THE 40 days of Lent recall the time that Jesus spent in the wilderness at the very beginning of his ministry. He was there to prepare himself by prayer and fasting, and to clarify what he was about.

He was there to face hard questions. These questions are dramatised by the gospel-writers as three satanic temptations: to break his fast by turning stones into bread, to claim the kingdoms of the world as his own, and to throw himself from the pinnacle of the Temple in order to be rescued by angels. As he refused each temptation in turn, Jesus rejected three false understandings of his purpose in life. He was there not to seek material comfort, not to win status and wealth, not selfishly to exploit the power of God.

Rather, he was there to serve the Father and to live by His word, whatever that would cost



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

him, even to the point of death on a cross.

Jesus faced the truth about his life in the wilderness, and we in Lent face the truths about our own lives. By giving things up and by giving things away, we face the truth of our own weakness and soon discover the facts about our needs. The most basic of those needs is our need for God. And so we take time out in Lent from the busyness of our lives to be with and to listen to God in prayer.

Once again, we are looking for the truth. The truth we find here is a simple one: God is love, and we ourselves were made to serve Him and to serve one another in love. Hence the truths of Lent are linked by the bond that is love, since humility and

generosity are the foundations on which human love is laid.

Lent also unites us with the traditions of the other great religions of the world, reminding us of the shared nature of our religious heritage. Repentance, fasting, almsgiving and prayer are shared spiritual disciplines practised by devout followers of many faiths, Jews, Christians and Muslims in particular.

Lent is a marvellous opportunity both to express our solidarity with those of other faiths and also to deepen our own religious practice; because Easter can so easily be submerged by the tides of trivialisation we first need the honesty of Lent.

LIBRARY NEWS

IF YOUR child is 3–7 years old, they can come and get crafty at our monthly themed Craft Activity.

On 7 March we are making Mother's Day cards and on 14 March we'll be focusing on Mother's Day presents! Both sessions take place between 11am–1pm. As children must be accompanied by an adult, it's a good chance for the grown-ups to relax and choose some books for themselves.

We also have an Easter Egg Hunt and Craft Session on Thursday 2 April starting at 2.30pm, so if your children would like to come in their Easter bonnet/hat, we can have an Easter parade around the Library! There will even be a prize for the best hat!

Rhyme-time is the first and third Saturday of the month at 11am and for more activities and details please visit the Oxfordshire County Council website.

Littlemore Library has a selection of adult audio books so why not come along and have a browse. We also have a new collection of books that will tempt you to try something new.

Our opening times are as follows:

Monday 2pm – 6pm

Tuesday 2pm – 4pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 9.30am – 12.30pm & 2pm – 4.30pm

Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Saturday 9.30am – 1.30pm

■ **Sharon Ingram, Library Manager**

T: 01865 714309

E: littlemore.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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).

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www.oacp.org.uk/jobs

■ Rose Hill Methodist Church

www.rosehillmethodists.org.uk

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

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

Sports-tastic Saturdays

STARTING on 7 March the Rose Hill Lottery project will be starting an amazing new free Saturday morning Multi – Sport session for children from 5 to 13 years. The new sessions will run from 10.45am to 12 noon and will take place at the Rose Hill Primary School.

The free sessions are going to be led by Oxford City Football Club Ladies team captain Aliyah Anthony with other members of the City FC squad.

Aliyah said: “Outdoor sport helps us all to realise the benefits of being physically active and most importantly it's really great fun! I especially want to get more of our girls involved in the “beautiful” game – its such a great way to have fun and get fit. But of course the boys are very welcome too!”

Play Leader at the Junior Youth club, Jamie Bourton, said: “Following on from consultation with some of the children at the club we realised that there was a huge interest in developing a



Photo by Kasia Bus.

regular once a week football and multi-sports session.” Rose Hill Primary school are providing free home made soup and fresh bread for

everyone involved – and to keep everyone warm and full of energy.

Entrance to the sessions will be via the gates alongside

the Children's Centre and onto the school grounds.

■ **For more info call or text Fran 07770 324 277**

RHN PREMIER LEAGUE PREDICTOR

CONGRATULATIONS to Lloyd Barrett who scored highest in the third round of the Rose Hill Predictor and won a £10 voucher.

Darren Allen still leads the table with Jamie Bourton hot on his heels in second place.

Lloyd said: “I’m so pleased that I have done well in this round. Many thanks go to Steve and Brian at the Community Centre for helping me with my predictions.”

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 Lloyd? 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!

Games to predict will take place on the 14, 15 and 16 of March:

Crystal Palace v Queens Park Rangers

Arsenal v West Ham United

Everton v Newcastle United

Leicester City v Hull City

Sunderland v Aston Villa

West Bromwich Albion v Stoke City

Burnley v Manchester City

Chelsea v Southampton

Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur

Swansea City v Liverpool

■ **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 Saturday 14 March 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

By the Orliter

THERE is something very strange afoot in our fair city! No. It’s not the abominable snowman climbing the City Church spire, nor is it the Loch Ness monster coxing a rowing eight on the Thames at Iffley Lock!

Has anyone noticed that our top professional sporting sides are not doing very well, except I hasten to add, one of the oldest footballing teams in the world, Oxford City? Take the Oxford Stars ice hockey lot who are by the standards of twenty years ago, not doing very well.

You might be forgiven for thinking that London Welsh rugby club are skydivers as they are in freefall heading for the exit doors of rugby unions elite tournaments and also bottom without a single solitary win all season.

Ah yes I hear my faithful furry friend, Briggsy the Mutt, mutter that the internationally famous Yellows of Oxford United are signing up many new eighteen year olds on one month loan contracts who will bring jollity, youthfulness and experience to the club!

One such player was signed from a club in the northeast whose parent club refused to take him back when the

management of United decided he fell short of requirements. Is it fair to say that he has joined a Conference team to gain experience should the mighty Yellows plunge further into the abyss?

I certainly hope that is not the case but what does a dog with experience of chasing footballs on the recreation ground know of the glorious game?

Watch this space and if the unmentionable should happen, please write to Briggsy, c/o Rose Hill News who will answer your telegrams in due course. His owner will be at the North Pole chilling!

Come on You Yellows!

Sports for Young People

GLOBAL Smile Sports are offering free Multi-Sport sessions as part of the Youth Ambition Program for young people 14-21 years every Thursday evening 8-10pm at Rose Hill Primary School.

The sessions are fun, vibrant and exciting, with a variation of activities from futsal to table tennis and athletics to music. If you have a passion for sport, want to let of some steam or just meet some new people, come on down on Thursday and join in the fun!

■ **Facebook: OxfordYouthAmbition**
Email: youthambition@oxford.gov.uk

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Rose Hill News?
Then why not get involved
in the next one?

To find out more call us on: 07770 324 277
or email: rosehillnews@gmail.com

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