

BY AIMEE WINKFIELD

**ROSE HILL** Regeneration (RHR) is celebrating the first year of its Big Lottery funded grant. In 2017 GreenSquare Group, with support from Oxford City Council, successfully secured nearly half a million pounds in funding to support children, young people and adults living in Rose Hill.

RHR currently supports three youth club sessions per week for children and young people aged 5–16 years. Rose Hill Junior Youth club sessions have become increasingly popular, with over 90 children attending the Wednesday afternoon session at Rose Hill Community centre. An exciting range of activities are on offer at the youth clubs including art and craft, food activities, sports, hairdressing, music and film production plus many more.

In addition, the project funds extra activities and one to one sessions for children. These include art therapy, domestic therapy animals, educational trips to museums and galleries, cooking clubs and pony handling and riding sessions. Over 80 pupils from two local schools have benefited this year.

Charlotte Marshall from Pony Pursuits, leads the pony handling sessions at the school with her ponies Teddy and Jubilee. She spoke about how therapeutic and calming these sessions can be: "Initially, the children lack confidence and are intimidated by the ponies due to their size, but as the sessions progress the children gain confidence by working together in groups, putting theory into practice. They become relaxed and really absorbed in the experience."

Over a five-week period, children taking part learn how to behave around ponies, how to learn their body language, how to feed and lead them, how to tether them correctly and how to ride safely. The school have praised the sessions saying how they give children new opportunities, challenging them and helping to build their self-esteem. Fleur Belcher, Deputy Head Teacher at Rose Hill Primary School said: "These sessions can literally change our children's lives. The impact on behaviour, wellbeing and mental health is huge."

Young people aged 11–16 have also had the opportunity to gain AQA qualifications in film-making and developed a whole range of new skills.

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# First year success!



Fortune Ekpenyong having fun riding Jubilee the pony.



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confronts  
the climate  
crisis**  
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The project encourages young people to get involved in community events and fundraising with plenty of exciting opportunities for young people coming up this year in music, sport, film, art and stewarding.

The RHR project, in partnership with the charity Aspire Oxford, also encourages adults to volunteer and pursue training and job opportunities. The project has exceeded all its targets for this sector, attracting over 50 talented volunteers to the project, and providing training for over 53 adults.

If you're interested in hearing about the opportunities available at the RHR project or want to get your child or young person involved in the exciting activities in Rose Hill, then contact Fran Gardner, 07770 324277.

## 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  
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### COUNTY COUNCILLOR



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

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



**Anneliese Dodds** – Labour  
Oxford East  
E: anneliesedoddsm@gmail.com

# The women who made a change

BY MICHELE PAULE

2018 is an important centenary. It is 100 years since some women were allowed to vote. In 1918 there were a lot of things that a woman couldn't do that we take for granted these days. These include: getting a loan in her own name; working as a lawyer or a civil servant; inheriting or leaving property in the same way as a man could and claiming equal pay. She couldn't even depend on getting served in a pub – she could legally be turned away!

The Representation of the People Act, passed on 6 February 1918, set women on the road to doing all these things.

Within a year, the number of women registered to vote shot up by 43%. Within ten years, all women (and all men) finally had the right to vote.

There is still however quite a way to go. Women still make up only 32% of all MPs since the 2017 election, and that puts the UK 48th in the world.

Nonetheless, since those days women have played an important role in national and local politics. At present in Oxford we have two women MPs, including Rose Hill's own Anneliese Dodds, and on the City Council we have women in the

roles of Mayor, Council Leader, and Deputy Leader. Some of Oxford's most important local politicians have also been women, and they have changed the face of the city and made huge improvements to their own communities.

Former Mayor Olive Gibbs was born the same year that women got the vote. She saved Jericho from being bulldozed as slum and got the infamous Cutteslowe Wall between private and council houses in North Oxford taken down. She was also a great campaigner for peace and helped found the CND.

Another former Oxford Mayor especially dear to Rose Hill was Carole Roberts. Carole served as city

councillor for more than 20 years. She also managed the Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre and received a national merit award. Many remember her for her spirit in fighting for her community and her kindness.

These women show what strong and effective politicians women can be, and how women's entry onto politics has been a great benefit to the communities they represent.

As well as the centenary celebrations we have Carole's Way to remember Carole by – although another good way to celebrate this year and these amazing women is to follow their example by getting involved in our communities and using our right to vote!

## VOTES FOR WOMEN

Vote for women flag you may have seen on buildings around Oxford.

## ROSE HILL NEWS

Issue 45 Spring 2018

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.

Rose Hill News is produced with help from the Leys News Editorial and Design team.

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You can pick up your copy of Rose Hill News at all local shops, newsagents and the community centre.

Supported by Oxford City Council and by Rose Hill Tenants and Resident Association.



## ROSE HILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

# Volunteers needed

BY PETER WILKINSON

ROSE HILL Community Library is an independent initiative run by local volunteers. It has been operating successfully for a number of years now, first in the old community centre on The Oval and now in the new community centre where it is located in the entrance hall to the

right of Reception. The Library is unmanned and open on a help yourself basis whenever the Community Centre is open.

From the start it was decided to keep it as simple as possible. You don't have to join, it is open to all residents. No forms have to be filled in, simply browse the shelves, select a book or two and take them

home. When you have finished please return them (there is a Returns box on bottom shelf).

That's it. The emphasis is on popular fiction with some biographies and reference books. There is also a children's section.

Please note our store room elsewhere in the building is full and we cannot take any donations with the exception of children's books which are always in high demand, but only if they are in excellent condition, no torn pages or scribbles please.

We are not dependent on external funding, as our running costs are low. However, that does mean we rely on volunteers to keep the Library

operational. We have a small group of dedicated volunteers and could do with a few more.

What's involved? Volunteers work in pairs, timing is very flexible and requires just an hour or two every couple of weeks.

Tasks include tidying shelves, changing stock around (no heavy lifting, we have book trolleys and use of the lift), and discarding unsuitable material.

If you are interested in joining our friendly team please leave your contact details at Reception in the Community Centre and we will get in touch.

# Anneliese confronts the climate crisis



Oxford East MP and Rose Hill resident Anneliese Dodds.

BY ELEANOR WATTS

**LAST** month, Oxford East MP and Rose Hill resident Anneliese Dodds came to a discussion with 65 local residents at Rose Hill Community Centre. The topic was: "What can East Oxford do about climate change and pollution?"

First, we listened to Anneliese's talk about the wide range of measures she would support – from prioritising public transport and cycling to enabling innovative low carbon heat networks.

She said: "The term 'climate change' is too mild. We have a climate crisis. If we are to beat it, we need to make urgent changes to the ways we live and the laws of our government." She also mentioned her personal resolution to stop buying water in plastic bottles!

Then we broke into six expert-led discussion groups of some ways forward: (1) renewable energy generation, (2) house insulation, (3) improved public transport and electric cars, (4) safer cycling and laws against air pollution, (5) further waste recycling and discouraging plastic use, (6) climate change education.

Each group had exciting ideas, which they fed back to Anneliese afterwards so that she can represent them in parliament. It was a great evening of co-operative work – the only way to beat the climate crisis.

## Great news for Rose Hill Primary School!

BY SUE VERMES,  
HEADTEACHER

**AFTER** two years of uncertainty, we are delighted that the River Learning Trust has announced that they are going to be our Academy Sponsor. We should be part of the Trust by September.

Being sponsored by the River Learning Trust is a great outcome for us – a local, well-respected multi-academy trust which values working collaboratively.

Teachers have opportunities to work with others in local schools and we will very much be part of the RLT 'family'. The Chief Executive, Paul James, has been on our Interim Executive Board for two years, and is clear that we are joining to contribute examples from our good practice as well.

We are now able to talk more about how well the children in school are doing, after an Ofsted inspection in October gave us three areas of 'Good'. Our children also did better than local and national averages in the tests at the end of KS1 and KS2.

As well as their academic learning, our children take part in a huge range of extra-curricular activities, including sports, arts and drama.

We have free after-school activities most days, and lots of outings and exciting visitors. Fran Gardner of the Lottery project, gives us some of these (*see front page*).

Altogether a really exciting and positive time for the school. Please come and look around if you are considering the best place to send your child!

## ROSE HILL TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (TRA)

BY TERRY KIRKBY

**WELCOME** to Spring! With sub-zero temperatures and drifting snow hopefully behind us.

It was decided that to commemorate the centenary of votes for women in 1918, each meeting would feature women speakers wherever possible.

To date, we have welcomed Julie Brain from Trading Standards, talking about the 'Friends against scams' campaign. She spoke about the inventive methods scammers use to con people, anyone can become a victim. She encourages everyone to be on the look out for suspicious material, this can be phone calls and texts, letters & brochures, emails and contact via social media and dating apps. People continuously walking around the estate scoping out houses to target is also a sign.

Eleanor Watts from the award-winning Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon Group came to update the group, read about their work in this issue.

Sergeant Kate Parker-Towle attended to discuss what the police are doing to keep the community safe and encourages residents to reach out at anytime if they have any concerns.

Kanika Lang from Healthwatch came to gather feedback about local health provisions and to determine what improvements could be made, one of the current limitations for many residents is accessibility. We plan to discuss this more in future meetings.

The Lord Mayor of Oxford, Cllr Jean Fooks, came to visit the TRA where she spoke about her life, from growing up to her passion for physics, coding and scientific research. She

encourages young people to pursue science subjects.

Invited to attend at future meetings is Anneliese Dodds MP for Oxford East and Head of Oxford City Council, Cllr Susan Brown. Grant money was awarded to Steph Ballard of Lil Tapz £200 and Merlin Porter for the Rose Hill Art Project, £500.

Ongoing projects the Association are involved with are a doctor's surgery in Rose Hill and the restoration of the bus service known as "Our Rosie" serving the areas below the Oval.

**The next meeting is on Tuesday 8 May, everyone is welcome to these monthly meetings which are held in Rose Hill Community Centre from 7.30pm.**



# New FREE playgroup in Rose Hill!

BY ANNA MISSA

**ALLSORTS** is a new free playgroup for under-5s and their grown-ups in Rose Hill. The name hopes to promote the playgroup's attitude towards welcoming everyone from all backgrounds and faiths.

Created through a collaboration between Oxford City Council, the Church and local families, the playgroup is run by volunteers and aims to give parents and carers of children under 5 a safe and friendly space where their children can play and socialize. Alan Foulkes, Oxford City Council Localities Officer for Rose Hill said: "Allsorts already is providing support and friendship to a significant number of families from diverse communities on Rose Hill and the nearby area. I look forward to it going from strength to strength as it grows further."

James Garnett, the Student Minister at Rose Hill Methodist Church and one of the volunteers, wants to thank families who attend and help to shape Allsorts: "It's exactly what we wanted from Allsorts: a group which families can take ownership of and help to evolve."

What do families in Rose Hill think of Allsorts? Claire Woodhall comes to Allsorts with her 2-year-old boy twins and finds the support of the volunteers a relief. She said: "Coming to a playgroup

and someone making you a tea or coffee can be so important when you're rushed off your feet. It's definitely worth the effort to get out of the house and come here. My boys particularly love it when one of the volunteers does a live sing-along piano session. It's the only time my boys will sit still!"

Mel Jackson is delighted that there is a new group in the afternoon for her to attend with her one-year-old daughter: "The timing is perfect for us as the playgroup finishes not long before I'd need to be out anyway to pick up my older daughter from primary school. Allsorts fits into our routine perfectly. And if we haven't had a chance to have lunch before the playgroup, there are sandwiches available so that gives me peace of mind for my daughter."

The group meets every Thursday between 12.30-2.30pm in Rose Hill Methodist Church. The sessions are free, and all are welcome to attend. Refreshments are available, and volunteers are on hand.

The group is looking for more volunteers, so if you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please email for more information. A DBS check and safeguarding training will be undertaken.

For more info regarding Allsorts playgroup email [rosehillallsorts@gmail.com](mailto:rosehillallsorts@gmail.com)

## GO ACTIVE

# Donnington Health walk

**THE** walk takes place every Wednesday at 11am from Donnington Health Centre. The walk is taken by a qualified walk leader, and the walk is taken at a gentle pace suitable for all and is typically 30-50 minutes long.

The walk is free, with no need to book. Simply turn up! No special walking gear needed - participants just need to wear shoes and clothes comfortable for walking in.

It's a great way to get some fresh air, get some gentle exercise and meet new people (we often go for coffee after the walk!).



The neighbourhood police team check on residents in the snow.



# Cat Cause

BY MARGARET ROPER

**IN THE** last issue, I wrote about the kittens born under the shed. I'm happy to say that they have all been rehoused thanks to the RSPCA and my kind

neighbour for looking after the mother. If you are tempted to have a kitten/cat you might consider adopting one from your nearest animal rescue centre, so an unwanted cat/kitten can have a happy life. There are thousands of unwanted pets left uncared for. With the current overpopulation cat crisis, they need your support more than ever.

For more information contact [adopt@rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk](mailto:adopt@rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk) You can also get a kitten care guide on [www.rspca.org.uk](http://www.rspca.org.uk).

# Snow Heroes!

## THE ROSE HILL INTERVIEW

BY CHRIS JACQUES

**Where did you grow up?**  
PCSO Mollie Dugmore: I grew up in Oxfordshire.  
PC Lee-ann Bury: Oxfordshire.

**How long have you worked in Rose Hill?**  
MD: One and a half years.  
LB: Five months.

**What were you doing before you started work here?**  
MD: Before starting work in Rose Hill, I worked as a florist, specializing in funeral flowers.  
LB: I worked for Thames Valley Police as a civilian in the control room for thirteen years.

**What do you like about working at Rose Hill Community Centre?**  
MD: It's close to our community, therefore it's easier for people to get to know us. It's a lovely building with great staff. We get involved in different youth and

minority groups who attend.  
LB: There is a real sense of community here. We can chat to the public about all sorts of things - police-related and non-police-related.  
Working at the Community Centre where so many of the residents come means that we can build good relationships and get to know people and families, and they can get to know us. We have lots of children visiting the centre too, which gives us a great opportunity to build good foundations for the future. I really want the community to feel they can turn to us and I think this is especially important for children.

**What kind of things do you do?**  
LB: During the bad weather and heavy snowfalls in early March, our team visited lots of the vulnerable people in the community to check on their welfare and see if we could help them in any way.  
We also have several priorities in the neighbourhood at the moment. We are working with the community to tackle drug issues and have done

several warrants, many of which have been successful.  
We are also focusing on protecting vulnerable people within the community, including those that have been targeted by drug dealers who have preyed on vulnerable groups  
MD: We attend events, engage with people, help the vulnerable, gather intelligence regarding drug issues in Rose Hill, Littlemore and Iffley. In addition, we put in place support systems and work with partner agencies for better safeguarding. When necessary, we signpost people to appropriate authorities.  
**What would you like to see happen in Rose Hill over the next five years?**



Mollie Dugmore, Police Community Support Officer.

MD: We should continue to build relationships with our community and sustain the amazing relationships we already have.  
LB: I think Rose Hill residents have a great community spirit and the new community centre has made it an even more sociable and friendly place to be. It's created an opportunity for residents to be involved in all sorts of activities.  
I think it is a great addition to the neighbourhood and I hope more and more residents utilize it as time goes on.  
**Which secret skills and talents do you have that people don't know about?**  
MD: As I said, I'm a qualified florist.  
LB: I cook a mean Sunday roast - when I'm not at work, obviously!



Police Constable Lee-ann Bury visits resident Audrey in bad weather.

## GROW YOUR OWN

BY TERRY KIRKBY

# Allotment gardening

**HAVE** you ever thought of growing your own delicious vegetables? Here, in Lenthall Road Rose Hill, we have an award-winning collection of plots available to rent with four different sizes depending on ability.  
Firstly, there are a limited number of raised beds for wheelchair users and those who are mobility impaired and have a parking space alongside. Secondly, a quarter plot which may be suitable for weekend gardeners followed by a half plot measuring approximately seven metres by 20 metres. Finally, for those with more time to spare a full plot enabling the grower to provide all sorts of vegetable for the family the whole year round!



At this time of the year it's not too late to sow sets of onions, shallots, garlic and broad beans which will be ready to harvest around late May this year. It's also a good time to plant raspberry canes and other fruit bushes providing wonderful tasting crops throughout the following years. Of course, all fruit and vegetables need properly prepared 'beds' and now is a good time to dig, rotavate or cultivate and if available spread manure or compost. A bit of work now will give good results later!  
Growing your own vegetables and

fruit can be a very rewarding pastime and your own work will provide crops straight from the ground onto the plate. mmmmm marvellous! Surplus, of course can be frozen or stored

For more info, and to arrange a visit to view available plots, contact [Irrhaalettings@outlook.com](mailto:Irrhaalettings@outlook.com)

Please quote Rose Hill Tenants and Residents Association when applying, and contact [rosehilltra@gmail.com](mailto:rosehilltra@gmail.com)

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## CRAFT CORNER

BY LINA VOSA

### Colourful card for any occasion

This is a very easy and quick card to make, which could be for any occasion, not just Easter.

#### To make this card you will need:

- Card blank (or you could make your own from stiff paper)
- Crepe paper in different colours
- Card paper
- Coloured craft paper
- PVA glue (white liquid glue)
- Glue dots/pads
- Small paintbrush
- Hole punch



Photo by Kasia Bus.

#### Instructions

Tear crepe paper into strips and glue carefully to the blank card.

Use the hole punch to make coloured paper dots and glue them around to look like paint splashes.

Print your text on a piece

of card paper, cut into a cloud shape and stick some glue dots on the back.

Stick the card paper with text in the middle of the colour splash and your card is ready.

If you try to make this design you could win a prize! Send your pictures to [aimee-rosehillnews@hotmail.com](mailto:aimee-rosehillnews@hotmail.com)

## RECYCLING NEWS

# Recycling cooking oil has never been easier

**OXFORD** City Council's Recycling Team is working hard to make recycling as easy as possible for residents. We can now accept used cooking oil when put into a plastic bottle inside your food caddy or red bin. It will get processed alongside your food recycling to be turned into electricity and fertiliser!

Remember you can also use any plastic bag (excluding black plastic) to line your food caddy (this includes cereal bag inners, bread bags and fruit bags). If you want to give food recycling a go, and are missing a food caddy, you can collect

one for free from St Aldate's customer service centre and Marsh Road Depot!

#### Recycling visits

We want to make recycling as easy as possible for residents in Oxford. In order to help with this, we offer free educational school visits, roadshows, presentations, plant tours and much more.

Find out more at [recyclingleague@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:recyclingleague@oxford.gov.uk)

## NEW! YOU CAN NOW RECYCLE USED COOKING OIL



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# GOOD NEWS! YOU CAN NOW LINE YOUR FOOD CADDY WITH

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bread bags



sandwich bags



newspaper



compostable liners

### ✗ No thanks...



black bin liners



cloth bags



If you live in Oxford City, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse or West Oxfordshire, you can now use plastic bags to line your food caddy, making food recycling easier, cleaner and cheaper! All food recycling from these districts is now taken to anaerobic digestion plants, which can remove plastic liners. If you live in Cherwell, please continue to use compostable liners, as your food is taken to a composting plant which cannot process plastic. **For more information, please contact your local district council.**

**recycle**  
for Oxford



## ROSE HILL AND IFFLEY LOW CARBON



Residents demonstrate for safer cycling along the Iffley Road.

BY ELEANOR WATTS

**COUGH!** Wheeze! Gasp! Air pollution affects all residents of Rose Hill, especially those who commute into town every day. In the most congested parts of the city, the air often goes over the legal limits of nitrogen dioxide. This gas comes from car fumes and is linked to asthma, lung disease, cancer and birth problems.

Rose Hill resident Mark Gouzée cycles to the town centre to work every day and said: "As an asthma sufferer, I feel we really need to do something about car emissions. If the wind drops, I notice the difference in air quality, and I get wheezier."

Katie Hoare, another Rose Hill resident, walks her son to Lark Rise School every day said: "The air stinks around the Donnington Bridge junction and it's always congested, sometimes we have to run to get past the fumes. God knows what the air pollution is doing to my son!"

So, what can we do about it? One solution is to make cycling safer, easier and more fun. Cycling isn't just good for the health of cyclists. It helps everyone by reducing air pollution, traffic congestion, noise and our impact on climate change.

## Safer to cycle

**A LOT** of people don't cycle because it's just too dangerous. The cycle lane markings are faded, and they often stop suddenly.

There is nothing to stop motor traffic from driving into cycle lanes. People who cycle from the town centre to Rose Hill along the Iffley Road must overtake cars, which are legally parked on the cycle lanes.

This has resulted in a lot of accidents. For example, Tommas Ellender was riding his bicycle home from work along the Iffley Road. Whilst he was overtaking a car that was parked on the cycle lane, the driver opened his car door. Tommas was knocked off his bike and ended up in the JR with a broken leg.

Late last year, some Rose Hill residents started a petition for continuous, separate cycle lanes into town, hoping to get 100 signatures. Since then they have received over 1,800 signatures, growing every day. The petition was presented to Ian Hudspeth, leader of Oxfordshire County Council at County at the end of March and we hope that the council will invest in a safer cycle network for the future.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Easier to cycle

Maintaining a bike can be expensive and difficult. That's why Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon are planning to install a cycle repair kit outside the Community Centre.

It will be free for all Rose Hill residents to use, thanks to grants from the Low Carbon Hub, the City Council and the co-operation of the Community Centre.

There's no point in having a cycle repair kit if you don't know how to use it, so we've applied for further grants to pay for cycle repair workshops run by Broken Spoke. We hope young and old will come along and learn new skills – and feel more confident about maintaining their bikes.

### Fun to cycle

From 2.30–6 pm on Sunday 17 June, Rose Hill and Iffley Low Carbon are working with CycloX and the Community Centre to provide The Great Rose Hill Bike Day. We hope to have:

- a cycle repair workshop to teach people how to use the new repair kit,
- a free cycling adventure course for children, provided by Go Ride,
- a group cycle ride – probably along the river,
- opportunities to try out electric bikes (especially useful for the elderly and disabled),
- talks and tips about how to cycle more safely and enjoyably,
- delicious food,
- cycling stalls and much more.

**Put 17 June in your diary. It should be a great day out for all!**



# I see poo!

**THERE'S** been an increase in dog fouling on the Rose Hill recreation ground. Not picking up and disposing of your dog's waste is disrespectful to visitors who come to Rose Hill and residents, also to joggers and children from the youth club who play football and run around on the field. It only takes a few seconds to pick up, it's not pleasant but it's part of being an owner.

Oxford City Council have said: "Oxford City Council has recently received several complaints about dog fouling in the Rose Hill Recreation Ground. We want to make

residents aware that allowing a dog under your control to foul and then not clean it up is an offence under section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

"Therefore, we have increased our patrols in the area and with your help we will catch the people responsible. To report any irresponsible dog owner failing to clear up after their dog please contact Oxford City Council Community Response Team on 01865 249811, alternatively email [saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk).

"To help us investigate the case we will require as many details as possible, including times, dates, locations, description of the dog and its owner, to enable us to identify the offender."

## ROSE HILL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## Have your say and find out more about community activities on Rose Hill

**A COMMUNITY** Partnership is a joint venture with both residents and those that provide services in the local community coming together. It is an opportunity to express your concerns, and ideas on what should be local priorities that need to be tackled.

It is also a chance to find out more about local

community initiatives.

There will be representatives of current working groups that are striving to improve youth provision, support for young families, health and well-being and addressing crime and anti-social behaviour.

At the next meeting there will be a special focus on youth services, so if

you want to find out more about youth services or have ideas on how they can be improved do come along.

So, a date for your diary, the next meeting of the Rose Hill Community Partnership is Thursday 26 April at 2pm at Rose Hill Community Centre, come down if you can, all are welcome.

### ADVERTISEMENT

**Appy days are here!**

**See more, Do more, Play more, with the Youth Activities app!**

**Download it here >**

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

# Volunteers Wanted for Exciting New Bring and Fix Café Project

**LOCAL** volunteers are wanted at Rose Hill Community Centre to be trained to fix household electrical items, potentially saving them from ending up in landfill.

Free training will be provided for potential "fixers". The idea of the project is that the public will bring in items that need to be fixed, and the volunteers will do their best to fix them. There will be a café with tea and coffee, biscuits and cake, and they should be fun social events.

The project is being led by the Community Action Group Oxfordshire. At first, there will be two Bring and Fix Café sessions, but if they are successful it could become a regular event. Training will be in May and the first Bring and Fix Café session in June. Come on down you fixers! Interested?

Contact Lydia Dixon, [ldixon@oxford.gov.uk](mailto:ldixon@oxford.gov.uk) or call the Centre on 01865 749597.

## COMMUNITY CENTRE

## New membership packages available at RHCC gym

**FROM** April the memberships on offer at the Rose Hill Community Centre Gym will be changing. A new membership has been created to include both gym membership and group exercise classes for just £24 a month, and the gym-only membership cost for all members will be £15 a month.

For senior members the class-inclusive membership

will be £15 a month and the gym-only membership will be £10 a month. Currently the Centre runs High Intensity Interval Training, Boxercise, Aerotone and Pilates group classes which are £5 per class for non-gym members, although are hoping to add more classes in the future.

Included in all gym memberships is the opportunity to have a fitness

assessment with the Centre's fitness instructor, and to have a fitness programme set up to reach a specific target or fitness goal. Come in to reception at the Centre to find out more or call the Centre on 01865 749597 to talk to someone about what is on offer. All new members will have to undertake a gym induction before they are able to use the Rose Hill Community Centre Gym.

## COOKERY CORNER

### Butternut squash soup recipe

BY MARGARET ROPER

#### You will need:

- 1 Onion Chopped
- Large Butternut Squash, peeled & cubed
- Large Sweet Potato cubed
- tbs of butter
- 1-2 litres (2 pints) of vegetable stock (hot).
- 1 tbs of herbs fresh or dried (optional).
- Salt and Pepper to taste.

#### Method:

1. On low heat melt the butter, cook the onion

gently for a few minutes until soft not browned.

2. Add the cubed Butternut Squash and the cubed potato and vegetable stock stirring ingredients together.

3. Heat until simmering, then cook gently for about 25 minutes until the vegetables are tender.

4. Transfer the mixture to a blender or food processor.

Blend for about 15-20 seconds, until smooth. Season to taste.

#### Optional:

Serve each portion with 1 tbs yogurt, a few fresh chives and freshly ground black pepper.

#### Tip:

Cool, cover and refrigerate any soup that you don't use, and eat within three days, or freeze the soup to use another time.

