

LITTLEMORE SPRING OxCLEAN LITTER PICK

The annual litter pick was a great success with over 60 people turning out to help in inclement weather. We collected over 50 full bags of litter! Our thanks go to everyone who showed up, and to the team at the Village Hall who put on a great spread for the volunteers at the end.
CLlr Anna Railton

APOLOGY: LITTLEMORE LOCAL:

An apology to those who had the last issue of LITTLEMORE LOCAL delivered with a political campaign flyer, in error. LITTLEMORE LOCAL is apolitical, though it does report the contribution made to the community by councillors. The Parish Council does not endorse individual election candidates or political parties.



LITTLEMORE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN: NEWS

The draft Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan was approved by the Parish Council in February. The next stage is the public consultation which will run from 7 May to 18 June. This is really important as we wish to be sure both that the draft Plan and in particular the policies reflect the views of those who live, work or study here, & that possible amendments can be considered before a further version is submitted to the City Council. We are keen to reach out to as many people as possible, and we will welcome comments on any aspect of the draft Plan. To help you, we've prepared a three-page summary of key points. When the consultation opens, the full Plan, the summary, and a response form will be available on LPC website www.littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk, and at various local community venues. You can respond via the website or on paper. We will arrange a series of drop-in sessions to explain the process and the contents of the Plan and help people complete their responses if they need help. Two drop-in sessions will be at the Village Hall Tea on the afternoons of May 4 and June 1. We are arranging other sessions to be advertised on the Parish Council website, on noticeboards and elsewhere. If your group can host a session, or provide a table at an event you are organising, or would like someone to visit, please let us know. If you have questions, or can offer to help, please contact Tony Eade on nplan@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk or Jan Pullen on jan.pullen@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk. Further details will be in the next issue of the Littlemore Local, by which time the consultation period will have started.

Tony Eade, Chair, Littlemore Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

NEW TO THE LISTINGS PAGES

Rose Hill Junior Youth club: free: see www.facebook.com/RoseHillJYC. After school youth clubs open to Littlemore residents at RH Community Centre. Safe, fun & positive space with lots of activities and a delicious hot meal at every session.
Wednesdays: *3:15-5:15pm, School Years 1-3 *5:30pm-7pm, Senior boys club, ages 11+ . **Thursdays:** *3:15-5:15pm, School Years 4-6 *5:30pm-7pm, Senior girls club, ages 11+ . Sign up on the day or visit: rhjyc.org .

Meditation: Oxford Insight Meditation returns to the Village Hall with meditation day retreats on Sat 20 April with Julia Wallond, and Sat 11 May with Venerable Canda. For more information & to book, see: www.oxfordinsightmeditation.org .

AN OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER

LITTLEMORE LOCAL is delivered by volunteers who take on a small round, 6 times a year. Two or three of our volunteers are soon to move away, so we urgently need new people to step up. A pack of copies would be delivered to your home in the week before the newsletter is due out. You would not be expected to carry or deliver anything else at the same time. Would it suit you? Please contact Lynne Davies at lynne.davies@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk .

NEWS FOR ST NICHOLAS' ROAD

The County Council has said it will plant an avenue of 24 trees some time this spring, to add to daffodils planted by the Community Gardening Group of local residents. *Watch that space!*

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY

This year 24 May sees the 100th anniversary of the opening of Littlemore Village Hall. The idea of a Village Hall was first discussed at the turn of the 20th century. Local landowner Miss Ellen Crawley offered the site on Railway Lane. It was a farm-yard, with a large barn which was demolished as building started, but the project was hampered by lack of funds. By 1914 the building was only a shell, and the outbreak of the war put everything on hold. In 1919, Miss Crawley died and it was left to the Vicar, Mr George Champion to continue fundraising for windows and doors. Finally, in 1924, the building was complete. **We'll be celebrating from 1-5pm on Saturday 1 June – do come and join us!** There will be free tea and coffee, a cake stall, a **Bake-Off** (see p 2), craft & gift stalls, a tombola, and children's activities. After 100 years of use, the Village Hall needs some updating to take it forward for another century. You can find out more about the hall, and about our plans and how you can help us make them a reality, at Tea on 1 June.

Claire Drinkwater, Chair of Trustees

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Sun 24 March: 6.30pm: at St Andrew's, Sandford: Music for Holy Week: Bruckner, Mozart, Brahms, Fauré, sung by the Choir. If you're thinking of joining us, do come and listen!
- Sun 31 Mar, 10am: Easter Sunday Service: SM&SN church.
- Sun 31 Mar, 3pm: Easter Crafts & Egg Hunt: SM&SN church
- Sun 28 April at 6.30pm: free Concert: SM&SN church.
- Saturday 11 May: 11am-2pm Free Family Fun Day at The Peeple Centre (Northfield Close entrance to TOA). Bring your lunch & join us for Teddy Bears picnic, storytimes throughout the day, crafts, messy play, bubble fun, bouncy castle & more. We'll be joined by Nigel Clarke from CBeebies, The Baby Club!
- 11-19 May: ArtWeeks: Littlemore: see pp 10 & 11, and also ArtWeeks Exhibition and events in SM&SN church on p 18
- Sat 15 June: Free OPA Play & Activity Day at the Oxford Road Recreation Ground from 11am until 3pm. See Flyer p 17.
- Sat 15 June, 12-3pm: Blessed Dominic Barberi Church Summer fête & BBQ with stalls including cakes, tombola, books, toys and raffle. Everyone welcome!
- Sun 25 August: Littlemore Rugby Club Fun Day: 12-5pm at the Rugby Club: find it at Northfield Close entrance to TOA.

FATAL STABBING IN LITTLEMORE

Residents will be aware that two young men were stabbed in Littlemore in late February, resulting in the death of one of them. Our first concern is for the victims' families, but residents will naturally be concerned about whether the violence is symptomatic of demographic changes in Littlemore. We may have to wait for an answer until the legal proceedings against those responsible are underway, but meanwhile the Office of National Statistics reports that compared with most other crimes, the homicide rate in England & Wales remains very low, with 9.9 homicides recorded per million population during the year ending March 2023. The E&W statistics are swelled by events leading to multiple deaths, such as terrorist bombings and human trafficking, and by the deaths caused by Dr Harold Shipman (2003). The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reports that the homicide rate in the Americas is 150 per million, and in Europe in general it is 22 per million.

²⁰ Homicide rate, England & Wales per million population*



*Source: www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/homicideinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2023#trends-in-homicide

LITTLEMORE FEATURES IN RECENT DETECTIVE NOVEL

Lost and Never Found by Oxford-based author Simon Mason was published by riverrunbooks.com in hardback in January: ISBN: 9781529425864: it will be out in paperback in the summer. Read more, from Simon himself, on page 4.

CATS MUST BE MICROCHIPPED

From 10 June 2024 it will be compulsory to have your cat microchipped before it is 20 weeks of age. See: www.gov.uk/get-your-dog-cat-microchipped.

ELLISON INSTITUTE NEWS

The Ellison Institute of Technology (EIT) has announced the appointment Prof Sir John Bell as the President of EIT Oxford. He is renowned worldwide for his immense contributions to medicine, medical research and the life science industry. Under his direction, EIT Oxford will drive scientific & technological innovation in EIT's four key areas. Prof Bell will also become Co-CEO of EIT Global, alongside Dr David Agus. Read more at <https://eit.org/sir-john-bell-joins-eit-oxford>. Find news about the Ellison Institute build on p 5.

NEWS FOR SANDY LANE WEST

Railpen, one of the largest pension managers in the UK, has unveiled plans to redevelop Eastpoint Business Park off Sandy Lane West. The plans currently under discussion would transform the site into workspace for Oxfordshire's life sciences industry. There would also be space to support education and training for the local community. There are plans to improve connectivity around the site for residents with a new segregated cycle- & foot-way along Sandy Lane West, and a safer more attractive A4142 Underpass, with a public art installation and lighting. Read more about this on p 5.

YOU CAN NOW RECYCLE BLISTER PACKS

You can now recycle empty pill and vitamin blister packs at Boots, Oxford Retail Park, OX4 6XJ.

GREAT LITTLEMORE BAKE-OFF

On Sat 1 June 2024 as part of the Littlemore Village Hall Centenary Celebration, we are holding a competition for the best looking cake inside and out. ***Produce that showstopper that you've been meaning to bake!*** 1st Prize: Complimentary use of Leisure Facilities with Lunch for Two at Voco Oxford Thames (up to 3 courses per person, & drinks with the meal included); 2nd Prize: £20 cash; 3rd Prize: £10 cash. For entry details please contact Saroj Patel-Hall at saroj.patel-hall@hotmail.com.

RESTORE: WORKING FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Do you enjoy cooking, and helping others? Are you interested in a career in mental health? Would you like to join a friendly, welcoming team? Can you spare one day a week?

Restore is seeking volunteers to help in our café & shop in Littlemore. We provide full training and support. We'd love to hear from you! Contact: volunteer@restore.org.uk, telephone 01865 455 822.

YR 5 & YR 6 ONLINE MATHS WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

Homework a nightmare? We are here to help. Improve your knowledge to support your child. Family Learning offers a series of free online workshops to help parents understand the content and methods used in the Yrs 5 & 6 Maths curriculum. When? Thursdays 1.30-2.30pm. For more info & to book: search **Family Learning**, www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk, or phone me on 01235 216 278. Penelope Lea

EXPLORER SCOUTS' FIRST AID WEEKEND CAMP

Did you know that starting Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation before the emergency crew arrives can increase a person's survival chance by up to 4 times? This is just one of the many things the Explorers learnt on our recent Scout First Aid weekend camp. Out of all the activities the majority said 'The made-up scenarios were the best'.

We would discover an injured person in an emergency situation, such as hypothermia or a heavy bag falling on them, and help them using all our first aid knowledge. Many of us stayed for a classic scout meal of spaghetti bolognese (we shopped and cooked) and a sleepover, which is always fun as you get to stay up chatting, playing games or sleeping if you want! It was a brilliant event for all who went, from those with no first aid knowledge to those with lots of experience, and a great way to socialise and get to meet explorers from other units.



photos used with permission



(All the injuries are fake.)

Oscar Pocock: Explorer at Angelmead Explorer Scout Unit

ST JOHN FISHER NEWS

This term we've been blessed with a visit from the Archbishop of Birmingham, Bernard Longley: we invited him to talk about Catholic life and mission in our schools, and he participated in a beautiful communal liturgy with prayers in many of our children's home languages.

As well as nurturing our spirit we've nurtured our bodies in our *Pop-Up Pool*. Having received funding from Sport England, St John Fisher became a first school in Oxford to have a temporary swimming pool on site. Inside a heated marquee the pool has allowed us to provide focused, intense swimming for all children from Nursery to Y6. Our Y6 team have also been on a residential week, to a cold and wet Kingswood, where they had great fun participating in abseiling, rock climbing and staying up too late.

We have a few school places available in some year groups. Do get in touch if you would like a tour.



photos © SJF: permissions received

Mr Higgins, Head

JHN ACADEMY: SPORTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Football: *Years 3/4 Girls:

JHNA 4 · 2 Our Lady's: our scorers were Ava, Demi-Leigh, Rakeila & Victoria.

*Years 3/4 Boys: JHNA 1 ·

1 Our Lady's: Jake was the one to score. *Years 5/6

Girls: JHNA 3 · 2 St.

Francis and JHNA 3 · 1

Our Lady's: at both matches our scorers were Emeli (twice) & Reeya-Faye. The girls have their League Finals on 25 March @ The Oxford Academy: good luck from all at JHN Academy!

Cross-Country: JHNA vs.

St. John Fisher: Gold

Medals were won by

Valentino & Reeya-Faye;

Silver Medals by Annalise &

Alfred; Bronze Medals by

Shaurya & Albie-Rio

In Athletics, JHNA Years

3/4 Mixed were 4th out of 8

and JHNA Years 5/6 Mixed

were 8th out of 11.

photos © JHN: permissions received: from top: *Yrs 3/4 Girls' Football

*KS2 Cross-Country *Yrs 3/4 Mixed Athletics

Mr Surman



SUPPORT SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

oxme.info

Do you know a young person who's going through a difficult time? The youth support service can help them build life skills, develop healthy relationships and make positive choices. See: oxme.info.

STOP PRESS: COWLEY BRANCH LINE Ox City & Ox County Councils in partnership with others are seeking ways to reopen passenger train services from BBL & Littlemore to the city centre & beyond. Transition by Design is developing a community design brief as part of this project and will be speaking with the community in March & April. *Sign up to receive email updates: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKOCC/signup/39717> *Find out more here: www.oxford.gov.uk/building-projects/reopening-cowley-branch-line-passengers.

UPDATES FROM OUR CITY & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Please find the complete version of this article on p 6.

Major bus service improvements for Littlemore. We met County officers & Oxford Bus Company before Christmas to make clear the need for improvements to Littlemore's service. We're delighted that the 3A daytime frequency will increase to every 15 mins, and the 5A will increase to every 20 minutes. There will be a new fast '600' bus service from Grenoble Road to the John Radcliffe. The changes are scheduled for autumn. There's also a short trial of a new '3X' service. See below & p 4.

Road safety. We have been campaigning for safety improvements on Sandy Lane West, and the recent injury to a young pedestrian has highlighted how urgent this is. Two new pedestrian crossings are planned (one near St John Fisher to be installed this year, the other near The Oxford Academy entrance). Further traffic calming near SJF is being considered.

Money for verges, and a community garden. The City Council's budget is going to cover an additional cutting of road verges this summer (despite the fact this has normally been funded by County). This is the most that can be found given the budget pressures on the City. Cllr Sandy Douglas was able to negotiate £10,000 of seed funding for community-led improvements at Minchery Road allotments. Many plots have fallen out of use, so we hope to establish something like a new community garden, whose use might include involving children from John Henry Newman Academy in growing healthy food.

Crime & antisocial behaviour. We are working on making permanent the CCTV at Cowley Rd shops. City & County Council funding for lighting under the bridge is now in place: it should be installed soon. We remain concerned about crime and antisocial behaviour in several areas of the ward, particularly after the stabbing on College Lane. If there is a particular area you are concerned about, please let us and/or the City antisocial behaviour team and police know.

Templar's Square Redevelopment. Sandy is continuing to work on the idea of placing a new health centre there, which would be more accessible to Littlemore residents than are existing General Practices. He has proposed an amendment to the City's Local Plan, which sets the planning policy for the site, so that it will list a health centre there as one of the desirable facilities which the Council will support. As it is such a major project it will take a number of years: we'll update residents as we know more.

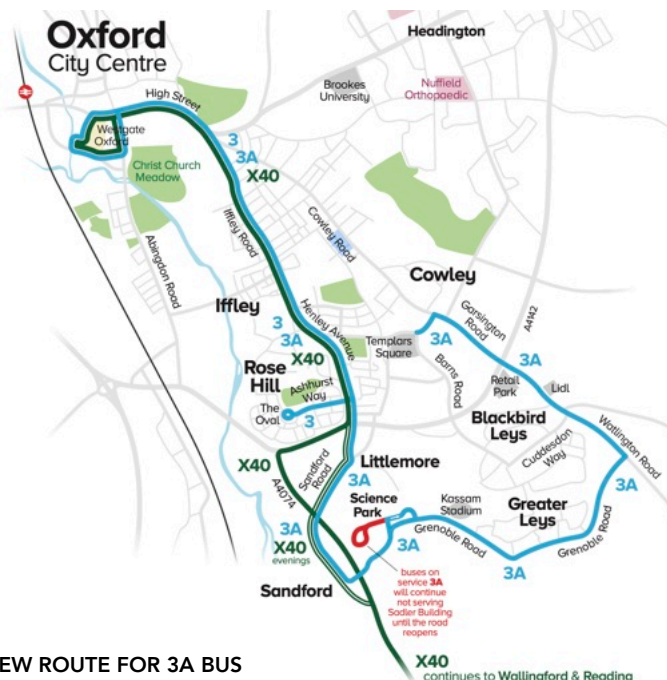
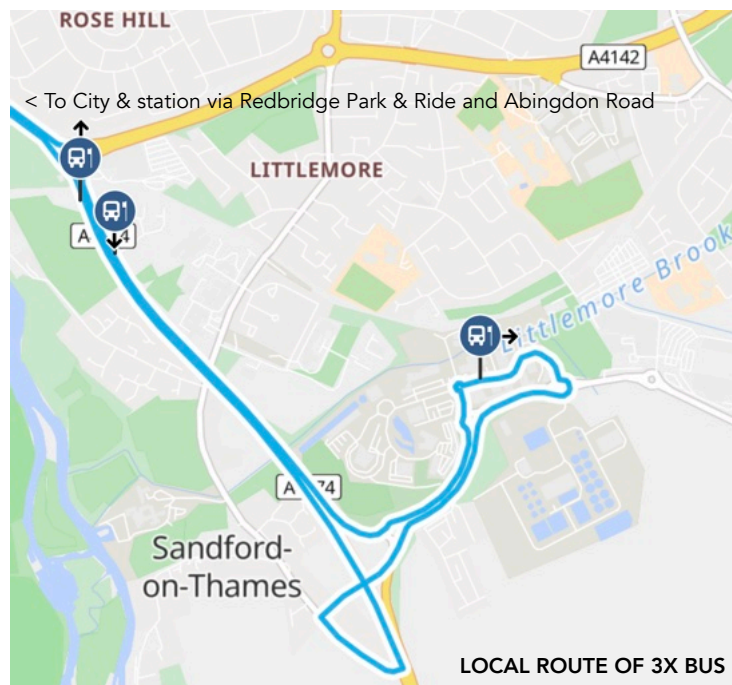
Councillors Sandy Douglas, Trish Elphinstone and Taigo Corais

Submitted by Sandy Douglas: cllrdsdouglas@oxford.gov.uk

BUS NEWS:

***TRIAL BUS SERVICE:** For a short trial the 3X links Oxford Rail station and The Oxford Science Park. It also stops at St Aldates, Redbridge Park&Ride, and Heyford Hill Sainsbury's, with eight trips in each direction daily, M-F only. Buses leave the Science Park for the Station at 07.55, 9am, 11.30, 12.30pm, 14.53, 16.05, 17.15 and 18.25. See map p 4.

***CHANGES TO THE 3A:** in April this service will stop winding through Greater Leys after residents raised concerns. Littlemore residents, who were not consulted, will no longer be able to get a direct bus to the Leys Health Centre. See map p4.



LITTLEMORE FEATURES IN RECENT DETECTIVE NOVEL

I am a crime writer, author of three crime novels set in Oxford – most recently, *Lost and Never Found*. Given the existence of Morse, and Cara Hunter's excellently twisty tales, it's not exactly an original move. So why do I do it? Well, it's handy. For the last 45 years I've lived here: I've worked here, and brought up children here. I took my daughter to dance classes in Headington and my son to piano lessons in Littlemore. I used to cycle round the ring road with him to his piano teacher in Oxford Road, going through the underpass by the Littlemore roundabout, convenient but a little intimidating, especially on dark winter nights, a place – I always thought – where I might come across something alarming. One day, in fact, we did: a man standing under the ring road with a horse on the end of a rope. (We didn't ask.) Other places around Littlemore have prompted dark imaginings too: the construction site at Newman Place, for instance, and one of the lock-ups at the back of Vue, near that atmospheric footpath running past Littlemore Brook meadows down to Priory Road. So Littlemore features in my latest novel. The city I know is a dramatically unequal city, a mismatch of parts. I have two mismatched detectives – posh boy and chav – to suit. For centuries, stories have emerged from Oxford – I hope there is room for me to squeeze in a few more.

Simon Mason

Lost and Never Found was published in hardback in January by www.riverrunpublishing.com: ISBN: 9781529425864: it will be out in paperback in the summer.

EXPANSION OF SMOKE CONTROL AREA

Following public consultation, the City Council will be applying to DEFRA to request approval to create an extended Smoke Control Area for Oxford. If approved, the new Smoke Control Area is expected to be introduced in Autumn 2024. Littlemore would be incorporated into the new city-wide area.

MICROCHIPPING OF CATS SOON TO BE COMPULSORY

New rules mean that before they reach the age of 20 weeks cats must be implanted with a microchip and their contact details stored and kept up to date in a pet microchipping database. All owners must have their cat microchipped by 10 June 2024. Owners found not to have microchipped their cat will have 21 days to have one implanted, or may face a fine. See: www.gov.uk/get-your-dog-cat-microchipped.

UPDATE ON HIF1 PROJECT

The Housing Infrastructure Fund 1 Project would provide a new road linking the A34 Milton Interchange with Clifton Hampden, and cause a serious increase of traffic up the A4074 through Nuneham Courtenay to the Heyford Hill Roundabout. (See LITTLEMORE LOCAL issue 445.)

After the County Council's planning & regulation committee refused the application, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities directed the local planning authority to refer the application to him for decision. A public inquiry will soon take place at Bee House in Milton Park, and will sit for 22 days across a 12-week period. Following the inquiry, the government-appointed inspector will draft a report and present it to the Secretaries of State (for Transport, and for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities), who will make the final decision about whether the project can go ahead.

THE 28th CONFERENCE of the PARTIES to the UNFCCC*

COP 28 heads at pace for outcomes below par.

I come within an ace of giving up my car.

John Wilde

drawing by Andrew Walton



*United Nations Climate Change Conference

CONSTRUCTION STARTS IN LANHAM WAY

Oxford City Council has started construction of 10 low-carbon homes on the former South Oxfordshire depot site off Lanham Way. The work will take about a year. The six semi-detached 2-bedroom houses and four semi-detached 3-bedroom houses will be electrically heated, primarily by air source heat pumps. The nine parking spaces with EV charging will include 3 Blue Badge spaces and one car club space.

The development will be called Youngs Way, after Martin Young vicar of St Mary & St Nicholas Church from 1951 to 1964. He is buried in the churchyard and his name was proposed by Littlemore Parish Council. When completed, five homes will be let as council homes to people on the housing register. The remaining five homes will be sold for shared ownership by the Council's housing company OX Place.

OTHER MAJOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS PROPOSED OR UNDERWAY

PROPOSALS FOR SANDY LANE WEST

Railpen, one of the largest pension managers in the UK (we support half a million people connected with the railway industry), has unveiled plans to redevelop East Point Business Park off Sandy Lane West (see map, right). The plans currently under discussion with Oxford City Council and other local stakeholders would transform the site into modern, net zero carbon workspace for innovation businesses of all sizes, and include laboratory spaces for Oxfordshire's life sciences industry.

The plans also include the creation of a 100 m² *Learning Lab* in partnership with local schools and future tenants. It will provide a place to pass on skills and knowledge to inspire the scientists of tomorrow.

Railpen is committed to providing opportunities for local skills development, and employment, and is developing an Employment & Skills Plan in partnership with nearby schools and employment & skills providers.

There would also be space to support education and training for the local community. Located at the heart of the proposed development is a Community Pavilion designed to bring industry and the community together (see computer simulated image, right). With space for up to 200 people, it will include a café, and multipurpose spaces for the local community.

Additional public spaces will be provided in the heart of the site and improved connectivity around the site for residents will include a new segregated cycle- & foot-way along Sandy Lane West, and a safer more attractive A4142 Underpass, with a public art installation and lighting.

A preliminary consultation closes at end of March, but there will be future opportunities to comment. Find more on our website: www.eastpointconsultation.co.uk. Nick Vose, Director



THE ELLISON INSTITUTE BUILD in ARMSTRONG ROAD

The team working on the Ellison Institute of Technology in Armstrong Road have now moved into cabin offices and into the neighbouring chapel building to allow 'soft strip demolition' on the south wing of the existing Littlemore House building. This process involves the safe removal of all fixtures and fittings, walls, ceilings, staircases, and temporary structures, to make way for our refurbishment and re-modelling work. We are 30% of the way through and are very close to completing the removal of the L1 floor slab from the existing recreation hall.

We're underpinning the north wing of the existing building: this is the process of strengthening the existing foundations by adding more concrete. The east side and north side are complete; the south elevation will begin once piling is complete in that area.

Construction of the new building's pile foundations is underway. The 4 piling rigs on site are installing bearing piles and secant piles. Bearing piles support the weight of building, whereas the secant piles interlock to create a wall around the edge of the basement.

Amanda Thompson, Laing O'Rourke



UPDATES FROM OUR CITY & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

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This is the full version of a shorter article in the print issue.

Major bus service improvements for Littlemore

We met with County officers and Oxford Bus Company before Christmas and made clear the need for improvements to Littlemore's bus service.

We're delighted report that

- the daytime frequency of the 3A is now going to increase to every 15 minutes, and
- the 5A will increase to every 20 minutes.
- There will also be a fast new '600' bus service from Grenoble Road to the John Radcliffe.

The improvements are scheduled for the autumn.

There's also a trial (until April) of a new '3X' service going from Sainsbury's / Mogridge Drive to the rail station (see p 3 & 4).

Road safety

We have been campaigning all year for safety improvements on Sandy Lane West. The recent injury to a young pedestrian has highlighted the urgent need for change.

- Two new pedestrian crossings are planned: one will be placed near St John Fisher within the coming year (look out for public consultations) the other will be near The Oxford Academy entrance).
- Options for further traffic calming near the primary school are being considered.

The pedestrian route from St Nicholas Place (Mogridge Drive) to the rest of Littlemore remains a major concern. Pedestrians have to cross Sainsbury's entrance, and cars come off the ring road, and leave Sainsbury's at speed. We recently presented a petition from residents to the County Council cabinet member responsible, and are pushing County officers to make improvements using some of the infrastructure funding linked to recent developments in the area. It's complicated by the fact that Sainsbury's controls the land rather than it being a public highway.

Cllr Trish Elphinstone has secured re-opening of the second lane at the turning from Rose Hill into Church Cowley Rd (pictured below in 2011). This has been slightly delayed but is due to go ahead in April. This should reduce congestion but there is also a safety reason for making the change – frustrated drivers cutting left into the slip road to avoid the traffic lights entirely has caused a serious of near misses with cyclists.

As it was in 2011: Road markings at the junction of Rose Hill & Church Cowley Rd



Money for verges, community garden, advice centres and potholes in council budgets

The City Council's budget is going to cover an additional cut for road verges this summer (this is normally funded by County). We'd like to see more but unfortunately this is the most that can be found given the budget pressures on the City.

Cllr Sandy Douglas was able to negotiate £10,000 of seed funding (no pun intended!) for community-led improvements at the Minchery Road allotments. Many plots have fallen out of use. We hope to be able to establish something like a new community garden for public use such as enabling schoolchildren from John Henry Newman Academy to grow healthy food.

At the County Council, Trish supported Labour's budget amendment which will provide an extra £300,000 for advice centres (like Rose Hill & the Agnes Smith Centre).

Given the shocking state of the roads, £5m was also allocated for road repairs including potholes.

Crime & antisocial behaviour

We are working on getting the CCTV at Cowley Rd shops made permanent. City & County Council funding for lighting under the bridge is now in place and this should be being installed soon.

We remain concerned about crime and antisocial behaviour in several areas of the ward, particularly after the stabbing on College Lane. If there is a particular area you are concerned about, please let us know and we'll make sure that the City antisocial behaviour team and police are aware.

Templar's Square

Sandy attended a briefing with the developers and City Council officers on 11 March. One possibility is a staged re-development, starting with derelict parts of the site like the old Nelson Pub. All involved are keen to make sure that the site continues to offer a range of shops & facilities, including those important to the community, like the optician. Staging the re-development would mean shops would continue to be available on the site at all times (rather than the whole site being out of action at the same time). There is no truth in the rumour that the site is going to be turned into student housing. The City Council will prioritise affordable homes for local people, especially new council housing.

Sandy is continuing to work on the idea of a new health centre there, which would be much more accessible to Littlemore residents than current GPs. He has proposed an amendment to the City's 'Local Plan', which sets the planning policy for the site, so that it will list a health centre there as one of the desirable facilities which the Council will support.

As it is such a major project it will take a number of years - firmer plans are expected this summer & we'll update residents as soon as we know more.

Submitted by Sandy Douglas

BRINGING EMPTY HOMES BACK INTO USE

An empty home is one that is privately owned and has been unoccupied for more than six months. Oxford City Council is calling on owners of empty homes to help ease Oxford's housing crisis by bringing them back into use. If you are aware of an empty home you can contact the Council's Empty Property Officer on 01865 252 280 or report it on the council website: www.oxford.gov.uk/xfp/form/183 .

EXPANSION OF CRITERIA FOR HOME UPGRADE GRANT

Residents in Oxford are being encouraged to apply for free energy efficiency measures, after the income eligibility for the Home Upgrade Grant was raised from £31,000 to £36,000.

The government funding aims to help residents who do not use gas as their main source of heating, to install free energy-efficiency measures such as cavity wall insulation, loft insulation, solar panels, air source heat pumps, and so on.

The funding aims to help households that:

- are living in a home not heated by mains gas (but which may use oil, coal, LPG, or electric heating)
- and have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) between D and G, (Homes that do not have an EPC rating will be provided with a free assessment.)
- and are on a low income,
- or live in the most economically deprived areas.

The funding is open to both homeowners and those living in private rented properties. Landlords may be able to benefit from the funding if their tenants are eligible. Find out more and apply at <https://hugapply.co.uk> or call 0800 107 8883.

NEW COST OF LIVING SUPPORT SCHEME

There is a new scheme to support residents who are either in, or at risk of being in crisis and have no other source of financial support. It's called **The Oxfordshire Residents Support Scheme**. It will help with short-term basic living costs such as food, and credit for gas or electric prepayment meters. In most instances cash will not be awarded, but a pay point voucher (which can be redeemed for cash) or bank transfer can be supplied where necessary.

The support is available to all Oxfordshire adult residents aged 16 years+ who have families with young children, have long-term illness, mental health needs or disabilities. Homes with older people, pregnant residents or people at risk of domestic abuse are also eligible. To find out more visit:

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/help-rising-living-costs/residents-support-scheme . Those unable to get online may either use the free access computers in local libraries where staff will be happy to help, or telephone 01865 804 171, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm excluding bank holidays.

E-SCOOTERS

The rules for private e-scooters have not changed. It is against the law to use a privately-owned e-scooter in public. To ride an e-scooter legally you must have *a driving licence with a category Q entitlement and *motor insurance which can only be provided by a rental company. If you use an e-scooter illegally: you could face a fine, you could get penalty points on your licence and/or the e-scooter could be impounded.

CHANGES AHEAD FOR LANDLINE PHONE USERS

Copper telephone wires are being replaced by more modern technology which will be provided through a broadband (Internet) connection. One disadvantage of the new system will be that your phone will not work during a power cut. So you are advised to have a mobile phone, too, or a Battery Backup System. See more about this below, on page 8.

RECYCLING NEWS

DIY Waste If you're planning to take DIY waste to Redbridge recycling centre, the rules and charges have changed.

Free Allowance: You can now dispose of up to five DIY items free, once every seven rolling days. Please note: this does not apply to plasterboard.

Booking Requirement: To access your free allowance of DIY waste, you must book a visit online. Any DIY waste exceeding the allocated free allowance will be subject to normal charges. To find out more and to book, go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/waste-and-recycling/household-waste/diy-waste-charges

VAPES: The batteries and E-Liquid that makeup part of disposable vapes are potentially harmful to the environment if not disposed of correctly. There are 3 ways to recycle vapes

- A kerbside collection as part of your normal small electrical recycling service (placed in a clear bag, on top of any bin lid)
- Up to 60 new recycling collection points for vapes at small retailers, pubs and cafes across Oxfordshire
- A new pink public recycling bin at each of the Household Waste Recycling Centres in Oxfordshire, including Redbridge.

YOU NOW NEED PHOTO ID TO VOTE IN PERSON

This year we will have Oxford City Council on Thursday 2 May, and a General Election. If you are voting at a polling station you will be required to show photo ID before being issued with a ballot paper. Accepted forms of ID include a European Economic Area or Commonwealth passport, a driving licence, a Blue Badge, and some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass. You may use an expired ID if you are recognisable from the photo.

If you don't have one of the accepted forms of ID...

or if you no longer look like the person in your ID, or if your name has changed, you can [apply for a Voter Authority Certificate](#). If you don't have access to the internet & would like a paper application form, either drop into the Town Hall, or ring 01865 252 987: the elections team will send one out.

Can't make it to the polling booth?

Apply for a postal vote

If you are not already registered for a postal vote, and you want one for the election on 2 May, you need to apply by 5pm on 17 April. You can apply online, at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote , or via the Elections Office, Town Hall, St Aldate's, OX1 1BX.

Apply for a proxy vote

If you will be away, or physically unable to get to the polling station, you can appoint someone to cast your vote for you.

Apply online on the [Apply For a Proxy Vote webpage](#).

If you need a form you can download the form from the Electoral Commission. You can scan it and email it back or post it to the Elections Office, Town Hall, St Aldate's, OX1 1BX. The deadline to apply for a proxy vote for the May elections is 5pm on 24 April.

Find more info at electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID .

IS VAPING DANGEROUS?

Vaping is not as harmful as smoking cigarettes. More research is needed fully to understand the health effects of vaping, but already children's doctors say it may cause long-term damage to young people's lungs, hearts & brains. Widely available illegal vapes are much more likely to contain harmful chemicals such as lead, nickel and chromium, or drugs, such as cannabis.

A new tax on vaping products will start in October 2026. At the same time, duty on tobacco will go up by £2 per 100 cigarettes to ensure that vaping remains cheaper.

LANDLINE TELEPHONES : FORTHCOMING CHANGE

The technology that currently powers landline phones is going to be switched off.

A big switch over

Landlines run on the **Public Switched Telephone Network** (PSTN). Its old copper wires are being phased out in favour of newer technologies such as fibre optics. It is hoped that the old PSTN technology will be replaced by 2025 or 2026. The new system is called **Voice Over Internet Protocol** (VoIP). Using VoIP your voice traffic will be routed via broadband, which allows for much greater clarity and security than with the old network.

What will I need to do?

If you already have a broadband contract, your provider will automatically switch your telephone to a VoIP connection when the exact switchover date is announced. It is possible you may need an adapter to plug your existing landline telephone into your broadband router, but this and other equipment you may need should be supplied by your phone company.

Will I need an internet connection to make landline calls?

Yes.

What if I don't have a broadband connection?

If you do not need to use high-speed internet services, Ofcom says you will be given the choice to buy a simple 'line only' broadband connection, which will effectively replace your current landline.

Will I keep my old number?

Yes.

Will I need to buy a new telephone?

No. You will need an adapter, or a new wall socket. These should be provided by your provider.

Will my new phone contract be more expensive?

It shouldn't be –though it is not guaranteed.

What if my Landline and Broadband providers are different companies?

You will have the choice to switch from one to the other once landlines are axed.

What about my Fax Machine, Alarm, or Emergency Call Pendant?

Some technologies such as Emergency Call Pendants, Credit Card Machines, Fax Machines and some Alarm systems that rely on existing technologies will need adapting to the new VoIP technology. You will need to speak to your phone provider before the switchover to see if they can aid you in the transition. In most cases there should be adapters available to help you, however it would be wise to check ahead to see what you will need to do.



What happens during power cuts?

With the existing PSTN system, if there is a power cut at your home your telephone line will still work. If there is a power cut with VoIP, you will not be able to make or receive calls using VoIP.

Backups and alternatives

It is recommended that you have a backup method of making and receiving calls such as a mobile phone ideally with 4G or 5G internet

access. That way if the power drops on your home broadband, then you would still be able to make and receive landline calls via an app on your mobile phone.

It is also possible to invest in a small **Uninterruptable Power Supply** (UPS) or Battery Backup system, that will keep your communications up in cases of power outages. There are business- and domestic-sized units on the market.

Are Business-grade ISDN lines being discontinued?

Yes, both ISDN 2 and ISDN30 lines are also being replaced by VoIP. You will need to speak to your provider to discuss your options if you are using business grade ISDN.

Will VoIP Calls affect my broadband speed?

For home, and most small business users VoIP calls shouldn't take up the sorts of bandwidth that will affect your broadband speeds.

Can I have two Broadband connections, one for calls and one for data?

Yes. This is common and if you're a business who relies on telephones and connection to the internet, then it is sensible to have more than one broadband connection.

Where can I keep up to date about this?

Some of the finer details of the switchover are still being released.

The following website will be updated with more news as things evolve, but you can also contact your existing provider.

- <https://www.pmctelecom.co.uk/blog/are-landline-phones-being-phased-out-in-2025/>

Ofcom and Openreach have excellent information pages regarding the landline switch off :

OfCom info page:

- <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/future-of-landline-calls>

Openreach info page

- <https://www.openreach.co.uk/cpportal/products/the-all-ip-programme/wlr-withdrawal>

WILDLIFE PAGE: news from our local Wildlife Conservation Charity: BBWOT

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

OUR RECORD VISITOR

You may think that BBOWT reserves are too far for you to visit, but Jon Mason, a geography teacher who lives in Bedlow on the edge of the Chilterns has completed his challenge to visit every one of them in one year.

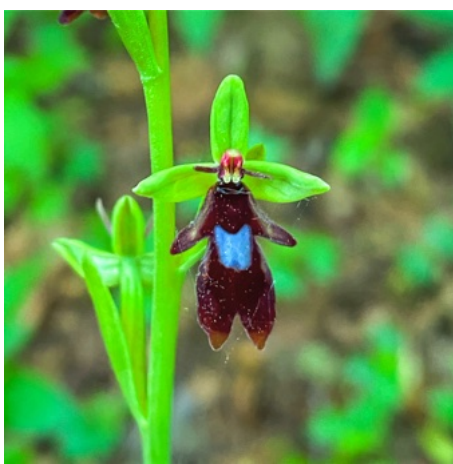
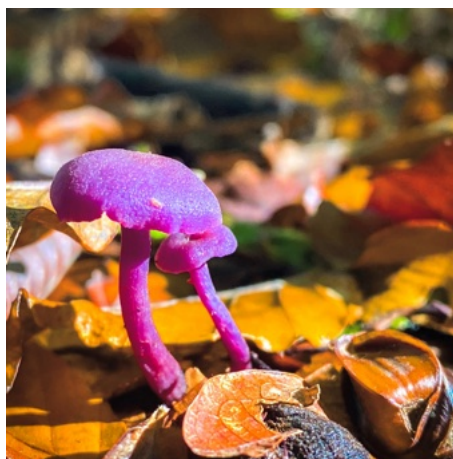
Where possible, Mr Mason walked, or used public transport to get to each of the 83 reserves. For sites that were only accessible by car, to keep his carbon footprint down he built visits into journeys that he was making anyway to see family or friends. He took photographs at every reserve and shared them on Instagram and on his website, theearlybirder.co.uk.

Speaking about the stand-out moments from his 12-month adventure he said:

'There were many highlights, such as finding a fly orchid at Warburg hidden away in the shade next to the path, so beautiful and so easy to overlook; also, standing at Swains Wood listening to ravens 'cronk' above the trees as they displayed overhead, tumbling and rolling through a cloudless sky; then frogs spawning noisily in the ponds along the path to the octagon hide at College Lake; watching a glow worm larva walk across the path as I explored Millfield Wood; listening to curlews at Gallows Bridge Farm as the sun set...

'I suppose above all the highlight was becoming very aware of the sheer abundance of wildlife that can thrive if the land is managed for nature.'

Having all year shared stunning photographs and videos from his challenge on Instagram, he is now planning a series of talks about his year of wild encounters with BBOWT.



photos © BBOWT:

above:

Amethyst deceiver at Foxholes by Jon Mason

Fly orchid at Warburg by Jon Mason

below: butterfly plaques by Chris Deeney



BUY A BUTTERFLY!

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) has installed *Your Wild Memories* displays at two of its visitor centres. They are the Nature Discovery Centre near Thatcham, and College Lake visitor centre near Tring.

They feature specially-designed butterfly plaques made of brushed stainless steel, which you can buy and have personalised with messages to remember precious moments, people, or wild times.

Butterflies hold all sorts of different meanings for people, as well as being beautiful to behold.

Each butterfly can be engraved to order with the wording of your choice.

Author and natural history writer for the Guardian, butterfly lover Patrick Barkham left this message: *Breathe in green, Breathe in blue, Soar soul! Thanks, nature.*

Funds raised from the sale of the commemorative butterfly plaques will go towards BBOWT's work creating more nature everywhere for everyone, to benefit wildlife, climate and people.

To learn more visit: www.bbowt.org.uk/support-us/your-wild-memories.

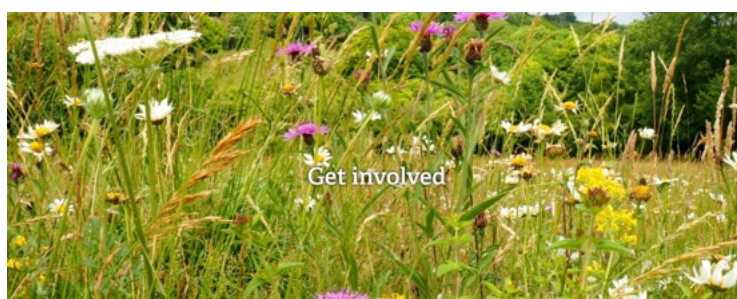
Pete Hughes – Communications Officer
[petehughes@bbowt.org.uk](mailto:pete.hughes@bbowt.org.uk)

ERRATUM

On this page in the last issue there was an aerial photo of the flood plain: I forgot to attribute it to Rob Sadler. My apologies,

Ed.

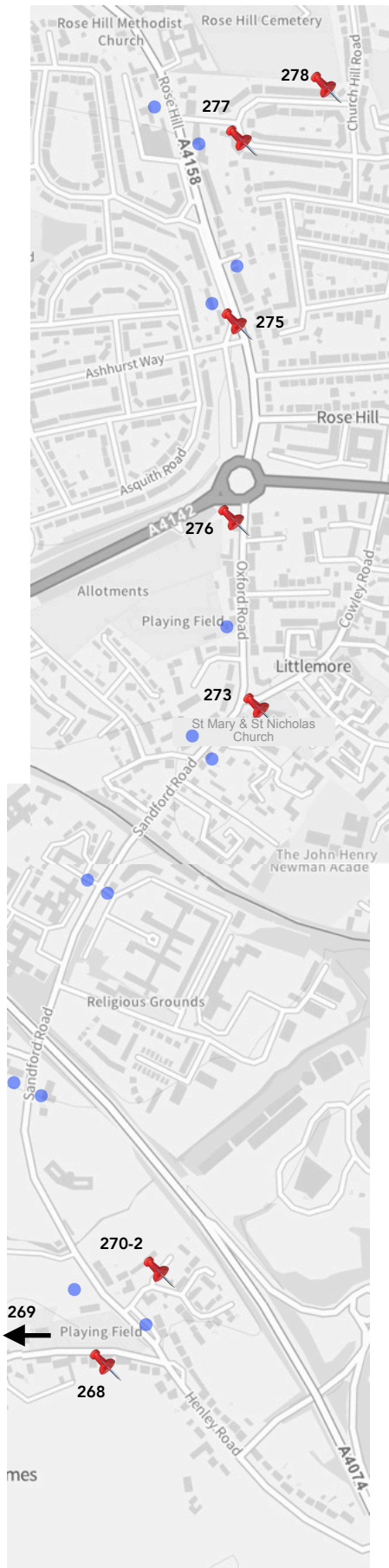
BBOWT is one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK working to achieve the shared aim of securing a better future for wildlife. Our experts work with more than 1,700 volunteers to look after over 80 nature reserves, five education centres and run hundreds of amazing events. We rely on the generosity of individuals, charitable trusts and businesses. Find out more at www.bbowt.org.uk.



LITTLEMORE and its neighbours: ARTWEEKS TRAIL MAP

These artists are exhibiting between 11-19 May. Find more about them on the [artweeks](http://artweeks.org) web site.

- 3A BUS STOPS: the 3a links the City Centre with Cowley via Rose Hill, Littlemore, Sandford & Greater Leys: if you're happy to walk it, it's only 2 miles between Venue 278 and 269



278 Westbury People's Gallery

Drawing, painting, mosaics, print

1 Westbury Crescent, OX4 3RZ

OPEN: 2-5pm: 11, 12, 16, 18, & 19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/westbury-peoples-gallery

277 Tim Wait: Painting

60 Westbury Crescent, OX4 3SA

OPEN: 11am-4pm: 11, 12, & 15-19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/tim-wait

275 Lorraine Berkshire-Roe: Drawing

140a Oxford Road, Littlemore, OX4 4QP

OPEN: 11am-6pm: 11 & 18 May

11am-4pm: 12 & 19 May 5-8pm: 15 & 16 May

www.artweeks.org/v/lorraine-berkshire-roe

276 Andrew Walton: Drawing, Mixed Media

72 Oxford Road, Littlemore, OX4 4PE

OPEN: 11am-6pm: 11-19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/andrew-walton

273 Community Exhibition

Digital Art, Drawing, and more

St Mary & St Nicholas Church

Oxford Road, Littlemore, OX4 4PB

OPEN: 10am-5pm: 11-19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/st-mary-st-nicholas-church-littlemore

270 Amanda J Bond: Painting

271 Becky Paton: Mosaics

272 Ian Roxburgh: Mixed media

17 Rock Farm La, Sandford-on-Thames, OX4 4YL

OPEN: 11am-5pm: 11 & 12 May, and 18 & 19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/amanda-j-bond

www.artweeks.org/v/becky-paton-oas-0

www.artweeks.org/v/ian-roxburgh

268 Etain O'Carroll: Mixed media, photography

3 Church Road, Sandford-on-Thames, OX4 4XZ

OPEN: 11am-5pm: 11 & 12 May, and 18 & 19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/etain-ocarroll

269 Piero Bortoli: Paintings, prints & sculpture

Studio @ 52 Church Road, Sandford on Thames, OX4 4XZ

(1 min walk from Venue 268: opposite River View)

OPEN: 11am-6pm: 11 & 12 May and 18 & 19 May

www.artweeks.org/v/piero-bortoli



TIM WAIT



ANDREW WALTON



AMADA BOND



BECKY PATON



ARTWEEKS: LITTLEMORE ARTISTS EXHIBITING ELSEWHERE

please check the [artweeks](#) web site for more detail

Claire Drinkwater, ceramicist & printmaker (and Chair of the Trustees of the Village Hall) will be exhibiting with 6 others at the lovely church at North Moreton, near Didcot. They'll also be



selling greetings cards, and serving refreshments (tea, coffee, delicious homemade cookies & cakes). So there'll be something to interest everybody! She will also have work included in the exhibition at the Oxford Printmakers Co-operative workshop in Tyndale Road, East Oxford.

Venue 439: OPEN 11am-5pm 18-27 May (11am-4pm Sundays) see www.artweeks.org/v/north-moreton-artists .

Venue 310: OPEN 12-5pm: 11-19 May. www.artweeks.org/v/oxford-printmakers-co-operative-ltd

Judith Godsland, bookbinder (and editor of LITTLEMORE LOCAL) will be exhibiting with 11 other members of Oxfordshire Craft Guild at The Old Prebendal House in Shipton-u-Wychwood.

She'll also exhibit in Abingdon with Iain Shield & Nikki Shield.

For sale will be Iain's stoneware, Nikki's paintings, and Judith's sketchbooks for creative people, her cards & other items she makes with paper, such as the corner bookmarks (right).



Venue 84: OPEN 11am-5pm 4-12 May www.artweeks.org/v/oxfordshire-craft-guild. Venues 552

www.artweeks.org/v/judith-godsland-ocg , 472 www.artweeks.org/v/iain-shield-ocg , & 473 www.artweeks.org/v/nikki-shield.) OPEN: 10am-6pm: 18 & 19 May and 25 & 26 May, and 4-7pm: 22-24 May

UPDATE: THE COMMUNITY INSIGHT PROFILE

In 2023 Oxfordshire County Council and its local partners in Littlemore asked you what it is like to live in Littlemore, including what keeps you healthy, and what could be better.

See issues 452 & 455 of LITTLEMORE LOCAL, and insight.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/community-insight-profiles

THE COMMUNITY INSIGHT PROFILE

What respondents like about Littlemore: The friendly community; the green, open spaces and play parks; the community groups which run a range of activities; location and closeness to the centre of Oxford.

What could be improved: Accessibility, and access of healthcare; reducing anti-social behaviour; increasing public transport services; improved knowledge of community events; awareness of warm community spaces; creation of a youth council; improved community spaces; a volunteer drive; more support for young people; mental health training and support; life skills sessions; and support groups for parents of children with Special Educational Needs.

What respondents would like to see: Replies include: improved facilities and tidier parks; free or low- cost activities; improvements to community spaces; a community café and kitchen; a health centre or pharmacy.

What's next? We are working with the Littlemore Health and Wellbeing group (see Community Groups p 16) to take things forward. A Community Health Development Officer is working to support the health and wellbeing within the Littlemore community. Grant funding is available from both Oxfordshire County Council and the Well Together Programme, to support local organisations to make improvements to health and wellbeing in the local area.

GRANT FUNDING FOR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING EVENTS

There are 2 lots of funding available for local groups & organisations to reduce health inequalities in the area:

✓ £25,000 Community Insight profile grant funding provided by Oxfordshire County Council. To find out more please visit Oxford City Councils website <https://www.oxford.gov.uk/communityprofilefund> .

✓ £100,000 Well Together Programme funding provided by the NHS Integrated Care Board. To find out more please visit <https://ocva.org.uk/well-together-programme/> .

You can already start applying for some of these monies.

Drop in to find out more ...

at Oxford City Council and the Well Together team's joint drop-in session. It's an opportunity for groups and residents to find out about the funding, ask questions, and to share ideas.

This is an informal session, and you can pop in at any point. Tea and biscuits will be provided!

When: Tuesday 16 April, 8.45am – 11am

Where: John Henry Newman Academy, OX4 4LS.

For more information or to get involved please contact
Alexa Bailey, Community Health Development Officer,
abailey@oxford.gov.uk

WHAT'S ON: GROUPS, CLASSES ETC

Regular Events: April and May 2024

KEY: LOCATIONS IN and around LITTLEMORE

ACF	Army Cadet Force Building, OX4 6LD
ATC	Air Cadet Forces Centre, OX4 6LD
BDB	Blessed Dominic Barberi Hall, OX4 4JX
EKH	Edith Kempson Community Hall, OX4 4QB
FSS	Family Solutions Service: Ashhurst Way OX4 4UY
IBC	Indoor Bowls Club, OX4 6NA
JHN	John Henry Newman Academy, OX4 4LS
LCC	Littlemore Community Centre, OX4 4NL
RHCC	Rose Hill Community Centre, OX4 4HF
RBL	Royal British Legion Hall, OX4 4LZ
RMHC	Rose Hill Methodist Church: Rose Hill, OX4 4HS
SAC	St Andrew's Church: Sandford, OX4 4XZ
SHQ	Scout HQ, Fairlie Road, OX4 3SW
SVH	Sandford Village Hall, OX4 4YN
SM+SN	St Mary & St Nicholas Church, near OX4 4PB
TOA	The Oxford Academy, OX4 6JZ (except for Rugby Club which is via Northfield Close entrance: OX4 4NH)
VHL	The Village Hall, Littlemore, OX4 4PY

- **Acrobatics, Parkour, Aerial & Stunts:** Director: Oliver Ward 03302 233 995 or info@ukcfacademy.co.uk . Booking: <http://www.ukcfaction.co.uk>
 - **UKCF Academy®:** **TOA:** Parkour park, Tumble track & Stunts: trapezes, silks, hoops, handstand canes & more. Sundays: *10:30am-6pm: age 7-17 years *6-7pm: 18+
 - **UKCF Action Holiday Stunt Camps:** **TOA:** Book online for Easter, Summer and Christmas camps offering Stunts, Acrobatics, Aerial, Trampoline & Parkour.
- **Advice Centre:** serving Rose Hill, Donnington, & Littlemore. **NB:** Drop-in or Book Sessions are offered at **SM+SN:** Weekly on Thursdays 10-11.30am. To pre-book call 01865 438 634.
- **Aerial Arts Academy:** **TOA:** Aerials & Pole Dance. Fun weekday & weekend dance & fitness classes for all abilities. Use code OAA1STFREE for your first class free when you book online at aerialartsacademy.co.uk . Contact: Nicola Ghalmi 07909 974 256, info@aerialartsacademy.co.uk
- **Afternoon Tea** at **VHL:** Tea, coffee & delicious home-made cakes, and an opportunity to meet some of your Parish Councillors: first Saturday: 2.30-4.30pm (except August). Contact Claire Drinkwater 01865 718 580. See fliers p 19.
- **Age UK Oxfordshire:** for our support call 0345 450 1276, visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire or email contactus@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk
 - **Drop in and meet our local Age UK Ox Rep:** Valerie Hunt at **SM+SN** Coffee Morning 10.30-12noon last Monday of month
 - **Strength & Balance Classes:** **LCC and online via Zoom:** Tuesdays 10-11am: (a second class from 1.45 to 2.45pm will be offered soon): with Sarah Wheatley: first session free: please book through active@Ageukoxfordshire.org.uk or 01235 849 403.

- **Stay Strong & Steady: Falls prevention programme:** starts May 2024, please book through active@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk or 01235 849 403.
- **Art & Craft Courses:** Oxford Summer School @ **TOA:** yearly: this year: Monday 5 August to Saturday 10 August with Saturday set aside for one-day classes. See www.oxfordshireartandcraft.com and instagram [oxford_summer_school](https://www.instagram.com/oxford_summer_school)
- **Art Exhibitions:** **SM&SN:** Regular events showing work of local artists. From 11-19 May we are taking part in ArtWeeks 2024. See p 9 & 19, www.artweeks.org/v/st-mary-st-nicholas-church-littlemore and www.littlemorechurch.org/exhibitions. If you are interested in exhibiting your work please contact churchwarden@littlemorechurch.org .
- **Air Cadets:** **ATC:** see www.aircadets.tv/2210. 2210 (Cowley) Sqn parade Mon & Wed from 7.30-9.30pm. Please send enquiries to me, Flt Lt O'Riordan, oc.2210@rafac.mod.gov.uk
- **Allotments:** * Thomson Terrace: to join the allotment waiting list, see our website www.ttacic.org , or email Kathleen O'Donnell Secretary@ttacic.org , or phone Field Secretary Tom Dyra 07867 931 487 *Minchery Farm (see City Council website) *Elder Stubbs (see City Council Website or Restore website) and *Denny Gardens (see www.odfaa.com/members/contact).
- **Angling Society:** **Extensive local still, & flowing waters:** www.littlemoreanglingsociety.co.uk . 15 March-15 June: closed season for fishing with a rod and line for salmon, trout, coarse fish, eels, smelt & lamprey on rivers, streams & drains. For still water Fixtures see p 15. Contact Alan Campbell, 07789 334 710, alancampbell0811@gmail.com .
- **Army Cadets:** **ACF:** If you're 12, in year 8, and are interested in learning new skills & making new friends, the Army Cadets is for you. We parade on Thursday nights from 7.30 to 9.30pm. See www.armycadets.com/county/oxfordshire-acf-Oxfordshire . Detachment Commander: Colour Serjeant S Turner
- **Baby Yoga & Post-natal Yoga:** **VHL:** Thurs 10.30am. Mama Flow Yoga: Sara Barker, Senior Yoga Teacher. For more info & to book see: <https://mamaflow.co.uk> . Concessions are available for low income families.
- **Bingo:** **RBL** on 1st & 3rd Friday, and **VHL** on 2nd & 4th Friday. If there's a 5th Friday, they will decide at the time. For more info contact Katie Tutty 01865 778 869 or littlemorerbl@gmail.com
- **Bowls (Indoor):** **IBC:** Sandy Lane West OX4 6NA: see www.oxbowls.co.uk
- **Childcare: Littlemore Preschool:** **LCC:** open: Mon-Weds 8.45am-2.45pm, Thur & Fri 8.45-11.45am: term-times: for pre-school children from 2-4 yrs. To go on our waiting list please drop by or contact us for an application form. Manager: Hayley Cox: phone 01865 396 449 when we are open, or littlemoreplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk
- **Childcare: Little People Nursery:** **TOA** Northfield Close entrance: 8am to 5.30pm, 48 weeks a year. Manager: Lindsey Hart: 01865 397 972, littlepeeplesnursery@peeples.org.uk
- **Childcare: The Old Station Nursery:** Heatley Road, OX4 4GE: **Oxford Science Park:** open all year for children aged 3 months-5 years. Please contact Charlotte Dagg: 01865 777 167 or osp@tosn.co.uk

- **Children's Groups at JHN: term times only.** Stay & Play for 0-5s & parents/carers: Mon & Tues 9-10.15am. Join us for toys, a run around, & fun. No need to have a sibling at the school. For details call Hannah Jamieson on 01865 772 495
- **Children's Groups: Growing Minds**
 - **Growing Minds Project:** if you live in Littlemore and have a little one aged 0-4yrs, do get in touch to find out more about the Growing Minds project, and about receiving free books. Email families@peeple.org.uk or call Hayley Hayle on 07864 311 964
 - **Growing Minds Stay & Play at SM+SN church:** Thursdays 10-11.30am. For further information, please contact Lucy White: lucy@homestartoxford.org.uk or call 0773 438 9799
 - **Growing Minds Peep group:** at the **Peeple Cabins: TOA** Northfield Close entrance: Tuesdays 9.30-10.30, for all Littlemore parents/carers with babies under 12 months old. For more information call Hayley Hayle on 07864 311 964, hayley.hayle@peeple.org.uk
 - **Growing Minds 1-2s Peep group: VHL:** Tuesdays 1.30-2.30pm: for Littlemore parents/carers & their children. For more information call or text Hayley Hayle on 07864 311964, hayley.hayle@peeple.org.uk
- **Children's Groups: Peep Groups:** Please contact families@peeple.org.uk or phone Lisse Honeyman on 07780 716 098: see www.peeple.org.uk/peep-groups-oxfordshire
- **Singing, stories, & time to talk to practitioners: various locations:** for babies, 1- & 2-yr-olds
- **Growing Minds SEND Peep Group for 0-4s: FSS:** (Rosehill Family Solutions Service, Ashhurst Way, OX4 4UY): 9.30-11am Tuesdays: for Littlemore Families with children with an additional need: no formal diagnoses needed: please book in advance: contact Lisse, as above
- **Children's Groups: Sing & Sign for 0-2 year olds & their parents/carers: VHL:** Mondays 9.45am, 11am and 12.15pm: learn baby signing the fun way in our fun-filled music classes. For more info, and to book contact 07795 005 832 or oxford@singandsign.co.uk. Lead: Emily Percy
- **Children's Groups: Stay & Play:**
 - **Little Chuggers: SHQ:** drop-in indoor & outdoor Stay & Play for children aged 0-4yrs, their parents & carers: find updates on our Facebook page. If you'd like to help: please contact Ruth Lloyd, 07736 831 038, littlechuggers@gmail.com
 - **Stay & Play at the Library** (see Library)
 - **Stay & Play at SM+SN** (see under Growing Minds)
 - **Stay & Play at JHN** (see under Children's Groups at JHN)
- **Churches:** see separate Faith Group listing pp 17 & 18
- **Coffee morning & Sing-along: SM+SN:** Mondays 10am-noon: drop in for coffee, cake, conversation & song: contact: contact Eve McWilliam admin@littlemorechurch.org
- **Coffee morning: SM+SN:** Wednesdays 10am-noon: drop in for coffee, cake, conversation: contact Eve McWilliam admin@littlemorechurch.org or see www.littlemorechurch.org
- **Community Emergency Food Bank: EKH:** Thursday 10 am to 11.30 am. See www.cefoxford.co.uk for details about how to be referred

• Conservation Work Parties:

- **Berks Bucks & Oxford Wildlife Trust. Based in Littlemore:** we have nature reserves which offer days out, and outdoor opportunities to volunteer. Contact: info@bbowt.org.uk or see www.bbowt.org.uk
- **Oxford Preservation Trust:** Green space volunteering at **Heyford Meadow, Heyford Hill Lane:** 9:30am-12:30pm 3rd Friday every month. All welcome, no experience necessary, instructions & tools are provided. Contact 01865 242 918 or info@oxfordpreservation.org.uk. For more opportunities see www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk
- **Crafting for children + carers: Saturdays: see Library**
- **Dance for Wellbeing: LCC:** Thursdays 12-1pm. Provided free by Sport in Mind for everyone 17+ experiencing isolation, loneliness, low mood, or a mental health condition. Fun, casual drop-in Dance session with Nuria Franchy Afonso. This session is for all abilities, just give it a go! See: www.sportinmind.org/oxfordshire
- **Drop-In for people of all ages: RHMC:** Mondays 2-4.30pm Community Drop in: contact Liz Spain, Community Chaplain: rosehillcommunitychaplain@gmail.com or 07754 670 565.
- **First Aid for Parents & Carers: VHL:** Baby & Child classes to give you the confidence to deal with a medical emergency. Sessions cover CPR, Choking, Bleeding, Burns, Bumps, Breaks, Febrile seizures & Meningitis awareness. Upcoming dates: Thursdays: 16 May, & 4 July 2024. To book, see: watford.minifirstaid.co.uk. To express interest contact Fran Brooman: fran@minifirstaid.co.uk, or 0796 722 8986.
-  *not confirmed this time: may not be accurate:* Football Coaching at TOA 3G Dome: offered by Oxford United in the Community: for girls & boys age 5-11 years: Tuesday evenings: *5-6pm age 5-8 *6-7pm age 9-11: contact Alex Blane at community@oufc.co.uk
- **Gardening Group: VHL:** The Village Hall gardening group meets Thurs 2-4pm, to maintain & improve the grounds of the Village Hall in Railway Lane. All welcome – no experience needed. If you'd like to join please send an advance email to Claire Drinkwater: c.drinkwater760@btinternet.com
- **Gym: TOA:** weekdays 5pm-10pm, weekends 9am-9pm. We have Cardio machines (Treadmills, Cross trainers, rowing machines & bikes) free weights, & assisted weight machines. For more see: <https://toaleisure.schoolbookings.co.uk>. To arrange your £15 monthly membership: either pop in at reception during gym opening hours or contact us on toaleisure@theoxfordacademy.org
- **Halls for Hire:** see separate listing p 16
- **Karate:** Thursdays: at **JHN:** *age 4-6yrs Thursdays 3.30-4pm *age 7-14yrs Thursdays 4-5pm. Chris Wilmott, 07880 636 123 or chriswilmott2000@yahoo.com
- **Kendo: TOA:** 2.30-4.30 Saturdays: Japanese samurai 'sword' fighting with bamboo shinai & wood bokken: for boys+girls, men+women age 4yrs to 60+: contact Rowena Dossett: Oxford City Kendo Club 07711 285 730, rowenadossett@aol.com, or see www.oxfordkendo.com
- **Kickboxing:** Oxfordshire Freestyle Kickboxing Academy: **LCC:** *Tuesdays 6:30-8pm & *Fridays 6:30-8pm: for all ages and abilities. Currently full: contact Mal McKeon: 0771 345 9337 to express interest

- **Knitting Group: SM&SN:** all levels, and other crafts
welcome: Tuesdays 11am-1pm. Contact: Eve McWilliam
admin@littlemorechurch.org
- **Lacrosse: TOA:** Mondays: *Juniors 6:30-7:30pm *Seniors 7:30-9:00pm. All welcome - no experience needed - trial session free! More info from: Annabel Campbell:
OxfordCityLacrosse@hotmail.com. Follow us on Instagram #OxfordCityLacrosse or FB OXLAX
- **Library: Home Library Service: Home Pick Up & Delivery.**
Contact Kevin Salway, 01865 810 259:
homelibraryservice@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- **Library: Littlemore Public Library: TOA:** Monday 2-5pm | Tuesday 2-5pm | Thursday 9.30am-5pm | Friday and Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm. Contact Sharon Ingram: 01865 714 309,
littlemore.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Regular free events at the Library:
 - **Book Group for adults:** monthly: 1st Monday 2pm: read a suggested book and discuss it with the group
 - **Teen Time:** After school Club: Mondays 3.30-4.30: craft and create with friends
 - **Stay & Play for Under 5s & their carers:** Tues 2-4pm & Thurs 10am-12 noon
 - **Councillor Surgery:** 3rd Friday each month 11am-12:30pm. A chance to speak to a local City and Parish councillor (Tiago Corais) about your concerns.
 - **Friendly Friday Social event for adults:** refreshments, games, crafting, chat: weekly: Friday 10.30am-12noon
 - **Saturday Craft: for children & carers:** weekly 9.30-12noon: come and do simple crafts with your children
- **Littlemore Local History Society: LCC:** 3rd Wednesday 7 for 7.30pm. See table p 15 for next meetings. Contact Buffy McClelland, history.littlemore@gmail.com, follow us www.facebook.com/groups or see littlemorelocalhistorysociety.wordpress.com
- **Meditation: VHL: Oxford Insight Meditation Days.**
Beginners, and those with experience of meditation practice are welcome. Upcoming day retreats: *Sat 20 April with Julia Wallond *Sat 11 May with Venerable Canda *Sat 29 June with Bhante Bodhidhamma *Sat 21st September with Jaya Rudgard. For more information & to book, see:
www.oxfordinsightmeditation.org
- **Men's Breakfast: SM+SN:** monthly: 2nd Sat (except August) 9-10am. A space for men to meet, chat and enjoy a full English! Suggested donation £5. Booking required, please email Julian Armitstead: churchwarden@littlemorechurch.org
- **Music: Choirs:** see under Singing
- **Music: Community Orchestra: TOA:** Weds 7-9pm term times. New members always welcome - no auditions, we just play for fun! See www.cowleyorchestra.weebly.com
- **Music: Concerts at SM+SN:** occasional concerts: next is Sun 28 April at 6.30: free though voluntary donations are welcome. To stage a concert contact: Eve McWilliam: admin@littlemorechurch.org
- **Music: Jubilee Brass:** a friendly brass band, all players are welcome. We rehearse Monday/Friday evenings at Grace Church Cowley, OX4 2ES. Please contact Cliff Sadler: jubileebrassoxford@gmail.com for details
- **Music: Jubilate Band: SM+SN:** plays in the monthly Jubilate Church Service for SM+SN church: contact Malcolm Atkins malcolm.atkins1@ntlworld.com or Rev Margreet Armitstead vicar@littlemorechurch.org.
- **Music: Oxford Village Band: VHL:** Weds 8-9.30pm termly. For over 18s only: Traditional Folk Music in Harmony in the style of English village bands of Thomas Hardy's time. Suitable for most squeeze-box, woodwind, brass, fiddle, viola, cello & double bass players. Contact Dave Townsend: dtmellstock@aol.com or 01865 714 778
- **Music: Piano Lessons, & Music Theory: Littlemore:** tuition for students of any age or stage: Robin Hagues, 01865 770 894, robin@robinhagues.co.uk (enhanced DBS available for inspection)
- **Neighbourhood Watch: reduce and prevent crime in your neighbourhood.** To sign up to an existing group or to start your own see: www.ourwatch.org.uk. If you have questions or need paper registration forms please email Maggie Lewis onw.enquiries@gmail.com
- **Ozone Centre: Grenoble Road OX4 4XP**
 - **City Mazes:** Escape rooms for teens & adults include an upside down escape room, and Bunker Blowout a World War II bunker themed room. Check Facebook for special offers. Contact 01865 920 900. Web: <https://citymazes.com/location-oxford>
 - **Hollywood Bowl,** Bowling Alley & entertainment centre: 0844 477 0493 www.hollywoodbowl.co.uk/oxford
 - **Laser Kombat,** Children's Amusement Centre: 01865 788 380 <http://laserkombat.co.uk/oxford>
 - **Partyman World Of Play,** Children's Amusement Centre: with dedicated sessions for those with special educational needs, and with autism (see flier p 18): 01865 788 380 www.partymanworld.co.uk/location/oxford.
 - **Vue Cinema Oxford:** Multiplex cinema with latest films: 0345 308 4620, www.myvue.com/cinema/oxford/whats-on
 - **Various eateries: dine in and take-away:** see www.thekassamstadium.com/the-kassam-leisure-complex
 - **Bray Associates Sunday Boot Fair:** <https://bray-markets.com/bray-markets-kassam-stadium-ox4-4xp-antiques-bric-a-brac-and-boot-fair>
- **Pilates: Littlemore & Iffley:** physiotherapy-led classes & individual sessions. Three class formats now offered: face to face, live online via Zoom & a pre-recorded class (available for repeat use). For more info see: www.clevermovement.co.uk. Contact Jane Callaway: janecallawaypilates@hotmail.co.uk
- **Pop-Up Pilates (Physiotherapist-led) at VHL: Weds at *5.30pm & at *6.30pm:** Online sessions also available: contact Lauren McLeod 07731 321 991, info@pop-up-pilates.com or see www.pop-up-pilates.com
- **Pregnancy Yoga: VHL:** Mondays at 7.30pm. Mama Flow Yoga: Sara Barker, Senior Yoga Teacher. For more info & to book see: <https://mamaflow.co.uk>. Concessions are available for low income families.
- **Reading Group for adults: see Library**

- **Restore Shop & Café** at Littlemore Hospital: Coffee and lunches. We are currently recruiting volunteers for our Littlemore shop and café, which reopened on 12 March after 4 years! See flier on p 18. For updates see: facebook.com/oxrestore or twitter.com/oxrestore. Contact: Amy McCauley 01865 902 098, or littlemorecoverygroup@restore.org.uk. To volunteer there, see www.restore.org.uk/restore/volunteer and/or email volunteer@restore.org.uk
- **Rhythmic Gymnastics Club:** for girls from the age of 4 years: **TOA:** *Tuesdays 5-6pm, 6-7pm | Fridays 5-6pm, 6-7pm | Saturday 9-10am, 10-11am: contact Zuzana Gergelova info@oxfordgymnastics.co.uk, www.oxfordgymnastics.co.uk
- **Royal British Legion Club: RBL:** see Bingo, and Halls for Hire Listings: contact Katie Tutty 01865 778 869 or littlemorerbl@gmail.com
- **Rugby Training (Littlemore Rugby Club Senior): TOA:** Northfield Close entrance: OX4 4NH: Tuesdays & Thursdays 7-8pm (Thurs only, 7-9pm Oct-March). Info updated daily @ fb: [RFC-Littlemore Rugby Club](https://www.facebook.com/RFC-Littlemore-Rugby-Club), contact David Lammin: 07341 841 821, info@littlemorerfc.org. For Fun Day see right!
- **Rugby Training Littlemore Rugby Club Mini & Junior: 5-12 yrs**, all abilities welcome): **TOA:** Northfield Close entrance: OX4 4NH: training Sundays at 10am. Please contact John Perry 07766 954 922 or minis@littlemorerfc.org for more information. For the Fun Day see right!
- 🧑 Not confirmed this time: may not be accurate: *School Uniform Swap Shop:* TOA: Term time: Mondays after school. To donate a preloved uniform please bring it to Reception in a labelled bag. To sponsor a new one, contact Rev'd Kay Blackwell kay.blackwell@theoxfordacademy.org
- **Scriptural Reasoning Group: SM&SN:** monthly, Mondays 7-8pm: for dates see: www.littlemorechurch.org/scriptural-reasoning.html. Meet people of other faiths and explore scriptures together. If you'd like to come please email oxford@dialoguesociety.org
- **Singing: St Andrew's Church Choir: SAC:** We're always happy to accept new members. Choir Practice is 7.30pm Wednesday evening. There's no need to be a regular church goer: contact Christian Bradley cwwbradley@gmail.com
- **Singing: Sing & Sign: VHL:** see under Children's Groups
- **Social Groups: see:** Afternoon tea at VHL, Coffee morning +sing-along, Coffee Morning, Mens' Breakfast, Women's Institute, the Library listings, Drop-In, and Knitting Group
- **Women's Institute: SVH:** meets at 7.30pm on 2nd Thursday in each month usually in Sandford Village Hall. Contact: Jill Love 01865 716 557, jpappslove@hotmail.com or Carole Tasker caroletasker27@gmail.com or 01865 748 300 / 07876 701 151, or message our Fb page Sandford-on-Thames Women's Institute.
- **Woodturners Club: at VHL:** Club nights are second Thursday each month except December (club AGM): 7pm start. Newcomers are very welcome, no matter what level of experience: entry is free for your first 2 sessions. Contact owc_secretary@yahoo.com for more information or see www.oxonwoodturners.com
- **Yoga:** see Baby Yoga, and Pregnancy Yoga above.
- **Young People:** Education, Employment and Training support plus Activities & Info, visit: www.oxme.info

LITTLEMORE ANGLING SOCIETY : FIXTURES*

AGM at The George, Littlemore, Sunday 24 March at 1.30pm

Spring League 2024

Sunday 7 April : Ivy House (Heron)

Sunday 14 April : Milton Pools (Campbells)

* Closed season for fishing in running water

Alan Campbell



LITTLEMORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

COUNTIES 4 TRIBUTE BERKS BUCKS & OXON NORTH

Keep up to date @ fb: Littlemore RFC-Littlemore Rugby Club

Sunday 25
Aug

LITTLEMORE RUGBY CLUB FUN DAY:
12-5pm at the Club

We're at The Oxford Academy: (Northfield Close Entrance).
Our clubhouse has a fully licensed bar
with live sports on a big screen. *John Perry & David Lammin*

LITTLEMORE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

April

17 Tom Carter of Marsh Baldon: The invisible collector: Mike Heaney

May

15 Beer, sausages & marmalade: Food, drink, politics in 19th C Oxford: Liz Woolley

June, July, August

Local Walks to be announced

September

18 Talk from Oxford City Archaeologist, David Radford

October

16 Oxford City: memorable moments from the last 500 years: talk by Mark Davies

November

20 Oxford Botanic Garden: 400 years of history: talk by Timothy Walker

7 for 7.30pm at the Community Centre: £12 yearly membership, visitors £3 a meeting

Bryan & Buffy McClelland, history.littlemore@gmail.com

Sandford-On-Thames Women's Institute

Remaining 2024 Programme

Meetings are held in Sandford Village Hall or by Zoom
at **7:30pm** on the **second Thursday of the month.**

You don't need to live here to join us!

11 April	Talk by a member of Emergency Rider Volunteers about their work
9 May	Finalising decorations for the village for the 80 th Anniversary of the D-Day landings
13 June	Talk by floristry group Strength & Stem on how their work empowers female modern slavery survivors
11 July	Quiz Night
20 July	Sandford-on-Thames Village Summer Fair
Aug	No meeting but a social event may be arranged
12 Sept	Talk by Jane Finnerty: Empowering Women
10 Oct	Candle making
14 Nov	Talk by The Oxford Artisan Distillery - tbc
12 Dec	Members' Christmas celebration
Contact: Jill Love 01865 716 557, jpappslove@hotmail.com , Carole Tasker 01865 748 300 or 07876 701 151, or caroletasker27@gmail.com , or message our Fb page: Sandford-on-Thames Women's Institute.	

• Youth Groups and after school clubs:

- **Air Cadets, and Army Cadets:** see under 'A' above
- **Beavers (age 6-8): Cubs (age 8-10½) and Scouts (age 10½-14):** see their individual websites for details
- **Brownies (1st Littlemore, for girls 7-10 yrs):** contact Wendy Lumley, brownieslittlemorewendy@gmail.com
- **Explorers (age 14-18):** **SHQ:** Fridays, 7-8.30pm: see: www.oxfordspires.org.uk . Just turn up, or contact group leader Shane Clark shane@teemclark.org.uk or Camille Kalaja camille.scout.kalaja@gmail.com
- **Rose Hill Junior Youth club:** **RHCC:** term times: free after school youth clubs. Safe, fun & positive space with lots of activities + a delicious hot meal at every session. www.facebook.com/RoseHillJYC . Director Chris Chaundy. Wednesdays: *3:15-5:15pm, School Years 1-3 *5:30pm-7pm, Senior boys club, ages 11+ Thursdays: *3:15-5:15pm, School Years 4-6 *5:30pm-7pm, Senior girls club, ages 11+ . Sign up on the day or visit: rhjyc.org
- **Youth Ambition:** Manager: Leonard Sackley. Contact 01865 335 884 YouthAmbition@oxford.gov.uk .
- **Littlemore Youth Club:** **LCC:** Thursdays 4-6pm: term-times: free: open to young people aged 11-19. Come chill, have fun and enjoy activities, trips, games, cooking, gaming, arts & craft, music and more!
- Local young people are welcome to attend **other nearby Youth Clubs and Sports sessions** listed on the Youth Ambition webpage, Instagram and Facebook
- **Zumba:** **TOA:** Mondays 7-8pm. Instructor since 2011, my classes are high energy, good fun and burn over 500 calories! All ages (14+) and abilities welcome. Pre-booking required via: www.zumba-steffi.co.uk or email me steffihalldance@gmail.com
- **Zumba:** **LCC:** *Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm Zumba & Toning (with weights) and Thursdays 6:30pm-7:30 pm Zumba. Suitable for all fitness levels. No need to book: £6 per class (concession if attending multi classes in month). Contact: Pat Meade 07957 491 868 or patsimeade63@gmail.com

LITTLEMORE HALLS FOR HIRE

- **The Newman Meeting Place:** various flexible spaces including a kitchen able to cater for 100: suitable for meetings, conferences, exhibitions, groups, concerts etc: at St Mary & St Nicholas Church, Sandford Road, near OX4 4PB. See www.littlemorechurch.org/venue-hire.html. Contact Julian Armitstead: churchwarden@littlemorechurch.org
- **The Oxford Academy:** Beecroft Theatre, Bistro Hall, Events Rooms, Sports Hall, 3G Full size floodlit pitch, 3G Dome, Astro turf pitches, Grass pitches, Dance Studio, Fitness Suite, Drama studio and Classrooms: at TOA, Sandy Lane West, Littlemore, OX4 6JZ. See: <https://toaleisure.schoolbookings.co.uk> Contact TOA Leisure: 01865 783 238 or toaleisure@theoxfordacademy.org
- **The Royal British Legion Littlemore:** Functions rooms, Games room with snooker tables, darts boards and Bar: at Lakefield Road, Littlemore, OX4 4LZ. Contact Katie Tutty 01865 778 869 or littlemorerbl@gmail.com

continued in next column

- **The Village Hall, Littlemore:** Hall with wifi, kitchen, stage & garden: at Railway Lane, Littlemore, OX4 4PY. Available to hire for organised classes, meetings, worship, & family gatherings. See: www.littlemorevillagehall.org. Preferred route of contact: littlemorevillagehall@gmail.com Mobile: 07894 268 490

LITTLEMORE TRADES & BUSINESSES

- **Explore Learning Oxford:** Maths & English tuition for 4-14 year olds: upstairs at Sainsbury's. Contact: Paul Drake & Kate George, 01865 595 509. See: explorellearning.co.uk/oxford
- **ProPest Oxford LTD Pest Control.** We deal with Wasps, Moles, Rats, Mice, Cockroaches, Fleas & all Stored Product Insects. Licensed, insured, experienced & accredited by NPTA. Call Pete White 01865 579 366
- **Westlake Heating & Plumbing:** Mike Westlake, telephone 07588 865 868. Gas Safe Registration No: 597859.

COMMUNITY GROUPS open to residents to join

- **Community Gardening Group:** carrying out occasional projects to brighten up the neighbourhood & planning a new community garden. To get involved please email Sandy Douglas cllr@douglas@oxford.gov.uk
- **Littlemore Community Association:** runs the Community Centre. Membership of the Association is open to Littlemore residents. Trustee: Cllr Dorian Hancock: dorian.hancock@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
- **A Littlemore Community:** a group of residents with an interest in planning. They are currently working with the Parish Council on the Neighbourhood Plan: contact: Tony Eaude: tony@edperspectives.org.uk
- **Littlemore Parish Council:** In May, a new Parish Council (16 seats) will be elected for a 4-year term. Information about applying, and application packs can be obtained from the Elections Office, Oxford Town Hall.
- **Littlemore Parks Parents Steering Group:** working with the Parish Council to improve facilities at the Littlemore Recreation Ground on Oxford Road, and elsewhere. Contact: Ruth Corrigan OxfordRoadParkPSG@gmail.com
- **Littlemore Partnership:** a Network of representatives from various local organisations, supported by interested members of the community. Its aim is to improve communication between residents and service providers, and campaign for improved services. Chair: Katie Scream, JHN Academy. If you would like to know more, contact: finance@jhnacademy.co.uk
The Health & Wellbeing sub group. If you are interested in joining please contact the Chair: Rev Margreet Armitstead: vicar@littlemorechurch.org
- **Littlemore Residents Association:** a group advertised on local social media and through leaflet drops. They aim to enable residents to voice concerns, and do their best to ensure that Littlemore is not forgotten in the various funding rounds. Chair: Lorraine Whipp. If you'd like to know more contact littlemores@yahoo.com
- **The Trustees of the Village Hall:** run the Village Hall which provides buildings, facilities and open space for Littlemore residents to use. They welcome new help: their Chair is Claire Drinkwater: c.drinkwater760@btinternet.com

NEIGHBOURING NEWSLETTERS

- **Blackbird Leys:** Sign up for the Community Group Newsletter at www.facebook.com/groups/656236718050193
- **Rose Hill:** find the latest Newsletter at: rosehillnewsonline.com/editions or follow their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RoseHillNews. To get in touch, email Aimee Winkfield at aimee-rosehillnews@hotmail.com
- **Sandford on Thames:** find The Sandford Link at <https://sandford-on-thames-pc.gov.uk/the-sandford-link/>

FAITH GROUPS

- **Blessed Dominic Barberi Roman Catholic Church**, Cowley Road, OX4 4JX. See: www.bldominicbarberioxford.org.uk
- **Coptic Orthodox Church:** at St Mary & St Nicholas Church: meets on the first Saturday of each month for the holy liturgy, followed by breakfast. Everyone is welcome
- **God and People Centre (GAPC):** meets at the Community Centre, Giles Road, OX4 4PL every Sunday 11am-1pm. Refreshments are served after the service. Everyone is welcome. For Bible Study, Prayer, & Fellowship: contact Mrs Stone: Jstone@cogop.org.uk
- **Littlemore Baptist Church:** Edith Kempson House, Chapel Lane, Littlemore, OX4 4QB: www.littlemorebaptist.org.uk
- **Maranatha Christian Church:** meet at the Community Centre, Giles Road, OX4 4PL. Please use the web to find more detail
- **New Life Church:** Sunday services in Nepali, at **VHL:** see: www.nccuk.org/site/church/new-life-church
- **Rose Hill Methodist Church:** Rose Hill, OX4 4HS. Website <http://rosehillmethodists.org.uk>. Sunday worship is at 10.30am. Community Drop in for people of all ages: Mondays 2-4.30pm (see Drop in in What's On p 9)
- **Church of England Benefice of Littlemore & Sandford on Thames:** Priest in Charge: Rev Margreet Armitstead vicar@littlemorechurch.org
The benefice comprises:
 - ❖ **St Mary and St Nicholas C of E Church**, Sandford Road, near OX4 4PB: website: www.littlemorechurch.org
Vicar: Rev Margreet Armitstead vicar@littlemorechurch.org
General enquiries: admin@littlemorechurch.org
 - ❖ **St Andrew's Church** Church Road, Sandford on Thames, OX4 4XZ : website: sandfordchurch.org.uk
Vicar: Rev John Findon 01865 434 256 or Rev Bob Morgan 01865 74884

SPECIAL EVENTS AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Sunday 24 March: 6.30pm: Music for Holy Week sung by the Choir: Bruckner, Mozart, Rheinberger, Brahms, Fauré, Beibl, & Ireland

SPECIAL EVENTS AT ST MARY & ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

- **Easter Sunday Service:** Sun 31 Mar, 10am: Celebrating Jesus' resurrection.
- **Easter Egg Hunt:** Sun 31 Mar, 3pm: Easter crafts in church and an egg hunt
- **Concert at the Church:** Sunday 28 April at 6.30pm: free entry but donations to support Prostate Cancer UK would be appreciated.
- **Art Weeks Exhibition in the church** 11-19 May: see p 9
- **Art Weeks event for Writers**, 14 May: 7.30-9.30pm
- **Art Weeks event for Visual Arts**, 16 May: 7.30-9.30pm
- **Art Weeks event 'Responses to Blake'**, 19 May: 6-7pm

REGULAR EVENTS AT ST MARY & ST NICHOLAS CHURCH see next page



THE UK'S FIRST INDOOR STUNT ACTION EXPERIENCE PARK

AT THE OXFORD ACADEMY LITTLEMORE

Director: Oliver Ward



Weekly youth program in Acrobatics, Trampoline, Parkour, Free-running & Aerial Dance
PLUS Holiday Camps: Easter, Summer, & Christmas
[book now for](http://www.ukcfaction.co.uk)

Epic Easter: 8 - 11 April 2024
Summer Stunts: 19 - 22 August 2024

at [https://www.ukcfaction.co.uk](http://www.ukcfaction.co.uk)



Peep Fun Day

11th May 2024

Join us on Saturday 11th May at The Peep Centre
(by Littlemore Rugby Club)



There'll be fabulous activities ranging from a Teddy Bears picnic (bring your lunch and join us), storytimes throughout the day, crafts, messy play, bubble fun, bouncy castle and more.



We'll even be joined by Nigel Clarke from CBeebies, The Baby Club!

Come down from 11am to 2pm and spend some family time for FREE at The Peep Centre
(entrance via Northfield Close, next to Littlemore Rugby Club)



LITTLEMORE PLAY & ACTIVITY DAY

11 am - 3pm: Saturday 15 June
OXFORD ROAD RECREATION GROUND

FREE: entry and activities



www.oxonplay.org.uk / 07436 270 267
martin.gillet@oxonplay.org.uk

REGULAR EVENTS AT ST MARY & ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

❖ THE WEEK at the Church

Sundays

- Eucharist Service at 10am in church or Zoom (Meeting ID: 853 9014 0153, Passcode: Eucharist)

Mondays:

- Coffee & Singalong: 10am-12noon
- Scripture Reasoning: 7-8pm monthly: meet people of other faiths & explore scriptures together. To come please email oxford@dialoguesociety.org

Tuesdays

- Silent Prayer in the church at 8am
- Morning Prayer at 8.30am
- Knitting Group (other crafts welcome!) 11-1pm
- Book Discussion Group: 7.30-8.45pm. If you'd like to join email vicar@littlemorechurch.org

Wednesdays

- Church coffee morning for all, 10am-12noon

Thursdays

- Morning Prayer in the church at 8.30am
- Growing Minds stay & play group, 10-11.30am for Littlemore residents & their pre-school children. With a pre-school clothing swap. Food parcels are available.
- Rose Hill & Donnington Advice Centre Sessions: weekly from 10-11.30am: drop in or pre-book: to pre-book call 01865 438 634
- Littlemore Friendship Group, 2nd Thursday each month at 10am in church.

Saturdays

- Men's Breakfast 9-10am: 2nd Saturday each month: a full English Breakfast & time to talk. Suggested donation is only £5: if you'd like to come please contact Julian Armitstead churchwarden@littlemorechurch.org

❖ ARTS EVENTS: see: www.littlemorechurch.org/the-arts

- **Concerts:** see our noticeboard and our website. If you wish to hold a concert in our church please contact vicar@littlemorechurch.org
- **Exhibitions:** We regularly hold exhibitions of local artists' work. If you would like to exhibit your work please contact churchwarden@littlemorechurch.org
- **Harvest of Talents:** a yearly event: dates for 2024: 21 Sept -19 October
- **Jubilate Band:** this informal group plays in the monthly Jubilate Church Service: to join, contact Malcolm Atkins malcolm.atkins1@ntlworld.com or Rev Margreet Armitstead vicar@littlemorechurch.org

❖ BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS: Please contact Rev Margreet Armitstead vicar@littlemorechurch.org or phone 01865 748 003



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Do you enjoy cooking, and helping others?
Are you interested in a career in mental health?
Would you like to join a friendly, welcoming team?
Can you spare one day a week?

Restore is seeking volunteers to help in our café & shop in Littlemore.
We provide full training and support.
We'd love to hear from you!


VOLUNTEER@RESTORE.ORG.UK
WWW.RESTORE.ORG.UK | 01865 455822



PARTYMAN *Autism friendly* SEN SESSIONS

Partyman World of Play are proud to offer COMPLIMENTARY morning and evening sessions dedicated to children and young adults with special needs, exclusively for their use.

MORNING SESSIONS 9AM TIL 10AM	EVENING SESSIONS* 6PM TIL 8PM
Sunday 28 April	Thursday 4 April (4-6pm)
Sunday 26 May	Thursday 2 May
Sunday 30 June	Thursday 6 June
Sunday 28 July	Thursday 4 July
Sunday 25 August	Thursday 1 August (4-6pm)
Sunday 29 September	Thursday 5 September
Sunday 27 October	Thursday 3 October
Sunday 24 November	Thursday 7 November
Sunday 22 December: Xmas theme	Thursday 5 December

*Please note that during term-times our venues are open to the public until 6:30pm. Please be mindful of this overlap when attending our SEN sessions.

Working in Partnership with Partyman's Magic Makers charity partymansmagicmakers.org.uk 

Would you like to
**SUPPORT OUR
COMMUNITY?**



logo by kreativkolors at Freepik

Please contact the groups below
to learn more about how they provide support for local families,
and to offer your financial help.



**Rose Hill & Donnington
Advice Centre**

01865 438634
www.rhdadvice.org



**Food Bank at Edith Kempson
House, Chapel Lane, Littlemore**

info@cefoxford.co.uk
07876 128435
www.cefoxford.co.uk



**Stay & Play at Littlemore Church
Thursdays 10-11.30am**

Lucy@homestartoxford.org.uk
07734 389799
www.homestartoxford.org.uk



**Supporting pre-school
families**

Lucy@homestartoxford.org.uk
01865 649003
www.homestartoxford.org.uk



**John Henry Newman Academy
Resilience Fund**

office@jhnacademy.co.uk
www.jhnacademy.co.uk



**St Mary and St Nicholas Church
Flourishing Fund**

finance@littlemorechurch.org
www.littlemorechurch.org/support

**Saturdays 6th April
& 4th May: 2.30-4.30 pm**

2024



Railway Lane, Littlemore

**tea, cake, and conversation,
& an opportunity to meet some of
your parish councillors**

organised by the Trustees of the Village Hall:
to join them, or to help, please contact
e.drinkwater760@btinternet.com

1-5pm Saturday 1st June

2024



**all are welcome to free tea & coffee
& free entry to the Great Littlemore Bake-off***
there'll also be

*** a cake stall * children's activities *
* a tombola * craft & gift stalls *
and a display about the history of the
hall & our plans for its future**

organised by Littlemore Village Hall Committee
to join, or to help, please contact
c.drinkwater760@btinternet.com

***for Bake-off entry & prize details
please contact saroj.patel-hall@hotmail.com**



On Saturday 1st June 2024

as part of the Littlemore Village Hall
Centenary Celebration,

**we are holding a competition
for the best looking cake inside and out!**
This is a great opportunity to test your baking
skills and produce that showstopper that you've
been meaning to bake!

PRIZES

1st Prize: Complimentary use of Leisure Facilities
with Lunch for Two at Voco Oxford Thames
(up to 3 courses per person & drinks with the meal included).

2nd Prize: £20 cash

3rd Prize: £10 cash

**for entry details please contact
saroj.patel-hall@hotmail.com**

TO ADD TO THE LISTINGS

Please contact the editor:
editor@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk

Listings are free: to keep them as accurate as possible, all that is asked in return is that they are confirmed every issue: you'll get an email reminder!

Welcome to Family Learning

**Oxfordshire
Adult
Learning**
A FACULTY OF ABINGDON & WITNEY COLLEGE

Gain new skills for the whole family

- Improve confidence to try other courses
- Learn from each other
- Enjoy spending time together

Support with Schoolwork - Family Life Skills - English & Maths

All parents and carers want their children to do well at school but sometimes it can be difficult to know how to help. No one wants to confuse their child by using different methods to their teacher and that is where family learning can help. Find out how things are taught in your child(ren)'s school, get to know other parents and carers and share ideas.

Free family learning courses can be set up in your local community.

Take a look at the list of courses and workshops the Family Learning Team can offer. If you are a community venue (primary schools, children's centres, community centres etc), contact us to let us know what you would like us to provide in your community. Please include any other ideas you have.

Family Learning aims to encourage a family to become confident, lifelong learners. It can have a positive impact on children's skills and achievements at school. Family Learning can help to develop a learning community that improves life chances.

Learn something new and feel better for it!

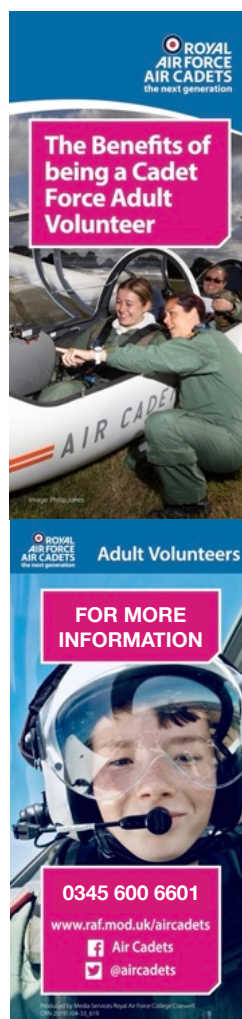
Here is a sample of courses and workshops the Family Learning Team can offer:

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Managing Children's Feelings and Behaviour | • Supporting Your Child with Autism |
| • Keeping up with KS2 Maths | • Emotional Health: You and your family |
| • Keeping up with your child in English | • Let's Talk Mental Health |
| • Explaining Phonics and Reading | • Knowing Me – confidence building course |
| • English Skills for EAL Families | |
| • Supporting Your Child through Play | |

If you have other ideas, please let us know too!

Your Family Learning Team

Dan Howe, Manager: 07795 551021, dan.howe@abingdon-witney.ac.uk
Penelope Lea, Oxford City: 07342 880923, penelope.lea@abingdon-witney.ac.uk



Cadet Force Adult Volunteers are the lifeblood of our cadet forces. The reasons for volunteering are varied, but many volunteer to see young people grow in stature, make positive life choices, and be inspired to achieve things they never thought they could. No tangible reward or benefit could ever compete with this, but there are additional benefits to being a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer. Here we highlight some of these benefits so that everyone knows what is available to them and can take advantage where appropriate.

THE BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING INCLUDE:

The prestige of being associated with the Armed Forces, wearing uniform, taking part in local & national events.

The opportunity to gain nationally-recognised qualifications.

Personal development through training and experience in leadership, management & communications, which may be of benefit in the workplace.

Opportunities for national and international travel, and to take part in the extensive range of activities such as adventurous training, shooting, sailing and flying.



I love being an adult volunteer with the RAF Air Cadets - I feel I'm helping others and at the same time there's so much for me - I gain qualifications to help my future, meet loads of new friends and have fun!

Flight Lieutenant Sophie Del Gaudio, Combined Cadet Force (RAF).

OTHER USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

ROSE HILL ADVICE CENTRE



We serve Rose Hill, Donnington & Littlemore, and offer free advice in confidence to all local residents looking for help sorting out benefits, debt, and housing issues.

Should the need arise, we will represent you in Courts of Law (for debt, rent arrears, eviction or mortgage repossession).

Find us: in the Rose Hill Community Centre, Carole's Way, off Ashhurst Way, Rose Hill, OX4 4HF and at St Mary & St Nicholas Church every Thursday morning 10-11.30am

Contact us:

online at rhdadvice.org

email: admin@rhdadvice.org

freephone 0800 170 0156 or 01865 438 634

Mon-Thurs: 9.30am to 4pm.

Sarah Meziu, Manager

GENERAL PRACTICES

There are no Primary Medical or Dental services in Littlemore: the following GP surgeries cover Littlemore area:



Donnington Medical Partnership: 01865 771 313
1 Henley Ave, OX4 4DH

Cowley Road Medical Practice: 01865 791 850
Manzil Way, Cowley, OX4 1XD

Hollow Way Medical Centre: 01865 777 495
18 Ivy Close, Cowley, OX4 2NB

The Leys Health Centre: 01865 778 244
Dunnock Way, OX4 7EX

St Bartholomew's Medical Centre: 01865 242 334
Manzil Way, Cowley Rd, Cowley, OX4 1XB

Temple Cowley Health Centre: 01865 777 024
Temple Rd, Cowley, OX4 2HL

LOCAL PHARMACIES

Rose Hill: **The Leys Pharmacy:** 6a Courtland Rd, OX4 4HZ:
01865 777836: offers emergency contraception

Cowley Centre: **Superdrug Pharmacy:** Templars Square, OX4 3UZ: 01865 779 299

Late Night: **Boots:** Oxford Retail Park, OX4 6XJ: 01865 717699: open 'til midnight M-F, and 'til 10pm Saturday: offers emergency contraception & blister-pack recycling.

LITTLEMORE SCHOOLS

Emmanuel Christian School: www.ecschool.co.uk,
email: admin@ecschool.org.uk

John Henry Newman Academy: www.jhnacademy.co.uk

Mabel Prichard Secondary School: www.mabelprichard.org

The Oxford Academy: www.theoxfordacademy.org.uk

St John Fisher Catholic Primary School:
www.st-john-fisher.oxon.sch.uk

LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Please find details of Parish Councillors, their local interests and contact details on p 21.

OUR LOCAL MP: Anneliese Dodds

- Address: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
- or Unit A Bishops Mews, Transport Way, OX4 6HD
- Email: anneliese.dodds.casework@parliament.uk
- Telephone: 01865 595 790 (9am to 5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday).



OUR CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Sandy Douglas: | cllrsdouglass@oxford.gov.uk |
| Trish Elphinstone: | Trish.Elphinstone@Oxfordshire.gov.uk |
| Tiago Corais: | cllrtcrais@oxford.gov.uk |

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE

www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk

Rose Hill Community Centre, Carole's Way, OX4 4HF

Contact the team:

- Ring 101 for non emergency calls, or 999 for emergencies
- email RosehillTeam@thamesvalley.police.uk

Follow us on:

- Twitter – [TVP Oxford](#) or Facebook – [Thames Valley Police](#)



COMMUNITY WATCH

- **To report things that need fixing**, cleaning or clearing, like potholes, noisy manhole covers, or out of phase street lights, go to FixMyStreet: www.fixmystreet.com
- **To report needles, sharps, offensive graffiti**, or graffiti on public buildings, council properties and in parks, cemeteries and bus shelters: report online at https://www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20095/do_it_online or telephone Oxford Direct Services on 01856 249 811 (they'll give advice about graffiti on private property, too).
- **To report Dog Fouling, Noise, Fly Tipping etc:** contact the Community Response Team, Oxford City Council: email saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk, or phone 01865 252 969. Or: Dog fouling and Fly tipping : <https://www.fixmystreet.com>
Noise: www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20058/noise_pollution/145/report_a_noise_problem (there's no out of hours service now).
- **To report a lost, or a stray dog:** contact the Dog Warden service at the City Council: 01865 249 811 or ecitizen.oxford.gov.uk/citizenportal/form.aspx?form=Report_Stray_Dog
- **To report Anti-Social Behaviour, including drug dealing** contact the police on 101 (999 if it's an emergency) or the Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team, Ox City Council: saferoxford@oxford.gov.uk or telephone 01865 252 969.
- **To report Illegal parking** email parking@oxfordshire.gov.uk, or go to <https://service.oxfordshire.gov.uk/reportparkedvehicle>.
If a road or pavement is obstructed, call the police on 101.
- **Neighbourhood Watch Groups:** To join your local NW scheme, or form a new one, see www.ourwatch.org.uk. Scheme Coordinators are needed: they run local schemes, enable their members to share & receive information, and are the main approved contact with the neighbourhood policing team. To use the name Neighbourhood Watch and be associated, all schemes must be approved. If you have questions about how to have your existing scheme approved, or how to start a new one please email: Maggie Lewis onw.enquiries@gmail.com



LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL

2023-4 Council Chair: Cllr Maggie Willis Vice Chair: Cllr Dorian Hancock

MEMBERS and their preferred contact details

Cllr Susie Aldridge: susie.aldridge@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Alison Cadle: alison.cadle@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Tiago Corais: cllrcorais@oxford.gov.uk
 Cllr Lynne Davies: lynne.davies@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Michael Evans: michael.evans@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Peter George: peter.george@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Dorian Hancock: dorian.hancock@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Sadiea Mustafa-Awan: s.m.awan@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Erdem Pulcu: erdem.pulcu@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Janice Pullen: jan.pullen@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Anna Railton: anna.railton@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Gabriele Santi: gabriele.santi@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Chris Smowton: chris.smowton@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Anne Stares: anne.stares@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Sue Stewart: sue.stewart@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk
 Cllr Maggie Willis: maggie.willis@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk

There are 16 seats: the seats are distributed: Littlemore ward (13 seats), Bodley Road ward (2 seats), Sandy Lane West ward (1 seat).
 Cllr Cadle and Cllr Santi represent Bodley ward Cllr Evans represents Sandy Lane West ward All others represent Littlemore ward

CONTACT DETAILS FOR FULL COUNCIL

Clerk: Morgan James: clerk@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk Telephone: 07377 682 216.

Write to the whole Parish Council via the Clerk: 25 Lambert Walk, Thame, Oxon, OX9 3DT.

COMMITTEES

Finance & General Purposes Committee

Chair: Dorian Hancock

Members

Susie Aldridge (G)
 Peter George
 Sadiea Mustafa-Awan (G)
 Chris Smowton
 Maggie Willis (G)

G = Grants Subcommittee

Personnel Committee

Chair: Maggie Willis

Members

Susie Aldridge
 Alison Cadle
 Lynne Davies
 Dorian Hancock

Planning Committee

Chair: Sue Stewart

Members

Jan Pullen
 Chris Smowton
 Maggie Willis

WORKING GROUPS

Membership of all working groups is open to the public; please contact the working group chair to express your interest.

KEY: (L) = Lead (P) = public member, who is not a parish councillor.

C'munity Engagement, Climate & Biodiversity

Tiago Corais
 Judith Godslan (P)
 Jan Pullen (L)
 Anna Railton
 Gabriele Santi
 Sue Stewart
 Chris Smowton
 Maggie Willis

Estates & Maintenance

Susie Aldridge
 Alison Cadle
 Lynne Davies
 Sadiea Mustafa-Awan
 Anne Stares
 Maggie Willis (L)

IT

Alison Cadle
 Peter George (L)
 Anna Railton
 Chris Smowton

Neighbourhood Plan

Lynne Davies
 Laura Davis (P)
 Tony Eade (L) (P)
 Frank Gargent (P)
 Peter George
 Ruth McNamara (P)
 Jan Pullen
 Anna Railton
 Chris Smowton
 Maggie Willis

Transport & Connectivity

Tiago Corais
 Lynne Davies
 Michael Evans
 Sadiea Mustafa-Awan (L)
 Erdem Pulcu
 Anne Stares

Policies

Alison Cadle (L)
 Dorian Hancock
 Chris Smowton
 Maggie Willis

OTHER PROJECT GROUPS

Herschel Crescent Recreation Field Development Project: Jan Pullen, Sue Stewart, Maggie Willis

Parks Improvement Working Group: Jan Pullen, Ruth Corrigan (P), Maggie Willis, SORCHA LANHAM (P)

Emergency Plan: Alison Cadle, Lynne Davies, Anne Stares

Iffley Charities Representatives: Susie Aldridge, Dorian Hancock

Littlemore Community Association Representatives: Michael Evans, Dorian Hancock, Sadiea Mustafa-Awan.

Littlemore Partners & Communities Meeting Representatives: Jan Pullen, Anne Stares.

FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council Meetings are held at Littlemore Village Hall, Railway Lane, OX4 4PY,
 from 7-9pm on the 2nd Tuesday each month except August.

Members of the public are welcome to attend. For news about the meetings, and for minutes of meetings,
 please check the Parish Council website: www.littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk.



LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL

We are recruiting

Casual Vacancies.

The Parish Council seeks Grounds Persons to cover absences on the Maintenance Team. Those appointed might have a variety of skills. They would assist the Team Supervisor with the on-going repair and maintenance of the facilities in our parks and open spaces.

Hours: Flexible, from 4 hrs/day to 20 hrs/week, as required.

Pay: Oxford Living Wage.

For more information please contact

clerk@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk.

PARKS IMPROVEMENT WORKING GROUP (PIWG)

The LPC Parks Improvement Working Group continues its work to secure future improvements to our parks and green spaces. Three new timbers are on order for the Log Climber, and a new rope ladder for the Multi Play Unit in Oxford Road Recreation ground. The Zip Wire pendulum swings at both Oxford Road & Herschel Crescent Grounds are soon to be restored. We hope this work will be done before the Easter holidays. *PIWG*

PLANNING MATTERS: a selection of local applications

24/00271/SCREEN Sandford Gate, Sandy Lane West, OX4 6LB.

Start of consultation on the proposed development of Sandford Gate, to include demolition of all buildings on site and erection of buildings in research and development use with associated parking and community facilities. See p 6.

22/00077/FUL 25 Herschel Crescent OX4 3TS. Change of use to a House in Multiple Occupation. Approved by City Council.

23/02757/FUL: at 40 & 42 Van Diemens Lane, OX4 3QD:

Demolition of existing dwelling house on each site. Erection of a two storey building to create a terrace of four 3- & 4-bed houses each with a single storey 1 bed annexe with shower room. A previous application for 2 houses + 2 annexes at 40 Van Diemens Lane was opposed by LPC and residents of neighbouring properties but was approved by City Council. This new application seeks to do the same at No 42 to create a terrace. Our previous objections still apply due to overdevelopment of the site, and loss of privacy to neighbours. There is a risk that the garden buildings will become separate dwellings unconnected with the main homes. LPC has asked the planning officers to clarify these points before any decision is made. The application has been withdrawn, but another may follow. *LPC Planning Committee*

STOP PRESS: Department for Transport Draft Guidance on implementing LTNs was published on 17 March 2024. It begins: 'Last year, DfT commissioned a review of low traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) – this is the outcome. The research shows that, while they can work, in the right place, and, crucially, where they are supported, too often local people don't know enough about them and haven't been able to have a say..... we see larger & larger low traffic schemes being proposed by some councils despite concerted opposition by local residents and by local businesses, and in some cases being removed again. This guidance makes it clear that should not happen. It also sets out that, if they are introduced, councils should continue regularly to review LTNs, ensuring they keep meeting their objectives, aren't adversely affecting other areas, and are locally supported.' See: www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-low-traffic-neighbourhoods and L'MORE LOCAL 434, 436 & 438.

YOU NOW NEED PHOTO ID TO VOTE IN PERSON This year we will have Oxford City Council Elections on Thursday 2 May, and a General Election. If you are voting at a polling station you will be required to show photo ID before being issued with a ballot paper. Find more info on page 7, at Oxford Town Hall, 01865 252 987 and/or at electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID.

NB: Apply for a postal vote by 17 April. NB: Apply for a proxy vote by 24 April.

The copy deadline for the June / July edition is 6pm on Thursday 16 May. The e-version will be published on 20 May.

To receive LITTLEMORE LOCAL by email, or to submit copy, please contact editor@littlemoreparishcouncil.gov.uk.

LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL

In May, a new Parish Council will be elected for a 4-year term. There are 16 seats: Littlemore ward has 13 seats, Bodley Road ward 2 seats, and Sandy Lane West ward 1 seat.

Information about applying, and application packs can be obtained from the Elections Office at Oxford Town Hall.

If there are more than 16 applicants, there will be a public vote.

WHAT DO PARISH COUNCILLORS DO?

- they represent the views of residents of Littlemore Civil Parish
- they deliver services such as maintaining green spaces and providing LITTLEMORE LOCAL
- they decide on how much to raise through the Parish precept to deliver these services
- they comment on planning applications to Oxford City Council
- they influence and shape the long-term policies for the Parish
- they bring about improvements through spending on local projects, using the precept and CIL & S106 monies
- they lobby other service providers
- they work in partnership with other agencies.

Councillor's attendance at Full Council meetings														
2023-2024	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Maggie Willis	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c		c	c	c	c	c
Susie Aldridge														
Michael Evans														
Dorian Hancock									c					
Jan Pullen														
Anna Railton														
Anne Stares														
Tiago Corias														
Sadiea Mustafa Awan														
Sue Stewart														
Joyce Milligan									Resigned					
Chris Smowton	NYC													
Alison Cadle		NYC												
Peter George		NYC												
Lynne Davies		NYC												
Gabriele Santi				NYC										
Erdem Pulcru					NYC									
c	Chair						NYC	Not yet co-opted						
	Present for the whole meeting: or no more than 15 minutes late arriving, or 15 minutes early leaving													
	Present for part of the meeting						Absent							

LITTLEMORE PARISH COUNCIL 2024/25 PRECEPT

If you have already received your council tax bill for 2024-25, you may have noticed that Littlemore Parish Council has **reduced** its precept by just over 10%, making the average band D charge £41.17. The precept is the part of the bill which enables a parish council carryout its functions. By continuing to review its spending, refining budgets where it can yet striving to continue and improve the quality of services, it is the third year running Littlemore Parish Council has reduced its precept.