

North Banbury Newsletter

Winter 2021

It's great to be able to share the first North Banbury newsletter with you this autumn, bringing together articles from a variety of community groups and organisations to let you know what's going on locally in your community. We hope you enjoy reading about opportunities, events and good news stories from partners in your neighbourhood and find out about new groups along the way. It's also worth checking out the community notice board at the junction of Edmunds Road & Bretch Hill next to the Sunshine Centre for up-to-date information on what's going on this winter.

Jon Wild – Community Development Manager, Cherwell District Council



The Sunshine Centre has a bright new look

At the Sunshine Centre we have been working to bring to you our new look website and logo. Please log on and have a look round. We would welcome any comments as the site is in its infancy and we are changing and tweaking bits all the time. www.sunshinecentre.org.

SunshinecentreBanbury on Facebook

As the pandemic restrictions began to lift in September, we have been able to invite you back into the building to take part in our exciting new activities. However, your safety has always been our priority and we have adopted a booking system for our groups and activities.

We look forward to welcoming residents who look after **children under five to**; - Stay and Play, Mini Movers, Sensory Baby, Baby Massage, TIPS, Let's Communicate, Stories and Rhymes' Outdoor Gym, Cooking with Lucy, Holiday Activities, Parenting and Self-Esteem Courses.

In addition, our **specialist services** for families who would like extra support or are experiencing difficulties are available on request. For more information you can check our Facebook page and website, call us on 01295 276769 or pop into the centre and pick up one of our up-to-date brochures. The Community Midwives and Thames Valley Police Community meeting (RHHN) all take place at the Centre. We look forward to welcoming back our Health Visitor Clinic in the very near future.

The Hill -we have been so pleased to be able to reopen our doors and return to some sort of normality after such a turbulent time. We have had an enjoyable and busy summer period with workshops and trips to Science Oxford, Evenly woods, Cutteslowe Park with the main highlight being our coach trip to Bournemouth.

We held an afternoon tea style lunch for the seniors in the community which has led to a monthly lunch club and plans to bring other events and groups during 2022. We are continuing to provide youth activities and groups 4 nights a week and have been able to offer young people new experiences working with Muddy Feet and CTC and have formed great partnerships with Banbury Utd and Oxford Utd who are both providing football activities weekly at The Hill. We have also been fortunate to receive funding from Sport England to provide exercise classes. As well as all the activities we run ourselves, we work with external partners to provide services. Community albums offer a fantastic music provision from our studio / music room, with 1-2-1 sessions for young people. We are also pleased to now be able to rebuild the vocal band / community choir.

New people are always welcome at The Hill, if you would like further information on anything mentioned above, please contact us (01295 981176)

We look forward to seeing you at The Hill soon.

Monday

Junior Youth Club 4pm – 6pm

Tuesday

Breakfast Club 9.30am – 11.30am

Fitness sessions (call for more details)

Girls Group 5.15pm – 7pm

Thursday

CDC Sport Activators 4pm – 5pm

Senior Youth Club 6pm – 8pm

Friday

Lunch Club (first Friday of month) 12 – 2pm. Booking is

essential. Vocal Band 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Coming Soon: Weekly men's breakfast drop-in on Fridays 9.30 – 11.30. Come along for a fry up and friendship in a welcoming and non-judgemental space, community café on Tuesdays

Sunrise Multicultural Project – based out of 60 Orchard Way and running sessions for young people and families in Orchard Way, Ruscote Community Centre and Britannia Road. Everyone is welcome. For a full list of our programme please see www.sunrisemulticultural.org.uk or telephone 01295 701728

Ladies Drop-In – Tuesday 12.30 – 2.30pm – Orchard Way and Thursday 12.30 – 2.30pm – Ruscote Community Centre

Girls Youth Group – Thursday 6.30 – 7.30pm – Orchard Way

Saturday Club (5-10 years) – 11am – 1pm Orchard Way Saturday Club (10-14 years) 2pm – 4pm Orchard Way

Winter Wishes

Winter Wishes is back this year, and bigger than ever.

The Hill: Winter Wishes at The Hill will see the return of our Christmas tree festival this year. We will start our celebrations after school on **Friday 17th December** from **3pm - 6pm**, where you can see the tree display, hopefully have a visit to see Santa in his grotto, ride the rodeo reindeer and join in other Christmas activities.

Refreshments will be available, including the traditional hot chocolate and mince pies.

On **Saturday 18th December from 12 - 3** and on **Sunday 19th December from 3pm - 5pm** we will be open again for the tree festival, craft activities and refreshments only before closing our tree festival at 5pm with St Paul's Carol service.

St Pauls:

We are already planning our Carol Service which will happen on **Sunday 19th December** at The Hill Community Centre on Dover Avenue at 5pm, finishing off their Tree Festival with a Christmas celebration for all ages.

Sunshine Centre:

Christmas is now around the corner, and we are preparing for our Winter Wishes community event on **Tuesday 21st December**. Santa said he would be coming along to talk to the children and said he very much prefers seeing little faces in real life than over ZOOM. We will be asking you to make a wish for the community by writing it onto one of our specially made tree decorations and then invite you to hang it on the tree outside of the building. There will be refreshments and oodles of fun things to do. Zola the Elf is also visiting this year, listen to her exciting story and meet many different creatures.



St. Paul's has enjoyed being a part of the community around the Bretch Hill area for many years, reaching out to others from our church centre at the top of Prescott Avenue.

In October we ran our 3rd Park Trail in Princess Diana Park, this time with a 'secret agent' theme! Families had fun solving clues around the park, making disguises and gadgets out of recycling materials, and learning that it's no secret that Jesus loves them.

Another regular event is our annual 'hot chocolate giveaway' on 31st October. This year we gave out over 250 free hot chocolates to people out 'trick or treating', which was much appreciated by everyone on a cold and blustery evening! We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join us at our weekly services on Sunday afternoons, from 5 - 6pm at our church centre on Prescott Avenue

Walking Route – you may have noticed new markings on pavements around where you live. These form part of a new walking route around Bretch Hill and Ruscote.



You can find a larger version of this map at the following link:

[Ruscote and Bretch Hill Urban Walking and Activity Route \(arcgis.com\)](http://Ruscote and Bretch Hill Urban Walking and Activity Route (arcgis.com))

Other News and Food availability in Bretch Hill and Ruscote

The Community Larder at The Sunshine Centre is open for all from 9am -5pm Monday -Friday. It is well stocked with fresh goods as well as cupboard food.

Winter Warmers - Do you love homemade soup but find it difficult to cook for yourself? The hill in partnership with the RVS are offering a soup delivery on a Wednesday for the seniors in the community starting in November and running up until the spring. Please contact us on 01295 981176 if you would like to be included.

The Sunshine Centre likes to include everyone and on Wednesday 8th December they will be having an over 50's Bingo session from 2pm to 4pm. We enjoy opening our doors to our lovely older residents and feel excited about the wonderful prizes that have been donated.

The Sunshine Centre popular **Mini Markets** have resumed on the last Friday of each month from 2.30pm – 3.30pm.