

Blackbird Leys Newsletter

Autumn 2025

New youth hub opens in Blackbird Leys

A state-of-the-art youth hub has officially opened in the Leys Pools & Leisure Centre, providing support services and activities for young people aged 8 to 11.

The Hub offers free sessions where young people can take part in creative writing, baking, art, music, nails and beauty, film nights, games, rock climbing, cooking and more. The new space, designed in collaboration with local young people, includes a social area, quiet rooms, a kitchen, a music and digital space, and a climbing wall.

Led by a team of friendly youth workers, the sessions will give young people new opportunities, support their wellbeing and provide a fun, safe space to develop their self-confidence. Young people can also enjoy a free meal. The hub is open after school and during the summer holidays.

Activities are organised by the council and other partners including Body Mind Soul, Wempower, Dancin' Oxford and Oxford Community Action.

To find out more, scan the QR code or contact youthambition@oxford.gov.uk



Summer fun



There was lots on over the summer at Blackbird Leys. One of our younger artists (pictured) was working on the Blackbird Leys mural project. The project is being co-ordinated by local artist Thomas McLean.

tom-draws.com/publicart

Ministerial visit

We welcomed Matthew Pennycook, Minister of State for Housing and Planning at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, to share the progress on the new homes.



Works update

Here's a summary of planned works which will place at Knights Road and Chestnut Tower over the next few weeks:

Knights Road

We're installing fencing and planting borders outside the homes that are closest to being completed. We'll then be carrying out quality inspections on these homes. Progress continues on the other homes with brickwork, roofing and internal trades.

Chestnut Tower

All the kitchens and bathrooms have been fitted and the decorators are starting the painting. We're also starting to take the scaffolding down.

Swimming pool demolition

Hill is waiting for the gas and electric services to be disconnected. If this is finished before the end of November, demolition of the old swimming pool can start before Christmas.

Highway works

Hill has appointed a new subcontractor.

The new tarmac road in front of the shops is being laid and will be open soon with two-way traffic lights. They're hoping to have the junction between Blackbird Leys Road and Knights Road open by the end of the year.



Leys Engine community website

Find out about community news, events and activities, and connect with your local community. You can sign up to post your own listings.

Visit leysengine.com

Receive WhatsApp updates

Scan the QR code to receive weekly WhatsApp updates.



Blackbird Leys website

You can find information and updates at blackbirdleys.co.uk



Contact us

For any queries about the redevelopment of Blackbird Leys, please contact Peabody:

joanne.hoy@peabody.org.uk
0300 123 3456

For any queries about construction, please contact Hill:

residents@hill.co.uk
0800 032 6700

WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2025

Leys Leisure Centre, Pegasus road OX4 6JL

Leys Community Roadshow

Free Entry 12.30-4.30pm

STAY ACTIVE!



HEALTH PROMOTION

Want to improve your health and wellbeing? Come and find out what health services are here for you.

JOB FAIR

Looking for a job, training or education opportunity? Come & talk to local employers and colleges.



HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT

Do you need advice with the cost of living? Come and find out what help is available for you and your family.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Are you aware of all the services & activities in the Leys? Come and find out what is on offer for you.



For more info contact
Shabnam Sabir ssabir@oxford.gov.uk
Amber Giles agiles@oxford.gov.uk



MORE



ALL WELCOME

Leys Lunch

A FREE HOT LUNCH FOR
THE LEYS COMMUNITY
TO BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER!



12:30 - 2PM

EVERY SECOND SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH

2025

8 NOV, 13 DEC

2026

10 JAN, 14 FEB,
14 MAR

THE
BARN

NIGHTINGALE AVENUE,
OX4 7BU

oxfordcommunityaction.org | 07483 096353

Bringing people together over food

Join us for

BREAKFAST AT THE BARN

A free Breakfast Club run
by the Leys community for
the Leys community.



When :Every Monday from 3rd November
Time :8.30am - 10.30am
Venue :The Barn, Nightingale Avenue,
OX4 7BU

