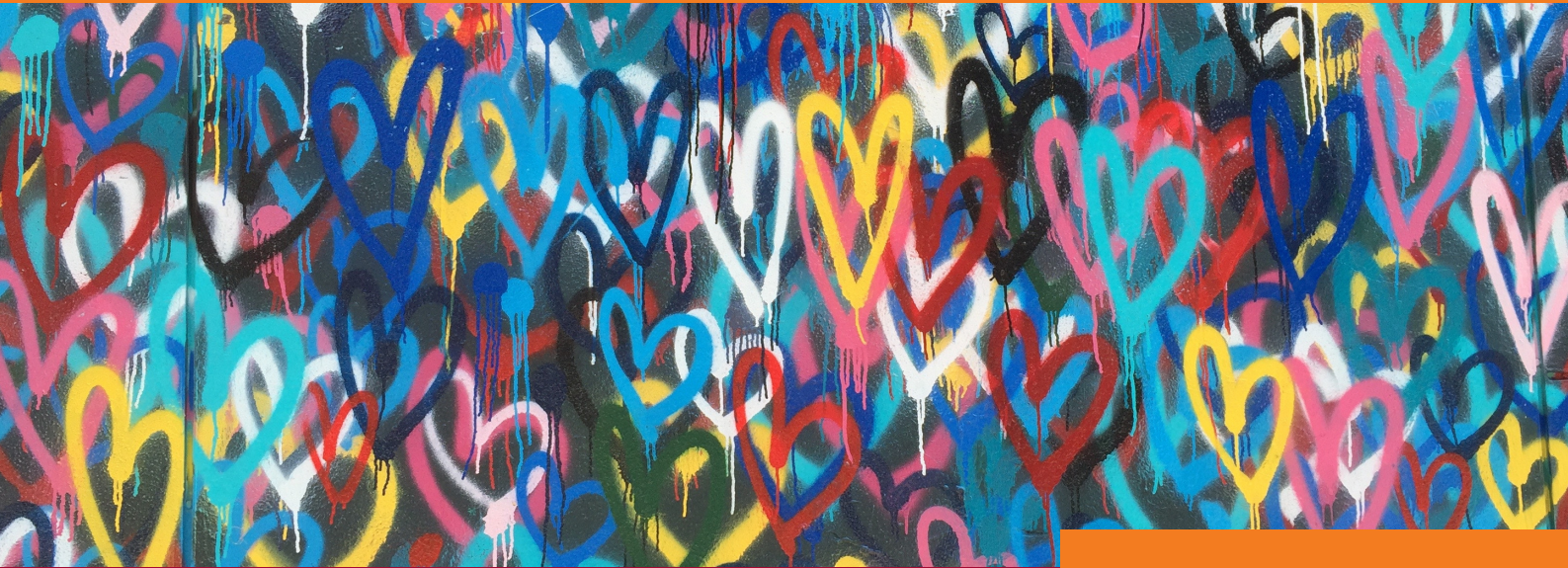




# HUB NEWS

VOLUME 9 • AUTUMN 2022



## KINDNESS COMBINED

JO DOLBY, HUB LEADER

I listened to a great podcast recently (Malcolm Gladwell's 'Revisionist History'), in which Gladwell tells the story of Treblinka concentration camp escapee Chil Rajchman. During a fire at the camp Chil managed to escape, finding himself in the middle of Nazi-occupied Poland. Gladwell counts no less than eleven separate acts of kindness that led Chil to freedom. He remarks that these weren't huge acts - a meal, directions, a place to sleep for the night, some forged identity papers - but all of those small acts combined, achieved something huge in that they saved Chil's life.

As winter feels just around the corner and we fear the impact of the cost of living crisis, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed and powerless, that perhaps the small acts we do won't change things or make much of a difference. But, as Chil's story reminds us, "lots of people doing little things can very quickly add up to a lot."

At Oasis we know the small acts we're involved in that you'll read about in this edition of Hub News - supporting refugees, distributing affordable food, our new 'Living Room' which opens in November - all combine with the efforts of our partners and countless others to bring change and transformation.

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# UKRAINE WELCOME EVENT

CLAIRE HENWOOD, COMMUNITY WORKER

We recently held an event for our Ukrainian pantry members to meet one another, access support from other organisations and receive a selection of Ukrainian and Polish foods (funded by BANES Council's Ukraine Support Fund).

33 people attended, with 5 other local organisations coming along to promote their important services. Those who came were so grateful for the session - some have only been in the country for 2 or 3 weeks, and some came having not been able to work out where to go for help.

A huge thank you to the organisations who supported the event (Bath Welcomes Refugees, The Nest Project, Future Bright, Bath College and 1st Impressions) and our brilliant volunteers, who did an amazing job of managing the volume of people, putting people at ease and ensuring the session ran really smoothly!



"Thank you so much for having this, it's so good to meet with other Ukrainians and with people who want to help us."



Other organisations were there to offer information and advice



There was lots of time to chat to others and eat cake!



Ukrainian and Polish food items were provided to all

"I've only been in the country for three weeks, it's so nice to be with people talking the same language. I came on my own, and now I've met lots of new people."

To find out more about our food pantries visit [www.oasisbath.org/projects](http://www.oasisbath.org/projects)





We're really excited to announce the launch of a brand new project, Oasis: Living Room. Our Living Room will provide a safe, warm, welcoming and free to access space for anyone who needs it during the coldest winter months. We'll be launching in November and we'll be open every Monday night from 5.30 - 8pm at Oasis Church Bath.

Whilst we're open to all, we're particularly hoping the Living Room will be helpful for those who may be struggling to afford to heat their homes over the winter, and may even be unable to turn on their heating. Whilst our Living Room won't solve things for people, it'll at least offer somewhere warm to be for a few hours each week.

We'll offer a warm welcome, friendly faces to chat to, activities and games, free WiFi and a hot meal for those who'd like one. We'll also be registered with the BANES Council Warm Spaces directory.

We're so grateful to Quartet Community Foundation who have provided us with a grant from their Surviving Winter Fund to enable us to provide staffing, equipment and resources for our Living Room. This means we can open weekly from November - March. We'd also like to thank Cook, for providing us with meals for several months while we're open.

We'll be sharing our launch date soon with more information, but if you'd like to get in touch please email [livingroom@oasisbath.org](mailto:livingroom@oasisbath.org)

**Want to help our Living Room offer a warm welcome? Donate now at [www.oasisbath.org/donate](http://www.oasisbath.org/donate)**



# PANTRY NEWS

Both of our affordable food pantries have continued to see an increase in weekly attendance numbers, and new members. We're doing all we can to increase capacity and meet as much need as we can, but the situation is very challenging.

Over the summer months, we were able to double our storage space and replace two broken cupboards, thanks to a grant from Quartet Community Foundation's Express Grant. This has already enabled us to store and distribute more food, so a huge thank you to Quartet!

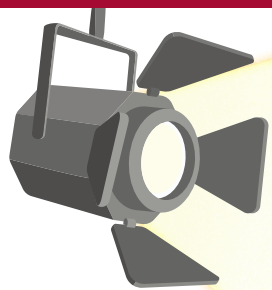
The introduction of our community cafe alongside our pantry has been a huge hit, and means pantry members can stay after their shop to enjoy a free drink and snack.



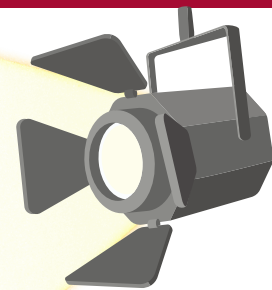
## NEW PROMO FILMS COMING SOON!







# SPOTLIGHT



In this regular Hub News feature we interview someone involved in or connected to the work of Oasis Hub Bath.

**HELLO**  
my name is

**Sara Reynolds**

Hub Steering Group  
(HSG) Member



## What's your role at Oasis?

I'm a member of the Hub Steering Group. This group was set up to help support, develop and advise on the community projects that Oasis Hub Bath deliver. This can involve thinking about everything from strategy and finance to communications and policies, but it's also about helping everyone to grow and thrive. I quite like the strategy and policy aspect but there is also a lot of joy and laughter in meetings!

## Why did you want to volunteer in this particular way?

I have always been involved in working in the community, from developing projects to being based in schools or working with young people with custodial sentences. I currently work in healthcare with a focus on participation and ensuring that the voice of individuals, particularly young people, is heard.

Being part of the Hub Steering Group felt like a good way to utilise my skills and experience.

## What's the most rewarding part of your role, and how can you see it making a difference?

Being involved I am able to see the difference the projects make and ways that they support individuals. There is so much inequality in our society at the moment and this role helps me to be part, in a small way, of trying to change this. It's about physical needs but also about recognising the dignity of everyone. Through being involved in the Hub Steering Group I often get to see projects grow from ideas into reality and contribute to making it happen. The stories from individuals will always mean the most and be how I see it making a difference.



If you're interested in being part of our Hub Steering Group, email [welcome@oasisbath.org](mailto:welcome@oasisbath.org)



# Join Us!

There are loads of ways to get involved in the work of Oasis Hub Bath. Reading this newsletter is a great way to stay in touch with all we're up to so if you want to make sure you receive this direct to your inbox, four times a year, let us know by emailing [welcome@oasisbath.org](mailto:welcome@oasisbath.org). Here are some other ways you can be a part of what we're doing...



## Volunteer...

There are a variety of opportunities at Oasis Hub Bath to use your skills to benefit others and get to know new people. Even a couple of hours every few weeks could make a real difference to someone in need, so if you've got some time to spare get in touch and we'll find the perfect role for you. Just email [welcome@oasisbath.org](mailto:welcome@oasisbath.org).

## Give...

There are lots of ways to give financially to the work of Oasis Hub Bath. You can give regularly through your online bank or by completing a standing order form, which enables us to claim Gift Aid on your donation. For all the information you need about different ways to give, visit

[www.oasisbath.org/donate](http://www.oasisbath.org/donate).

Thanks so much.

## Don't forget to follow us on social media too!

**Donate by text**

Text the word 'OASISHUBBATH' and the amount you'd like to give to 70450

This will cost your chosen donation amount plus a standard message rate. You can give any amount up to £20.



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[oasisbath](https://www.instagram.com/oasisbath)

Oasis Hub Bath is a registered charity (no.1138904) and part of Oasis UK. To contact us email [welcome@oasisbath.org](mailto:welcome@oasisbath.org), and to find out more about us please visit [www.oasisbath.org](http://www.oasisbath.org)