



Oxford Hub  
OXFORD  
15th Anniversary



I often think,

there is  
**NOTHING**  
like being  
**KNOWN.**

☺

# our history



Oxford Hub was founded in 2007 by students with a vision to create a network of students working towards different causes where they could share knowledge and experience. As we discovered the lack of volunteering opportunities for students, our goal began to connect them to local community partners and offer training and support.

In 2018, we formally spun out from Student Hubs to become a place based charity focusing on making Oxford a better city for everyone.



# OUR GOALS

## BRANCH UP

We take local children, referred to us by social services, on days out with volunteer session leaders

## TOGETHER NEIGHBOURS

We train local people to provide practical help to others in the community with needs like grocery shopping, dog walking, topping up electricity meters

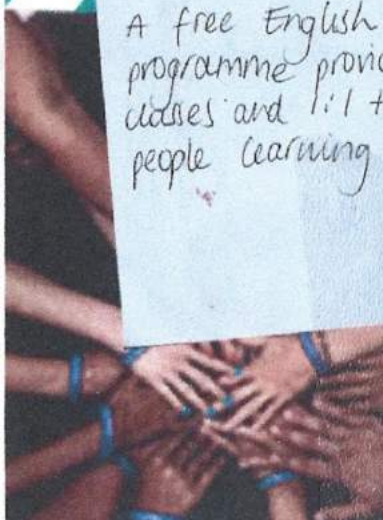
## BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Members are matched with local children for long-term friendship and fun days out.

## FELLOW

A free English language programme providing conversation classes and 1:1 tuition for local people learning English.

BRINGING PEOPLE  
& ORGANISATIONS  
TOGETHER  
TO MAKE A  
BETTER OXFORD





# student volunteering

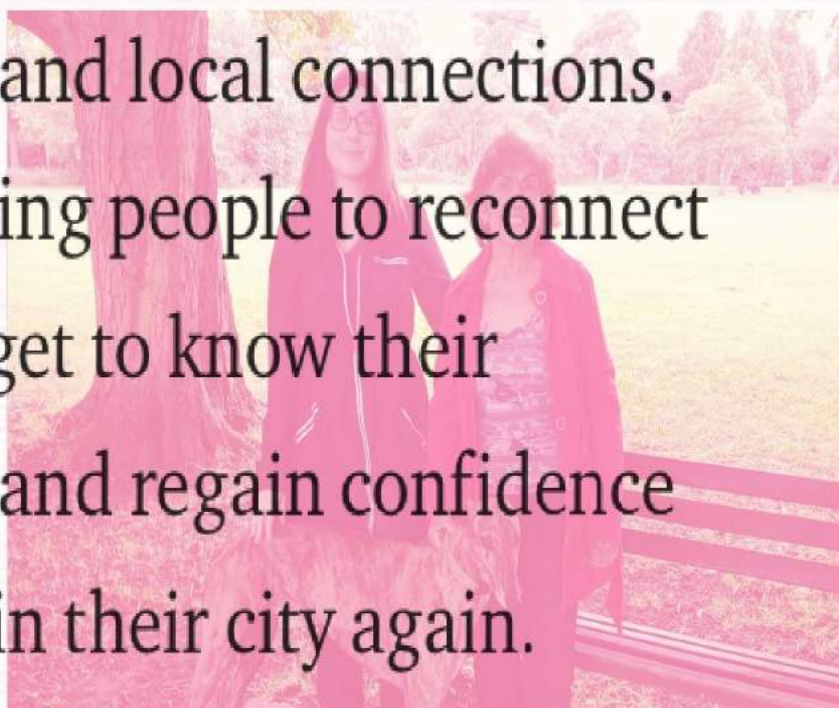
I believe volunteering can really change the way students perceive their time at university. I hope that the bright minds that enter the University of Oxford leave with not just academic accolades, but memories of university that involve people from all over the city. When they graduate, I hope that they take with them their degree, but also the knowledge that the skills they have gained combined with compassion truly have the power to make a difference in the world around them. The pandemic has taught us that a little kindness and one good deed goes further than we can imagine. *Jenna Colaco | Student*





# Covid-19 response

As Oxford moves into the 'new normal', Oxford Hub is also moving into a new phase. We're shifting our programmes from crisis response to community building to shape a better Oxford for everyone. This means focusing on work that builds agency and local connections. It includes supporting people to reconnect to their networks, get to know their neighbours better, and regain confidence to enjoy being out in their city again.





Celebrating Student Volunteering

15 Years of 

# OxHub Exhibition

Commemorating 15 years of OxHub Volunteering

At the Oxford Student Union  
May 30th - June 1st 2022

OXFORD HUB

THE BEGINNINGS

hubs

# 2010-14

**2010** Magdalen College Young Careers  
**2011** X-STOW ANNUAL REPORT  
**2012** Vice-Chancellor's Social Impact Awards  
**2013** Student Volunteering Week  
**2014** Launching New

# 2014-2017

**SAVE THE HUB**  
 But now, we're in a bit of trouble...  
**BRANCH UP**  
 Tackling the issue of socially isolated people by offering garden transformation projects, building a culture of neighbourliness in East Oxford  
**FOOD JUSTICE**  
 Beginning as a recruitment service for volunteers to Oxford Food Bank before expanding to tackle food poverty and waste around Oxford. Aimed to reduce food waste within Oxford Colleges through surveying kitchens and students, a change which is now in practice across most Oxford Colleges. Years 2015-2016 saw the incorporation of Project Soup.  
**GOOD NEIGHBOURS GARDENING SCHEME**  
**Coffee Run**  
 Most coffee grounds are currently thrown out with food waste. Coffee Run launched a deliver style system with students cycling to transport coffee grounds from a pick up point to a drop off point in the city.  
 Teaching primary children in a rapidly advancing digital world to create programmes and write code by linking up prospective volunteers with schools where coding forms part of the curriculum. So far, code clubs have reached two primary

"It's not the essay trips to the library or the odd all-nighter I remember, it's volunteering."

25% of Oxford's population changes every year

# 2017-19

**LINKAGES**  
 This intergenerational programme set out to tackle the growing challenge of people by placing trained volunteers in care-homes and community projects. These volunteers provided essential social support and facilitated stimulating activities for older people.  
**FOREST SCHOOL**  
 Oxford Hub collaborated with local schools and an outdoor education centre to run Forest Schools sessions, sending 40 volunteers to help children to build personal skills in confidence, language, problem-solving, and environmental stewardship.  
**OXFORD CLIMATE HUB**  
 Oxford Climate Club was an exciting initiative which sought to support local 15-18 year olds in their understanding, engagement and action over climate and other sustainability issues through the provision of fun after-school workshops and outdoor excursions.  
**BRANCH-UP**  
 The Branch-up project organised educational activity days for children in the local area who might have not otherwise had the opportunity. These activities focused on developing each child's self-esteem, social skills, and confidence, by pairing them up with a positive and highly committed role model.  
**EACH GREEN**  
 During this programme Oxford Hub ran local sustainability courses for local

"Oxford isn't one big posh bubble."

# 2020-22

**OXFORD TOGETHER**  
 8717 Phone Calls  
 1000 Helpful Volunteers!  
 Community Artwork  
 Volunteer Testimonials  
 "It was such an immediate and impactful response to the coronavirus epidemic"





# Oxford Hub

Questions asked to visitors to the exhibition and their answers....

How do you feel about Town and Gown?  
How has volunteering helped you?  
What does Community mean to you?

Bringing people together to help organisations flourish in Oxford.





To our artists, Dionne Freeman, Miranda Millward and Patrick McGuinness, for hosting wonderful creative sessions that encouraged people to connect over their art.

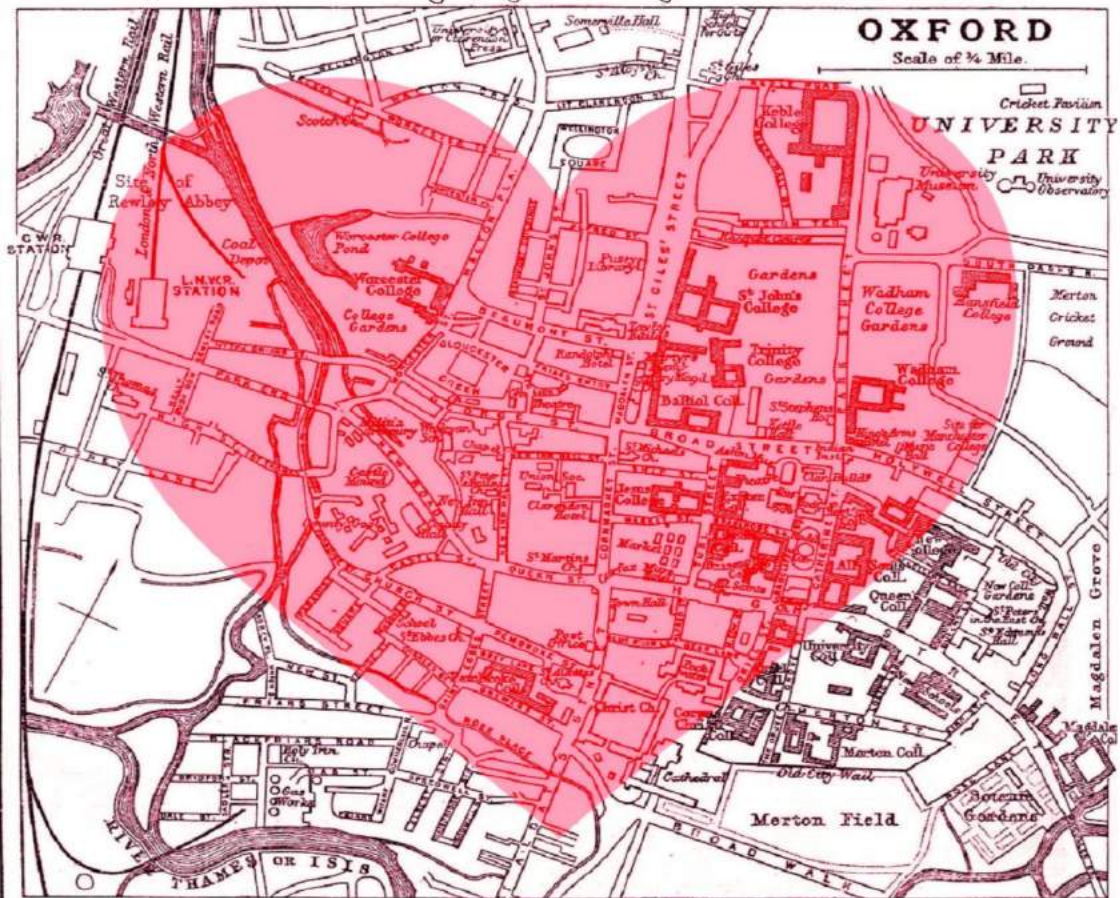
To the participants of our workshops, for bringing your creative ideas & enthusiasm.

To the students involved in curating these boards and collecting stories, Anouska Brooks, Aram Masharqa, Emmanuel Boatye, Malwina Kozłowska, Olivia Hersey and Will Lowry.

We are inspired by how much you have gotten stuck in learning about Oxford's history & impact.

To the students Erika Charlton, Gala Hills and Millie Davidson, who are collating this exhibition into a zine so it has a legacy going forward.

To those who have provided training to our team and students, Amy Beddow, Miriam Chappell and Sarah Cassidy, for your knowledge and patience.



To those who gave their stories, Rachael Griffiths, Sara Fernandez and Sarah Bowers, for sharing their experiences and making a difference.

To Robert Snallow for diligently writing up and editing the stories so they can be shared far and wide.

To Oxford University Student Union for kindly hosting this exhibition.

To the University of Oxford for their continued partnership in support of student volunteering and social action, and the van Houten Fund for making this project possible.

To YOU, for being part of this exhibition and our story. We hope you will continue to be involved as our journey continues...