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### Opening Hours

Mon-Fri 9am -7pm; Sat 9am-5pm

HELP US TO HELP YOU - PLEASE ASK



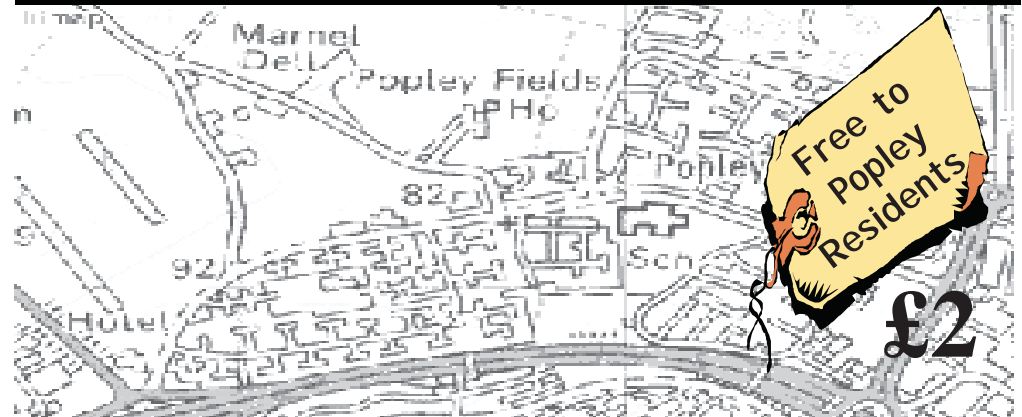
# POPLEY MATTERS

OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

October 2010

Distribution of 4,400

Issue 104



### FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-** Its autumn and Bonfire Night is just around the corner! As much as I love the colour and display of fireworks I do wish it did not go on for so many long weeks after. I worked for many years on the children's ward at Basingstoke hospital and was always saddened when children were hurt by fireworks. It is so avoidable just take the precautions that the Fire Service recommend on page 2 and hopefully we could have an injury free year.

Part of Popley Way (Aldermaston Roundabout to Don Allen Drive) will be closed at the end of the month to resurface the road after the damage done in the terrible snow last winter. There will be diversions and I have been assured that no one will be trapped in their homes. At least at the end of it

we will have a better, smoother and safer road.

On the opposite page is the update on the Merton Rise planning application, there are some revisions of the plans after consultation with Councillors and residents that came and gave their ideas and concerns at the public meetings.

Congratulations to Ben Hazel for being selected to represent the United Kingdom in the forthcoming Commonwealth Games. Ben works at the Everest Health and Leisure Club. I am sure we all wish him great success at the games.

Finally a big thank you to Paul Frankum on this the 100th Popley Matters that he has laid out ready for the printer. It is nearly 14 years since Paul said I will just show you how to lay out one copy. Famous last words, eh Paul! Sincerely from the Popley Matters committee thank you for getting out the 100 issues.

If you want to write an article, advertise or be a volunteer for Popley Matters, contact us Jane Frankum on 819924 or Iris King 411113 via email [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk), or write to Popley Matters Group, PO Box 6727, Basingstoke RG24 9GG.



Sub Editor  
Paul Frankum

To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:- Popley Matters Group, P.O. Box 6727, Basingstoke RG24 9GG, e-mail: [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk). The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team, the members of the committee, or Popley Forum/Matters.

**Editorial Team:-** Editor Jane Frankum; Sub-Editor Paul Frankum; Chair Terry Jones; Distribution Iris King; Treasurer Vacant; Committee Members Kate Lomas; and Proof Reader Lorraine Beaney

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## Beckie's Column

Hello again!

This year is going so fast...summer's over, we're back at school and its October already!! Time to find a birthday prezzie for my sister. Are you planning anything for Halloween? Do you believe ghosts really come out on that night? I'm not sure really. I mean, I've never seen a ghost but they could be there right in front of me!

I used to love Trick or Treating when I was younger. My family would go out together...I swear my sister got more sweets than me! It never mattered in the end...we all shared it out evenly. My mum always warned me not to knock on strangers' doors and I'll pass that on to you guys: strangers can be scary!!

Anyway, I went down to Liquids Under 18s night. It was brilliant!! It wasn't that expensive and you got free drinks!! We spent most of the time dancing or sitting down somewhere to talk; not that you could hear each other though! Our feet did start to hurt after a while with all the dancing. They brought in a professional dancer as well but I didn't get to see much of that: too many people! They check your bags on the way in, just to check that you haven't tried to sneak in alcohol, or anything else you shouldn't have. I didn't really like coming out of Liquids though: it's all dark and deserted but I'd go again. Defiantly.

Well, I've waffled on for long enough today!! I hope you enjoyed the summer: autumn is here now! See you,

Beckie

---

## HOOK CHORAL SOCIETY IN CONCERT

Under the direction of Nicholas Woods the choir will perform a selection of pieces written by Haydn, Stanford and Rachmaninov to accompany Chilcott's 'Little Jazz Mass' and Mendelssohn's 'Oh for the Wings of a Dove'. A little bit of something for everyone. Come along on Saturday 20th November to St Bede's RC Church, Popley Way, RG24 9DX. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £10 (concessions £8) available from Dawson's Music Shop, Festival Place, Basingstoke or by calling Helen on 01256 766522.

## Merton Rise - An Update

Further to previous updates in July this year and August 2009, the Merton Rise Project Team has been working hard to bring forward the rest of the site as soon as possible.

Many of you will have seen that a public exhibition was held at the Community Suite of Everest Community College on the 9th and 10th July, showing the County Council's outline proposals and masterplan. The event generated tremendous interest in what the County Council wants to achieve at Merton Rise, so thank you to everyone who came along.

In addition, a presentation was made to a public meeting at Sherborne St John Parish Council on 28th June and consideration has been given to all of the views and responses received. An Outline Planning Application has now been submitted to Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, which is the Local Planning Authority. This is a major application and the Borough Council will therefore take some time to consider the proposals and will undertake its own consultation as part of the statutory process.

Whilst the planning application is being considered, the County Council will commence its marketing strategy, which will initially comprise an Expressions of Interest (or EOI) soon. We of course hope that the EOI will generate significant interest in the development opportunity and it is this interest that will inform the next stage of formal marketing.

We are hopeful that formal marketing will take place early in the new year and subject to suitable purchasers being selected and them getting their detailed scheme proposals approved, construction could start again late next year or early 2012.

Craig Hedges

Merton Rise Project Manager

---

## Ben Gets Selected!



Congratulations to Ben Hazell, who has been selected by Team England to go to the Commonwealth Games in Delhi in October 2010. Ben is currently UK No.1 Decathlete and will be representing his country with pride and determination.

Ben is currently a fitness instructor at Everest Health & Leisure Club and everyone at the College wishes him all the best.




**Go Ben!**















## Bonfire/Firework Safety.

### REMEMBER:

-  Fireworks are explosives.
-  Always buy fireworks that comply with the British Standard.
-  Follow all instructions and always put safety first.





### ALWAYS:

-  Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
-  Dispose of sparklers in a bucket of water as soon as they are finished.
-  Never give sparklers to a child under five.
-  Ensure that all children with fireworks are well supervised.
-  Keep fireworks in a closed box or tin.
-  Use them one at a time, replacing the lid immediately.
-  Follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch - never use a naked flame.
-  Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper or a firework lighter.
-  Do not drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
-  Stand well back.

### NEVER:

- Never** go back to a lit firework, it could explode in your face.
- Never** put fireworks in your pocket.
- Never** throw fireworks.

### BONFIRE TIPS:

-  Never use/pour petrol or other flammable liquids onto a fire to get it going.
-  Always start and keep bonfires away from buildings, sheds and fences etc.
-  Check the bonfire for animals/pets that may be hiding within it before lighting it.
-  Be aware of neighbouring/nearby thatch properties.

### Useful contact points and further information:

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service: [www.hantsfire.gov.uk](http://www.hantsfire.gov.uk)  
 Community Fire Safety Department: 023 8062 6809  
 Email: [community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk](mailto:community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk)



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Home-Start North West Hants

## Volunteers Needed

Would you like to make a difference to a family?  
Are you a parent, or have parenting experience?  
Do you have a few hours a week you could commit to a family?

If the answer is Yes to all these find out more.

### Interested in becoming a Home-Start volunteer?

6 Week training course to start October 2010, date to be confirmed.

Contact Home-Start North West Hampshire:

Homeport House

49 Cliddesden Road Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 3ET

Visit our website to find out more

T 01256 812333

E [homestart.nwhants@live.co.uk](mailto:homestart.nwhants@live.co.uk)

W [www.homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk](http://www.homestart-nwhampshire.org.uk)



In Aid of St Michael's Hospice  
At Christchurch Community Hall  
Old Reading Road Chineham

**'BE GOOD TO YOURSELF'**  
An evening to relax de-stress and enjoy

To be held on  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October  
7 – 10.30pm

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Kathy Williams on 07769947540

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# Terry's Memoirs Chapter Part 2

## “Off with his head”

There was great excitement at the office with news that her Majesty, The Queen, was to formally declare open The New National Control Room, and that her secretary would be visiting to arrange the formalities. Come the morning of the visit, and outside on the steps, the Chairman and Board in best suits awaited their visitor but failed to take notice of the small saloon car that had entered, and the very tall driver who walked straight up past his welcoming committee. My journalist nose told me “Guards Man” and I just got to the reception desk in time to catch the introductions so leaving the secretary, I went outside and stood at the side of the Chairman, and coughed discreetly “Yes Terry?” he enquired. “The small car and the big fella, your bird has flown - touché”, at which his colleagues collapsed with helpless laughter at the old man’s embarrassment. The great day arrived and in my note as unofficial Paparazzi, I stood ready in the car park. Suddenly there they were, The Queen and the Chairman, en route to lunch over the road at the Bankside Power Station.

I was walking backwards, trying for a good photo when suddenly The Queen said to me, “Is this going to take all day?”

Well I stopped on a postage stamp with amazement. The Queen had told off the office boy!! The chairman was beside himself with mirth, and could not disguise his delight. They both went their way, but I got my picture.

Later that day I was summoned to the Chairman’s office, shaking with fear, at the prospect of losing my job, “Sit” He commanded. I sat, whilst he made his speech. “Her majesty was most displeased with your behaviour this morning, and has suggested to me that I should personally escort you to The Tower, whilst we will select the most deepest and dingiest dungeon into which you will be incarcerated” “And,” he continued, “She further suggested that I should throw the key in to the Thames”.

I did not know what to say, staring at the floor, waiting for the big farewell. To my astonishment, he smiled, saying, “Don’t you ever, ever do that to me again, go on, hop it”. I hopped it rapidly taking refuge in the executive loo to catch my breath. Having decided to work closer to home, I became a clerical worker with the Fulham Borough Council - but that’s another story.

## DO YOU OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY SQUASH? IF THE ANSWER IS YES THEN

### THE BOUNTY SQUASH CLUB WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU

We are looking for new members and would welcome all standards, beginners and experienced players.

We are part of: - Basingstoke Sports and Social Club  
Mays Bounty, Fairfield Road Basingstoke RG2 3DR

We are a true members club run for the members by the members. We have 3 excellent squash courts and offer the opportunity for members to play at every level, socially, competitively as well as team squash for the better players. We also have a very healthy junior section where qualified coaching is available on a regular basis.

Our clubhouse facilities include a great bar with a very friendly atmosphere where you can relax, meet and make new friends.

Are you interested?

We hope so – you will be made most welcome

If you would like more information please contact the club on  
01256 331646 and speak to Marie - she will be happy to help you

Or visit our website at: - [www.basingstoke-sports-club.co.uk](http://www.basingstoke-sports-club.co.uk)

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### Halloween Theatre Treat: "Vampires from Space"

BATS Next Gen is proud to present "Vampires from Space" – a new production written by David Simpkin.

The show is a ‘pantomime-esque’ comedy with dark undertones. The story is set in a school where the staff and prefects are not what they appear to be.

Mickey Dean, a new arrival at the school, is “The One” to uncover the terrible secret of the Trueblood Academy.

The jokes, puns and slapstick comedy are mingled with modern songs to produce a show suitable for all ages.

BATS Next Gen cast members range in age from 7 to 18.

Past performances have included We Will Rock You, Dick Whittington and Hairspray.

Evenings: 27th, 28th, 29th October 2010 at 7pm

Matinee: 30th October 2010 at 1pm

Everest College Theatre, Oxford Way, Basingstoke RG24 9FP

Tickets £10 all seats, all performances

Special rates for groups of 10 or more – please enquire with BATS Next Gen.

Box Office – [www.batsnextgen.co.uk](http://www.batsnextgen.co.uk) (follow the link to Ticketsource)

or for cheque/postal payments tel. 07919597785

## Buy With Confidence

Residents looking to buy a used car or carry out some home improvements can have information on local trustworthy traders at their finger tips with Hampshire County Council's new 'Buy With Confidence' directory.

The latest edition of the popular directory is out this week and contains information on over 600 organisations based in Hampshire (inc Southampton and Portsmouth) that have been checked by Trading Standards for trustworthiness and compliance with the law.

Easy-to-follow with colour-coded categories the 'Buy With Confidence' directory can help residents find their way to details of a range of companies covering over 100 trades from accountancy to pest control to yacht chartering.

Description: Buy With Confidence

Trading standards are asked most frequently for recommendations for home improvement and landscaping firms - the new directory includes over 100 companies that can help with those outstanding gardening and DIY jobs! The directory also identifies those companies that are small job friendly so residents can find a reliable trader whatever the size of their project - whether it is replacing one socket or rewiring their whole house.

Leader of Hampshire County Council, Cllr Ken Thornber, said: "If you don't have a personal recommendation from friends or family it can be difficult to know who to trust when looking to buy goods or services. The 'Buy With Confidence' directory gives people a list of dependable businesses that come with the reassurance of having been approved by the County Council's Trading Standards service.

"The directory gets bigger and better each year with more businesses opting to join the scheme offering residents a wider choice of traders that come with built in peace of mind."

Copies of the directory are available from libraries and information centres across Hampshire or can be requested by e-mailing [buy.with.confidence@hants.gov.uk](mailto:buy.with.confidence@hants.gov.uk), by phone via Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 or ordered online at the website at <http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/traders/directory.php>.

[www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/traders/directory.php](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/traders/directory.php)

Alternatively residents can search for a trader using the Buy With Confidence website [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk)



Dear Friends,

Welcome back! Is it me or is time really passing quickly? It feels like only yesterday that we were melting in the Mediterranean temperatures of June and here we are in September, though as I write we are still enjoying good weather even if we are about to experience the first real autumn temperatures!

Time often feels like a piece of elastic - it can seem to stretch and go on for ever or it can shrink and pass really quickly depending on what we're doing, who we're with or where we are - this becomes more obvious as you get older (so I'm told). But we can also be the ones responsible for speeding things along. Already in some shops we're seeing a combination of Halloween, Fireworks and Christmas goods on sale and we're buying into them. Perhaps we could combine them and call it something like 'Hallo Christ'!

Seriously, these days there hardly seems to be time to enjoy the moment, relive the experience or reflect on the journey! WHAT'S THE RUSH!!! I sometimes think we need to impose speed limits on our lives so that we don't miss the best moments. How often do you take time out to be still and quiet, more importantly do you take time out to be still and quiet? In the midst of all the daily activity of our busy lives it becomes increasingly important to seek out those quiet moments, to find time just to chill out and be ourselves. King David the author of many of the Psalms in the Bible wrote "Be still and know that I am God!"

As we return to the more normal routine of life after summer the daily focus tends to be on meeting our physical and emotional needs but it's more important that we do not neglect our spiritual needs too. So when those quiet moments occur take the opportunity to follow King David's example and be still before the one who created all things.

In Christ  
Arthur  
Vicar of St. Gabriel's.

Saturday 9th October ~ 1 - 4pm ~ Table Top Sale in St Gabriel's Hall. £10 per table  
- advance booking required please call 324734.

Sunday 10th October 6.30pm ~ Welcome service for St Gabriel's Youth & Community Worker, Nicki Gleeson.

Sunday 31st October at 3pm Bereavement Service: This is a special service for all those who have lost someone they love and wish to remember, and give thanks for them, whether that loss is in the recent or distant past - all are welcome.



# LA Hair & Beauty

LA Hair & Beauty is now open for Appointments!

Offering a wide range of hair and beauty treatments and products at affordable prices.

### NEW Opening Times!

Monday 10am -5pm  
Tuesday 10am - 5pm  
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Thursday 10am - 8pm  
Friday 10am - 8pm  
Saturday 9am - 4:30pm  
Sunday 10am - 3pm

Hair Extensions

St Tropez

Bio Sculpture

Colouring

### Offers of the Month

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Tel: 01256 322366

[www.lahairandbeauty.com](http://www.lahairandbeauty.com)



the charity for your community



## Have you paid the wrong amount of tax?

You may get a form from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) telling you that you've paid too much or too little tax for the tax years 2008-09 and 2009-10. The calculation shows your total income and the allowances that are due to you for each of these years. Not everyone will get a calculation, only those who have paid too much or too little tax - so don't worry if you don't get one.

If you do get a Tax Calculation, you should check the calculation carefully to make sure you agree with all the information given. You should also make sure you read the notes that come with it as these will help you understand what it means. You can read the notes online by going to [www.hmrc.gov.uk/P800](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/P800).

### What if you don't agree with HMRC's calculation

If you don't agree with the calculation, contact HMRC on 0845 3000 627 and tell them why. Or you can write to HMRC at the address shown on the calculation.

### What happens if you do agree with HMRC's calculation

If you agree with the calculation, you don't need to do anything - just keep it somewhere you can find it again easily if you need to.

If the amount you owe is under £2,000, HMRC will automatically collect the money from your pay during the tax year 2011-12. This spreads repayment throughout the year, but you can ask to pay it back over a longer period of time if you need to.

If the amount you owe HMRC is £2,000 or more, HMRC will write to you again and ask for direct payment. You can ask to pay the money back in instalments, rather than all in one go. You can contact HMRC by phone on 0845 3000 627.

In certain very specific circumstances, it may be possible to argue that HMRC had all the information they needed to calculate your tax correctly but did not use it at the right time. If it was reasonable for you to expect your tax deductions to be right, you may be able to ask HMRC to write off the underpayment. If you think you are in this position, you should phone HMRC and say that you want to make a claim under the Extra Statutory Concession, or ESC A19. You will need to make sure you've got all the facts of your case to hand before you speak to anyone about this.

For more details about this, and other advice on what to do if you get a calculation, go to the website of the Low Incomes Tax Reform Group at: [www.litr.org.uk](http://www.litr.org.uk). You can also go to HMRC's website at: [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk).

### What if you have paid too much tax

If you have paid too much tax, HMRC will automatically send you a repayment, usually within a week.

### If you get an email

If you get an email which says it comes from HMRC, rather than a calculation, this is a scam and you should not respond to it. HMRC will only be sending out mail through the post about this, they do not send out emails.

### Need Help

Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau can help you with any queries you have on relationships, mortgage repayment issues, debt, benefits and employment problems. Due to the library refurbishment, we have temporarily relocated. Please contact us by telephone on 01256 322814 for an initial interview. This service operates from 10am-3.30pm Monday to Friday (10am-12pm Thursday) and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm.

**You can drop in to our outreach services at these times: CAB Outreach Popley** – Tuesday morning 10am-12.30pm at the Bermuda Practice, Shakespeare House Health Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley

Online help from Citizens Advice can be found at [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

## Need to hire a hall

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# Sentinel

**If you're in need of a home and can't afford to buy or rent privately, Sentinel may be able to help.**

We have one remaining 2 bedroom apartment in Shakespeare Road, to let on an Intermediate Market Rent tenure, for £603.56 per calendar month.

## **So, what is Intermediate Market Rent?**

It's a discounted rental scheme that helps people who can't afford to rent privately.

## **Do I need to be on the housing needs waiting list to apply?**

No, but as Sentinel is a charitable organisation, you will have to meet certain criteria:

- You must be in housing need
- Your income must be too low to allow you to rent on the private market
- Your household income must be over £22,470 a year and less than £28,800 a year
- You must not be in receipt of housing benefit
- You can't have any legal or beneficiary interest in any other property
- The property must be used as your sole residence.

## **How can I apply?**

To request an application pack, please email: [leasehold@sentinelha.org.uk](mailto:leasehold@sentinelha.org.uk) stating the property you are interested in, together with your name and full home postal address. Or phone 01256 338800 and ask for Fiona Carruthers. Applicants will be treated on a first come first serve basis.



Local residents have the opportunity to breathe new life into the Popley Partnership

The Popley Partnership has been active in the Popley area for more than a decade and has had many different formats combining both local residents and officers from many of the services and agencies which operate in the area.

With new changes to how the partnership (now called the Popley Resident Action Partnership) is to be set up, there is a great opportunity for local residents to have their say about the Popley community. The future full membership of the partnership will eventually be made up entirely of Popley residents, with public services working in the area taking on more of an advisory and supporting role, rather than actually running the partnership.

In each area around Popley, there will be community or resident associations working for their immediate community, who will each have representatives on the partnership. In some areas, these associations have been established for many years, where as in others, such as the Shakespeare Road area, there are new associations being set up to represent that community.

If you live in one of the new communities in Popley, such as Merton Rise and Marnel Park, please look out over the next few months for information about how you can get involved in this to have a voice and make a difference in your local community.

For further details about the Popley Resident Action Partnership and find out how you can get involved, please contact Stephen Bate, Community Development Officer, on 01256 845292.

---

## **Lone Parents Group**

Any lone parents out there, that would like to meet other lone parents in an informal setting? This could be an opportunity for you. You can live anywhere in the Basingstoke area to join this group.

If you remember WelCare, you will have an idea of what we are about. The plan is to get people together to share experiences, make new friends and possibly help each other out when needed.

Lone parents become lone parents for a variety of reasons, but all of them have experiences and knowledge that can help others. If you are interested please come along to the Popley Spotlight Centre (the old Chineham Park School) Tuesdays from 10.30am till 12.00. We will be meeting at that time every Tuesday morning through the school term. You are welcome to bring your preschool children, but please be aware you will need to supervise them. We are not charging for membership of the group, but you might like to bring some money to pay for a drink or biscuits etc from the cafe.

# Free electric blanket safety checks.



Old or worn electric blankets could be dangerous and cause a fire.

This picture shows some of the blankets that failed last year.



For advice on where we will be and how to book, telephone Trading Standards on:

**01962 833 358**

(appointment necessary)



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## Basingstoke Air Scout Group

Headquarters - Base 2000 Carpenters Down RG24 9AE  
Charity number 267734 Headquarters Registration number 42755  
[www.base2000.co.uk](http://www.base2000.co.uk)  
Group Scout Leader: Colin Karslake (01256) 410559  
Base 2000 booking/enquiries - [bookings@base2000.co.uk](mailto:bookings@base2000.co.uk)



The Beavers are working on a theme of United Nations and there are also plans in hand for visit to the Police Station (operational requirements permitting). There is a whisper that the customary visit to that 'friendly jolly giant in a red coat who gives out presents' may be in the offing in November.

The cubs will work towards gaining different activity badges this session with the first emphasis on cooking and food and later, as the evenings darken, they will be investigating the night sky and a 'sleepover' to complete the requirements of the Astronomer Badge, one of more recent additions to the activity badges for the section.



The Scouts had a wonderful time at 'Goose Camp in Dorset in the summer when the programme included gliding, micro-lighting, a visit to Brownsea Island (the home of Scouting), hill walking and making walking sticks!

New recruits are always welcome in all sections. Contact the Section Leaders as shown below for more information. First meeting is free but thereafter a weekly subscription of £2 is required which can be paid termly by cheque if preferred. Uniform is required.

Booking enquiries for Base 2000 to [bookings@base2000.co.uk](mailto:bookings@base2000.co.uk) or telephone Colin on 01256 410559. One-off occasions, children's parties, meetings welcome – consideration given to anyone wishing to hold a regular activity in one or other of the halls. Hire charges range from £3.50 per hour for the smaller hall on weekdays to £10/12 per hour for large hall at weekends.



Boy and girls 5½ to 8 years  
Meetings: Tuesday 5:30-6:45pm  
Eve Alexander 07790 018 171

Page 10



Boys and girls aged 8-10½  
Tuesday 6:30-8:15pm  
Elaine Devenport 323453



Boys and girls aged 10½-15  
Monday 7-9pm  
Andy Welham-Jones 410629

## Welcome

Pebbles Children's Centre would like to welcome Peace of Mind to the newly named Spotlight Centre! We hope to be working with them to provide the best services we can for families in Basingstoke.



## Courses

The courses that Pebbles run are proving more and more popular so spaces do fill up quick!! So if a course or activity is advertised be fast to put your name down!

### Song and Sign

5 week courses Mondays 11.30am-12.15pm. Have fun with your child singing and signing to the most popular nursery rhymes! Very beneficial to ALL young children. Cost £1 per week

### Baby massage

A very popular 5 week course that is being offered at the cost of £1 per week to parents with babies not yet crawling by our qualified baby massages instructors. Sessions are held at Pebbles Thursdays 9.30-11am



### PEEP (peers early education programme)

This is a programme to help you make the most of learning opportunities through everyday life at home. **Baby PEEP** (Mondays 1-2pm and 2.30-3.30pm at Pebbles) **PEEP movers** - for babies now crawling (Tuesdays 1-2.30pm at Melrose Hall) and **PEEP Runners** is on Fridays for children aged 2-3 at Pebbles from 10-11.30am

### Dads Club

Next Dads Club is on Saturday 9 October 9.30-11.30am at Pebbles CC. We'd love to see some new dads attend with their under 5s – Don't be shy, come and play!!



### Coffee Mornings, Stay and Play, Young Parents Group, Bumps Mums and Dads, Teen Bumps, Chill and Chat



These groups and drop in sessions are continuing to be offered by Pebbles so please pick up a timetable or call or email us to find out more!

For full details, contact **Pebbles Children's Centre** on 01256 357028 or email [pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk](mailto:pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk).  
Pebbles Children's Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9BP



## Phillips' Legal Corner



**Question:** What can low income couples do if they want to divorce, now that there aren't many local solicitors offering Legal Aid?

**Answer:** 'Finding a legal aid solicitor to help with the costs of divorce proceedings, not to mention the issues surrounding children and finances, has become almost impossible,' says Howard Gardener, solicitor and mediator at Phillips, 'especially in and around Basingstoke. The government has cut back enormously on renewing legal aid contracts, making it very difficult for couples on low incomes to manage their divorces. But what few people know is that you don't always have to battle your way through the courts at huge expense and have decisions about children and finances imposed upon you. Whatever stage of separation you have reached, or whatever issues you find most troubling, you should consider mediation.'

Family mediation is mainly used for relationship and family breakdown issues, including divorce and separation, financial matters, and arrangements for children. It can help you and other family members come to an agreement about how life will carry on from now. What happens is that you and your partner meet with a qualified mediator (at Phillips both our trained mediators are qualified solicitors) in a neutral environment. The mediator offers a calm, impartial centre and helps you both to limit the conflict so that you can discuss things sensibly and make the right decisions over your own lives. Very importantly a mediator will help you to keep the needs of any children at the forefront of your negotiations – both of you may be parents of your children and need to consider their feelings because you will have a continuing relationship and responsibility even after your relationship as a couple has ended.

Mediation can be much cheaper, emotionally and financially, than fighting through the courts. It is voluntary, confidential and can be totally flexible, culminating in a detailed summary of the proposals reached, which you can have made into a legally binding agreement or court order.'

'So going back to your question,' concludes Howard, 'couples should certainly try mediation as a sensible and cost effective way of resolving problems when their relationship has broken down. The good news is that Phillips' mediation service – Town Gate Mediation – does still offer a legally aided service if you satisfy the income criteria.'

You can call Howard on 01256 854632 or email Howard: [hgardener@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:hgardener@phillips-law.co.uk)  
Find out more at [www.phillips-law.co.uk](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk) and [www.towngatemediation.co.uk](http://www.towngatemediation.co.uk)

## everest Classes Timetable

Day	Time	Class
Mon	17:15-17:45	Express Circuits
Mon	19:15-20:15	Body Conditioning
Tues	18:00-19:00	Body Pump
Weds	19:30-20:30	Jump n Stomp
Thurs	18:15-19:15	Body Balance
Thurs	20:00-21:00	Boxercise
Fri	17:45-18:45	Jogging Club
Sat	11:00-12:00	Fitness Pilates
Sun	10:00-11:00	Body Pump

Starts week commencing Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2010



Unwind and reduce stress at Everest Health and Leisure Club

**HATHA YOGA  
6 WEEK COURSE  
£30**

Course Dates

Mon 4th October  
Mon 11th October  
Mon 18th October  
Mon 25th October  
Mon 1st November  
Mon 8th November



Time- 19:00-20:15

For more information or to book your place, please contact the Community Team on 01256 337573

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**Come and have a look around or call  
01256 337573 for more information**

Everest Community College, Oxford Way,  
Basingstoke, RG24 9UP

## "Learning & Developing Internet Skills" Free 4 week Course

Course dates are:-

- Monday 27 September
- Monday 4 October
- Monday 11 October
- Monday 18 October

For Over 50s from 14:00- 15:30

Learn how to surf the internet safely and securely including shopping online, using search engines, accessing radio and TV plus sharing photos and film. There may also be chance to look at designing your own website!

To register your interest please contact the Community Team on 01256 337573





# Popley Explorers Pre-school

Bermuda Community Hall, Bermuda Close, Popley, Basingstoke, Hants

**Established OFSTED registered Pre-school  
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Opening times 8.30am – 3.00pm Monday – Friday Government funded grants for 3 years and over for 15 hours a week.

£4.00 per hour £2.00 per half hour for under 3's (min 2 hours per week).

We work within the EYFS guidelines to make you children's time with us as beneficial to them as possible.

We believe in child lead learning where the children decide what activities they do including messy play, outdoor play, singing, dancing, story time, walks (weather permitting) and lots more.

We have a summer trip each year and several celebration parties.

Popley Explorers is run by an excellent group of staff with years of experience between them lead by our Group Manager, Sharon and Elaine our Group Deputy Manager. The staff team are supported by a strong parent committee who are dedicated to helping with the smooth running of the group and fund raising.

You are very welcome to arrange a visit to come and see our facilities and meet the staff, everyone is welcome.

**Contact: Ask for either Sharon or Elaine on 01256 363156**

## Sherborne St. John Parish Council

**Merton Rise and Marnel Park:-** Confirmation has been received from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council that they will start the process of re-appraising Parish arrangements in accordance with the wishes of the Parish Council. This Governance Review will allow the residents of these areas to determine whether they will continue to be part of the Sherborne St John Parish, create a new Parish, or be incorporated into the existing Basingstoke Popley West area.

**Teenager's recreation equipment** We were looking to provide the village teenagers with a dedicated area and equipment in part of The Chute recreation grounds. Very disappointingly we have only been offered 25% of the total grant applied for under the European LEADER programme. We have asked if we can accept the money and try and find additional funding from other sources.

**Speed Indicator Devices** Following the success of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) that we purchased last year in reducing the speed of traffic along the A340 and through the village, we have decided to purchase and maintain another one. This will enable the original to be used exclusively for the A340, whilst the second one can be used in the other routes though the village and down Chineham Lane.

**Elm Bottom safety** Following the serious accident on the A340 at Elm Bottom earlier in the year, a safety review was undertaken which will result in some minor remedial work being done to improve visibility and sign age of this dangerous area.

**Red Telephone Boxes** The Parish Council has now purchased both red telephone boxes in the village and is supporting the improvement and maintenance by volunteers with a grant of £250 each.

**Councillor Becky Jones** has retired from the Parish Council. The chairman and the Council expressed their thanks to Becky for her enthusiastic interventions into parish council discussions and for her support and contribution to the Planning Sub-Committee. The Council is now open to invitations for a replacement councillor to carry on Becky's good work. Jonathan Eales, Councillor, SSJ Parish Council

---

### **Blink**

Hello, yes I know that the summer has just finished, but I am starting this early to ensure a great free night.

Blink, is a not for profit fund raising organisation in Basingstoke, helping the blind and visually impaired. We are holding a charity free party night in November.

"A Blinking Good Christmas " will be a charity free family party night with a great disco, raffle, and some other great stuff.

I am looking for people that maybe have a part time business, etc to have a single table/stall at the night to sell their items, like card makers, cake makers, presents, Avon, etc.

I am currently getting together a list of people that are or maybe interested in this so if you would like to be a part of this great free Christmas party, and earn a little cash selling your goods, then please email me as soon as you can to ensure your space, as spaces will be limited for the night.

all donations, etc are going to [bcab.me.uk](http://bcab.me.uk) for basingstoke.

Best wishes.

David Chatten-smith E-mail: [davechsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:davechsmith@hotmail.com)





## Another good start for the Tornados.

The Tornados were off to a good start with a tough game against Thatcham Town Harriers, going 2-0 down in 5 minutes I feared for the worst, but to my surprise the boys didn't get their heads down and clawed it back to 2-2 before the break. Thatcham then scored another... The Tornados picked up their game again and came away winners 3-4. The week after AFC Newbury came to Everest, but unfortunately for them they caught the boys at their best

and at half time the Tornados were 8-1 up, playing some excellent football. Jacob Austen scoring a hat-trick, two of them from the corner with himself taking them, curling in at the back for the first and then the front for his second. Cameron Merritt has been the surprise player so far into the season, not having the best of seasons last year only scoring two, he has already surpassed that with seven goals in three games, linking up well with the players around him, he is turning into the ultimate striker.

### Dynamos

It's gonna be a tough season for the Dynamos, playing against the best teams in the PHYL. The first game was against Wizards and the boys came out on top winning 4-1. Two goals from D'andre Brown, One an absolute screamer.

### A Sad Farewell

Thomas and Aaron who play for the U11s have just recently lost their sister Tamara. All of us from MFC Popley would like to send our condolences to Thomas, Aaron and family.

## Ladies Driving Challenge - For Firefighters Charity

On 10th October 2010 I will be attending the Ladies Driving Challenge at Farnborough to raise money for the Fire Fighter's charity - half of the proceeds will also go to the James Shears and Alan Bannon Trust, who tragically lost their lives whilst serving on duty this year.

I need to raise at least £90, and at present I have nothing on my Just Giving Page. Please pop by and sponsor me - if only for £5 (and don't forget to Gift Aid it).

If you would like more information about the event then go to [www.ladiesdrivingchallenge.co.uk](http://www.ladiesdrivingchallenge.co.uk) and feel free to join me.

Thank you again.

Shirley

[www.justgiving.com/Shirley-Davenport](http://www.justgiving.com/Shirley-Davenport)

Dear Popley Residents

I would just like to give you a quick update from the Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Team on the Policing activities in your area. As you may be aware PC Chris Brindley has recently joined the team as the Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) Beat Officer for Popley East. PC Brindley has a lot of experience and I hope you would join me in welcoming him to Popley.

Over the summer holidays the Safer Neighbourhoods Team saw an increase in reports of anti-social behaviour around Marnel school and Chineham Park School. These reports were somewhat expected as, traditionally, these areas have had previous damage caused to them over the summer holidays by youths acting in an anti-social manner. The Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Team and our partner agencies including Sentinel Housing and BDBC, have worked alongside the parents of some of these youths in order to prevent further anti-social behaviour and damage occurring at the school sites. PC Dan Carter recently met with staff at the new Spotlight Centre which used to be the Old Chineham Park School. The Spotlight Centre offers lots of variety and things to do for all community members.

Our team also received several reports of youths climbing on the new builds in the Poets areas. Several of these youths have been dealt with and we are hoping that this result will mean less occurrences relating to this type of anti-social behaviour.

Popley East currently has two of the three PSNP (Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Panel) core priorities. One of the core priorities we are dealing with is anti-social behaviour around Chineham Park. The Popley Team was actively patrolled this area in order to prevent large groups loitering in the area and causing a nuisance to our residents. You may also be aware that due to the concerns some of our residents have we are in the process of setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in this area. Residents who have not yet signed up to be a member are encouraged to do so via contact the Safer Neighbourhoods Team on the details below.

The other priority currently active in Popley East is anti-social behaviour in Carpenters Down woodland area. The Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Team recently ran Operation VIXEN in the area which was a series of pro-active patrols by numerous Police officers, PCSOs and CSPOs in order to identify and deal with such behaviour in this area. We are still receiving a large amount of reports regarding nuisance motorcycles in the area. Please can I ask that if you witness motorcycles using this area or may have any information regarding the owner(s) of these vehicles that you contact PC Brindley or myself on the details below. Alternatively if you use the woodland area off of Carpenters Down I would just like to remind you that under no circumstances are motorcycles allowed in the area and offenders will be dealt with accordingly!

Work continues in Abbey Road to identify drugs misuse and the Popley Team will deal with offenders robustly. The PSNP will meet at the end of the month to vote three new priorities. This meeting will be the first chaired by a residents since the PSNP formed in 2007.

Recently Safer Neighbourhood Teams from all over Basingstoke helped out in Brighton Hill with the large fire on Gershwin Road. The scene was live for a week and took massive organising and lots of goodwill from officers.

PC Dan Carter has been gathering details of interested residents for a possible Neighbourhood Watch area in Barrington Drive in Popley West and a meeting will soon be arranged for the residents will meet to discuss roles and how information will be disseminated amongst the residents.

Finally with Halloween vastly approaching the Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Team are again working with Marnel Infant School in order to promote a safe and appropriate Halloween. The children at the school will be designing their very own "Be Safe Over Halloween" poster with the winning entrants poster being placed in shop windows, Hampshire Constabularies website and the Popley Matters magazine. The lucky winner will also be receiving a £50 voucher with runner up prizes too. Further information on this will be released soon.

I hope you are all keeping well and look forward to seeing you when we are out and about.

Kind regards

The Popley Team



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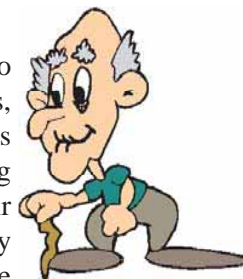
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info@tinytoesandstickyfingers.co.uk



## Diaries from the Old Codger



Well summer is near its end, and as we go into autumn I love to see the colours of all the trees at this time of year. Golds browns, reds yellows, you name the colours you will see them. When I was growing up, we as kids and generations past would be out getting conkers to play each other. I think most boys had them in their pocket and took them to school to play. Then we hear that safety rules do not allow kids to play with them in schools, just in case the school is sued for injury! A right load of cods wallop as far as I am concerned. We see so many different rules nowadays being brought in and all because our country is not governed by us, but the people in Europe. If they want these rules let them have them! But do not dictate how we in England run our own country! I say this for one reason; as yet I have not had a reply from government on a subject dear to me. That is the killing of our songbirds, so some quirky person can eat them on his or her plate in other countries. It is done by the cruel method of mist netting thousands of song birds. Other migratory birds are also killed when they head south for their winter grounds. Our local MP wrote to the EU minister as yet they have not replied to her. The people that do the mist netting use guns to keep the police at bay, so most of the time they ignore what is going on. To me this is just madness and the EU directive states this is outlawed. So is it one rule for one and not the other? It makes me think.

Well it is September and Her Indoors has nearly reached that age with a big "0". Mind you to me she looks the same as when I met her. I will say no more! Hehe OUCH... Where did the saying "Paint the town red" come from? Well one night a Duke and a few of his friends were on their way home past the toll house. They decided to paint the toll house red, not only the toll house, the keeper too. Hence going out to paint the town red.

Some year's ago we were on holiday and got lost. As usual, they sent me to ask a flower seller the way, off I went. It went like this "Could you tell me the way to Hereford?", "Arrr up road turn left, up road and find ye there". I did not really understand a word he said. I got back in the car and they were falling around with laughter. "Well what way?", they asked My reply was "up there then you're on your own". Yet again we were in Edinburgh and could not find the main route out. So Old Joe Bloggs is told to ask the taxi driver parked across the road and off I went like an idiot. "Could you tell me the main route south please"? "See you Jimmy, och the noo" and he went on and on. I could see my lot in the car again crying with laughter. As I got in the car they said when they got their words out "Well how do we get there?", I sat and kept saying "See you Jimmy, see you Jimmy." No offence to our Scottish friends. Now if I am asked to find the way I say look at the sat nav don't ask me. Having said that we are just back from a lovely week away, stayed in a beautiful cottage just outside Hereford and we didn't get lost once!

The Old Codger.

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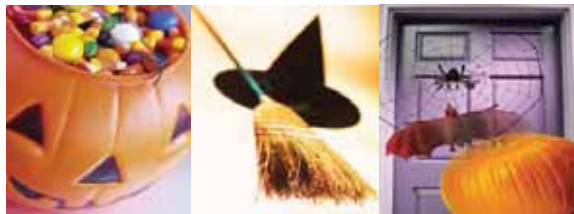
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It has been a busy start to the term for all sections with a very full programme it's like we never had a 6 week break!


The beavers have, as ever, been having allot of fun and games! They have been learning all about Roald Dahl and Charlie and the Chocolate factory. And also have been making lots of fun bits and pieces!

The cubs have been working on personal safety which has included a trip to the police station!

The scouts have been brushing up on there first aid skills by dealing with staged accidents to allow them to put into practice what they have learnt. They have also been learning about different fire lighting skills and fire safety. They will also be making some arrows for use when they participate in archery.

As well as our on going search for new and enthusiastic members in all sections and as section leaders, we are also looking for people to join our committee, If you would like the opportunity to support the group and steer and help to provide our programme from behind the scenes then this is the opportunity for you. Please call Martin Lee (Scout Leader) 07854860895.

**Thought for the month: It is our choices...that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.** - J. K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, 1999

 (Search for 1<sup>st</sup> Popley Scout Group)

 Follow us @ 1<sup>st</sup>\_popley



Boys & Girls 6-8

Tuesday 5pm-6.15pm

(All meetings held at St Gabriel Church Hall, Tewksbury Close during term



Boys & Girls 8-10 ½

6.30pm-8pm

times)



Boys & Girls 10 ½ -15

6.30-9pm



## Letters to the Editor.



pillar to post? What are these people employed for if they are not interested?

**Editors reply:-** *There is a section on water and sewage on the Council website [www.basingstoke.gov.uk](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk) and I took this paragraph from it. "All the sewer pipes between houses (or other premises) and the public sewer, are private and are the responsibility of the owners and occupiers of the houses served by them. Many sewers serve only one property, but can potentially serve many, particularly on housing estates. Where a defect or blockage is found in a shared private sewer, the responsibility for repair rests equally with all the properties served by the sewer at the point of the defect. Householders should obtain the services of a contractor and split the costs equally amongst the appropriate occupiers".*

Dear Editor:- I wonder if there are many readers of Popley Matters who live in the Abbey Road area feel the same as I do concerning the new "improved" street lighting. These new lights appear to be far too bright and intrusive. The gentler glow of the old lights has been replaced with a glare that not only lights up the street but the whole surrounding area. It lights up the whole house brighter than Heathrow Airport! The new lights also intrude into our homes disrupting peace and privacy. I, and I suspect many other residents

will have to spend out more of their hard earned money to buy "black out" curtains or blinds for their living rooms and bedrooms. I believe they are turned down around midnight. Maybe 9 or 10 pm would better time for the lights to be dimmed not everyone goes to bed that late! Readers' comments would be interesting on this matter.

**Editors reply:-** *Residents are divided on the subject of the new lighting. Some, like yourself, are not happy, while others say they can see the pathway and are much better, and with the nights drawing in it will be safer for residents to see where they are going. I will confess some of the sightings of the lamps seem bizarre. At least some were moved by the contractors after some requests. If you are troubled by the glare you can request a type of shield to help further deflect the beams of light. We have asked that the branches of the trees are removed where the lamps are obscured.*

**Editor's Note:** We look forward to reading your letters on all sorts of subjects. We do not print your name or address if you wish us not to but of course we cannot accept letters that are sent anonymously.

**Please send your letters to: The Editor, Popley Matters, PO Box 6727, Popley Basingstoke RG24 9GG or email: [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk) or phone 819924**





# Letters to the Editor.



Dear Editor, In issue 103 there was a letter about the Travellers. It appears that these Travellers return time and again to certain sites that they frequent. Is this because the members of the Basingstoke Council are not interested in doing anything about this problem. Yes they seem to make just the right noise to silence the critics and rate payers, yet they do nothing. By this I mean that I wrote to the Council several months ago informing them that on a site that these Travellers use in the Houndsmill area by Berry Rudd, the wine merchants there is a road that should end with 3 traffic bollards stopping any car/van/caravan from passing through them. For quite a few years the middle one of these bollards has been missing allowing the Travellers to pass through and to camp on the grass verges time and again. All the Council needs to do is replace this missing bollard, and then this stops the travellers from using this site. This will also save the council money as there will no longer be the expense of cleaning up after them. What happens, the Council did not even reply to my letter?

It appears that the Council Members and their cohorts do not want or need the taxpayers help. They just want to throw our money down the drain giving the impression that they have plenty of money to waste. Why does the Council appear to ignore us taxpayers?

**Editors reply:- The bollard was replaced**

***last month. I am sure you will have been following the scrutiny process that the council is undertaking with regard to illegal encampments. There should be some recommendations of a way forward in December! Mr B Tintern Close***

Dear Editor; Two weeks ago I was walking by the shops in Abbey Road when I noticed that there was raw sewage coming from a manhole cover near the side of number 609. This Wednesday 1st September I was again in the same area and noticed that nothing had been done to stop the sewage leaking out onto the road. It appears that these residents and their neighbours could not care about this otherwise they would have reported it. It seems that the residents of Popley are becoming more and more slovenly in their attitude to the dirtiness of the area (i.e. sweet papers, cigarette ends and dog mess.) When I got home I telephone the Council to inform them of the sewage leak, after giving them the details was thanked and I hung up. Within 5 minutes the Council phoned me and the lady told me that the sewage problem was nothing to do with the council and that I should report the leak to Thames Water as it was their problem. I asked her why should I phone Thames when it had reported to the council. Her reply was to hang up. Is this what is going to keep happening passing the buck from

**Councillors Page:** For the last three years as a County Councillor I have had a budget of £10K that I can nominate grants from for local groups and clubs. I am not sure how much longer this will last with all the spending cuts that are due this autumn. If you are a club or group in Popley or Oakridge you can apply for things like equipment etc. You can download an application form from the Hampshire County Council site [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk) or contact me. Phone 01256 819924 mobile 07974098131 email [jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk) or write to 405 Abbey Road, Popley West, Basingstoke RG24 9EL

I am pleased to see the work progressing on safer crossings and paths along Popley Way and starting in Carpenters Down. Once the junction and bus stops are completed it will make a big difference to safer travel whether on foot, by bike or car. Popley Way from Aldermaston Roundabout to Don Allen drive will close for resurfacing later this month. Access will still be maintained for local residents.

It may seem a little early to talk about snow but in the county the review of precautions has just finished with the result that there will be a much bigger stock of salt as there will be a new facility of a salt barn and thousands of more salt bins across the county.

If you have any concerns I can help or advise on please contact me details are above.

**Popley West:** There was an attempted break in to our greenhouse and it was only the quick thinking of our next door neighbour whose shout scared them off. If you see something suspicious always report it. Phone 101.

There was a burglary in Popley. Witch took place between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Friday, 10th September at an address in Abbey Road. There would have been a number of people in the area. "The police want to hear from anyone who saw a vehicle being loaded up with electrical items in Abbey Road on Friday. Someone may remember seeing a large 48 inch television being moved." The thieves broke in via a rear window and stole a television, DJ equipment including mixing decks, cash and jewellery.

The police want to hear from anyone who saw a vehicle being loaded up with electrical items in Abbey Road on that day. Someone may remember seeing a large 48 inch television being moved."

Anyone with information can contact PC Blanchard at Basingstoke police station on 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

**Popley East:** It was a great honour to go to the Battle of Britain service held at St Gabriel's Church on Sunday 19th September. 70 years ago, the fate of the free world was decided in the skies over Britain. Britain only had about 1300 fighter pilots during the battle, these were "the few" who Winston Churchill spoke about.

On Monday 21st September we sat down with Sentinel to look at the plans for the Phase 4 of the Faroe and Maldive regeneration (new shops). The plans are looking good, we have been assured all the retailers and council planning officers' concerns have been met. There are some final adjustments as we want to maximise the green space. We expect the plans to be submitted in October and the committee meeting to be in November, Work must start in the new year or the funding is under threat, and with the new government cuts, we may not get any future chances at regeneration.

Longfellow Parade was supposed to have a handover ceremony in September, this has now been put back to October. The Shelley Close flats are not finished, but the hoardings have come down and the new estate is looking really good. We now need to look at improvements to the paths around the estate.

By now you'll know all about the school results. Everest College results were down this year, as predicted, and we need to keep an eye on things.

Chineham Park School has reopened as the Popley Spotlight Centre, and I went in and talked to the people running it last week. They are a very friendly bunch who are putting a lot of time and effort. They are offering a food bank, there is a charity shop, and various classes and activities. It is a bit strange going in as the school sign is still up and the outward appearance says "dead school". I'd like to thank all those who have contributed to setting up the Spotlight Centre - for without them, the County Council would demolish the school. It is a team effort, with the volunteers doing most of the work, but I'd like to pay tribute to Jane Frankum for her efforts (and grant funding), and Maria Miller for turning up for the photograph and taking the credit in the press.



# Cornerstone Nursery News

**Cornerstone Miss Muffets in Popley Way - 01256 840300**

We have been very busy through August and September with settling all our new children in to the nursery. Our planned activities have been based around the new children - we have done lots of fun activities to help them all settle in.

Our staff working with the 3-5 years age group have been planning their trip with the children to the Sea Life Centre, which is happening in October.

Our younger children have been experimenting with lots of different sensory play to help with their sensory development.

In the coming months we plan to do lots of fun activities around Halloween and talk about the safety of bonfire night with them all.

**Cornerstone Nursery in Priestley Road - 01256 818118**

This month we are starting to think about autumn as the weather turns colder and the leaves start to fall from the trees.

We are looking at Halloween this month and will be purchasing some pumpkins for the children to design and hollow out; we will use the insides of the pumpkins to make our very own pumpkin soup.

We will be holding our annual Halloween party for nursery children and their families on Sunday 31st October; there will be lots of spooky sensory play and a prize for the best fancy dress outfit!

**Cornerstone Sunrise at Aldworth Science College - 01256 356166**

We have lots of new children that have joined us this term so we are making friends and settling into nursery life. We are also looking at our friends, and ourselves and chatting about how we all look different and notice that we have differences and similarities - different coloured hair, skin, eyes etc but we are all very special and unique!

We have looked in the mirror and drawn pictures of ourselves and these are proudly displayed in the nursery.

Baby Room is very busy too, and the babies here are settling in and making relationships with their new key person and new friends.

**All settings currently have spaces in all age groups but spaces are limited so please contact the managers at your preferred setting.**



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