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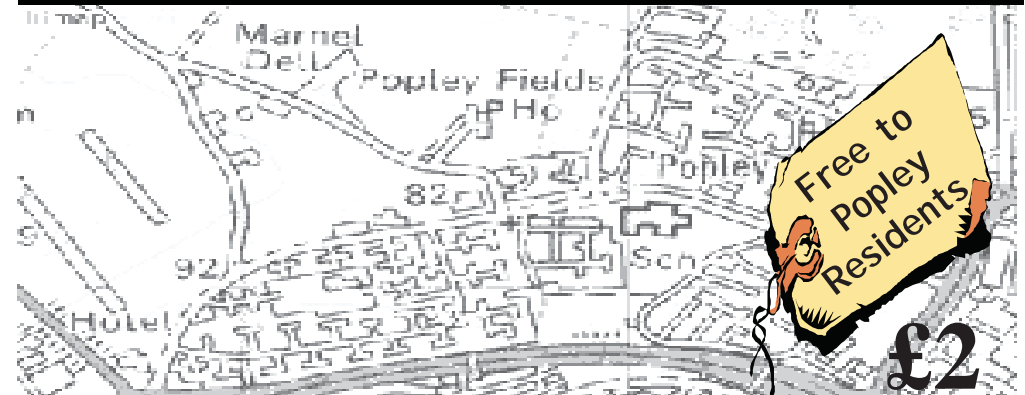


# POPLEY MATTERS

OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

March 2011 Distribution of 4,500

Issue 109



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-** Lots to read this month, so I hope you all find something interesting or useful. We always welcome articles from our readers, and comments too.

The call for blood donors reminds me of the times I have been grateful to the people that have donated. I have had transfusions twice, so has Ken my husband. Paul's life has been saved twice so we as a family have a lot to be grateful for. There are hard times ahead for lots of our readers and hopefully there is some good advice from the Citizens Advice Bureau on page 31 if you

are one of the unlucky ones to be made redundant. Pebbles goes from strength to strength and on page 29 there is an opportunity to say what you would like to see provided there. Everest has also lots to do on page 19, and congratulations and good luck to Dean Ridgers who is the Health and Fitness Manager and will be running for charity in the London Marathon in April. Dean's chosen charity is The British Heart Foundation I think you will see why on page 20.

I was pleased to see that our forests will not be sold to private enterprise and dismayed that Basing Woods/Carpenters Down was ever put on the list for some of our precious woods to be sold. It shows that there really is 'people power' out there.

If you want to write an article, advertise or be a volunteer for Popley Matters, contact 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.

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## Beckie's Column

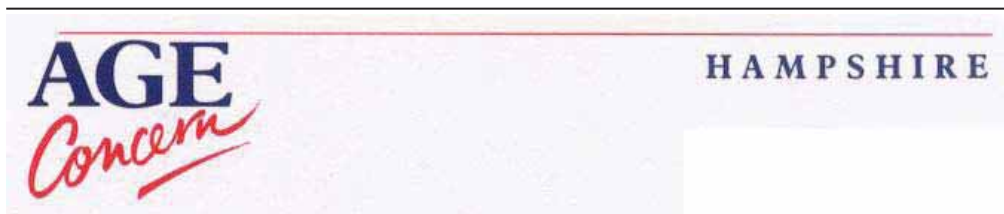
Hello everyone. How are you? Is it me, or does it never stop raining? How much rain can one little place have? I like to watch movies when it's raining; new ones that I haven't seen before. Have you seen any good movies lately? There are loads on at the cinema which look good. I went to watch one with my sister a couple of weeks ago. I must have decided to watch about 3 others just from the adverts at the beginning! I suggest Tangled. It's so funny. Paul looks really good too: I'm definitely going to see that!

Badminton is also good for rainy days: it's indoors. Badminton is one of my favourite sports. Do you like it? I played for three hours a couple of weeks ago and still wanted to carry on but everyone else was fed up! It was just for fun really, but my grandad coached us and moaned at me when I wasn't concentrating!!

Badminton seems to be popular in school too. There are always lots of kids who want to play badminton and not enough nets! We end up playing that round robin game, where you take it in turns to hit the shuttlecock in a rally. I don't like that game because it's not a proper game. You get to hit it once and then you have to wait in line to hit it again after. I want to join an after school club but there doesn't seem to be many aiming at teenagers at the moment and all the ones that I could go to are on days I can't go!!

Ah, well...anyway, I hope you're enjoying 2011 so far, and don't forget it's Mother's day on the 13th March.

Until next time, bye!  
Beckie



### We're all going on a summer holiday!

Age Concern has just announced details of its holiday for local older people to the Russell Hotel in Weymouth. The trip offers accommodation with en-suite facilities on a half board basis, coach travel to & from Basingstoke, local trips and travel insurance for the price of £249 per person. Travel dates are Monday 29th August to Friday 2nd September.

For an application pack please call Age Concern on 01256 423874. Volunteers accompany the group to help everything run smoothly but it is a requirement that all holidaymakers are self-caring.

## New Blood Donors Needed in Popley

National Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is encouraging people who live in Popley to attend a blood donation session at a new venue on Monday 14th March or Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at Popley Fields Centre, Carpenters Down, Basingstoke, RG24 9AE.

Amanda Whatley, Donor Relations Co-ordinator at NHSBT said: "We're working hard to increase our blood collection in Popley so new donors. Donors who have got out of the routine of donating as well as existing donors, are welcome. We'd really love to see the local community take advantage of these sessions so please make the effort to roll up your sleeve and save a life."

### **The sessions will be open from: 11.30-13.30pm and 14.30-16.30pm.**

NHSBT needs to collect around 7000 donations of blood every day to meet hospital demand. There are 4 main blood groups – O, A, B and AB. Group O is the most common and therefore the most in demand. A regular supply of blood is vital – red cells last only 35 days and platelets only 5 days.

Giving blood is vital to ensure that patients undergoing surgery and receiving treatment for cancer and blood diseases, such as leukaemia, continue to receive the transfusions they need.

To be potentially eligible to give blood you must be aged 17-65, weigh at least 7st 12lbs (50 kgs) and be in good health. There is no upper age limit for donors who have donated in the last two years. To find out more or to book an appointment please call 0300 123 23 23 or log

on to [www.blood.co.uk](http://www.blood.co.uk)





Hello Folks,

So far 2011 has been fairly busy in the Popley Beat Team. I have personally been involved in several operations to prevent Anti Social Behaviour in the Popley and Oakridge area. I have also crewed with Community Safety Patrolling Officer Paul Bowman on a number of tours and we have both been involved in some good pro-active jobs. We tend to find that the people that cause us issues in Popley also cause problems in Oakridge. The Popley and Oakridge Teams have regular meetings to pass on information and conduct joint work to tackle the issues.

You may have noticed that a new website has been launched countrywide in relation to crime on individual beats. Visit [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) and type Popley East or Popley West, Basingstoke. You will then be able to view the site in relation to Popley.

Hampshire Constabulary may also launch a site this year which will give in-depth statistics and allow officers to provide up to date information on specific beat issues. As soon as I have more information I will let you know.

I'm sure you are aware of the terrible incident in Tewkesbury Road where a resident was badly assaulted recently. The Criminal Investigation Department known as CID are progressing well with the investigation and several males have been arrested and bailed. I have visited the victim on a number of occasions and, apart from being brave, he is a genuinely nice chap. If you do have information in relation to the assault then please make contact as soon as possible.

The PSNP or Popley Safer Neighbourhood Panel met recently to vote on the three core priorities for the first Quarter of the year. They are 1) Anti Social Behaviour in and around Chineham Park 2) Anti Social Behaviour in Shakespeare Road 3) Drug related issues in Abbey Road. These issues were highlighted by the community and voted in until April 2011. If you would like issues considered for the next meeting in April then please make contact. The PSNP can also be followed on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/PopleySNP>.

The Popley Safer Neighbourhood Team are aware that a number of residents are unhappy with parents parking along Shetland Road and outside the school. Please try to be considerate to others when parking and always think safety first.

Regards  
PC 20686 Dan Carter  
Popley West  
Safer Neighbourhood Team Manager  
0845 045 45 45  
<http://twitter.com/PopleySNP>  
<http://www.hampshire.police.uk/Internet/localpolicing/northeast/basingstoke/town/Popley.htm>  
<http://popleymatters.org.uk/>

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AS is always the case with grass roots football everywhere, fixture lists originally mapped out to end in early February carry on, via postponements, well into the spring, and MFC Popley's teams are still going strong.

Alec Matthews's Under 7s are making good progress, Jo Dawber is doing great work with the Under 6s, ready for them to play at Under 7s next term, and Lee Austen and Clint Bassett's Under 8s are shaping up into as really formidable unit.

At Under 9s, Russell Graves' squad are representing the Club well too.

Meanwhile at Under 10s, MFC Popley Dynamos seem to be closing in on their second successive title. Their big game ahead is away to Andover New Street and that's the one that may well settle the Peter Houseman Youth League Elite Blue Division.

The Dynamos won 2-1 in the home game at Marnel Junior School so the omens are good.

At time of writing, Danny Oates Raiders are doing well too, a 2-0 win over Tadley Calleva B leaving the squad goal scorers list for the league as follows: Felix Davies 14, Cole Oates 12, Ray Adebawale 11, Morgan Best 10, Kacper Wojtaszek 4, Louis Windebank 3, Tyrese Richardson 2.

But the real hero of the team has been centre back Andrew Hyde who, week in, week out, looks more and more like a John Terryesque defender of real quality.

At Under 11s, Paul O'Shea's lads are putting in some spirited efforts while, at Under 12s, Dave Wright's boys continue to do well.

The same applies to Danny Oastes' Under 14s.

Off the pitch the search continues for a full size pitch for the Club here in Popley. The Club still favours Popley Fields, where the surface compares well with existing grass roots pitches in the area. But Cllr Jane Frankum, a staunch supporter of the Club, is setting up a meeting re 106 Money for leisure and will ask about a football pitch in Popley at it.

We are so grateful to Jane for her enduring backing - she's helped the Club immensely.



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Phone: 01256 414494

Fax: 01256 418529



Charity Reg No: 1052133  
popleyfields@hotmail.com

### Family Prize Bingo

A date for your diary is Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April when this popular event is on again  
Doors open at 6pm.

### Zumba

This takes place on Tuesday and Thursday 7.30 - 8.30pm in the Large Hall

### Computer Courses

These are still running and very popular, please call Debbie at Popley Fields to find out more information on what courses are available.

### Youth Club

Monday evening 5.30 - 7.00pm

Come along and have a fun evening with your friends

### MAD Academy

This high energy dance group for under 4s is continuing in popularity but there are always spaces available. Come along on Tuesday mornings from 10.15-11.15am and speak to Cathy.

### Silverwings Line Dancing

Wednesday evenings 8.00 - 10.00pm

This class is for all those people that can Line Dance. Come along and give it a try.

### New Testament Church of God – Coffee Morning for over 50's

This popular get together is held here on Thursday mornings from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Come along with your old friends and make some new ones

### Dynamics:

Baton twirling takes place on Thursday Evenings 5.00 - 7.00pm.

### Knitability Knitting Club

Are you a machine knitter or would you like to learn (hand knitters also welcome)

This group meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month 10.00am - 12.00pm

For more information please contact the secretary on 01256 772083

Popley Fields Community Centre is also available for hire for conferences, meetings, private parties, weddings and under 12s childrens parties all at very reasonable rates.

Call now for more information on any of the above or to find out more about any of the other activities which happen at the Centre every week.

Tel: 01256 414494 or email popleyfields@hotmail.com

Page 4

“June cares about her baking.  
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Tuesday evening - Community Bingo doors open at 7.00pm, eyes down at 8.00pm. Finish around 9.45pm. (Light Refreshments available half time)  
Wednesday evening - C.M.A Kick boxing from 7.00-8.30pm  
Thursday evening - Ladies keep fit from 6.30-7.30pm  
Friday evening- Friday Club (children) 5-6.15pm  
Sunday Afternoon- Christian Family Fellowship 4.00-6.30pm

**THE HALL IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO HIRE FOR PARTIES ETC AT VERY REASONABLE RATES. FOR DETAILS RING 01256-363156.**

### **FAMILY PRIZE BINGO EVENING.**

On Friday 8th April at Carpenters Down Community Centre. Doors open 6pm. Eyes down 7pm. Many varied prizes for all the family to enjoy. Bingo plus raffle organized by your 3 community centres in Popley. Bar, hot snacks and refreshments will be available. Everyone welcome, come along for a great evening.

### **Fiesta Time at Linguatastic**

This month, around 100 local children from across Basingstoke, including Popley, will be coming together to celebrate the 25th anniversary of “L'école Maternelle”, the local independent French playgroup. Linguatastic, the foreign language school which has grown from the original “L'école Maternelle” is planning a show of music, dance and theatre at Everest Community College on Saturday 26th March 2011, 2:00-4:00pm. Not only will the show offer the children the chance to show off some of what they know in the different languages they are learning (those being French, German, Spanish and Italian), but it is hoped that the event will also prove to be a celebration of community, promoting inter-cultural appreciation. Money raised at the event will be donated to “Save the Children”. For further information on this or other Linguatastic activities, please visit: [www.linguatastic.com](http://www.linguatastic.com), e-mail: [info@linguatastic.com](mailto:info@linguatastic.com) or tel: 811100.

Dear Friends

In the late 1970s I went to see Queen in concert (twice). There were around 25,000 fans packed into the stadium and the noise was phenomenal as they belted out Bohemian Rhapsody, Killer Queen, Bicycle Race and such like. Afterwards I could barely hear for three or four days – but it was worth it!

The number by Queen “I want it all, I want it all, and I want it now!” kind of reminded me of how we tend to live our lives today. We live in the immediate, living for the moment – we want it all and we want it now. Freddie Mercury the lead singer of Queen once said “I am a wealthy man and I have the adulation of millions of fans yet with all that I still feel alone!” That really made me think about what it is I focus on and where my priorities really lie!

What's important is not what we have or what we own but with whom we share our life journey. At the very core of the human soul is not a need to be healthy, wealthy and wise (as good as these are) but the desire to be loved! We need good, strong relationships before we need wealth and ultimately we need a relationship with God! To illustrate this Jesus once told a story of a man who accumulated great wealth but never lived to enjoy it - “What use is it if a man gains the whole world but forfeits his soul?” (Matthew chapter 16 verse 26).

Easter approaches and Lent provides an opportunity to ask ourselves “What state am I in with God, do I even have a relationship with him?”. That's a tough question to ask but if we really want to make sense of our lives and our relationships it's one we cannot avoid. Don't end up like the man in Jesus' story, or indeed Freddie Mercury. If you would like to know more join the family at St Gabriel's in Tewkesbury Close any Sunday morning at 10-30am.

Have a blessed Lent and a wonderful Easter.

Your Vicar.  
Arthur.

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 Situations where you can be made redundant include:

- Your employer's business, or part of the business, has ceased to operate; *OR*
- Your employer's business has moved to a different place; *OR*
- The business's need for work of a particular type to be done has ceased or diminished.

You could be made redundant if:

- The work you do is **no longer needed**
- Your job no longer exists because your **work is being done by other employees**
- Your employer has **ceased trading but is not insolvent**
- Your employer's business, or the work you are doing, **MOVES** to another area
- Your employer needs fewer employees to carry out the work you are doing, although the level of work remains the same
- Your employer's business becomes insolvent
- Your employer was the sole proprietor of the business and the employer dies.

**Redundancy payments** -The **statutory** redundancy payment scheme obliges your employer to make basic redundancy payments if you are made redundant and if you qualify because you have worked for your employer for **at least two years**. Your **employment contract** may give you a right to larger redundancy payments.

**Points to consider** - Is there a real redundancy? Because it is a neutral sounding reason for dismissing someone, it can be used to hide other reasons for your dismissal, such as discrimination. If you don't really think you've been made redundant when your employer says you have, you may be able to make a claim to an employment tribunal for unfair dismissal, discrimination, or both.

**Need further information or Help?**  
 Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau, (located within Basingstoke Discovery Centre) can help you with queries you have on employment issues, budgeting, benefits and debt, relationships, immigration and consumer rights. We operate a drop-in service 10am-3.30pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday) and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm.  
 The Advice Line telephone number is 01256 322814  
 Or 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)



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[www.sentinelha.org.uk](http://www.sentinelha.org.uk)

**Councillors Page:** These are really hard and uncertain times for all of us. Hampshire County Council are cutting grants, funds and closing some elderly people's homes though not in Popley. The SureStart scheme is under review and consultation forms are available and people are asked to fill them in. The proposal seems to be to put them in clusters with Popley, Oakridge and Chineham being our likely one. If you would like to say how you feel the forms can be got from the HCC website, Pebbles SureStart Centre or get in touch with me.

The community budget has been withdrawn from the community facility located in Everest Community College. This is a cut of £33,000. Luckily it is still a thriving community asset but inevitably they will have to raise more money to keep it going and continue its success in Popley.

I am happy to support the parents that have been protesting outside Marnel School. They are angry at the thoughtless people that park over the yellow zig zag lines and across dropped kerbs. The new bright yellow signage warning there is a school crossing and its 30mph will be put in place very soon. I have also asked HCC to look at a safer crossing in Shetland Road in phase 3 of the 1.4 million being spent to make Popley safer. Finally I was shocked to hear that Carpenters Down is on the list as a possible site to sell under the government plans for forests. I was so proud when so many people stood up and said no enough that the Government did a U turn. To contact me. Phone 819924 mobile 07974098131 email [jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk) or write to 405 Abbey Road, Popley, Basingstoke RG24 9EL.

**Popley West:** We continue to find where the utilities have left poor repairs in our paths and roads, many have been many repaired.

The new bus pass and token scheme continues to puzzle most residents. By now you should have had a letter from the County Council. Basingstoke and Deane are putting a further 200K in for token/vouchers, but it is going to charity groups not individuals. Time will tell how things will turn out, but our residents should be no worse off than we were before.

It sounds like a broken record but at long last we have the official consultation on 30mph for Popley Way and Carpenters Down and within a few weeks it will be official and better signage will go up.

There is a lot of abuse of people parking in disabled bays especially in front of Abbey Road shops with delivery vans probably being the worst offenders. Disabled people need the extra space to be able to get out of the car safely. A traffic order has been requested and then people who flout the law can expect parking tickets.

If you have any problems/concerns I can help with, I can be contacted by email at [cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk) or phone 819924

**Popley East:** I'd like to start by sending a message of support to Ken Perry, one of my constituents in Pershore Road. Ken is recovering after a horrifying attack on January 31, when he was dragged from his car and badly beaten by four thugs outside St Gabriel's Church, sustaining a broken arm, two black eyes and a badly cut forehead in the process. Get well soon Ken.

A planning application for new shops as part of the Faroe and Maldive regeneration scheme has been filed with the council and is currently under consultation. The plan is to replace the existing shops and Madeira Close and the disused Barbican pub.

All the SureStart Children's Centres in Hampshire are under review following funding cuts. The Pebbles centre at Chineham Park is in the third round of centres set up (as are all in Basingstoke) and their funding is not protected. They could be closed or privatised.

The Community Schools budget at Everest Community College has been cut completely.

We are still waiting for confirmation of how bad the cuts will be to travel tokens.

The Government wants to sell off Basing Wood (the woods north of Carpenters Down) as part of its sale of Forestry Commission land. We fear that it will be sold to a developer. We have started a petition and urge you all to sign it.

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## What's on at Melrose Hall



We would like to say a big thank you to the staff from Barclays who have been to redecorate here at Melrose Hall. We would never have got it done without you. The office, main corridor and kitchen have all had a much needed lick of paint.

Can you spare an hour or two to help plant new bushes and trees? We are taking part in a national event sponsored by The Woodland Trust. Please contact the office to register your interest and for further details.

### WHATS ON:-

<b>MONDAY:</b>	10.00-11.30am	Friendly Café
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	4.00-9.00pm	Petite School of Dance
	9.30-2.30pm	Pebbles Childrens Centre
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	10.00-11.30am	Popley Little People, Mother and Toddler Group
	9.00-11.00am	Quit Smoking Clinic
	12-2pm	Oasis Lunch Club
	7.30-9.00pm	Slimming World
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	9-30-11-30am	Friendly Café
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	6.30-7.45pm	MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
	8.00-9.15pm	age 11 plus.
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	9.00am-12.30pm	Petite School of Dance
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Kebble on 462351 for times of services.	

Melrose Community Hall is available to hire for birthdays, wedding receptions, and conferences. **Please ring Vicki Jackson on 01256 420676 for more information or e-mail us at [Melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk).**

**Also find us on Facebook: Melrose hall.**



## **Adult and Family Learning at Pebbles Children's Centre**

Did you know that Pebbles Children's Centre offers a wide range of adult and family learning courses? Many of the courses are ones which local parents have requested, some led to a nationally recognised qualification and courses are FREE to attend and we offer a FREE crèche for children under 5!

Courses will run during the day to fit in around school hours and we may also offer some in the evening or on a Saturday so that working parent, Dads and Grandparents can attend!

If you are interested in any of our courses please complete the reply form below and return to Pebbles Children's Centre at the above address, call 01256 357028 or e mail: [pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk](mailto:pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk) for more details.

-----  
I would be interested in attending (please circle):

Keeping up with the Children - Literacy      Keeping up with the Children - Maths

Healthy Eating & Cooking      Baby PEEP      Family First Aid

Using Computers and the internet      Baby Massage      Drop In Coffee Morning

Managing Behaviour (under 5's)      Dad's Club      Sing and sign (Makaton)

English as an Additional Language      Triple P Parenting

Other suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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After



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## Popley Conservation Volunteers

Popley Conservation Volunteers (PCV) have been undertaking wildlife conservation work since 2004. The main focus has been Popley Ponds, a local nature reserve also known as the White Horse. Few people know of the pond's existence, let alone that it supports a population of smooth, palmate and Great Crested Newts, the latter being the largest of the native species.

The Great Crested Newt is one of Europe's most impressive amphibians. Both sexes grow to about 15cm long. The dorsal skin is dark brown to black with darker spots, a granular texture, and very fine white spots on the flanks. In contrast the underside is strikingly marked with orange/yellow spots. During the breeding season, males develop prominent dorsal crests and have silvery tail stripes. This time of the year, and up to mid July, the Great Crested Newts make their yearly excursion to breed in ponds and pools. The female will lay eggs on submerged aquatic plants, carefully wrapping each egg in a leaf. This species of newts is protected under European and UK regulations.

It is important for the survival of newt species that habitat be maintained. The general decline of amphibians has been caused by agricultural intensification and urban development, which have had serious adverse effects on ponds and their surroundings. If ponds are not managed they can lose their value to newts by becoming silted up or too heavily shaded by trees. Residents around new housing estate may have noticed the exclusion systems or the silver newt fencing put in place to prevent the newts from entering the development site.

Another serious threat to the ponds is garbage that pollutes the ponds and nature reserves. The Popley Conservation Group is dedicated to maintaining the site and improving the habitat for all species. Recently the group has started to extend the range of activities to include conservation work and surveying the wildlife.

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## THE GOSPEL MUSIC GROUP INVITATION FOR MEMBERS.

The Gospel Music Group (GMG) wishes to invite singers interested in singing gospel music within the community to join the group.

(GMG) is a group which brings people who love to sing Gospel Music in the community together. The aim is to bring the uplifting message of the love of God and the joy the gospel brings to everyone in the community. We need people who enjoy singing in the company of others. You should be willing to commit to two rehearsals a month, sing with the rest of the group in the community and occasionally in specific locations such as hospices, nursing and care homes, homeless hostels, when we have an invitation.

The group meets at Everest Community College every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 1.30-3.00pm. Membership is free.

For more information, please contact Odunola on 07825868721.

## SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

**January Meeting** We had a few interested members of the public present, however we would like to see more of you in the future.

**Bus Pass Scheme & Public Transport Survey** – HCC have confirmed that they are issuing bus passes only. They are operating a voucher scheme for disabled people. Tokens will not be issued.

### **Open Forum**

Ms Catherine Baker, a Marnel Park resident, introduced the Marnel & Merton Community Group (MMCG). This group was formed in January 2011 - the first meeting was well attended, with Cllr Eales present. Cllr Eales will now set up a meeting between the Parish Council and the MMCG - to establish the best way of working together and support each other. Cllrs Crawley, Eales and Abraham will attend.

**Red Telephone Boxes** – Both teams are still obtaining quotations for both perspex and glass glazing. Each team will be reminded that the budget is £250 per box and this must include all necessary maintenance. It is hoped the work will start as soon as the weather improves.

### **Update on Progress of Major Projects**

#### **Chute Teenage Ball Play Area**

Due to the inclement weather before Christmas work has not started. The ground is still too wet to allow large machinery across the recreation grounds; the contractor is ready to start as soon as possible.

#### **Lynch Gate at the Cemetery**

A revised quotation is awaited from Goodall Barnard as the previous one is out of date. The Parish Council will apply for the CEEF grant from BDBC when this is received – and must consider whether it wishes to contribute 50% (max'm grant is 50%). The application closing date is 28 February 2011.

#### **Dark Lane Allotments**

Carter Jonas Estate Agents has contacted the Parish Council on behalf of Downing College, Cambridge regarding development proposals for the Dark Lane Allotments site. A pre-application submission has been registered with BDBC comprising - one pair of semi-detached houses at the North end, a detached house at the Kiln Road end, with an open / allotment area between the houses. It was considered that the open space might form an extension to the Village Green.

The Parish Council has asked whether Downing College would consider transferring ownership of the open and allotment land to the Parish Council (on behalf of the Villagers); no formal decision has been made by the College, but this could be discussed in more detail once a formal pre-application response from BDBC has been received.

The Parish Council is not in favour of building (this is a flood plain), although these could be 'low-cost' for local needs. Cllr will draft an interim response to BDBC for circulation and review by other Cllrs.

#### **Next Meeting.**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

#### **Annual General Meeting.**

The AGM of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm. Please diarise the date.

Syd Abraham.

# Head2Head

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Gent ~ cuts £10 ~ head shave £8 ~ restyle £12:50

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boys ~ £8 ~ head shave £5

Family's bookings get 15% off over all prices.

## Call Melissa

# 07771892548

## For a booking

I am more than happy to come out to your home  
or you can visit me at mine.

**Book before price increases in April**

Basing House re-opens to the public on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 for what we hope will be a busy year.

Over the last 18 months, a lot of work has been done at Basing House to develop the site into a first class heritage site. Two final parts are coming into place over the next month. A new bridge across the ditch to the bailey is currently being constructed. This is to improve the accessible route for all, and to aid understanding of the site. It has been sympathetically designed to reflect the original line of the Tudor bridge which was has been excavated over the last few years.

The Bothy is being repaired and re-opened as a tea shop. This was originally built by Lord Bolton and opened as a museum in 1906 to house some fascinating carved stone corbels found in the ruins. These precious stone heads were built into the walls and these make a wonderful but unusual wall dressing. In recent years, this building has only occasionally been open to the public.

Over the winter we've been programming activities and events for 2011. For a full list please see our website at [www.basinghouse.org.uk](http://www.basinghouse.org.uk).

Among our Spring events are:

- **Bat Talk** - 27<sup>th</sup> March  
Learn about the amazing bats at Basing House from expert, Claire Andrews
- **Basing House in the company of Curator, Alan Turton** - 28<sup>th</sup> March  
Explore the fascinating stories of Basing House in this 1 ½ hour tour
- **Music Picnics** - 3<sup>rd</sup> April (Mother's Day) then first Sunday until September  
Enjoy live music in our beautiful Walled Garden
- **Sealed Knot** - Easter Weekend  
The Sealed Knot return at Easter to bring the Civil War to life
- **5km Run Series** - 28<sup>th</sup> April and 3 other dates  
Our first Basing House 5km. A series of 4 Thursday night evening runs
- **Royal Wedding** - 29<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
For all children dressed as Prince or Princesses entry is free on this weekend
- **Tudor Weekend: celebrating 450 years of Basing House** - 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May  
Tudor themed events across the site for all the family

To celebrate the new season, we would like to offer all Popley Matters readers the opportunity to come, whether you've not come before or perhaps not been recently to see the differences on site.

Please cut out the voucher below and bring it to the site in March to enjoy 2 for 1 entry. Basing House opens 10am to 5pm, but is closed on Fridays (open Bank Holidays).



2 for 1 entry Popley Matters readers  
to Basing House for March 2011

Normal admission prices: £4.50 adults, £4  
OAP/Student, £3.50 Children

Alan's Tour and Bat Talk are an additional  
£3 per person

# Cornerstone Nursery News – March 2011

## Cornerstone Miss Muffets in Popley Way – 01256 840300

We have been celebrating Chinese New Year with the children where we decorated large dragons, celebrated the year of the rabbit and used chopsticks to try some Chinese food. We had a dress up day for all our 3-5s, which they all choose to do, we sang lots of new songs and made stories up with the children as the characters.

Our 2-3s have been doing lots of messy activities. They have taken part in splatter painting outdoors, experimented with coloured shaving foam and water and made some lovely Valentine's Day cards for their mummies and daddies. On Valentines Day we talked about love and friendship and took part in activities the children would like to do to show their friendship towards each other.

## Cornerstone Nursery in Priestley Road – 01256 818118

During this month there have been a few changes within the look and layout of the Nursery rooms. All the staff have been doing lots of fun and exciting activities with the children and using all their creations to display around the rooms. The rooms all look very colourful and welcoming.

The pre-school rooms have turned the role play areas into supermarkets, post offices and the favourite- a big green jungle full of animals, leaves and water pools.

Crickets room is now open again for our pre-school children as we have been very busy. The children have been doing lots of team games, and using our great new stilts and physical equipment!

We have also rearranged our hall into areas of development for the children to explore; we have a comfy quiet area, music and movement area and a creative area full of exciting resources and recyclable materials for the children to explore.

## Cornerstone Sunrise at Aldworth Science College – 01256 356166

We have been learning all about the planets, space and aliens. We have made some fantastic rockets and planets by cutting out shapes and sticking lots of things together from our recyclable materials box. We have been trying to remember the names of shapes, months of the year and also days of the week. We made scary aliens out of our bright green play-dough, which we made ourselves.

Within the babies we have been making lots of things in red, as we are learning our colours, and also learning actions to go with our favourite nursery rhymes. All Cornerstone Nurseries are collecting the Sainsbury's and Tesco vouchers so if you would like to help us please hand in any spare vouchers - we'll be very grateful! Thank you

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



*Helping our clients to achieve*

## A prince, a princess and a possible 'pre-nup'?

Date: February 2011

By Hayley Eachus, solicitor specialising in family law

Direct line 01256 854633, email [heachus@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:heachus@phillips-law.co.uk)

'Pre-nuptial agreements' may still seem a bit too un-British for many normal couples but for Will and Kate the stakes are much higher, so will the royal couple choose to have one and should you and I' asks Hayley Eachus, family lawyer at Phillips Solicitors. 'Both Will and Kate are likely to be realistic considering the royals' recent record for divorces and would have valid reasons to sign a pre-nuptial agreement: both families have independent financial assets and are not likely to be complacent about money; they may wish to protect family assets which are intended to pass through generations; and a pre-nup could contain really useful privacy and confidentiality clauses that would keep royal business private in the future. Questions of wealth and background surrounding the royal couple have consumed the media at a time when all the focus should really be on love and romance. But there are substantial assets involved which the two families may wish to ring-fence, so a pre-nuptial agreement will provide an effective means to do so.

Pre-nups have become increasingly common in Britain, especially among the wealthy, but are they worth the paper they're printed on for ordinary couples? Whilst the assets in the royal family do not represent the average financial position of most of us, pre-nuptial agreements may prove a significant safeguard for many: for example if you're entering a second marriage; or where personal or business assets have been acquired prior to the marriage; or where there is a desire to protect an inheritance and the needs of children from previous marriages.

What's coming over loud and clear from recent well-publicised legal battles' concludes Hayley 'is that these agreements will be treated as binding and won't just affect the wealthy but will filter down to all intelligent adults where there is a significant disparity in the wealth you and your partner are bringing into a marriage. My advice is – it's certainly better to have one than not.'

Call Hayley on 01256 854633 for an informal chat or email [heachus@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:heachus@phillips-law.co.uk)

Phillips Solicitors – Town Gate, 38 London Street, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 7NY  
t. 01256 460830 – f. 01256 364333 – e. [legal@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:legal@phillips-law.co.uk)

## Young's Chinese Food

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The theme we have chosen for this month's article is growth. All sections have been slowly growing and we hope for this to continue. Since January the Beavers have been doing some joint activities with Eastrop Sea Scout beavers and have been growing cress for their badges.

The Cubs have been having a lot of fun and have also been growing cress, working on their entertainer, scientist and local knowledge and visiting the Mayor's office!

The Scouts have been busy recording the activities that they do to use as a tool to promote Scouting to help the group grow in numbers. We plan to join 1<sup>st</sup> Basingstoke Scouts for a camp over the Easter period and we are all looking forward to this. We are also planning some hikes and some air rifle shooting sessions.

As well as our ongoing 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.

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Congratulations to Sophie Wythe for achieving her Chief Scout Silver Award

**Thought for the month: 'If you risk nothing, you gain nothing.'**- Bear Grylls (Chief Scout 2009-Present)

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



Boys & Girls 6-8

Tuesday 5pm-6.15pm



Boys & Girls 8-10 ½

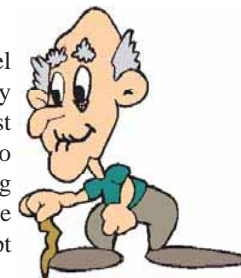
6.30pm-8pm



Boys & Girls 10 ½ -15

6.30-9pm

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



## THE OLD CODGER

As I put down last month,s Popley Matters I find that at the end of it I feel more depressed than ever. I will take you through what I feel. OK, you may say I am wrong on many things but we all see things in a different light. First is our glass half full or empty? I feel that our glass has emptied out and no one is around to help fill it up. It has been filled with houses where not long ago there were open spaces. Long gone are the thick hedgerows, only the odd twigs you now see about. There is little room left for the wildlife except the rats.

There is no mention of the cost of these amenities and like the other items in the school there are costs. I read that Popley North (The Islands)are getting the inner paths upgraded. But they have by-passed The Poets. I will come to that in the next few lines. Regeneration leaves a bitter taste in my mouth; the first place to be regenerated was the centre of the Poets with the new flats and houses. Nothing that I can see has been regenerated from the money gained from it. I spent three months going round the Poets on my scooter looking at the paths and dropped curbs for the council. This was handed in and I expect put through the shredder as I never heard anything. I see that Sentinel Housing Association is going to put in new play areas to replace the others that will be removed. We were told this was going to happen on the Poets! What we did get was jet washing. The path going to the small play area is so bad that people are forever tripping over this. I proposed an extra play area in front of Dryden Close for the youngsters so they did not have to cross over to the park. The play area at the back of Dryden Close needs attention. I feel that this estate has been left unfinished and I feel noone gives a damn about the state of the area.

It was a great day for me when my son and his wife and their baby came to live on the Poets. Now sad I feel for them now as I know they are going to move away, Their cars have been damaged time and time again, I keep telling them to report it and get crime numbers as this will show the true reflection of the crime. Too many residents just give in and do not report crime. I can remember quite a few years ago when in my road on one night twelve cars had one or all their car tyres slashed. Two policemen came up dressed like Robocops with so many gadgets on their waists they had a job getting out of their car. After walking up the road they said that people should go to the station and report the damage. What was the point of them even coming out to see I wonder? Only one or two did go to the station the rest said "what's the point?", I have been here 40 years and have fond memories of the Poets and Popley. I was proud to say I live on Popley.

I and Her Indoors are looking at moving away if our son goes but it will be with a heavy heart, I feel we on Poets, no longer have we the good communities we once had. I do not know who I can trust the residents and the council and all the housing associations. I feel they have long abandoned the Poets whilst other seem to thrive.

As I have said at the start you will all have your own views but in your heart of hearts you have to agree with a lot of what I am trying to put across to you all. The love of my area is draining out of me and I have never felt so low. I give you one last thought, never trust in what you are promised, only believe the end results. I feel too many empty promises were made to us on the Poets and I feel we have been let down. Just believe in yourself and your own family it can be a cruel world out there. Well I hope you do not mind me putting this down. I just feel so hurt the way things are turning out on the Poets.

And I think that the County Council would rather spend 40 million on refurbishing plush new offices meeting rooms instead of the estates that need improvement.

Till we talk again  
The Old Codger



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## Marnel and Merton Community Group

On Thursday, 13th January, residents of Marnel Park and Merton Rise met at Everest Community College to discuss plans for the area.

Initially the group was formed by residents of Marnel Park but due to the high level of interest from people living in Merton Rise the group has now expanded its reach and changed its name to reflect this.

Marnel and Merton Community Group has been set up to enable residents to influence and be involved in decisions made about the community in which they live.

The group aims to develop a vibrant, active and supportive community for local people.

During this meeting, volunteers came forward to form a steering group which will meet on a monthly basis and discuss issues such as the development of the estate, street lighting, dog fouling and ideas on improving the community for residents.

One of the immediate plans is to host a community event in spring/summer. Some ideas include a Royal Wedding street party, Easter Egg Hunt and summer fete.

For more information about Marnel and Merton Community Group and its aims email [marnelparkresidentgroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marnelparkresidentgroup@hotmail.co.uk) or find us on Facebook.

## Social Club Members Discover the Magic of the Movies

Members from the Basingstoke & North Hampshire Inter-Varsity Club visited the London Film Museum this month. The only film museum of its kind in Great Britain, the museum celebrates all aspects of the British Film Industry. Since its opening in 2008, the Museum has been collecting and displaying items both historical and contemporary from major films. Members of the lively social club experienced the latest exhibits from Ray Harryhausen Myths and Legends - showcasing the techniques he used to bring his Dynamation creatures to life.

As well we discovered new insights into the life and career of Charles Chaplin, the boy from the London slums who won universal fame with his screen character of the Tramp, and went on to become a Knight of the British Empire.

BNHIVC is a non-profit making sports and social club for professional and like minded people. The club has a diary bursting with pre-organised events including cinema trips, theatre, concerts, and restaurants as well as active events such as walking, cycling, roller skating, climbing, camping and much more. The club also organises weekend breaks away. Unlike other social groups the BNHIVC is organised with a twist : club members can choose the events posted on the calendar. BNHIVC is run by the members for the members! The club is a great way to make new friends and a hassle-free way to develop your social life in North Hampshire.

Discover the Magic of the BNHIVC yourself. To find out more visit:  
[www.bnhivc.org](http://www.bnhivc.org), call 0844 587 1985, or email [enquiry@bnhivc.org](mailto:enquiry@bnhivc.org).

## Marnel Infant School

This term children in Year R have been learning about themselves through a project called Me, Myself and I. The children found out about their families and their homes. At the end of the topic families were invited to a 'Family Activity Afternoon'. Parents, brothers and sisters were able to try out some of the activities that Year R have been working on this term such as, make a face collage, word and number games, sorting the families and sharing stories. Year R enjoyed showing their parents around the classroom and the parents certainly enjoyed being able to visit and join in with the fun! In Year 1 the project has been 'The Emperor's New Clothes'. The classes have been hearing lots of Hans Christian Anderson fairy tales and have written their own books. The books were recorded by the children on to CDs. The children held a book and CD sale for their parents with all the proceeds going to Naomi House Hospice. In Year 2 children have been learning about the exciting story of 'George and the Dragon'. They have been able to experience many different art techniques and the stunning results of this work were on show in an exhibition to parents in the school hall. The parents were shown around the exhibition by their children and were amazed by the range of models and pictures on show. All the children in the school have had a busy half term and have enjoyed the opportunity to share their work with their parents. Thank you to all parents who were able to attend. Mrs B Cole, Headteacher.

### **Marnell Bowling Club.** *Carpenters Down, Popley*

Interested in Green Bowling? We are holding a

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Mobile 07887778070 or Stan Mond 466168*

### **Well done!**

We had a great response from the colouring competition and are pleased to announce the winners from each category.

Marley Oliver-White aged 22 months is the winner of the 0-2 year age group and Shenmuyu Rai Aged 5 years is the winner of the 2-5 year age group.



**Left:  
Shenmuyu Rai  
Aged 5 years**



**Right: Marley  
Oliver-White  
Aged 22 Months**

### **Consultations**

You may have heard in the press and other sources that there is a proposal to make changes to Children's Centres in Hampshire. These changes could effect the service Pebbles is able to offer. If you would like your say on these changes then please fill in a consultation form. These are available from Pebbles Children's Centre to collect or we can email one to you to print off and bring back to the centre where we will collect and send off for you. The deadline for these forms is 14 March but we would appreciate them back by 9 March.

### **Time for me!**

A weekly group for parents and carers with children aged 0-8 yrs with special, additional or complex needs.

The group will have time for you and you'll hear from a variety of experts in the field.

Crèche available in KIDS nursery- please book your place in advance through Pebbles Children's Centre.

### **Dates for your Diaries**

**4 - 8 April** Centre Closed

**11 April** Parents Forum 10-11.30am

**11 - 21 April** Easter Holidays - see separate timetable

**22 April** Good Friday - Centre Closed

**25 April** Easter Monday - Centre Closed

For full details, contact **Pebbles Children's Centre** on **01256 357028**  
email [pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk](mailto:pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk) or visit [www3.hants.gov.uk/pebbles-cc](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/pebbles-cc)  
Pebbles Children's Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire,  
RG24 9BP

# Are Our Forest Safe?

The Coalition Government recently announced a massive sell-off of our national forests to private organisations and foreign companies. Carpenters Down Woods (also known as Basing Wood) was just one of the many forests under threat. Our forests are our national treasures, once they're gone, they will be lost forever.

Thanks to the weight of opposition from the public the government was forced to do a U-turn and scrap their plans. This is a great success, but our forests could still end up danger again in the future and we must make sure that the government doesn't go back on its decision.

That's why today, along with other local residents and Councillors Paul Harvey, Andy McCormack and Mary Brian, I took part in a 'forest trek' protest through Carpenters Down Woods. The trek was highly enjoyable and successful, and I would like to thank the local residents who took part.

Many of the local residents who joined us told me that they enjoy attending the guided walking tours provided by the Forestry Commission that take place every Tuesday in the woods. They are rightly concerned that the government's job cuts in the Forestry Commission could mean that these weekly walks will be scrapped. The Forestry Commission job cuts will impact negatively on the excellent services to residents provided by local Forestry Commission staff at Carpenters Down and our next task should be to make sure that this is not the case. *Shelley Phelps*



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www.base2000.co.uk

Headquarters - Base 2000 Carpenters Down RG24 9AE

Charity number 267734 HQ registration number 42755

Group Scout Leader - Colin Karslake (01256) 410559

Beavers: Eve Alexander 01256 346510

Cubs: Elaine Devenport 01256 323453

Scouts: Andy Welham Jones 01256 410629



Press Release



Disappointingly for everyone, the Beavers did not attend the 25<sup>th</sup> Beaver Anniversary Party as expected but perhaps they will have better luck with District Beavers' Easter Fun Day in April at The Vyne School. Three recruits joined in February and hope to be invested soon. Arrangements are being made to hold a 'sleepover' which is always popular (though not much sleeping goes on so I'm told!)



Some of the pack took part in the District Cub Chess competition held in Base 2000 recently. Next event is the District Activity Badge Day at The Vyne School at end of March when they will have the chance to achieve some of the more unusual badges. Practising is taking place in earnest for the District Six-a-Side Football Knock-Out competition. Let's hope they all have a good game or two this year! The pack will visit Basingstoke Police Station and preliminary arrangements are in hand for camping at Chalfont Heights.



Programmes for the spring session have centred on IT, Aviation Skills and First Aid. Some members will brave winter camp at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest at the end of February (we hope the cold weather will abate somewhat). An overnight hike is planned for April and a troop camp in May.

New members welcome. All sections open to both boys and girls. Beavers (aged 5½- 8) and Cubs (aged 8-10½) meet on Tuesdays; Scout section (aged 10½-14) on Friday. Contact section leaders as above for times. Explorer section for those aged 14-18 - contact Group Scout Leader

Fun House has returned to their own home but The Prince's Trust course for 16-25 year age group continues in the building. Enquiries for bookings at Base 2000 can be made to bookings@base2000.co.uk or telephone Colin on 01256 410559. One-off occasions, children's parties, meetings welcome and consideration will be 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 for large hall at weekends.

... and the adventure goes on - come and join us!

### The Nation Youth Volunteer Service involved closes on March 31<sup>st</sup> for North Hampshire

Basingstoke Voluntary Services can confirm that Government have declined continuing support for the national involved youth volunteering program. This has meant that v (our fund givers) has now provided all the v Teams and Projects throughout the nation with the official notice of closure of the contract. This has resulted in many experienced youth workers employment contracts discontinuing March 31<sup>st</sup>, and tens of thousands young volunteers left in a void while the current government reviews how to deliver a new youth volunteer program. To date, v funded 107 involved Teams giving full coverage across the country so that young people were offered a high quality and consistent support enabling them to volunteer.

The involved youth volunteer program has provided quality support, advice and guidance to young people and organisations interested in engaging with youth volunteering. The teams also work with young people in their local area to champion youth-led action and recruit Youth Action Teams – ambassadors to champion volunteering and inspire their peers to volunteer in their local communities.

Basingstoke Voluntary Services have delivered the involved national youth program throughout North Hampshire with a team of 6 staff and numerous volunteers for the last 3 years and before this, delivered 10 years of the Millennium Volunteer youth program. However, this 13 year program of local youth volunteer support will cease to operate from the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2011.

BVS youth manager Jaynie Lewis states "It is really disappointing to be in this situation after all the hard work put in by our dedicated v-team and local young volunteers especially when it links so nicely with the governments vision of the Big Society aspiration for more people to get involved in their local communities".

During the 3 years of delivering the V contract, the BVS involved Team covering North Hampshire have encouraged, placed and supported over 1,350 young people into volunteering opportunities, youth led activities and action in their communities.

If these 1350 volunteers, gave 4 hours of their time to volunteer per week for 12 weeks this equals 259,200 young people hours given freely to the community. If we equate this to a monetary value of using the basic minimum wage, young people gave £1,537,056 in monetary value if this time was paid.

Future youth volunteers will be able to access the v-inspired website (the volunteer portal for young people) to look for local volunteer opportunities. Or go to their local Volunteer Centres for 1-2-1 support. However with Volunteer Centre resources already overstretched struggling with high volumes of referrals from the Job Centres it is uncertain what support to people wanting to volunteer will continue in years to come.

Basingstoke Voluntary Services are committed to continuing our youth support work therefore we will be continuing a number of the activities developed and delivered by the BVS Youth in Action Team using our reserves, however with limited funding and a limited staff it is unknown how long this work will continue.

Yours sincerely  
Jaynie Lewis  
Youth Volunteer Development Manager

A project of Basingstoke Voluntary Services  
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The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4AF.  
Tel: 01256 423812 Fax: 01256 423825 E-mail: Jaynie.lewis@voluntaryservices.com

involvedhampshire

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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

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Dear Readers,

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2011, I will be running the Virgin London Marathon on behalf of the British Heart Foundation.

This charity is very close to me and my family's heart as we have been affected by heart complications in many ways in the past and also present, as my niece suffers from the heart condition SVT.

The work carried out by the BHF prevents many other families going through the same pain and trauma caused by a variety of heart

conditions, therefore being able to run and raise funds for their amazing work has fuelled my appetite for success, whilst allowing me to complete a lifetime ambition of mine, running the London Marathon.

If you would like to sponsor me and help me to my fund raising target of £1500 please visit my fund raising page, [www.justgiving.com/DeanRidgers2011](http://www.justgiving.com/DeanRidgers2011)

Any amount big or small will be greatly appreciated and will go a long way to aiding the BHF's continuing development of life saving research.

Thank you for your support

Dean Ridgers  
Health and Fitness Manager  
Everest Health and Leisure Club

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# Merton Infant and Junior Schools



## Summer Fun Day

Merton Infants PTA and Friends of Merton Junior are joining forces to organise an exciting 'Summer Fun Day'. This will be held on

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2011, 12 - 3pm.

All the usual games and stalls will be there for you to enjoy i.e. tombola, raffle, stocks, lucky dip, BBQ, face painting, bouncy castle, football shootout, play your cards right etc...

During our Summer Fun Day we will also be having a **car boot sale** and **hired stalls**. We will also be handing out a programme booklet which **local companies will be advertising their business in**. If you would like to book a 'car boot slot', hire a stall or like to appear in the programme please see the contact details below.

We want this to be a real community event and encourage as many people to attend as possible. Everyone is welcome to come and join in all the fun.

**Both schools are raising money towards really exciting projects. The Infant School is fundraising for outdoor climbing frame and slide. The Junior School is fundraising for ICT equipment to add to their e-pod.**

We are looking for any stall donations/gifts/vouchers for the day; if you would like to donate to a good community cause, we would be very grateful. All donations can be dropped into either school. If you would like to help or have further information please contact us on the details below.

Contact details:

Lee-ann Dirienzo, PTA Secretary email: [leeann.dirienzo369@sky.com](mailto:leeann.dirienzo369@sky.com)

Or either school:

Merton Infant School: Tel: 01256 324507 email: [adminoffice@merton-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@merton-inf.hants.sch.uk)

Merton Junior School: Tel: 01256 326573 email: [adminoffice@merton-jun.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@merton-jun.hants.sch.uk)

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