

# POPLEY MATTERS

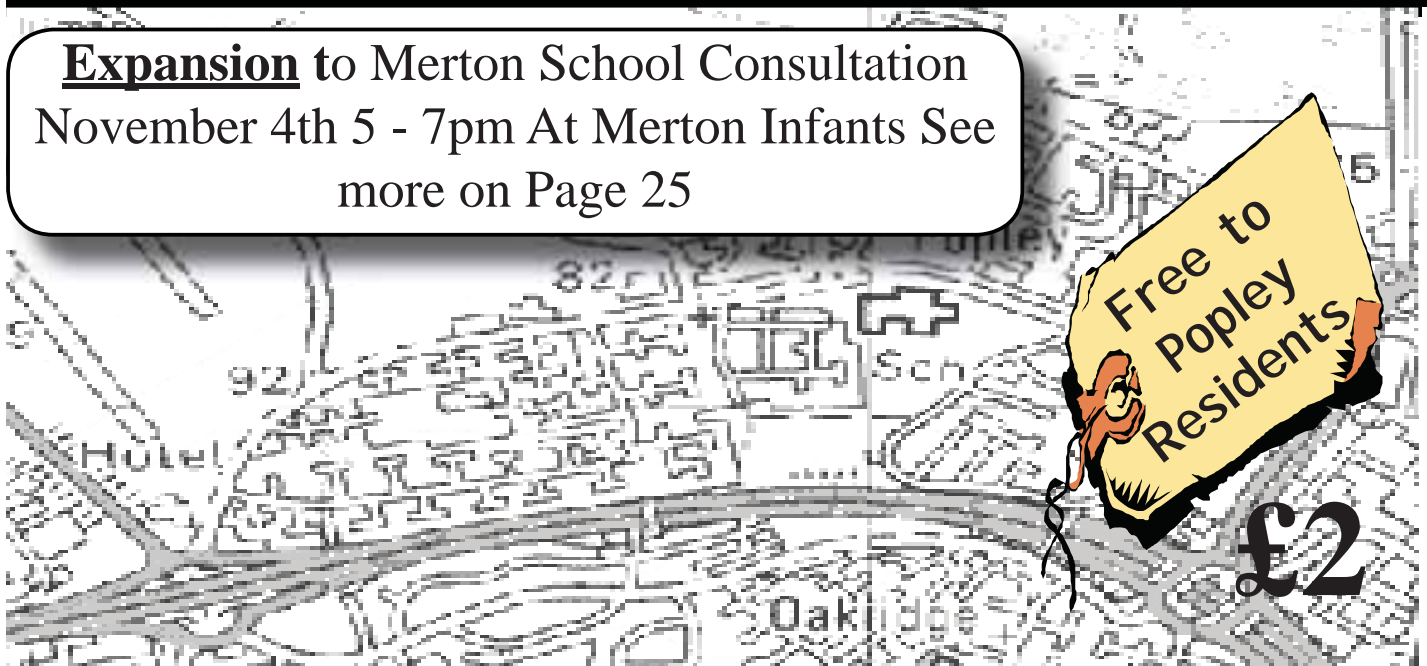
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November 2013

Distribution of 5,000

Issue 141

**Expansion** to Merton School Consultation  
November 4th 5 - 7pm At Merton Infants See  
more on Page 25



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-11-13) [editor@poppleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@poppleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-**The colours on the leaves are so pretty, one resident said to me that you see lovely photos of trees in New England but we have some beautiful ones in Popley.

Thank you to the kind person who sent me a Facebook message to say there are only 8 Fridays to Christmas, can someone tell me where the time has gone? I don't know about you, but it means I will have to get started with the shopping and signing of Christmas cards. There are quite a few advertisements for Christmas Fayres so I may be able to pick up some bargains there.

I had some lovely written letters from the pupils at Marnel Junior School asking for some help from our readers as you can see on the page opposite. The article from Merton Junior School is on page 9 it is good to hear from our schools. We welcome people writing articles for Popley Matters, as it is your community magazine. On page 25 there is a report on the progress of the concerns of the residents about the expansion of Merton Infant and Junior Schools. The last meeting finally had the school Heads, Chairs of Governors, Education Strategy Officer, Architect, Transport Consultant and Borough Planning Officer, Parking Enforcement and your local Councillors sitting round a table to talk about how we together could improve the plans and improve the safety for the parents, carers and children going to and from school. The meeting showed there was still some way to go to make it as safe as possible, although we all know there has to be some compromises. Progress was made and the revised pre application plans will be available at the public meeting on 4th November from 5-7pm at the Infant school.

Can I make an appeal again for volunteers to deliver Popley Matters if you could spare just one hour a month to deliver in your area? It's good exercise and you get to meet your neighbours.

You can email me at [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk) call me on 01256 819924 or write to me at 405 Abbey Road, RG24 9EL.



Sub Editor  
Paul Frankum

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team, the members of the committee, or Popley Matters.

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# Letters from Marnel Junior School

Popley Matters had some beautiful letters from Marnel Junior School; the first was from Ms Wingrove, the class teacher for year 5, and four other letters from pupils. The class are doing a project on World War Two and would love to hear about memories and experiences of our senior readers would like to share with them.

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Amal. I am a pupil of Marnel Junior School. At Marnel we are learning about World War Two. We would really appreciate it if you could come in and share your experience with us.

If you come in we would really appreciate it. You will admire this amazing school. Your amazing knowledge will further our education. You must admit it's an amazing opportunity.

However you must be a delightful, joyful person. You will be offered some tea or coffee, rich tea cookies to top it off.

You know you want to

Yours faithfully

Amal

Hello my name is Hannah and I am 9 years old and in year 5 in Marnel Junior School. We are currently learning about World War 2, and I was wondering if you could come in and talk to us about your experiences of WW2. It would be a once in a lifetime opportunity for us and you. It would be an amazing opportunity for you and me. However if you don't come in you may find that you have missed out on furthering our education.

We are very well behaved and we have never met anyone who was alive in WW2. If you visit us and share your information with us we will be very grateful and could even spare a cup of tea to show our appreciation.

We really need your help because we don't really know much about WW2 and need to gather more information.

Yours faithfully

Hamish

We are the children in year 5 at Marnel Junior School. We are learning about WW2 in our topic. We would really like you to come in and share your knowledge and experience of WW2 with us.

We are an extremely well behaved school and will be especially respectful when you are talking to us. If you do not come in we will be happy to come to you.

Yours sincerely

Mason

We are the children in year 5 at Marnel Junior School. We are learning about WW2 in our topic, We would really like you to come in and share your knowledge with us and share your experiences from WW2.

We are an extremely well behaved school especially when you talk to us. We really need your help because you would be the only person we met from WW2. You may feel happier if you come in.

It will be a good experience for the whole year group. You should come in as you will meet lots of new friends. We would love you to come in

Yours sincerely

Max

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Melrose Hall Christmas Fayre  
30<sup>TH</sup> November 2013  
12pm - 3pm



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Christmas presents  
Father Christmas Grotto  
Cakes



**And much more!!!!**



**Councillors Page:** The new cycle and pathways in the Popley Islands are progressing well and some extra work has been promised for Gilbert Close and for a disabled access across Popley Way. Parking problems persist in all areas and at least some plans are underway for Marnel Park. The new build has started in Merton Rise with much better parking solutions and more green space. We also managed to secure some bungalows as they are in demand as residents want or need to downsize. The only other alternative for those who need to live on one level are ground floor flats, and this very often doesn't work, as our caseload tells us. Unfortunately the shops will come in later phases but we will keep you informed on progress.

Cllr Paul Frankum and I have been meeting officers and residents to find the best solutions we possibly can for the expansion of Merton Infant and Junior schools the last meeting (before the public consultation booked at the school on November 4th at 5-7pm) was 24th of this month with all the agencies involved meeting to finalise the main issues of parking and dropping the children off safely, and causing as little disruption to the residents as possible. *Cllr Jane Frankum 819924 jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk*

**Popley West:** Cllrs Paul Frankum, Paul Harvey and Jane Frankum met Inspector Paul Maginis at Basingstoke Police station on 16th October to talk about our concerns in the area. Primarily our concern and dismay that the police were not being more proactive about the illegal encampments of Travellers, and how long it was taking to move them on when they cause noise, loose, barking dogs, fly tipping, intimidation, human mess and damage to the trees and environment. We asked why was Section 61 of the act not used and enforced when, in our minds, the conditions on which they can use it have been clearly demonstrated? We asked what as Councillors and residents we need to do? We were told that we need to phone 101 or if you do not want to leave your names, phone Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Please also phone or email us, your Councillors, so we can also act on your behalf. We told Inspector Maginnis that residents felt it was a waste of their time to report as they felt that the police were not taking their issues seriously. We have agreed we will work together, and if the residents do report when the illegal campers cause problems they will react quicker.

**Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924**

**Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924**

**Popley East:** The soft landscaping to the Dell is continuing and the large feature stone sited, amongst others, will contain a suitable piece of engraving recognising the connection of the area's roads named after famous poets. We are grateful for the many suggestions for the engraving which have been offered, including some submitted from pupils at Marnel Junior School, and the chosen text will be announced soon.

Following representations to County Highways and with the support of our County Councillor Jane Frankum, we have been successful in getting improvements to the pathway adjacent to Marnel Junior School boundary fence and Gilbert Close, which runs up to Shetland Road included in the programme of works currently being undertaken. Work on the surface water drainage system will also be done at the same time to reduce some of the current problems with flooding.

Following widespread concern, resulting in a 250 signatories petition, we are seeking to persuade the Borough Council to consider once again the provision of a shelter to the bus stop on Carpenters Down opposite the entrance to Falkland Road. This is a well used request stop, popular with students and more elderly residents travelling into the town centre, all of whom are encouraged to use public transport.

**Cllr David Potter tel.07941507801**

**Cllr Viv Washbourne tel.07900890088**

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# The Willis Museum and Sainsbury Gallery Basingstoke



## Carlamaria Jackson The Gaze

Private View:

Saturday 30 November 2013

13:30 - 15:30 pm

Exhibition dates: 30 Nov - 20 Dec

The Willis Museum, The Basingstoke Gallery, 2nd Floor  
Market Place, Basingstoke, (Top of Town) Hampshire,  
RG21 7QD, Tel: 0845 603 5635

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

*Image Ref: The Three Graces, Limited Edition, 150 cm x 150 cm*

The Basingstoke Gallery is pleased to invite you to "The Gaze", a collection of artworks celebrating the female form by local digital artist Carlamaria Jackson. Carlamaria is attempting to discover the line where the female body is accepted and rejected in art. If you're looking for that special present or you just love art, then please join us for the opening from 10:00 am on Saturday 30 November 2013.

In addition Duncan Titmarsh amazing display of custom made LEGO® Models will be opening on the same day in the Sainsbury's Gallery: Danebury Hill fort, a Roman feast (on a full sized LEGO table), a Giant size Sedan Chair, the Floating Bridge from Southampton and Portchester Castle. Lego Sets will be on sale in the museum shop.

**Train:** the museum is within walking distance of Basingstoke station. Follow signs for Festival Place Shopping Centre, walk through Festival Place and out of the south exit into Wote Street. Walk up the hill and the museum is in the town's historic Market Place.

**Bike:** Basingstoke has an extensive cycle network. The nearest cycle parking is in Church Street (by the Library), Church Street (opposite St. Michael's Church), and Wote Street (by Halifax and the Wote Street Club).

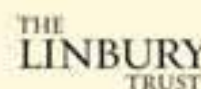
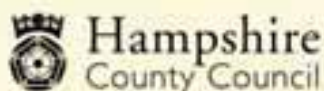
**Bus:** Basingstoke town centre bus station is a ten minute walk away through Festival Place shopping centre, walk out of the south exit into Wote Street. Walk up the hill and The Willis Museum is in the town's historic Market Place.

**On foot:** Once in the town centre, walk out of the south exit into Wote Street. Walk up the hill and The Willis Museum is in the town's historic Market Place.

Market Place, Basingstoke RG21 7QD

Tuesday to Friday 10am–5pm, Saturday 10am–4pm Admission **FREE**

[www.hants.gov.uk/willis-museum](http://www.hants.gov.uk/willis-museum)





## **Silver Sherpas at Everest**

This well established and welcoming over 50s social group offers a great mixture of activities throughout its termly programme. This month we have the following sessions being organised:- Body Balance, Christmas Fair Sale, and a trip to the Whitchurch Silk Mill (additional cost)

The Silver Sherpas meet up every Friday during term time between the times of 3-5pm at the small cost of just £1 per session. If you would like to get involved or just receive some more information please contact Dean or Danielle on 01256 337573 or alternatively email the following address, [dridgers@everestcommunityacademy.org](mailto:dridgers@everestcommunityacademy.org).

**JOIN IN NOVEMBER AND GET YOUR FIRST SESSION FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!**

## **Chineham WI**

Christmas Fair. We are holding our Christmas Fair in the Chineham Scout Headquarters on Hanmore Road

on Saturday the 23 November 1.30 pm to 4.30 pm.

A chance to buy fabulous Christmas presents from local crafts people.

Homemade cakes and jam from the WI ladies !

Actives for children. Fun for all the family.

Don't forget 23 November. Drop in and see what we have got.

## **Paul Illsley Everest Autism and ADHD Club**

Deputy Mayor Roger Garner wrote "I recently attended at the invitation of the Chairman Paul Illsley. I was very impressed by the work being done with children suffering from Autism and ADHD and the dedication of the volunteers staffing the club. I would single out the Chairman as the setting up and organising of the club is a time consuming task taking more than the club sessions. I was also impressed by Paul's dedication and enthusiasm, and have no hesitation in nominating him for a volunteer award".

I would like to dedicate this award to our wonderful team we work together to make the club an enjoyable place to be for all the families.

*Paul Illsley*

*Everest Autism and ADHD Club*



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# Merton Junior School

After a glorious summer holiday, pupils at Merton Junior School have kick-started the year and are raring to go! There have already been some exciting adventures put into the diary! An annual tradition of Merton Junior School children is to visit the theatre and this year is no different; the whole school will be watching Aladdin at the Anvil at Christmas time which they are already excited about. The year 3 and 4 pupils have been booked in for another residential visit to Stone Farm, a working farm where they experience and endure the everyday chores a typical farmer would. There are no doubts about it – all of the children sleep very well each night! Year 5 and 6 pupils will be going to Windmill Hill on their residential trip next year where they take part in a huge range of outdoor activities from rock climbing to orienteering. For the third year running, the school has entered the Rock Challenge and practises will start imminently so that the children are fully prepared and the dance is perfected in time for the competition in Portsmouth in April. Apart from these trips, the everyday life at school is busy and there are clubs each night for the children, from karate to basketball. All of the staff and pupils are excited about another fun-packed year at Merton Junior School!



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We believe children are ready to learn through play when they are supported, happy and stimulated.

**We recognise children develop at different rates and their needs are all different.**

**We strive to support each and every child in their own unique way.**

A word from the experts, one parent said "I think the playgroup is very good at settling a crying child." 100% of parents stated that their child enjoys playgroup. Parent questionnaire June 2013  
Contact Carey West on 07935267232, please leave a message during school holidays and we shall contact you.

Email: [511077@childcare.hants.org.uk](mailto:511077@childcare.hants.org.uk)

## Family Prize Bingo at Popley Fields Community Centre!!

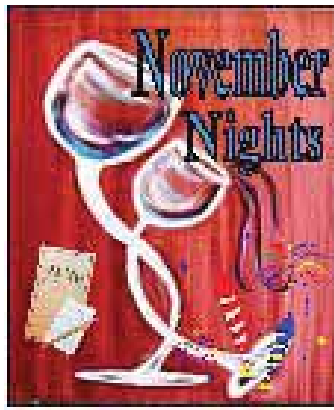
8<sup>th</sup> November, doors 6pm, eyes down 7pm. Fantastic raffle and refreshments.

### Ant Weight Open

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 10am-7pm, we will be hosting an Ant Weight Fighting Robots Competition, spectators welcome. Come and see who will reign supreme in the world of miniture fighting robots. Sparks will fly!

---

## November Nights St Michael's Hospice



Hold a fun evening and at the same time raise money for St Michael's Hospice. We are launching a new campaign called 'November Nights' and we would love you to be involved. Have a Cheese & wine evening, a games evening, Bonfire Night party, or a girl's night in being pampered. The list is endless of the different things you could do to be involved.

If you have an idea please let us know, or if you need supporting material to help promote your event, please give Lynne Grimshaw a call on 01256 848845 or email: [Lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk](mailto:Lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk)

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## PANCREATIC CANCER UK

The Charity, Pancreatic Cancer UK, has an awareness month this November and we have arranged a Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th November from 10.30am to 12.30pm. We will be raising funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK, and NET Patient Foundation. Both charities support those with pancreatic cancer and their families and friends.

The Old Basing Cricket Club are hosting the event in the clubhouse on the recreation ground.

There will be teas, coffees, biscuits, a raffle, and Phoenix Cards hope to be joining us.

**Liz Gray 465821**



### Headquarters:

Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader:	Colin Karlake	01256 410559
Scout section:	John-Paul Keetch	07899 087 275
Cub Scout section:	Douglas Gowan	01256 412326
Beaver Scout section:	Eve Alexander	01256 346510

The Beavers have been decorating cakes and making clay models. What an odd-mixture! They all took home samples of the very varied cake designs having each had a try. The following week it was a 'keep fit' and 'healthy eating' – think they needed too after all those cakes! Paultons Park is looming on the horizon and everyone is looking forward to it. We said 'goodbye' to Harvey who is emigrating to Australia with his family. We wish them all the very best. Hopefully we can start a pen-pal situation with him. We have at least five or six Beavers who have completed their Chief Scout's Bronze Award and a couple of others not far off. Everyone has worked so hard – well done.



Cubs learnt about Fair Trade one evening and became "contestants" in the game show 'Can you Identify Fair Trade Food by Taste?' Much to my surprise nearly all of them identified the Fair Trade food, I thought they wouldn't be able to tell the difference. The Group Scout Leader tasted some of their cake-making efforts and was impressed. Most of the pack have almost completed all the tasks required to receive their Emergency Aid badge stage 3. They spent an evening revising CPR techniques and practising bandaging injuries. The Pack will be having a Hallowe'en themed 'sleepover' during half-term week.



The Scout section is refining techniques and menus in readiness for the District Cooking competition when all troops will compete against each other to produce a three-course meal for four people to a strict budget. Sadly only two members of the Group took part in the District's 'Rural Ramble' in the Wootton St. Lawrence area. Together they hope to raise just under £100 – a very good effort – well done!

The weather was simply atrocious and they are to be congratulated for completing the ten mile course in such difficult conditions. The Scouts expect to take part in the Borough's Remembrance Sunday Parade in November with a number of other Groups from in and around the town.

New recruits welcome (though you may have to wait for a vacancy in the Beaver section which is often oversubscribed) – for more information, contact the leaders or use [www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts](http://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts)

Base 2000 is available for use by any community group at special rates either for 'one-off' or regular bookings. It can also be used for childrens' parties or family gatherings. Hiring rates range from £3.50 per hour for the smaller hall to up to £10 per hour for the larger hall. Enquiries to [bookings@base2000.co.uk](mailto:bookings@base2000.co.uk) or call Colin on 07796 772 500 / 01256 410559.

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Invites you to its

# Annual General Meeting

Friday 6 December 2013

7.00pm

Popley Fields Community Centre

Refreshments will be available, and the AGM will be followed by a quiz night for those who wish to stay.

Come and see what's happening at your local community centre, take a look at our newly refurbished facilities, and see how you can get involved!

We need new members on our committee to help us develop the facilities and services available at the community centre. We'd be happy to speak to anyone to explain what is involved.

For committee nomination forms and more information call:

**01256 414494**

Popley Fields Community Association is a registered charity no. 1052133



# **What's Happening at the Discovery Centre**

Discover how massage can assist women's health and wellbeing by learning simple massage strokes involving the back and neck. Sunday 3 November, 12noon to 2pm, £6.

## **A talk on the Government Art Collection**

Curator Chantal Condron will share intriguing histories and stories of one of the largest, most dispersed collection of British art in the world. Mon 11 November, 2pm, £3.

## **A talk on Writing Fiction**

Published author Cas Peace will highlight the skills required to develop a believable world in your fiction writing. Tuesday 12 November, 2pm, FREE.

## **Willow Christmas Decorations Workshop (adults)**

Make rustic, shaker-style Christmas decorations using natural willow. Trees, stars, simple wreaths and even reindeer can be made. With local basket maker Judith Needham. Saturday 16 November, 1pm to 3.30pm, £15.

## **Dr Who style Greenscreen Workshop**

Children can discover the magic of greenscreen filming techniques by making a Dr Who inspired video clip in a group. Saturday 23 November, 9am ages 5-10; 11am ages 8-12; 1pm ages 10-13, £5 per child.

## **Aromatherapy for Women**

Learn the principles of aromatherapy, recognise the benefits of usual essential oils and give/receive an aromatherapy hand massage. Sunday 24 November, 12noon to 2pm, £6.

## **A talk by Zaid Meherali:**

Armed Forces Photographer Zaid has worked extensively with the armed forces and NATO: see some stunning images and hear the stories behind them. Thursday 28 November, 2pm, FREE.

## **Enhance your Beauty Products with Aromatherapy**

Learn how to blend essential oils with ready made, unscented base products to enhance your own beauty products for friends and family. Sat 30 November, 1pm to 3pm, £6.

## A taste of things to come

Construction, hospitality, customer service and finance are just some of the professions you'll be able to learn more about as part of Sentinel Housing Association's Support Towards Employment Programme (STEP).

The free, two hour taster sessions will be held at Sentinel's office at 57 Kingsclere Road, Basingstoke, RG21 6XG and are open to anyone in the local area who's currently looking for work.

Sarah Smith, Sentinel's Community Development Manager, said, "The aim of our taster sessions is to give local people an introduction to many different types of work so that they can find out whether a job in that industry would suit them and their skills, and what they need to do to start a career in their chosen field. We'll be inviting guest speakers, from Basingstoke College of Technology, the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and Sentinel, who have specialist knowledge in a variety of different professions to lead the sessions and share their expertise."

The full programme of taster sessions is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Friday 1 November	Customer service
Friday 8 November	Hospitality
Thursday 14 November	Construction industry / CSCS card
Friday 22 November	Social media
Friday 29 November	Finance
Friday 17 January 2014	Setting up your own business
Friday 24 January 2014	Health and wellbeing
Friday 31 January 2014	ICT tuition
Friday 7 February 2014	Administration
Friday 14 February 2014	Working in housing
Friday 21 February 2014	Volunteering
Friday 28 February 2014	Local labour markets
Friday 7 March 2014	Care and support work

All taster sessions will take place from 10am – 12pm.

To find out more, or to book your place, please contact Sam Taylor on **0800 195 5515**, from a landline, or **0300 666 5515**, from a mobile, or email **[customer@sentinelha.org.uk](mailto:customer@sentinelha.org.uk)**.



# Christmas

# Fayre

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December

1-4 P.M.

St. Gabriel's Church

Fantastic Raffle -Top Prize £200 cash!

Tombola

Handmade Crafts

Festive Refreshments

Send a Letter to Santa

Sweets, Jams and Chutneys

Children's Games and Activities

Special Guest!

Tewkesbury Close, off Popley Way





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Be wise, together we succeed

# Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 30th November 2013  
11am-2pm

Various Stalls, Activities and Games

Local businesses stall hire

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Lee-ann: 01256 324507

Children's Tombola, Football Shootouts

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# POPLEY EXPLORERS

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**20TH NOVEMBER 2013**



**7.30PM**

**MAIN HALL**



**BERMUDA HALL**

**"YOUR LOCAL PRE SCHOOL NEEDS YOU"**

**If you have a few hours a month spare and would like to become involved in your local preschool, we would love to see you at our AGM.**

Dear Friends

As I write this we are coming to the end of a difficult and sad week in our community. It began last Saturday with the desperately sad news of a young man who had taken his own life in Popley Community Park at the top of Popley Way on Saturday, and was followed on Monday by the further dreadfully sad news of the death of a young seven year old who attended Year 3 at one of our local schools.

It is never easy to deal with such situations; we need to acknowledge the deep sense of loss and heartfelt grief of those immediately caught up in the event. We should, too, seek ways to support the families, friends and neighbours and those of the wider community who find themselves on the emotional roller coaster that ensues the aftermath of the death of someone whom they knew and loved so well. It is so often at times like these that the true sense of community emerges from the shadow of our own self and unites us in common purpose.

I had the very great privilege of talking to the year group at the school the pupil attended. It was amazing to share their experiences, their vivid memories, the tears of their sadness and their laughter as they recalled many happier times.

We talked about death and dying and read the wonderfully illustrated story of Water Bugs and Dragonflies by Doris Stickney (highly recommended) and concluded with more laughter and tears as we pictured their friend bossing people about in God's playground, swinging on the monkey bars and playing dolls with everyone's nan and granddad and of being reunited in the future. It was a poignant moment filled with all those emotions of joy, sadness and hope.

I am sure that in heaven scenes just like this occur every moment of time and throughout eternity as loved ones are reunited once again. Words like hope, rescue, save, reunited, restored, joy and happiness are very familiar to the Christian and they are particularly poignant at this time of the year for St Gabriel's as we prepare for our Service and Act of Remembrance for Remembrance Sunday in the church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 1030am. Please do come along to this important occasion.

More importantly words like hope, rescue, reunite and save take on even greater meaning as Christmas approaches. It is at this time of the year that we begin to prepare again to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Lord Jesus Christ who came to this earth, born as a human baby, to rescue and save each one of us that we might not be lost but reunited and restored to God.

We may sometimes feel in our lives that we are trapped by circumstances: families, relationships, finance, health or just the hectic pace of life. If this is you then the good news is that the Rescuer is here and waiting to hear from you. He is waiting to rescue, restore and save you and all you need do is call out to him.

As the Christmas preparations gather pace this year I pray that you may be able to celebrate the true joy of a Saviour. If you want to know, more please do come along to St Gabriel's, you will always find a welcoming hand.

**Warm greetings**  
**Arthur**  
**Vicar St Gabriel's**

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### Festive bin collections

Rubbish and recycling collection crews will be working on Saturdays to catch up on changes over the Christmas break, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has announced. If your normal collections day would be Put your grey bin (and green bin if it is your recycling week) out on

Monday 23 December	Monday 23 December
Tuesday 24 December	Tuesday 24 December
Wednesday 25 December	Friday 27 December
Thursday 26 December	Saturday 28 December
Friday 27 December	Monday 30 December
Monday 30 December	Wednesday 31 December
Tuesday 31 December	Thursday 2 January
Wednesday 1 January	Friday 3 January
Thursday 2 January	Saturday 4 January
Friday 3 January	Monday 6 January
Monday 6 January	Tuesday 7 January
Tuesday 7 January	Wednesday 8 January
Wednesday 8 January	Thursday 9 January
Thursday 9 January	Friday 10 January
Friday 10 January	Saturday 11 January

Christmas can mean extra rubbish, for example wrapping paper can't be recycled. Therefore, in the first collection after Christmas ONLY extra sacks will be collected. Unless adverse weather affects bin rounds, collections should return to normal from Monday 13 January.

For more information about bin collections see [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycling](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycling) or call 01256 844844.



# The Bank of Mum and Dad

By Hayley Eachus, Solicitor, director and mediator at Phillips Solicitors Ltd

We all know how more and more difficult it has become for first time buyers to get on the housing ladder. Mortgage companies can often require deposits of 15% to 20% of the purchase price and for anybody trying to raise these funds it can be difficult not least for a first time buyer.

On many occasions we now find that the “Bank of Mum and Dad” step in. Mum or Dad will give to their son or daughter a lump sum which makes up the deposit for their child’s purchase and often also have to assist with the stamp duty and legal fees in connection with the purchase.

When the “Bank of Mum and Dad” step in this can raise all sorts of issues. If Mum and Dad are gifting this money to their child, that is all well and good but if they don’t survive the gift by 7 years then inheritance tax **may** become payable out of their estate. What about if there are other children who are not being gifted the same amount of money, do the parents’ Wills then need to be amended to ensure that the estate is equally divided between all other children at the time of death?

What about if the child is moving in with a new partner? Although this is a happy time for the family there is always the question over whether the relationship is going to work out and if it did not, what would happen. If the house is registered in the joint names of the child and their new partner, the Mum and Dad may not want the new partner having a claim on any money they have put in to the property. If no legal agreement has been put in place at the time of purchase, the partner, upon any separation, will likely benefit from the monies gifted or loaned.

Another consideration is where the “Bank of Mum and Dad” are loaning the money to the child at a low interest rate, or no interest rate at all, what would be the best option to formalise this arrangement, a Declaration of Trust or a charge on the property?

These are all issues that a solicitor can advise on and issues Mum and Dad should consider.

If you are thinking of offering your child access to the “Bank of Mum and Dad” to help them get on the housing ladder, why not call **Hayley Eachus**, a solicitor in the family team for more information on **01256 854633** today?







IT has been another awesome month for MFC Popley Youth, the area's local youth football Club.

The Under 7s have been doing fantastically, at their most recent fixture (at time of writing putting in a devastating display against Winklebury Wizards.

The Under 8s have also been doing the Club proud, playing some great passing football and a performance against Chineham Tigers recently particularly stands out and will live long in the memory.

The Under 9s have also been in great form, and put in sparkling displays against two Basingstoke Town Colts sides and two Chineham Tigers teams in recent home games at Marnel School.

The U10s are riding high in their divisional league table, with a 3-0 win over Down Grange Albion at home being just their latest victory.

The U11s, playing in what is clearly the Premier Green Division, are also getting better by the week, having already secured their opening league win with more to come.

At U12s, the boys are dominating their division with goal fest after goal fest and some scintillating football.

At U13s, the team recently avenged last season's semi-final defeat by AFC Newbury with a resounding 6-3 win in a recent Premier Division fixture at Everest, and the score line would have been even better but for the lads evidently deciding to adopt a 0-0-10 formation once they were 5-0 up!

At U14s, another team playing Premier Division football (in their case following a brilliant promotion-winning campaign last season), the players continue to do the Club proud.

Ditto the U15s, who recently refused to bow down when equalising late to hold Basingstoke Town Colts to a 1-1 draw, having already had a resounding win over Oakley earlier in the season.

And the Club's nursery for Year Rs and Year 1 continues to grow. The Allstars are still taking on new youngsters so, if you know a Year R or Year 1 who wants to get into football, text 07884 2185 693 to arrange to bring them along.

And off the pitch, the Club is about to hold its ever popular Race Night, a great get-together socially and a great fundraiser for the Club.

---

## Age Concern

Age Concern will be in Popley again on the following dates offering an enjoyable social afternoon and information and advice for local older people.

The Popley Roadshow takes place in Melrose Community Hall from 2 to 4pm, every 2nd Tuesday in the month.

Sometimes we have speakers as indicated below:

Tuesday 12th November – A speaker from Trading Standards

And for the new year:

Tuesday 14th January 2014

Tuesday 11th February 2014

Everyone is welcome, just come along. You are welcome to just pop in with a question if you do not wish to stay for the whole session.

For further information call Mark at Age Concern on 01256 423874.

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# New Post Box in Marnell Park



After nearly 5 years of constant campaigning we have finally got a post box for Marnell Park. Emails, letters, petitions, phone calls and Paul getting an official to come and do a site visit, The official saying it was an open and shut case that we should have one. The door slammed when the manager at the last moment said no. Well I guess they didn't know that we don't understand the word no when it is crystal clear that there is a need and the criteria is met. Thank you to Phillip, the manager went back armed with a very strongly worded appeal from Paul and me. Almost unbelievable that it should be so hard to get what seemed so simple. Times of collections are Monday to Friday at 4pm and Saturdays at 10am.



---

## Expansion to Merton School Consultation

After the last public exhibition/consultation on 24th October at the school where about 60 residents from the roads surrounding the school came and were able to see the draft drawings, and they raised issues that concerned them. All did agree that to give the children some much better facilities and upgrade the schools they would need to expand the schools ready for the intake that would be needed for the future. If the school doesn't get expanded it would result in very young children having to go to schools sometimes miles away. I don't know of anyone that would want to put this scenario for them. The main contentious issue that came up was the parking and dropping off at peak times. Unfortunately though most people who drive their children to school behave in a responsible manner a few still insist on poor parking and continue the frustrating practise of blocking residents in their homes by parking across their garages. Residents complained that have been late for work and hospital/doctor's appointments. A new drop off area with a gate and path through the school grounds on Tintern is one of the proposals, moving the gate in the Glastonbury entrance is another. Lots of work has been done by the school to encourage other methods of travel and as reported in the last Popley Matters on page 18 it certainly does seem to be making a positive impact. There were still some outstanding issues. Paul and I insisted that a meeting of all the people involved in the scheme should get around the table and talk. The meeting went ahead at the school on 24th Thursday. The outcome of that will be some revisions that you will be able to view at the meeting on 4th November at Merton Infant School from 5 to 7pm. This is your chance to come and see the next set of drawings and give your comments and ideas ready for the final drawings and consultation period before the application comes to Hampshire County Council. Your opinions do matter we have already gained some improvements and now that Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council are finally involved we hope to refine it more.

# Diaries from the Old Codger

Well this month I look back on all the hard work our council members and Sherborne put up to stop the build on Kiln Farm. As you know I have been ill over the last year so have not been out of the house much. However I sit in the conservatory looking at the sky and garden and I see all kinds of birds. Recently it has been wonderful to see both buzzards and red kites. On Sunday my family got together and we went to The Swan pub. We walked in and I saw a man looking at me. He looked at me and I did the same to him, you know someone, but with the way my brain works I could not work out where I knew him from. It was only when I went outside he was there and at the same time. We said, "You worked at the hospital?" We had not seen each other for about 14 years. That was it we had a good chinwag, but the thing I wanted to say was that my son-in-law came out and as we sat there looking around I saw a red kite circling overhead. Was this bird missed off the list of the many endangered specimens in the Kiln Farm woods and the fields? I can think as long as building work continues over this side of town so Manydown will be put back. Our present council is letting the people of Popley and Sherborne down very badly. Once upon a time you could get out of our road onto Popley Way quite quickly. It can take a good five minutes or more now. There is such a lot of building going on and another 450 houses! It is going to be gridlock for Popley, along with the extra pollution it brings. It has become a rat run on Popley Way. They say the people have their say on building homes and yes we need them in the town but, we do not have a voice. This council and government cut out what they want and plug their ears to the rest. We are turning into one massive estate that the police and services will not cope with. This is just my thought on the matter. I will fight for our wildlife and be damned. The sad part is they will still destroy the skyline as they have been doing over the last 15 years.



As this month is special, with Remembrance Day on the 11th I hope this poem can be included to remember what wars can do. *Take care from Her Indoors and the Old Codger*

## Peace for all

With bullets, bombs and mines

The sun and moon are for all of us to see  
This earth is ours, not for the few  
So why start wars, we just can't understand!  
For it's not only to be free.

So start teaching our children the words of peace  
Give them a world of love not war  
If we do just this then wars will end  
And all the killings will cease.

Brother fights brother  
Friends fights friends  
Nations fight nations  
Is it just greed and when will it end.

So remember this day that has been set  
Remember the young that never came home  
For us this day is for them.  
A day none of us should forget.

We are all the same  
Black or white  
We all talk to our gods  
But he would never tell us to fight

Our children are innocent  
It is us that corrupt their minds  
Then their fate is sealed  
Page 26



# **BERMUDA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

REGISTERED CHARITY No 1112068



40-44 BERMUDA CLOSE  
BASINGSTOKE HANTS  
RG24 9PE

TELEPHONE  
OFFICE: 01256 363156  
HALL: 01256 308442

Hello to the people of Popley. I would like to tell you about what is happening at the Community Centre.

We have Popley Explorers Pre-school Monday to Friday from 8.30am till 3pm.

They also do a healthy Breakfast Club, for full details ring Elaine on 363156.

We have lots of exciting clubs and groups meeting in the evenings. Monday night has keep fit and kick boxing from 6.30 until 8pm and kick boxing again on a Thursday night from 7 until 8.30pm.

Tuesday night is our BINGO NIGHT. Doors open at 7pm. Eyes down at 8pm. New members always welcome, come along and make new friends, refreshments also available, finishes round about 10 pm.

The hall is available for hire on a Wednesday evening, so if anyone would like to try something new and would like to hire the hall please get in touch with Janet Ward on 363156.

If you like to dance we have on a Thursday street dance and ballet classes for two and a half year olds up to adults 4.30 until 5.30pm For full details ring Samantha on 07811299484.

Come along and join the Friday Club (children) from 5 until 6.30pm. The hall is also available to hire for parties etc. at reasonable rates for more details ring Janet on 363156 .

The garden outside the hall is being turfed and slabs put down, and a bench has been put there. Plants have been put in the garden with the help of a grant from Cllr Jane Frankum and Hampshire County Council and the Street Team at Basingstoke and Deane, lots of help from Daniel O'Louchlin and the Scouts, and the Streez Kids group. The committee would like to thank everyone who took a part in helping. Thank you so much.

***ON 8TH NOVEMBER 2013 WE ARE HOLDING A CHRISTMAS FAMILY PRIZE BINGO AT POPLEY FIELDS HALL ON CARPENTERS DOWN DOORS OPEN AT 6PM EYES DOWN 7PM.***

***GREAT BINGO PRIZES BIG RAFFLE***

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***EVERYONE WELCOME COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN.***

## ***Dear readers***

I am writing this on the day that my teachers have a strike. My school is closed as is my brother's school, (my 2 sisters have had to go in though hee hee). We've been talking about the reasons why they are on strike and I understand a little bit that it's about their working conditions, pay and their pension. I don't agree with it as they are making all the children miss a day at school for no reason when the last strike didn't achieve anything.

By the time you read this it will be November and only a few days till my brother's birthday. Also it will be only be around another month and 25 days till Christmas. Has everyone made their Christmas lists? Imagine if you or your children/grandchildren woke up on Christmas morning and there was nothing. St Gabriel's church start collecting the Samaritans Purse Shoe Boxes scheme soon. I would just like to say please donate one or two because it makes a real difference. You don't have to spend lots of money just something to make a child smile. This year, money is tight for everyone but even not very expensive things to those children that have received the shoebox, will mean the world to them. Even if you went to the Pound Shop and bought a few little things from the list, it would create a gift for someone less fortunate. My family give 4 shoe boxes every year, one for each of us children, so that someone else can have the joy of Christmas morning just like we do. I and my family sponsor someone over in Armenia. She is called Mariam and because we have sponsored her she can now go to school. We gave her and her family warm things so she can keep warm in the winter and she has been able to get food and hot water. Our money that goes towards her has supported not only her but her family, enabling them all to get an education. She is older now and she has written many thank you letters to us. We send her Christmas cards and birthday cards. She is very intelligent and is getting on well at school. This just shows how much you can change a child's life from sponsoring them. It really isn't much but enough to help many children and families.

There have been some very unfortunate things that have happened in and around Popley lately. I am sorry for the people's family's losses. It is always sad when someone dies but for such young people to have passed away is heartbreaking. If any of you are as sad as I was about it, why not go and see Arthur at the church and talk to him, he is a great listener and I'm sure he will be able to help you.

See you next month when I'll have tales of dancing at Blackpool's Winter Gardens.

# Ellie

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