

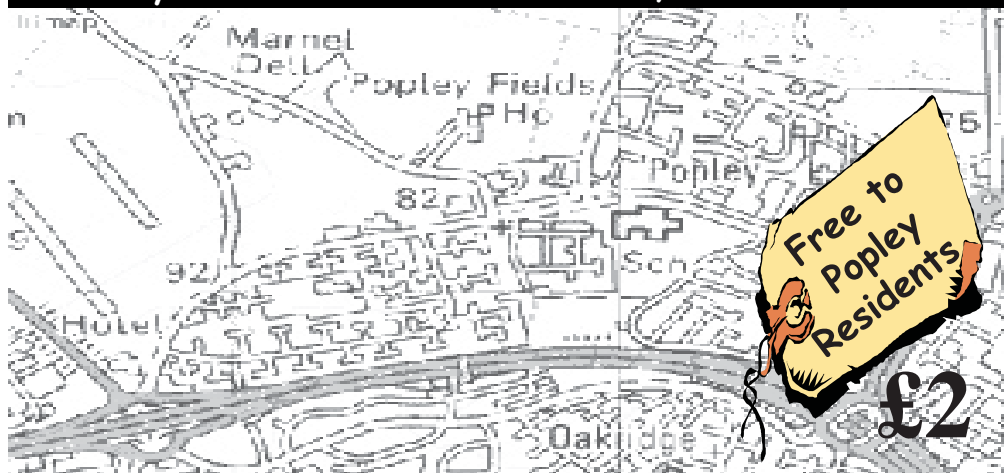
# POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVICING THE COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

July 2014

Distribution of 5,100

Issue 149



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-7-14) [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-**We had to use the services of a locksmith; how fortunate we had one advertising in the Popley Matters. Malcolm came quickly and sorted out the issue very satisfactorily. Our boiler needed a service so we again looked in Popley Matters. Chris from NCA came and did just about the best and most thorough service we have ever had done. It made me think again about the people who advertise with us, and if you the readers have come across great service or otherwise?

We have had some lovely warm, sunny weather and I hope we get some more over the holiday period. We all like to have our doors open and, if you're lucky, some time to enjoy relaxing in the garden. Please don't make it an open door for unwanted "guests". Also, if you have your TV or music on remember not everyone has the same tastes as you so please don't have them too loud. I don't mean to sound like an old nagger, but we all want to enjoy the days of summer we do get. I know Julie will be out enjoying doing her garden and many of you will be too. Just in case you know as much about gardening as I do, Julie has some summer tips on page 25. Our Old Codger, who loves history both long past and present, is reminiscing on page 26. Some suggestions of things to do can be found; on page 1 from The Discovery Centre; a plant and gift fair on page 20; and volunteering opportunities on pages 6 as a Health Champion, or charity cycle on page 5. Another way of enjoying the weather and helping could be as a volunteer Popley Matters deliverer.

Most of all, have a safe and happy summer break, enjoy some time with your families while you can. I know I take great comfort in our family memories since we lost our Ken three years ago this month.

If you want to contact Popley Matters you can write to Popley Matters, 405 Abbey Road, Basingstoke RG24 9EL or email [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)



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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Thank you for your support

# July at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre

To book a place visit Basingstoke Discovery Centre in Festival Place, or call 01256 478670. Advance booking is strongly recommended.

To find out more about Basingstoke Discovery Centre and Hampshire Libraries visit [www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc](http://www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc).

***Introduction to DSLR, Bridge and CSC Cameras. Saturday 12 July***, 10am, £35.

Ditch your instruction manual and learn to make your photos sing with a small group in this relaxing workshop.

***Everyday First Aid. Sunday 13 July***, 11.15am, £3. Suitable for ages 18+, this course is for anyone wanting a flexible and informal first aid session. This informal session will help you to help others suffering from: a heart attack, choking, unconsciousness, bleeding, burns, a stroke or a broken bone.

***Nick Ross: Crimewatch. Thursday 17 July***, 7pm, £5. Telephone: 01256 478670.

Nick Ross presented Crimewatch for over 20 years and became hugely knowledgeable on the subject of crime. Hear Nick talk about his career in journalism and how his sometimes controversial views set conventional thinking on its head.

***Nature Photography. Thursday 17 July***, 2pm, FREE. Keith Polwin will show photos of all sorts of nature subjects, including birds, insects, flowers, amphibians and mammals, mainly taken in the UK, with a few from abroad taken on photographic holidays.

***Book Binding Workshop. Saturday 19 July***, 10am, £30. Learn how to make three book forms the concertina book, the pamphlet book and the Japanese stab-stitch binding. These books make perfect gifts and work well as photo/keepsake albums and can also be a great way of binding together prints or drawings.

***The Gruffalo Storytelling Party. Thursday 24 July***, 10am and 11.15am, £2. Join children's entertainer and actress Charlie Sanderson for a super-interactive 45 minute storytelling party. They include singing, a giant parachute, bubbles and more! There is a charge for children but adults go free.

***Make a Mythical Maze Board Game. Friday 25 July***, 10am and 2pm, FREE. Learn to make your very own mythical board game including dice and counters, completely made from scratch using a variety of everyday materials and lots of imagination.

***Willow Basket Making. Saturday 26 July***, 10am, £40. Under the guidance of basket maker, Judith Needham, you will make a round basket with a flat base using the stake and strand technique. This might be a shallow fruit basket or a waste paper basket, the choice is yours.

***Hugless Douglas Storytelling Party. Thursday 31 July***, 10am and 11.15am, £2. Join children's entertainer and actress Charlie Sanderson for a super-interactive 45 minute storytelling party. They include singing, a giant parachute, bubbles and more! There is a charge for children but adults go free.

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**Councillors Page:** June was a very busy month with the application to build a wind farm that had an impact on three different areas in Hampshire. I am now back on the Development Control Committee (Planning) and I had to catch up with all the hundreds of pages of texts, maps and drawings with an amazing amount of technical details. As it was fairly near Popham Airfield there were objections from the pilots and club members. First the site visit on a mini bus around the miles of countryside. I got home at around five then on Monday the journey to Winchester again started at 8 o'clock where the three authorities met at the Guildhall. We listened to many objectors and supporters. Then the applicants and expert witnesses. All made compelling arguments and we had to weigh it up and come to a vote. Fourteen giant wind turbines in the countryside to generate electricity, cleaner than nuclear, safer than sending people down a coal mine, and new technology to help provide for our children and grandchildren? I came down on the side of the safer future for our generations. We lost the vote for the four in the Basingstoke and Deane area by seven votes to five. The two other authorities also rejected the plans for the others. *Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924*

**Popley West:** We have already had several complaints about parking on corners and right across pathways in Popley, it has become a regular feature. It becomes even more hazardous when the school summer holidays are on, as children are out playing in the lovely warm weather. Please be considerate of your neighbours and the residents and visitors that live or come to Popley.

With the warm weather and light nights, children and youths are out playing, and with the World Cup on lots of football. No one minds children having a great time and enjoying the sun, but it is really annoying to the residents that they choose to use their walls as goalposts. We are lucky to have several play areas that are ideal for field sports so please encourage them to use them. We have had meetings with council officers to improve our open spaces and play facilities and we will keep you posted on this issue.

**Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924**

**Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924**

**Popley East:** After some delay the bus shelter in Carpenters Down opposite Falkland Road has been built and is now in use. We believe a lot of residents will welcome this facility and we will continue to argue for additional shelters in other places especially where we have been petitioned by users.

Following determined arguments on behalf of the community, we believe we have been successful in making sure that an independent access for those with disabilities will be provided at Chineham House so that the community facility will be available to all. We hope that this phase of renewal for Chineham House will lead to a wider improvement of the surrounding area providing a range of facilities. All of this will be funded by developer contributions and money which Popley has qualified for because of the substantial housing development absorbed in the area over many years.

We know that the delays in the construction of the play area in Dryden/Browning/Wordsworth Close area has been very frustrating for residents and this has been due to a number of things. Some equipment needed to be repositioned but some delay has been due to the contractor and changes in the work schedule. The landscaping phase is underway and a commitment has been given for the play area to be usable in good time for the summer holidays.

**Cllr Viv Washbourne tel.07900890088.**

**Cllr David Potter tel.07941507801.**

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# St Michael's Hospice Big Wheel 22

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July starting from Down Grange Sports Complex, Basingstoke, RG22 5SN**

St Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) has opened registration for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Big Wheel event taking place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at 9am. Riders will spend a glorious summer's day riding through the beautiful countryside of North Hampshire to raise funds for North Hampshire's only adult Hospice. Four fully marshalled routes are available <5 miles, 18 miles, 31 miles and a truly challenging 63 miles / 100km (designed for regular cyclists or those undertaking training).

Last year saw over 1,500 taking part raising over £50,000! This year we are hoping to see a record 2,000 people take part with a fundraising target of over £60,000. Places are selling fast so make sure you register your place on the Hospice website [stmichaelsospice.org.uk](http://stmichaelsospice.org.uk).

The Hospice is also delighted to announce the return of 'Little Wheel 3', designed for children aged 2 - 7 unable to take part in the main event. Bring your trike, bike or scooter and don't forget your helmet! All children taking part will receive a medal upon reaching the finish line!

Big Wheel is a true family event and is great way to get fit or spend time together whilst raising money for North Hampshire's only adult Hospice. The Hospice provides specialist care and support to patients suffering from life limiting illnesses.

Chris Griffiths, Marketing and Events Manager; 'Big Wheel is our biggest Hospice-led fundraising event for 2014 and attracts both families and serious riders. We are blessed to have an incredible venue at Down Grange and stunning countryside for riders to cycle through. This year we hope to have our best ever year and see as many people taking part as possible. We rely on the support of the local community to make this event the success it is.'

At St Michael's Hospice we care for local people with life-limiting illnesses through our In-Patient Unit, Hospice at Home Service and growing range of Out-Patient services. Our new Well Being Centre provides a variety of medical support alongside educational and social activities. Additionally we continue to host a motor neurone disease clinic, prostate cancer survivorship programme, complementary therapy and family support. All our services are tailored to each patients needs to enable them to attain the best quality of life possible.

As a charity our care is provided to our patients and their families free of charge. In 2014/15 it will cost over £3 million to provide these services to the local community with just 22% funding from the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group. We therefore need to generate a net contribution of £2.4 million from our fundraising, Retail and Lottery activities to support patients and their families affected by life limiting illnesses.

To sign up and for more information please visit the Hospice website: [www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events](http://www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events) or call fundraising on 01256 848 848.

Follow us on Twitter @smhbasingstoke #BigWheel22

Like us on Facebook- **St Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)**





Basingstoke Rape and Sexual Abuse Crisis Centre is recruiting volunteers for their September Training Programme.

BRaSACC provides support and counselling for anyone over 16 who has suffered rape, sexual abuse or sexual assault. We also support parents or partners who have been affected.

The skills that you will learn on our training programme will be invaluable in everyday life! The course we offer is professional and includes outside speakers bringing a clear dimension to the service that we provide. It is challenging and will enable you to grow in confidence to work with people.

BRaSACC is a registered charity, and volunteers are the basis of the whole organisation as without their dedication, time and effort BRaSACC would not survive.

If you would like further information please contact the BRaSACC office on 01256 423810.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Popley Community Health Champions**

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**We are looking for volunteers to promote healthy eating, wellbeing and physical activity in the Popley community. In exchange for 16 hours a month, the champions will be fully trained and learn new skills.**

For more information contact Stephen Bate,  
Community Development Officer, on **07500 987638**  
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# Are You a Computer Whiz?

Age Concern Hampshire is appealing for volunteer tutors and coordinators to deliver basic computer skills training for people aged 50 and over in Basingstoke.

The charity's eight-week courses are tailored to individual needs and focus on demystifying technology, providing experience of computer applications that are becoming essential to everyday life. They include the use of laptop, desktop, iPad and tablet computers, as well as popular social applications such as Skype, email, online banking and internet shopping. Volunteers operate on a one-to-one basis with clients, giving them an hour's tuition per week at Chineham Library.

For more information, email: [clive.lubert@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:clive.lubert@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk) Tel: 0800 328 7154.

---

## South Ham library August Events

Children, come and sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge – read 6 books over the summer and collect stickers and a certificate and take part in our craft events.

Saturday 2nd August, Making Mystical Creatures  
10am to 12 noon, free admission

Wednesday 27th August Making Dream Catchers  
10am to 4pm, free Admission

Saturday 30th August Making Dream Catchers  
10am to 12 noon, free Admission.

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## Craft Fair at the Chineham Centre

“Come and find us” - the Chineham WI Womens Institute, are holding a Craft Fair at the Chineham Centre on 12th July between 11.00am and 3.00pm. Lots of goodies including jewellery, candles and other crafts. Do try our cakes too. Please come along and meet us and find out more about your local Women's Institute Group. Any enquiries call Gill Dixon (sec) on 01256 327140.

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# THE BEST ICE CREAM EVER

Today's ice creams are loaded with hydrogenated oils and preservatives and are pumped full of air. Here are two recipes that use just 3 ingredients and take no time at all to make. Read below to see why making these simple recipes are far healthier and less fattening.

600ml cream  
1 tsp vanilla essence  
1 can condensed milk

Beat the cream with an electric mixer until it begins to thicken. Add the vanilla and beat until a light whipped cream forms. Gradually add the condensed milk and keep beating until it thickens and becomes a nice cream. Pour into a container and put in the freezer until hard.

## **Here is another low cost and even lower calorie version...**

1 can of ideal milk  
1 can of condensed milk  
1 tsp vanilla essence (or inner pod)

Make sure the ideal milk is chilled by placing in the fridge overnight. Empty into a large bowl and whip with an electric mixer until light and fluffy. It should form peaks. Gradually add the condensed milk and the vanilla flavouring while mixing until well blended. Pour into a container and freeze until hard.

With both versions you can add any flavours...coffee, mango, macadamia nut, strawberry. Use your imagination...the possibilities are endless!

Most people would lose their appetites quickly if they knew what actually went into some of the thousands of tubs of ice cream that are sold, not to mention what is left out. It is promoted with dreamy, sensual images. Yet for all that, one thing is conspicuous by its absence from the ingredients: cream and in many cases, fresh milk.

Taking cream out of ice cream is actually quite normal. The whipped ice cream squirted out of a nozzle to make the cones which you buy from an ice cream van, used to contain pig fat or lard. Today, filling ice cream with commercial vegetable oils is the common practice.

The most common vegetable fats in ices come from coconuts, and the fruit of the oil palm tree. The oil is not only industrially cheap, it is also unhealthy. Used in margarines, lipstick and detergents, this yellow liquid is high in saturated fat.

Dairy ice cream is required to have a minimum of 2.5% of milk protein and an additional minimum 5% of dairy fat. That's all! The only good news is that in dairy ice cream vegetable fat is not allowed.

But this is not the case with anything labelled simply "ice cream". Here, the product is merely required to contain 2.5% milk protein and 5% of any kind of fat. This rarely comes from any fresh ingredient. Partially reconstituted skimmed milk is one source. Another is whey solids. Stabilisers are often derived from seaweed.

These vegetable fats and milk-based products are what the industry refers to as bulking agents or fillers. There is one more: thin air. Ice cream is sold by volume, not weight, so a way of making it go further is to whip as much air into the mixture as possible before freezing it into plastic tubs.

So go on...make your own.

**Allthings Human-UK**



**Headquarters:****Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE**

<b>Group Scout Leader:</b>	<b>Colin Karlake</b>	01256 410559
<b>Scout section:</b>	<b>Jean-Paul Keetch</b>	<b>07899 087 275</b>
<b>Cub Scout section:</b>	<b>Douglas Gowan</b>	01256 412326
<b>Beaver Scout section:</b>	<b>Eve Alexander</b>	07790 018 171

The Beaver Colony has been busy out-of-doors with the better weather. They followed a flour trail in Basing Woods and did their bit for the community by picking up litter left by those who apparently know nothing about respecting our beautiful woods and countryside. They also learnt about other countries and some useful phrases when visiting abroad. Hopefully some of them will have attended the District Beaver Scout Sleepover at JJ's at the end of June. Thoughts are now turning to the summer break as there are no meetings during August when leaders take a well-earned rest.

The Cub Pack has recently welcomed 6 new members who so far seem to be enjoying the fun activities that Cubs have to offer. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, James Ketchell was unable to make it to give his talk in May and this has since been rescheduled.

The Pack had a combined meeting with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Basingstoke Cubs at Base 2000 where they learnt about tracking signs. They then split into smaller groups to lay a short trail using tracking signs in the woods, which was then followed by one of the other groups. One evening was spent carrying out 'mini'-pioneering projects using marshmallows and spaghetti! They also went on a 'mystery walk' around the streets where the direction we took was based on the flip of a coin.



The Group offers congratulations to Beryl and Mike Mullender who won the 'Unsung Hero' section of Destination Basingstoke's Place to be Proud of Awards. They have been staunch supporters of Scouting in Basingstoke since the 1950s and were prime movers in raising £164,000 of funding to build Base 2000.



James Ketchell, a Scouting Ambassador for Hampshire, won the Sports Hero section in recognition of his cycling around the world, rowing across the Atlantic and climbing Mount Everest.

All sections are closed during the month of August apart from the Scout section's summer camp. Meetings restart from 2<sup>nd</sup> September as the young people return to school. New recruits welcome – contact the leaders listed above or <http://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts>.

The Group's Annual Meeting for Parents at which the Annual Report and accounts for 2013/4 will be presented will be held in the Group Headquarters, Base 2000 on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Base 2000 is available for use by any community group at special rates for both 'one-off' and regular bookings. Children's parties and family gatherings welcomed. 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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# **BDNWA Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter 20th June 2014**

## ***NEW AND UPDATED ISSUES.***

*New Information on our website.*

The following new articles have been added to the BDNWA website this week

Witness Appeals re Lychpit vehicle crimes and another re wanted persons

HINWA Bulletins 12 & 13 from Margaret Filley in NW Winchester

*Northern Area Country Watch update.*

Coordinator's Day Event 20th September at Queen Mary's College

Speedwatch support from the PCC, and Crime Reports migration to Neighbourhood Alerts, both in Police Community Announcements

## ***Coordinator Contact details***

All coordinator data is stored by BDNWA as per the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 and any later revisions. Email is our method of distributing regular information to you and therefore it is vital that you inform us of any change to the data which we have recorded for you. Also let us know of any changes in Coordinator.

## ***Currently known new and ongoing scams to be aware of***

(a) Bogus NHS letters re fake doctor appointments.

(b) Currently seen in the South Ham area. Suspect 'charity' callers – Police aware.

(c) Watch your credit cards closely at all times. See website article in 'Latest News' drop down menu.

(d) Bogus 'Margaret Green Animal Sanctuary, Wareham Dorset' collection bags. There is no authorised collection currently in our area, so please do not donate clothing etc. Chineham was the latest area hit. Always phone any charity if you are unsure about validity.

(e) Bogus water company callers – see article on our website on this and other callers.

(f) A phone call or card supposedly from Amazon, or similar "We could not deliver xxxx, Tracking number yyyy (false) – PLEASE LEAVE A WINDOW OPEN so we can redeliver". Never ever leave your home open to access by these criminals, even if you are out in the back garden.

(g) An email or phone call from someone impersonating a police officer/London CID. They say they have arrested someone with your credit card on their person then come up with various plans to deviously obtain your personal details, obviously intent to rob you.

(h) You may see an email supposedly from the medical group NICE. "Your blood test showed a low white blood cell count and you may have cancer, so click on this link" doing so will download a 'Trojan' to your PC. Please just delete any of these emails as they are fakes.

(i) You get something delivered that you were not expecting. You then get a phone call from the deliverer saying it was a mistake and they will call to collect. Usually they have cloned someone's credit card and used your address. Report it to Action Fraud. Only return the item to a bona-fide person from the original supplier.

Please try to not get caught out by these and many other scams. We can't name them all, but if they are unexpected, sound strange or too good to be true, then ignore them. You should also consider reporting such scams on the [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) website. If you feel vulnerable, then you may wish to consider the "Nominated Neighbour Scheme" which you can find at this website [http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/advice-and-information/crime-prevention/nominated\\_neighbour](http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/advice-and-information/crime-prevention/nominated_neighbour).

### ***Other useful, valid information plus BDNWA specific notes***

Information published in previous newsletters under all headings still applies. Unfortunately some crime never goes away. Please try to keep yourself and your neighbours safe.

### ***Provision of NW Items and Future Local Funding***

As you will know by now, sadly there is no government funding for NW, and finance has to be sought for every NW item. This has meant a rationalisation of what NW should really supply as against what we may have had available for free in the past. We know that some schemes/areas have arrangements to fund NW items, but many do not, so you might like to consider setting up some sort of local fund raising events or modest local voluntary subscriptions/donations etc. BDNWA always seeks to get best value for money and quantity discounts, when ordering any NW items.

### ***NW signage***

Poorly maintained signs tell the criminal fraternity that NW may not be active in your area.

If you've recently had a new sign or overlay, please display it asap.

New schemes get two free signs on initial set-up. All others including overlays, are now chargeable.

### ***NW Website Specifics***

PC users should read the Kaspersky article especially as they now top the polls for best PC security product. See also our member discount offer. We are also working to streamline the website and would welcome your suggestions of what you do/do not like or would like to see on the site.

We have our new localised NW Booklet for free download from the website.

We now remove inactive users registered on our site. There are still some with made up names in the real 'Name' field. For Data Protection purposes we will be keeping a much closer check on who registers on the site and we will remove anyone not correctly providing their proper details. Mandatory info required on registration may increase in the future.

### ***Hampshire police website***

Lots of local police information and advice is available on the Hampshire Constabulary website at [www.hampshire.police.uk/internet](http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet). There is also a Lost & Found section where you can report anything in these categories, as 101 is unable to deal with them. All crimes even events which you may consider unimportant, such as ASB should be reported to 101 or 999 as appropriate. Remember also that you can use the 101 phone number to contact your local officers.

### ***Current and future closer NW/Police interaction.***

Many and varied policing changes coming are in the future and policing as we know it will change. It is therefore extremely essential that Neighbourhood Watch maintains very close links with the police. I will update on progress as and when the new force structure, roles and methodology pans out. Currently we expect more details by early October this year.

### ***More AREA (District) Coordinators and New NW schemes still required***

We still have many beat areas where we have street coordinators but no registered Area Coordinator (AC), so it may be that these areas are not having local meetings and may be missing out on vital communication and information sharing. Talk to your local PCSO and, if you missed the AGM, please lookout for the NW event at Queen Mary College in September this year.

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# Sentinel



## Rachel Takes a STEP Towards Teaching

Our Support Towards Employment Programme (STEP) has recently celebrated its first birthday. During the first year we worked with 69 people. 15 of those found a job, two are in training to become hairdressers and one joined us as a housing apprentice.

One of the people we helped find work was Rachel Pepall. Here's her story...

'I studied Psychology at Southampton Solent University. When I was at university we were told how many different fields our degree would enable us to work in but when I'd finished, it was a different story. Jobs were hard to find, and while I had a part-time job in a local supermarket, I wanted a full-time job in an area relating to my degree.

STEP helped me to update my CV as I hadn't done it since school. I learned about the things employers look for and having professional help really boosted my confidence.

I decided to look for a job in education but a lot of places wouldn't consider me if I didn't have previous experience. Then our tutor told me about a job, at a local secondary school, for a Teaching Assistant. I applied for it and got an interview. Our tutor helped me get ready by asking me questions I might be asked on the day. This meant I could practice my answers in advance, so I felt confident when I arrived. The Head Teacher said my CV told them everything they needed to know. She even said it was one of the best she'd seen!

I'm proud to say I got the job and I started in February. I'm working with kids on a one-to-one basis and helping small groups. In the future I'd like to do teacher training to further my career.

STEP really helped me find a job that was right for me. I learnt many valuable skills and would encourage anyone struggling to find work to come along and give it a go.'

If STEP could help you back into work or training give us a call on 0800 195 5515, or 0300 666 5515 from a mobile. Or go to [www.sentinelha.org.uk/step](http://www.sentinelha.org.uk/step).

## **Electric Taxis Don't Belong to the Future – They're Already Here**

Anyone who once scoffed at the idea we'd be driving around in electric vehicles needs to think again. Because with fossil fuels running out, the cost of fuel rocketing, and the well-documented environmental risks of carbon emissions, both national and local government are taking the idea of electric vehicles very seriously.

And the private hire business is also affected by this tide of interest. Recently, Basingstoke & Deane Council became the first in Hampshire to back the introduction of an electric taxi service and has successfully bid for a rapid electric charger to be installed. Other councils are following suit.

All this is very worthy, but what's the incentive for cab drivers to ditch their perfectly good petrol or diesel motors for electric cabs? What use are electric cars on the more lucrative airport-style runs, which taxi drivers prefer to the gas-guzzling shorter journeys? And don't they just run out of charge and leave you stranded?

At Evergreen Consulting, we can dispel myths like these and are currently working closely with organisations looking to invest in electric vehicles.

So, for starters, here's one good reason for an electric taxi: it saves money. With modern electric vehicles you can reduce operating costs by up to 90 per cent, which translates into increasing profits by around £100 per week, per driver – that's £5,000 per year. This saving on fuel means that the short fares are no longer uneconomic, and drivers won't need to rely on airport runs to make a profit. Add to this the fact that servicing is cheaper, there's zero road tax, you get 100 per cent capital allowance on the first year, and the Nissan Leaf purchase price isn't that much more than a Nissan Note. In fact, the electric taxi is perfect for a city environment.

But what about charging the cars? With access to a local rapid charger it's possible to achieve 160 miles per day, with two, half-hour rapid charges. There is a movement, as evidenced by Basingstoke & Deane Council, to install chargers and we'd urge cab drivers to put pressure on their own local authorities to do the same. Some £32m of Government funding is available for the installation of rapid chargers, but only to local authorities which have signed up.

Currently, there are at least four taxi companies in England running the electric Nissan Leaf as part or all of their fleet. What's their experience been?

Very positive, according to Cornwall-based C&C Taxis, which invested in its first Nissan Leaf a year ago and now has five. The company has cut more than £40,000 from its annual fuel bill and has attracted new businesses, particularly from bigger hotels in the area, whose guests often opt for an electric vehicle.

Owner Michelle Williams said: "When we took our first Leaf a year ago we could never have imagined how successful it would have been. The fact we now have five and have hit the 150,000-mile mark says it all. Investing in the Leaf has probably been the best decision we've ever made as a company."

If all this doesn't convince you, then bear this in mind. By investing in electric cabs ahead of your competitors, you'll bag some nice publicity as the first to forge ahead in your area. In the eyes of the public, it's good to be green.

Evergreen Consulting helps businesses and individuals select the best electric vehicle options for their needs. For more information contact Robert Sharpe of Evergreen Consulting on 08432 890641, email [info@evergreen-consulting.co.uk](mailto:info@evergreen-consulting.co.uk) or visit [www.evergreen-consulting.co.uk](http://www.evergreen-consulting.co.uk).

**Try Something New This Summer - & Learn to Dance!**

**\*New\* 4 Week Beginner Courses Commencing Monday 28th July**

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**WEDDING DANCE LESSONS**

Book Lessons to learn that important first dance (Call or email to enquire)

**INDIVIDUAL LESSONS**

Why not book some individual dancing lessons for you and your partner and move at a pace that suits you. (Phone or Email for availability)

**DANCE LESSON VOUCHERS**

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**All classes are 'pay as you go'**

For any further information please Phone or Email for Details

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2:00pm - 4:00pm  
£3.00 per week / per person  
Includes Tea & Biscuits

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Sunday Tea Dance 17 August**

Ballroom, Latin & Popular Sequence 2:00pm - 5:00pm Tickets £6.00 per person  
(To be purchased in advance) Includes: Cream Tea (Scone, Jam & Cream) & Dancing Demonstration

**Please Phone or Email to Book your place on any of the above Courses**

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# Commission as Part of Holiday Pay

*By Gill Brown of Phillips Solicitors*

Are you in a job where you receive commission calculated on the basis of how many sales you make? If so, can you still generate commission whilst on holiday?

A recent decision by the European Courts has ruled that a worker must receive his average commission whilst on holiday, even if it is not possible for the worker to generate sales whilst on leave, as not to do so may encourage workers not to take holiday.

The case involved a salesman, whose salary comprised of two main elements; a basic salary and commission, which was paid monthly. The commission was based on the number of sales he made, and therefore was unable to make any commission whilst on holiday, as he could not make any sales. After taking two weeks off, and not receiving any commission for this period, the salesman brought a claim to the Employment tribunal for unlawful deduction from his wages.

The matter was referred to the European Courts who ruled that the salesman should have been paid his normal pay whilst on holiday, as otherwise the salesman may have been deterred from taking holiday. In this particular case, the salesman's commission contributed to around 60% of his earning potential.

In deciding how much a worker should be paid whilst on holiday the European Courts ruled that it would be for courts and tribunals to assess an average over a reference period as to how much each worker should be paid.

This case reaffirmed a principle established by the Courts in recent years that workers must receive their normal pay whilst on holiday, and this should not just be limited to basic salary.

If you are not receiving commission whilst on holiday and think you may have suffered an unlawful deduction of wages, why not call one of our qualified employment lawyers for advice?

We offer fixed fee initial consultation meetings where you can discuss your work issues in a supportive environment and receive the advice you need to help you protect your rights and resolve any work related issues.

Karen Bristow and Gill Brown are lawyers specialising in employment law at Phillips Solicitors in Basingstoke. For more information please call Karen or Gill on **01256 854605** or email at: **gbrown@phillips-law.co.uk** and visit our website at **www.phillips-law.co.uk**.





The Committee is delighted to announce that MFC Popley Youth has secured a deal to be sponsored in the 2014/15 season by BGS Plumbing and Heating. Naturally, we are all very grateful to our new sponsor for the support and proud that we, as a Club, are now in a position to secure a deal of this nature.

We held our annual presentation evening at Everest on Friday 13 June and celebrated a very successful season for the club, on and off the field.

As well as individual awards for the boys in each age group, including Top Goal Scorer, Most Improved Player of the Year, Parents Player of the Year, Players Player of the Year and Managers Player of the Year, our top 2 club awards were as follows -

*The Club Team of the Year Award - Under 12s coached by Glenn Taylor.*

*The Club Player of the Year Award was presented to Daniel Ballard of our Under 9s coached by Andrew Williams and Dave Gambrell.*

MFC popley Youth are looking for new players, including a goalkeeper, for it's Under 15s in the new season (2014/15). For further details please contact the U15s coach, Paul O'Shea, on 07909 876294.

Are you, or do you know someone, interested in coaching youth football?

If so, we are looking to recruit new volunteer coaches into MFC Popley Youth. Experience is not necessarily required, as full training will be arranged by the club, but a passion for football and teaching children how to play the game at grassroots level is a must.

Please contact the club by email at [volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk) or contact Ian Davies, on 07884 185693 for more details.

We are always looking to get more parents involved actively with MFC Popley Youth, especially with the formation of our new Social Fundraising Committee and on match days with refereeing (in particular our under 7s) and the set up of the pitches and Respect lines. So if you are interested in helping out please make yourself known to either the Club Chairman Ian Davies, our Director of Football Warwick Sear-Jarvis or to the Manager of your particular age group.

Do you know a Year R or Year 1 child, boy or girl, who wants to get into football? If so, the Club is now recruiting for 'All Stars Players'. If you would like your child to join, or if you have any further questions, please contact the All Stars manager John Hewson by phone: 07927 640198 or by email: [allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

Contact the club - Main website: [www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](http://www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

Club Chairman & Secretary: Ian Davies Mob: 07884 185693 Email: <a href="mailto:ian.davies.2010@live.co.uk">ian.davies.2010@live.co.uk</a>	Vice Chairman & Treasurer: Glenn Taylor Mob: 07775 870929 Email: <a href="mailto:g.taylor29@hotmail.co.uk">g.taylor29@hotmail.co.uk</a>	Club Welfare Officer & Minutes Secretary: Nicci Gambrell Mob: 07990 520956 Email: <a href="mailto:mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk">mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk</a>
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Volunteer enquiries: [volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

Allstars Recruitment: [Allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:Allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

You can also get regular updates from the club by following our twitter account, @MFC\_PopleyYouth. Also, each MFC Popley Youth age group has a dedicated page on Facebook.

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HALL: 01256 308442

Bermuda Community Centre. Monday to Friday we have Popley Explorers pre school from 8.30am until 3pm.

There is a breakfast club - for details ring Elaine on 01256 363156 Monday night is kick boxing from 6.30 pm until 8pm. Tuesday night in bingo night, doors open at 7pm eyes down at 8 pm. New members welcome. Refreshments available. Finishes around 10pm. Wednesday is Dance to the Beat 5.30pm until 6.30pm. For details ring Miss Lackey on 01256 321160. Also kick boxing is on from 7.30pm until 8.30pm. Thursday - if you like to dance, we have street dance and ballet classes for two and a half to adult from 4.30pm until 5.30pm. For full details ring Samantha on 07811299484. On Friday night is Friday club, 5pm until 6.30pm.

The hall is also available for parties at reasonable rates

For details ring Janet on 01256 363156.

Our next family prize bingo is on Friday 18th July at Popley Fields on Carpenters Down.

Doors open at 6pm eyes down at 7pm. All welcome, bring your friends along.

Great bingo and raffle prizes. Refreshments available at half time.

We held a prize bingo last Saturday for our members we raised £500 for Basingstoke hospice.

The committee would like to thank all our members for helping us to do this.

*Sorry to end on a sad note but one of our members Betty, who was a committee member for a long time, has sadly passed away. She will be sadly missed by everyone.*

*R I P lovely lady.xx*

# Gardening in Popley

Summer is approaching fast. We have already had an extended spell of hot dry weather which nicely killed off small lupin plants I had in trays outside all winter. Bedding plants are ready for planting out now, and hanging baskets can be planted up and put outside without risk of frost. If you haven't grown seed for tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers etc keep your eyes open at car boot sales and fetes for plants. It will be too late to sow them from seed now. Don't forget you can plant them in large pots or grow-bags. Small cherry tomatoes will often do well on a windowsill if there is enough light.

The grass must have grown about a foot in the last couple of weeks. I was a bit slow in dragging the strimmer out of the shed, and ended up spending a back-breaking half hour on grass that had been flattened. You can probably get away with strimming the edges once a month now over the summer. Keep your mower on the longest setting for another month to keep the soil moist, and don't worry too much about raking up the grass cuttings unless there is a lot of it. Leaving it encourages worms which improve the quality of the soil and retain moisture helping the grass stay lush. Look out for products in the shops to feed your lawn and help it stay healthy. Wild flower seeds and annuals that can be sown straight on the ground should be planted now. Just scatter the seed on fine soil and give it a gentle rake over. Mix the types of flowers you sow or buy a pack of ready mixed seed. The 'wild' random look reminds me of the old cottage gardens when I was a youngster. Different types of flowers encourage different species of insects to visit your garden, and with the insects you will find more birds visiting too.

I have a big problem with greenfly on my roses already. If you don't like to use chemical sprays on them, try diluted washing-up liquid. It works just as well, but you will have to repeat spray a couple of times a week to control them. If you find little clusters of bubbles on your plants, that is also a sign of aphids. Inside the foam lives a little green insect that is merrily sucking the sap from the plant. You can also reduce the amount of insect pests in your garden by planting certain flowers. Your garden centre should be able to advise you on which ones to use.

A few years ago, I did an experiment with watering my plants. I divided everything in the greenhouse into 2 lots. One side I watered with tap water, the other with rain water saved from the guttering. I was really surprised at the difference it made where I used rain water. The plants were bigger and healthier. I was lucky at the time as there was a broken section of guttering at the back of a garage that was in my garden. I made full use of all the water that drained off the roof, saving it in a large plastic bin. I don't have that luxury anymore, so I am looking into buying a special device that fits into a down-pipe fed from the house guttering. It diverts the water straight into a water butt until I need to use it. I also make use of water gel crystals in my planters and baskets to try and save water there. They dry out very quickly in hot weather and it can be difficult to get the compost wet again if it gets too dry. The gel crystals help retain water in the compost and the plants tend to last much longer. If you have large planters, you can also use old newspaper or ordinary wallpaper in the bottom of them. Soak it well, and put a layer of compost in the bottom of the planter, then the wet paper. It will encourage the plant roots to go down and stop them drying out and dying off between watering.

If you plan to go away for more than a couple of days this summer, remember to ask a neighbour or friend to water your pots for you! *Julie*

# War Has Started All Over Europe

## 28th July 1914



We in the United Kingdom did not react as soon as we should have. Mind you we never seem to do this! In the south by August the momentum had started to pick up. Can you imagine back then the logistical tasks that were needed to react? All along the south coast, transport and men were arriving from all over the country. Food had to be requisitioned to feed them and many local farms in the south were willing to help. However, many also refused but the food was needed and so they had to comply. Farms had to give up their horses for the war effort - it ended up a bit catch 22, as horses were also needed on the farms. As war gathered momentum so did the need for food production. Many farms got together in order to help gather and plant crops. You have to give it to the men and women of our nation - when our backs are against the wall we unite as one, and give help where needed. This you can still see today, all the fundraising done shows this. Millions of pounds are donated to help the sick, poor and needy.

I am one of the needy - the reason is Her Indoors. Her philosophy is, what is hers is hers, and what mine is, she says, is also hers! You just can't win! I wonder how many of you men feel the same? She will walk into a shop to buy something but will she look at the price? Not on your life. I could buy the same thing she has paid for at a third cheaper. Can I say anything? No way. I just mumble under my breath.

On another subject, the innocence of children - the conversation went like this: "Gramps we are learning about the Titanic and I have been watching a film. Were you on it?"

Fool I am I say "Yes," He said "Are you the man with the beard?"

So it goes on, then he hits me with it, "When I come down on Thursday, will you help me?" "Yes I say." Boy, am I a push over, with one hand that shakes like mad trying to cut out ply to make a ship. Two weeks later with his help, or should I say glue every place but where I tell him to glue, it is done. Over sixty hours of work by Gramps to build the ship, every time I picked up the scalpel to cut things out Her Indoors went into the other room. But I still have all my fingers. I now wait until I hear "Gramps can you make..."!!!



**Till next month, the Old Codger**



Merton Poppits Playgroup

c/o Merton Infants School, Romsey Close,  
Popley, Basingstoke, Hants. RG24 9HB

Rated "GOOD" by OFSTED

**We believe children are ready to learn through play when they are supported, happy and stimulated by a dedicated key person.**

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for all children 2 years 9 months +  
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**We accept 2 year old funding, all 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours free. We accept childcare tax credit, and nursery vouchers**

A word from the experts,

A parent said "(The playgroup does well at) *meeting my child's needs and fully understands my child's own personality plus helps with issues as and when.*"  
(Questionnaire, June 2014)

OFSTED said that "*Children take part in a wide range of challenging activities supported by skilled staff and stimulating resources.*" (Sept, 2013)

Contact Carey West on 07935267232

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

**Come along to have a look around, we are attached to Merton Infants School. Come anytime between 9am-11.30am or make an appointment.**



**Dear readers,**

Well what can I say about the World Cup? As I'm writing this we have been knocked out after losing both group matches. They both ended with the same score of 2-1 to the opposition. England's fate was in the hands of the Italians which is not the best situation to be in. By the time you read this, the winners may well be known but it won't be us or the Spanish!

As it approaches July and the school year end comes closer, I thought I would write a little review of what has happened in my first year at secondary school. I have gone through the whole year without getting a single detention (I think I'd have been in more trouble at home if I had), I'm in the top 10 for my year group in the House Points Comp (the top ten from each year get a treat of going to Thorpe Park for the day, so fingers crossed I get to go. I've learnt so many things from making cheese straws to a door plaque in DT.

This time last year I was very worried and nervous. I was going to go to a school with none of my friends. Now I have made lots of new friends and have a close group of friends and I have settled in really well.

If I could do Year 7 all over again, I would make sure I do all my homework over the weekend and not leave it to the night before so it's not rushed or too late to ask for help. I'd also try and be more organised as I'm forever misplacing my locker keys and sometimes forgetting my books. I've tried to keep my desk clear so I can pile my books up there so I know where they are.

If I could say anything to Year 6s it would be that it isn't as scary as you think it's going to be. Go to lots of after school clubs and join lots of groups and you'll make lots of friends. One of the groups I've joined is the steel pans. My school recently held auditions for their music festival. I did two auditions, 1 with my steel pans and 1 as a solo singer.

I didn't get through as a soloist but we did with the steel pans :-). There are 10 acts in the final with the winners getting £30, 2nd place £20 and 3rd place £10. As there are 8 of us in the band, we lucked out a bit there!!

We are doing a medley of our best entertaining and crowd pleasing songs. We already have the medley sorted plus we are learning a brand new song from scratch. We play songs from 'Billie Jean' and 'Happy' to 'Livin on a Prayer'. I think it's because of the hard work, determination and effort that we all made it to the finals. We are having to do extra rehearsals at the moment on top of the two sessions we already do.

**Until next month (I'll tell you how we got on)**

# Ellie

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*Thank you,  
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information or to arrange a visit

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