

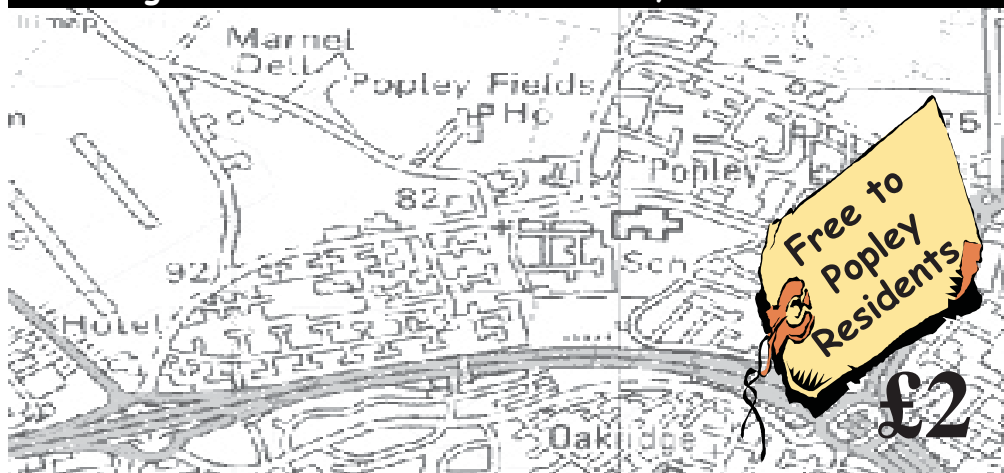
# POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVICING THE COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

August 2014

Distribution of 5,100

Issue 150



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-8-14) [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-**The last three years have gone so fast and it seems strange that my husband Ken has really gone. I remember his last days at St Michael’s Hospice and how he wanted to make sure Popley Matters would be done and out on time. Not till I promised him that it was ready and now at the printers did he let go. “Look after Popley”, he said to us, and I hope he is looking down from heaven and proud that as a family we have tried our very best. The Reverend Arthur Botham has started a bereavement café where you can go and talk about bereavement. It comes in many forms from the loss of a loved one or pet to the loss of a job, on page 12.

It may seem a little early to talk about next year’s Popley Festival but all the work and planning for this major event in Popley takes huge amounts of time and commitment. The committee want your comments and ideas on how to improve the festival even more, on page 1.

Popley Matters is getting to travel to different countries; we have families in Canada, Australia and now Belarus that are sent a copy or read it online, see page 5.

We have restarted the Letters Page so if you want to write to Popley Matters now is your opportunity, on page 6. Your comments are also asked for in a consultation on polling stations and what you think could be improved. I find more and more people choose to cast their votes by post. It does seem to be an easier way of voting so read about the consultation on page 20.

The Old Codger reminisces on page 26 about the First World War, on page 26, and it reminds me of the photo I have of my Granddad who was in France in WW1. He suffered a breakdown twenty years later; it must have been so dreadful and scary.

We still need more volunteers for Popley Matters and have vacancies all over the Popley area. Contact details as below.

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



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

# POPLEY FESTIVAL

On a sunny Sunday in May we welcomed 8,000 people to the Popley Festival and firstly we'd like to say a massive thank you to everyone who made it possible: the organising committee, Radian housing, Tesco, the stall holders, the groups displaying and last but not least, all those who came along on the day.

The organising committee has already started planning for 2015 but we need some help from the most important people in Popley – the residents. Have you got any comments on the 2014 event? Have you got ideas about what we can do for 2015? Do you have something that maybe of interest to show or do on the day? Would you like to get involved with the organisation of the event? Please e-mail, [contact@popleyfestival.org.uk](mailto:contact@popleyfestival.org.uk)

We have a small but dedicated team of volunteers and in 2014 managed to arrange the event in 8 weeks. Hopefully with more time and your help we can make the 2015 Popley Festival a huge success.

Many thanks,

Phil Mean (Secretary PFCA)



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**Councillors Page:** There has been a further grant to help to pay for pothole repairs and you may have noticed that Popley has had some work done. There is still a way to go but it is a start.

I was a judge for a talent competition at Merton Junior School on 25th June. I had a great time and was so impressed by the talent; there were even songs written and performed by the students themselves. They were all so good it was hard to pick three winners so a Highly Recommended for two more were given. I think everyone who performed deserved a prize. Thank you for a wonderful time. It also brought back so many memories of when my two sons went to the school and the eight years that I was a School Governor in the late nineties, and early 2000s.

I would also like to congratulate all the students who graduated this year and wish them success for the future. When the new school year starts there will be lots of new faces including a new Headteacher at Everest. The building of the expansion of Merton Schools has started. I have asked for contact numbers from the builders and will put them in next month's issue. *Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924*

---

**Popley West:** As a result of the consultation by The Post Office the Abbey Road Post Office will be updated and you will see a new look and more hours of service opening at 6am till 6pm Monday and Thursday, 6am to 7.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Fridays 7am to 7.30 on Saturday and 7am to 2pm on Sundays.

The Highways Officer has visited Marnel Park and remarked that the parking problem is really bad. He will come back with a scheme and there will be public consultation where you will have the opportunity to make your comments. As soon as we get any more news or dates we will let you know. It will be their responsibility to inform by letters or leaflets, but we will keep you informed also in Popley Matters.

There does seem to be a fair amount of fly tipping again and some hedges and landscaping that needs attention. We will be reporting the areas that need attention to the right officers.

**Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924**

**Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924**

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**Popley East:** The deadline for applications for the 3rd round of Local Infrastructure funding is 26th September. The Local Infrastructure Fund is primarily targeted for one-off capital projects to improve or enhance the buildings or the natural environment. Projects should make a significant, long lasting impact on local communities who have been affected by development. Community associations, local community groups, voluntary groups, and public sector organizations can apply for the funding. For more information contact Jane Rawlins-Mateus [lif@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:lif@basingstoke.gov.uk).

With luck by the time you are reading this, the Dryden Close Play area will be open in time for the summer holidays. With a new fenced toddler play area, a general play area for older children and informal green spaces for picnicking. Fingers crossed for good weather in the 6 week holiday.

**Cllr Viv Washbourne tel.07900890088.**

**Cllr David Potter tel.07941507801.**

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# Popley Matters Circulation Expands!

One of the students, of English, whom I keep in contact with, is now a fan of Popley Matters!

I first met Alina, at the Linguistic University, last October when she was a first year student. At the start of the lesson she was very shy and hesitant but, as the lesson progressed, she became increasingly confident. At the end of the lesson she thanked me as she felt much more self-confident.

After my spring visit to Minsk, during which I saw Alina many times, I mentioned in an email that I been out delivering Popley Matters. As Alina is always interested in the English way of life she wanted to know all about Popley Matters. I told her that if she was a good girl and did all her homework, I'd send her a copy!

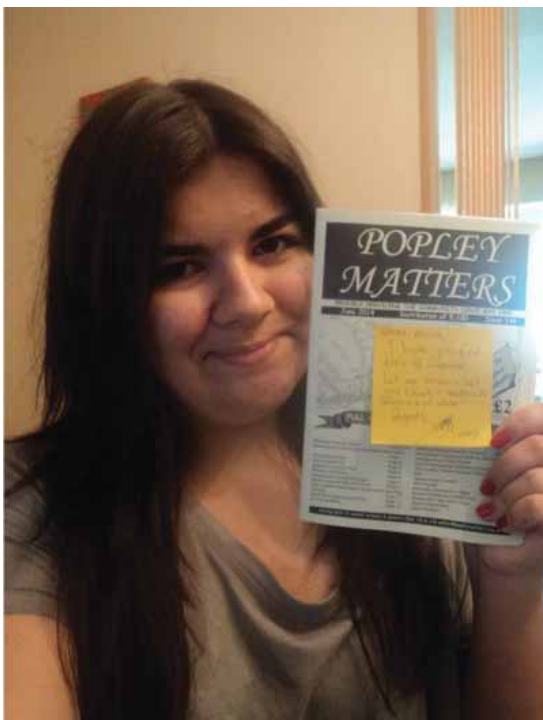
Here's an excerpt (with her permission) from her email she sent on receiving the Popley Matters:

Hello Terry,

Well, I've just received your local magazine and guess what? I loved it (which is clear from photo which I attached to the letter)!!! It's just so amazing and so kind of homelike) I was absolutely happy to see your article here, that I even translated it for my parents! I liked the magazine and moreover it'll be a great opportunity for me to improve my English a little bit!

Alina is now officially a second year student having passed her last exam and is still studying English, although she intends to study Spanish in the near future. Most of the students I meet speak at least three other languages!

Alina has been learning English for fourteen years now as they begin learning at 'kindergarten'. She holds her teachers, at the Linguistic University, in very high regard. She's adamant that our exchange of emails helps her with her English; I'm not so sure! *Terry Jones, 2014.*





# Letters to the Editor.



**Dear Editor:** Although I am delighted to be moving to the Isle of Wight, not just to go paddling in the sea but I will be with some of my precious family, I am sad to be leaving Popley and my lovely friends and very good neighbours. My late husband Jim and I were happy here. I want to thank them all and say I will really miss you. I will miss the good Scrabble sessions, Sunday morning coffees with earnest sessions on how to put the world right! I will also miss my line dancing a great “time out” pleasure with more good friends. Thank you to David and my special hairdresser who I must not forget. I also want to give a very big and special thank you to Jane and Paul for all their help and always being there for me with advice and offers of help.

Popley is a great place to live with special people. I will say bye for now and you never know I may get to come back and visit now and then.

*Editor’s Reply: Thank you Sheila we looked forward to our chats each month when you came to pick up your Matters to deliver. We hope you have a great time with your family near you now, and maybe you will come back and visit us or maybe we might even get the chance to visit you soon.*

**Dear Editor:** In response to your ‘Message from the Editor’, July 2014 edition, I have contacted two tradesmen though their adverts in the Popley Matters.

Paul, of PKG Plumbing, fitted a new bathroom just over 2 years ago. As Paul is just across the road from me he was able to start early and completed the job in record time! I would recommend Paul for any plumbing jobs!

Next, once the bathroom was finished, the floor covering was in dire need of replacing.

Through Popley Matters I contacted Phil Della-Savina who came round and covered the old floor tiles with ply wood and a vinyl covering of my choice. Again, a prompt, efficient, reasonably priced service.

Both Paul and Phil should, I think, be contacted if you need their services, as they both live locally and offer excellent value and competency.

Regards, Terry.

*Editor’s Reply: Thank you Terry for writing and telling us about your experience with two of our advertisers It is always good to know when you can rely on their services. Anyone else like to write to us?*

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

Please send your letters to:  
**The Editor, Popley Matters,  
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Thank you to everyone who came to our Summer fayre. It was great to see so many local faces, and what a talent our local children have! Well done to all who entered the kids talent show; the competition was stiff and it was very hard to chose the winners.

We will be holding our annual AGM on Monday 15th September at 7.00pm. So if you are interested in becoming part of our committee or have a few hours a month to spare to help in the garden or with our groups do come along and find out more.

### **Whats on in August:**

MONDAY:	10.00am-12.00pm	Popley NCT Bumps and Babies – NEW!!!
		AFTERNOON AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	5.30-6.45pm	NHS Quit Smoking
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	9.30-11.00am	Popley Little People (closed for summer, back in Sept)
	4.00-6.00pm	BVS Youth hub 11-13years
	6.30-8.00pm	BVS Youth Hub 13+
		AFTERNOON AND EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
WEDNESDAY:	9.30am	Slimming World
	12-2pm	Oasis Lunch Club
	5.30 and 7.30pm	Slimming World
THURSDAY:		AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
FRIDAY:		DAYTIME HIRE AVAILABLE
	6.30-7.45pm	MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
	8.00- 9.15pm	age 11 plus.
SATURDAY:	9.00am-4.00pm	7th Day Adventist Church
	10am	Sabath School – Bible Study
	11.30am	Divine Worship
	1pm	Free Community Lunch
		Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 for further details
		EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
SUNDAY:		Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.

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Dear Friends

It's good to be back! After three and half months away on Study Leave, it is good to be back in Popley and at St Gabriel's. Not surprisingly the church has survived and dare I say flourished while we've been away. The family all survived without us, not surprisingly! It just goes to show there is no indispensable man! So what is it like coming back after a long period away? And did we learn anything while we were away?

In conversation many have asked me "did we have a good time?" To which my response was "Mm? In parts." That may sound a strange thing to say coming from someone who has just returned from the beautiful island of Cyprus after three and a half months living in a wonderful house in a amazing location overlooking the resort of Paphos and Coral Bay.

But y' know when Marilyn and I left on the 1st March we were so ready for a break. We both felt exhausted – physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. The constant grind of ministry, as wonderful as it can be, can also suck the life out of you. There is a higher risk of breakdowns in Christian ministry than in many other so-called stress related professions and vocations. So our chief aims for the sabbatical were to reconnect with God, with each other, to rest and to allow God's Spirit to refresh us and for God to prepare us for our return re-energised and envisioned for all that he is about here at St Gabriel's and across our community.

Has that happened? We've been back a month and life is as fast-paced as ever but we do have a renewed sense of purpose, direction and vision. We have also come back feeling that God has called us to remain in Popley for at least another five years – so you're stuck with me, I'm afraid to say!

Life at St Gabriel's is also growing apace! We are now our own parish – The Parish of Popley with Limes Park and Rooksdown, St Gabriel – aka St Gabriel's. So we are now officially the parish centre and as such we are planning to continue all that God is calling us to do and to be in this amazing community.

Debi our young families and youth worker is achieving amazing things with young people in Popley. We are running three affordable café sessions (come on Tuesday morning and enjoy a great cappuccino, latte or mocha – made especially by the vicar), a new bereavement care group is starting in September, The Golden Club on Thursdays run by Doris continues to flourish plus all our uniformed organisations. Church is alive and kicking in Popley!

After 10 years here we now look forward with great anticipation to seeing where and how your church might continue to grow and serve the community. If you would like to come along one Sunday morning or to one of the other many activities then please do check out the website or Facebook page and I look forward with much humility and praise for all that God is about. To him be glory forever!

**with every blessing**  
**Rev'd Arthur**

**BEREAVEMENT** can take many forms and is absolutely unique to the individual. Bereavement can come not just from losing someone we love, but can also come through other major life changes: through retirement and losing a sense of purpose, being made redundant, a broken relationship, a major illness, even the loss of a pet. The feelings we experience in bereavement can be something of a roller coaster ride; one minute everything seems fine and the next it's like a wave crashing over us. Grieving takes as long as it takes! We can often feel isolated or detached, alone, or feeling that to share how we're truly feeling would be to show weakness! Totally wrong! It is really important that we don't bottle up our emotions otherwise they're likely to find their own way out, sometimes in explosive and potentially destructive ways.

At St Gabriel's from September we're starting a new initiative. **'AT A LOSS'** will be a café style group to be held in the church hall and open each week for those who are on a journey through bereavement. We hope to provide a place where you can feel free to share your story with others who are on the same journey, to find comfort and companionship along the way and perhaps also to enjoy a good cup of coffee or tea. The café will open from **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 10 am** onwards. Can I take this opportunity to invite you along and look forward to meeting with you.

**Every blessing**  
**Rev'd Arthur**

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## **Moonlight Walk 2014 - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

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Registration is now open for St. Michael's Hospice Moonlight Walk so grab your trainers and be part of a great night out under the stars, whilst raising money for North Hampshire's only Hospice.

This is the second year of Moonlight Walk and we hope to beat last year's terrific total of 220 walkers raising £15,000. The walk will begin from Porchester Square at 10pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. It is a great opportunity for you to have a girls night out, spend quality time with friends and family, get fit, remember a loved one and have some fun whilst raising money for the care of patients with life limiting illness. You can even make the most of the evening by enjoying one of the many restaurants in Festival Place to build your energy levels up!

Men, women and children of all fitness levels will be taking walking the 8.5 mile course with walkers passing through areas such as Kempshott and Hatch Warren. Groups, clubs and companies are all encouraged to get their members and colleagues together to enter a team- a great way to team build!

Registration opens at 8pm inside Festival Place with the warm up starting at 21:45.

Iain Cameron, Director of Income Generation says, "This is a unique opportunity for friends and family to get together and have fun whilst raising money for the Hospice. Last year we saw 220 people take part raising £15,000 towards the Hospice running costs to provide the vital and highly valued work we do. I appeal to all past participants, and those who have never entered, to join us in Festival Place on Saturday 6th September and help us raise even more money than last year. We are totally reliant on the support from the community and I hope they come out in force again this time".

Prices for adults are £16 preregistered and £10 for children aged 11 – 17. Registering in advance saves money with registration on the night costing £20 per adult and £12 per child. Family tickets are available for £45.00 which includes 2 adults and 2 children.

The entry fee includes a breakfast bap and a special moonlight walk medal on your successful return to Festival Place.

For more information please visit [stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events](http://stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events) or call 01256 848 848. Alternatively follow the Hospice on Twitter @smhbasingstoke #MoonlightWalk



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# Could you help Guide Dogs in the Basingstoke area?



Jean has been volunteering for us since 2010 and really enjoys her role. She says “Highlights for me are meeting guide dogs and their owners, seeing the dogs ‘in action’ and the difference they make. We may never know who we have helped, but someone, somewhere will have their lives transformed.”

Could you help Jean make that difference? We are looking for people to be part of a Guide Dogs Basingstoke Group. Lots of voluntary roles are available from organising events, helping with collections and to raising awareness of the work we do. Our roles are very flexible and can be suited to how many hours you are able to donate. There is something to suit everyone!

Katie Smith, local Guide Dogs representative, says “Whatever you’re interested in doing, whether you have a little or a lot of time to spare, you will be guaranteed to meet new people and have some fun! At the same time you will be raising funds to enable Guide Dogs to create the special partnerships which can change the lives of people who are blind and partially sighted.”

To find out more information, please contact Katie Smith on 07795 611 459 or email [katie.smith@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:katie.smith@guidedogs.org.uk).

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## Home-Start North West Hampshire

Home-Start North West Hampshire is an independent charity serving most of the parishes within the Basingstoke & Deane area. Our volunteers offer friendship and support to parents of young children who find it difficult to cope with the stresses and difficulties of everyday life. This helps to prevent family crisis and breakdown and is available to any parent in the area as long as at least one child is under 5.

On 27th June we celebrated our 10th Anniversary with a masked ball at the Hampshire Court Hotel with over 150 people in attendance. We were entertained by a close up magician, Lee Ferriday, a wonderful band, Sharp#Practice and we held an exhilarating auction to raise money for our charity. Once we had a chance to regroup we found that the evening had raised an overwhelming £4,500 which surpassed all expectations. We wanted to say a special thank you to everyone that helped to make the ball so special including many local businesses that donated prizes.

If you would like any more information on being supported by Home-Start North West Hampshire or are interested in becoming a Volunteer or Trustee please don't hesitate to contact us. [homestart.nwhants@live.co.uk](mailto:homestart.nwhants@live.co.uk) or 01256 405988



# RADCAN UPDATE SUMMER 2014

Each year around 300 cancer patients have to travel from the Basingstoke area to either Guildford or Southampton and sometimes even London for radiotherapy treatment. This represents around 7,500 sessions of treatment and may involve daily return journeys five days a week for up to six weeks! All this at a time when patients are likely to be already at a very low ebb.

In 2012 a firm commitment was made by the Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust that a state of the art cancer centre would be provided in the North Hampshire area. The exact location is not yet known but in the meantime an interim Radiotherapy Unit has been built on the Basingstoke Hospital site. RadCan is a truly local charity and all of our current fundraising efforts will support the new unit.

The new Radiotherapy Unit will be open to patients in June 2014 and will treat around 40% of cancer patients from the Basingstoke area. RadCan Trustees recently visited the new unit and were very impressed with the equipment, the staff and the general ambience.

In December RadCan contributed £104,000 towards the £450,000 cost of a CT Scanner for the new unit and in March we spent £7,593 on a Bladder Scanner and £5,000 to sponsor a garden.



Our founder Paulline Williams with Debra Morgan of The AA in the seating area of the summer garden

We are now raising funds to purchase a piece of equipment called a Respiratory Motion Phantom which is a state-of-the-art breathing simulator for conducting quality assurance testing on radiotherapy systems. When the system downloads patient respiratory waveforms to the phantom it is possible to simulate the breathing function. The outcome is that the impact of the tumor motion is reduced and the treatment is more accurate and less likely to damage adjoining organs such as the heart. The equipment can be used in the treatment of lung, breast and prostate cancer.

The equipment will cost in the region of £43,000 to £45,000. RadCan has already raised £30,000 and we need your help to raise the rest.

The purchase of the motion phantom will put the Basingstoke Radiotherapy Unit in the top ten units in the country.

## Write to us:

c/o BVS The Orchard, White Hart Lane,  
Basingstoke, RG21 4AF

## Donate through the Charities Aid Foundation:

[www.cafonline.org](http://www.cafonline.org)

## Check out our website:

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## Donate at Virgin Money Giving:

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# Sentinel

## Meet Abbey Court's Master Chef

The chef at our extra care scheme for older people in Popley, Abbey Court, was recently a finalist in Pride Catering's Chef of the Year 2014 competition.

The competition, which was sponsored by the catering supplier - KFF and Unilever, was open to Pride Catering's chefs from across the south of England. The final was held at Unilever's head office in Leatherhead.

Pride chef, Jan Bolsover, joined Abbey Court in December 2013. Jan said, "When I entered the competition, about a month ago, I had to submit my two course menu. The theme was war time food with a modern twist. So the two dishes I came up with were 'Whole Somme Fish Pie' for main course and 'Roll Out the Barrel' for dessert, which was a baked apple, with fruits of the forest, wrapped in a pastry case with crème anglaise. Eight of us reached the final and we had 1 ½ hours to create both our dishes on the day. We each had our own separate kitchen – just like in MasterChef! The judges included last year's winner, Stuart MacGarvie and Unilever's Business Development Chef, Paul Wright. Although I didn't win the competition I got a commendation, which I was really pleased with as this was the first year I'd entered."

Jan received a specially branded chef's jacket, certificate, medal and goody bag as a reward for her efforts.

Toni Snarey, Older Persons Scheme Co-ordinator for Abbey Court, said, "Since Jan has been with us she's made such a difference. We've now got a hot trolley, so when food is delivered to our resident's flats it's not cold. She's put new procedures in place and has introduced a six monthly deep clean. This has really paid off as, in January this year, our kitchen was awarded a grade of 5 – meaning very good - from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council and the Food Standards Agency for its hygiene standards. This is up from a 3 at our previous inspection."

If you'd like to know more about living at Abbey Court give us a call on 0800 195 5515, or 0300 666 5515 from a mobile. Or go to [www.sentinelha.org.uk/newbeginnings](http://www.sentinelha.org.uk/newbeginnings).





**Headquarters:**

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

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

The Cubs have had a busy time recently. At the beginning of July, 5 of them took part in the annual District Cub Badge Day, where the Cubs are given the chance to earn 5 of the slightly more difficult Cub Badges. After they are badges that require skills that are not available in the pack but exist elsewhere within the District.

On 7<sup>th</sup> July the Pack started working on the Disability Awareness Badge. This is one of the newer badges introduced by the Scout Association this year. They need to understand what a disability is and have to find out what disability aids are available. They were challenged to write their name using only a foot and watched a video showing the 'Mouth and Foot' painters at work. The evening closed with a game of sitting volleyball. The Pack will continue work on the badge this autumn.

The last meeting was 'Water Water Everywhere', where the Cubs and Leaders got very wet by taking part in a number of water games using water pistols etc. Great fun for all!

The Parents' Annual meeting was very poorly attended with only 2 parents other than committee members in attendance. It is good that the children are more keen than the parents apparently or we'd never get anything done.

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](http://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts)

Base 2000 is available for use by any community group at special rates for both 'one-off' and regular bookings. Childrens' 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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on Facebook for more information.

## Voters Urged to Tell Council about Polling Station Problems

Do you have trouble voting at your local polling station? Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is reviewing the suitability of all its polling places used in elections and needs to hear views from the people who use them.

The council is keen to hear people's views on its polling places across the borough and is welcoming suggestions for alternative locations. Representative groups and organisations, including those representing disabled people, are also being consulted.

Some potential issues with polling stations that the council wants to hear about are whether they are located close to where most of the electors for that area live, have good public transport links and easy access from a road and good parking. The council also wants to hear any problems that people have experienced accessing the buildings used or getting to or using the polling station inside.

The consultation runs until Monday 25 August 2014. The aim is that if any changes are needed, they will be implemented before the next general election in 2015.

The council's Corporate Director Karen Brimacombe, who is the Acting Returning Officer for the Basingstoke constituency, said: "The council aims to provide places for people to vote that are within easy reach of where they live and are easy to access for everyone. This is not always easy and we are keen to hear if people have had any problems with getting to or into the buildings designated as polling places and to hear suggestions for alternative locations that might provide better access."

More information and to give views visit  
[www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/pollingreview](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/pollingreview)



*Basingstoke  
and Deane*

### The Basingstoke & Deane "Young at Heart" Over 55s Forum.

Open Forum dates for the rest of 2014 are 13th August, 15th October and 10th December 2014.

Coach trips are: 12th September - Mystery Trip (Non Members £14.50): 25th October Swindon Shopping and Railway Museum (Coach Only Non Members £15);

2nd November - RAF Cosford (Non Members £19.75 coach only): Birmingham and Frankfurt Christmas Market (Non member £17);

On Saturday 4th October 2014 we are staging a Lyrics & Laughter Show to Celebrate the "International Day for Older People" at Aldworth School, Western Way, Basingstoke, The Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane will open and close the show. Show time 2pm to 5pm. Tickets only cost £6 including afternoon tea. Please book your tickets by contacting our Secretary Gerald on 07792535116, or at the BDBC Civic Offices.

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# Funding Employment Tribunals – How to Keep your Costs Down!

*By Karen Bristow of Phillips Solicitors*

Many people are discouraged from bringing a claim in the Employment tribunal because they have a pre-conception that there will be large legal costs involved and believe that they do not have the means to bring such a claim.

This is especially true since 29<sup>th</sup> July 2013 when Employment Tribunal fees were introduced requiring claimants to pay an issue fee (up to £250) and a hearing fee (up to £950). The latest statistics suggest that since the introduction of Employment Tribunal fees there has been a 79% drop in new claims being issued. It is clear that all the publicity about these fees has put off prospective claimants who assume that making a claim is more expensive than ever. This may however, not be true and in fact bringing a claim may be cheaper than you think.

Firstly many people are exempt from paying tribunal fees. This exemption is known as remission of fees and the right to claim this is calculated on your disposable capital, gross monthly income and whether you are in receipt of certain benefits. This means that in cases where an employee has been dismissed or has resigned and is now receiving Job Seekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance they may well be entitled to a full remission of the tribunal fees. In other circumstances, depending on disposable capital and gross monthly income there may be an entitlement to a part remission of the fees.

Another way of funding a claim is through Legal Expenses Insurance. Many people are completely unaware that they have such insurance which is commonly found within Home Insurance policies. With Legal Expense Insurance and with good prospects of succeeding in a claim, the insurer will usually cover the legal fees for pursuing the claim as well the tribunal fees. Our employment team at Phillips are very experienced in corresponding with insurance companies to secure such funding as well as managing the claim once funding is in place.

Aside from this, many claims are settled without the need of issuing a claim or attending a tribunal hearing. ACAS have recently launched 'Early Conciliation' meaning that you cannot bring a claim to the employment tribunal, except in limited circumstances, without first contacting ACAS. Early Conciliation is a free service where a Conciliator is appointed to act as a go between the employee and an employer. The Conciliator's role is to encourage settlement, meaning that there may well be a financial settlement agreement reached and avoid litigation completely.

If you think you might have a potential employment tribunal claim and want to discuss the different ways in which you can fund a claim, 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: **kbristow@phillips-law.co.uk** and visit our website at **www.phillips-law.co.uk**.





MFC Popley Youth, recently voted Charter Standard Club of the Year for Hampshire, has vacancies for players and up to two coaching staff for it's Under 9s for the 2014/15 season (that is children going into Year 4 in September).

Our all inclusive fees for players are just £80 per season and for that each child receives a brand new Nike kit, a brand new Nike training kit (which also doubles as a second kit), at least one training session a week, access to 3G training in the winter months and the opportunity to play in the Peter Houseman Youth League on Sundays.

For more information please contact the Club by email at [mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk](mailto:mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk) or call Ian Davies on 07884 185693.

For coaches, 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.

We offer the full support of the Club's extensive resources, funding of all relevant courses, access to specialist goal keeping coaches and guest coaches from the FA Skills Centre and the opportunity to be part of a Club respected at the highest level by the Hampshire FA.

For more information please contact the Club by email at [volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk) or call Ian Davies on 07884 185693.

We are also looking for new players, including a goalkeeper, for our Under 15s in the new season (2014/15). For further details please contact the U15's coach, Paul O'Shea, on 07909 876294.

We are always looking to get more parents involved actively with MFC Popley Youth, especially 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 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 by email: [allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk).

Club Chairman & Secretary:

Ian Davies

Mob: 07884 185693

Email: [ian.davies.2010@live.co.uk](mailto:ian.davies.2010@live.co.uk)

Vice Chairman & Treasurer:

Glenn Taylor

Mob: 07775 870929

Email: [g.taylor29@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:g.taylor29@hotmail.co.uk)

Club Welfare Officer & Minutes Secretary:

Nicci Gambrell

Mob: 07990 520956

Email: [mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk](mailto:mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk)

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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## Naomi House Event

We're also delighted to  
announce another Charity Quiz Night,  
kindly hosted by The Hampshire Court  
Hotel, on Thursday 30th October 2014

Entry is £10 per head for teams  
of up to 6 people, and includes a hot  
supper. The evening also includes a  
raffle and spot prize round. Booking  
forms available from [Tina.Starback@  
naomihouse.org.uk](mailto:Tina.Starback@naomihouse.org.uk)

For more information about  
this and other Naomi House events,  
please visit our website: [www.  
naomihouse.org.uk](http://www.naomihouse.org.uk) or call on 01962  
843513



# *Time for Tea with Age Concern Hampshire*

Age Concern Hampshire is calling on budding bakers to raise funds for people with dementia as part of a week long 'Good Old Fashioned Tea Party' campaign.

Supporters across Hampshire are invited to host a fundraising tea party from 8-14 September and be in with the chance to win afternoon tea for two at Lainston House near Winchester. Executive chef Andrew MacKenzie will award a prize for the most imaginatively decorated cake, with photos of cakes to be submitted along with donations.

Over 18,000 people in Hampshire live with dementia, with one third of them living alone. The charity offers specialist day care, counselling and support to those living with the condition, their families and carers.

Andrew MacKenzie from Lainston House said: "It's a real honour to be asked to judge this competition which is raising money for such a worthwhile cause. I am really looking forward to looking through the photographs from all the budding bakers."

Fundraising manager Jemma Saunders said: "We are calling on Hampshire to get together and make a difference to the lives of older people in the local community. Exchanging memories of times gone by with family and friends is enjoyable for everyone, but is especially beneficial for people with dementia. Cake sales, sponsored tea-making at work and tea parties at home will all help to raise much needed funds for our work."

For more information and to request a Good Old Fashioned Tea Party fundraising pack, contact the fundraising office on 01962 892449 or email [supporters@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:supporters@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk).

## About Age Concern Hampshire

Age Concern Hampshire is an independent charity which works across the county to promote independent living to over 55s.

The charity currently supports over 18,000 people across Hampshire with information and advice, befriending schemes, respite care at 15 day care centres, computer training sessions and health and wellbeing services. [www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](http://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk).



# Diaries from the old Codger.

## August 1914



I will not say much in the Old Codger this month but I hope you can take time to think of the expeditionary force that left Southampton to France. The first British soldier killed was John Parr, who had joined the Middlesex regiment he was 15 to 16 years old. Just outside Mons he and another reconnaissance cyclist rode in front of the main unit to find the enemy. The two arrived at a village called Obourg in Belgium where they encountered an enemy unit; Parr remained to hold off these men whilst the other rode his bike back to warn his unit. Parr was killed in the ensuing fight. His unit retreated back to a new position Parr's death was not spoken about till much later only after his mother wrote to his regiment, as she had not had any news from him. Parr was buried some time later and the army did not know his true age of 15/16. His grave is opposite that of the last man killed in the Great War, George Edwin Ellison. This was not realized at the time; what a coincidence.

Over the next few weeks it will be the Poppy Appeal, I have written a poem that is in the Old Basing Royal British Legion commemorative brochure. They do a wonderful job in helping so many people so please give as much as you can to show how we all feel. I hope I can do my bit by offering you a signed copy of the poem "Just one seed" if you are willing to donate please let the editor or me know.





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**Gateway Award Project Youth Club (GAP)**

**GAP are looking for new members/volunteers and committee members.**

GAP is a small charity run youth club for young adults (aged 16 – 25 years) with a range of additional needs. This club has been running for 15 years. We are a friendly, caring and sociable group that would like more members to join in the fun. We follow the Gateway award scheme which is affiliated by Mencap. This scheme is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award in that the group members need to achieve certain goals to succeed. Anyone involved in the project is encouraged to set themselves new challenges, learn new skills, gain confidence and make new friends through many different activities such as sports, cooking and quiz nights. We also run outings with favourite trips being bowling and eating out.

GAP is run by a manager, a youth leader as well as volunteers. We are looking to increase the numbers of volunteers we have, who need to be enthusiastic, friendly and reliable. They do not necessarily need experience with disabilities but should be willing to support members within different activities. This would be a commitment of 2 hours a week. We also need volunteers to join our committee; this involves 1 meeting every 6 – 8 weeks. GAP strives to run different classes however unusual, if you have expertise in a particular area and would like to share with the group then please contact us, we would be very grateful.

We meet on a Wednesday evening from 7 – 9pm at Junction 6, a small building on the Everest Community Academy site. Each session cost £2.50 a week. Please get in contact before attending.

We are also starting a new club from 25 – 35 years old for members with learning disabilities. This club would provide an opportunity to socialise with others within a safe environment. If are interested in further details then please get in touch using the details below quoting 25 club.

If you are interested and want more information about anything at all about GAP then please get in touch by ringing Helen (GAP manager) on 07758760699 or visiting [www.basingstokegap.org](http://www.basingstokegap.org)

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