

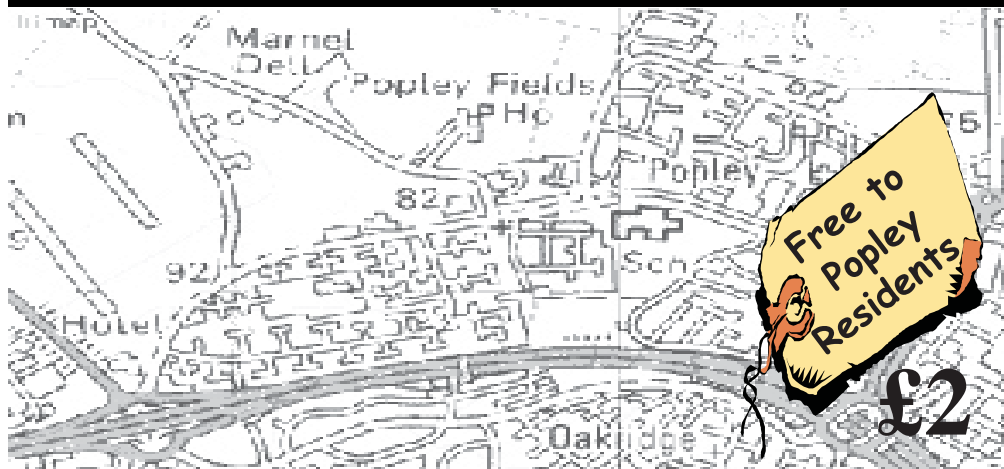
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVICING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

April 2015

Distribution of 5,100

Issue 158



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-04-15) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor:-There was a tragic fire in Buckfast Close and we want to extend our sympathies to all the family. The community came together on that day with cups of tea, chairs and blankets for the neighbours who had to be evacuated. There is now a page on Facebook called “Popley House Fire” where there are details of how you can donate or send messages if you want to. Hampshire Fire and Rescue have some advice you will find it on page one opposite. Last month young Jack Bristow’s family sent us an article as they want to raise funds for the Children’s Ward where Jack is being treated. Jack is being very brave and is continuing with his chemotherapy.

On page 6 Marnel and Merton Community Group are asking for help from the residents to put together a grant application to get better facilities there. You may have ideas of how the many thousands of pounds available can be spent. This not just for Marnel and Merton, the grant is available for all Popley. If you have ideas, contact details on that page. Congratulations to Merton Junior School who have taken up the challenge to transform the gardens around Melrose Hall which the hall have been unable to keep up. The article is on page 11. On the theme of our younger residents, on page 16 are the details of the Scouts St George’s Day Parade: it is an amazing sight to see so many youngsters celebrating and marching. Page 21 has advice on road safety. The long summer school holidays are not far away, before you know it they will be over and many children will be starting new schools. Please read the Advice and talk it over with your children. Page 28 has an appeal from the Scouting groups who need some adult volunteers so they can continue to hold their valuable activities for the Scouts. You can contact me on 01256 819924 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 the Popley Matters magazine.

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**HAMPSHIRE
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SERVICE**

A serious house fire recently occurred in Popley that led to tragedy for one family and the local community. Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service offers its deepest condolences to the family and all who knew Tamazin, who sadly died as a result of the fire.

Although the fire investigation is still ongoing, we would like to use this opportunity to make the local community aware of some important home safety advice.

You may have seen our firefighters in the local area offering home fire safety visits and general reassurance. Home safety visits are designed to ensure that the most vulnerable in our communities stay as safe as possible in their own homes. These visits help reduce the risks of potential fire hazards, give advice on fire escape plans and show how to look after smoke alarms. An online self-assessment tool can be found on the HFRS website that will show if you are eligible for one of these visits, along with additional fire safety information. Just go to hantsfire.gov.uk/keeping-safe.

Over half of all fatal accidental house fires involve discarded smoking materials. To keep you and your family safe please:

- Don't smoke inside;
- Never smoke in bed;
- Stub it out properly and dispose of all materials carefully, use ashtrays and empty them regularly to an outside bin when cool;
- Never leave lit cigarettes unattended
- If using an e-cigarette, only use the supplied charger and never leave it on charge longer than necessary; and
- Best of all would be to try to give up - there are lots of people out there who can help.

If you are worried about a vulnerable friend or family member who smokes, we work closely with partner agencies to ensure they are safe whilst smoking. Where appropriate we can provide fire resistant bedding and throws which will help to reduce the risk of a fire occurring if a cigarette is accidentally dropped.

We also recommend that households discuss what they should do in the event of the fire - ultimately you need to **get out, stay out and call the fire service out**. You should talk with your family and discuss escape routes. Does everyone know how to get out the house in the event of a fire – does everyone know where the keys are kept?

As part of the Service's ongoing commitment to community safety, you may see further articles from us in this newsletter with top tips on how to stay safe in your home, on the roads and in your community.

For more advice on keeping safe please visit the our website or contact our community safety team.
Website: <http://www.hantsfire.gov.uk/keeping-safe/fire-safety-in-the-home/>
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Councillors' Page: I have been a serving county councillor on the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority for ten years. I, with other county councillors of all political parties, help to monitor and advise on the fire service. We are like a school governing board and I have learnt so much over the ten years. I have seen so many of the different functions they do: fire fighting, rescues of people and animals, advising shops, businesses and people's homes. They check alarms and do safety checks. With the tragic fire in Popley I saw another side of the service when I was asked if I would visit the scene. The investigation team were there sifting through the masses of burnt and damaged remains of the house. The saddest part was that a young woman died there and it has left the family devastated. The residents were amazing and helped the family and neighbours with chairs and blankets and much needed cups of hot drinks. The advice always given is "Get out, phone 999 and stay out". I understand the smoke alarms did sound and that it probably saved lives. Paul checks ours every Monday and I am thankful I have smoke alarms and basic firefighting equipment in our home. If you want advice, the HFRS will gladly talk to you. *Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924*

Popley West: The consultation on new allotment sites has concluded and after Councillors and residents responded to the consultation all the proposed Popley sites were rejected.

Merton and Marnel Community Group are looking for just a few willing residents to help with a fantastic opportunity to get grant money to improve facilities and the area. Contact them via their Facebook page. Popley Abbeys could also benefit if there are enough residents to form a committee. Contact stephen.bate@basingstoke.gov.uk or contact us and we will pass on your information. There are thousands of pounds from a government grant in compensation for all the new homes built in Popley. Grants have already been, or about to be granted to Melrose Hall, Popley Fields Community Centre, St Gabriel's Community Church and Popley Poets. In order to qualify residents working with council and councillors need to make applications. There is no Borough council election this year in Popley, however of course there we continue to fight and represent the residents. There is of course the General Election for all in the country.

Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924

Popley East: As you all know, the Borough Council has been carrying out an extensive consultation exercise with residents regarding the allocation of new sites for allotments. We are grateful to all those who took part in the consultation and, as Local Councillors, we were invited to make our own comments on the sites which were identified as suitable for allotments. We took the view, as did the vast majority of those consulted that the sites in Popley were not suitable for allotments, despite a local demand and would represent an unacceptable loss of public open space.

You may wish to know that the only site the Council will now be pursuing is at Beggarwood Park.

As Local Councillors we have met recently with David Wilson Homes and Planning Enforcement officers to try to improve the way DWH consult with local residents most affected by the development at Kiln Farm (Marnel Park extension). This development is going to take some years to complete and DWH have agreed that they will communicate regularly by newsletter (every 3 months) with residents in the surrounding area. They will provide a site map and details about the phasing of the development and will make available a telephone number for the on-site agent when problems occur, such as mud on roads or the blocking of access roads and the like.

Cllr Viv Washbourne tel 07900890088

Cllr David Potter tel 07941507801



POPLEY FESTIVAL

Sunday 17th May 2015

Although May seems a while away the organisation of Popley Festival is already in full swing and for 2015 we have decided to introduce a number of events to get more of the community actively involved.

During the Festival we will be running "Popley Village Show" so enter your contribution to the competition to become the best in show! There will be two age groups in each category; under 16 and over 16. The categories are:

- Cake competition - are you better than Mary Berry?
- Photography competition – a budding David Bailey?
- Painting / art competition – Hurst or Hockney?

To enter please find an entry form on our web site; www.popleyfestival.org.uk or contact Popley Fields Community Centre, Carpenters Down, Popley, RG24 9AE
Tel: 01256 414494, e-mail: office@popleyfields.org
Find us on facebook too!

We look forward to seeing you in May,

Popley Festival Committee



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Marnel and Merton Community Group

Your help is needed to seize a great opportunity for our community!

At the Marnel and Merton Community Group meeting on Wednesday 19th February we discussed an exciting opportunity to bring some investment into our community and complete many of the actions in our community plan!

Tens of thousands of pounds are potentially available to improve local facilities and our environment. If we are successful in our application this money could fund several projects highlighted by our community in our community plan. This may include things such as:

- Installing notice boards around the community;
- Creating a community allotment, orchard and garden;
- Putting in a community barbecue area;
- Creating a youth hang out area;
- Developing a nature trail and installing relevant signage;
- Make improvements to the Copse;
- Improving landscaping in parts of the community; and
- Improving provision for cycling in the area.

BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP! We need at least five local residents to volunteer their time over the next few months to see this application through. Please let us know if you can spare a few hours of your time to help with this. If people do not come forward, this opportunity will be missed, and this funding may not be available in the future.

Please message the Marnel & Merton Community Group Facebook page or contact Stephen Bate at Basingstoke and Deane Council if you are able to help.

St. Michael's Hospice

Volunteers needed for St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) House to House Collection in June



St. Michael's Hospice is looking for volunteers who would like to help deliver envelopes to houses in their street and then collect them a few days later, as part of their annual House to House fundraising collection. If you are interested in taking part or finding out more, please contact Claire Webb, Community Campaigns Coordinator on 01256 848845 or email Claire.webb@stmichaelshospice.org.uk

Dear Friends,

Sitting here in my study looking forward to the spring sunshine, the clear skies and warm sunshine that must surely come; I am struck by the marked contrast to the long, seemingly interminable, months of winter that are at last beginning to fade – already its much lighter, longer! It has seemed to be one of the longest winters that I can recall, perhaps because this time last year we had just begun our sabbatical in Cyprus; the memory of which makes spring and the prospect of longer and warmer days all the more welcome.

We especially missed England in the springtime last year. The daffodils just waiting to burst open, buds on the trees and the dreaded weeds starting to make their annual appearance in the jungle that is my garden! All serve as a reminder that once again the seasons have come full circle from the new life of last spring, the flowering of summer to the dying and death of autumn and winter.

By the time you read this Easter will be upon us – it is the most important Christian festival of the year. We move from the new life of the birth of Jesus that we celebrated at Christmas, to the sacrifice of himself on the Cross on that first Good Friday followed by his bursting from the tomb on Easter morning. These events move towards the completing of the circle of God's plan to rescue all of Creation from, as St Paul puts it 'the bondage that it is held in.'

The Christian way is about new life; it's about the power of God to transform lives and situations. When Jesus rose from the dead on Easter morning something had changed so completely and forever. The power of sin and death had been broken and it was now possible for everyone to be transformed and share in the new life that he had died and was raised to give us.

This is what is at the heart of the Christian message. Sadly it all too often gets swallowed up in all the other messages we're daily bombarded with that falsely promise eternal good looks or lives and we can miss the one real opportunity that presents itself. "Red sky at night, shepherds delight, red sky in the morning, shepherds warning!" Jesus said that we're pretty good at reading the signs for the weather but we can't see what is right in front of our noses.

As we wait expectantly for the warm spring weather to burst upon us why not try reading the signs in your life that hint at the possibility of new life – new life in relationship with God through Jesus. I hope that you can celebrate Easter with us this year and that the sun shines on all of us as the Son shines on all of us!

Warm greetings
Arthur
Vicar of St Gabriel's



Welcome to Marnell Bowling Club

We are looking for new members and we welcome all standards. Beginners or experienced, male or female, young or old catered for. Help and support is available for all. For beginners we can loan equipment and give practical help and guidance to learn the game of bowls.

About the club

Our facilities will be available to you without obligation to enable you to decide if bowls is for you and you are comfortable with us. We have a modern club house with a licensed bar and free parking. We are the only club in Basingstoke who offer on-site bowling fifty two weeks of the year as we have two short mat rinks laid in the clubhouse permanently from September to April.

Does it appeal?

Our fees are just £12 for the whole year. (Most clubs charge this for six months membership.) This entitles you to play out in the summer and indoor during the winter for the whole twelve months. From the second year onwards the membership is only 350.

We are a club run by its members and offer both social and competitive bowling in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. We are situated in Popley, behind Popley Fields Community Centre in Carpenters Down. You will be made most welcome.

For questions or information contact Ray Wheatley 410404
Check out our website www.marnellbowlingclub.co.uk



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'Ground 4ce' at Merton Junior School



The children in Year 4 at Merton Junior School have taken up an amazing challenge...to transform a garden bed outside of Melrose Hall.

On Thursday we strolled up the path for a preliminary visit to the site and the children met with Vicki Jackson, from Melrose Hall, who was able to discuss with them the issues with the current situation. As the ground has been unattended for a while, the fencing around the plot is damaged and there are a considerable amount of weeds, Vicki thought it was about time to give it a revamp.



The children spent time looking at the garden and discussing with their classmates the issues that they were faced with. All of the children agreed that something needed to be done and that was when they decided work together to create something for their local community to be proud of.



Upon our return to school, the children were buzzing with ideas and so we are now looking to complete fundraising to raise money to provide seeds, plants and other gardening paraphernalia!

Look out for us over the next few months as we begin to transform our local area into something that we can all be very proud of.

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Headquarters:

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Group Scout Leader: Colin Karlake 01256 410559

Scout section: Jean-Paul Keetch 07899 087 275

Cub Scout section: Douglas Gowan 01256 412326

Beaver Scout section: Eve Alexander 07790 018 171

News from the Beavers (boys and girls 6- 8 years)

The Colony continues to thrive with an active programme of crafts and challenges for all abilities. Several new recruits have been invested and the Colony now has an almost equal ratio of girls to boys. Badges tackled during the winter months have included Healthy Eating (Beavers like the practical best!) and Physical Fitness. Parachute games are always favourites as is 'Jump the Rat'.



Craft featured in programmes with butterfly pictures and celebrating the Chinese New Year by making face masks.

Rohini has completed all the challenges and badges to complete her Chief Scout's Bronze Award and several others are almost there. Well done Rohini and keep working hard the others to catch her up!

Every Beaver has been given an 'Eager Beaver' sponsor form to raise money until September to support the work of the 'Guide Dogs for the Blind Charity'. Suggestions included selling cakes, weeding the garden, helping at home and even keeping their room especially tidy, and putting clothes away without being nagged! Do be generous if they ask for help.

Toby was made Beaver of the month in February. He is one of our 'lodge leaders' and is always ready to help new Beavers and has a real impact on his lodge. Well done Toby and keep up the good work as you travel your Scouting journey.

In March we will visit 'Four Kingdoms' near Newbury together with others Beavers from around the District and are sure to have a busy and active day. As the weather gets warmer and with the lighter evenings we shall be exploring the woods and looking for signs of spring and summer emerging from the ground and trees. Later in the year the Colony will hold a 'sleepover' - when all the special teddy bears, rabbits and dogs and cuddly friends get to join in the fun!



How to join?

New recruits (both boys and girls) welcome in all sections – contact the leaders listed above or [http:// www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts](http://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts) Beavers aged 6-8; Cubs 8-10½ ; Scouts 10½ to 14 years.

Base 2000 offers facilities for community groups other than scouts and guides and for meetings at very reasonable rates. Enquiries bookings@base2000.co.uk or contact Colin Karlake 07796 772 500

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St George's Day Parade and Celebration Sunday 26th April 2015

Assembly point will be at the start of Winchester Street precinct facing London Road. Start of parade 1.30pm and parading to St Marys Church where the service will be held. Service to commence approximately 2pm with dismissal at 3pm.

A Collection will be taken for Hampshire Scouts / Uganda Water wells project.

This is the story of a remarkable partnership between Scouts in Hampshire, UK & Masindi, Uganda nicknamed 'Hamindi Scouts'.

Since 2000, Scouts have built and maintained 20 wells which provide clean water to over 14,000 villagers in the Masindi District, with the help of the Ugandan water board and local communities in Uganda & the UK.

The improvement in living conditions created by providing clean drinking water to the surrounding villages has saved many lives and improved the health of young children who are vulnerable to water borne diseases.

The 'Hamindi Scout' partnership has also enabled Hampshire Scouts the opportunity to visit Masindi and with the local scout groups undertake charity work in the local schools as well as visiting some of the water wells (completed and on the waiting list). The next contingent from Hampshire is travelling to Masindi in autumn 2015. Their target is to raise money for 2 wells before they leave.



A well before work starts (*left*), the clearing of the run off (*right*), the cementing of the wall and water flow pipe (*below left*)



A finished well being used and the clear run off (*far right*)





Join our board and help us make a difference
We're recruiting for a resident board member.

There are exciting times ahead for us, so we need committed, enthusiastic residents to apply to become a resident board member and be part of our top level decisions.

We're north Hampshire's biggest independent housing association with over 200 staff. We manage 9,100 homes, 3,400 garages and 20 shops in Basingstoke, East Hampshire, Hart, Rushmoor, Test Valley, Waverley, Winchester and Surrey Heath.

As a not-for-profit landlord, any surplus from our £60m a year turnover is reinvested back into our neighbourhoods, such as on more upgrades of existing homes, regenerating outdated estates, or building more homes. We aim to develop around 500 homes a year.

The board's role is to lead, direct, control and challenge and monitor all our work, from where to build new homes to how much we invest in improving existing homes.

Our four-strong executive team is the top level of management, responsible for day-to-day matters and ensuring the board's wishes are carried out throughout Sentinel.

Our staff teams consist of the First Contact team, services for over 55s, Neighbourhoods teams, Business Support, HomeTeam (in-house maintenance provider), Asset Management, IT, Human Resources, Finance, Communications and Governance and Compliance.

We offer full training and personal development for the role, an annual salary of **£4,816** (plus travel expenses), as well as an opportunity to meet new people and network.

We'll be holding a resident board member workshop at our Basingstoke office on **Thursday 16 April 2015** where we'll explain more, discuss the role and answer your questions.

If you're interested in coming along, call Patricia Morton, Head of Governance & Compliance on **0800 195 5515** (from a landline) or **0300 666 5515** (from mobile). Or you can email us at customer@sentinelha.org.uk.

To apply, send your CV to the above email address by **Tuesday 5 May 2015**.
Or post it to:

Patricia Morton,
Head of Governance & Compliance,
Sentinel Housing Association,
56 Kingsclere Road,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire,
RG21 6XG

We welcome applicants from all sections of the community.



Everybody needs good neighbours

Disputes between neighbours can be some of the most acrimonious and emotionally scarring. They take a number of forms but all share one common feature: they directly affect people and families at their homes. An Englishman's home is his castle and it follows that when that is under threat that he will do battle; neighbour disputes are often fearsomely contested. They classically involve the following:

Boundary lines. Sometimes a boundary line between two properties will have been poorly drawn up, sometimes the physical reality of the land has changed over time so that it does not match title deeds. Either way it is possible for there to be ambiguity which over time is likely to lead to conflict.

Boundary maintenance. It might be over who has the right or responsibility the change a boundary feature and if so how, or whether a neighbour has the right to insist on the removal of trees or foliage.

Parking, noisy neighbours, antisocial behaviour. There are a wide range of other common issues that we advise on.

Whilst it remains unresolved any such dispute will directly affect your property. If you wish to sell, you will have to disclose the issue which could have a negative impact on the marketability or even the value of your property. It may seem that by instructing a solicitor you are escalating a dispute but in most cases it is the best way of moving towards a solution quickly and calmly. Dealing with a difficult neighbour directly, perhaps over the back fence can make matters worse.

We advise that the best way to resolve disputes is by focussing solely on the legal issues and practical solutions. In fact our advice is to keep actual litigation through the Courts to a minimum. If entered into prematurely the Court process will be lengthier and more costly and in the vast majority of cases can be avoided altogether. In cases where it is necessary to get technical input we advise clients to instruct a surveyor or other expert at the outset so that the issues can resolved insofar as possible without the Court's involvement.

There has for some time been increasing pressure on litigants to try to resolve their disputes through mediation. That means to meet with an impartial mediator to explore settlement options outside of Court. That is now a requirement and there are potential cost sanctions against parties who refuse to mediate. We have long been proponents of alternative means of resolving disputes and run our own established local mediation service – Town Gate Mediation.

For more information and to find out how we might assist you, please don't hesitate to contact Ben Pearson on 01256 854608, or email ben.pearson@phillips-law.co.uk and visit the website at www.phillips-law.co.uk.

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Spring has sprung! We have already been enjoying some lovely sunny days, perfect gardening weather. We are very excited to welcome Merton Junior School Year 4 as our new gardeners!! Work is already under way to clear the bed and they have lots of plans to grow their own plants for planting later in the spring. You've heard of Ground Force? well we have Ground Four!!! It's going to look amazing!

WHATS ON IN APRIL:

- MONDAY: DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE**
7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
- TUESDAY: 9.30am-12.00pm Popley Little People**
AFTERNOON AND EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
- WEDNESDAY: 9.30am Slimming World**
12-2pm Oasis Lunch club
5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World
- THURSDAY: 9.30-11.30am Community Cafe**
DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE
- 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.**

Melrose Community Hall is available to hire for birthdays, wedding receptions, conferences and regular groups. **Please ring Vicki Jackson on 01256 420676 for more information or e-mail us at Melrosehall@btconnect.com**

Also find us on facebook: Melrose hall.

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Road Safety Education Programmes

The Road Safety Team at Hampshire County Council run various schemes for primary and secondary aged children to teach them about the dangers of the road as a pedestrian, cyclist or vehicle occupant. See below for more details:

Streets Ahead Pedestrian training - The Streets Ahead Pedestrian Training scheme is aimed at Year 2 children and is lead by volunteers from each school. The course involves three practical sessions, which include using the Green Cross Code, what to wear and how to behave, keeping safe on the pavements as well as finding the safest route. We currently have 2,500 children taking part in the scheme.

Junior Road Safety Officer scheme - The Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) scheme involves one Year 5 and one Year 6 pupil becoming JRSOs. They teach their peers about road safety through assemblies, having their own notice board and running competitions. The JRSOs are trained at two annual events lead by the Road Safety Team with the support of various partners. The Road Safety Team has over 350 JRSOs across Hampshire in 171 schools, which means our key messages are being taught to 42,000 children.

Bikeability - Hampshire County Council offers Level 2 Bikeability to primary schools and Level 2 and 3 to secondary schools, giving children the opportunity to develop new skills, improve confidence and gain a sense of pride and achievement. The Road Safety Team currently has funding for and is training 8,750 children across Hampshire.

StreetSense - 'StreetSense' is aimed at secondary school students aged 11-16 and highlights the dangers of being distracted at the roadside. The aim of the programme is to educate both teenagers and pre-teens about keeping safe as they travel on foot or by bike, particularly to and from school, reminding them of the dangers of mp3 players, mobile phones as well as conversations with friends whilst crossing the road. The Road Safety Team is currently working with 31 secondary schools across Hampshire, which means our key messages are being taught to 45,000 students.

Your child's transition to Secondary School – advice to parents

With traffic being the biggest single cause of accidental death for 12-16 year olds, it is essential for teenagers to be aware of the dangers and therefore the Road Safety Team's StreetSense programme highlights the importance of being seen and giving the road your full attention – and not leaving your senses at the roadside. Through Year 7 and 8 assemblies, Theatre in Education and Year 9 workshops, teenagers across Hampshire are being taught how to keep themselves safe and make responsible choices.

As well as learning about the dangers of the road at school, it is essential that you are aware of how to help your child develop good road safety skills. Young people pick up habits from adults and therefore if they see older people taking risks, they are likely to follow the pattern and take risks themselves. This means ensuring you are setting a good safe example as a pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle occupant.

As your child moves onto secondary school, they will be making more independent journeys and possibly using public transport. Ensure you have discussed the risks and they are able to assess the risk of each stage of their journey, making it as safe as possible.

Take time to discuss the safest way to make the journey to school. Encourage them to think about it before they begin their journey and be prepared for unexpected things. Get them to consider the following:

- What route will they take? Where are the road hazards? Could changing the route make it less risky? For example, walking to safe crossings rather than taking short cuts.
- What are the times and cost of public transport?
- What would they do if something unusual happened?
- What distractions might there be? How could they avoid being distracted?

Remind your child to give the road their full attention and not to be distracted by their mobile phone, music player or friends. If cycling, they should always wear their cycle helmet as 50% of injuries to cyclists are to their head. If using public transport, remind them to wait safely for the bus and when disembarking, be aware that traffic cannot see them if they cross near the bus – make the responsible choice and either wait for the bus to move or move away from it to cross safely.

Please visit <http://think.direct.gov.uk/> for more information and leaflets on teenage road safety.

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Tuesday Closed



Tournament news for 2015:

MFC Popley Youth, a FA Charter Standard Club is pleased to announce and invite teams of all Youth Football to enter the MFC Popley Youth Annual Tournament for 2015. Following on from the successful 2014 Tournament, where over 100 teams participated in two days of fantastic football, the Tournament is planned to be bigger and better than previous years with ALL age groups being fully competitive! The U7 & U8 teams will be playing 5-a-side and U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16 teams playing 6-a-side.

Date(s): Saturday 9th May & Sunday 10th May

Venue: Carpenter's Down Open Space, Popley Fields, Basingstoke.

Entry Fee: £30 per team (up to 8 Players per team)*

To register your club/teams, please contact the Tournament Director to obtain a booking form and team sheets.

Tournament Contact Email: tournament@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Tournament Contact Phone Number: 07884 185 693.

We are always 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 or contact Ian Davies, on 07884 185693 for more details.

The Club welcomes more parents getting actively involved with MFC Popley Youth, especially on match days with refereeing (in particular our under 7s) and the set up of the pitches & 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 play football?

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 Ian Davies, Club Chairman, on 07884 185693 or by email: allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Contact the club -

Main website: www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Club Chairman & Club Secretary: Ian Davies

Mob: 07884 185693

Email: ian.davies.2010@live.co.uk

Club Treasurer & Club Welfare Officer: Nicci Gambrell

Mob: 07990 520956

Email: mfcpopleyyouth@live.co.uk

Volunteer enquiries: volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Allstars Recruitment: Allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

You can also get regular updates from the club by following our twitter account, @MFC_PopleyYouth #MFCPY. Also, each MFC Popley Youth age group has a dedicated page on Facebook. **Zak Collingwood**



BERMUDA COMMUNITY CENTRE

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01256 363156

We have Popley Explorers Pre-school Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 3pm. For full details ring Sharon on 363156.

We also have lots of exciting things going on in the evenings!

Monday night is keep fit and kick boxing from 6-30pm until 8pm Come along and join in the fun.

Tuesday night is BINGO NIGHT! Doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 8pm. New members are welcome. Come along, meet and make new friends. Refreshments are also available and it finishes around about 10pm.

Wednesday evening is Dance to the Beat, 5pm until 7pm. For details ring Miss Lackey on 321160.

If you like to dance we have Street dance and ballet classes on Thursdays, for ages from two and a half year to adults, 4.30 until 5.30pm. For full details contact Samantha on 07811299484. Also kick boxing from 7pm until 8.30pm.

Friday night club from 5pm-6.30pm.

The hall is also available to hire for parties at reasonable rates for details so please ring Janet on 363156.



Rotary Family Fun Day

After running their successful Garden and Craft Festival for many years Basingstoke Rotary Club are moving the event to the grounds of Basingstoke Rugby Club this year. The new venue gives the opportunity of organising an even bigger and better event and one that is intended to appeal to the whole family. Accordingly the event is being re-named – the Family Festival - and will be run in conjunction with Basingstoke Rugby Football Club.

It will take place on the Bank Holiday weekend 3rd and 4th May 2015 from 10am to 4pm each day. There will be the usual craft stalls selling everything from jewellery to handcrafted greeting cards and garden exhibitors selling bedding plants and shrubs. In addition to this Wall's Funfair will be in attendance with a variety of attractions to appeal to the family. The Tigers Children's Motorcycle Display Team will be performing each day and it is planned to organise a range of fun activities which all the family will be able to enjoy.

Underlying the "fun day" is a serious purpose. As in previous years the event is being organised to raise funds for local charities supported by Basingstoke Rotary Club. In particular this year it will help provide funds for Spotlight UK, which is based at Popley, and Basingstoke Mencap. For further details see www.basingstoke.rotary1110.org

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Talking Health

We are North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group and our job is to plan and buy your local healthcare services. We work closely with GP practices, pharmacies and other healthcare professionals to give you the best possible service.

Here is the first of our short hints, tips and ideas about how to better look after yourself, your family and your neighbours.

Keeping Fit and Losing Weight

Many of us could do with shedding a few pounds, especially after the winter, but that's often easier said than done.

We can all keep fit and lose weight by simply doing something relatively small every day and gradually altering our diet. If you're not sure where to start speak to your local pharmacist or GP.

A few hints and tips:

- Fitness doesn't need to be expensive. We have plenty of parks and countryside around us – let's use them.
- Don't do too much or you'll be put off doing anything.
- Don't expect too much of yourself and it's important that you enjoy the exercise you select.
- How about borrowing a dog to take for a walk a few times a week?
- Or a short walk with friends every day? It's incredible the difference a 20-minute stroll a day can make. It'll clear your head and you will feel smug because you've started regular exercise which will quickly become a pleasurable habit.
- Look at your local National Trust gardens. They often have lovely walks and their gardens are beautiful all year.
- Or try gardening yourself! It's one of the best forms of regular fitness and your family will be delighted.



What we eat is vital too and there is plenty of advice at health centres and on the NHS Choices website to help with this:
<http://www.nhs.uk>

Collect the recipe cards in your local supermarkets, which are free, and make cooking fun. Keep busy so you're not thinking about food all the time. If you struggle you may even be referred to a weight-loss programme to help you on your way.

Look up local schemes which help whole families become fitter together, learn how to cook nutritious, healthy meals - and have fun!

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SCOUTING in Popley is really flourishing and numbers have never been higher, with more than 100 young people taking part in activities each week, this is a real success story. The range of events and activities on offer is providing the fun, challenge and adventure that young people really want.

BEAVERS 

With so many young people enjoying Scouting in Popley every week, we do have a small number of places available in some sections but there are also dozens of young people who want to join who cannot because we are bursting at the seams. The age ranges are Beavers (6-8) Cubs (8-10) and Scouts (10-14).

The Leaders are passionate about giving every young person who wants to join, the opportunity of the life changing experiences that Scouting offers. In order to do this we need more adult volunteers to help run weekly meetings, organise events and to share in the fun and adventure. But we also need people to help behind the scenes as well.

SCOUTS 

Why not put a spring in your step, start a new hobby, and put something back into your local community. You will find the time you give really rewarding and Scouting actively promotes flexible volunteering, so we will find you a role that matches the time you want to give.

CUBS 

You will be surprised how rewarding and fun your time spent volunteering with us can be, so please contact us today to start your Scouting adventure and help to change lives.

To find out more please call.....

Colin from Basingstoke Air Scouts, on 07796 772500 or email colink@base2000.co.uk
or Brigitte from 1st Popley on 07980 633891 or email brigittecleall@hotmail.co.uk

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