

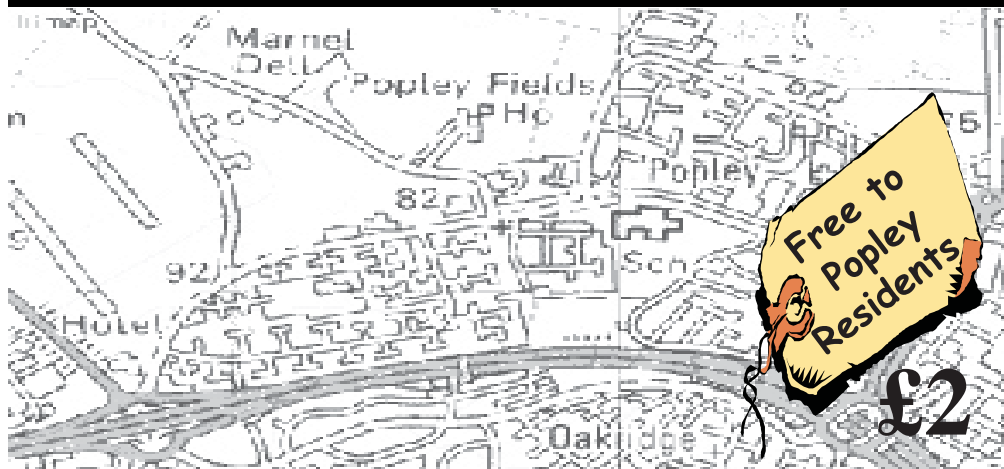
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVICING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

August 2015

Distribution of 5,100

Issue 162



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-08-15) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: I suppose all families have days or weeks when things go wrong and we are no exception. Thank you Thames Water for coming out so quickly to unblock the public smelly overflowing drain at the side of our house. “It was the usual”, he said “disposable wipes , nappies and grease that build up though none of it should be put down the drain”. “We don’t use wipes or have any babies and I use oil that I recycle!.”, “Yes but it’s a shared drain and most of them are used for people who just don’t listen”, he said with a sigh, so I promised I would mention it in Popley Matters and ask people to be more thoughtful. Paul had toothache, so thanks to the dentist for sorting that. The water softener power supply blew, £45 for a new one - must have seen us coming, but at least it works now. Then a phone call from a gentleman aged 84 “The council won’t take away the items I have cleared out of the garage. None of it was reusable but they said take it down the dump.” No car an 84 year old OAP with poor eyesight, relatives miles away? Even offering the top charge of £42 they would not take it all. Thank you AAA Clearance for stepping in; did it all with a smile for a lot less. Thank you NCA for doing a great service on our boiler. That made me think- we would love to hear if you have used any of the people who advertise with us if you have had good or not so good service?

We need some more good people to deliver Popley Matters especially in Shrivenham, Banbury, Charlebury, Farringdon, Risinghurst, Enysham, Kiddlington, Marston and Oxford Way. Details to contact me are as below. Just a special thank you to all the people who kindly remembered that it was four years ago that my dear Ken passed away. We have many good memories of Ken and the help and support he gave to us and to Popley.

Send your articles or Adverts to editor@popleymatters.org.uk or Call me on 819924.



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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Call to Get Involved in Green Week

Residents, local environmental groups and green living enthusiasts are being encouraged to organise events and activities in the borough to highlight green-related issues and initiatives locally during this year's Green Week.

The environmentally friendly week, running from Saturday 19 to Sunday 27 September, is organised by the Basingstoke Transition Network and supported by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council with other environmental groups and enthusiasts contributing to the week by organising activities in their areas, including Brookvale Community Association, Greening Chineham, Inspiro, Incredible Edible and Overton Sustainability forum.

Last year there were over 23 different events being held as part of Green Week across the borough, including a variety of activities to keep children entertained and thinking green, such as free sculpture and percussion workshops using recyclable materials, workshops, community litter picks, a clothes swap, talks, tastings, markets and a farm open day.

This year the week will start in Festival Place on Saturday 19 September with a Green Fair, a sustainability day at Brookvale Village Hall, bag making at the Discovery Centre, a swap shop and craft session for children in Chineham and a local market in Sherborne St John.

Other activities already planned for the week include Northdown Orchard Open Day, Overton green market, a fashion show in Brookvale and a pop-up shop is planned in Festival Place where there will be people on hand to talk about saving energy, swapping suppliers and the benefits of renewable energy for homes.

The council's Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and the Environment Cllr Hayley Eachus said: "Green Week has grown in size each year and I am hoping that lots of groups, schools and individuals get involved in this year's events to help raise awareness of how local people can really make a difference by being greener."

For information or to get involved in Green Week email greenweek@basingstoketransition.org or email the council at climatechange@basingstoke.gov.uk

For further information on this press release please contact: Sophia Waite-King, External information Communications Officer, on 01256 845746 or email sophia.waite-king@basingstoke.gov.uk.

For all media enquiries call 01256 845220 or email communications@basingstoke.gov.uk

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Councillors' Page: The work is due to start this month on the new gate in Tintern Close for the Merton Schools expansion and will include the eight extra parking spaces and a turning circle. There will also be works done to make the crossing of the busy Popley Way road much safer and fill in the underpass that is constantly flooded and has let travellers through.

Major roadworks around town that will also affect Popley will take up to three years. Several roundabouts, roads, and highways had got so poor with potholes and poor work surfaces it is taking millions of pounds now to upgrade them. If you want to see the plans they are online on the Hampshire County Council website. The scheme was open to public consultation and one meeting was at Popley Fields. The roads should never have been left to get so much in need of major repairs.

Merton's Got Talent was again a great success and there certainly were some future stars there. But it is true to say they were all winners. It made a really enjoyable evening with the very difficult choice for us five judges to pick a winner second and third. Well done to the contestants and staff. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924

Popley West: We have secured a grant to upgrade the area around the Abbey Road shopping and parking area. Also, some work will be done in the Tintern Close ball court. The area looks dated and badly in need of upgrading. The walls need repairing or replaced, in some cases, with railings. This will also help to stop the anti social behaviour that residents have been suffering with.

At last there is due to be a decision by the cabinet member on the double yellow lines and parking restrictions in Appleton and Barrington Drives. I believe it may be for a six month or so trial to see if it works and then if extending or reducing the restrictions is needed. The latest holdup was because there was yet another change of the cabinet member who has the responsibility of making the decision.

After a complaint from residents that houses that are next to Spiers Meadow were experiencing clouds of excessive dust coating their homes, gardens and cars, David Wilson Homes have agreed to put an industrial dust extractor to minimise the effects.

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924

Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924

Popley East: Following the considerable effort of all those who helped to put together the published Community Plans, Popley has been selected as a second pilot scheme for a Neighbourhood Partnership. The first pilot scheme has been run in Buckskin and South Ham.

The Neighbourhood Partnership is a voluntary partnership that brings together community representatives with service providers to enable local people to influence and improve the quality of life in their community.

It feeds on the work done in community plans and its aim is to work together to come up with solutions that respond to local community priorities.

There will be an initial survey of residents over the summer period followed by an initial meeting of likely partner and community groups.

As local Councillors we hope to play our part in the process but this is intended to be driven by the community on behalf of the community.

On that basis membership of the wider Community partnership will be open to all those who live in, work in, or represent any grouping based in Popley. Generally three categories will cover membership:

Local Councillors;

Community Groups; and

Organisations which can help bring about significant change in the Popley area.

Your interest and involvement will be vital in the pilot scheme.

Cllr David Potter 07941507801.

Cllr Viv Washbourne 07900890088

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Welcome to Marnell Bowling Club

We are a very friendly and welcoming club with a bar facility good parking and benches to watch the games around the green.

We are situated behind Popley Fields Community Centre.

On a summer evening you are welcome to call in, buy a drink, sit on a bench and watch the activities.

Every Tuesday we have an "Open Evening" from 6pm to 8pm.

All are welcome, any questions answered, just come meet us and enjoy a pleasant evening.

For questions or information contact Ray Wheatley 410404.

Check out our website www.marnellbowlingclub.co.uk.



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Dear Friends

One of the features at the end of our morning service at St Gabriel's – apart from the dreaded notices – is the opportunity to celebrate with those celebrating a birthday or anniversary. Whether is a first or an eightieth birthday or whether it's a first or fiftieth wedding anniversary all are cause for great celebration.

Anniversaries are important occasions as they give opportunity to reflect and give thanks for the past as well as reconciling any hurts; it is also an opportunity to give thanks for the present and all its many blessings and lastly to look to the future and what may lie in store.

St Gabriel's has much to give thanks for: the vision and insight of those who established St Gabriel's as a congregation in Popley back in 1967 in a caravan in Dryden Close with the Revd. Robert Clarke. As the church grew it moved to share with St Bede's under Revd. Robin Mirch and then came Revd. Bill Ind and the present building. Bill was followed by Revd. Peter Furber who oversaw the extension of the building and the addition of the tower, and after Peter, Revd. Jane Vaughan-Wilson.

All these ministers and their congregations were part of paving the way for St Gabriel's today. I believe that the Parish Church still has a vital role to play in the community, not just for its buildings and facilities but more as they stand as a testament to a living God who has a great love for community and for his people.

For the future? By the time you read this article we hope to have moved on in our planning application for the extension to the church hall and in our fundraising for the rest of the buildings work. If you haven't seen the plans for St Gabriel's please do pop in and look at them on the large notice board in the foyer. We're looking forward to the future with great anticipation.

This is what the Lord says: "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you ..." (Jeremiah 29:11f). How very true are these words!

As a church we continue to grow and it's good to welcome the young families that have joined us. If you find Sunday morning retail therapy isn't working but adding to the stress why don't you try joining us for our service at 10.30 a.m. It's free and you may experience a saving! Look forward to meeting you.

Yours in Christ

Arthur.

01256 324734

Year One Garden Poems

Merton Infant School

Sunny Sun Shine

Flimsy flowers start to grow
In the garden when it snows
When the snow melts
Summer comes to town

Little Forget Me Not

A forget me not has lots of colours
Growing is knowing
Flowers sometimes have powers
Especially when it showers

Love a Garden

Its roses and hoses
Its troupes of tulips
Its lazy and daisy
Its amazing aster
Growing faster

I Love a Garden

Its blue blossom wool
Its red roses and hoses
Its pinky blinky petals
Its lazy and daisy

I love a garden

Its roses and hoses
Its lazy daisies
Its fun flowers
Its happy holly dollies

Little Seeds

Seeds grow in Leeds
Growing in the ground
Roses for a pound
Come and buy my seed.

By Grace Massen

Spring Time

Floats like a rose
Smells like a hollyhock
Falls like blossom
Spring is gorgeous

Gorgeous Garden

A pink butterfly lands on a pink tulip
Oh you will love my gorgeous garden
Full of sweet roses
Flowers love showers

Little Garden

Showers and powers make tulips rose up
When daffodils and pansy look nice in a cup
Roses look like rainbows
In my garden anything goes

Garden

Going to the shed
A flower
Red rose
Dad planting
Everyone planting
Nine flowers

Rose

Ran to the shop
Orange rose
Sunflower
Eating bugs

My Garden

Making dinner
Yellow dandelions
Garden
A flower
Red rose
Dad planting the flower
Ella playing in the garden
Nanny tidying the garden

Beanstalk

Bumble bee
Egg for Jack
A flower
No water
Sunflower
Tall flower
A flower
Leo growing
King sunflower

Home-Start North West Hampshire has worked in Basingstoke & Deane for 9 years and offers support to families who have at least one child under five years of age

Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. To Home-Start every family is special and we respond to each family's needs through a combination of home-visiting support, group work and specialised parenting courses. The one-to-one relationship which develops between a volunteer and a parent means our support can be exactly tailored to the needs of each family we visit. Vulnerable children need our support – and every one of them is as unique and fragile as a snowflake

Home-visiting volunteers support families for a couple of hours each week. **We need volunteers to:** Visit local families, who for many reasons, are struggling to cope with the demands on them. Volunteers will undergo an eight week preparation course. Our next Volunteer Preparation Course will run on Wednesdays from 7th October - 25th November 2015 (9.30am - 2.30pm). Venue to be confirmed

INTERESTED?

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How much time do I need to commit?

Just 2-hours a week, or less, can make a real difference to a patient living in your local community.

What support will I be given?

All relevant training will be given, as well as regular and on-going support and supervision.

Interested?

For further information contact Nicola Hayes, Befriending Coordinator on: 01264 835293 Email: Caroline.Nash@hhft.nhs.uk

Interested volunteers will be invited to an informal interview and the role is subject to references, simple health checks and DBS clearance.

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St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) Moonlight Walk 2015

Saturday 5th September 2015

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) has opened registration for the 2015 Basingstoke Moonlight Walk. The walkers will begin from Porchester Square, Festival Place, Basingstoke at 10pm on Saturday 5th September 2015. Walkers will be a part of a glorious night out walking under the stars, whilst raising money for North Hampshire's only adult Hospice. This is the third year of Moonlight Walk and we hope to beat last year's terrific total of over 300 walkers raising £21,000. The walk is a great opportunity for you to have an enjoyable night out, spend quality time with your friends and family, get fit, remember loved ones and have fun whilst raising money. You can even make the most of your evening by enjoying one of the many restaurants in Festival Place before the walk to build your energy levels up! Men, women and children of all fitness levels will be 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 8.30pm inside Festival Place with the warm up starting at 9.45pm. Preregistered prices for adults are £17 and £10 for children aged 17 and under. Registering in advance saves money with registration on the night costing £20 per adult and £12 per child. Family tickets are also available for £45, which includes two adults and two children. The entry fee includes refreshments and a special moonlight walk medal on your successful return to Festival Place. Though places are selling fast so make sure you register your place at stmichaelshospice.org.uk.

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 patient's needs to enable them to attain the best quality of life possible. As a charity our care is provided to our patients and families free of charge. In 2015/16 it will cost £3.2 million to provide our patient 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 £2.5 million from fundraising, Gifts in Wills, Lottery and retail 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.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events or call fundraising on 01256 848848.

Follow us on Twitter **@smhbasingstoke #MoonlightWalk**
Like us on Facebook at **St Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)**



Headquarters:

Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader:	Colin Karslake	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

The Group Annual Meeting for parents was well attended and business was quickly concluded. Chief Scout Bronze Awards were presented by the District Commissioner, Andy Cullen, and lots of activity badges to the Cubs. The Beaver section offered an interesting perspective on what SCOUTING meant to them and the Cubs sang a selection of campfire songs with audience participation - much to some parents bemusement!

The Beaver section held a 'sleepover' in Base 2000 in July. Not much sleeping went on but they had great fun and lots of games. Electronic games and gismos were banned for the event and it was interesting to see how some of them approached 'old fashioned' board games and challenges.

By the time you read this, weekly meeting will have ceased for the summer but the Cubs are and Scouts will be camping during August so more fun, games and outdoor challenges are on the agenda.

The Group are holding a Quiz Night and BBQ on the evening of 5th September to raise money for Guide Dogs for the Blind. They have set themselves a target to raise £500 to train a guide dog.

New recruits welcome. All sections open to both boys and girls.



Beavers (aged 6 – 8 years)
Tuesday evening 5.30 – 7 p.m.



Cubs (aged 8 – 10½ years)
Tuesday evening 6.30 – 8 p.m.



Scouts (aged 10 ½ -14)
Friday evening 7.00 – 9.00 p.m.

Meetings are held in Base 2000 generally but contact the leader if you are planning to join us as you may find you've chosen an evening when the section is 'out and about' and we'd be sorry to miss you.

The Air Scout Headquarters at Base 2000 offers facilities for community groups other than Scouts and Guides for meetings at very reasonable rates. Guides, Brownies and Rainbows meet in Base 2000 regularly. Boot Camp, Meditation Group, and the Caged Birds' Society also use the building for meetings.

Enquiries bookings@base2000.co.uk or contact Colin Karslake 07796 772 500

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What experience would I need?

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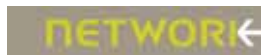
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Thank you to everyone who joined us for the taster session of our new cycle club, I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. We will be continuing these family lead rides. Please let us know what times/dates would be most suitable. Bikes are available to borrow, so come along and join in! Get fit, enjoy the outdoors and learn the cycle routes in your local area.

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WEDNESDAY:	9.30am Slimming World
	12-2pm Oasis Lunch club
	5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am Community Cafe
	6.30-8.30pm Katies Clubersize!! - NEW
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FRIDAY:	DAYTIME HIRE AVAILABLE
SATURDAY:	9.00am-4.00pm 7 TH Day Adventist Church
	10am Sabbath School – Bible Study
	11.30 Divine Worship
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Also find us on facebook: Melrose hall.

Volunteering Opportunities

Age Concern Hampshire has existed for 30 years to promote the general well being of the over 55s in Hampshire. Many of our services would not exist without our dedicated team of volunteers.

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If you would like more information, please call Jenny at the Basingstoke office on 01256 423874 or alternatively e-mail: jenny.faulkner-quick@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk


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

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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, 4.30pm 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.

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The 2014/15 season has been very successful for the Club, with journeys into new leagues and tournaments for some of our teams, and this coming 2015/16 season is looking to be even better!

The MFC Popley Awards took on a new identity this year with the emphasis on team work, and the club as a whole coming together for a day of celebration and fun.

The Club also held two very well attended FREE open days at the beginning of July which has led to more children signing on throughout all of our age groups and, with the success of the England team at the FIFA Women's World Cup, it's been fantastic to see more girls coming along and showing the boys how it's done.

As always, 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 grass roots level is a must.

Please contact the Club by email at volunteer@mfcpopleeyouth.co.uk 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 and Respect lines. So if you are interested in helping out please make yourself known to the manager/coach of your particular age group.

Do you know a Year R or Year 1 child, boy or girl, who wants to play football?

The Club is always recruiting for our 'All Stars Players'. If you would like your child to join, or if you have any further questions, please contact the Club by email: allstars@mfcpopleeyouth.co.uk

Contact the club -

Main website: www.mfcpopleeyouth.co.uk

Club Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer & Club Welfare Officer: mfcpopleeyouth@live.co.uk

Volunteer enquiries: volunteer@mfcpopleeyouth.co.uk

All-Stars Recruitment: allstars@mfcpopleeyouth.co.uk

Club Sponsor: BGS PLUMBING & HEATING via their main website <http://www.bgsplumbingandheating.co.uk/>

Zak Collingwood

Grandma's Apron

Do you know the story behind the apron? For most people, it's a piece of clothing they use every day, in the kitchen or at work. For some, it's a link, or at least part of it.

However, the apron used to be more important, much more important than you could imagine.

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a pot holder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids...

And when the weather was cold grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men-folk knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.

I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron...But Love.

Pass this on if it reminds you of your own childhood.

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An Inheritance Tax Increase: What does it mean for me?

by Michael Le Fort, Head of Wills & Probate

There has been a great deal of hype recently in regard to Chancellor George Osborne's raising of the inheritance tax threshold. The nil rate band allowance, which is the largest sum you can leave without incurring inheritance tax, is presently limited to £325,000. The fevered talk is about how this will be raised to £500,000 for individuals and £1 million for married couples and civil partners.

In the Chancellor's Summer Budget in July we were informed the changes are aimed to support aspirational living and the report accompanying the budget tells us that by the year 2020-2021 some 63,000 estates will be liable for an inheritance tax liability. This is a figure the Government hopes to reduce to 37,000 which interestingly the Treasury states will only bring us back proportionally to the current number of estates with an inheritance tax liability.

For some years now, particularly in the South East, rising house prices have swelled the value of estates meaning the threat of inheritance tax has become a reality for many. There has been some disquiet about the question of whether it is right for the Government to tax you on the income used to purchase your home only to be taxed again on the same home when you die. Ultimately it appears that the aim of the Government is to stay true to the promise it made before the General Election of 2010. The promise that if you are married or in a civil partnership and own a property of up to £1 million in value you will be able to pass this on to your children or grandchildren free of inheritance tax by taking advantage of the doubling of your individual allowances; an increase on the presently set inheritance tax threshold of £650,000.

The Chancellor feels that the answer is what he calls the 'family home allowance' which at present is being touted in the press as being £175,000 per individual. As ever, the devil is in the detail and the Budget document states that this will be an incremental rise commencing in 2017. Thus the start point in 2017-2018 will be a rise to £100,000 per individual, on to £125,000 in 2018-2019, £150,000 in 2019-2020 and finally reaching the magic goal of £175,000 in 2020-2021. It should also be noted that there will be a tapered withdrawal of the main residence nil rate band for estates with a property with a net value of more than £2 million.

Not quite the straight forward plans we might have hoped for. No doubt the coming weeks will see more flesh to the bones and the detail become clearer. In the meantime and for more information you can contact Michael Le Fort in the Wills & Probate team on 01256 854637 or email michael.lefort@phillips-law.co.uk and visit our website at www.phillips-law.co.uk

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Year 6 Graduation at Winchester University From Merton Junior's

As always, Year 6 took part in a Graduation ceremony at Winchester University and this year was no exception. Transported by coaches provided by the University, the children arrived on the Campus eager to see what could lie ahead of them in years to come. Greeted by University student ambassadors, we were all taken on a tour of the grounds and the children were also given the opportunity to walk through the Student Union building to witness the restaurants, cafes and even the nightclub which they really enjoyed. The University's vast library was also a surprise to the groups, especially when they discovered that the library houses over 330,000 books and journals. Along our journey, up the many hills and steep inclines that provide superb views of the campus, the children were shown the accommodation where they were quite excited by the prospect of their own en-suite bathrooms and sharing a flat with up to eight friends, and this was before the main show piece of the day, actually donning the cap and gown and graduating from Junior School in front of friends and family.

Each child was loaned a long black robe and mortar board with many children commenting how they felt as though they were part of Hogwarts. They looked incredible. This time of year is always hard on the families and teachers, when they realise that the children have grown up so much over the past year and are now on the road to saying goodbye to the Junior's and hello to Secondary school.

We shared the ceremony with Rucstall Primary School and both schools were amazing. Each child went on to the stage and received their certificate from the Dean of Education at Winchester University and then went off to have their professional photograph taken with the Head teacher. Although an over whelming experience for such a young age, each child was an attribute to the school and when we all headed outside for photographs you could feel the sense of achievement coming from each and every one of them. Many parents even took to our Facebook page to share their thanks to the University and expressing how proud they were of all of the children. We thank the University for allowing our children such a magical experience and we look forward to the date in the Year 6 calendar each year. It is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate all of the hard work that has already taken place and it provides an insight into what their futures could have. The Year 6 students at Merton Junior School have been incredible this year, and from all of the staff in the school we would like to say how unbelievably proud we are of each and every one of them. Reach for the stars Year 6.

Miss R Gregor



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