

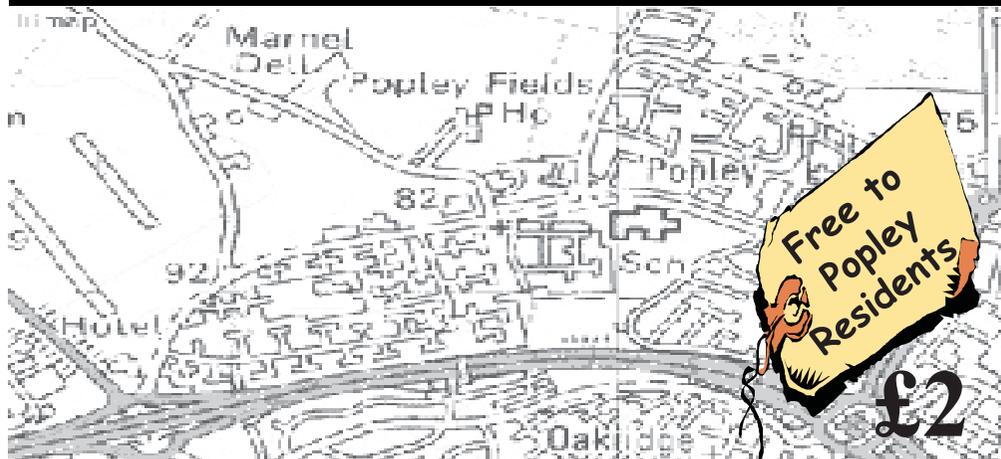
# POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

November 2016

Distribution of 5,300

Issue 177



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-11-16) [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:** Is it me or are we advertising and organising Christmas much earlier year by year? I suppose Christmas does need a lot of organising and can be so expensive forward planning is not a bad idea after all? In your Popley Matters this month there is a lot of advertising for fayres, dinners, lantern making, and candle lit services. I expect there will be even more in next month's issue, so get in early if you want to advertise with us! Before Christmas comes our Countries Remembrance Day and services. The Basingstoke and Deane Civic Service is at the War

Memorial on 13th November, with many of our veterans from all over the world representing all the armed services being there. The time of the service is at 11 am so if you want to come please be there ten minutes before in time for the very moving two minutes silence at 11 o'clock.

There are articles from some of our schools. We like to encourage all our schools to send articles in as it encourages the students to read them and to learn more about our community. There are also football opportunities:- Popley Fields youth group and at Everest there is a Kicks session of ninety minutes every Tuesday with two professional footballers from Reading FC to do the coaching.

The Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service are asking if you want a free Safe and Well Visit. The website address is on page 23 if you want to get more details.

We hope to have the map and times of the new bus service by Basingstoke Community Services next month. Call 320501 in the meantime.

Contact me at either 405 Abbey Road, phone me on 01256 819924 or email me at [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk).



Sub Editor  
Paul Frankum

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the editorial team, the members of the committee, or the Popley Matters magazine.

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# **Football Scheme Scores High with Borough's Teenagers**

A new free football scheme to develop the potential of young people in the borough has kicked off in Popley.

Working with Reading Football Club and Hampshire Constabulary, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council has officially launched Kicks – a new and exciting initiative for 11 to 19 year olds.

The free weekly sessions take place at Everest Community Academy and use the appeal of football and a professional football club to work with teenagers to promote safer, strong and more respectful communities.

And the sessions are already proving popular with around 25 young people regularly attending.

The Mayor Cllr Jane Frankum said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for young people in the borough to attend a regular after school or college session and be taught by top coaches for free, while meeting new people and taking part in an activity that is both healthy and enjoyable."

Reading Football Club's Social Inclusion Officer Paul Brown said: "It is great to be able to expand the successful Kicks project into Basingstoke. The project provides young people, aged 11 to 19 years old, with a safe and structured opportunity to engage with free football sessions. The project helps to bring young people from all backgrounds and cultures together and this will only help the communities we work in both short and long term. The project has had great success in engaging with huge numbers of young people over the years and we are looking forward to providing these opportunities to young people living in the Basingstoke area."

Teenagers wishing to take part can simply turn up and play on the artificial pitch at Everest Community Academy in Oxford Way from 4.30pm to 6pm every Tuesday.

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**Councillors' Page:** The responsibility for the safe disposal of redundant fridges and freezers rests with the manufacturers who have been required to set up a scheme to collect and deal with them. Hampshire County Council has continued to accept appliances at their waste centres for collection and disposal through this scheme. The national scheme has ground to a halt because of inadequate re-processing capacity, a machinery failure at one plant, and very limited storage organised by the manufacturers scheme so has left the county with hundreds of fridges and freezers, Until the Manufacturers act to resolve this, HCC have already 2,500 fridges, and the scheme's 'emergency' collections have not happened. They continue build up and HCC are asking people to call in advance to make sure they can accept the fridge/freezer to avoid being turned away. I am disappointed that HCC let it get so late before warning residents!

After the flooding again in Popley Park, I had Highways look at finding a long term solution. There is only one gully and it is agreed that it cannot cope, especially with all the new housing. I also asked that the slabs that were broken or a trip hazard to be repaired. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk

**Popley West:** The new Community Transport bus, Popley 55, started in October. We tried for many years to get a service that will link the Popleys to make it possible to get directly to the doctors from the Abbeys and to the hospital from Poets. The new route timetable will be in next month's issue as some negotiations are still in progress. We hope the route is a success and that residents use the service. Details can be found on [www.bct.me.uk](http://www.bct.me.uk) or on Facebook.

A resident called and asked if we thought that other residents in Popley would be interested in forming a group that could do clean ups on the estate. I believe Kempshott do this once a month. If anyone is interested could they contact me and I will pass on your details to him. It could be useful when we have snow and ice as some residents are not able to clear it from their paths.

We had a report of massive amounts of rubbish and waste around the recycling bins in the car park by the Abbey Road shops. Most of it was not recycling but waste. We had it cleared within hours but we hope that most people will not abuse the facility and dispose of waste properly.

**Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924**  
[cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk)  
**Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924**  
[cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk)

**Popley East:** Whilst out and about in the ward it was becoming noticeable that several areas were in need of additional grounds maintenance.

As a result we have been pressurising the Borough for some time to undertake extra works in addition to their normal programme and are pleased to say that agreement was reached.

These works started on 10th October and continued for the week during which time the Grounds Maintenance team trimmed up hedges, particularly those that are situated alongside footpaths, cleared weeds from within the planting beds and pruned back the shrubs. They also undertook a programme of litter picking and general street cleaning with residents invited to get involved. Thank you to everyone who helped.

We have also arranged for works to be undertaken to the trees that are overhanging the footpath along Shakespeare Road and expect this to be done in the next week or so.

Finally just a reminder that the splashpad has now closed for the winter. We are working closely with the Borough Council to review what improvements can be made in terms of parking and toilet facilities before it reopens next Easter. We will keep you updated.

**Cllr David Potter 07941507801**  
[cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk)  
**Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200**  
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## **Motown Magic**

Lou Taylor certainly set the night on fire last Saturday night when he performed for the Basingstoke Lions Club at the Royal British Legion in aid of the Maple Ridge School's Minibus Appeal.

He started us off with a couple of slow and easy numbers which encouraged us onto the dance floor. Then he unleashed a pulsating blast of rhythm straight out of 1960s and 70s Detroit - "Superstition", "I heard it through the Grape Vine", "Sugar Pie Honey Bunch", "Ain't no Mountain High Enough", "Sex Machine". At this point the fainthearted (mostly men) left the floor and left it to the ladies to show us what it was all about. Wow! If those hips had been on The Great British Bake Off they would have had no trouble beating the egg whites to stiff peaks.

Even after the break to draw the raffle, the high octane performance by both Lou and the ladies continued and was maintained right to the end when we all went "Dancing on the Ceiling" and "Loco Down in Acapulco". We had enormous fun, and there is no doubt that this event will feature in the Lions Charity Fundraising programme again. Thanks Lou!

Many thanks, too, to all who turned up and made it such a successful event. We will publish how much we raised for Maple Ridge in our next monthly activities report which will be sent to Popley Matters.

## **Haiti Hurricane Relief**

As you will all have seen through the news channels, Hurricane Matthew, the most powerful Caribbean storm in a decade has had a devastating effect upon Haiti.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, there are an estimated 350,000 people in need of assistance.

80% of buildings have been destroyed and sadly the death toll is already over 900 and expected to rise. The already very poor sanitation system has been totally overwhelmed by flooding. A cholera epidemic spread by contaminated water has already killed 6,000 people since the earthquake hit Haiti in 2010 and will kill many more now.

Members of Lions Clubs of the British Isles and Ireland are coordinating with our Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and it has been agreed to supply water treatment equipment directly to help the people of Haiti. Clean water is one of their greatest needs.

The Basingstoke Lions Club will be making an initial donation of £500 and I'm sure that our friends in the other 65 local Clubs will be doing their bit too.

Please donate to this cause if you can.

Thank you for giving this your consideration.

**Philip Wilson**

**PRO, Basingstoke Lions Club. Tel. 01256 352393**



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

## It's All Marvellous at Merton

It's hard to believe that we are already reaching the autumn half term break, but it does seem to have crept up whilst we have all been working so hard. Before we know it the nights will become darker earlier and there will be talk of snow and Christmas.



As always, the children at Merton Junior School have been completing exciting activities, such as the 'break in' of the Iron Man in Year 4, which saw the children investigating the 'crime' and writing newspaper reports, informing us of the devastation caused by the metal, munching monster.

As well as the children enjoying themselves and achieving success, we at Merton Junior School believe in recognising the success of all and so it was with great pleasure that we welcomed Angie Bridle, one of our cover teachers, back to school after a very busy weekend at the National Dance Championships in Blackpool recently, where she was crowned the National Latin Dance Champion. Well done Angie, we are so very proud of you and your dance partner and teacher, Dan Bridle.



Recently we were very privileged to hold a MacMillan Coffee Morning in support of the charity, MacMillan Cancer Support. We are always amazed by the support that we receive by our community and therefore it was wonderful that just by providing coffee, cake and a chat, we were able to raise an amazing £522.21! What a fantastic community we have surrounding our school, thank you one and all.



The Basingstoke Variety Show, an annual event that showcases an excellent variety of talent from across the borough, had Merton Melodies, the school choir, on stage along with a range of other local schools. All of the children sang extremely well and impressed the whole audience. As well as the choir, Eleanor Stonehouse, one of our Year Five pupils, performed a solo that impressed all who heard it. Both the choir and Eleanor made the whole school community very proud.

It truly was a fantastic evening and highlighted local talent as well as raising money that is to be donated the Mayor's Charity Appeal.



## November Nights

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

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



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## Limited Offer – Free Home Energy Survey

Did you know that the average house in Popley will spend over £400 on heating this winter?

Some of us will spend a lot more. Popley Matters has teamed up with Basingstoke Transition and the Basingstoke Energy Co-operative to offer FREE energy surveys of homes in Popley. We have been able to borrow a thermal imaging camera which can detect the warmth leaking from your home. It can also find damp spots and drafts. The survey takes about 30 minutes; we take a couple of thermal images from inside and outside. After a brief chat we can then make recommendations on how you can save money and be warmer this winter.

This is a limited offer open to 5 homes only. So if you want to save money this winter please email - [secretary@basingstoketransition.org](mailto:secretary@basingstoketransition.org) for more information; this may be the best 30 minutes you spend this winter. Surveys are on a first come first served basis.

Dear Friends

It may well be that by the time you read this the ashes of Bonfire Night will have cooled and all the fireworks will have been set off, except maybe for that big one you're saving for New Year's Eve! I remember Bonfire Night as a boy in Manchester as a time of wonderful community. For weeks beforehand, the boys in the neighbourhood would all be out every spare moment gathering bits of wood (or anything else that would burn) and piling it onto the bonfire in the field near where we lived. Competition for "penny for the guy" would be fierce among the children as we scabbled for the best pitch – usually outside the pub!

On Bonfire Night we'd rush home from school to get changed and gather around the pile of wood and stuff. As it was lit and the flames reached hungrily into the cool of the November evening air, fireworks of every colour shape and size would crackle and flare, lighting the faces of adults and children alike with their bright, eerie colours. We'd share 'hard as rock' treacle toffee, toffee apples and potatoes baked to charcoal in the intense heat at the edge of the bonfire. As the bonfire died down, we children would wander home to bed and the grown ups would sit around the glowing red embers swapping tall stories and drinking warm, flat beer! The next day the air would be thick with bonfire and firework smoke and the lingering smell of expended gunpowder. For me Bonfire Night conjures up very pleasant, powerful and evocative memories.

Community is a vital part of what it is to be human. I'm not talking just about the social gatherings like Bonfire Night which are usually such great fun! It's the sense of community that takes pride in its surroundings, which cares for the vulnerable individual whether old or young, rich or poor, which takes the time to smile, to greet, to look in on someone. In fact it's the community that God created us to be a part of, and to take part in! Unless we all buy in to this idea of community it will never be as it should and that diminishes all of us!

As a Christian I firmly believe that we at St Gabriel's are called to be a people that reflect the nature and character of Jesus to our community. Jesus was the Master of caring and sharing, listening and talking with those among whom he lived and worked each day. I hope that His example and desire today for true community is what forms the heart of our vision for our church and for Popley. If this is what you are looking for in a community we would love to welcome you any time you want to drop in.

I hope and pray that you have a fantastic and safe bonfire night, shared with family and friends and one that in future years will evoke pleasant and powerful memories for you.

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After re-launching our Youth Club this autumn it has become more popular than ever and we are looking for volunteer helpers on  
Monday 7-9pm and/or Thursday 7-9.30pm

If you have a passion for helping kids develop, grow and have fun this could be a great opportunity. Previous experience would be useful but the right attitude is more important as training will be provided.

For more information please contact us at  
[office@popleyfields.org](mailto:office@popleyfields.org)  
Tel: 01256 414494

Please remember to put in your diaries the Popley Christmas Extravaganza!  
Lantern making, Thursday 8th December, 6-8pm  
Extravaganza, Monday 12th December, walks 5pm, carols 6pm



Popley Fields Community Centre  
Carpenters Down  
RG24 9AE





Headquarters:  
Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader:	Colin Karslake	01256 410559
Scout section:	Kevin Pocock	07717 108 560
Cub Scout section:	Douglas Gowan	01256 412326
Beaver Scout section:	Eve Alexander	07790 018 171

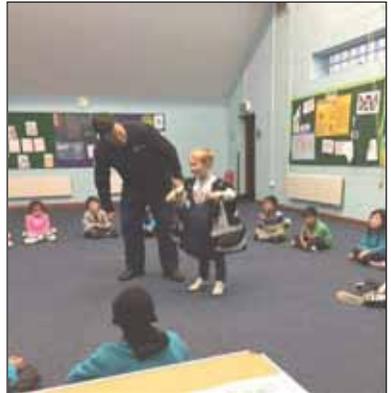


Beavers have had a great start to the new term. Twelve new Beavers have joined us and the Colony is back to full capacity. We already have four new potential recruits on the waiting list for the next intake.

Creative activities are always very popular with Beavers - the messier the better! Recently we have made rainbows with skittle sweets and warm water. The Beavers were fascinated to find out that the colours don't mix unless the plate is moved (a bit of basic science knowledge).

We have also had a visit from Paul, a Community Officer with the Council. The Beavers had fun asking the most odd questions and trying on his protective vest which was extremely heavy.

Our end-of-term party this year will be a joint event with 1<sup>st</sup> Popley Beaver Scouts. The theme will be 'robots made out of recycled materials' and I am looking forward to seeing all the fun costumes and effects produced. The imagination and creativity of young people aged 6-8 never ceases to amaze me!



The traditional visit to Paultons' Park looms on the horizon. Twelve Beavers and four leaders have been fortunate enough to visit Santa as he and his helpers prepare for the Christmas rush. They will also have a great time trying out all the rides and seeing the displays. No doubt parents and leaders we find a group of tired but happy Beavers on the return journey.

The Air Scout Group provides challenging activities for boys and girls aged from 6 to 14½ years of age. Provision for those aged 14 ½ to 18 is available on a District basis through the Explorer Scout section. For more information contact the Group Scout Leader Colin Karslake on 01256 410559 / 07796 772 500.

For news of recent activities in all sections of the Group link to our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts>

Charity number 267734

Headquarters registration number 42755



## Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers

Open afternoon: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

2.00pm-4.00pm

Meeting point – outside Tesco Express, Carpenters Down

*Did you know that Popley is home to one of the largest populations of Great Crested Newts in Europe?*

Popley Ponds and related areas are important habitats for the newts and a wide range of other wildlife. To help protect and maintain these areas some local residents are re-launching Popley's local conservation group - now renamed **Marnel & Popley Conservation Volunteers (MPCV)**.

MPCV is looking for volunteers of all ages to help us establish the new group and/or to participate in practical activities at the ponds. This is a great opportunity to help preserve our natural environment in Popley and to meet like minded people in the area (fresh air and a little exercise come free!). Look out for information on our programme of activities, as it develops, in future issues of Popley Matters.

If you would like to find out more, please come along to our open afternoon for a tour of the ponds and an opportunity to participate in some survey work to help us record information for the Hampshire Pond Champions initiative. To help us manage numbers, please let us know by email if you plan to attend the open afternoon. If you are interested in supporting us in any way, MPCV can be contacted at the email address set out below.

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

e-mail: [popleyponds@gmail.com](mailto:popleyponds@gmail.com)

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## Light up a Life

St. Michael's Hospice would like to invite you to their Light up a Life service, taking place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm in the grounds of the Hospice. The service led by Richard Harlow, Rector of Tadley with Pamber Heath and Silchester and Area Dean of Basingstoke, will give time for reflection, remembering precious memories of loved ones who cannot be with us this Christmas. If you would like to make a dedication in memory of a loved one, please visit [stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events](http://stmichaelshospice.org.uk/events) or for further information please contact the Fundraising Hotline on 01256 848848.

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Gym Team: 01256 337576 Main Reception: 01256 337573

## KIDS Nursery spaces available



We offer inclusive childcare provision for children from 3 months to 4 years. We are open 51 weeks of the year 8am – 6pm. We currently have flexible spaces available and offer grant funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds as well as full day care at an hourly rate of £3.60.

We can offer stretched funding to children who want to attend the full 51 weeks a year. Please contact [Jane.woodhouse@kids.org.uk](mailto:Jane.woodhouse@kids.org.uk) or 01256 464750 for more information and to book a show around.

KIDS Nursery, Pebbles Children Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley, Basingstoke, RG24 9BP.

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

12 PM TILL 2 PM

- PLEASE COME ALONG TO EVEREST COMMUNITY ACADEMY'S FIRST EVER COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE
- START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BY BROWSING STALLS HELD BY LOCAL BUSINESSES SELLING THEIR FESTIVE WARES
- TRY SOME CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND TRY YOUR LUCK ON SOME OF OUR FESTIVE GAME STALLS
- LET THE LITTLE ONES WRITE A LETTER TO SANTA (AND RECEIVE A POSTED REPLY!!)
- VISIT SANTA IN OUR GROTTO
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If you can spare a few hours per month and are looking to help join a friendly team of volunteers we would love to hear from you.

Level 2 NVQ in Beauty, Level 3 NVQ in Massage and Reflexology, Level 2 and Salon Experience in Hairdressing required. Insurance is provided.

Please contact us on 07789 970 841.

Email us: [info@thepinkplace.org.uk](mailto:info@thepinkplace.org.uk)

Visit our website: [www.thepinkplace.org.uk](http://www.thepinkplace.org.uk)

Find us on Facebook.

The Pink Place, 3 Wote Street, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 7NE



# FA COACHING/REFEREE FOOTBALL JUNIOR AWARD

## Course Info

- Age 12 +
- Course Duration 6 hours



This course provides a basic introduction to leadership skills required when involved with football.

**When:** Thursday 3rd & 10<sup>th</sup> November

18:30 – 21:30

**Where:** Popley Youth Club, Popley Fields  
Community Centre



**ONLY 20 SPACES, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL TO  
BOOK**

01256 414494 / [popleyyouthclub@gmail.com](mailto:popleyyouthclub@gmail.com)



## Could failing to resolve your financial issues allow your ex-spouse haunt you?

GETTING divorced or dissolving a civil partnership is often a deeply emotional, upsetting and difficult time.

This is when you need someone on your side to help you.

At Phillips we have a team of family law solicitors who are on hand to support you through the divorce process. We are there to give advice that you can trust, particularly about things like your children, home and financial security.

We will be there to listen to your concerns and discuss your options, letting you know what your rights are, as well as those of your ex-partner.

We'll aim to make your divorce as simple and stress free as possible.

However, some people opt to go through the DIY route. But bear in mind problems can arise if you have not covered all the issues properly, where your ex-spouse can come back for more, disrupting your life, sometimes years later.

A recent case, *Wyatt v Vince*, decided by the Supreme Court led to a woman being given a £300,000 cash payout more than 20 years after her divorce.

Both Mrs Wyatt and Mr Vince, who had a son together, were penniless at the time of their divorce.

Later Mr Vince founded a successful green energy supplier and became a millionaire. Mrs Wyatt went on to make a claim for financial relief from her former husband.

Their case was finally settled after several years battling in the courts and is an example of when an unresolved issue returns to haunt a former partner and disrupt their life, in this case for many years.

This could have been avoided if they had sorted out their finances properly at the time of their divorce.

This is because getting a divorce does not end your ability to make a financial claim against your ex-partner, or them against you. There is also no time limit for making a financial claim.

Our objective is to help you as quickly and effectively as possible with the best outcomes for you and your family.

Most people going through a divorce or separation would rather avoid having to go to court if possible. We understand that, so we offer a range of services including Mediation, Separation Agreements and Collaborative Law. One of these methods could be right for you.

For more information contact the Family Law Department here at Phillips by calling 01256 460830, email [hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk) or visit [www.phillips-law.co.uk](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk).

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Founded in 2005, MFC Popley Youth FA Charter Standard Development Club and Nike Partner Club is a Not For Profit (NFP) organisation dedicated to coaching boys and girls of all age groups to play football. We provide the children with encouragement and a fun and a friendly environment with the opportunity to play in matches.

MFC Popley Youth promotes “Respect” within the club to ensure everyone involved with the teams creates a fair, safe and enjoyable environment in which football can be played.

As the new 2016/17 season kicks off in September, MFC Popley Youth will be playing all of our home fixtures, across all age groups, at Mays Bounty, Fairfields Road, Basingstoke.

Although this is a fantastic move for the club, we are still very much a part of the Popley community, with the vast majority of our players living in the area, and with all our training in winter and summer held either on Popley Fields or on the 3G pitches at Everest Community Academy.

If you would like to join our team of committed volunteers, either as a coach (experience not necessary as full training will be arranged by the club) or as a parent/guardian volunteer, please contact the Club by email at [volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk) for more details.

If you are a parent or guardian of a player at the club, and would like more information on becoming a committee member, or getting more actively involved with MFC Popley Youth, especially on match days with refereeing (in particular our under 7s), running the line (under 11s upward) and the set up of the pitches and Respect lines, please speak to the manager of your child's age group.

You can get regular updates from the club by following our Twitter account, @MFC\_PopleyYouth & by using the hashtags #MFCPY #REDandBLACKARMY.

MFC Popley Youth has a dedicated club page on Facebook (as well as individual team pages), and you can also find us on Instagram.

MFC Popley Youth FA Charter Standard Development Club and Nike Partner Club has a dedicated club shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories.

Please visit the MFC Popley club shop website - [www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/](http://www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/)

Each age group has gratefully secured team sponsorship from the following companies -

U8 Sponsor - Grovewood Machines

U9 Sponsor - TBC

U10 Sponsor - Dazzle

U12 Sponsor - Southern Communications Ltd

U14 Sponsor - Vohkus

U15 Sponsor - Allens Group

MFC Popley Youth is currently looking for team sponsors for the below age groups:

U7, U11, U12 Girls, U13, U14 Predators & U16

Contact the club -

Main website: [www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](http://www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

Club Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer & Club Welfare Officer: [committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

Volunteer enquiries: [volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

All-Stars Recruitment: [allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

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**We will be holding our annual  
over 65's Free Christmas party on  
Wednesday 14 December at 1pm.**

# Over 65 Christmas Party

The food will be cooked and served by Year 9 Catering students and entertainment will be provided by our Music students, with Christmas carols being sung by "Merton Melodies".

Any local retired resident is welcome to attend. Additionally, we would like you to nominate an elderly Popley friend, relative or neighbour who you think would enjoy this event and we will send them an invitation.

Transport can be provided  
(please mention when booking if you require transport).

For nominations or to book a place please  
email [kanewman@everestcommunityacademy.org](mailto:kanewman@everestcommunityacademy.org) or call  
Everest Community Academy 01256 465547





# Popley CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

## LANTERN MAKING

Thursday 8th December 6pm til 8pm

Join us for an evening of crafting fun and create your own Christmas lantern ready for the Extravaganza's lantern lit walks. Free entry and materials, all welcome! (limited to 1 lantern per person)

The Extravaganza itself is Monday 12th December. Walks start at 5pm, carols in the woods from 6pm, followed by fun in the centre including, Santa's Grotto, games, refreshments, Christmas jumper competition and much, much, more



Popley Fields Community Centre  
Carpenters Down, Popley  
RG24 9AE

office@popleyfields.org  
01256 414494



*Aiming High, Achieving Together*

All the children have been very busy settling into their new classrooms and have been learning our MERTON Values.

**Motivation**  
**Excellence**  
**Respect**  
**Teamwork**  
**Opportunities**  
**Never give up**



### School Council Elections

As part of our school's commitment to raising the profile of the British Values, especially Democracy, we held our own School Council elections. Our school Governors were invited to hear the children explain why they would like to become a member of this year's school council. Once all speeches had been made, the children then posted their voting card into the ballot box! We look forward to announcing our school councillors and their project for this year in our next newsletter!

### Year R – 'Bears'

This half term the Year R children have been learning about Bears. They launched their topic by making their own class teddy bear. Each class learnt new skills to decide what their bear would look like then 'Built the Bear' in the classroom. To end their topic the children invited their own teddy bears to meet the class bear for a Teddy Bear Picnic, making some delicious sandwiches!

### Year 1 – 'Marvellous Marwell'

Our Year 1s have been learning all about zoo animals in their topic. They visited Marwell Zoo and enjoyed seeing the animals they had been learning about in Literacy and Science. They have also enjoyed visiting our new school library to read non-fiction books to find out information ready to create their own zoo animal leaflets for our Year R children.

They have also challenged themselves to think about what it would be like to be an animal in the zoo by asking themselves "What would animals in the zoo dream about?"

### Year 2 – 'It's Magic!'

Year 2 have been learning about Magic! They have had the pleasure of meeting the famous magical wizard Merlin. He asked the children to help him conjure up some new spells for his new spell book. As a reward for their hard work, Merlin visited the school's Wizard Convention to personally deliver their very own Wizard Passport!

### Our Harvest Festival

This Year's Harvest Festival was held at St Bede's Church with Rev Arthur. The children collected donations and learnt about the importance of supporting local organisations such as The Food Bank which provides food for families that are experiencing difficult times. As part of our celebration the children recited poems, sang songs and read prayers to give thanks for the food we are lucky enough to receive. It was wonderful to join with the local community and see so many of our parents for this occasion.

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