

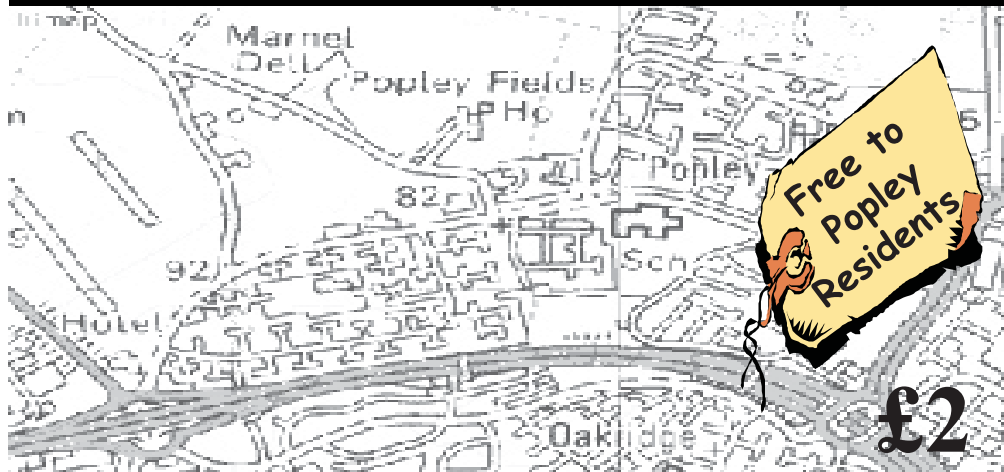
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

April 2017

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 182



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-4-17) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: April is always a busy month with many people especially the committee, residents and groups that are preparing for Popley Festival. It is a special anniversary for them as it is their 25th Anniversary and also the same for those of us involved with Popley Matters as it is our 25th anniversary too it does not seem possible! We have been thinking about getting a new design for the cover, what do you our readers think? Popley has grown and the map is out of date and still changing as new roads are being added all the time. Should we have something completely different? What about getting the students in our schools to design a page, would you, our schools, be interested? We really

would appreciate your comments and ideas, as it is after all your community magazine. You can contact Popley Matters by email editor@popleymatters.org.uk phone 01256819924 or write to me at 405 Abbey Road, Popley West, Basingstoke RG24 9EL

As it's Popley Festival's 25th Anniversary it looks like there will lots more this year, of things to do and see details on page 1. I hope to see you all there.

Route 55 is the new Community Transport bus route, and it has been a long battle for many years to get a service that would get residents from one end of Popley to the other end and to the doctors, hospital or shops at Chineham. More details are on page 3. If it is not used they will have to withdraw it. You don't even have to wait at a bus stop, you can hail it and it will pick you up en route. On page 7 we have an article on our local bowls club in Popley and Ray has offered to do an article each month. As I am sure you all know we love our readers and residents to write for Popley Matters. Another new feature is on page 11 from one of our PCSOs Chrissie Norris who will do an article each month to help keep us informed about our area.

I hope you enjoy getting Popley Matters each month and that it will continue into the next 25 years.

Email the Editor at editor@popleymatters.org.uk. Contact me at either 405 Abbey Road, phone me, on 01256 819924 or email me at 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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Thank you for your support

POPLEY 25th FESTIVAL

Anniversary

Sunday 21st May, 10am til 4pm

Competitions

Music tent

Children's
activities

Car boot sale



Charity stalls

Beer tent

Great food

Displays and
performances

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www.popleyfestival.org.uk

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The 55 BUS Route

We, your local councillors, have written here before bringing to your attention the pilot bus service which operates from the hospital, through Popley and on to Old Basing. We mentioned our concern that the passenger numbers, as they stand, may not be sufficient for the service to continue at the end of the pilot.

We believe that a factor contributing to low passenger numbers could be the relatively limited advertising of the service as although it has been promoted in Popley Matters several times, there has been little other advertising and residents still appear to be unaware of it.

It's important to give this service the best possible opportunity for success, so we have been working to establish how it can be better promoted and are pleased to report that the Borough Council have now produced flyers on behalf of the operator and these also include the timetable. The service has a timetable for Monday, Wednesday and Friday and one for Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The flyers will be placed in local shops, the doctors surgery, the North Hants CCG and Sentinel Housing Association who have also agreed to promote the service on their social media. In addition Hail and Ride flags will be installed along Shakespeare Road.

Please make your friends and neighbours aware of the service.

MONDAY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

TESCO CHINEHAM TO OLD BASING	11:25	13:25	
Pyotts Hill	09:30	11:30	13:30
The Street - Methodist Church	09:31	11:31	13:31
The Street - Bakery	09:32	11:32	13:32
Park Lane	09:35	11:35	13:35
London Rd A30 W	09:36	11:36	13:36
London Rd A30 E	09:37	11:37	13:37
Hatch Lane South	09:38	11:38	13:38
Linden Avenue	09:39	11:39	13:39
Park Avenue W	09:41	11:41	13:41
Byfleet Avenue	09:42	11:42	13:42
Milkingpen Lane	09:43	11:43	13:43
Belle Vue Road Shops	09:45	11:45	13:45
Belle Vue Road East	09:47	11:47	13:47
Hatch Lane North	09:48	11:48	13:48
The Street - Crown Pub	09:50	11:50	13:50
Great Binfields Road - Lychpit Surgery	09:53	11:53	13:53
Tesco Chineham (Arrive)	09:57	11:57	13:57

TESCO CHINEHAM TO HOSPITAL	10:00	12:00	14:00
Lidl Reading Rd W	10:02	12:02	14:02
Shakespeare Road - Health Centre	10:04	12:04	14:04
Popley Way	10:13	12:13	14:13
Abbey Road Shops	10:15	12:15	14:15
Hospital - Arrive	10:25	12:25	14:25

Hospital Depart	10:30	11:00	13:00
Abbey Road Shops	10:35	11:05	13:05
Popley Way	10:37	11:07	13:07
Shakespeare Road - Health Centre	10:45	11:15	13:15
Lidl Reading Rd E	10:47	11:17	13:17
Tesco Chineham (Arrive)	10:49	11:19	13:19

E1 from Old Basing to Tesco Chineham
 E1 from Tesco Chineham to Hospital
 E2 from Old Basing to Hospital (exact fares only please)

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

TESCO CHINEHAM TO OLD BASING	11:25	13:25	
Pyotts Hill	09:30	11:30	13:30
The Street - Methodist Church	09:31	11:31	13:31
The Street - Bakery	09:32	11:32	13:32
Park Lane	09:35	11:35	13:35
London Road A30	-	-	-
Park Avenue (All)	09:36	11:36	13:36
Blenheim Road	09:37	11:37	13:37
Linden Avenue	09:38	11:38	13:38
Byfleet Avenue	09:39	11:39	13:39
Milkingpen Road	09:40	11:40	13:40
Cavalier Road	09:42	11:42	13:42
Fairthorne Rise (turnabout point)	09:44	11:44	13:44
Belle Vue Road East	09:47	11:47	13:47
Hatch Lane North	09:48	11:48	13:48
The Street Crown Pub	09:50	11:50	13:50
Great Binfields Road - Lychpit Surgery	09:53	11:53	13:53
Tesco Chineham Arrive	09:57	11:57	13:57

TESCO CHINEHAM TO HOSPITAL	10:00	12:00	14:00
Lidl Reading Rd W	10:02	12:02	14:02
Shakespeare Road - Health Centre	10:04	12:04	14:04
Popley Way	10:13	12:13	14:13
Abbey Road Shops	10:15	12:15	14:15
Hospital Arrive	10:25	12:25	14:25

Hospital Depart	10:30	11:00	13:00
Abbey Road Shops	10:35	11:05	13:05
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Shakespeare Road - Health Centre	10:45	11:15	13:15
Lidl Reading Rd E	10:47	11:17	13:17
Tesco Chineham Arrive	10:49	11:19	13:19

Please ask the driver if you would like to go to Carpenters Down



Can you help a local charity fulfil a promise?

07 March 2017 – Victoria's Promise (VP), the north Hampshire based charity that helps support young women with cancer, is seeking more people to join their growing team of volunteers. Victoria's Promise was set up in memory of Victoria van der Westhuizen (nee Eastman) who died of cancer aged just 29, one year after getting married and 12 months after the death of her father to cancer.

Victoria suffered and in doing so experienced the huge void in care for young women with cancer such as long waiting lists for counselling, no connection with peers, lack of advice on non-toxic daily products, how to deal with fatigue, hair-loss and loss of identity. Victoria made a commitment that she would overcome her illness and go on to support and inspire other young women facing the illness. She never got that chance, passing away just two months after her diagnosis, but her family, through the charity, are now able to fulfil her promise.

VP supports local young women with cancer who are undergoing the rigours of cancer treatment, giving them every opportunity to focus on their treatment, to retain a positive outlook and thereby gain the best outcome and a healthy ongoing life. VP services are complimentary covering a wide range of help and assistance for example specialist oncology therapies, skin care, high quality wigs, house cleaning and childcare. It also builds a community where young women with cancer can come together at regular meet-ups and events that help provide additional support services, cancer education, in-depth counselling, nutritional advice and more. VP is now fully established in the Oncology Unit at Basingstoke and North Hants Hospital, where their Personal Care Lead is at hand for any young women right from the moment of their diagnosis.

With these popular and proven support services, VP is growing at a rapid rate and over the next 12 months the charity's goal is to ensure no young women in the local area face cancer alone and without its critical support services. To do this they need to raise vital funds to extend their services into new surrounding hospitals. VP are, therefore, urgently looking for more volunteers to help them.

Fiona Eastman, Co-Founder and Trustee of VP said, "The help of volunteers is vital to us in raising essential funds. Volunteers get involved in a wide range of activities including distributing donation boxes into local pubs, shops and cafes, helping to set up and run quiz nights in local pubs and working with us on fund raising campaigns such as our annual Victoria Sponge Bake month and other initiatives.

"Giving your time will make an enormous difference to the support we can give. No time is too little – if you can help us please get in touch.

"We are looking for people in the following towns and villages: Newbury, Kingsclere, Oakley, Overton, Whitchurch, Dummer, the Candovers, Herriard, Cliddesden, Long Sutton, South Warnborough, Hook, Stratfield Saye, Chineham and Sherfield-on-Loddon but if you are interested and live in another village we would still love to hear from you."

Interested? Please contact the charity on T: 07702 967576 or email: fiona@victorias-promise.org

For more information about Victoria's Promise visit: www.victoriaspromise.com

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Providing Support and Free Services for ladies and gents with a cancer diagnosis.

Ladies:

Open to ladies (18+) with any form of cancer. We provide sessions where you can meet

others and enjoy some hairdressing, relaxing therapies (eg massage, reflexology, nail painting) and counselling in our Basingstoke Town Centre premises. Wig service available. We also have monthly Coffee Mornings and Lunch Club.



Gentlemen:

The Blue Space
provides free services

and support for men with any form of cancer. Sessions provide an opportunity to talk to and help others, get information and enjoy therapies (massage, reflexology) to combat stress and improve feeling of well-being.

Partners:

We hold joint social evenings for people with cancer and their partners to socialise, get information, and gain support. We also have a monthly Blue Space Social Group for men whose partners have cancer.

Info: www.thepinkplace.org.uk Tel: 07899 970 841

The Pink Place Cancer Charity, 3 Wote St, Basingstoke. Reg No. 1153494

info@thepinkplace.org.uk

info4bluespace@gmail.com

Tales of Marnel Woods

This title might suggest, understandably, this is a nature study, it is not! It is though a play on words. Marnell is Popley's own bowls club and it just happens to be located right alongside Basing Woods, but, what do bowlers call those round things they roll down the grass? They are called their "woods", hence the play on words. I won't even begin to explain why they are called woods, this is a chat blog, not a history lesson.

This is an unsettling time of the year for me. We are more than halfway through our indoor short mat season and summer is on the horizon which means we go outside again. That is fine, perhaps, but currently the weather can do what it likes, I'm inside, dry and warm. Mind you, outside, on a balmy evening, with the soporific chink of colliding woods and a pint of ale within reach, there is nothing more idyllic, but this being the UK the scene can also be very different. Chilly winds, constant drizzle, wet weather outer garments having to be worn, and making you look like a bit like the Michelin man. My worst dreams come true. That is probably just me though, acting the soft southerner, but I'm comfy at the moment, however what will the future bring? Please let it be the idyllic one and not the other more grim one. So perhaps you see my quandary now, I'm very much looking forward to going outside again but also reluctant to give up my cosy warm habitat of now. *Ray*

Basingstoke Speakers Club

Would you love to be great at giving presentations or speaking in public, but find yourself overcome with nerves? Then Basingstoke Speakers Club is for you!

The club is part of "Toastmasters", a worldwide known not for profit organisation dedicated to supporting its members in becoming the best public speakers they can be. There is a comprehensive syllabus and warm and supportive atmosphere, it's the fastest way to hone your speaking skills and put those nerves to good use.

Visitors are always welcome free, so why not come and check us out? We meet every first and third Wednesday of the month at The Apollo Hotel in Basingstoke. For more information visit www.facebook.com/basingstokespeakers or call us today on 07468 331 483.



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Hampshire,
RG24 9AE



For more information:

Contact: Nola 07836011191 Email: [rcggrehobothchapel@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rcggrehobothchapel@ yahoo.co.uk)

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Everest
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To make our best better

A school to be proud of



Everest Community Academy
Oxford Way,
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Phone: 01256 485547

It's a busy time at Everest Community Academy for Year 11s who are busy preparing for their GCSEs. GCSE Catering Practical took place at the beginning of March with an Italian theme. Other practical exams and the GCSE English Language Speaking Assessment are scheduled to take place between now and 4 April.



Year 11 GCSE Art and Photography students enjoyed a trip to Tate Modern in London to gain inspiration for their final exams and the Upper School went on the annual Half Term trip to Disneyland Paris .

Years 8 and 9 arranged events to raise awareness of 'Free Trade' by baking cakes (using Free Trade products), handing out Free Trade bananas (donated by Fyffe's) and arranging competitions with Free Trade prizes.

On 14 March we are hosting the Basingstoke Schools Trampoline Competition. Our GCSE Drama Showcase, is taking place on Friday 31 March @ 6pm

Students View

GCSE English Trip to see 'An Inspector Call's'

On Thursday 9 February, the Year 10 students went to the Cambridge Theatre in London to see An Inspector Calls. It was an enjoyable day, with a train ride into London, a stop off at the Embankment to see the River Thames, and a breath taking performance of the much beloved play by J.B. Priestly. The trip was to enhance the students understanding of the play, as we are studying it in English Literature. Many students reported afterwards that it was 'the best play they've ever seen', and that it was 'worth the money and time it took to get there'.

Chineham Library

I expect, like us at the Library you feel ready for a break, with Easter falling so late this year. The library is closed on the bank holiday on 14th April, but will be open as usual on Easter Saturday, 15th April. Do come and join us for an Easter themed story time. If you haven't already, do come and visit us to admire the new shelving which was recently installed. We hope you think that this enhances the appearance of the library. With the shelves now on wheels and moveable, we will have the to opportunity to create more space for different events in the future.

Most of the regular library activities will continue as normal throughout this holiday period. These include the Tuesday "Rhymetimes" at 10 am for the under ones and 11 am for the over ones, and the Saturday story times at 10am, on all except the first Saturday of the month. The next Saturday craft sessions will be 1st April with a spring theme, and then 6th May. The CHIPPS reading group meets on 12th April from 10 – 11am, and the Crime group on 29th April, from 10.30 – 11.30am. New members are welcome to join these groups. "Chatterbooks" meet on 13th April from 3.45 – 4.45 pm for children to enjoy book related activities. The Coding Club has finished its first course by the Easter holidays, and a new course will commence afterwards. If you have children in the 9 – 11 age range please feel free to enquire about places on future courses. Sessions take place after school on Tuesdays.

Age Concern still meet to provide computer tuition to the over 50s on Wednesday mornings from 10am – 13pm, excluding 12th and 19th April when they will break for the Easter holidays. Sessions can be booked through their office on 01256 423874. Please check with the Library for details of when the Colour and Create group are meeting in April.

The Dyslexia Sessions which were mentioned last month have been well attended, and will continue through into May. Please contact us if you are interested in attending any of these. As always, social media is the best place to check for our most up-to-date information.

The team at Chineham Library would like to wish you all a Happy Easter. ***Cathy Foster***

Dear Friends

Sitting here in my study, I cannot believe it is still so very cold. It has been one of the hardest and longest winters in a long time. It makes spring and the prospect of longer and warmer days all the more welcome – when they finally get here!

It is always a wonder to see the signs of new life slowly beginning to emerge from the hard ground. There are 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! It's 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. Am I beginning to sound like Alan Titchmarsh???

By the time you read this, Easter will be upon us and for 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 Good Friday and 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 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 that we're daily bombarded with. You know the sort of thing I mean? The promise of eternal good looks or lives, health, wealth and happiness. Trouble is we miss the one very real opportunity. Jesus said that we're pretty good at reading the signs for the weather but we can't see what is 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 will be filled with the joy of Easter 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, 01256 324734

visit us at www.projectg.org for some exciting news about our buildings extensions project! We're interested in, and investing in the success of our community!

Hi there!

I am delighted to be able to write my first article in Popley Matters for Basingstoke Police. I plan to focus this column on current issues within your area, provide updates and give any crime prevention advice that I feel will be beneficial to you.

There have been a number of isolated incidents in which homes have been broken into and property has been taken. These often occur due to insecure doors so please ensure that you are checking everything is locked before you go to bed. There are certain measures you may take to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim yourself:

- Don't leave curtains/blinds open, and don't leave valuables on show.
- If you are going away, ask a neighbour or friend to check your house regularly.
- Buy timer switches for lamps and radios to give the impression that someone is home.
- Install an alarm system and ensure the alarm box is clearly visible.
- Don't leave keys in doors – remove them and keep them close at hand but out of sight where you can easily find them in an emergency.
- Don't leave your house unattended with windows open and unlocked – even for just a minute.
- If you are in the garden or upstairs, make sure your downstairs doors and windows are closed.
- Never leave a key under a doormat or on a string through the letter box.

Last year we also had several reports of theft from motor vehicles, particularly from Transit vans. After we have conducted several engagements at DIY centres, interacted with trades and conducted checks to spot insecure vehicles, I am pleased to say that these numbers have recently declined!

We encourage you to report any suspicious activity through 101. A crime does not necessarily need to take place for you to call up and voice your concerns of suspicious activity.

I also recommend signing up to Hampshire Alerts. It's a fantastic system that anyone who lives in Hampshire can sign up to, which means that we are able to send alerts via email or text to you alerting you of crime trends in your area.

***Many thanks,
PCSO C.Norris 16287***

RCS SCRAP BOX



Are you having
a clear out?

Do you have
a garage full
of bits and
bobs?

Could you
support the
community by
donating
items?

Your waste
is our
treasure!

The RCS Scrap Box are seeking:

- ✓ Pillow cases
- ✓ Wrapping paper
- ✓ Corks
- ✓ Cardboard tubes
- ✓ Yogurt pots
- ✓ Containers
- ✓ Buttons
- ✓ Shoe boxes
- ✓ Bubble wrap
- ✓ Stamps
- ✓ Wallpaper
- ✓ Tiles
- ✓ Stationary
- ✓ Egg boxes
- ✓ Zips
- ✓ Ribbon
- ✓ Fabric
- ✓ Vinyl
- ✓ Wire
- ✓ Tubing
- ✓ Plastic gardening pots
- ✓ And much more!!

* All items must be clean and safe

If you want to get involved
with the Scrap Box project, we
accept donations Tuesday to
Friday, 09:00 - 16:00.

RCS Ltd, Oakridge Hall for
All, Basingstoke, RG21 5RG
01256 841024
enquiries.rcs123@gmail.com

RCS are a not-for-profit organisation working with local businesses and the community to recycle. Collecting their waste helps us to provide local early year settings, schools, and community groups with an exciting range of creative resources to use for projects.

Servicing the needs of the Community

www.rcsservices.org.uk enquiries.rcs123@gmail.com



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- Excessive weeds on busy footways
- Damaged equipment in parks and open spaces



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Date	Time	Venue
Week 1		
Monday 10 th April	10:00 - 11.55	Oakridge Hall for All, Oakridge, RG21 5RG
Tuesday 11 st April	10:00 - 11.55	St Peters Church, South Ham, RG22 6QP
Wednesday 12 th April	10:00 - 11:55	Bermuda Hall, Popley, RG24 9PE
Thursday 13 th April	14:00 - 15.55	Ridgeway Community Centre, Buckskin, RG22 5AZ
Week 2		
Tuesday 18 th April	10:00 - 11:55	Oakridge Hall for All, Oakridge, RG21 5RG
Wednesday 19 th April	10:00 - 11.55	St Peters Church, South Ham, RG22 6QP
Thursday 20 th April	10:00 - 11:55	Tadley & District Community Centre, Tadley, The Point, RG26 4HN
Friday 21 st April	14:00 - 15:55	Ridgeway Community Centre, Buckskin, RG22 5AZ

We welcome children with disabilities and/or additional needs. Please pre-book via the Basingstoke office, on 01256 841024 if your child requires additional support, for a support staff to be provided.

Servicing the needs of the Community

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What support will I be given?

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For further information contact Caroline Nash, Befriending Manager 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.



Basingstoke Morning Towns Women's Guild

Ladies, don't sit at home feeling you are on your own, why not consider joining our Guild. You can join in as little or as much as you wish, and make new friends to share time with.

We meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at

SARUM HALL, SARUM HILL (Next to Trinity Methodist Church)

10.00am – 12noon

We have speakers each month, plus an Arts/Crafts Group, a coffee morning and a lunch each month. We also enjoy outings. As we belong to our local Federation we enjoy events with other Guilds in North Hampshire.

Why not come along as a visitor, you will be made very welcome.



Bermuda Community Centre

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We have excellent Popley Explorers Pre-school here Monday to Friday 8.30am - 3.00pm.

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Monday evening C.M.A. keep fit and kick boxing from 6.30pm-8.00pm.

Tuesday evening Community bingo, doors open at 7.00pm, eyes down at 8.00pm. Finish around 9.45pm (light refreshments available at halftime)

Thursday evening Street dance and ballet classes for two and a half years to adult 4.30pm-6.30pm. School term time. Please contact Samantha Pike on 07811299484

Thursday evening C.M.A. kick boxing from 7pm - 8.30pm.

Friday evening Friday club (children) 6pm -7pm

The hall is also available to hire for parties etc at reasonable rates.

Family prize bingo on 24th March 2017

Opens 6pm eyes down 7pm

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Refreshments available.

The Friends of the Willis Museum in 2017

If museums are important to you, you may like to join “The Friends” of the Willis Museum, the registered charity whose principal objective is to “promote, support, assist and improve” this, your local museum. Ways of achieving this objective include fundraising for improvements, volunteering practical assistance, or just generally taking an interest in the Willis and encouraging others to do the same. Activities include a programme of free-to-members monthly talks (February to December, excluding August on the third Thursday evening of each month). Local history subjects for 2017 will include “Jane Austen in Basingstoke”, “Heroes and Villains of the Basingstoke Canal”, and Hampshire Statues, whilst more general subjects will include the Archaeology of Warfare and the Archaeology of Food. There will be a summer visit to a place of historic interest, and a skittles match v. The Friends of the Curtis Museum, Alton. The annual subscription is modest, and other membership benefits include a newsletter and some discounts in the museum cafe/shop. For more details pick up a Friends’ programme leaflet at the museum, or visit the Friends’ website at www.friendsofthewillis.org.uk. New members will be most welcome, and both the leaflet and the website tell you how to join. As well as to members, the talks are open to as many non-members as can be accommodated, but non-members should always reserve a seat in advance (01256 465902). Whilst at the museum, don’t forget to pick up a museum events programme, too. If you haven’t visited recently, it may surprise you to discover how much goes on there, and how very high profile some of the special exhibitions are.

John Hollands, Friends of the Willis Publicity.



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:

Cubs continue to be extremely busy with all sorts of fun and excitement. This is just a 'snapshot' of what Cubs in Basingstoke Air Scouts have been up to in recent weeks.

With winter at its height, January was spent working towards Cub Navigation Badge by drawing a map and following a set of instructions to follow a set route and placing the correct map symbols at certain points on the map. As the evenings get lighter we will be testing practical navigational skills for real and putting the OUT back in ScOUTing.

Completing Cub Pioneering Badge was next on the agenda. The Cubs learnt to use a lashing to secure two spars of wood together and shown practical examples of how to put the newly learnt skill to best use.



At the end of January the Cubs visited the Basingstoke Apple Store to complete the requirements of the Stage 1 Digital Citizen Badge. This required them to identify the different parts of a computer; find out how to be safe 'on-line' and design a poster incorporating both text and graphics. Many thanks to both Dave and Colin from Apple for running the evening for the Cubs.

However, the highlight of the term was the "Basingstoke Air Cubs Have Talents" night. The Cubs put on an evening of entertainment item for parents and the leaders then decided on who deserved the prizes. Definitely an amazing evening - with several surprises!

At a District level the Pack took part in the District Biennial Chess Competition and the annual District Football Competition. We didn't do well enough to represent District at the subsequent County competitions but all those who took part enjoyed themselves, met with Cub Scouts from other Groups and had fun on the way.



Other activities this term have included cooking pancakes for Pancake Day and a "Fitness" Night run by Nick from Peak Fitness. Thank you Nick.

Sadly, both the Beaver and the Cub section of the Group is now at full strength and no more new recruits can join - **UNLESS we can find some extra leaders too!** Adults must satisfy Confidential Enquiry and Disclosure and Barring Service clearance and, other than an interest in seeing young people have fun and extend their knowledge/skills, no experience is necessary. Training is given on-the-job' and at special training courses mostly during evenings and weekends. Roles are flexible and can work round shifts/other commitments.

To find out more about how to become a leader please contact the Group Scout Leader Colin Karslake in the first instance. Telephone (01256) 410559 / 07796 772 500 or e-mail colink@base2000.co.uk for more information.

<https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts>

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The prospect of losing your mental capacity is not a pleasant thought.

But with the odds of one in three over-65s developing dementia, it is not an issue that should be ignored.

It's a growing issue as according to the Alzheimer's Society around 850,000 people live with dementia in the UK, with numbers set to rise to over one million by 2025. The society says this will soar to two million by 2051.

Many of these people will eventually reach a point where they can no longer make decisions for themselves.

If this should happen to you, don't think that members of your family can simply visit a bank and access your money to pay for your care, because they can't, unless Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) have been set up. This is a legal tool that gives another adult, usually your spouse, partner or one or more of your children, the legal authority to make decisions for you, if you are unable to make them yourself.

There are two types of LPA. The Property and Affairs LPA allows your Attorney to deal with your finances, such as paying your bills, collecting any income and benefits that you might be entitled to, manage investments and possibly selling your home should the need arise.

The Health and Welfare LPA allows your Attorney to make decisions about where you might live and your day-to-day care and talk to medical professionals. They would not be able to do so until you had lost mental capacity.

This may all seem a long way off and you may think that it does not apply to you. However, it is better to plan ahead because once you have lost mental capacity the time for you to make these decisions for yourself will have passed.

If you want to decide what should happen to you if you were to lose mental capacity, then you ought to make plans now.

Should you fail to do so, your family or friends would have to apply to the Court of Protection to become your Deputy – a Court appointed Attorney – which is a more time consuming and costly process.

For more information contact Caroline Wallis, Jane Erlam or Sian Lias in our Wills and Probate Team. Call or email Caroline on 01256 854637, caroline.wallis@phillips-law.co.uk; Jane on 01256 854677; jane.erlam@phillips-law.co.uk and Sian on 01256 854618, sian.lias@phillips-law.co.uk.

Further information can be found by visiting www.phillips-law.co.uk.

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With well over half the season now played, the club has enjoyed some fantastic results from all our teams so far, whether that's during training or on match days, we as a club take pride in watching the players learn, enjoy and grow through football.

Our All Stars have entered their first ever tournament to be played in June and their coach is more excited than the children. The whole squad is showing an amazing amount of promise and what is great to see as a coach, is that they all play with massive smiles on their faces whether they win, lose or draw in training. Harry Sawyer has been a star recently by never giving up when he has found things hard.

New players needed for next season. Please contact Simon Davis on allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Our U8 teams have 3 new coaches taking their FA Level 1 course at the moment and we will be looking for new players come the end of the season as they progress through to 7-a-side. They are looking forward to tournament season coming up mid next month.

Our U11 team have not played a match for a while due to heavy rain, and waterlogged pitches. In training Ben (Goalkeeper) has pushed himself well out of his comfort zone and the team are reaping the benefits. Sam also is showing a whole new, improved level of playing and his awareness of a pass is superb. We embark on our last cup journey of the season and have drawn Berg in the first round. Fingers crossed we gain a cup run. New players are needed for next year, so please contact Simon Davis on u11@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Our U12 Venom team find themselves deservedly at the top of the table in 1st position. Consecutive 1-0 wins v Cove Leopards and Fleet Spurs help the team maintain their challenge for Promotion with 5 games remaining.

Our U12 Predators have had mixed results recently but there have been some encouraging signs with the style of football played. Narrowly going down to Petersfield in an exciting 3-2 game followed by a comprehensive 3-0 victory v Badshot Lea. Unfortunately the next game up ended in a heavy defeat at the hands of league leaders Hook Utd where the team went down 9-2.

Our U12 Girls team, have continued their successful season with a 1-0 win against Tadley Panthers Red, re-confirming themselves as League Champions! The girls have now also secured themselves a new sponsor for the 2017/18 season. Huge thank you to Stephen Halsey, BGS Plumbing and Heating for his very generous support!

Our U15 team have not had a great run of luck with match results so far this season, but a turn of luck is heading their way. The team continue to train hard, and show true grit to put what they are learning into match days – the lads are up for the challenge! The team is looking for new players for next season, please contact Pete Davey on u15@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk so to register your interest.

Our U16 team haven't had many fixtures played due to the weather, but are hoping to stretch their legs once again this coming weekend against Fleet Spurs. The team are currently looking for new players next season to play in the Youth U17/18 league, to register your interest contact Darryl Bradbury on u16@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

You can get regular updates from the club by following our Twitter account, [@MFC_PopleyYouth](https://twitter.com/MFC_PopleyYouth) and 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 & 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/

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

U8 Sponsor - Grovewood Machines

U9 Sponsor - Alpha Cars

U10 Sponsor - Dazzle

U12 Sponsor - Southern Communications Ltd

U12 Girls Sponsor - BGS Plumbing & Heating

U14 Sponsor - Vohkus

U15 Sponsor - Allens Group

MFC Popley Youth is currently looking for team sponsors for the following age groups: U7, U11, U13, U14 Predators & U16

Contact the club -

Main website: www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Club Welfare Officer: cwo@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Club Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer: committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

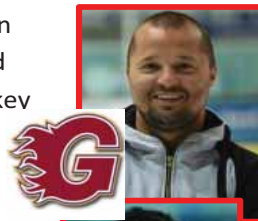
Volunteer enquiries: volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

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

Zak Collingwood

Guildford Flames Burn in to Merton!

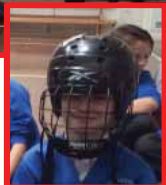
In invitation from Miss Gregor, an ardent Guildford Flames Fan and Year Six team leader, saw the coach, Milos Melicherik and Andy Hemmings, a player, from the Guildford Flames Ice Hockey team come into Merton Junior School to discuss drug awareness with the Year Six pupils.



Everyone was very excited and ready greet our visitors. Both Andy and Milos were more than happy to come and talk to the children about how to say NO! to drugs, including alcohol and tobacco. The talk was extremely informative and the children were very receptive to everything that Milos and Andy had to say.



However, the most exciting part of the visit was when the children were able to investigate and put on some of the equipment that ice hockey players wear when they are playing. A couple of the children were completely kitted out in the gear of a player as well as the equipment that the net-minder would wear.



As you can tell, the children do not quite have the physique of an adult ice hockey player, but who knows what the future may bring!

Merton Junior School were proud to be included in the 'Drug Freeze' programme that the Guildford Flames delivered and wish the Guildford Flames well as they enter the Elite Ice Hockey League next season.



Mayor's Spring Charity Concert

Once again Merton Junior School choir, 'Merton Melodies' were in support of the Mayor, Cllr Jane Frankum and her charities, when they appeared alongside many other local Basingstoke school choirs, orchestra's and other acts including a Russian folk dance group at The Anvil, to perform a range of songs, which included Cohen's 'Hallelujah!', a medley from West Side Story, along with many others. All of the children sang beautifully and are a credit to their parents, schools and Basingstoke. Money raised through ticket sales will be used to support the Mayor's charities.

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St. Michael's Hospice Basingstoke 5 & 10K Run

Wednesday 17th May

Down Grange Sports Complex

Registration has opened!

The days are getting longer and warmer and here is a great way to get out there and enjoy it. St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) has opened registration for the 5 & 10K Basingstoke Run at Down Grange Sports Complex, Basingstoke on Wednesday 17th May 2017 starting at 7pm. Registration is quick and simple at basingstoke-run.co.uk where the price is only £6 for a child's 5K and £15 for an adult 10K entry.

Runners will again be able to enjoy chip timing in both the 5 and 10K events with medals handed out to all participants. Jack FM will be there to entertain the runners and the spectators during the whole event. The run is always well supported by families, fun runners, first timers and local club runners. The focus is on the community coming together to have some fun, support the Hospice and enjoy an evening run.



We are thankful to our event sponsors The Barn Bathroom Centre, Clarke & Son, and Jigsaw Medical, and to JackFM Berkshire for their support of this event.

St. Michael's Hospice Lottery



Did you know St. Michael's Hospice runs a weekly lottery? It is a great way to give regularly to the Hospice and support their excellent work while at the same time being in with the chance of winning a share of the £65,000 worth of prizes that are available every year!

Every week the 1st prize is £1,000 and with £100 to the 2nd prize winner, £50 to the 3rd prize winner and seventeen more prizes to be won, there are plenty of opportunities to share in the prize pot. But the best part about playing the lottery is knowing that you are helping to keep St. Michael's Hospice totally free for patients and their families.

Each entry costs just £2 every week, it's easy to pay by direct debit, and all winners are drawn at random. Cheques are posted automatically so there is no hassle claiming your prize. St. Michael's Hospice is a charity and every year needs to raise more than £3.1 million. Opened in 1992, the Hospice serves a population of over 250,000 across all of Basingstoke and Deane, into Hart and East Hampshire and helps patients on the In-Patient-Unit and out in the community through their Community Palliative Care teams. In addition, they support many more people through their Day Services and continuing support of patient's families.

Please call 0870 050 1677 to enrol or if you have any questions. You can also email lottery@stmichaels hospice.org.uk or visit www.stmichaels hospice.org.uk/lottery for more information.



Spring Update on St. Michael's Home Care

Since our last update, St. Michael's Home Care has continued to show very positive growth and is helping many members of your community in the comfort and security of their own homes, whilst using money generated to help St. Michael's Hospice. In the last year we have more than doubled the hours of care we deliver and that number now stands at 900 hours a month including our popular live-in care service which in many cases is significantly cheaper than going into a care home. This growth has meant that our team of wonderful carers is now more than 30 strong and we are actively looking to recruit more of the highest quality carers to meet strong demand.

I am sure you are very aware of the current press coverage around the poor standards of care that are currently delivered in many places around the country. In the recent Spring Budget Chancellor Philip Hammond announced that an additional £2bn would be allocated to social care over the next three years, with £1bn available in 2017/18. This is at worst a step in the right direction and at best acknowledgment that we continue to face a crisis in the funding of quality care.

We can say with confidence that our carers do a fantastic job helping people with a wide range of needs and we continue to be immensely proud of the work they do. Our care is not exclusive to those who are patients with St. Michael's Hospice but open to all who are in need of that helping hand around the home.

Please call us on 01256 848 896 or email info@stmichaelshomecare.co.uk. You can read more about us by visiting stmichaelshomecare.co.uk.

Chris Griffiths - chris.griffiths@stmichaelshospice.org.uk



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Spring News
March 2016

Book Week

We have just finished another amazing book week! Our Year 2s studied Andrew Weale who we were lucky enough to have come and visit our school. Year 1 children participated in the Hampshire Picture Book Award and voted for their favourite book. Our Year Rs read all the books in our library about PANTS!

Year R – Digging For Dinosaurs

We have found out lots of important information about many dinosaurs and we were amazed at how big some of them could grow as an adult! In our outdoor area we had a dinosaur hunt where we had to find lots of different dinosaurs and describe them to our teachers. Our bike track was transformed into a Dino Patrol area where we had to manoeuvre the bikes around a Tyrannosaurus Rex, a Stegosaurus and a Diplodocus! We also became archaeologists. We found dinosaur bones with letters or words on them that helped us learn to read. In maths, we counted the dinosaur footprints and used the numbers to practise addition. It was so exciting to watch the volcano erupt in the classroom and describe it in our writing.

Year 1 – Fire! Fire!

Last half term the Year 1 children became 'Fire Experts'. As part of the topic, they received a visit from real firemen who were kind enough to let us look inside their fire engine and show us how it works. The firemen explained to the children what they had to achieve by the end of their topic so that they could get their 'Fire Expert' badge.

These jobs included:

- Writing a newspaper article about the Great Fire of London
- Finding out about the job of a fireman and writing a job description
- Looking at which materials could be used to make strong and waterproof model houses

When the children had completed these tasks they had their final visit from the firemen to receive their certificate and medal.

Year 2 – Lost in Space

Our topic began with a special video message from Andre the Astronaut in his space rocket. He wanted to contact a school that was willing to help him with a special mission. Andre explained that he has been up in space for a little while now and he was getting fed up with the lack of entertainment. He loves to read poems and stories about space and wondered if we were able to create some to send to him.

We also enjoyed researching facts about space, including singing songs about the planets.





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