

POPLEY MATTERS

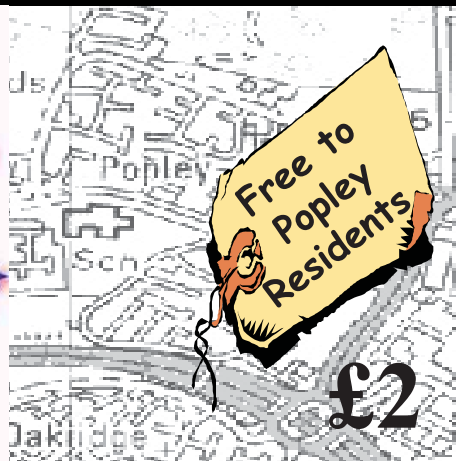
PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

May 2017

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 183

CELEBRATING
25
Years



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: Popley Matters is celebrating its 25 years of service to the community of Popley. Paul and I have been involved for the last 20 years as Editor and Sub-Editor. We have seen so many changes in those years and watched as Popley has at least doubled in size. The idea for Popley Matters came out of an article in the Basingstoke Gazette 26 years ago, it asked for local people to write in about their interest groups and area. The very first edition was produced by a group of people and agencies under the name of Popley Interagency Project (PIP, for short). The

first cover was drawn by Rebecca Dobbey who was an art student at John Hunt School. In the first five years there were just four issues printed, with very long gaps in between them. In 1997 a group of us residents got together and were sitting talking about the negative press about Popley and we felt it was undeserved and how much we all loved living in Popley. We all wondered what we could do to change what we all felt was the wrong perception of and attitude to Popley. We also wanted let other residents know how much was actually available to do and get involved in Popley and what great people lived in our estate. Someone mentioned that there used to be a magazine called Popley Matters and how good it would be if we could revive it. 25 years later and we are still delivering the Popley Matters to help inform and entertain the residents of Popley. If you are interested in the history of Popley you can read most of the old copies online on www.popleymatters.org.uk. Thank you to our wonderful helpers who deliver and contribute, without whom there would be no Popley Matters magazine. We always need more volunteers. Here's to 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

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Councillors' Page: Parking is still a very thorny issue in all parts of Popley, old and new. The officer from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council that was dealing with Marnel Park has been made redundant so I am now arranging a meeting with his replacement. This is really frustrating but I will not give up the continuing fight to get some solutions. It would of course also help if the few that seem to park with no regard to others were to get a conscience, but I am working with the PCSOs to be more active.

I met with officers and did a site visit to push for drainage to be improved and installed in Popley Community Park near Don Allen Drive. This area constantly floods and it is the main pathway to the hospital and the Post Office parcels pick up point. New drainage is needed there too and the proposal is being put forward for the next budget round. The replacement of Tarmac has been put on the list and a request has been made to move it upwards as it is the main pathway from Popley to the hospital.

There was a problem with some street lights being out but they were quickly repaired after being reported. *Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk*

Popley West: It was really good to see the families enjoying the Popley Community Park including the new MUGA (Multiple Use Games Arenas). We are still fighting for a green gym in the next phase.

There are improvements and some new paths coming in two stages for Popley East and Popley West in the coming months. The work may continue into next year, with the aim of linking up a fully accessible network of safe walking around the ward and safer walking to schools. We also need to make sure that when the new shops are built that they too will be safe and accessible for all.

The top three of the five neighbourhood funding applications won a share of the £2,500 funding they were voted on by residents: Popley Fields Youth Group, Popley Festival, and Melrose Hall were granted. The other two applications, Craft Club at Popley Fields were advised about other funding opportunities.

Route 55 is being used more now as residents have been given better information. Older residents say it has made a difference to them mostly in getting to the hospital.

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924
cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924
cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk

Popley East: We are awaiting an officer recommendation regarding the application submitted by Marstons to build a pub/restaurant on the fire authority land at Carpenters Down. We have consulted residents who will be most directly affected by the development and a substantial number of objections have been submitted to the Planning Department with very few people indicating their support. The issues under consideration include the design, safety, noise and smell issues and road safety/parking, together with the direct impact on the local community.

Overall we have taken the view that this application should not be supported and it is not a suitable site for a development of this nature. The most important group of residents in our view are those mostly likely to be directly affected by the impact of the pub/restaurant close to their homes. The Splash Pad (Chineham Park) opened on 10 April and will remain open until the end of September. It will be open for 9 hours a day from 10am to 7pm. We have had regard to the operating costs and the wellbeing of those residents who live nearest to the facility. Following the experience of last year, we have introduced improvements to the parking arrangements with some temporary additional spaces being provided. Improved temporary toilet facilities have also been installed.

Cllr David Potter 07941507801
cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200
cllr.janet.westbrook@basingstoke.gov.uk

Charity Race Night

Nicola Ascroft, our Miss Basingstoke, will be competing in the Miss England semi-final on 4th June 2017, at Kelham Hall, Nottingham. Approximately 10 people will win a place in to the prestigious Miss England Grand final that will be held later this year.

Last year, Nicola won the Charity Award for being the top fundraiser in the nation while at the semi-finals, she is hoping she can do the same again.

The Race Night will be held at the Four Horseshoes pub in Sherfield-on-Loddon on Thursday 1st June at 7pm. All money raised from the event will go to 'Beauty with a Purpose' - a charity that supports disadvantaged children worldwide. Entry £2 per person.

Why not come on down for a fun filled evening; place bets on horses, own a horse for the evening, and take part in our raffle. Lots of prizes to be won - kindly donated by many local businesses - and all for an amazing cause!

It would be great to have you all there.

For further information, please contact Nicola on 07712574089 / nicola_ascroft@hotmail.co.uk



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World Champ Visits Dove House School Academy!

Popley based World Champion Daisy Coleman had the honour of meeting students of Dove House School Academy earlier this week. Dove House is a specialist secondary school for children with moderate learning difficulties, a subject close to Daisy's heart given she has a younger sister with special needs. Daisy was invited to host an assembly by Miss Claire Collins who had been following Daisy's success throughout 2016 to talk about the challenges she's had to overcome and the benefits of playing sport for building confidence and self-belief. Daisy explained that she didn't get into sport until later in life and wishes she'd got involved with not just powerboat racing but all team sports at an earlier age.

Daisy commented, ' I was delighted to be invited into the school to meet the guys and gals at Dove House who have achieved many great sporting accolades. It was through sport that I regained my confidence and I hope the next generation of athletes won't be put off by the challenges associated when starting something new. We have amazing sporting and leisure facilities here in Basingstoke that I'm proud to be associated with".

The school will be tracking Daisy and the team's progress throughout 2017 in all their racing endeavours and Daisy promised the school's head, Tom Pegler, she'll come back again to update the guys and girls on their achievements!

Daisy was recently awarded a Sports Scholarship by Basingstoke Sports Council and nominated for the Place to be Proud Awards to become a Basingstoke Ambassador.

Vote for Daisy at <http://www.destinationbasingstoke.co.uk/a-place-to-be-proud-of/> . To see how the team get on throughout the 2017 season visit their website at www.colemanracing.co.uk and by following Daisy on twitter and instagram by searching for @p1daisy or @racingcoleman on facebook.



Sunflower Appeal and Fete

Sunday 4th June

St. Michael's Hospice invites to you their annual Sunflower Fete on Sunday 4th June held within the Hospice grounds.

Starting from midday, the traditional fete is a great day out for all the family with free entry. The fete will feature a wide selection of stalls with gorgeous plants and handmade craft items. To keep the kids entertained there will be plenty of games and prizes to be won. If you're feeling peckish, why not tuck into something delicious from one of the many refreshment stalls.

The Hospice has also launched their Sunflower Appeal, giving people the chance to remember a loved one by dedicating a sunflower in their memory. Before the Sunflower Fete begins, a special blessing will be held at 11.30am on Sunday 4th June in the Hospice grounds, when you are invited to view the dedicated sunflower memory markers. Sunflowers will be displayed in the Hospice gardens throughout June for people to visit and take time to reflect.

You can make your sunflower dedication in memory of a loved one at stmichaelhospice.org.uk/meadow.html.

For more information on the Sunflower Appeal and Fete please visit the website stmichaelhospice.org.uk, email events@stmichaelhospice.org.uk or call the Fundraising Hotline on 01256 848848.



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

St. Michael's Hospice is looking for volunteers to help out with their annual House to House collection. If you have a couple of hours to spare in June to deliver and pick up envelopes and would like to be involved then please contact Lynne Grimshaw, Community Campaigns Coordinator on 01256 848845 or email Lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelhospice.org.uk



Year 9 and 10 Modern Foreign Language students accompanied by Mrs Cummins, enjoyed a visit to The Gregg School in Southampton on Friday 31 March, the first exchange visit between the schools.



Year 11 students demonstrated fantastic commitment and motivation towards the Core Revision Residential, at Hooke Court in Dorset. All students should be proud of their achievements. They have been prepared with the skills and strategies to take them into the next few weeks of revision and exams. They are a credit to themselves, parents and carers and the school.

We are proud of the quick thinking and brave actions of Year 10 student Zak Mason. Zak pulled another student to safety when a car crashed into a fence near the Academy, he helped the driver to safety and called for help.

Students View - Red Nose Day

On Friday the 24 March, Everest celebrated Red Nose Day. We arranged a series of stalls and activities, including a non-uniform day, bake sale and soak the teacher. We aimed to raise £400 for Comic Relief, and, much to our satisfaction, we managed to raise £510 for those who need help. We thank all the teachers and students who took part in our great fundraising event.



TALES OF THE MARNELL WOODS

Being a dyed in the wool muppet, I can now see I had got my timing a bit wrong. I had anticipated that by now the summer season would be under way and providing me with something to comment on but that is not the case! Our final short mat fixture is not until the weekend and the green is not declared "fit for play" by the green-keeper until the next week, so just at this moment we are neither fish nor fowl. It reminds me of that part of some ocean where the wind stops blowing and sailing ships get stuck there until the wind starts to blow again. Ah yes, I remember now, it is called "the doldrums". That is where we are now-in the doldrums. This is not a condition that will last though, because looking at the calendar again (something I should have done properly last month) I can see that we only have limited time before the league programmes start again which also means we are going to be busy racing the clock to get the old homestead fit for visitors. Bowls club housework involves inspecting rink markings and making good, cleaning the ditches, sweeping the paths, tending the remembrance garden, filling the hanging baskets and touching up the paintwork if required. And you thought we just played bowls, I wish! Somewhere around that lot we also need to find a bit of time to get some practise in as well, but that is what Tuesdays were invented for.

Tuesdays are our club open nights and roll-up evenings, come one, come all. I promise you. Should you decide to drop in for first-hand experience you will not be presented with a paint brush or gardening trowel, well not straight away.

Hopefully by next month it will be all systems go and I can actually talk about bowling. As a matter of interest our first weekend competition is a fascinating one which should provide us with something to say. *Ray*

Over 55s Forum

Our Open Forum dates for 2017 are 7th June - 9th August - 11th October and 6th December. Meetings are at Carnival Hall, Council Road, Basingstoke. 10.15am to 1.30pm with guest speakers and refreshments. People are welcome to attend, but non members will need to wait to see if there are any seats available.

We have lots of exciting trips already booked for this year including:- Hampton Court Flower Show on 7th July 2017. The price is £46.40 for non-members. This includes all coach travel and a £32.00 entrance ticket.

National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire is on 20th July 2017. £25.00 for Non members. This includes all coach travel and entrance to N.M.A.

Monday 4th or Friday 8th September 2017 is a 'Mystery trip' to a seaside to include a fish & chip meal. price £24.00 non members.

Our Musical Show for 2017 to "Celebrate the International Day for Older People" will be held on Saturday 30th September 2017 at Queen Mary's College, 2pm to 5pm - acts are Alice Boyle O'Dowda Irish Dancers and No Strings Band , also afternoon tea. Price is £6.00 per ticket. The Mayor and Mayoress will Open and Close the show. This Celebration is a show not to be missed. *Gerald (Secretary & Tour Manager)*

Dear Friends

Well now that May is here I guess our thoughts are perhaps turning to the summer holidays – where we might go and what we might do. Marilyn and I enjoy our holidays and, being a self-confessed sun seeker, I prefer to go abroad where the sun is guaranteed to shine. I find there is nothing better than sitting by the pool with a cold beer and a good book for company while Marilyn prefers to be out and about exploring. So, each year it's a bit of compromise and concession to make sure that we both enjoy the break and come back relaxed and refreshed. Perhaps because of this we always seem to leave it till the last minute before we do anything about booking a holiday! While this is okay for holidays and such like, one area of my life I decided some years ago not leave to the last minute is my spiritual life.

Do you know the old saying “those who plan to repent at the eleventh hour often die at ten-thirty!” We all prepare for the long term future in some way - in fact we're actively encouraged to take out life insurance, pension plans and investments to provide for our old age but the future can be a very uncertain place.

I find it remarkable that so many profess a belief in God and in Jesus and yet choose to turn their backs or ignore Him and His plan for their lives. Jesus said two things, “I have come that they may have life and life in all its fullness” and “Do not store up treasure for yourself on earth where moth and rust destroy”

Before becoming a Christian some twenty eight years ago, I was engaged in a successful IT sales career and completely focussed on all things material – money, house, car, fixtures & fittings and family – this in the mistaken belief that if I acquired all these things then the future would be secure. But having them somehow never completely satisfied me! It was only when my 15 year old niece told me about Jesus that I suddenly recognised what was missing in my life for the now and forever.

There's a modern hymn that we sing in St Gabriel's, one of the verses reads like this; 'No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to final breath Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand. Till He returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand.'

Whatever holiday the summer brings for you and your family I hope that you'll have a wonderful break from the routine of life and come back sun-bronzed, refreshed and relaxed. I hope also that you'll find time to step back and think longer term, beyond pensions and insurance and consider making an investment now for your eternal future. We're open every Sunday at 10.30am for enquiries and advice on how to make the best of your assets!!!!

God Bless

Arthur

Vicar, 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!



Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers

Pond Dipping: Friday 19th and Saturday 20th May

7.00pm, 19th for Bottle trap setting

8.00am, 20th for Newt ID and information

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? Most of us didn't either before we met Marion, Alan & David...!

Marnel & Popley Conservation Volunteers (MPCV) is still looking for new volunteers of *all* ages and we mean that - so far we've got attendees as young as 3 and as old as... well we can't say can we!? We're looking for participants in practical activities at the ponds, with the aim to getting it back to what we knew growing up here, and for those of us who didn't just giving the wildlife a chance to thrive here like we do. This is a great opportunity to meet like-minded people (the fresh air and exercise is still free!) and contribute to the preservation of an area we all know and love.

On 19th/ 20th May we are planning to do some pond dipping, a great chance to see some of our local wildlife, which may include newts (we have three types at Popley Ponds!), frogs and toads, plus a whole range of interesting 'mini-beasts'. On Friday evening we will be putting down simple home made traps known as 'bottle traps' to see what we can catch overnight. Saturday morning provides an opportunity to see what we have caught! We have to start early on Saturday morning (bang goes my lie in) as it gets pretty hot inside those traps as the day warms up and we don't want to cause any distress to the newts.

It's all good, free fun and we hope to see you there. Please do let us know by email if you plan to attend so we can stock up on enough treats and beverages.

If you can't make it this time look out for more information on our programme of activities, as it develops, in future issues of Popley Matters. If you are interested in supporting us in any way, MPCV can be contacted at the email address or via our Facebook page set out below.

www.naturalbasingstoke.org

e-mail: popleyponds@gmail.com

Facebook: [Marnel & Popley Conservation Volunteers](#)



WHATS ON IN MAY:

MONDAY:	DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE
	7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
	8.00am-6.30pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	6.30-9.00pm 4Fits Sake
	9.00-11.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
TUESDAY:	9.30am-12.00pm Popley Little People
	12.00-5.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	5.00-7.30pm Suma Karate
	7.30-11.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
WEDNESDAY:	9.00am Slimming World
	11.00am Slimming World
	12.45-4.30pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	11.45am-1.30pm Oasis Lunch club
	5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World
	9.00-11.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am Community Café
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	8.00-9.00pm 4 Fits Sake
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FRIDAY:	8.00-10.00am AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	10.00am-12.30pm Melrose Tots
	12.30-6.15pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
	6.15-9.15pm Friday Youth Club
	9.15-11.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
SATURDAY:	9.15am-4.00pm 7 TH Day Adventist Church
	10am Sabath School - Bible Study
	11.30am Divine Worship
	1pm Free Community Lunch
	Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 for further details
	4.00-11pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE
SUNDAY:	Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.
	1.30-5.00pm AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

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If you spot an issue, please let us know and we'll do our best to help.

What can I report?

There are lots of things you can report to us for repair or removal in your neighbourhood and some examples are below. Visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report for the full list as well as how to report problems with a highway.

- Graffiti
- Found needles
- Fly tipping
- Litter
- Broken glass
- Dog fouling
- Overflowing bins
- Abandoned vehicles
- Damaged trees
- Overhanging vegetation and hedges
- Excessive weeds on busy footways
- Damaged equipment in parks and open spaces



How can I report it?

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report

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Basingstoke Foodbank – Charity Shop Takeover Project

We do not think anyone in our community should have to face going hungry. That is why we provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to us in crisis. We are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

Working in partnership with over 70 referral partners, in 2015 the Basingstoke Foodbank fed 2,755 adults and children whereas in the immediate past calendar year, 2016, we fed 3,500 local people, which represents a 27% increase over the previous year!

Our annual running costs, in our rented premises in Sarum Hill, Basingstoke, are c£20k pa. We have no guaranteed source of income to pay our costs; rather we rely on donations, grants and fundraising activities. One of our main fundraising activities is selling donated goods from a shop we rent for 2 weeks every year.

We will be taking over the shop from 26th May until 8th June and we are in need of volunteers to help us staff the shop. The shop is open 6 days per week from 9:30am to 5pm. Teams of 2 are needed to cover either the morning or afternoon sessions.

Patrick Murphy, 07785 312486, fundraising@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

Basingstoke Lions Club – Fundraising Bike Ride Project

The Lions Club of Basingstoke, is affiliated to Lions Clubs International, a worldwide community service organisation dedicated to the idea that the men and women who live in a community are in the best position to know who needs help and why. We have members from all occupations and enjoy the company of like-minded people and the enduring friendships that arise from shared fundraising and social activities.

One of our key fundraising events is a charity bike ride with a choice of 4 routes of around 14, 20, 30 or 33 miles taking you through the beautiful Hampshire countryside. In order to make this year's event a success we are looking for a team or individual to review and rejuvenate the project, to put together an action plan and to help run and oversee the event on the day. We have provisionally put a date of Sunday 10th June but in order for the event to run will depend on the availability of manpower.

We hope with a fresh new look to the event this will in turn raise additional funds to help resolve more of the requests brought to us by social services and small local charities.

Philip Wilson, 01256 352393, philipjhwilson@btinternet.com

Cruse Basingstoke – Supporting Bereaved People

Cruse Bereavement Care's vision is that all bereaved people have somewhere to turn when someone dies. Our Areas and Branches offer free and confidential services provided by trained volunteers, offering group and one – to – one support.

We are looking for individuals or teams of volunteers to become fundraising Champions within their companies, organising one or two events each year to raise funds for training of counsellors and associated expenses. This could be a collection day, a sponsored event or any other ideas you may have. Our charity will benefit not only from funds raised, but also from increased awareness of our services.

Contact: Colin Godfrey, 01256 354777, colingodfreybasingstoke@btinternet.com

Talking Tots Basingstoke

New to Basingstoke! Fun, interactive classes that gently boost your child's communication and social skills.

Talking Tots is the UK's original and favourite provider of fun, interactive classes that gently boost preschool children's communication and social skills. Our friendly and exciting classes can help all children develop some of life's most important skills:

Concentration and attention, making learning easier. Self-esteem and social confidence, vital for making new friends. Pre-literacy skills, helping pave the way for reading and writing. Communication skills, helping little ones express themselves. Sharing and taking turns, helping everyone get along better.

My name is Debbie and I am really excited to be bringing Talking Tots classes to Basingstoke and surrounding areas!

I am very passionate about the importance of being a good communicator. To be able to communicate confidently we need to have good concentration, listening and attention skills, social skills and high self-esteem.

Talking Tots classes provide the opportunity for your child to develop these skills in a fun and interactive way without any pressure. We all know children learn best when they are having fun!

They are also a great opportunity for you to see how you can support your child's communication!

This is what our parents have said;

'My son has really enjoyed Talking Tots. Over the last 10 months his speech and confidence have improved more than I could have hoped for and the Talking Tots classes have played a big part in that. I'd recommend this class for any child who is struggling with their speech'

We also have an Early Years programme for schools, pre-schools and nurseries.

I am now taking bookings for the summer term. Special offer of 3 classes for £10! Call now to book your place!

If you have any questions or would like to know more about any of the classes please contact me.

debbie@talkingtots.info

07392 297869

www.talkingtots.info/basingstoke

Follow us on Facebook - Talking Tots Basingstoke

Follow us on Twitter - @talkingtotsdg

Debbie



Hedgehogs in Popley



There is a thriving hedgehog population developing in Popley around the Abbeys and in the Everest Community Academy area. Many people say that they haven't seen a hedgehog since they were a child, and although they are in decline at present, it is also likely because gardens are becoming less wild animal friendly.

Hedgehogs are nocturnal and are rarely seen in daylight, but they come out to feed shortly after dusk. They eat grubs and slugs but also like cat biscuits. We feed ours on a purchased feed that contains chicken in biscuit form, dried banana and nuts manufactured by "Wild Things", but there are other options.

Predators tend to be badgers, foxes and dogs, but cats usually leave them alone after investigating them. In this area, there are few badgers and only the occasional fox, but road kill is a significant cause of death. Poisoning by slug pellets is another cause.

Hedgehogs roam up to 2 miles each night and so that might easily be from one end of Popley to the other. Fences do limit their ability to forage and so they may often be found on grass verges close to roads.

Hedgehogs give birth to four or five live infant hoglets in June and July, although there are reports that hoglets have already appeared this year. They are fed by the mother for five or six weeks and are then left to their own devices,

If you are interested to know whether you may have hedgehogs in your garden, put out some food and see if it disappears. Cats do not eat the chicken based foods. However, do not put out bread and milk as hedgehogs are cow's milk intolerant. You are more likely to be successful if you have holes in your fence and the holes only need to be three or four inches in size. If you have CCTV on your house, they are easily visible and if you have a wildlife camera you may see good footage of their activity.

If you see a hedgehog during the day, it may be ill and in need of veterinary attention – so pick it up and place it in a cardboard box with some shredded paper or hay in it and phone Hedgehog Bottom (01635 826120) or Hart Wildlife Rescue (01420 562335)

When you are driving at night, especially in residential roads, please keep an eye out as a hedgehog will not see you and will not know to get out of the way. Give them a helping hand by making holes at the bottom of your fences and keeping your garden wildlife friendly.



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: Vacant Leader post – contact GSL

The Scout section has had a busy three months with programmes ranging from Mini – pioneering, team games and ‘Top Gear’ challenge to computer games, Monopoly and Quiz Evenings. Some of the troop visited Greenham Common for a mapping and orienteering exercise. At the end of March they had a weekend in Base 2000 and enjoyed a night hike which was a scary experience for some.



Easter weekend was spent at Buddens Camp Site in Dorset located in the heart of the beautiful district of Purbeck with 95 acres of varied countryside, heath, woodlands (amass with



bluebells at this time of year), water meadows and plantations.

The site offers first-class camping facilities with a variety of campsites of different character and a wide range of on-site activities such as canoeing on the lake, archery, caving, shooting and crate stacking.



The site is run by Dorset County Scout Council and has been described as ‘Dorset’s hidden jewel’. Swanage railway is nearby..



Other camping opportunities for the year include Malshangar for the May Day Bank Holiday and later on that month some will attend Basingstoke East Scout District Camp. Preliminary plans are being made to hold the Troop’s main summer camp in Ireland this year though details have yet to be finalised.

The Group desperately needs more leaders to cope with rapidly expanding demand. Both the Beaver and the Cub section of the Group is now at full strength and no more young people 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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Wife of 39 Years Fails Divorce Appeal

It may come as a surprise to many people that a judge can refuse a divorce.

Not wanting to remain married to your spouse is simply not enough to be granted a divorce.

This was highlighted in a recent case that went all the way up to the Court of Appeal in London.

It involved a woman called Tini Owens, who wanted to divorce her multimillionaire husband of 39 years, Hugh Owens.

Mrs Owens had asked the Court of Appeal to overturn a Family Court ruling which refused to grant her a divorce last year.

The Family Court had heard that Mrs Owens felt the marriage had broken down, but Mr Owens did not agree as he said they still had a “few years” to enjoy.

The judge felt the facts set out in support of the application for the divorce were not sufficient to show that the marriage had broken down irretrievably. He thought the allegations, that the husband had been “insensitive” and “mistrustful,” were either not proven or were “of a kind to be expected in a marriage.”

The decision means Mrs Owens will have to remain married, although after five years of separation she would be eligible for a divorce, even if her husband still objects to this.

You may well ask what do you need in order for a divorce to be granted?

In general, the person who wants the divorce must show that the marriage has broken down irretrievably and must prove this by establishing one of five grounds.

This case shows the importance of careful drafting of the divorce petition and having the proper legal advice.

If you are thinking of getting divorced you'll find we are here to help, where we can offer sensitive guidance and advice.

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

We'll try and avoid going through the courts, but if we can't do that, we have the expertise to get the right results for you in the courtroom. We will endeavour to guide you through the court process in an amicable way.

For more information contact Alastair Yapp at Phillips by calling 01256 854649 or email alastair.yapp@phillips-law.co.uk and visit our website www.phillips-law.co.uk.



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Our All Stars recently played a match between themselves in preparation for next year. This was a chance not only for the players to sample the match day scenario but the parents too. They were superb in setting up the goals and supported the boys throughout. The boys put on a wonderful show of football skills.

Congratulations to Harry Davis who has been approached by Southampton and Chelsea FC.

Our Under 11s have played superbly recently when playing teams from a higher division. A win and a closely fought loss for us. A huge stand out performance from Josh who scored a hat trick. With only 2 games till the end of the season the team look forward to the tournament season.

Fingers crossed from all the boys for Jamie and Taylor who, with a win in their last game, could bring the league title home for the Basingstoke Schools District football team.

MFC Popley are very proud to be represented in the team.

We are currently looking for players to join our U16 squad.

If you are interested, or know someone that might be interested in joining MFC Popley Youth, please feel free to attend our training session on a Monday night at Everest Community College on the 3G pitches, 8pm-9pm.

Alternatively please contact the U16 coach, Darryl Bradbury, on 07825498504.

As part of The FA's role in aiming to do everything it can to support a safe and enjoyable framework for football, a new film has been made outlining the four key steps to safeguarding.

The film, featuring Wayne Rooney, Steph Houghton, Jack Rutter and Nathaniel Chalobah, explains how both parents and children can raise concerns they have about adults working in football and centered around how the 8,500 safeguarding officers working across England football take the following four steps:

Checked – to ensure adults are suitable to work with youngsters

Trained – from coaches to referees, all are given suitable safeguarding training

Hear – concerns from both children and adults will be listened to

Report – the importance of raising concerns about a child's welfare

Link to Film <https://thefa.sharefile.com/d-sf9b8ae03a0541469>

Following these simple but crucial steps means that there is a framework in place to ensure that, if standards ever fall short with poor practice or unacceptable behaviour, they can be addressed.

Anyone who has a concern about the welfare of a child or the behaviour of an adult towards a child or young person under 18 years of age in football, is required to refer it to The FA Safeguarding team. The team is staffed by professionals who are experienced in dealing with these concerns.

Referring a concern can be done via your club – (cwo@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk), league or County FA – all will have a designated safeguarding officer (DSO).

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 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.

In the 2016-2017 season, MFC Popley had 18 teams competing in the Peter Houseman Youth League on Sundays, the East Berkshire Youth League, the Berkshire County Girls League, and North East Hants Youth League on a Saturday.

For further information on the Peter Houseman League, please visit the website: www.phyl.co.uk/

For further information on the East Berkshire Youth League, please visit the website: www.ebyfl.co.uk

For further information on the North East Hants Youth League, please visit the website: www.nehyl.org.uk

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 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 & 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 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 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/

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 players for the following age groups: U7, U12 & 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



New Roof at the Vyne House

“The Vyne is your local National Trust property, situated in nearby Sherborne St. John, and we desperately need your support to help us to repair our roof.

The roof has been leaking for some time and a recent bad storm threatened the whole house and the collection, which is of national importance. So, the decision was made to go ahead with a complex repair programme involving the complete replacement of the roof of the whole house. To help the National Trust to fund these repairs we are holding a Tag-a-Tile event in Chineham Shopping Centre on 20th and 21st May from 10am until 4pm.

To be part of the history of The Vyne, come and write or draw on a handmade tile for a suggested donation of £5 per tile. These will be used to replace the 71,000 worn tiles on the roof. Everyone can enjoy this, from adults drawing family trees to children producing incredibly imaginative, creative images of everything from unicorns to teddy bears.

It's great fun and you know your tile will be protecting the roof of The Vyne for hundreds of years. Just think what the builders of the future will find when they come across your tile in the year 2317!

Come along and see the repairs for yourself on our fascinating Roof Walkway which is open every day from 10am until 3.30pm. If you need more information please call 01256 883 858.



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6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter – May

Looking back - April

On 3rd April, Jon from RAF Odiham brought in various items of aircrew life saving kit from the Survival Equipment section. Jon gave a talk explaining the importance of each bit of kit and let the boys try on various items. They even got the chance to see an emergency life raft inflate and to climb in it which was really exciting.

We took the lads for an impromptu Powerleague session on 10th April to work on their team skills and to have some fun kicking around a football.

On 22nd April we held our first **Big Charity Quiz** at St Andrew's Methodist Church and we had a fantastic turn out. Plenty of fun and food was had during the event and we hope to see everyone back again and more for the next one.

Are you up to the challenge?

We are looking for volunteers to join our officer and helper team. We meet on a Monday evening from 6:15-7:15pm and need additional support running our Anchor and Junior sections. Give us a ring: **07775 535434** or drop us an email: **6thbasingstokebb@gmail.com**.

Date for your diaries

17th September 2017

Morrisons Bag Packing event - come along and donate some of your time or money as we provide a bag packing service throughout the day. The donations from this event will help fund the increased running costs of our company and help fund our annual camping trip.

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) Big Wheel 25

Sunday 23rd July 2017, Down Grange Sports Complex, Basingstoke, RG22 5SN

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) has opened registration for the 25th Big Wheel event taking place on Sunday 23rd July 2017 at 9am. Riders will spend a glorious summer's day riding through the beautiful countryside of North Hampshire to raise funds for North Hampshire's only adult Hospice.

Last year over 1,000 cyclists enjoyed a variety of routes and we are anticipating a record turnout this year. The very popular Advanced Level 65 miles is back for a second year and, to celebrate the Hospice's 25th Anniversary, there will be an Intermediate 25 mile route. And with a Challenger 39, a Beginner 15 and the Family 5 mile routes there is something for everyone.

Those not ready to take on 5 miles yet, will be able to enjoy the Little Wheel event which takes place on the grass at Down Grange Sports Complex where all entrants will start and finish and everyone can enjoy a cold drink and hot food. All finishers, from age 2 to 72, will get a lovely medal to commemorate their efforts.

Big Wheel is a true family event and a great way to spend time together outdoors raising money for St. Michael's Hospice, who provide specialist care and support to patients suffering from life limiting illnesses.

Prices start from £8 and full details are available on our website. To save time, avoid long queues and get the discounted entry price, we advise you to register beforehand. However, you can also register on the day and these prices will be between £2 and £5 more.

Chris Griffiths, Marketing and Events Manager; 'Big Wheel is our biggest Hospice led fundraising event for 2017 and attracts both families and experienced riders. We are lucky to have an incredible venue at Down Grange and stunning countryside for the riders to cycle through. This year we hope to see as many people as possible taking part and have our best year yet. We rely on the support of the local community to make this event the success it is.'

We have been lucky enough to get some wonderful local companies to sponsor the event this year. A big thank you to Unum, Clarke and Son Solicitors, Greenhouse Graphics, HCT Creative and JackFM.

At St. Michael's Hospice we care for local people with life-limiting illnesses through our In-Patient Unit, Community Palliative Care teams, and growing range of Out-Patient services. 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 2017/18 it will cost £3.9 million to provide our patient services to the local community with less than 20% funding from the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group. We therefore need to generate £3.1 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 cyclebigwheel.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter **@smhbasingstoke #BigWheel25**

Like us on Facebook at **St Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)**

For further information, please contact:

Chris Griffiths, Marketing and Events Manager, 01256 848847 (office)–(Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm)

Chineham Library

Hopefully you will have enjoyed a good Easter break, and the children have had a good rest from school after the long spring term.

Activities for children continue as usual at the Library, with the weekly rhymetimes for pre-schoolers on Tuesdays. The sessions for under ones are at 10am, and the over ones at 11am. The popular craft sessions are scheduled for the 6th May and the 3rd June and take place between 10am and 12pm. Story times for pre-schoolers take place on all other Saturdays, commencing at 10am. The Chatterbooks group continues to meet monthly, with sessions on 11th May and 8th June. Our second Coding Club began meeting on the 25th April, further details of this can be obtained from the Library.

The Crime Reading Group is having a break in May, between the sessions on 29th April and 10th June. They meet Saturdays at 10am and welcome new members. The CHIPPS group meets on 10th May from 10 – 11am.

Age Concern continue to provide computer tuition for the over 50s on Wednesday mornings between 10am and 1pm. To book sessions please contact their office on: 01256 423874. Please contact the library for details of the Colour and Create adult colouring group meetings.

We hope to see you in the Library soon, whether to borrow books, use the computers or attend a group or activity. We always have a variety of interesting displays in the library for you to enjoy. For the most up-to-date information follow us on social media.

Cathy Foster



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

Also available- Breakfast and Lunch clubs (for further details contact Elaine on 363156).

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 lub (children) 6pm -7pm

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



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POPLEY
25th
FESTIVAL
Anniversary



Sunday 21st May

Looking for a car boot sale with something different?

The Popley festival car boot is a once a year event held next to the main festival. Open to the public from 10am till 4pm and attracting between 5000 and 8000 people, it's a great opportunity to sell your wares and have a day out too!

Setup for the car boot sale is from 8.00am till 9.30am
(no car movement allowed on the field after this time)
costs are £5 per car, cars with trailers, transit vans etc... are £10.
Find us at RG24 9AE and follow the car park signs

www.popleyfestival.org.uk
Tel: 01256 414494
E-mail: office@popleyfields.org

PopleyFields
Community Association

FASTFARE

Your Local Family Convenience Store

Abbey Road (Shops) ☎(01256) 323679

Open seven days a week

Monday–Friday 8:00am–9:00pm Saturday 8:30am–9:30pm Sunday 9:00am–9:00pm

Grocery | Stationery | Off Licence | Fresh Fruit & Vegetables | Fresh Flowers

Fresh Sandwiches | Pies | Ethnic, Polish & Indian Groceries

We serve crushed Ice Drinks

• *Now Available UPS Parcel Service • Play Now Lottery + Scratch Cards*

• Faxing and photocopying available • We Accept Milk Tokens

• Paypoint pay your bills Gas, Electric, Mobile Top ups ETC.

• Western Union Money Transfer Services • International Phone Cards

LOOK OUT FOR MONTHLY PROMOTIONS

If you don't see what you want in the store, please ask and we will try to get it for you.

FASTFARE PHARMACY

UNIT 3 ABBEY ROAD SHOPS ☎/📠357637

FREE PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE

We fill your prescriptions at Fastfare Pharmacy from most surgeries.

There is also a free collect and deliver service. We also take your repeat prescription, collect and deliver FREE OF CHARGE. NHS or Private.

Among our many services we offer:- Blood pressure check, Diabetic, Cholesterol check-ups and monitoring. A Private consultation area for patients. We advise on medication and treatment of minor illness by our qualified Pharmacist. Pregnancy advice and morning after pill available. We hold a comprehensive stock of Motability Equipment for hire or purchase. Just ask and help us to help you.

For further details ring ☎357637

Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm; Sat 9am-5pm



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