

FASTFARE

Your Local Convenience Store

Open seven days a week

8.30am - 9.30pm

Abbey Road (Shops)

☎(01256) 323679

Grocery | Off Licence | Dry Cleaning | Fresh Fruit & Vegetables | Wool | Fresh Sandwiches | Pies
Also Ethnic Food Jamaican & Indian Spices

We Accept Milk Tokens

Recharge your Gas Card, Electric Key, Northern Electric,
BT Bills and Even your TV Licence



Phone cards available for

Pay as you talk, Mercury One to One, BT Cellnet & Orange

2 Litre Coke £1.09, 2 for £1.99p.

**Come into the store and
see our many special
offers including buy one
get one free**

**Start saving now with
us for Christmas and
New Year.**

Just come into the store for details
of our Christmas club

Faxing (£1.50 inland)

Photocopying (7p per A4 page)



POPLEY MATTERS

March to May 2000

Volume 3 Issue 8

FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS



Contents

Message From the Editor	Page 1
Millennium Popley Festival	Page 2
Report from Primary Care Group	Page 2
Tintern Close Fire	Page 3
Popley History from Arthur Attwood	Page 4
Treasure Island Playgroup	Page 7
North of Popley Development Consultation	Page 8
Popley 2 Residents Association	Page 9
Popley Forum Reports	Page 10
The New Community Development worker	Page 14
Popley Fields Community Association	Page 15
Melrose Community Association	Page 16
Letters to the Editor	Page 18
Message from Junction 6	Page 20
The Air Scouts News	Page 20

You can keep up with what is happening in Popley by looking at Popley on line at www.basingstoke.org.uk/popley

To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:-

Popley Matters
Melrose Hall
Abbey Road
Basingstoke
Hampshire
RG24 9ES

Editorial Team:-

Editor	Jane Frankum
Sub-Editor	Paul Frankum
Sub-Editor	Tony Frankum
Chairperson	Iris King
Vice Chair	Ron Rowe
Treasurer	Tracey Bentley
Secretary	Pat Langley
Advertising/Liaison	Kate Lomas
Committee Member	Dave Phillips
Committee Member	Louise Tuck

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team. Or the members of the committee of Popley Forum/Matters.

Distribution Team; Ann Allwright; Jenny Bailey; Penny Barris; Irene O'Brien; Emma Dent; Laura Dent; Rachael Dodswoth; Ken Frankum; Jane Frankum; Tony Frankum; Win Harris; Kylie Humphries; Julie Johnson; Tracy Judge; Adam King; Iris King; Phillip King; Val Lye; Sheila Matthews; Lynne Moore; Peter Moore; Gillian Miller; Carole Oakley; Dave Phillips; Ron Rowe; May Smith; Kim Taylor; Louise Tuck; Mary Wall;

THE DIET WHERE NO FOOD IS A SIN!
Only from Weight Watchers

New BASINGSTOKE AREA

MONDAY @ 5:30pm CARNIVAL HALL COUNCIL RD
TUESDAY @ 7pm KEMPSHOT VILLAGE HALL, PACK LANE

WEDNESDAY @ 6:30pm HATCH WARREN PRIMARY SCH. GERSHWIN RD

WEDNESDAY @ 6:30pm THE BARN, VIABLES CRAFT CENTRE

THURSDAY @ 7pm CHURCH OF GOOD SHEPHERD WINKLEBURY

WHY NOT JOIN US AND ENJOY A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

Call 0345 123 000 for other Meetings in this area
(all calls charged at local rates)

No weighing or measuring of foods
The diet to suit your lifestyle
It's easy and it works!

Weight Watchers and 1,2,3 Success 2000 are trademarks of Weight Watchers International, Inc and used under its control by Weight Watchers UK Ltd.

Connect Cladding and Carpentry

PVC-a roofline products, complete roofing and carpentry service

Fascias
Wall Cladding
Vented Soffits
Under Felt Membrane
Guttering & Downpipers
Free Estimates and Surveys
Windows and Doors

Please Telephone
(01256) 359650

Young's Chinese Food

to take away
Unit 2

Carpenters Down
(Off Popley Way)

Popley, Basingstoke
Telephone Orders

841540

Opening Times
Sunday

5:00pm - 10:30pm

Monday To Saturday

12pm - 2pm & 5pm - 10:30pm

Tuesday Closed

HOOVER

APPLIANCE REPAIRS
SAME DAY SERVICE

M.J. Rayner

BASINGSTOKE 398600

- EXPERT ATTENTION
- FULLY EXPERIENCED HOOVER TRAINED ENGINEER
- REPAIR WASHING MACHINES, DRYERS V. CLEANERS
- REPAIRED IN YOUR HOME
- COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SPARES PARTS IN STOCK
- AUTHORISED HOOVER DEALER

GENUINE HOOVER PARTS

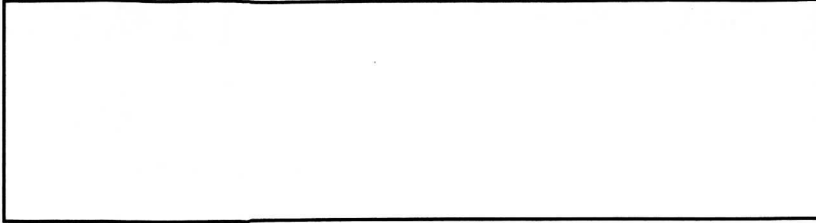
FITTED WITH FULL
MANUFACTURERS
GUARANTEE



INC. RENT-A-WASH WASHING
MACHINE HIRE

GAYTHORNE NORTH WALTHAM BASINGSTOKE

YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED TO FILL THIS SPACE



If you are aged between 13 & 19, Bored! Fed up! Cold wet! Always being moved on? Why not come to Junction 6 on Thursday 7.15pm – 9.45pm help Louise & Mick fill the above space.

Hold on I hear you say what's the catch? No catch only your imagination will run riot when you realise that together everything is possible.

Why not just turn up we will be waiting at Junction 6 from 9th March 2000, If you cannot make that week we will be every Thursday until Easter for more information Tel. 359596

Basingstoke Air Scouts

The Air Scout Group was delighted to learn of a lottery grant of £64,000 towards the cost of replacing their dilapidated wooden hut at Carpenters Down. The grant is conditional upon the Group securing the full cost of £130,000 and starting to build by November 2000. Over £98,000 is already secured and it is hoped that the Borough Council will now feel able to make a significant contribution to this vital re-building project. The Group is redoubling its efforts to raise extra funds through a variety of fund raising events. The bi-weekly Boot Sales at John Hunt of Everest School on Sundays are well supported and other plans include a Summer Fete, a '2 for 2000 Appeal' and a Line Dance.

Most members of the Scout section, having taken at least one flight in a glider plane recently the cost of which was sponsored by British Gas in association with the Basingstoke Gazette. The scouts are grateful to their leader Suzanne Fletcher Mallinson ('Spitfire') and to instructors from Shalbourne Soaring Society for making this possible. They hope to repeat the experience one day. Many of them have already completed their Junior Airman badge and are looking to greater things. Currently they are working on plans for an adventure weekend to develop their camping skills and learn the concepts of orienteering, pioneering, boating and canoeing. The 'practical' will follow! Plans are already in hand for a special Millennium Camp at Cricket Camp Site at Hedge End. The younger sections of Cub and Beaver Scouts have concentrated their efforts on developing craft skills and having fun with lots of games during the darker evenings.

New members are always welcome. For information Contact The Group Scout Leader Jan Saunders: 9 Orkney Close, Popley ☎410514. Beaver Scouts 6, Cub Scouts from 8 and Scouts from 10 1/2 years. Meetings are held in the Air Scout HQ at Carpenters Down

Message From the Editor

It has been about the busiest three months that I can remember with every thing from the tragic fire at Tintern to Arthur Attwoods MBE, the millennium celebrations, Popley North Development Brief public meetings, Longfellow Parade project getting started, and a new development worker for Popley.

Firstly the fire, I was at the scene within five minutes of it starting and I was amazed at the professionalism shown by the emergency services and how quickly the council reacted. A rescue centre was set up in Merton Junior School with hot food being cooked in fact the entire stock of sausage beans and chips were used. Coffee tea and sugar were seconded from the staff room. Headquarters was set up at the civic offices and Paul Frankum and myself were in constant contact through Rob Donnely who helped to coordinate there. Fast fare, and Tesco's supplied all sorts of items and volunteers were contacted by the fire serve and the council. Popley showed its community spirit all the way through and when I went home at 9-30 that night I was so very proud to live in Popley.

Congratulations to Arthur Attwood (Mr Basingstoke) now an MBE The award was a fitting one to a man who has done so much for Basingstoke.

Congratulations also to the Basingstoke Wella Bison's who won the Bensons and Hedges Plate final at the Sheffield Arena against Slough Jets (5-2) some of the team's players either live or have lived on Popley. We hope that some of the team will be at the Popley Festival.

About 60 people came to the displays of the brief for the new houses in the north of Popley. There were some concerns and good ideas, the site is designed on many of the ideas from the public workshops the public had.

Longfellow Parade has some new lights and the elderly and young children can walk through now and feel a bit safer. The shrubs have been cut down and there is a lot more to come yet, why not come to the next meeting April 12th at 7-30 in Dryden Hall. There still is much to be done there.

Welcome to Gloria Gooch our new Popley Development worker whose job entails getting more use of the community centres I know that she is looking forward to hearing some of your ideas.

Popley recycled 7.5% of its rubbish into the piggy back bins but it dropped to 4% I know we can do as well as anywhere else in the Basingstoke area.

I hope not too many of you got the flu over Christmas and new year Our family were among those who's celebrations went on hold. We have decided we are going to have a family day in the summer months and have a celebration then, after all if they can have a BBQ in Australia for Christmas we can have a turkey in our sunshine (hopefully). Don't forget the Popley Festival on May 21st it looks like it will be even bigger than before.

Come to the next Forum meeting and tell us what concerns you about living in Popley. Jane Frankum (Editor)

MILLENNIUM POPLEY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2000

The Millennium Popley Festival will be on Sunday 21st May 2000 in the grounds of John Hunt of Everest School, Popley Way, Popley.

This will be my first Festival and I am looking forward to it a great deal. A team from the School, local Community Associations and other interested bodies are working hard to ensure that the day will be action packed with lots of fun for all the family.

There will be the usual range of activities and displays including, crockery smash, tombola, sponge throwing, stalls and sideshows. Arena displays will include marshal arts, Basingstoke Fire Brigade, giant car boot Sale plus lots more entertainment and a few big surprises too. Music provided from local bands, the Workers Co-operative Association running act, BCOT and the Grand Raffle with the first prize being a plane ride over your house are just a few more attractions. In addition we hopefully will see the return of the Craft Fair and rides from the Fun Fair.

I look forward to seeing you at the Festival. If you would like to be involved with the Festival or perhaps to help on the day, sponsor an event, or would like any further information about any aspect of the Festival, please do not hesitate to contact me. My Telephone Number at John Hunt is (01256) 465303, or you could pop into your local Community Centres. We would be delighted to hear from you. Pat Langley

SMOKING KILLS MORE THAN 13 PEOPLE AN HOUR in the UK

Smoking costs you £1,200 a year @ 20 cigarettes a day and it also costs you 11 minutes of your life for every cigarette smoked. As a bonus, it can give the smoker:

- Coronary heart disease
- Strokes
- Cancers of the month, throat, larynx, and oesophagus
- Lung Cancer and Chronic obstructive lung disease
- Cancers of the pancreas, bladder and cervix
- LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES
- Obstructive disease in the arteries of the legs

and there's more, for those living with the smoker there's the prospect of

- Asthma in their children
- Contribute to their developing heart disease and cancers
- Is implicated in cot deaths
- Children who smoke

Continues on Page 13

Countywide Travel

Specialists in group travel countywide and countrywide!

12 to 53 seater coaches for hire

for free advice and quotations call **465245** or fax 819159

We also operate an extensive day excursion programme to many places of interest throughout the year with local Popley pick ups. There are also a limited number of weekend breaks and all week holiday tours available.

Full details and bookings available at the tourist information centre, Willis museum.

Telephone 817618

Abbey View Funeral Home



at B. V. Masonry
Memorials and Stonecraft made to
your personal choice
by the Stonemason.



Private Chapel of Repose 24 HOUR 365 DAYS A YEAR SERVICE
01256 851231

We are only a telephone call away for

Golden Charter pre-paid funeral plans available and discussed without obligation.

Funeral Arrangements made in the privacy of your own home or at the above address, under the personal supervision of Ian Bailey.



Shothanger Barn, Kingsclere Road (A339) Basingstoke



Letters to The Editor



Dear Editor. Popley is not a bad place to live, we have green fields to run and play football in and nice safe parks, but we have no facilities for skate boarding, roller blading or riding our bikes in safety.

Children are forced onto the pavements where they are a danger and nuisance, to both young and old people. We feel that it would be very nice to have a purpose built place to play which would solve one of the many problems facing young people growing up in Popley. Paul Taylor & Gareth Johnson Year 7 John Hunt of Everest School

Editor; You make a good point and I will forward your comments to the council.

Dear Editor: I would like to thank Iris King, Jane Frankum and everybody in the Popley community, we would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for all your help and support in our hours of need.

The community spirit has been fantastic and once settled I would like to repay everybody's kindness in some way. Thank you so very much *Sue Toomer*

Editor; It was a pleasure to see again how really great the people in Popley are

Dear Editor: I read with interest the letters in the last edition of Popley matters from JG of Falkland Road and the article from Lauren Heath regarding "I am bored and there's nothing to do syndrome so prevalent amongst youngsters of today.

The scouting movement like so many others youth groups asks why more youngsters are not joining them and the answer is that it is not "cool" and this has prompted me to wonder what conversation between a Scout and his or her friend might sound like as they chat on Monday morning.

Scout I had a good weekend how was yours

Friend I had a great time I climbed to the top of the play swings and wound them round so many times that the little kids couldn't reach them.

Scout I went climbing as well, up a 50 ft rock

face and assailed back down again, what else did you do.

Friend Well it was a bit hot so I had a kick around in the paddling pool.

Scout I got wet as well, I was learning how to do an Eskimo roll in a canoe on the Basingstoke canal. Did you do anything else?

Friend Well it was very exiting there was a car crash and we watched the ambulance and everything.

Scout Yes I saw that as well but what was exciting was that I gave first aid until the ambulance arrived and I may have saved a life.

Friend I played an adventure game on my computer it was great.

Scout I went on a night hike and cooked breakfast under a shelter that I built to sleep in for the night.

Scout how about you joining scouts next week then/

Friend No thanks it's not COOL

Somehow this does not ring true does it? Come on youth of Popley be "UNCOOL" or whatever you call it. Join the Scout Group that is exclusively for you 1st (Everest) and have a really COOL time being UNCOOL, have real adventure, learn real skills, have fun and make many friends that you can trust and rely on, take the challenge and you wont look back. We currently meet at St Gabriel's Church.

Beavers (6 to 8) Tuesday 5 to 15 contact Janice Lee 410617

Cubs (8 to 10 1/2) Tuesdays 6-30 to 8 contact Annette Redford 410673 Scouts (10 1/2 onwards) contact John Talks 414168

You may also like to check out our Website at www.website.lineone.net/~1st-popley

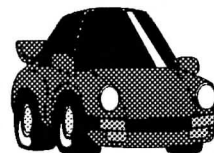
Editor; I almost wish I was young enough to join in mvself!

Please send your letters to :
The Editor, Popley Matters Melrose Hall, Abbey Rd, Basingstoke. RG24 9ES
We do need your name and address but will not print them if you ask us not to.



BASINGSTOKE WINDSCREEN SERVICES

- WINDSCREENS ● ALARMS
- IMMOBILISERS ● RADIOS / CD PLAYERS
- CENTRAL DOOR LOCKING
- TOWBARS



*Windscreens supplied
& fitted from £35.00
Insurance Approved*



Tel: 01256 473224

TINTERN CLOSE FIRE

The committee of Popley Matters/Popley Forum would like to thank the following for all of their help/donations, on behalf of the residents of Tintern Close, who sadly lost their homes and all their possession's just before Christmas.

The residents of Tintern Close: Iris King, Ann Souilah, Iris Fogg, Florrie Kinge, Mrs Stringer, Mrs Hill, Tots Stone, Mr Kirrage, Mrs Bartle, Mrs Phelps, Mr Cotton, Mrs Bone, Mrs Robson, Terry Osbourne, Elizabeth Smith, Mrs Anderson, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Mason, Mrs Pett, Wendy O'Meara, Mr Fretwell, Irene O'Brien, Sue Palmer, Mrs Shepherd, Pat Rogers, Mr & Mrs Vaughn, Debbie Dainton, Kate Lomas, Jane Frankum, Alex Kelly, Rebecca Dainton, Hayley-Megan Dainton, Mr Bishop, Harvey Middleton and all those who came to the sale in which we made £327.

In addition we would also like to thank Mr David Strauss/staff/Merton School Dave Phillips/Boys Brigade, Dave & Nayna at Fastfare, M & W Carpenters Down Margaret/Popley Fields, Marks & Spencers, Tesco, Johnson & Johnson Sketchleys, Marlowe Close Surgery, Bewley Homes, Ringway Hotel/staff with a special mention to Mr Tony Atrill of Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council who stayed at Merton School all that day, and who sadly died at the age of 46 over Christmas.

If anyone has been missed because so many wonderful people came forward we sincerely apologise but please take this as a gigantic thank you. You are all wonderful people.

POPLEY HISTORY

I am writing this article a few days before I go to Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE from the Queen, an honour which I am very proud to have been awarded. You may ask, "What is this to do with Popley"? The answer is a lot.

The MBE has been awarded to me, not only as the town's historian but also for services to the Community and this includes Popley. This is a section of Basingstoke, which I have a real feeling for. Among the 1000 plus talks I have given, many have been at Popley, to Community associations and to the schools where I have always found the children most enthusiastic. In their search for knowledge about the town, in which many of them were born, they are developing a sense of belonging to a town so different from the area where many of their parents lived in London.

My great opportunity to get know the people of Popley was during the eight years in which I wrote the "Know your Neighbour" series in the Gazette. I too got to know the neighbours of Popley and what a grand lot of people I found them to be,

When celebrations took place for the Silver Jubilee of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, I as a journalist, covered some of the street parties. One of the finest was at Abbey Road, where former Londoners showed Basingstoke people the exuberant way to celebrate. This was a real communal effort, which still remains so clear in my mind.

Popley people always impressed me with the way they supported their Community Centres, in which I have given several talks.

With the celebrations of the dawn of the Millennium now behind us, our thoughts are now trained on the future. What kind of place will Basingstoke and indeed Popley be at the end of the present Century? I can see many of our remaining green fields disappearing and I am sure, by 2100, something else will take the place of the motorcars, now so often paralysed in traffic jams. I am sure during the next 100 years, we will travel by air in small carriages, flying at different heights and computer controlled. One hundred years ago, flying by air was not even in its infancy, the first cars were appearing, and TV was un-thought of. Many new inventions and scientific advances are bound to happen in the near future.

ARTHUR ATTWOOD MBE

RICHARD ALDWORTH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Western Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 6HA

Wine Festival

Saturday 25 March 2000

7.00pm- 11.00pm, £5.00 - Adult Only

Live Entertainment

Sunday 26 March 2000

12.00pm- 3.00pm, £3.50

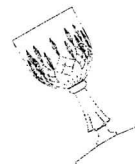
Families Welcome

(accompanied children no charge)

Children's Entertainment

Free limited Edition Wine Glass

Snacks Available



FREE
Entry

Garden Festival

Sunday 21 May 2000

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Bedding Plants, Garden Furniture

Pots, Crafts, Compost

- ~ Make a hanging basket
- ~ Allotments Society
- ~ Dahlia & Chrysanth Society

Stall holders welcome - Contact (01256) 473698



FREE
Entry

Adult Education

FREE Computer course at Popley Fields Community Centre

Study for a City & Guilds Certificate in Computer Applications

- * Word Processing
- * Spreadsheets
- * Database

Using Office '97 running Windows '98

NO HIDDEN
COSTS

For more information please call the Community Office on (01256) 473698 during the school day, weekday evenings 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm or Saturday mornings 9 am - 12.30 pm.



MELROSE COMMUNITY HALL

Registered Charity Number 1044547

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

There is now more and more going on at Melrose Hall.

Mondays in the afternoon from 2pm – 4pm is the Friendship Café and in the evening two new clubs. From 7pm – 10pm the Video Club, for those of you who want to improve your skills on your Camcorder and from 8pm to 10pm is our new Western Line Dancing for couples

Tuesday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm is the over 18 Bingo, this is followed by Petite School of Dance.

Wednesdays in the morning from 9.30 – 11.30 our parent toddler group meet, again in the afternoon there is more classes from Petite and in the evening from 7pm – 9pm is the Adventure Ranger Corp

Thursday morning there is a new club, from 10.30 – 11.45 we have Rosemary Connelly Diet and Fitness session. Also new to the Centre In the afternoon from 4pm – 5pm is Mini Moves for ages from 5 – 13 years.

Friday in the evening from 6.30pm– 9pm is our Melrose C/F Church youth Club.

Saturday Morning Petite School of Dance

Sunday 10.15am – 12.15pm Melrose Christian Fellowship Church
Please don't forget our Coffee mornings Monday and Thursdays 9.30am to 12.30 pop in and have a cuppa and meet old friends and perhaps make new ones.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to all of you who helped raise money for the Children in Need appeal and to those of you who put out collection boxes, we raised a grand total of **£563.63**

TINTERN CLOSE FIRE APPEAL

Popley Forum/Popley Matters would like to thank everyone who donated either money or items for the residents of Tintern Close who tragically lost both their homes and possessions in the fire just before Christmas. Thank you to the Melrose volunteers who set up an appeal and who worked ceaselessly, especially Iris King the Chair of Melrose, who was constantly on call for the residents and who co-ordinated the donations and the Fund Raising Sale.

Melrose Hall and Popley Fields Centre are available to hire for Weddings, Parties, and Christenings etc. Melrose Hall ring 420676 Popley Fields Centre ring 414494

Treasure Island Play Group

At

Popley Fields


Community Centre

Mon-Fri 9:30am - 12:00pm

Mon & Thurs 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Parents & Toddler Group
For More Information
Phone



 414014

Registered Charity No. 282848



The Boys' Brigade

6th Basingstoke (Popley) coy.

Anchor Boys Aged 5½yrs-8yrs

Monday Night 6:15pm to 7:15pm
ROSLA BLOCK ROOM R14

Junior Section Aged 8yrs-10½yrs

Monday Night 6:15pm to 7-30pm
Main School Gym

Company Section Aged 10½yrs-18yrs

Monday Night 7-30pm to 9-30pm
ROSLA BLOCK ROOM R14

All Sections Meet at John Hunt School
Answer Phone for Information

 323564

PRINT WISE

- Quality Printing •
- Competitive Prices •
- Artwork & Design •
- Fast Delivery •



Tel/Fax: 01256 33 22 02

COURSES FOR SUMMER 2000 AT FOUR LANES CENTRE

Course Name	Start Date	Day Wk	Time	Fee
Dressmaking	10/05/00	Wed 10	10.00-12.00	£40
Dressmaking	11/5/00	Thur 10	10.00-12.00	£40
Paint & Stitch for Fun	08/05/00	Mon 8	12.00-2.00	£32
Get by in Spanish	08/05/00	Mon 8	10.00-12.00	£32

**SEE BASINGSTOKE GAZETTE FOR DETAILS OF
SATURDAY WORKSHOPS
TO BE HELD ON 3RD JUNE AND 1ST JULY**

COURSES FOR SUMMER 2000 AT JOHN HUNT CENTRE

Course Name	Start Date	Day Wk	Time	Fee
Bridge Beg./Improvers	09/05/00	Tues 10	7.00-9.00	£40
Aromatherapy & Massage	11/05/00	Thur 5	7.00-9.00	£20
Get by in German	to be arranged	8		£32

**SEE BASINGSTOKE GAZETTE FOR DETAILS OF
SATURDAY WORKSHOPS
TO BE HELD ON 3RD JUNE AND 1ST JULY**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A
COURSE CALL JO ATTERIDGE ON 306347**



SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 5PM-10pm POOL KNOCK OUT COMPETITION

If you are aged between 13 – 18 there will be a pool tournament at the centre, tickets are £2.00 on sale at the centre before the date, prizes for the winner and runner-up, food will also be available for purchase.

BABY CLINIC HAS MOVED TO POPLEY FIELDS

The clinics that were previously held in the Health Centre at Longfellow Parade, Popley Poles, are now being held at the Popley Fields Centre. **Wednesday's** 9.30am – 11.30am Baby Clinics, **Wednesday's** 2pm–4pm Developmental Checks. **Friday's** 9.30am–11.30am Family Planning. The Speech Therapy has also been moved to the Centre, Please phone 325422 if you need more information.

Clubs & Activities

Monday evening 6.30pm – 8pm Baton Twirling, 8.15pm – 10.15pm Wu Shu Kwan Martial Arts.

Tuesday evening 6.30pm–8pm Rosemary Connelly Diet & Fitness 6.30pm–8pm CMA Kick Boxing 8.30pm–9.30pm Fit 2000.

Wednesday 6.30pm–7.30pm Moves 2000, 8pm – 10pm Line Dancing

Thursday 7pm–8.30pm CMA Kick Boxing

Friday 2pm–4pm Senior Citizens Bingo Club

Sunday 10.15am – 12.15pm New Testament Church of God

In addition Treasure Island Play Group run Monday to Friday 9.30am–12pm, Monday & Thursday afternoon 12.30pm–3pm. Parent Toddler Group Thursday morning 10am–11.30am.

New drop in centre Monday-Friday 12pm-2pm all ages welcome.



**Easter Sunday 23rd April 2-30-5pm
Easter Egg Treasure Hunt
0 – 7 Years & 8-12 years.
25p Per child, Mum and dad come along free
Easter Bonnet/Top-Hat Competition
Children's Tombola & refreshments
Fun Fair all over the weekend**



POPLEY'S NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKER

I would like to introduce myself, my Name is Gloria Gooch and I have taken over the position of Community Development Worker for Popley. In the past I have been involved in Youth Work and Community Work in the Basingstoke area and look forward to familiarising myself with you the people of Popley, I have been assured that it's a great community.

I will be splitting my time between Popley Fields Centre and Melrose Hall and in addition will be out and about in the community. At present there are three designated Community Centres and I hope to encourage you the residents of Popley to use them for the benefit of all. Melrose Hall already offers coffee morning on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 12:30pm so if you fancy a coffee and a chat you will be assured of a warm welcome.

In addition as from March Popley Fields Centre will be running a Drop-in Centre from Monday to Fridays between 12pm and 2pm, look out for posters for more information.

My main aim is to set up user groups in Popley Fields catering for all abilities and ages. This is where I will need your help! Please give me your input, let me know what you are interested in, what do you feel your community needs. If it is at all viable, I will do my best to ensure it happens. Although I cannot promise it will be overnight but I am sure that if we all pull together, we will be able to work at offering a wider range of activities in the area.

As with most Charities we have to rely on volunteers. This can vary from helping with Youth Activities to coffee mornings, helping out at Fun Days to a bit of Gardening etc. It is a great way of making friends and helping your Community at the same time. If you have any spare time on your hands or would like to get involved in any way, I would be more than happy to discuss the endless opportunities available. Please don't hesitate give me a ring on 414494 (Popley Fields) or 420676 (Melrose Hall) to arrange a time when we can have a cup of tea/coffee and have a chat.

The Committees of Popley Forum and Popley Matters Welcomes the new addition to Popley and look forward to working with Gloria Gooch.



Treasure Island Playgroup

Treasure Island Playgroup has been running since 1977. The Playgroup was originally located in a house in Trinidad Close, (this was rented from the Council) but for the past three years we are in Popley Fields Centre.

We have 2 areas, one a children's room, where we have a purpose built story corner and constant access to our own secure garden area (with added shade during the summer), this means the children can have fun inside or outdoors. The other area adjoining the children's room is the craft room, where we enjoy "messy play", sand, water, painting etc. We plant seeds, make paper mache bowls and have cooked jam tarts and biscuits.

We are registered each year with Social Services and also by OFSTED, who look at the areas of learning that we aim to help the children achieve before going to School. Despite this, one of our main focuses is for the children to enjoy themselves and helping them become accustomed to saying goodbye to Parents/carers and settling down with other children. We always keep the emphasis on play and learning social skills – we find that the children learn so many things from these.

We accept funding from Hampshire County Council for children who are 4 by the end of December or March are we are going onto school the following September. We maintain close links with Early Learning Centre at Marnel School, Marnel Infants School, Social Services and Health Visitors.

We greatly value the role parents play and have a parent rota for them to come in during any session. We liaise closely with parents and all of the staff work hard to form a close informal relationship with them.

The Playgroup has 4 staff working with up to 24 children at each session and at present we are open 9.30am-12pm Monday to Friday, 12.30pm-3pm Monday and Thursday afternoons. We welcome anyone who wants to call in to look around during any session or you may wish to call us on 414014 for further information.

The Playgroup is for all children from 2 years to rising 5's but if your children are younger (from birth to 2 years 9 months) then we have our Parent Toddler group, which meet every Thursday morning 10am-11.30am.



Registered Charity Number 282848

NORTH OF POPLEY WAY CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Approximately 100 people attended the information displays held at the Melrose Community Centre and Sherborne St John Village Hall regarding the new development proposals for North of Popley Way. Thank you to all those who came along to discuss their ideas and concerns with Borough Council officers and also to those who have returned comment forms and letters to the Council giving their views on the proposals. The Borough Council received 43 letters and comment forms sent by residents, community groups, schools, utility companies, the developer and government agencies such as English Nature and Sport England. The comments included the following issues:

Traffic e.g. concerns about the increase in traffic and the closure of Chineham Lane and requests for traffic calming, speed reduction and junction improvements.

Parking e.g. a drop off lay by at the school.

Cycle/Pedestrian routes e.g. the route should be coherent.

Landscape e.g. retain existing hedgerows and trees and provide more landscaping.

Open space e.g. there is too much open space proposed.

Wildlife/habitat e.g. ensure maintenance of hedges and woodland.

Housing e.g. affordable housing and market housing should be better integrated.

Facilities e.g. the need for a doctors surgery.

Local Centre e.g. suitability of a pub in the new local Centre.

Utilities e.g. foul drainage capacity.

The brief has been amended where possible to take into account some of the concerns raised and is due to be considered by the Planning and Transportation Committee on Thursday 16 March 2000 at 6:30pm in Committee Room 1 of the Deanes Building at the Council Offices. If you would like to speak at the meeting you must inform Penny Rickards, Committee Administrator, on (01256) 845278. If you would just like to attend the meeting, please check first to make sure it is still on the agenda. If you have any queries or require further information on the North of Popley Way Development Brief, please contact Tim Marsh on (01256) 845326.

Continued from page 2

For every 1000, 20 year old smokers, 1 will be murdered, 6 will die in a motor accident, 250 will die in middle age from smoking related diseases and 250 in older age from smoking. The earlier you start the greater the risk.

WHY BECOME A STATISTIC CUT IT NOW! The benefits of giving up start immediately and continue the longer you stop. The reversal of the harmful effects starts immediately, so it is **never too late**. Stopping Smoking is the most effective way of promoting good health. Smoking is the single most important cause of preventable ill health!

TO STOP: Try just stopping! Throw away the cigarettes and ashtrays! Try and find something else to do with your hands when you are sitting down relaxing, e.g. knitting or some other handicraft. **Try not to eat more**, this is the main reason why many people start smoking again - they start to get fat! If you need something in your mouth try sugar free chewing gum, or raw vegetables.

Try Nicotine Replacement! This comes in various forms, patches, nasal spray, chewing gum etc. (These seem expensive, but remember you won't be buying cigarettes). Your doctor may be able to give you a prescription for the first two weeks' supply. The idea is that the addictive substance in the cigarettes is the nicotine, while it is the tars and gases that are inhaled (even in low tar cigarettes) which cause the damage. Once you are off the harmful cigarettes it is possible gradually to reduce the nicotine.

Join a STOP SMOKE group! There should be one in your area starting soon. There should be details in the local paper or on your Surgery notice board.

Talk to your doctor or practice nurse! Both will be happy to advise, help and encourage you on a one to one basis as you feel the need. They will be able to discuss the various options available and by seeing you as you need perhaps encourage you not to surrender to the weed again.

Remember, if at first you don't succeed

TRY AGAIN AND AGAIN and in the end you will!

KILL THE FAG, CUT IT OUT!

For further information, contact:

Dr. A-M. May, North Hampshire Primary Care Group 01256 376391.

Health Promotion on 01256 376488

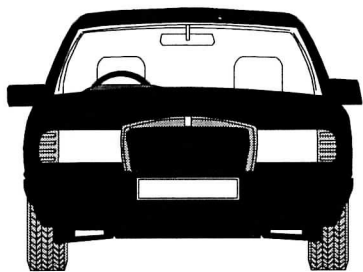
visit the following websites: *Action against Smoking* <http://ash.org>. or

<http://www.givingupsmoking.co.uk>

You might also like to call the "Don't give up giving up" line on FREEFONE 0800 1690169.

PASSENGER SERVICE

Male/Female
Drivers
All Airports



Local
and
Long
Distance

Travel Tokens Accepted

Gatwick from £36.00 Heathrow from £27.00



01256 818181

Your LOCAL home furnishing shop

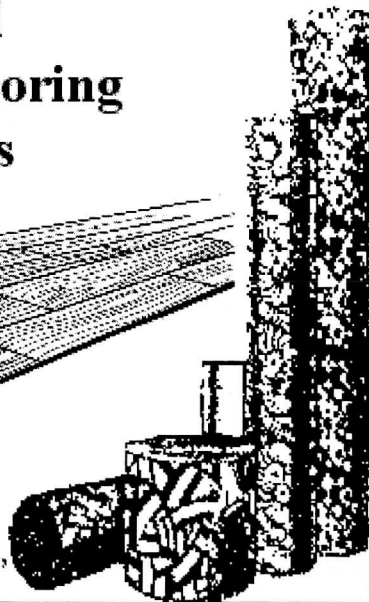
- Fitted carpet & vinyl
- Wood & laminate flooring
- Fabrics & wallpapers
- Curtains & blinds

**The
Silchester
Furnishing Co.**

Tel/Fax: 01256 851274

www.silchesterfurnishing.co.uk

Aldermaston Road, Sherborne St John,
Basingstoke, RG24 9LA



CHEN WU KUAN CHINESE KUNG FU

John Hunt School Popley Way

Tuesday

6:30-7:30pm Ages 6 – 14 years

£2.00 per lesson

08:00-10:00 pm 14 Years and
over



Under the instruction of:
Alex Marshall—1st Degree Black

You are warmly invited to
WORSHIP WITH US

at

Popley Fields Community

Centre

Carpenters Down

Popley

Basingstoke

Sunday Morning

10:30 am to 12:00 noon

For more information phone:

Graham and Barbara on

(01256) 410715

New Testament Church of God



POPLEY TWO RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

We did not have a good start to the new Millennium as we had hoped for. From Boxing Day onwards, my wife and I suffered from the Flu turning to pneumonia, which of course needed a long recovery time. Quite a few of our members also fell to the "Flu" which was sweeping the Country. As a result of all the illnesses, our Jubilee Millennium celebrations for 22nd January had to be postponed.

Our sincere apologies to all those people who purchased draw tickets from our members. The "Millennium Draw" should have taken place on 22nd January but will now take place on 26th February 2000.

Two of our members Nell and Joe Dresser celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 10th February, with their family in Wales. A bouquet of flowers was sent along with our best wishes and congratulations to a lovely couple

We are still negotiating for and extension to our Play Area, for pre-school groups, which is so badly needed. We are hoping for a successful conclusion to this now vital problem.

Join us on Tuesday evening for Bingo, door open at 7pm, eyes down at 8pm. ☎417858 Ron Rowe (Chairman Popley 2 Residents Association)

POPLEY FORUM—MELROSE HALL 13TH JANUARY 2000

The Popley Forum held the first meeting of the Millennium at Melrose Hall; due the flu the numbers attending were down, but thanks to those of you who came.

Doctor Moss from Marlowe House Surgery started by saying she came to Basingstoke 25 years ago firstly at Basingstoke Hospital but within 18 months as a GP. She said that the present position regarding the new surgery is that planning permission is almost completed and that hopefully the contracts would be exchanged soon and, building work would then start within 3 months. She was asked if there would be more diverse clinics, she replied that within her practise there was already 75 different clinics but hoped to develop Physiotherapy and counselling services among others. Dr Moss was then asked if she was happy with the outcome over the problem of the sighting of the new surgery, she replied that she understood the residents concerns and hoped matters had now been resolved. It was agreed by the meeting that consultation first negated confrontation at a later date.

PC Paul McCarty then gave a report on behalf of the local Beat Officers. He started by saying that at the successful Police Surgeries before Christmas a number of problems had been identified. An operation was set up in response to complaints; over 15 people had been arrested for various offences, including theft of bikes, traffic offences, and also public order offences. Complaints about bikes have been significantly reduced. A multi-agency approach to abandoned cars, achieved, over 80 cars being removed in the last six months.

The Longfellow Parade rejuvenation scheme is progressing and the Police are working in conjunction with the council, Oakfern Housing and the Community Safety Team. Consultation with residents facilitates continuity. Local Schools could be involved in a competition. The local beat officers are visiting schools regularly so the children would get to know them. PC McCarty was asked about police visibility, he replied that the Popley Officers have the highest arrest rate in Basingstoke. Iris King the Chair of the Forum said that relationships are still improving between the residents and the Police. Cllr Jane Frankum advised that when people phoned the police they ask for an incident number and if they were not happy with the response she or the Forum would pursue matters on behalf of the residents. Basingstoke & Deane covers 255 square miles and Basingstoke Police are 25 officers short.

Tony Curtis Director of Planning and Transportation gave a brief introduction about how the planning department works. The area of Basingstoke and Deane serves a growing population of over 150,000 people. There is a staff of 100 in his department that has to cover all aspects of current and future planning.

The Development Control department covers planning permission from a small house extension to a large new estate of houses or businesses. The department also has to deal with unauthorised development and this stands at around 2000 a year they also deal with enforcement matters such as dangerous sites.

The Strategic Department covers the longer planning issues such as where future houses, shops, factories, roads, transportation and future environmental and

strategic designs. There are 1750 listed buildings of historic interest that need protection. Roads and pathways are also the responsibility of this department although they are only the agents for the County Council in Winchester.

Tony Curtis then asked if there were any questions and they came thick and fast. The question of road surfaces started this session and in particular the surface that had recently been done on Shakespeare Road it had areas that looked quite bare and Tony said he would get Ian Foley the officer responsible to contact the Forum. Salting in winter was a sore subject as the County Council had in affect cut the frequency of salting. Tony told the Forum that already the Borough do extra salting over and above that which the County pay for and they try hard to cover the roads as much as they can. Salting of Shakespeare road caused some concern and it was pointed out that this was a bus route and a higher priority, It was suggested that the Forum write to Richard Chinn at the area office in Hook and put our case.

Nigel Toomer resident of Tintern close one of the unfortunate people who lost their house in the fire in December asked "what can the council do to stop the storage of hazardous materials being kept in private houses"? Legally the council can do nothing to stop people working on their vehicles in their own garages as long as they are not running a business. For example if an accountant worked from home using one room contacting his clients by IT planning permission would not be needed but if he then used two rooms had signage and had people calling at the house and parking, it would no longer be "minimal" and planning permission would be needed Residents concerned about neighbours running a business from home should contact Ian Smith on 854444 they may remain anonymous. Storing dangerous or hazardous materials, Tony said he would look into producing a leaflet to advise the public. Residents pointed out their concern about the construction of the houses and the damage the fire did. It was categorically stated that this was an unusual fire that had circumstances unlikely to happen again and the circumstances caused the extent of the damage.

Tony had recently gone on a tour of Popley with the three councillors who also accompanied him, he had been surprised at the poor quality of the environment in some parts of Popley and measures were already being put in place. A rapid repose team was now in place to sort problems such as litter or overhanging branches.

Tony confirmed that the council had removed 80 abandoned cars in the last six months and councillors and public were reporting new ones all the time.

The fire at Tintern Close, this recent tragedy showed that the community of Popley is the best, and thanks to all. Offers of help flooded in. Help was received from B&DBC one particular officer Tony Attrill stayed at Merton School all day co-ordinating relief services. The Forum was sorry to report that Tony Attrill had passed away aged 46 and extended their heartfelt sympathies to his family.

The next meeting is at Dryden Hall on Popley Poets. Wednesday 12 April at 7-30 we will discuss the Longfellow Parade rejuvenation scheme. Guest speakers are from The Police, Oakfern Housing, the Crime Reduction Officer, and the Community Safety Team

Come along and voice you're concerns about living in Popley