

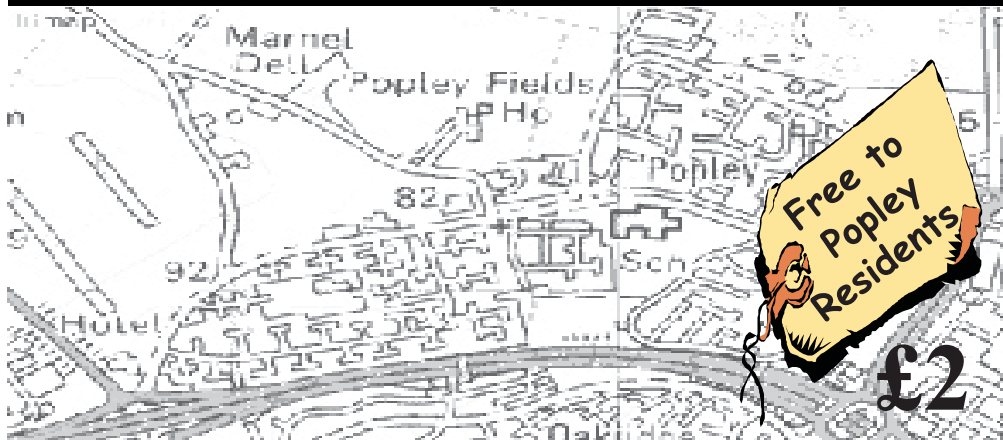
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

June 2018

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 196



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

Contents

Message from the Editor	Inside cover	Tales of the Marnell Woods	Page 15
Neighbourhood Watch	Page 1	Bermuda Community Centre	Page 15
News from the Police	Page 1	Arthur Botham	Page 17
Councillors' Page	Page 3	Phillips Divorce	Page 18
Melrose Hall News	Page 4	What's on at the Vyne July and August	Page 19
Sunflower Service	Page 4	RCS Manging Anxiety	Page 20
Mrton Infant School	Page 6	RCS Be Confident for Work	Page 22
Thoughts From Ruby J	Page 7	Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers	Page 23
Popley Festival Report	Page 9	Love Your Library Local and Family History Day	Page 23
Everest Community Academy News	Page 10	Boys Brigade News	Page 24
MFC Popley News	Page 11	Basingstoke Ladies Choir	Page 24
Love Your Library "Austen Sisters"	Page 11	Basingstoke Air Scouts	Page 26
Popley Fields News	Page 12	Probus News	Page 28
Chineham Library	Page 13		
Sherfield Fete 9th June	Page 14		

Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-06-18) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: The sub-editor Paul and I suddenly realised that this October it will be the 200th issue of Popley Matters we have laid out and edited. We have prepared, proofed and laid out and distributed 196 of them. We recalled how we got restarted 26 years ago last month. So e thought it would be nice to mark this milestone of Popley Matters in some way. We decided that we would ask you our readers and volunteers to contact us so we could do a “Where Are You Now” type feature and also have you recall any stories, and send photos about Popley Matters. Could you email us at editor@popleymatters.org.uk or write to 405 Abbey Road RG24 9EL, or phone 01256 819924 and tell us your stories and recollections? We may

start a Popley Matters Facebook page, but we would need moderators to volunteer. This is your community magazine, and we believe that there would be some great stories from our readers. We have lost contact with some of the original people who have been involved, some have moved away or sadly passed on but family members might like to contact us? Sorry if it looks like we missed you off our contact list. There have been many hundreds of magnificent people who have been involved over the years and it would be wonderful to get in contact again.

Now back to this June copy of Popley Matters I am writing this just before we leave to visit Popley Festival. We have good weather and it will mean a record breaking amount of visitors I guess since we have been on the Popley Fields Community Centre site. I love meeting people especially if I have not seen them for a long time. It is fascinating to see just how many people that have moved away, sometimes a long way off or even to other countries, yet come back to meet up with friends and family at the Festival.

Popley Matters as I have already said survives because we have some great people who advertise, (this is our only income for the cost of printing, everything else is done by our amazing and much appreciated volunteers). We do need more advertisers and more people to deliver the magazine.

We welcome articles from groups and clubs, also residents who might like to write about their hobbies or maybe the history of Popley? 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.

Editorial Team:- Editor Jane Frankum; Sub-Editor Paul Frankum; Chair Terry Jones; Area Distribution Manager Jeremy Jackman Martin Biermann; Treasurer Christopher Martin; Proof Reader Lorraine Beaney.

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Advertising Index

Jonathan Williams Independent Funeral Directors	Page 2	Petra Jewellery	Page 13	Mickey's Handyman Services	Page 25
AAA Clearance House and Garden	Page 2	JBDrive	Page 16	1st Response	Page 27
Everest Health and Leisure Club	Page 2	Happy Tails Grooming	Page 16	Piccolo Pre-school Nursery	Page 27
Steve Rayner Accountancy	Page 5	BodybyLekan	Page 16	Lawrence Young Ltd	Page 27
Ovenclean	Page 5	Spencer and Peyton Ltd	Page 16	Apollo Hotel	InsideBP
Unique Block Paving	Page 5	Phillips Solicitors	Page 18	Roots	InsideBP
Richard's Plastering	Page 5	Mark Smith Plumbing and Heating	Page 21	Horizon Sound and Vision	InsideBP
Popley Explorers	Page 8	Fyne Flooring	Page 21	Fastfare Store	Back Page
Exercise Class	Page 8	M H Autos	Page 21	Fastfare Pharmacy	Back Page
Rayner Appliance Care Ltd	Page 8	Your Local Locksmith	Page 25		
Everest Community Academy	Page 10	IPS Hair	Page 25		
		MMc Electrical	Page 25		

Thank you for your support.



We had our latest meeting at Everest Community Academy at the end of April. We discussed options for further meetings such as having guest speakers such as fire officers/dogs regarding fire safety at home, local police, detectives, or Crimestoppers to discuss how intelligence is used in our area.

We can vote on what we think the police priorities should be in our area, so contact me for information on this.

There is a discount scheme for buying CCTV for both outside and inside your house. There's a discount for NHW members through Co-op insurance for home insurance.

Don't forget to report what you can to 101, it makes a difference. There are direct links to the Chief Inspector through NHW leaders in Basingstoke so if you have any problems or issues then let me know and I can pass it on.

Jo Pawson and Andrew Grygier are also co-ordinators now so they can also be contacted.

Priorities for us are getting the rest of the signs up (I have more now) and spreading the word about our NHW. I also have more leaflets and circulars, NHW stickers that can go in your window, so let me know if you'd like one.

Anyone who doesn't have signs in their road and is willing to put a couple up, please let me know.

We can confirm that National Neighbourhood Watch Week 2018 will run from Saturday, 16 June to Sunday, 24 June, 2018. Regards, **Clare Wilkins NHW Co-ordinator**
Marnel Park, Merton Rise and Spiers Meadow



Dear residents,

Now that we are finally enjoying this lovely weather, I must take the opportunity to remind you of a couple of seasonal tips to help reduce crime.

During the warm weather, people are more likely to leave their doors unlocked and windows open. If you cannot see it from where you are, make sure it is locked!

If you are going away on holiday, here are some great tips to ensure your home is kept secure:

- Make sure your home looks as though someone is living in it. Use automatic timer-switches for your lights or radios when it does become dark.
- Avoid discussing holiday plans where strangers may hear of your absence from home, and be aware of what you put on social media.
- Store valuable items and documents in a safe, or alternatively leave them with a friend or a bank.
- Consider getting a relative or a friend to park on your drive if you have one, open and close curtains etc.
- Ensure valuables e.g laptops are not left on show.
- Mark belongings on immobilise.com (for free!)
- Make sure your buildings and contents insurance is up to date.
- Lastly, if possible ask a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your property and leave a contact number so that they are able to get into contact with you if anything happens.

Please, enjoy this beautiful weather, make sure you drink plenty of water and don't forget to say hello when you see us on our bikes! **Kind regards, PCSO C.Norris 16287**

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Councillors County: I am still waiting for the start date for the filling of Hampshire County Council pot holes there are some really bad ones on all the estates. I have been assured that the parking issue in Marnel Park with the double yellow lines on corners and opposite T junction is very near the top of the priority list to be done; excuse me for feeling sceptical I have been promised this for several years. The U turn at the Reading Road end of Popley is being reviewed as simply putting notices up saying no U turn has not deterred some unthinking drivers and it can be, and is, a dangerous manoeuvre.

The maintenance of trees near the highway are now the responsibility of Hampshire County Council though BDBC and housing associations also have some responsibility for others. It's a real nightmare trying to establish who is exactly responsible sometimes! Welcome to the new Head of Marnel Juniors, Ms Susan Peopall. After a robust round of interviews of candidates Ms Peopall has been taken on permanently. I am sure she will serve our children and community well. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

Popley West: Firstly can I say thank you for voting for me to continue serving you as your local councillor for the Popley West ward. I will continue to represent you all as best I can. You can contact me by email, letter or phone, details below.

The past three years have been extra busy as we have served as deputy Mayor then Mayor with my mother making it three years as she was also my Mayoress. In this time we attended over a thousand meetings and events of every kind. For the Mayor's charity we wanted to help small groups who don't have professional fundraisers or are not a registered charity. It also enabled us to help to get new groups or charities on the first rungs to help themselves and others. We raised over £37K and gave grants to 51 local groups and charities.

We have still been active on ward issues. We are pleased to see that the potholes in the Abbey Road shops that were the responsibility of Basingstoke and Deane are done. There have been issues with rubbish collections in Marnel Park and Falkland Road, due to lorries breaking down. Hopefully they are now repaired and we are back on track for the collections.

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

Popley East: The Splash Pad re-opened on 27th April, Unfortunately within three weeks of re-opening the Splash Pad it has been vandalised which included the rubber surface being cut and the activators damaged. There was no option but to close the facility in the interests of safety and contractors were called in to make all necessary repairs. We are distressed that this has happened and fail to understand why anyone would do this.

Hopefully by the time you are reading this, the repair works will have been completed and the facility will be operational again. As it is likely to be very popular, during the school holidays, can we just remind users that there is an overflow car park available which is situated adjacent to the existing parking spaces.

We are pleased to see that the new parking schemes at Burns Close have been completed providing much needed additional spaces.

Fly tipping is a problem and we have reported several instances recently in the ward. If you become aware of any could you report it either through the 'report it' option on the Council web site or by calling BDBC on 01256 844844. Alternatively you can contact us with details.

The costs of clearing fly tipping are significant and the Borough Council, as part of their enforcement work, will where appropriate prosecute offenders.

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



Thank you to everyone who attended our French cultural exchange weekend. It was great to see our Alencon friends again and share with them the sights and history of Basingstoke on the town trail, followed by an evening of fun, food and friendship.

Looking for a venue for your party or group? Ring Vicki on 01256 420676 or e-mail us melrosehall2@gmail.com for hire information or to arrange a tour. Or find us at www.Melrosecommunityassociation.co.uk or on facebook.

WHATS ON IN June:

MONDAY:	10-11am	4 Fits Sake exercise class
	12.30-2.30pm	Bingo!!
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Popley Little People
	5-7pm	Sama Karate
WEDNESDAY:	9&11am	Slimming World with Jo
	11.45am-1.30pm	Oasis Lunch Club
	5.30&7.30pm	Slimming World with Julia
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Community Café
	7-8pm	4 Fits Sake clubersize
FRIDAY:	10am-1.30pm	Melrose Tots
	6.15-9.15pm	Friday Youth Club
SATURDAY:	9.15am-4pm	7th Day Adventist Church
	10am	Sabbath School – Bible Study
	11.30am	Divine Worship
	1pm	Free Community Lunch
	Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812	
SUNDAY:	Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.	

Sunflower Service

Sunday 10th June

St. Michael's Hospice invites to you their annual Sunflower Service on Sunday 10th June to be held within the Hospice gardens.

Starting at 2pm there will be a blessing for all of the sunflowers which have been dedicated to loved ones. The blessing will be conducted by the Hospice Chaplain, Tom Honey, and will take place within the Hospice Labyrinth Garden where all the flowers will be displayed.

After the service, we welcome you to join us for afternoon tea. You may, if you wish, take your sunflower home with you or collect it anytime during the month of June where they will stay displayed in the beautiful gardens.

You can make your sunflower dedication in memory of a loved one at stmichaelshospice.org.uk/meadow.html. You can also make a dedication on the day.

For more information on the Sunflower Service please visit the website stmichaelshospice.org.uk, email events@stmichaelshospice.org.uk or call the Fundraising Hotline on 01256 848848.

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Summer News

Year R – Time to Rhyme

Our Time to Rhyme topic was launched with a letter from Julia Donaldson, author of the Gruffalo. She asked the Year Rs to create a brand new character for her to write a story about. The children have been very busy deciding what they like about different types of characters and have now begun to design their own.

We will land the topic with a 'Rhyming Party' where we will dress up, perform our favourite stories and even eat Gruffalo Crumble!

Year 1 – We are on the Move and Growing Good

Year 1 started their Summer term learning about plants and created leaflets all about sunflowers to share with the local community. The children experienced planting their own sunflower seeds and were given a diary to track its growth. They are looking forward to sharing their flower's progress at the end of the half term.

The children then moved on to their new topic 'We're on the Move', all about transport. They have loved reading the book "The Hundred Decker Bus" and it has inspired them to create their own buses and write their own endings for the story. The children have enjoyed learning about the achievements of Amelia Earhart and retold her inspirational story as journalists.

Year 2 – Lost in Space

The Year 2 children launched their topic with a special message from Andre the Astronaut who set the children a Literacy challenge to write a character profile of Beegu the lost alien so they can find him. Andre is also getting a little bit bored of the poems and stories that he has up in space and would like the children to provide him with some new ones.

The children have also become artists in the style of Ludek Pesek. They have used pencils, chalk, charcoal, pastels and paint to develop their blending, smudging, texture and detail skills.



It's okay NOT to know...

When I was five someone asked me what I wanted to be, I replied "a princess".

When I was 10 someone asked me what I wanted to be, I replied "a teacher".

When I was 15 someone asked me what I wanted to be, I replied "a lawyer".

Now, I'm 17 and recently someone asked me what I wanted to be, I replied "I cannot decide- I do not know". Perplexed, I am trying to figure out who I want to be and what I want to do but to put it simply, I am unsure. I'm now at college studying for my A-Levels, choosing university courses and trying to plan out my future.

Being lost is terrifying, but it's okay. Preparing for life-changing decisions is daunting. I feel like I am drowning in an ocean of opportunities, gasping for breath as I surface with the calming water. A brash wave engulfs me. Swallowed, I sink to the dark and lonely sea-bed and I feel like I have one chance to secure my future.

I am wrong. I do not have to rush. I will resurface again on the shore, we all will.

In the olden days, girls knew they were expected to be mothers or receptionists or seamstresses when they grew up. Equally, boys knew they were expected to be the bread-winner of the family or engineers or doctors. Their stereotypical roles in life were already scheduled and they followed these unwritten rules of society.

Nowadays, everything's changed. We all have the same opportunities. We are not defined by our gender forcing us to conform to the social-norm. We all can work hard at school, achieve the grades that fulfil our own expectations, enjoy socialising and building relationships and then we can decide what the next step is for ourselves on our own journey. We create our own map and follow our own journeys to get to our desired destination.

We have broken boundaries. Cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman in space. Edward T. Lyon was the first male nurse.

We can do anything and be whoever we wish to be.

Take a moment to breathe. We do not have to decide what we want to right now.

As I approach the daunting deadline of decision making, I realise I'm not alone. My friends cannot decide what to study next at university or whether to dive straight into the deep end and start full-time employment. What I realise is everyone is different and we all have individual goals for ourselves. Just because you decide you want to study something now or get a job, doesn't mean you will be in that same field of interest for eternity.

I think my main point is that as we change, the world changes too. Every minute new discoveries and cures are being found and new jobs are being invented. Change and evolution is our next step along this long journey we call life. Don't be afraid, bite the bullet.

You Only Live Once...

Ruby J



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POPLEY FESTIVAL

Firstly I'd like to say a huge thank you to all of those who came along to the Festival this year helping to it make one of the it the most successful ever!

For those who were not able to make it, you missed a beautiful may day, dance and singing performances from Merton Junior School, traditional dancing from the local Ghurkha community and 4 live bands rocking the music stage. As usual everyone loved the fair with everything from hook a duck to the dodgems. Marnel and Merton schools both took part in the children's art competition which saw some great work judged by our local councillors, Paul and Jane Frankum.

One of the key features of the Festival is the way that the community pulls together to make the event happen and I think we'd all like to thank those that volunteer their time to setup, marshal and allow everyone to have a great day, especially the guys in the red t-shirts from New Testament Church of God and a big shout out to Jamie Karslake for his hard work.

Thanks, looking forward to next year,

Phil Mean

Popley Festival Committee Chair

PS: Remember to like us on Face book and keep up to date with the 2019 festival and if you would like to be involved contact us via the web site at www.popleyfestival.org.uk



We welcomed around 100 Year 5 students from Winklebury and Merton Junior School's on Thursday 3 May for a Secondary School Experience Morning. The Year 5's took part in PE, Science and Food Technology Lessons.

Our year 10 BTEC Sport Students have been running Bench Ball Training Sessions for Year 5 Oakridge Students, to help them with preparation for the local Junior School Bench Ball competition which was hosted by Everest Community Academy on 24 May.

Congratulations to all Year 7, 8 and 9 students who took part in the Superstars Competition recently at QMC.



4 June—First day back after Half Term Break



Massive congratulations to our U9s Red and Black teams at the Sandhurst Tournament, who all played brilliantly, with the Black team winning the cup! Well done to all the players and coaches from both teams!

Our MFCPY U12s team are looking for four new players for next season to join us as we move to eleven a side. Contact us at committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk if you would be interested in joining (Year 8 in September).

Huge congratulations to our talented U13s Girls team and Coaches, who won the Cup in the recent Sandhurst tournament!

U13s Boys - After the dust has settled on the season our U13s can look back and feel very proud of themselves. Tournament season now begins and our first outing was to Mytchett. Our Venom team performed very well in winning the Plate Competition, beating Mytchett in the final and our Predators were very unlucky in the final of the main cup losing 1-0 in Golden Goal time. Well done both teams.

Huge congratulations to our U15s team and coaches, who have been confirmed 2017/18 League champions in the East Berkshire Football Alliance!

MFC Popley U17s are looking for youth players. If interested please contact the club at committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

MFC Popley Youth will be holding a FREE Open Day on Saturday 9th June, 10:30am-11:30am, @ Everest. If you know of any boys or girls, no matter what their age or ability, looking to join a football team bring them along.

The Club will also be holding our annual AGM at 7pm on Saturday 9th June at Marnell Bowls Club, Popley Fields - all are welcome.

You can get regular updates on Twitter, @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 - www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/

For more information, or if you have any queries, please contact the club through our main website: <http://mfcpopleyyouth-co-uk.bisongrid.com> **Zak Collingwood**



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Austen Sisters

at Basingstoke Discovery Centre

Tuesday 26 June: 2pm / £4

Readings compiled and performed by Rowan Suart



A diverting forty-minute dramatic and entertaining recital of readings from Jane and Cassandra Austen's letters, prose and poetry about sisters, performed by local actress and speaker Rowan Suart.

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Worship

Saturday 30 June

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7-9pm - Free entry - Music starts 7.30

For more information contact us at
contact@ntcog.org.uk

Popley Fields Community Centre
Carpenters Down, Popley
Basingstoke, RG24 9AE

Chineham Library

If you haven't done so already, there is still time to volunteer to assist us with this year's Summer Reading Challenge, called Mischief Makers, which runs from 14th July for two months. The local youngsters derive enormous pleasure from participating, but we cannot run it successfully without the help of our lovely volunteers. If you are aged 14 plus and could consider helping, please do get in touch with us. Thanks.

We have more evening events come up, following the success of the author talk from Jean Fullerton in April. On 14th June is 'C.S. Lewis: Beyond Narnia,' an evening of readings from his works for adults. On 25th July we have 'Bannocks and Blood', a murder mystery evening based on Anne Cleevess' Cold Earth. Both events cost £5 per head, with tickets bookable in advance, and should be very entertaining.

Beyond these extras, all our regular events take place as usual in June. Thus, Saturdays we have crafts at 10am on 2nd, and storytimes on the other weeks. The general reading group meets on the 30th at 10.30am, and the CHIPPS group on the 13th at 10am. Chatterbooks for the junior school age meets on the 14th, for details of future coding clubs please contact the library. Rhymetimes take place as normal, with under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Places are still available in our newly formed creative writing group, so if you have any interest in that area please let us know. The Age Concern computer sessions for over 50s are still taking place on Wednesday mornings, between 10am – 1pm. Please contact their office on: 01256 423874 to book sessions.

We hope to see you in the library soon.

Cathy Foster

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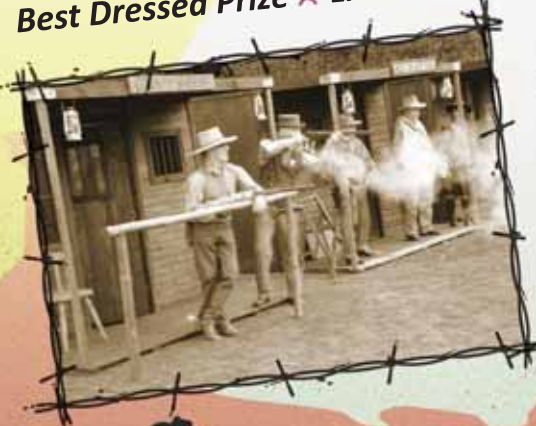
9th June

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Tales of the Marnell Woods

It is now officially summer, as we are now playing outside! If only the weather fairy knew that. Our first evening league match was spent trying to find a jumper or something to ward off frost-bite and our first friendly spent watching the pools of rainwater forming on the green while we debated the virtues of scrapping the game and spending the afternoon eating a very nice lunch that Sue and Vince had prepared. The weather thinks it won but really we did because the lunch was lovely and gave us all a chance to socialise with the opposition instead of trying to play them off the park. Naturally, today there were no matches to play and the weather is superb. The weather fairy is either having a laugh or is being vindictive. Who cares? We had a very pleasant social afternoon and a tasty lunch whilst keeping dry and cosy so yahoo sucks to you fairy, I hope your wand gets rusty

Fortunately, we have a league match Wednesday evening and that nice lady on TV promised a warm day and pleasant evening so it looks like we will have the last laugh. This time of the season is always a bit dodgy but a little later we will be enjoying beautiful evenings, cold beers and those early season weather periods will be long forgotten. There is really no better way to spend an evening than a competitive but friendly match, agreeable company, a typical summer evening cooling down a hot day and a glass of finest within handy reach. Life is good after all, and you can share this little piece of heaven by calling in any Tuesday evening, 6 - 8pm or most Saturdays about 1pm onwards to taste for yourself. You're guaranteed to make new friends, enjoy a new lease of life and it won't cost you an arm and a leg either. Imagine it, think about it, DO IT. You won't regret it and what is more, you might make a half decent bowler. A skill you didn't even know you had.

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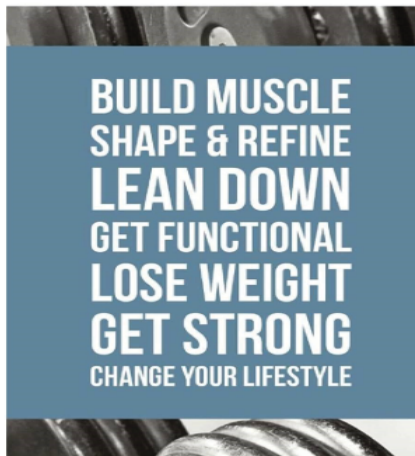
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Dear Friends

SUNDAY 10th JUNE 2018! If you're reading this and that date has already passed I am sorry; if it hasn't then let me invite you to help us mark a major milestone in the life of St Gabriel's and of our community.

On SUNDAY 10th June at 10:30a.m we will welcome many distinguished friends guests to St Gabriel's as we bless and dedicate the new halls and extension. We will be welcoming Bishop Bill Ind one of the founding vicars of St Gabriel's along with his family and the family of David Cockerill a former long-standing member of our church and community. Both Bill and David made a significant contribution to the life of St Gabriel's and Popley in its early days and to mark their contribution our two new meeting rooms will be dedicated to their names.

But it won't just stop on SUNDAY 10th June at 10:30am! After the dust of the celebrations has died down the new hall and rooms will be open for hire by all our community groups, both new and aspirational – we are already receiving a steady stream of enquiries.. The state-of-the-art facilities will mean a great deal to our groups and we hope that you will take the opportunity to visit and see them for yourselves.

The Bible tells us that “Unless the LORD builds the house they labour in vain who build it!” (Psalm 127). The original concept of the extension to our community facilities came about almost five years ago now when the church council recognised both the growth in our community and in St Gabriel's itself and the need to increase the facilities we offer to the residents of our parish. The vision for the use of community buildings was born and lots and lots of prayer went into the decision to proceed. We were enormously blessed to receive full support from our local councillors and a grant from Basingstoke and Deane Council from the Local Infrastructure Fund. That grant enabled us bring the vision to reality! Throughout the project we have held the above words from Psalm 127 at the heart of the project and our prayers for its completion.

We believe it is a massive addition to our community and will be a blessing to future generations of those living here. We are looking further to the future now and what God may be saying to us about the worship space in St Gabriel's. We have a lively, active and growing congregation and it won't be too much longer before we will have outgrown the worship space – its an exciting time in the life of your parish church. Why not pop along and see what God is doing here among us and through us to being about His Kingdom! Alleluia!

Every blessing
Arthur
Vicar, St Gabriel's
☎01256 324734

“Unless the LORD builds the house they labour in vain who build it!” (Psalm 127).

It is very important to tie up your finances when you divorce or separate from your partner.

A case that was in the headlines a couple of years ago involved a new age traveller turned eco-millionaire who refused to pay a financial award to his former wife.

Dale Vince and Kathleen Wyatt separated in 1984 and finally divorced in 1992. Mr Vince later went on to establish wind power firm Ecotricity in 1995 and became a millionaire.

In 2011 Ms Wyatt brought a financial claim against her former husband – 19 years after the Decree Absolute was granted. At the time of the divorce both had little money and Ms Wyatt continued to live off a low income while caring for their son.

There is a common misconception that when a marriage ends the Decree Absolute brings to a close the financial relationship between a couple. However, this is not the case as in the UK there is no statutory time limit to bring an application for a financial settlement for a divorce.

The case of Wyatt v Vince shows the potential implications of not pursuing a clean financial break at the time of divorce.

It took five year for the case to progress through the Family Courts in a drawn out and expensive litigation case, where Ms Wyatt eventually was awarded £300,000.

This clearly highlights the importance of ensuring a financial agreement is reached and approved as part of the divorce process.

If you were divorced without a court order or want to check that you have the correct agreement in place, contact Hayley Eachus in our Family Law team by calling 01256 460830 or email hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk



To find out more about our Family Law services visit www.phillips-law.co.uk/family

What's on at The Vyne July & August 2018

Normal admission applies to all events except outdoor theatre. You can pick up a range of fun family trail sheets from Visitor Reception.

Den building, Daily, Head out into the woods and see who can make the best den from materials from the woodland floor.

Orienteering, Daily, Find your bearings and test your map reading skills with orienteering. You can collect the materials you'll need at Visitor Reception.

Get to know a tree, Daily, Bring paper and a crayon and get ready to capture a tree rubbing. All you have to do is look out for a tree with an orange label, place the paper up against the tree trunk and start colouring it in with the crayon. The pattern of the bark will appear on the paper. Free event normal admission applies.

Go on a scavenger hunt, Daily, Collect your trail sheet from Visitor Reception and see what natural objects have fallen to the ground in the woods and gardens at The Vyne. Free event normal admission applies.

Geocaching challenge, Daily until 21 September, Intrepid explorers can download the Geocaching® app from geocaching.com/play before hunting for themed geocaches in Morgaston Woods.

The lost tapestries trail, Daily until 30 Sep ,On this family trail, help recover and fit together jigsaw pieces of oriental tapestries hidden across the grounds. Pick up your trail sheet at visitor reception. Suggested donation £1 per trail sheet

Behind-the-scenes house tours, 3, 19 July, 10.30-11.30 B 01256 883858 Working with centuries-old objects, the team must meticulously plan each stage of the installation of the new layout in the house in order to safely rearrange the collection for visitors to enjoy. Find out the conservation challenges involved when changing the layout of a historic house.

Gardens seasonal walk, 19 July, 16 August, 13 September, 25 October and 6 December 2-3pm, Conducted by a member of the gardens team, gain a deeper insight into the gardens at The Vyne. Seize the opportunity to ask our gardener questions and gain tips on all things horticultural. No booking required; limited tickets given on first-come-first served basis on the day.

Shifting landscapes photography trail and competition, 1 Jun-9 Sep (closing date 13 Aug), Witness how much the landscape at The Vyne changes as the seasons come and go and submit your own snaps in a photography competition. Stand at the exact spot where photographs have been taken and displayed in the grounds and compare these with the view you see on your visit.

You can capture the next chapter in The Vyne's shifting landscapes by taking your own photos of The Vyne's grounds and emailing these to theyvne@nationaltrust.org.uk by the closing date on **13 August**. A shortlist of ten photos will be selected by the team and announced on **20 August**. You can then vote for the winner when you spend £10 or more in the shop or the Brewhouse tea-room up until **24 September**. The winning photo will be announced and exhibited in the Brewhouse tea-room on **1 October**.

Outdoor theatre: The Importance of Being Earnest, Saturday 4 August 7pm-10pm, Tickets: Adult: £13 (age 16+) Child: £8 (age 5-15) Under 5s go free B 0344 249 1895 Everybody loves Ernest. In fact, Cecily and Gwendolen are both engaged to Ernest. The only trouble is, Ernest doesn't exist. Or does he...? This energetic production from the critically-acclaimed Pantaloons gives this play a hilarious twist!

With the doors opening at 5.45pm, pack your camping chairs and picnics and join us on the north lawn. Buy yourself a programme or raffle ticket and unpack your delicious picnic. As the sun sets on The Vyne, sit back and relax in beautiful surroundings. Don't forget to wrap up warm and bring a torch for the journey back to the car through the gardens.

MANGING ANXIETY



This is a course aimed at understanding what anxiety is and how to minimise the negative effects of it, by developing positive coping strategies and daily maintenance plans.

Begins Monday 21st May, for 8 weeks.
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RCSSERVICES



So, summer has sort of peeped out from behind the clouds!
This is what we like!!

Typically the group, aka Conservation Club, break for a few months in the summer as the Work Party Leaders go on various holidays and such larks. It's not only that but we can't risk

disturbing the eggs and nests that signify the breeding season for the myriad of critters that call Popley Ponds their home.

It's a shame because we really enjoy meeting new members and don't want to lose you, all after we've only just got your attention. So as a consolation here are a few bits of juicy gossip from us:-

- We will be meeting late in the summer to discuss the plan for the next season, date/time/location will appear in a subsequent issue and be plastered all over our Facebook page.
- There is a project underway with the lovely Charlie from BDBC to link all the Conservation Groups together via our Facebook pages - this means in the coming months we will be getting better in our comms and PR (Yay!).
- During the summer a few friends of ours from Natural Basingstoke will be undertaking various site surveys; you'd be very welcome to join them and they can be

contacted using the following website Naturalbasingstoke.org.uk. (n.b. said friends are some of the most environmentally savvy people in our town and should you be studying an Ecological/Nature/Animal related course at any educational institution, or be generally curious in this regard, I personally think this is a brilliant opportunity for you to learn from the best about what is happening on the wildlife front in our area. Please don't take my word for it, go and find out!).

• If you've recently found newts in random places and have contacted us for advice we are super grateful, please keep doing this everyone. It's what we're here for and we love hearing your stories.

As ever if you'd like to get in touch we're around on your Facebook page 'Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers' or by email at: popleyponds@gmail.com. *Natalie*



Local & Family History Day

Saturday 23 June / 10am – 3pm

Join us at Basingstoke Discovery Centre for our **FREE** open day.
There is no need to book for any of these events – just drop in!

Information Stands provided by:

Hampshire Genealogical Society, Thorneycroft Society
Basingstoke Heritage Society, Hampshire War Memorials
Victoria County History, Basingstoke Archaeological &
Historical Society, Hook Local History Society

FREE TALKS:

11am: First Steps in Family History Research
With Jane Hussey, Hampshire Genealogy Society
1pm: Basingstoke Workhouse
With Barbara Large, Basingstoke Heritage Society

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6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter

In the last few months we have a few very busy young people from our senior group, Cameron, Luke and Tom, who have been constantly revising for their GCSEs. Some of the younger members are experiencing their own exam stresses as they take their SATs and end of year exams so we wish all of them good luck.

We had a fantastic day at this year's Popley Festival: this year was a bit different for us as we were on a recruitment frenzy. Thanks to our recruitment grant we purchased a few items to help promote us. If you were there you should have seen us thanks to our new feather flags which attracted a lot of attention.

Over the last few months it has felt like St Gabriel's Church redevelopment has been racing ahead and it won't be long until we can move into the new hall. The completion date for the first stage of the redevelopment has been confirmed as 10th June, the next stage will wait until the Church has procured the funds to start so please support St Gabriels grow and help more in the community.

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 younger section. Give us a ring: **07775 535434** or drop us an email: **6thbasingstokebb@gmail.com**.



The Basingstoke Ladies Choir is an outstanding choir who “**JUST LOVE TO SING**”. Do you love to sing? Do you love music of all genres? If so why don't you come along and join us? The Basingstoke Ladies Choir rehearses every Monday evening. For further information, visit our website at www.basingstokeladieschoir.co.uk. Alternatively, contact: Alwyn Brenchley alwynb46@talktalk.net (01256 781194) or Pam Verdon verdots@verdonet.org.uk (01256 702905).

Apart from the well documented health benefits of singing, our choir participates in concerts both home and away and overseas! We are very friendly, welcoming and inclusive and enjoy a range of social events specifically organised for our members. We also love raising money for charity.

Under the direction of our new musical director, Rob Elliot, we are learning a new and varied repertoire so NOW is the time to join. Our last concert in April “A Celebration of Life and Love” in memory of loved ones, raised over £900 for St. Michael's Hospice. The informal cabaret style table arrangement was well received by our guests, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Basingstoke. The venue was packed to the rafters. At the end of the concert the hall was buzzing, with an ovation plus many comments of praise. If you would like to be part of this exciting, progressive choir COME AND JOIN US!

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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

Since the last report the Cubs section has once again been very busy and having loads of FUN, below are highlights of some of the activities the Cubs have been doing.

The new year started off with the Cubs spending a couple of evenings learning First Aid and working towards their Emergency Aid Badge and ended with a night to celebrate Burns Night with a programme of activities based round the haggis devised by our new Assistant Leader Charlotte aka Bagheera.

At the beginning of February, the Cubs found themselves boarding a flight to New Zealand to celebrate Waitangi Day on 6th February, this day New Zealand became part of the British Empire. Activities included “Bone Carving” using air dry clay where the Cubs made Maori design bone necklaces, played a couple of games played by the Maori people and also



learnt the legend about how the Kiwi lost its wings.

On our way back to the UK we stopped off in China to mark the Chinese New Year, with a range of activities including Chinese Tangrams

We spent 2 weeks working towards our Air Activities Badge with a range of activities including Paper Plane Derby and Airline Identification Bingo

After all the mucking about in the air we were back in time to mark St Patricks Day with a night of Irish themed activities.



Communication was next on the programme with the Cubs using walkie talkies to pass messages to each other using the phonetic alphabet and learning about Morse code having a go at working out the word “Teddy Bear” in Morse code.

The term ended with an Easter themed night which included an Easter Egg hunt, Egg bowling and making

Easter themed Chocolate Rice Krispies.

At the end of the Easter School Holidays the Cubs attended the Annual District Cub Camp, which this year was held at Paccar Scout Camp Site, Chalfont St Peters. They all had great fun and took part in activities that included Air Rifle Shooting, Zip Wire and a first was “Indoor Caving” in an old bus that is laid out to give the feel and impression that you are crawling through the confines of a real cave system.

The Group is in great need of more leaders in all sections. Adults must satisfy Confidential Enquiry and Disclosure and Barring Service clearance but, apart from wanting to help young people have fun and extend their knowledge/skills, no other experience is required. Training is given ‘on-the-job’ - roles are flexible - uniformed or non-uniformed and can work round shifts/other commitments. Find out more from Group Scout Leader Colin (01256) 410559 / 07796 772 500 or e-mail colink@base2000.co.uk

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

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Probuss Hears about Life as an Apprentice

“Learn a trade, son” was the advice Probuss Club member David Wickens received from his father. Like many about to leave school in the Swinging Sixties, he had no clear idea of what to do with the rest of his life.

An uncle showed David how, with the right instruments it was possible to test simultaneously fifty points of a jet engine fan blade. The idea of an apprenticeship in engineering formed. A company in the Cambridge Instrument group was the benefactor of the speaker’s ambitions. There followed five years of day release and night school.

To show how the instruments manufactured by his company were used visits were arranged to some customers. David Brown, in Newport Pagnell, manufactured Aston Martin and Lagonda supercars. The Royal Small Arms factory in London made the Lea Enfield rifle.

The first large scale plant David visited was to the Dungeness “A” Nuclear Power station.

Stewarts and Lloyds steel works at Corby was almost self sufficient from open cast mining of iron ore for ingot production and thence steel tube manufacture. BOAC at Heathrow allowed him to see aircraft being serviced using the instruments David was training to make.

David Wickens was good at his job being made apprentice of the Year. To demonstrate some of his skills he brought along some of the hand tools made in the early years of his apprenticeship.

Further experiences were developed in Work Study and Production Engineering, then in the Drawing Office and eventually into Sales and Marketing. This latter area held him for the rest of his career as he progressed to become Export Manager visiting many manufacturing plants throughout the world.

And it all started the day he saw a fan blade being tested.

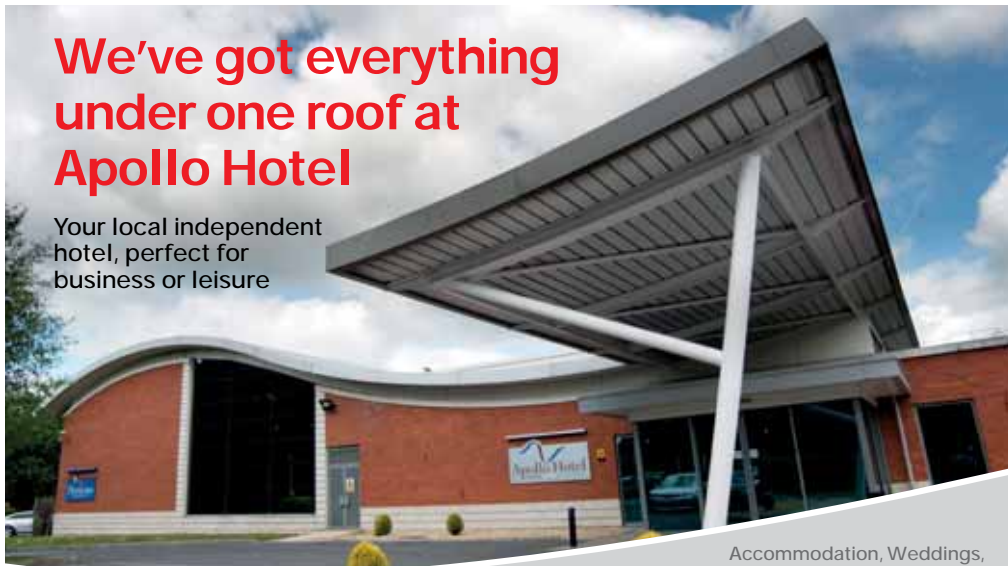
See www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com for more information about this social club for retired professional and business managers.

Photo Captions: Dr Nick Waring Probuss President with speaker and Apprentice of the Year, David Wickens Hand tools made by David Wickens during his apprenticeship



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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

NEW FRESH CREAM CAKES TO ORDER

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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