

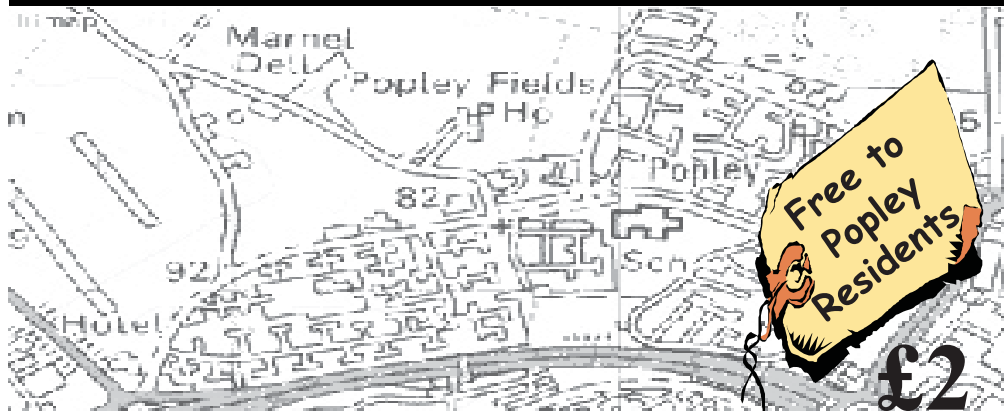
# POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

July 2018

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 197



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-07-18) [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:** We are looking to our readers to help us to celebrate the 200th issue of Popley Matters in October. We would like to have some of your memories of Popley Matters or any ideas on what you would like to see in your community magazine. October may seem a long way off but it comes round so quickly. You can email me at editor@popleymatters.org.uk or phone 01256 819924 or write a letter/article and post it to Editor at 405 Abbey Road RG24 9EL.

The centre pages have the new Waymarked accessible path from Chineham Park right through to the Popley Community Park by The Apollo; it has taken years of badgering to get this done. It was back in 2001 on 8th September when we had one of the many consultations. This one was "Popley Partnership Panel" when one of the Action points was to make Popley disabled friendly. It has taken a long time as it was before Marnel Park and Merton Rise were built. We had some success in parts but it has taken till now to make it fully disable friendly and families can all enjoy a walk together. There are lots of other schemes and improvements the residents/readers have suggested and they are coming slowly but at least we are moving forward to make Popley even better to live in.

Page 21 has also got great news about the expansion of St Gabriel's Church. I remember when Rev Arthur Botham told me of his ambition to make the church serve the community better and what his plans were. I could barely believe it would happen but if you visit the church you will see that dreams and ambitions can come true. Look out in future Popley Matters as Melrose Hall is just as ambitious and we are waiting to get the plans finalised to begin to expand and modernise the hall. The committee has worked hard with the council and Councillors lets hope we have good news to report soon.

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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Thank you for your support.

# Over 55s Forum

The Basingstoke and Deane "Young at Heart" Over 55s Forum is again going from strength to strength, our membership target of 650 has already been reached and a reserve list has been started.

Any non-members who would like to attend any of our "Open" Forum meetings to see what we are all about, can do so, but they will be asked to wait until there are seats available. They are more than welcome. Open Forum dates are **8th August, 10th October and 12th December 2018** at the Carnival Hall. 10:15am start.

## Our 2018 trips organised so far are as follows.

**14th July** - Cheddar Gorge and Wookey Hole. Price £18.00 include coach only price.

**2nd August** - Countryfile Live at Blenheim Palace. £39.50 includes entrance fee and coach.

**30th August** - Tina Turner in Concert. Fully Booked.

**11th September** - Sandhurst Trust (Military College) with Baked Potato meal and coach. £35.50.

**5th October and 17th December** Postal Museum and Train in London. £29.50 includes entrance fee and coach.

December "Special" Proper Cockney Entertainment on the **3rd December** in the Tereza-Joanne boat in the King George V Docks in the East End of London. Starring Gordon Bennett - Chas and Dave meets Max Bygraves with a dash of Max Miller. Keyboard, ukulele and the Cockney spoons with Sing - a -longs, comedy and dancing. Gordon Bennett is joined by comedian and impressionist Chris Wheeler. It's a right Old Cockney Knees Up to send you home with a smile. Includes chicken and chips or fish goujons and chips in a basket, also dessert and tea/coffee, the show and coach all for just £56.00.

Our 2018 "International Day for Older People" show will be held on Saturday 29th September at Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke, Time from 2pm to 5pm, with a Grand Draw, this should be another outstanding show with good acts. Tea and cakes will be provided during the interval. Tickets will be £6.00 each inclusive of show and refreshments. Book this date in your diaries and what this space.

Every Tuesday 1.30pm to 3pm singing sessions for the Carnival Chorus, good for those people with lung or breathing problems. £3.00 per sessions.

Every Wednesday 2pm to 3pm "Line Dancing". This is a new venture, seems to be going well. £3.50 per session.

Every Thursday 11.00 am to midday "Movement and Stretch" sessions for Over 55s. These are very gentle exercises. £3.50.

All these above events are at the Carnival Hall.

Anyone wishing to put their name(s) on our waiting list to become a member, please contact Gerald (Secretary) 07792535116 or e-mail [gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com](mailto:gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com)

*Gerald*

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Gym Team: 01256 337576 Main Reception: 01256 337573

**Councillors County:** I have been persistently requesting Hampshire County Council for some time now, that when the brick walls by the paths and road crossings get damaged they should be replaced by pedestrian guardrails as the bricks and mortar are old. When they are damaged or crumble it leaves loose bricks, and then it's only a matter of time before they need replacing or repairing yet again. I am happy to say that three more walls in Abbey Road will be replaced and hopefully, over time, all damaged ones will be too. It will be a saving in the long run.

With the new vehicle for repairing potholes five times faster let's hope that some very long overdue potholes will be repaired soon. However with the report that motorways are being repaired 50 times more often than local roads I guess it may not be too soon? There is a public consultation in relation to street lighting, supported passenger transport services and the concessionary travel scheme. If you want to make comments it can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.hants.gov.uk/consultations) **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email [jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk)**

**Popley West:** We have once again contacted BT to remove the disused phone box cabinet in Tintern Close. It is an eyesore and there has not been a working phone in there for many years. The new play area and facilities are being well used there too. We have reported the Zip Wire being broken in Popley Community Park and the vandalised slide in Marnel Park. All were damaged at about the same time as the Popley Splash Pad in Chineham Park. If anyone saw anything or indeed sees damage being done please ring 101. It is a mean and senseless act for anyone to do especially where children play.

Good news for Marnel Park with the height restricting barrier being erected by David Wilson Homes after we asked on behalf of the residents who had to put up with everything from noise, smoke and human mess. The barrier will stop Travellers illegally camping and leaving the mess behind.

We were pleased to see the pothole repaired at Abbey Road shops as it was Basingstoke and Deane responsibility I wish Hampshire County Council could act as fast!

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

**Popley East:** The Bermuda Marlowe Practice has been given a GOOD category from the CQC following a recent comprehensive inspection/review. We are sure you will want to join with us in congratulating the Practice on their achievement. It is particularly pleasing following the difficulties experienced by the Practice which resulted in a more critical report from the CQC a while ago.

The Practice has clearly demonstrated that it is performing well and providing a good service to the community and we know how hard the Doctors, Nurse Practitioners and all other support staff work for their patients.

Some time ago the Patients Participation Group (PPG) played a small part in supporting the Practice in its successful bid to maintain the contract it has to run these services in the community. The PPG is open to any member of the community who wishes to be involved in GP services in the community.

We have experienced further problems with the specialist work required to bring the Splash Pad back into operation after the vandalism caused to it recently.

We are determined to make sure that this facility is open to young children as soon as possible so they can enjoy it over the summer months. We are sorry a small group of people can cause so much upset to many others.

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



Family Prize Bingo in association with, and held at Popley Fields Community Centre on Friday 13th July. Doors opens 6pm, eyes down 7pm with refreshments available.

New for the summer - Yoga with Tory, Monday 2nd, 9th, 16th July 7-8pm and Thursday 12th, 19th, July 9.30-10.30am.

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

### **WHATS ON IN June:**

<b>MONDAY:</b>	10-11am	4 Fits Sake exercise class
	12.30-2.30pm	Bingo!!
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	9.30-11.30am	Popley Little People
	5-7pm	Sama Karate
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	9&11am	Slimming World with Jo
	11.45am-1.30pm	Oasis Lunch Club
	5.30&7.30pm	Slimming World with Julia
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	9.30-11.30am	Community Café
	7-8pm	4 Fits Sake Clubbersize
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	10am-1.30pm	Melrose Tots
	6.15-9.15pm	Friday Youth Club
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	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	
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.	

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## **Chineham Library**

This is a very busy month in the library, with the ‘Mischief Makers’ summer reading challenge beginning on 14<sup>th</sup> July. Do bring your children aged from 4 – 12 years to take part again this year. In addition, we have an event for children on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July called ‘Summer Beach Bowl’. This is a session to create food treats with Katie from Cookery Doodle Do. Places can be booked through the library at £6 a head for sessions at 10am and 11am. It should be good fun.

All our regular groups will be meeting this month. For children we have Rhymetimes on Tuesday mornings: for under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Saturday storytimes take place every Saturday at 10am, except for the 7<sup>th</sup> when we have Under the Sea crafts at 10am – 12pm. The Chatterbooks children’s reading group meets on 12<sup>th</sup> July from 3.45 – 4.45pm. There will be extra craft sessions during the summer on Wednesday mornings from 10am. Further details will follow.

For adults, the CHIPPS group meets on 11<sup>th</sup> July at 10am and the Crime Reading Group on 21<sup>st</sup> July at 10.30am. The general reading group are meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am and the Writing Group on 12<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm. Both of these would welcome new members. For details of Age Concern sessions for over 50s please contact their area office on: 01256 423874.

For the most up-to-date information check social media. We hope to see you in the library

*Cathy Foster*

# Summer Sizzler at the Gym!



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\*Note we are closed daily 2-3pm term time for exclusive school use

Tel 01256 337573 or pop in and have a look around

CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts: -  
[helen@highpathway.co.uk](mailto:helen@highpathway.co.uk)  
 or  
 Jim Lawson:-  
[thelawsons47@gmail.com](mailto:thelawsons47@gmail.com)  
 Home Tel: 01256 861984

**YOUR LOCAL  
 ROTARY  
 ROUNDUP**

**REFLECTING ON ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR**

What a terrific evening!

On 12th June we held our annual Charities Night reflecting on what the club has achieved this past year. And we were joined by several special guests. Some were representing some of the local charities whose good work we have been able to support. There were representatives of some of the many local businesses who have helped us. And we were honoured to have the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane, Cllr Sean Keating, and the Mayoress join us to share in the celebrations.

They learned that the club had supported 40 charity projects this year. In some case with funding, for some with help with their own fundraising, and with others providing simple hands-on support.

Much of what was achieved would not have been possible without the help of the local businesses who support us, and it was good to show them the benefits of their support, and to thank them for it.



*Special Guests at Charities Night 2018*

**AND RECOGNISING TWO VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE**

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, was formed in 1905 by local attorney Paul Harris. The idea spread far and wide, and today there are 1 ¼ million Rotarians in 32,000 clubs across 200 countries.

The Paul Harris Fellowship is the highest award Rotary Clubs can give to an individual to recognise the voluntary work they do for their community. And so it was with great pleasure that our club President Lindy Richardson presented Paul Harris Fellowship Awards to two people who have served our community so well over so many years.

Sue Irvine, has been an inspiration over many years supporting the work of our club and many local good causes including the Night Light Shelter project providing winter shelter for the homeless.

Merv Rees is not only a top Consultant Surgeon in our local NHS, but he was the inspiration behind the successful ARK CONFERENCE CENTRE at the hospital which provides a world centre of excellence for cancer treatments. And today he is the inspirational lead for another world class local facility coming soon – The Ark Cancer Centre for Basingstoke.



*Paul Harris Fellows Merv Rees & Sue Irvine*

*It is local specialist charity organisations who really make the difference to the lives of people in our community. Basingstoke Deane Rotary is proud to work "in partnership" with them and support their work.*

*If you would like to find out more about what we do in the community just tune in to [www.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk).*



# Slip a Bit of Summer Sunshine into your Life!

Enjoyment is on its way folks.

The everlasting exams have finished and you can see the light at the end of the tunnel of stress. Soon we will all be free for a while to chill and do more of what makes us happy. The grey cloud has lifted and brightness is beaming through. We can unwind and take a moment to breath. Be content and enjoy every day, for every day is an adventure. I think summer is the perfect time to seize every opportunity that heads your way.

After revision of bright cue cards and multi-coloured Sharpies has flown around your head in a whirl filled by organised chaos of words and highlighted key terms, I understand it can be hard to relax and have a moment of calm. But hopefully the summer will help you to forget all of your troubles and you can be that kid you used to be who longed for the six-week summer break.

Going to the beach is one of my favourite things to do. It doesn't have to be scorching hot or blue skies, although that would be nice but in England lets' face it the weather is unpredictable, so a dry patch will do just fine! Go and listen to the calm of the waves. Breaking one by one on the jagged rocks. Feel the sea breeze through your hair. Taste the tingling sea salt. Finally, see the beauty of nature.

Alternatively, a more cosy and quiet option (well depending on how lively you and your friends are!) Movie Night with your best friends! What a fun way to celebrate everyone's hard work and efforts! Popcorn, candles, blankets and your favourite film. Perfection in an evening.

I think summer is the best time to give yourself a tap on the back and for you to go out and enjoy yourself with the people you love! Surround yourself with happiness and joy. Laugh and smile as much as you can. Sing, dance, run, jump for joy! Be that energetic school kid we were talking about earlier and embrace every moment.

Be daring. Be bold. Be excited.

Don't party too hard (or in this case do – you deserve a little sunshine in your life!) *Ruby J xoxo*

## **BERMUDA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

WE HAVE THE POPELY EXPLORERS PRE-SCHOOL HERE  
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MONDAY CMA KICK BOXING FROM 6.30PM TO 8PM

TUESDAY BINGO NIGHT DOORS OPEN 7PM EYES DOWN 8PM.  
FINISHES AROUND 9.45PM LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AT  
HALF TIME



WEDNESDAY 6PM TO 7PM LOU BEDFORD YOGA CLASSES FOR  
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[WWW.LOUBEDFORDYOGA.CO.UK](http://WWW.LOUBEDFORDYOGA.CO.UK).



THURSDAY 4.30PM TO 6.30PM STREET DANCE AND BALLET  
CLASSES TWO AND A HALF YEARS TO ADULTS SCHOOL TERM  
TIME. FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT SAMANTHA PIKE ON 07811299484

THURSDAY 7PM TO 8.30PM CMA KICK BOXING

FRIDAY 6PM TO 7PM FRIDAY CLUB.

THE HALL IS ALSO AVAILABLE TO HIRE FOR PARTIES AT REASONABLE  
RATES. FOR DETAILS RING JANET ON 01256 315363



**FAMILY PRIZE BINGO 20<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2018,  
AT POPELY FIELDS COMMUNITY CENTRE  
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Hello from the Bulls!

We are Basingstoke's one and only korfball club. In case you are thinking 'what on earth is korfball?', let me explain.

Korfball is a team sport that is often compared to netball and basketball. What makes it unique from both sports, is korfball is a mixed gender sport, with teams made up of four females and four males. The aim of the game is to score more goals through the 3.5 metre high hoop (korf) than your opponents.

Founded in 2006, Basingstoke Bulls are part of a regional league, playing teams as far north as Oxford and as south as Southampton. Our season runs from September through to April and the club finished the 2017/18 season in a respectable 4th place.

During the summer, we continue to train as well as playing in a number of tournaments and pre-season friendlies.

### Interested in trying a new sport?

The club is currently looking for new members and is open to both men and women over the age of 18. We train every Wednesday at Everest Community Academy from 8 - 9.30pm, with matches normally played on Sundays.

Korfball is a great way to keep fit in a light-hearted social environment. The sport is easy to pick up and the club welcomes players of all abilities.

What are you waiting for - come along to one of our training sessions, your first session is absolutely FREE. Alternatively you can get in contact by e-mail ([info@basingstokekorfball.co.uk](mailto:info@basingstokekorfball.co.uk)) or on Facebook for more details.



## Basingstoke Disability ConneXions

**Get-togethers for anyone affected by any type of disability**

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Meet new people  
and talk about  
issues that are  
important to you.

**Third Wednesday monthly from 10am-12pm**  
**Tadley Community Centre**

### Guest speaker topics:

**18 July:** Official opening by Cllr. David Leeks; an introduction to meditation for all; and a talk by Citizens Advice Tadley.

**19 September:** Red Cross

**14 November:** to be confirmed

All welcome, no booking needed.

For further information, please contact us.

Telephone: 01256 423869

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

Web: [www.bddf.org.uk](http://www.bddf.org.uk)



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**Popley Explorers**  
Their Future Our Passion



Popley Explorers Pre-School

## Exercise Class

Saturday's 8.00am- 8.45am

Popley Fields Community Centre,  
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Do you want to feel healthier, fitter & motivated?

Come along to a 45-minute class incorporating a variety of exercises.

All abilities welcome – lots of options to facilitate all ages and levels of fitness.

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Debbie Costen – Heart of Nutrition

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## Bring a friend - all welcome aboard this summer

TS Mary Rose Basingstoke and Deane Sea Cadets is encouraging young people (12-17 years) to bring a friend and come aboard to enjoy fun activities both ashore and on the water.

The Sea Cadets, who meet at Sycamore Hall, Winklebury on Monday and Friday evenings, are welcoming new recruits. For young people and their friends who want to have a go at sailing, power boating, kayaking, rowing and windsurfing, these are on offer with the Sea Cadets. For those who want a challenge, adventure training is also very popular and includes learning how to pitch a tent, cook and survive outdoors.

Darren Rust, Commanding Officer, said: "Sea Cadets offers so many opportunities. It's a great place to make new friends, have fun and learn new skills. In Basingstoke we are one of the few organisations which can get young people out onto the water to enjoy a range of activities. Also we are linked to the Mary Rose Trust at Portsmouth, meaning we are invited to support their events from time to time."

Juniors aged between 10 -12 years old are welcome too – there are lots of activities they can join in with, including swimming and sailing.

All activities are led by well qualified instructors and everyone gets a chance to learn other useful skills such as First Aid, catering, seamanship and communication.

To find out more, email: [tsmaryrosescc@btconnect.com](mailto:tsmaryrosescc@btconnect.com), call 01256 335893 or visit our website [www.sea-cadets.org/basingstoke](http://www.sea-cadets.org/basingstoke)



### **Connect to Support Hampshire,**

Provided by Hampshire County Council, can help you find the information you need to manage your own care and wellbeing.

You can find:

- Information to help you maintain or regain your independence
- Advice about equipment to help you get out and to manage at home
- Information about benefits, welfare assistance and paying for care
- Support for carers
- Hundreds of local groups, activities and services in your community, as well as National charities and helplines that can provide specific advice and support
- Care homes or home care agencies in Hampshire.

Please visit the website to find out more [www.ConnectToSupportHampshire.org.uk](http://www.ConnectToSupportHampshire.org.uk)



Seven Everest students and one guest student from Kings School in Winchester successfully spent a weekend navigating and camping out in the New Forest. The students were required to be totally self sufficient and therefore planned, navigated, cooked and completed the entire expedition with minimal staff support. They have been refining their expedition skills in preparation for their upcoming assessed Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition which will take place in two week's time. We wish them the best of luck!



Congratulations to all our students who took part in the UK Maths Challenge, achieving an outstanding Gold, 4 Silver, 8 Bronze Awards and 2 students progressing to the next round.



#### Upcoming Dates

Friday 6 July—Year 6 Transition Day  
Monday 9 July—Year 6 Induction Evening  
Wednesday 18 July—Awards Evening  
Friday 20 July—Break Up for Summer Holidays



We are now well in to tournament season, so here's a brief round up of how some of our different age groups have been doing...

We're very proud of our All Stars, who played friendly training matches for the first time at the Basingstoke Town Colts Tournament! #theyarethefuture

Congratulations to our U7s, who played brilliantly at the Burghfield Tournament.

A massive well done to our U8s, who today played some smashing football at the Basingstoke Town Colts Tournament.

Well done to our U9s, who recently played in the Badshot Lea Tournament. Both teams played some superb football, with one of them finishing runners up in the Cup! Well done to the players and coaches!

Huge congrats to our U11s, who won the Burghfield Tournament!

MFCPY U13 girls are continuing their fine tournament form, finishing as runners up at Wargrave. After a tricky start the girls came storming back to quality for the semi finals of the main tournament and won their semis on sudden death penalties. A great effort from the girls in very hot conditions. Well done girls and thank you parents.

Huge congrats to our U13 boys, who played their socks off at the Oakley Tournament, with our Venom team losing out in the quarter finals in extra time, and our Predator team winning the cup! Well done to the players and coaches!

Huge congrats to our U15s who won the Harwell and Hendred Tournament. and who have been confirmed as 2017/18 League champions in the East Berkshire Football Alliance. MFC Popley are looking for youth players. If interested please contact the club at [committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk](mailto:committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk)

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/](http://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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## **Popley Social Group Volunteers Needed**

Do you have a few hours to spare on Thursday mornings between 9:30am to noon?

We are looking for willing and friendly volunteers, who enjoy supporting older people and can help out at our

### **Popley Social Group**

Whether you make a lovely cuppa or enjoy calling a game of bingo or enjoy chatting to people, we would love to hear from you.

Please call Age Concern Hampshire on 01256 423872 and ask to speak to Kirsty.

We'd love to hear from you.

	9am-12pm	12-3pm	3-6pm	6-11pm
<b>Monday</b>	11.00 to 12.00 - Over 50s exercise class		3.00 to 4.00 - Breathe easy exercise class	7.00 to 8.00 – Funk n Twist fitness 7.00 to 8.30 - Youth Club 8 to 11's
<b>Tuesday</b>	10.30 to 12.00 - Messy Monkey Makers	1.45 to 4.00 - Parkinson's group (1st Tuesday of the month)	5.30 to 7.00 - MG Dance	7.30 to 10.00 - Knights Circle
<b>Wednesday</b>	10.00 to 11.00 - Tai Chi 10.00 to 11.30 - Baby Clinic 11.15 to 12.15 - Breathe easy exercise class	2.00 to 4.00 - Forever Young over 50s group		7.30 to 9.00 – NTCOG prayer meeting
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30 to 11.00 – Thursday Tots 10.30 to 11.30 – Tot's play 10.00 to 1.00 - Embroiderers Guild sewing	1.00 to 4.00 - Embroiderers Guild (monthly)		6.30 to 8.30 - Youth Club 11 to 13s 7.00 to 8.00 – Funk n Twist fitness
<b>Friday</b>	9.00 to 12.00 – Messy Monkey Makers			
<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 to 11.30 - MG Dance	Available for private functions from 11.30		
<b>Sunday</b>	10.30 to 12.00 - New Testament Church 10.00 to 11.00 - Messy Monkey makers (2nd Sunday of the month)	1.00 to 4.30 - TRC Church	Available for private functions all day	
<b>Mon-Fri</b>	Treasure Island Playschool 9.15 - 3.15	Community Cafe 10.00 - 2.00		

Please contact us at [office@popleyfields.org](mailto:office@popleyfields.org) or tel: 01256 414494 - With 4 separate rooms to rent we will do our best to meet your needs



## 6<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter

On 10th June we had the honour of being involved in the opening and dedication ceremony for the new section of St Gabriel's Church. The hall was full to the brim with people, the congregation was flowing out the hall doors. It was great to see so many people coming out to support the church.

Our Junior Camp is just around the corner (end of June), we will be setting off Friday evening to spend 2 nights in Walkford. We've used this site several times and it's great place for a younger person oriented camping trip *and* it's only a 5 minute walk away from the beach so we can't forget to pack our buckets and spades.

If you didn't already know there's a big major sporting event happening over June and July - the World Cup! We've sorted the sweepstake and some of us are quite happy with our picks and some of us are truly devastated but to show our pride for the home team we decided to mix up the summer programme and hold a World Cup England evening. We invited kids and their families to join us watching the first England match with great food.

### 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**.

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# Popley way-marked route

This way-marked route can start or finish at either Chineham Park splash pad or Popley Community Park and passes through three open spaces each with outdoor gym equipment. Why not see if you can find the equipment and have a go!

The walk is 1.3km each way.

Follow the markers as the route leads through the footpaths around residential areas.

Start/finish Chineham Park splash pad  
Shelley Road

Open space and outdoor gym

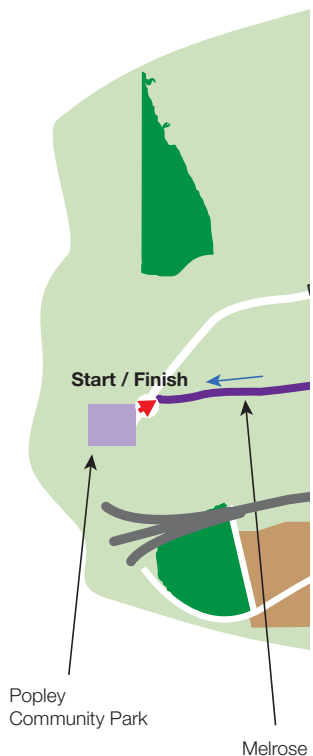
Shakespeare House Medical Centre

Tewkesbury Close open space  
and outdoor gym

Abbey Road shops

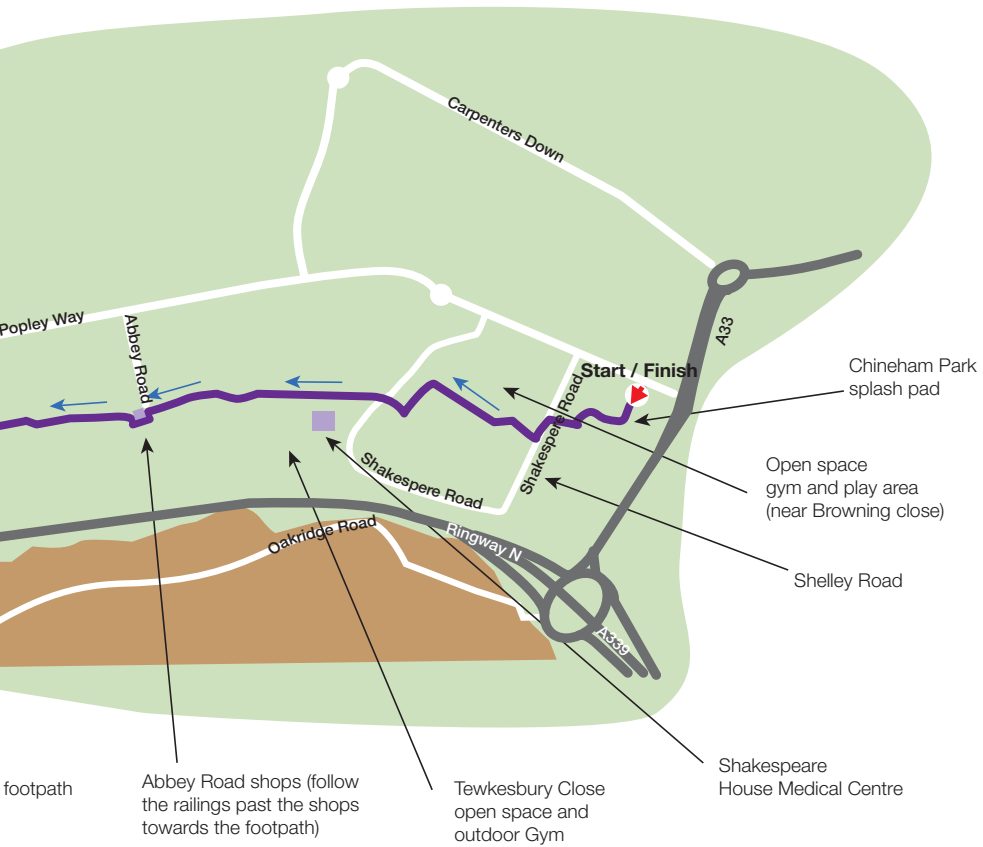
Melrose footpath

Finish/start Popley Community Park  
and outdoor gym



*Use of this waymarked route and activity stations is done at your own risk, so please be mindful of the conditions, the terrain underfoot and of falling deadwood on windy days.*

For more information on Basingstoke's parks and open spaces or details on how you can get involved as a conservation volunteer please contact Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on **01256 844844**



**Please be considerate to the environment.**

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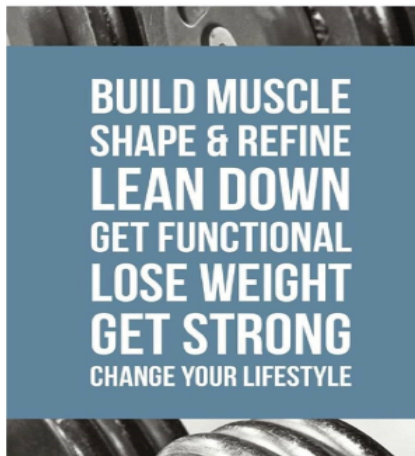
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## Whipping up a storm

With their dynamic adaptation of *The Tempest*, all-male Shakespearian theatre company The Lord Chamberlain's Men (TLCM) have begun their tour of the UK. One of the selected venues is Tudor mansion The Vyne near Basingstoke. With the façade of the National Trust property revealed for the first time following a £5.4m roof project, The Vyne is to provide a quintessentially British backdrop for the performance on 11 August.

As the acclaimed troupe prepare to tread the boards for another season, we've caught up with Artistic Director Peter Stickney and actor Danann McAleer to get an exclusive insight in the world of outdoor theatre complete with pantaloons and the occasional noisy goose.

**The Vyne: Firstly, tell us what *The Tempest* is about and why people should come and see it. Peter, as Artistic Director of TLCM and producer and director of *The Tempest*, we should probably direct this one at you:**

Peter: *The Tempest* is arguably Shakespeare's greatest play with some of his best characters and some of his finest poetry. But at its heart it is a simple story about our ability to forgive. The protagonist Prospero gets put through the wringer in many senses in this play but ultimately he manages to forgive his enemies.

**The Vyne: We noticed from your performance last year you're very hands on; you travel up and down the country, unload and assemble your stage set without any stage crew, perform to expectant audiences, often playing multiple roles.**

**It's obviously a lot of hard work; what do you get out of it?"**

Danann: It is hard work but it is incredibly rewarding. There is a fantastic connection between us, the performers, and the audience. The open air setting makes for a very different and special relationship without the formality of the theatre and I think that the audience can feel that and get a lot out of it too.

**The Vyne: You can have many costume changes, how difficult is it to get into a Tudor costume? How long does this take and which is better; a dress or pantaloons?**

Danann: I haven't played a woman yet so I couldn't comment although there is certainly a level of freedom that wearing a dress gives you! The level of the detail in the costume always amazes me. They are handmade for the company by a fantastic costume maker in Nottingham. It really helps with the characterisation and it gives that extra layer of authenticity. I'm hoping for a dress next time!

**The Vyne: We're curious; what's the strangest thing that's happened to you during a show?**

Danann: We have some perhaps unexpected things to deal with such as the local wildlife. At The Vyne, the geese sometimes fly overhead and make a bit of noise during the performance. Anything like that is fun when it happens and we just take it in our stride.

**The Vyne: A lot of people may not realise that The Lord Chamberlain's Men isn't subsidised in any way. Tell us how much your following means to you.**

Peter: Without being too trite they mean everything. There is no point performing a play without an audience but in this case we wouldn't even be able to! We don't receive any subsidy as you mention and every penny of the money we receive from the venues ticketing and from programme sales goes into paying for the production.

As you can imagine touring to 70 plus venues over 18 weeks with 7 actors and our set, costume and props costs a lot. The company is one of the highest paying amongst open air theatre companies, this ensures that we get great actors and the audiences are guaranteed a fantastic performance but obviously it comes at a cost. It is one we are happy to pay and we hope our audiences agree.

We also work very hard to keep our ticket costs as low as possible. A night of top quality professional theatre at a beautiful venue for less than £50 these days is pretty good going and we try to make it much cheaper than that. We think it is very important that our shows are available to as many people as possible.

**The Vyne: Thanks very much for talking to us and best of luck on the tour!**

The Lord Chamberlain's Men will perform *The Tempest* at The Vyne on 11 August 2018. Tickets cost £19 and must be pre-booked. Under 5s go free. You can find out more information and book your tickets by visiting [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/the-vyne) or by calling 0344 249 1895.



# Bees in School are a Hampshire first



As we hurtle towards the end of the academic year the pupils at Old Basing Infant School have more than just the summer holidays to get excited about. We are also eagerly anticipating the prospect of our first honey harvest from our bees!

This time last year, we took delivery of our first beehive and in doing so became the first primary school in Hampshire to keep bees.

Since that time the bees have become an integral part of our school life. Pupils are involved in the bee-keeping (with their own infant-sized bee suits); monitoring the hive, checking for the queen and ensuring the bees are healthy. Our Year 2 classes this year have built a whole topic around bees and their importance to us. We are members of the Basingstoke Bee Association who provide us with local support and advice in maintaining our hives. Children love being part of the Bee Club. The bees are a positive addition to our school, the local environment and to the children's education.

If you would like your child to have the opportunity to be a beekeeper in the future you can apply for a school place at Old Basing Infant School. Currently there are spaces in Year R for 2018-2019. Visits to the school for the 2019-2020 intake will begin in September. Please call the school for details.



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## St. Michael's Hospice Distribution and Sorting Centre

St. Michael's Hospice opened a Distribution and Sorting Centre at its unit on Wade Road last month and it is proving to be a real success.

Volunteers and staff are really enjoying helping out there and the stores are delighted with how much it helps them. The space has been transformed so that it is warm and inviting and helpers enjoy spending time with others while helping the Hospice fund its critical work.

The new Centre is providing a vital service to the Hospice's 9 stores too. The amazing generosity of local residents in donating so much to the Hospice had meant that staff and volunteers were kept very busy sorting and pricing donations in the back of the stores. Now that donations are being centralized at the Centre, staff and volunteers can spend more time chatting with and helping customers and making sure everything looks super.

The newly created Centre has also opened up some brand new roles for volunteers to provide vital assistance. The Hospice has already recruited volunteers who share their excitement about the difference the Centre will make and who want to help make it a success but they would love to have some more.

Details of all the new roles are on the Hospice's website so if you are interested in joining the Distribution and Sorting Centre, or would like details about any of St. Michael's Hospice volunteer opportunities, please visit the website at [www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk/volunteer-roles.html](http://www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk/volunteer-roles.html) or contact Laura Williams on 01256 848882 or email [laura.williams@stmichaelsospice.org.uk](mailto:laura.williams@stmichaelsospice.org.uk).



Dear Friends

I'm delighted to report that St Gabriel's is once again fully open for business! It's a funny old thing but after living in a building site for the past ten months I'd kind of forgotten what St Gabriel's looked like without all the barrier fencing, porta kabins, digging equipment and various building supplies lying around. Couple this with the absence of noise and dust and all of a sudden it seems extraordinarily clean and quiet – but very nice too, I certainly won't miss it! What are we left with? Well double the size of the old hall and add some fantastic storage cupboards, an amazing kitchen, two large meeting rooms and a new suite of toilets including full disabled access, a remodeled porch with new full height doors and the smell of new carpet and paint – it's wonderful!



What is even more wonderful is how God has provided throughout; but never more so than on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June when we held our service of dedication and blessing. The church was packed to the rafters with every seat and then some taken by friends from past and present; Beavers, Cubs and Scouts; Boys Brigade; so many of our usual congregation and some very special guests including local head teachers, all our local councillors Jane and Paul Frankum, David Potter and Janet Westwood together with Bishop Bill Ind, his wife Frances and two of their sons and their families. We were also privileged to have Gary and Anne Baker with us; Anne is David Cockerill's daughter. Our two new meeting rooms are named after +Bill and David.

We were pleased to welcome Bishop David who is the Bishop of Basingstoke along with his wife Helen. +David led the service for us and preached up a storm in his sermon especially when he used Gabriel, one of the youngest members of our congregation, and Bishop Bill as living illustrations of what church is all about.

After the blessing and dedication – and yes the Bishop blessed the toilets as well – we were treated to a magnificent buffet prepared for us by Chef Paul. The food was so good the tables were cleared within a very short space of time and those that missed out had to be content with a burger cooked on the Boys Brigade BBQ.

I want to thank so many of our team at the church for their dedication and love and the way in which they have coped with all the changes over the last year and especially those who gave of their time and energy to prepare the church for the service on Sunday.

Bishop David said in his sermon that a church is about its people and the relationship it has with the community it is called to serve. In mentioning baby Gabriel and +Bill he showed that St Gabriel's has a solid history of fulfilling that mission both in the past, the present and by God's grace for the future too.

Please do feel free at any time to visit and to explore this fantastic new community facility and even perhaps to join in one of the Sunday services at 1030am. We are essentially a family church where all generations are welcomed.

In His name and for his glory.

**Rev. Arthur  
Vicar.**

**☎01256 324734**

It can be a real challenge to get onto the property ladder. However there is help on hand with the Help to Buy scheme.

There are two parts to the scheme – the Help to Buy equity loan and the Help to Buy ISA which the Governments tops up by 25% when you come to buy your house.

### **The Help to Buy equity loan**

This scheme is only available on new-build properties that have a purchase price of up to £600,000. It is available to both first time buyers and existing home owners, but the property you buy must be your only residence and is not available to buy to let investors.

You only need a 5% deposit and the government will lend you up to 20%. You will need to apply for a mortgage from a commercial lender for the remaining 75%.

For the first five years you will pay no interest, but after that it will cost 1.75% of the outstanding balance each following year.

### **Help to Buy ISA**

A Help to Buy Individual Savings Account (ISA) is a high-interest savings account available for people buying their first property and is available at most high street banks and building societies.

You can earn up to 2.53% interest tax-free and then the Government will add 25% free cash on top of what you save providing you and the property you purchase meet the qualifying criteria

You will need to make an initial deposit of £1,000. After that you can deposit a maximum of £200 a month.

The ISA can be used for a property with a full market value of up to £250,000 or up to £450,000 in London.

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# My Spring Visit to Minsk.

During the first week of my visit, in April, we had a blizzard in Minsk!

For a few days the temperature hovered between minus 2 degrees and plus 2 degrees. It then started to get warmer so the authorities shut the heating off! Inevitably, it became colder again! I think the hot water that cools the power stations is pumped around the city for the radiators. This system is much cheaper than ours, but, of course you have no control over your heating. This is changing in the latest flats being built in that you can control your heating. The down-side is that this system is more expensive. Another problem that arises every summer is all the hot water is cut off for annual maintenance! This is done area by area and a notice is stuck on the entrance to the flats telling the occupants when the hot water is being turned off. This lasts for two weeks and early in the morning people can be seen, with toilet bags and towels, rushing off to friends, and relatives, in areas where the hot water is still on!

As usual, I spent most of my time at the dreaded Linguistic University, alternating between the Phonetic Department and the Department of International Communication amusing and entertaining hordes of delinquent students!

Possibly one of the more interesting visits was to the Belarusian State University where Ira teaches English and the students study law.

As I was a member of the Employment Tribunals from 1989 to 2012, I do the scripts for fictitious Tribunal cases which selected students act out. This gives the students, and the audience that attends, the chance to use their English, and gives them all an insight into our legal system. We don't disclose the Tribunal's decision until the students, and teachers, have discussed the case and said what they think the decision should be. The case I gave them this time was a Disability Discrimination claim. The selected students played the roles of the girl making the claim, her witness, her manager from the company, the Employment Judge, the two Lay Members of the Tribunal and the Tribunal Clerk who shows the parties where to sit and administers the oath.

The vast majority of the students have never met an Englishman and it boosts their confidence to now know they can understand a 'native speaker' and I can understand them!

I hope to return to Minsk in the autumn.

*Terry Jones*





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# Lions Club of Basingstoke

We have implemented the new Data Protection in accordance with the requirements of the Act. If you have not responded to any of our emails on the subject, you are no longer on our database and will no longer receive personal invitations to our events.

We have just waved farewell to our friends from our French twin Club, the Lions Club of Alençon Cité, after a most enjoyable weekend. We met them on Friday at the Wheatsheaf whence we took them to hosts for afternoon tea. It's not much of an English tradition any more, but the French love it, particularly when it is well presented. In the evening we visited the Red Lion, Overton for a game of skittles and supper. Fortunately our ladies were on form at skittles and saved us from humiliation – our men were rubbish. Supper was lasagna which was an absolute triumph. We were assured that it was made on the premises to the chef's own recipe – it was moist and delicious.

On Saturday we took them to visit the Museum of Army Flying at Middle Wallop. That was made very interesting by a guide who knew his subject and made the contribution that the troop carrying gliders made to the D Day landings really come alive. After that it was off to get togged up for our annual Charter Night celebration at Basingstoke Golf Club. If you get one decent speaker on these occasions, you're lucky (or you've paid a fortune). To get three is miraculous! The first was our District Governor Elect – the title is usually synonymous with "stuff shirt". But he was witty, chatty and informative. Then the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane Councillor, Sean Keating, took up the cudgels (or should it be shillelaghs) who has definitely kissed the blarney stone and lastly Lion President, Loic Alloy who gave a very good account of the fundraising and charity support achieved by the Alençon Club during his tenure (translated by Ann Vicars). We donated £200 from the proceeds of our raffle to Different Strokes, a charity designed to assist young people who have experienced such an event.

The next day was D Day for us. Defeat at Petanque during our Sunday afternoon BBQ! We play to 13 and were 11 to 9 up when disaster struck. Our final shot hit the jack which skittered off among their boules and gave them 7 scoring shots – match over. So, at the final full English breakfast at Test Valley Golf Club on Monday morning we had the pleasure of handing over the Jean le Noac'h Trophy. I say pleasure because it weighs a ton! Now, back to normal.

Currently in the programme we have Motown Music with Lou Taylor on 22 September – The Caerphilly Male Voice Choir on 13 October – Quiz Night on 3 November – The Hampshire Police Band on 17 November. If any of these appeal, please get in touch with us via the website [www.basingstokelions.org.uk/](http://www.basingstokelions.org.uk/) or one of the usual suspects – [mauricehockley@hotmail.com](mailto:mauricehockley@hotmail.com) – [jomolincoln@btinternet.com](mailto:jomolincoln@btinternet.com) – [philipjhwilson@btinternet.com](mailto:philipjhwilson@btinternet.com).

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## **Piccolo Preschool Nursery Celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary.**

Claudia R Cafarelli and Jane Sherwood, Directors of Piccolo Preschool Nursery, have taken a moment to reflect on the ten year anniversary.

“We are celebrating our ten year anniversary!!! Piccolo Preschool Nursery, we would like to extend our thanks to all of our children, families, and employees for the ongoing relationships, dedication, support and trust you’ve placed in us. This milestone belongs to us all.

Piccolo Preschool Nursery was founded in 2008 and has achieved a decade of high quality early childhood education for young children in the community and beyond. Throughout the years, Piccolo Preschool Nursery has been and is buzzing with many different learning activities such as fine & gross motor skills, social & emotional skills, and cognitive skills. Coupled together with parents/carers involvement, developmentally appropriate curriculum, highly qualified, dedicated staff, and program quality standards. Piccolo Preschool Nursery, we have built strong foundations for learning for our young children through the years.

We are proud of what we have achieved over the last decade, it’s a time for all at Piccolo Preschool Nursery to reflect on where we have been and to reaffirm Piccolo’s Preschool Nursery ethos to provide high quality childcare; we really are passionate about early childhood education and strongly believe in the value it brings to the community and beyond.

We are excited to celebrate both the past ten years and look forward to our next ten years in business. Thanks again to our children and their families/carers and our employees who helped us reach this milestone.”

We will be celebrating this milestone by holding a Summer Fete on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 12:00 to 3:00pm at the Chute Recreation Ground, Sherborne-St-John, all are welcome to join us.



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Headquarters:  
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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

The Beavers went off to Marwell Zoo for a Saturday treat, they started off with the Discovery boxes, but these proved a bit involved for everyone to do in the time that was allotted. However, lots of animals were visited by the Beavers to name a few, penguins, giraffes, tapia, zebras and sloths. 14 Beavers attended, overall, they were very well behaved and were presented with a small bag of sweets and a gift from Marwell Zoo by the Leaders. Tired but happy Beavers were collected by the parents at the end of the day.

A sleepover was organised, and 15 Beavers attended for a fun packed weekend. The Basing Woods come in handy on a sleepover. The Beavers had a go at den building and the effort put in was rewarded by the completion of a small den. They did a mini beast hunt and were careful not to disturb the wildlife too much.

An obstacle course was navigated by all the Beavers and leaders and a lot of fun and laughter was had. Roasting marshmallows in the evening just right before bedtime.

A few of the Beavers were doing their very first sleepover. Naturally there were a few upsets at bedtime, but the diligence of the leaders and the helpfulness of the young leaders made for a very smooth night. Happy to say no parents had to be called.

A relay race was also organised, starting off with an egg and spoon race followed by sack race, skipping and jumping through hoops.

Tired but happy Beavers were collected on Sunday by parents. No doubt there were a few who had an early night on Sunday. I know one leader who was asleep in the afternoon!!!

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 Colditz Castle PoW Camp

The Colditz Story film was brought to mind by Colonel Piers Storie-Pugh in his presentation to the Probuss Club about the experiences of his father Peter Storie-Pugh who was imprisoned there for five years.

Colditz Castle was used to house allied officers from France, Poland and Britain who had made escape attempts from previous PoW camps. Hermann Goering, Hitler's deputy, described the castle as escape proof.

Despite a ratio of 800 prisoners to 400 guards there were 300 attempts to break out with 130 being successful of which 33 were "home runs" when British officers made it back to UK. Peter Storie-Pugh assisted in 21 escape attempts some of which were not successful and the recaptured prisoners were placed in solitary confinement and fed bread and water.

The first British officer to successfully escape was Airey Neave, dressed as a German corporal. He became a Conservative MP who was murdered in 1979 during the Irish troubles when his car was blown up leaving the car park of the House of Commons. Capt Pat Reid, who became the consultant to the war film, was the initial British Escape Officer who maintained that escape attempts were run on strict military lines. It was essential that British plans did not interfere with those of the French or Polish prisoners. He escaped in 1942 with three others to Switzerland.

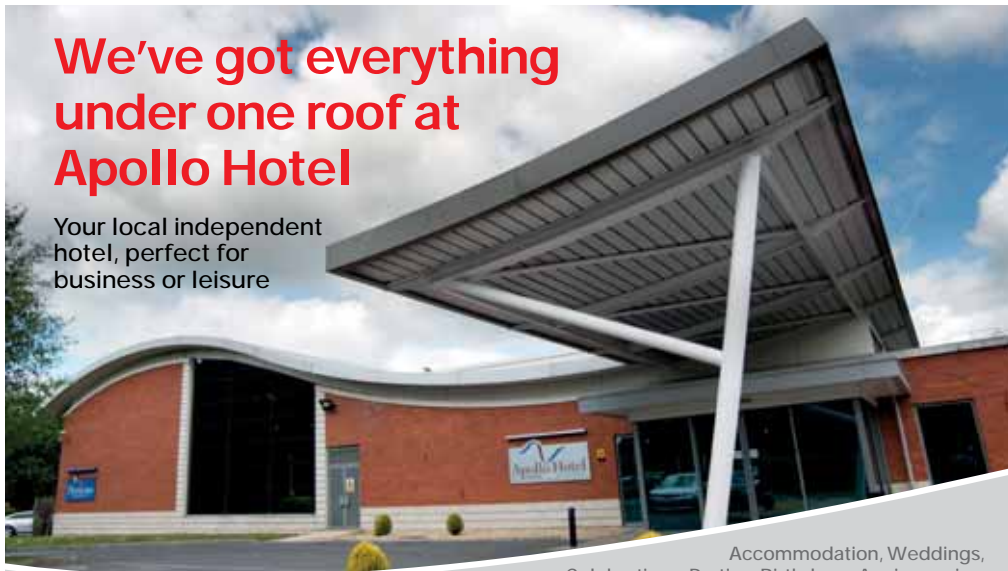
They carved tunnels, hid in the laundry, climbed over precipitously high roofs, vaulted over high fences, dressed as women and made the famous glider in a locked loft room although not used. They listened to the BBC giving the football results, had coded letters from home and post cards from successful escapees. Peter Storie-Pugh had a correspondence course with Cambridge University and gained a BA while a prisoner.

See [www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com](http://www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com) for more information.



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