

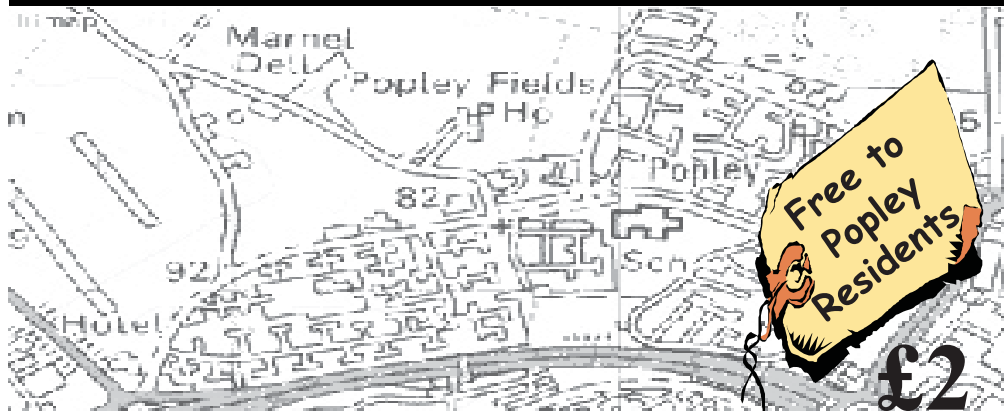
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

August 2018

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 198



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-08-18) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: Phew, July was hot and I found it amusing that people complained, but then we complain when it's too cold or too wet. It made me realise how lucky we are really because everything changes so there is bound to be a favourite season. The first of the Christmas adverts is in and I guess it is time to start thinking about presents and saving up to celebrate, though many of us will not even have had a summer holiday yet!

In October we will reach the 200th issue so if you have ever written for, delivered or advertised in Popley Matters please could you contact me? The years of work that have gone into the Popley Matters is outstanding and certainly takes up a lot of my and Paul's time. Sometimes it all seems just too much then a reader will stop us and say how much they enjoy reading it and how it helps them to keep abreast of what's going on in Popley. Please let us know what you think of Popley Matters and if you have any ideas where we could make additions or improvements, after all it is your community magazine.

We do need more volunteers to deliver Popley Matters. It is a good way of getting some light exercise and meeting new people as you walk around delivering. Contact me by email editor@popleymatters.org.uk or phone 819924.

We would also like to see more articles and stories from our Popley Matters area; I know there are some talented people out there. You can write about Popley or your family, maybe a club or charity you are involved with? Ruby J is a young resident who writes each month (Ruby is on page 7). You might like to write a one off article or a regular piece?

There is no report from the police or Neighbourhood Watch but I hope to have something from them for next month. Have a happy and safe summer.

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.

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Thank you for your support.

Cub Report

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.

On our return after the Easter holidays the Cubs started off with a Teamwork Evening by taking part in a "Trading Post" activity where each Six started off with a set number of "coins" and a list of activities, some of which were free, others cost coins to buy the resources required to undertake the activity, which if completed successfully resulted in extra coins being given to them. As a Six they had to decide what activities it would be best to do.

Next we headed off to the woods to have a go at bivouac building, with the Cubs coming up with different designs that best suited the position they had chosen.



The following week we reviewed our Code of Conduct and made juggling balls out of balloons and rice, great fun was had by all while making the balls, that somehow involved getting rice everywhere.

We also spent a couple of nights completing the Cub Athletics Badge, with the Cubs taking part in activities that included sack races, egg and spoon race and a blind assisted race.



Another popular activity this term has been Ice Cream in a Zip-Loc Bag, which involves putting ice and salt into a large zip-loc bag, while in a slightly smaller one putting milk, castor sugar and vanilla essence. You then place the smaller bag into the bag with ice and then shake the two together for about 15 minutes. The activity went down well especially as it was on one of the very hot Tuesday evenings of present.

We next tried our hand at making catapults out of bamboo canes and rubber bands and attempted to fire different items with them with varying degrees of success



A Battle of Britain themed evening was next on the agenda, which involved a mock battle using paper planes and a "Radar Plotting" exercise using grid references to give the Cubs an idea how easy it was to locate the enemy if you knew where they were. With this the Cubs were first split in to two teams and played "battleships" where they had to try and guess where on the map the opponents had placed their 4 aircraft. They were then given a "radar plot" that gave the grid reference of the aircraft in much the same way as the radar plotters would have sent the direction and bearings to dispatch.

The term ended with a games night that involved a lot of water

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Councillors County: The new Dragon Patch Repair vehicle repairs patches at 5 times quicker than previously. I have asked when Popley will see the much needed repairs and I am waiting for a response. The potholes in Abbey Road will require a road closure for one night and I have been promised enough time to report to you when it would be! The RAC reported that reports to them of breakdowns due to potholes are at a record high in the country. In Hampshire you can report any defects on line at www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and the council are advising caution if you use a disposable BBQ with the dry and hot weather. The grass and landscape is tinder dry and there have already been several fires.

With the warm summer weather we all open our windows or sit out enjoying the weather so please consider your neighbours when you have music on loud or are outside there is no better sound than that of children laughing and people enjoying life but screaming and shouting in the early hours is a different story! **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

Popley West: There are serious issues with refuse collection all over the borough and Popley has suffered with late collections of black, green and glass bins. This has gone on for weeks and though they are collected the next day it means they have been left out in the heat. There will be a new company starting in November and I hope there will be a big improvement. In some blocks of flats where black and green recycling bins are not provided they use refuse sacks then place them in their refuse shed. However there seems to be some who don't recycle in the clear bags provided. I walked along Melrose Walk and just about every entrance had rubbish of all types outside. Some were in bags but they had become split for a variety of reasons this could encourage rats and the smell in. This heat is repugnant.

Good news at last, after many meetings and much work done by the committee, officers and Councillors, we have a final yes to the much needed extra grant to enable the expansion and facilities in Melrose Hall. We look forward to seeing the start of the work, and even more so when its finished.

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

Popley East: Last year Marstons submitted a planning application to build a pub/restaurant on the Fire Authority land at Carpenters Down. The application was refused by the BDBC Planning Committee. Marstons subsequently submitted an appeal to the Government Planning Inspectorate and have been successful. We are disappointed for those residents who may be adversely affected due to the close proximity to their properties but we have to accept the decision. Going forward we will continue to support these residents and will monitor to ensure that all planning and licensing conditions are respected.

Last month we wrote about the delays to the repair of the splashpad following the vandalism that had been caused. The specialist works were completed and we were delighted to see it re-open on 22nd June. The facility is open seven days a week from 10.00am until around 7.00pm, subject to weather conditions.

We have been putting pressure on Hampshire County Council for some time now to make changes to the junction of the A33 and Popley Way where we continue to see vehicles undertake dangerous U-turn manoeuvres. We're pleased to advise that finally a design has been agreed and included in the works. They will also be resurfacing to the bus stop lay-by. We have no date for this to be done but we'll keep you updated.

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



Wow! What a hot summer we have been having so far. I f like me this heat is just a bit too much for you why not pop along to one of the many indoor groups and activities we have going on here at Melrose Hall? We have groups for all ages, from bump to retirement, get moving with a varied choice of exercise classes or take it easy at our café or bingo. Let the kids run off steam at our two baby and toddler groups.

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 AUGUST:

MONDAY:	10.00-11.00am	4 Fits Sake Pound Fit
	12.30-2.30pm	Bingo!!
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Popley Little People
	5.00-7.00pm	Sama Karate
WEDNESDAY:	9.00am and 11.00am	Slimming World with Jo
	11.45am-1.30pm	Oasis Lunch club
	5.30 and 7.30pm	Slimming World with Julia
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Community Café
	7.00-9.00pm	4 Fits Sake
FRIDAY:	10.00am-1.30pm	Melrose Tots
	6.15-9.15pm	Friday Youth Club
SATURDAY:	9.15am-4.00pm	7 TH Day Adventist Church
	10am	Sabbath School – Bible Study
	11.30am	Divine Worship
	1pm	Free Community Lunch
SUNDAY:	Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812	
	Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.	

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Don't Leave it too Late. Be Aware of Your Prostate!

Every hour a man dies from prostate cancer. That's 10,900 deaths a year. In the next twelve months 44,000 men will be diagnosed with the disease. The number of men diagnosed per year has already overtaken the number for breast cancer. By 2030 prostate cancer is set to become the most common cancer overall in the UK.

Most cases occur in men over fifty. One in eight men gets prostate cancer. Black men have a one in four chance of getting the disease. If there is a family history, these risks increase even more. These are stark and worrying statistics

There is a lot of ignorance about the prostate. It is a very small gland, about the size and shape of a walnut. It sits under the bladder and surrounds the urethra – the tube through which men pee. It's no surprise therefore that one possible worrying symptom is the need to urinate more frequently and at night. But sometimes there are no symptoms of the disease at all!

Like all cancers, early detection can save lives. The answer is simple: know the symptoms, get checked if you are worried. A simple blood test is all that it takes. Become more familiar with the disease before it becomes too familiar with you. Look at the information on the Prostate Cancer UK website; it will give you everything you need to know.

If you, or someone you know, is already one of the 400,000 sufferers, then why not join your local support group? The North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group (NHPCSG) helps men and their partners whose lives are affected. The Group meets monthly, offers friendship and support and has talks on health matters. Members share their experiences and feelings. As an old advert says "It's good to talk".

Looking after your health and general fitness can be especially valuable in combatting some of the effects of the disease and of its treatments, like fatigue for example. Members can take part in a weekly exercise class that Basingstoke Sports Centre has set up just for our Group.

Want to know more? Call: Alan Instone Chair of NHPCSG on 01256 764485.



Popley Ponds

Summer is a quiet time in the world of conservation, most of our work takes place over the winter when the newts are hibernating. This gives us a chance to look back on what we have achieved and to plan what we will do next season.

Firstly, a big thank you to all of you that helped us in 2017/18, including both those who turned up at our monthly work parties and the secret army of volunteers who keep the site clear of rubbish. Basingstoke Council recently sent me a report on their last newt survey and 2017 was a bumper year with 247 Great Crested Newts captured, so everyone's hard work is making a difference.

The 2018/19 season looks like a busy one. I recently took a walk around the site with Marion (the champion of Natural Basingstoke) and we have come up with a long list of jobs that need doing! Look out for more details of our future activity in Popley Matters and on notice boards around Popley.

www.naturalbasingstoke.org

e-mail: popleyponds@gmail.com

Facebook: Marnel & Popley Conservation Volunteers

Summer is Finally Here!

Summer is finally here! We can all celebrate and relax! The trouble is summer can be super expensive but I have six simple steps to make summer cheap and cheerful!

1) DIY ICE LOLLIES

Everyone loves a good quench thirsting ice lolly! Simply buy a reusable lolly mould from amazon or eBay, fill it with your favourite squash, fruit juice or fizzy drink, pop it into the fridge for a few hours and hey presto – you have homemade ice lollies!

2) PADDLING POOL PARTY

With this heat wave upon us, everyone would ideally like a cheeky swim in their grand pool in their back garden but unfortunately, it's not feasible. However, a paddling pool is still as refreshing and fun with your friends!

3) SUPER SUNSETS

This is a personal favourite! I love going out in the evening with friends or family, taking a few bites to eat and watching the incredible sunset! I find it so relaxing!

4) A COOLING WALK

I totally understand that in the day it feels unbearable to go out on long walks due to the heat! However, in the evening it begins to cool down. Find a shady place or somewhere covered in trees and embrace nature in the dappled sunlight!

5) DIY KITE

This is a super fun idea! Get messy and creative with string, paper, glitter and paint! Then go and fly your kite! It is such a fun family activity!

6) STARGAZE IN YOUR OWN BACK GARDEN!

Create a cool den in your garden filled with blankets, quilts, pillows and anything else comfy! Have your favourite drink and snacks to hand. Then watch the stars!

I hope this mini guide has given you some fun ideas for summer! Enjoy!

Don't party too hard,

Ruby J xoxo

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Home-Start North West Hampshire has worked in Basingstoke & Deane for 13 years. Home-Start believes that children need a happy and secure childhood and that parents play the key role in giving their children a good start in life and helping them achieve their full potential. To Home-Start, every family is special and we respond to each family's needs through a combination of home-visiting support and group work.

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“I was looking forward to the course but it was even better than I’d expected. Interesting views, lovely people and new friendships”.... HSNWH Volunteer

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Over 55s Forum

The next Open Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th August 2018, 10.15am to 1.30pm. at the Carnival Hall, Council Road, Basingstoke. Anyone who is interested in what we are doing for all the Over 55s in the Borough, can attend if there are places available.

Our celebration of the "International Day for Older People" is being held on Saturday 29th September 2018 at Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke 2pm to 5pm, We working on a Variety Show which should suit all ages, something for all residents in Basingstoke to attend. Those attending will be given free refreshments of Tea/Coffee, Juice and cakes. Price per ticket will be £6.00. Tickets can be obtained from the Secretary on 07792535116.

On 26th November 2018 the Forum is running a trip to the Cockney Christmas Special on board the Tezera-Joanne Boat in the King George V docks. Proper Cockney Entertainment, starring Gordon Bennett - Chas & Dave meets Max Bygraves with a dash of Max Miller. Keyboard, Ukulele and the Cockney spoons with a sing-along. It's a right Old Cockney Knees Up to send Folks home with a smile. Included is a meal of chicken & chips or fish goujons & chips in a basket, dessert, tea/coffee and coach. £56.00 per ticket.

Book with Gerald on 07792535116.



6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter

During the last month we took our junior section on a long weekend camp in Christchurch. This is the first time taking away this age range for 20 years and everyone had a great time. The young people got to enjoy camp craft activities, learning how to tie knots, erecting a tent, building a fire and cooking. We also travelled down to Mudeford to do some crabbing and spend some time on the beach and swim in the sea. Some of the boys that went to Christchurch will be coming along to our week long camp at Swanage in August.

Our summer programme continues with a selection of new games and activities. During August we will be testing these games out and will hopefully integrate them into our regular schedule.

We've had further success from our recruitment drive, 1 additional member to our younger ranks, however we are looking to grow even further so we can do more activities and events. Come along on a Monday evening and see what we are all about.

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: **6thbasingstokeebb@gmail.com**.

Tales of Marnell Woods

I have had to prioritise my time recently as the season is now in full flow and there are time lines for playing qualifying rounds, so finalists can be decided for the main event on most clubs calendars finals weekend, where cups and names on honours boards are fought for. If rounds are not completed, what would finals weekend look like? Can you imagine the furore if the FA Cup Final was postponed because the qualifying rounds had not been played because Man City were running behind schedule and unable to play their matches to try to qualify for the finals. It wouldn't do! Same with bowls, the finalists must be the best, in form, for the season, otherwise we end up with the second or third best being crowned club champions by default. This of course is just a long-winded explanation of why this article was too late for the July issue. I might add I have made no mention of the league programmes as well which add to the pressure as we also have to play them every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. It is quite a balancing act around this time of year as we must bear in mind that we play this game for recreation and enjoyment. We are not professional sportsmen, nor will be. We want to win of course but we must also acknowledge that there is more to life than playing bowls (or whatever your recreational activity is) and must retain perspective in all things. I suspect this statement has just exposed my inner convictions and some stick may be coming my way as a result. Who cares? Us octogenarians have the tee shirts earned during our lives, we have nothing left to prove or the desire to prove it again. We go out to win YES, we enjoy winning, of course, we feel belittled if we fail, unless of course we played badly and feel we let the team down, but that is personal pride and nothing to do with contemporary competitive spirit. We are now heading down a different avenue which can be shelved for another time. For those about to enjoy your summer holidays, Enjoy. For those still undecided about how to spend some leisure time, pop in, any Tuesday evening, most Saturday afternoons or as a spectator on league nights. You may disagree with the format of opinion in this article, Good, convince me I am wrong, my mind is not a closed shop, you will be welcome. *Ray*

Viking Badminton Club

Viking Badminton Club boasts members from all walks of Basingstoke life so as another season drew to a close club members eagerly awaited the local league results. Have the Mixed A team done enough to stay in the Division 1? They hope so. YES - they've done it and come fifth! They've just avoided relegation by one whole point - phew, that was close! In the 2nd Division, Mixed B has also come fifth but with a greater margin and firmly secured their place. The Open A (Men's) have come a respectable fourth. The ladies on the other hand played a blinder and came top of Division 1. This was a remarkable achievement with only six ladies in the entire club!!

Congratulations to everyone who played and helped Viking get through the season to achieve such great results... in the face of adversity. This season we are again on the hunt for new members and are hoping to have enough support for the coming season to play an Open B team.

If you are a club player: played at University or used to play and life got in the way and would like to try a small, friendly club, the season runs from early September through to end April (the first night's free).

For full club details please visit our web site: vikingbadmintonclub.org.uk. And watch out for a very special new member offer!



Upcoming Dates

Thursday 23 August—10.00am-10.45am Year 11 GCSE Results
 Monday 3 September—08.30am Autumn Term starts
 Thursday 27 September—6.00pm-8.30pm Open Evening Tuesday 2
 & Friday 5 October 9.15am-10.45am Open Morning

'What a transformation!'

The year has flown by but what a year it has been. The staff and students at Everest have responded magnificently to all the changes that have taken place since September. Confirmation that matters were moving rapidly in the right direction came at the turn of the year when the Department of Education visited us. The inspector had visited the school before. Her opening words were 'what a transformation!' and she is right.

Visitors to the school remark on a welcoming and friendly atmosphere. Students are proud to be here and move around calmly and purposefully. Lessons are focused and those not participating fully are dealt with swiftly and appropriately so that learning is not disrupted. Students have made great strides this year. The Year 11 students behaved impeccably during their exams and deserve to do well. They led the school with maturity and spirit and embraced the changes to ensure that they got the best possible start to the next phase of their lives. It was lovely to celebrate the end of their time at the school with their prom at Sandford Springs Hotel and Golf Club. It was a memorable evening.

Alex Russell
Headteacher



Practice Manager:

Email: NHCCG.BermudaPractice-admin@nhs.net & NHCCG.MarlowePractice-mail@nhs.net

Main: Shakespeare House Health Centre, Shakespeare Road, Basingstoke RG24 9DS Tel 01256 328860/464151

Branch (part-time opening): Fort Hill Surgery, Winklebury Centre, Basingstoke RG23 8BU

THE POPLEY PATIENT NEWSLETTER

Produced in conjunction with Bermuda & Marlowe Patient Participation Group
2018

HEADLINE... HEADLINE... HEADLINE... HEADLINE... HEADLINE... HEADLINE... HEADLINE...



PRACTICE NOW OFFICIALLY RATED "GOOD" BY INSPECTORS



A report last year suggested that our Practice needed some improvement. The B & M PPG were firmly of the opinion that, from the lay perspective, this opinion did not reflect the excellent service long provided to patients and seemed to be based solely on technical and management issues, rather than the commitment and expertise of clinicians and other workers. We supported the Practice Partners in contesting the report and seeking clarification on what needed to be done to achieve a (in our view) rating more in line with the patient experience. Subsequently, staff strove successfully to ensure that no 'wrong boxes' could be ticked in future (while maintaining the high level of day-to-day care which patients have come to expect) and this year's Care & Quality Commission [government] inspection accordingly awarded a rating of "Good" – which we think is the least the Practice deserves. Accordingly – and by way of introduction – we turn over the 'front page' to the Manager who (we believe) spearheaded a great team effort from Day One of her appointment early this year, Mrs Karen Blackhall:-

"In February I was welcomed as the new Practice Manager, after more than twenty years' management experience from outside the NHS. I relish the opportunity to work with such a great team of doctors, nurses and administrators.

It has been a busy time here at the Bermuda and Marlowe Practice. As you may be aware there are many pressures and challenges for those of us working in the NHS, so the Bermuda and Marlowe staff were delighted that their hard work was recognised by the CQC when, following inspection, they were awarded 'Good' in June this year. The CQC highlighted in their report that *'staff involved and treated patients with compassion, kindness, dignity and respect'* and that the culture showed *'openness, honesty and transparency.'*

General Data Protection Regulation [concerning responsibilities of organizations holding client details on computer systems] has also affected the Practice and the new policies affecting patient information may be found on the website:

The new triage system is now embedded, and is a proven means of offering our patients quick access to medical care. As the CQC pointed out: *'waiting times, delays and cancellations were minimal, and managed appropriately. Comments from patients praised the clinical team, reported excellent care and of being treated with professionalism, care and kindness.'*

Our patient group remains as involved with the Practice as ever. Members played key roles with the CQC Inspectors (and in the Manager recruitment process). We are very grateful to them for giving of their time. It's a lively group and if you are interested in joining our patient panel then you would be warmly welcomed; please see above and next for contacts re any PPG/Practice queries."

Owner: Practice Manager

Issued: February 2016 Review: February 2017

MORE ABOUT PATIENT PARTICIPATION

All general medical practices are now required to engage with their patient populations by means including a Patient Participation Group. But we were actively supported long before this requirement - an indication of the Practice's genuine commitment. The purpose of PPGs is "to ensure that patients and carers are involved in decisions about the range, shape and quality of services provided by their practice," to whom they act as a "critical friend".

The Bermuda & Marlowe PPG was instrumental in maintaining the service you receive when it was under threat from cuts two years ago. While this is probably our finest achievement, we have always sought to address a whole range of issues relating to patient interests, from the introduction of specialist clinics to the replacement of carpets in the waiting area.

Informal membership is available to all B & M patients and their carers, together with community (Popley/Winklebury) representatives. We now meet 6-weekly at Shakespeare House, where beverages (and the odd tasty treat) help make for a hospitable and welcoming environment. While **not** a forum for personal complaints this provides an opportunity both to speak your mind, have questions answered, **and** to meet like-minded people, while making a real contribution to the well-being of your friends and neighbours. You can contribute as much or as little as you feel comfortable with, without any ongoing obligation.

If you'd like to come along then simply contact the Practice for details. We try to be as representative as possible, and (at present) younger people, those from vulnerable groups, and people of ethnic minority origin are especially welcome. Due dates are Fri 17/8 & 28/9, 14.30

MORE PRACTICE NEWS

- As well as the Practice Manager the team welcomes an additional Nurse Practitioner, together with an administrator.
- The Care Quality Commission 2018 Report [see previous page] is featured prominently in the Basingstoke Gazette (14 June). Quotes from both our Practice Manager and PPG membership are personal and illuminating.
- Capitation (the total patient 'list') is approaching a target 14,000, 5 years on from the merger of Bermuda & Marlowe Practices.
- Winklebury (Fort Hill) Surgery:- Direct funding cuts and difficulties with leased premises have limited opening hours. We want to do more and Senior Partners are keeping the situation "constantly under review."

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Patient Handbook (formerly the Patient Leaflet) contains all the information you should need for a comprehensive understanding of the day-to-day workings of the Practice, from clinical specialisms to making an appointment. Should you need a copy please ask at Reception.
NB The Practice and the PPG reviewed the Handbook earlier this year.

FINAL WORD

Reminders of appointments by text Message have helped reduce the clinical time and resources wasted by 'Did Not Attend' patients. Should you be quite unable to keep an appointment with the Practice please notify them at least 1 hour before the appointed time so the slot can be re-used.

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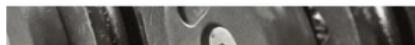
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All Stars - New players required: MFC Popley All Stars have spaces to fill for Year R and Year 1 (come September) players. For details, please contact: andymfcpopley@hotmail.co.uk.

The U7s have had an amazing season. Every player has developed and finished the year a stronger player than they started. We have scored 396 goals as a team, smashing our target of 200. Fingers crossed for Harry that he makes Southampton's squad next season.

U12s have won their league in the first year of competitive football. We have also reached the knockout stages in all of the tournaments we have entered. Good luck to Valentino at Aldershot, Fin at Fulham and Jamie at Portsmouth in their pursuit of their football dreams.

Our U9s and U11s raised over £1200 at the annual fundraising parents match. We would like to thank all companies who donated a raffle prize and all the family and friends who attended the event on 30th June. It was a huge success where all funds raised will be put back into the two teams.

U14s - New Players Required: MFC Popley Venom are looking for new players for their U14s squad. If you are Year 9 (come September) and are looking to join then please contact: andymfcpopley@hotmail.co.uk.

MFC Popley are looking for youth players to bulk up our U17-18 squad ahead of the new season. If interested please contact the club at committee@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

You can get regular updates on Twitter, @MFC_PopleyYouth & by using the hashtags #MFCPY #REDandBLACKARMY.

MFC Popley Youth has a dedicated club page on Facebook (as well as individual team pages), and you can also find us on Instagram.

MFC Popley Youth FA Charter Standard Development Club & Nike Partner Club has a dedicated club shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories - 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**

BERMUDA COMMUNITY CENTRE

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THURSDAY 7PM TO 8.30PM CMA KICK BOXING

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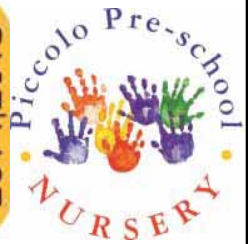
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Dear Friends

A song-worm has invaded my brain, it's that old Irving Berlin song "*we're having a heat-wave, a tropical heat-wave, temperatures rising it's hardly surprising....*" Phew! What a scorcher it's been so far and don't you just love it? Well I do, so I'm always a little disappointed to hear folk complain about the weather. I was watching Billy Connolly on TV the other night he was saying that there is no such thing as bad or good weather - only the wrong clothes! How right he is, but having said that it does seem to be an English national pastime to comment on the weather doesn't it! When we lived in Cyprus no one ever talked about the weather, mostly because the sun shone every day from early April to late October - you could plan a barbeque a month in advance and know the weather would be good – bit boring really – I do like the unpredictably of the English weather.

Returning some years ago from a visit to the RHS show in Manchester in July, we were on the M40 near Oxford when we had to drive through one of the most ferocious storms I've ever driven through anywhere or anytime before. Bolts of lightning were searing the ground either side of us, hailstone and rain pelted the windscreen so that you couldn't see through it and howling wind rocked the car from side to side. Traffic on the motorway slowed to a crawl and the only thing we could see was the faint outline of the rear lights of the car in front and the white line marking the edge of the motorway lane through the side window. It was at one and the same time terrifying and thrilling. That's what I love about our weather and its changeability; scorching sun one minute and lashing thunderstorms the next.

I still remember how some of the sights and smells at the that flower show combined with the weather on our journey home caused me to pause and think just how wonderful and varied God's creation is with all its immensity and intricacy. You know God has given us an amazing opportunity to partner with him in caring for his creation. I'm not a fanatic or fundamentalist when it comes to climate change but I am becoming increasingly aware of the personal part I have to play in caring for our wonderful world. Even the smallest things can make a difference – taking litter home with you; recycling when you can; conserving water and electricity; using the car less often and '*getting on yer bike*'. Everyday things that if each one of us took on board could make a huge impact on reducing climate change.

We have a responsibility to one another, to our children and grandchildren and ultimately to God for caring for this world – you don't have to go mad – just pick one thing you can change in your life and do it!"

God's Blessing for a continuing fantastic summer!

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Chineham Library

This year's Summer reading Challenge, Mischief Makers, got off to a good start on 14th July, and is even busier now that the schools have broken up. Don't worry if your child hasn't yet signed up, as they have until 15th September to read six books and earn their medal and certificate. Mischief Makers is accompanied by extra activities including crafts on Wednesdays, and quizzes to take away and be entered for a prize draw. It is best to check times for crafts in advance as these do vary.

Many of the regular children's activities for children take a break for the summer, specifically Chatterbooks and Coding Club. Saturday storytimes for pre-schoolers continue at 10am on all Saturdays except the first in the month and rhymetimes continue on Tuesdays with the under ones session at 10am and the over ones at 11am.

Age Concern have finished their sessions for the Summer, which will resume again in the Autumn. If you want to book sessions please contact their office on: 01256 423874. The CHIPPS group are also not meeting this month. The crime reading group are meeting on 1st September at 10.30am, and the general reading group on 25th August. Please contact the library for details of the writing group dates, and if you are interested in joining any of these groups.

We have received an encouraging response to our appeal for Summer reading Challenge volunteers. We are also looking for volunteers to assist us throughout the year if anyone is interested in volunteering on a regular basis.

For the most up-to-date information please call into the library or check social media. We hope to see you soon. *Cathy Foster*

Probus Hears about the Rise of RAF Odiham

Most know a little about our local airfield, home to the largest deployment of helicopters in the UK. Retired RAF Squadron Leader Chris Perkins MVO, of Kempshott, outlined the history of RAF Odiham to the Probus Club of Basingstoke.

The RAF had a summer camp on Odiham Down in 1925 and grass runways allowed some flying. The 1930s saw expansion with two tarmac runways for heavier planes. The Empire Air Day in 1937 was visited by Luftwaffe General Erhard Milch who earmarked Odiham for his HQ should England be conquered.

At the start of WW2 the men of RAF Odiham deployed to France. Replacements were RAuxAF Squadrons 613/614 together with WAAFs filling administrative support posts. Change continued in 1940; RCAF 110 Squadron arrived with established Belgium/French Flying Training units visited by General De Gaulle.

There were only four occasions when the airfield was attacked by Junkers 88 with several people killed in the village.

The Army Co-operation Command formed in December 1940 had Curtiss Tomahawks for photo reconnaissance missions flown by Canadian 100 Squadron and 171 Squadron.

May 1942 saw the first of the 1000 bomber raids with 13 Squadron's Blenheim Mk IVs. They went on three raids with several losses with crews buried in Holland. August 1942 saw 13 and 613 Squadrons supporting the Dieppe raid. From November 1942 Odiham experienced a build up of planes preparing for the invasion of Europe.

1945 saw Lord Haw Haw repatriated from Germany, a strafing range in Dogmersfield Park and Transport Command arriving with Dakota aircraft. Many fighter aircraft were based here; Hawker Tempest Mk11, Spitfire Mk1V and the first Vampire jets.

On 10th July 2018, the RAF century was celebrated with an impressive fly past in London. The 1953 RAF Coronation Review at Odiham was much bigger with 331 planes on the ground and a fly past of 641 planes. This was, and will probably be, the largest ever collection of RAF planes ever seen.

Summer Holidays can be the Final Straw

While most couples and families will enjoy the summer holidays, sadly for some the break often means just that – it is time to end a marriage and go separate ways.

Indeed spending a great deal of time together when a marriage is on rocky ground can often be the final straw.

Existing cracks in a relationship can be emphasised when juggling work and childcare over the course of the school summer holidays, along with the added financial pressures.

Divorce may already be on the cards but the parents are unwilling to start proceedings until the children are back at school, when couples take stock as to whether the marriage is worth preserving.

Although the divorce rate is no longer as high as when it peaked in the 1990s, this is not necessarily due to people opting to stay together as many people are simply not choosing to get married.

In fact we have seen an increase in problems faced by clients who separate but fail to deal with the separation and financial aspects of a breakdown.

Leaving financial issues unresolved can create animosity at a time when separating couples want to move forward.

It is important that anyone considering divorce or separation should receive the right legal advice as early as possible from an experienced Family Law Solicitor.

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Basingstoke Festival of Choirs Concert

Sunday 30th September

At 7.00 pm on Sunday 30th September local musicians will present a concert in Basingstoke's concert hall, The Anvil, entitled 'Voices Together'.

Under the banner of the "Basingstoke Festival of Choirs" hundreds of enthusiastic singers will be joining forces to present a programme of music to suit all tastes and ages. They will be accompanied by the Heritage Light Orchestra. Special guests Vocal Point and St Mary's Church of England Junior School Choir will be displaying the very best of the Borough's young talent.

The programme will include the music of Carl Orff, Karl Jenkins, Gilbert and Sullivan, Verdi and more, all guaranteed to lift the spirits and ensure a joyous evening of music making.

Tickets cost £16.00 (under 16s £8) and are now available from <http://www.anvilarts.org.uk/> or by phoning 01256 844244 or by visiting the Anvil box office.



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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
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Week 2 30 th July	Scavenger Hunt 1.30 – 3.00pm	Popley Play Day 10.00 – 3.00pm	Instruments & songs 11.30 – 12.30am	Making kites 10.00 – 11.30am	Pizza making 10.00 – 12.00am
Week 3 6 th Aug	Story & Rhyme time 10.00 – 11.00am	Family tree craft 10.00 – 11.30am	Karate session 10.00 – 11.30am	Clay pots 10.00 – 12.00am	Jewellery making (over 5's only) 10.30 – 11.30am
Week 4 13 th Aug	All about me 1.00 – 2.30pm	Messy Monkey Makers (6m – 5yrs) 10.30-11.30 (6-12yrs) 1.30 – 2.30pm	Cars, tracks & babies 1.00 – 2.30pm	Thursday tots 9.30 – 11.00am	Cake decorating 10.00 – 11.30am
Week 5 20 th Aug	Sumo suits 1.00 – 2.30pm	Messy Monkey Makers (6m – 5yrs) 10.30-11.30 (6-12yrs) 1.30 – 2.30pm	Water & sand play 10.00 – 12.00am	Obstacle course race 10.00 – 12.00am	Story time 10.30 – 11.30am
Week 6 27 th Aug	Closed Bank holiday	Scavenger Hunt 11.00 – 12.30am	Musical instruments 11.00 – 12.00am	Pizza making 10.00 – 12.00am	Teddy bears picnic 11.30 – 1.30pm

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Lions Club of Basingstoke

In my May report I concentrated on some of the most enjoyable activities that are a part of being a member of the Club. So in this report I'll try to give you a flavour of our community assistance. I have focused initially on support which has been completed within the last month. All bids for assistance are carefully considered before we commit to help.

- Services for the elderly – equipment fund - £200
- Support for disabled swimmer to attend Scout jamboree in USA - £250
- Repair of Spotlight official car - £395
- Specialist Baby Unit equipment fund - £200
- Donation towards powered wheelchair provision - £200
- Prizes donation for disability footballers - £100
- Family eviction prevention - £250
- Uniforms for children in Women's Refuge - £41

Looking back across the year, the most common problem brought to us is the need to replace “white goods” for families who do not have the resources to replace them. But the variety of problems brought to us is quite amazing – collapsed beds, need for decorating equipment, simple household repairs or garden tidying for elderly residents, baby food and nappies, travel tickets etc. etc. Plus of course we continue to support our Message in a Bottle initiative. We manage to solve most problems for under £200. But we still need to raise an absolute minimum of £1,000 every month. Hence our fundraising programme which we hope you'll feel able to support.

Currently in the programme we have **Motown Music** with Lou Taylor on 22 September at the British Legion in Old Basing – **The Caerphilly Male Voice Choir** on 13 October at QMC – **Quiz Night** on 3 November at the Cliddesden Millenium Hall – **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/ or by contacting one of the organisers, – tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk - mauricehockley@hotmail.com – jomolincoln@btinternet.com – philipjhwilson@btinternet.com .

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Learn to Play Bridge

If you've always thought you would like to learn to play bridge, but have just never got round to it; if you would like to try something new and challenging which opens up a wide new social circle for you and introduces you to a game that can be enjoyed at so many different levels; if you played a little years ago, but have forgotten most of what you ever learned; if you've never even played cards before, but would like to see what it is all about: why not come along to **Basingstoke Bridge Club** on **Tuesday 4th September** at **7.00 pm**? We have been running classes for beginners for many years now. Every year some class members go on to become members of the club and most become as addicted to the game as the rest of us.

Beginners' classes take place on Tuesday evenings (7.00 to 10.00 pm). The course runs from September to July with various breaks for holidays. The cost is £60.00 for each of the three terms of ten lessons. The first of these evenings is entirely free. You will find yourself playing a mini version of bridge on the very first night. Each lesson comprises about 20-30 minutes teaching followed by lots of practice hands to play. You will receive notes and copies of the hands with commentary every week, together with some homework to keep you up to speed. The course is run by Chris and Helen Kinloch who can be contacted by e-mail: kinloch@btinternet.com or telephone 01264 333175.

Basingstoke Bridge Club is a very friendly club with more than 200 members. Visitors are always welcome. We have bridge every day from Monday to Friday. Our main evenings are Mondays and Fridays, and there is also bridge on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Thursday evenings are for less experienced players who do not feel ready to join the other sessions. Table money for visitors is £3.00, but the first Thursday you play you will not be charged. (To find out more about Thursdays, telephone George Collins on 01256 780940.)

The club address is Maydene, Sherborne Road, Basingstoke RG21 5TG.

For more information see our web site: www.basingstokebridgeclub.co.uk



Help Wanted

Popley Fields Community Association is looking for energetic and enthusiastic youth workers to join the team working with young people at Popley Fields Community Centre. Popley youth club is for 8-13 year olds. Our Monday drop in centre for 8-11s run from 6:30-8:00 and our Thursday drop in centre is for 11-13s from 6:30-8:30pm Sessions are free of charge.



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Off Peak - Monday to Friday 8am-5pm* - £15

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& Weekend 8am-4pm* - £30

Peak membership includes free access to our classes programme

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

Tel 01256 337573 or pop in and have a look around

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Opening Hours

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



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