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POPLEY MATTERS

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FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-2-19) editor@poppleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: February, the month of romance but it is not at all romantic to go for a stroll with your loved one and family having to negotiate dog mess; there have been lots of comments about it to us and on the social media sites. On page 6 I have put an article I saw on a website in the hope that those few people who are selfish realise the dangers of leaving the mess. There is a meeting about clean air for those of you are interested and would want to go, on page 20. There is also an appeal from the Home Library Service on page 15 and for volunteers to help with training the Guide Dogs for the Blind. Maybe you would like to volunteer but not sure how. You may want to know where you can get advice about helping different charities or even just want to know where to go when you need advice about different groups you can read about BVA on page 12 and they will help volunteers are also needed by Age Concern on page 16. You may even be an angel and become one of our Popley Matters deliverers; we need one for Melrose Walk and in the new houses. Contact details are below.

Basingstoke is recognised as an area that is known for volunteers and I think it is something to be very proud of. You can do maybe one hour a month and make a difference to other people's lives and your own too.

We need more articles about Popley or what your group does maybe about the history of Popley. The details are below and I am happy to help and advise anyone. Have your ideas on how to improve Popley Matters and you may know someone who wants to advertise as we have a print run of 5,400 so it reaches a lot of people.

We welcome articles from groups and clubs, also residents who might like to write about their hobbies or 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
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Chineham Library

There are two dates for your diaries in the near future. ON Thursday 21st February we have the free 'Drama 4 All' children's drama workshops for 4-12 year olds. on Saturday 2nd March we are hosting a 'Bumps and Baby Boot Sale', with tables available for £10. A good chance to prepare for a little one or alternatively to de-clutter the loft! For further information about these events and to book places please contact the library or use the online services. We hope you will be able to support these. The regular children's activities continue as normal this month. Tuesdays we have the popular rhymetimes for under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Saturdays there are craft sessions at 10am on the first Saturday of the month, and preschool storytimes at 11am on all other Saturdays. Construction Club takes place every Saturday from 2 – 3.30pm.

The Tuesday Coding Club is full for this term; however, places can be booked for next term's beginners club. Chatterbooks children's reading group meets on Thursday 14th this month, from 3.45 – 4.45pm. Stay and Play reading group for parents with preschool children meets on Wednesday 13th February from 10 – 11am.

Age Concern continue to provide computer sessions for the over 50s on Wednesday mornings from 10am. Places are bookable through their office on: 01256 423874, and there is good availability at present. The Crime Reading group meets on 16th February and the General Reading group on the 23rd February, both from 10.30 – 11.30 am. Our Writing group meets monthly on Thursday evenings from 5.30 – 7pm, for more details contact the library. You are very welcome to try out any of our groups. As always there will be our regular lively displays from which to select your books. As always, the most up-to-date information is available from social media. We hope to see you in the library soon.

Cathy Foster

Basingstoke Blues Club

Basingstoke Blues Club in association with the Basingstoke Railway Social Club, Station Approach, Basingstoke RG21 5NB presents Teed Up on Saturday 16th February. Comprised of Steve Roux, Bernie Fox, Ray Drury and Steve Browning, together they have extensive musical experience and individuals have played with many famous greats in the industry.

All welcome - 8pm till late. £8 on the door. Licensed bar and low prices. Profits to Brain Tumour Research – Charity number 1153487. For further details please contact: Rex on 01256 321837 / mobile 07979 422590.

Christine Nield

Stop getting nuisance calls

Stop getting nuisance calls

There are some actions you can take to stop getting nuisance calls that you don't want.

You shouldn't get nuisance calls if you didn't give the caller your number - for example:

- cold calls trying to sell you something you don't want or need, like double glazing
- recorded or automated messages telling you you're due compensation, perhaps for a mis-sold insurance policy such as PPI

Register with the Telephone Preference Service

The best way to stop nuisance calls is to register your number with the Telephone Preference Service - they'll add you to their list of numbers that don't want to receive sales and marketing calls. You can also call them to register on 0345 070 0707.

It's illegal for a company to call numbers registered with the Telephone Preference Service, so registering should scare companies away and stop them bothering you.

It's a free service and it's easy to register. You'll need your phone number, postcode and an email address to sign up on the Telephone Preference Service website. You can also sign up from your mobile by texting 'TPS' and your email address to 85095.

If you get nuisance calls after you've registered with the Telephone Preference Service, it may be because you gave the caller your number. Tell the individual caller you don't want to be contacted again, and they should stop calling you.

You might also still get calls from companies that don't follow the regulations. You can get advice about companies that ignore the law from the Telephone Preference Service website.

To try to prevent the problem happening again you should always check any forms that you fill in for tickboxes that say something like "I give permission for third parties to contact me by phone" or "I give you permission to contact me by phone". Don't tick the boxes if you don't want to be contacted.

Block nuisance calls

There are products to block some calls (like international calls or withheld numbers) but be careful they don't also block calls you want. Ask your phone provider if they have a service to block some numbers, or you can install a call blocking device on your phone yourself.

Ofcom has information about the different services your phone provider may have to tackle nuisance calls.

And Which? has reviewed a range of [call blocking devices](#).

If you think it's a scam call

Scams usually involve people being tricked into giving money. If you think a caller is trying to run a scam, you should [report it to Actionfraud](#).

Need further information or Help?

Citizens Advice Basingstoke, (located within Basingstoke Discovery Centre) can help you with queries you have on budgeting, benefits and debt, relationships, immigration, employment issues, and consumer rights. We operate a drop-in service 10am-3.30pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday which is pre-booked appointments only) and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm.

Wednesday evenings we are open until 6.30pm

The Advice Line telephone number is 03444 111 306

The Citizens Advice Basingstoke website can be found at www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk

Online help from Citizens Advice can be found at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>



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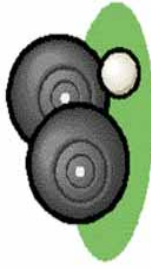
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Sunday & Bank Holidays Mondays Closed

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So you think bowls is about as interesting as counting sheep!! If so you haven't tried Short Mat Bowls! - which is friendly - social - and very competitive!!!! If you over indulge at Christmas come and enjoy gentle fun exercise at our club.

We are a small friendly club who meet at the Chute Pavilion on Thursday afternoons throughout the year from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. We arrange a programme of games with other clubs during the winter season. We also used to meet on Tuesday afternoons and Monday evenings which, if there is sufficient interest, could start again.

We are always pleased to welcome new members so why not come along and give short mat bowling a try. We have bowls available which you can use and the existing members will be only too pleased to show you the ropes of the game.

We would be pleased to hear from you and for any further information please contact Les on 01256 850973 (skerryvovet1@btinternet.com) or Tony on 01256 889350 (mar_ton19@yahoo.co.uk).



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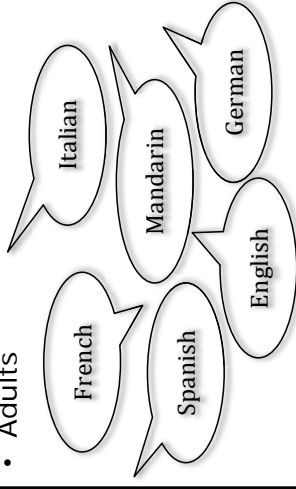
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We had a really great turnout in January - 7 volunteers who spent the morning clearing flag iris from the main pond. This invasive plant loves to take root at the site and this is a regular activity for the group. It's one of the more sociable tasks as well because its relatively safe and we can work near to each other and have a chat as we go along.

The volunteers were met by herons and plenty of spotted newts this time. Some of our braver souls even gently handled the newts to start learning to identify the various species. Also, the pond is finally filling up, since the last time we had a working group it was still dry from the long hot summer.

The team was also joined by new members Jay and Paul this month! Welcome and thank you again for your hard work!! The group certainly started the year as they meant to go on with a quick trip to our local afterwards :).

We've had a few people ask about the site postcode - it's best to park in Tobago Close, where the postcode is RG24 9PX.

There's a path that runs alongside Tobago Close, usually we're over the other side of this where a gap in the trees takes you down into the pond area. If you come along and find we aren't there, we're likely to be getting tools from our shed at the allotments or working behind the far tree line. You can also ping us a message via Facebook and we'll make ourselves visible in the Tobago Close area.

We're looking forward to the next working party, we hope to see you there!!

Over 55s Forum

The Basingstoke and Deane Over 55s Forum are now nearing the cut-off point, when existing members need to have paid their 2019 fee. This will allow the committee to know if there are spaces to start bringing in people who have been on the waiting list for several months.

The Forum is still growing and the support from the members is brilliant.

Our Movement and Stretch sessions which are gentle exercise for over 55s are open to any members of the general public, you are invited to come along, every Thursday 11.00am to midday and there is only a small charge of £3.50 per session.

Every Tuesday 1.30 to 3pm we have a practice singing sessions for our singing group called the Carnival Chorus, who throughout the year go round to care and residential homes singing to the clients, again a small charge of £3.50 per session. Both these sessions are held at the Carnival Hall, Council Road, Basingstoke. Why not come along and try one of these sessions, you will be made welcome.

Our first trip for 2019 will be to Leeds Castle and Teapot Island. The Teapot Island has over 8,000 teapots and over 2,000 teapots for sale. Other events are; Cabaret Weekend 8th to 10th March at Eastbourne; and 12th to 13th April a visit to Sandringham, staying overnight in Norwich then on 13th a Paddleboat ride on the Norfolk broads (both now sold out).

More trips to be announced later.

Councillors County: After a resident contacted me about three street lights being off by Appleton/Jersey/Guernsey and had been going round in circles to find out whose responsibility it was, I took on the task. I soon realised how frustrated he must have been, as I got the same answers. Eventually my patience was spent and I fired off a stiff email to just about everybody including developers, SSE, and Hampshire County Council(HCC). It was handed to HCC but the paperwork was not completed but a firm promise it would be and the lights will get repaired and switched on.

There was a consultation with regard to a new Special Needs School to be built on the site where The Spotlight Centre is at present. Spotlight has thanked the County for all their support and Spotlight have identified a new site and are actively working on the changeover. Parents of children with complex needs have been sent to other special schools sometimes with a car journey of up to three hours there and back. Firstly this was of course not fair on the child and secondly, it was hugely expensive. The Labour Councillors for Popley are following the issue closely. The plans for the new school are on the Basingstoke and Deane Council site planning applications. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

Popley West: With the help of a Local Infrastructure Grant two years of work and planning means that at last the new Melrose Hall extension will start to be built.

Melrose Walk has had issues with waste and collection for as long as we can remember and years of campaigning look to finally be listened too with some new storerooms being built by Vivid that will house euro bins. Black and recycling sacks will be a thing of the past.

There have been a large number of complaints about dog walkers who do not pick up their dog's poo. This is anti-social and a health hazard. Popley Community Park is for families and for children to enjoy and have the space and freedom to run around, it is becoming impossible because of a few uncaring and frankly lazy people who, when other dog walkers ask them to put their dog poo in the 11 bins that are all around the park, ignore them or even get abusive. This is a fineable offence and I suggest when you see it, photograph them and report to the council.

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

Popley East: We have received several reports about the non-collection of waste, both recycling and general waste.

The contract with Veolia for the waste collection was due to expire and the administration at Basingstoke Borough Council, jointly with Hart District Council, agreed a contract with a new company Serco, which came into force on 1st October.

Whilst appreciating that there may have been a small number of initial 'teething' problems following the handover of the contract, we are concerned to see that some four months later the problems are continuing and this, we understand, is affecting not only Popley East but other areas of the Borough. We have raised these concerns with senior officers at the Council and will continue to do so until this is resolved.

Following consultation with residents, works on a new landscaping scheme for the Poets area is to be delivered early this year. By the time you read this article the works may have already commenced. It is expected that they will take around four months to complete. Thank you to the many residents who took the time to respond to the consultation. The comments proved very valuable to the Borough Council Officers involved in the planning of the scheme and some amendments were made as a result.

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



The **disability forum**
Basingstoke and district

Disability Information Day

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Mad Hair Day!

St. Michael's Hospice is delighted to announce their fun campaign Mad Hair Day will take place once again on Friday 15th February to raise much needed funds for the Hospice. The local community is encouraged to wear crazy wigs and style their hair in weird and wacky ways.

'Mad Hair Day' is the perfect excuse to go wild and have fun with your hair', says Lynne Grimshaw, Community Campaigns Co-ordinator at the Hospice. 'Maybe you have always wondered what your hair would look like pink, permed or in a beehive, or perhaps ladies, you have always wanted to be brave enough to have your head shaved, or gentlemen your legs or chest waxed. Well, Friday 15th February is the day to give it a try! You can have great fun and really help your local Hospice at the same time by getting sponsored too.' In the past, the Hospice has had wonderful support from schools and hairdressers but individuals and businesses are always welcome to join in too.

St. Michael's is the local Hospice for North Hampshire, providing care and support through the In-Patient Unit, Day Service and Hospice at Home services. All services are completely free of charge to people with life-limiting illnesses. The running costs of the Hospice last year were £3.9 million of which only around 20% is funded by the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group. The support of the local community in campaigns such as Mad Hair Day really does make a huge difference to our fundraising.

For more information about supporting Mad Hair Day or holding an event, please call Lynne in the Fundraising Department on 01256 848845 or email lynnegrimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk for a fundraising pack.

Sue O'Flinn

Bourne Education Trust

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Classes

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Everest Health & Leisure Club
Everest Community Academy, Oxford Way, Basingstoke RG24 9UP
Gym Team: 01245 337576 Main Reception 01256 337573

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

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

Dog Fouling

One of the main causes of irritation to everyone – including many dog owners – is fouling in public places. Everyone has to share the same recreational space and there is nothing worse than having to constantly look for dog poo to prevent you or your children stepping or even falling into it.

Obviously it is the dog that does the poo but it is unfair to blame them; it is the responsibility of the dog owner to ensure that the dog's mess is cleaned up. Although there are a great number of owners that do clear it up, there are still some people who don't. It is a real health hazard to leave it where it lies - on pavements, in parks and playgrounds - and it is also against the law.

The Control of Dogs Ordinance (1992) applies to all public places and states that an offence is committed if a person in charge of a dog fails to clean up his faeces. It is no defence to claim ignorance of the dog's actions, the law, or not to have a device available to remove the faeces. This could result in a prosecution and fine.

All faeces contains bacteria that can cause stomach upsets if ingested. However, the greatest risk to public health from dog faeces is toxocarasis.

Toxocarasis is an infection of the round worm, spread via unwashed vegetables and dog faeces. Young children in particular are at risk due to their weaker immune systems and because they are more likely to expose themselves by ingesting the eggs. A puppy can pass as many as 15,000 eggs per gram of faeces, and they are a major source of environmental contamination.

There are two types of toxocarasis: visceral larva migrans (VLM) and ocular larva migrans (OLM).

In VLM, the larvae reach the liver, causing inflammation and symptoms such as abdominal pain and pyrexia. Most people recover spontaneously.

OLM occurs when a migrating larva reaches the eye. It causes a granuloma to form on the retina, causing significant visual impairment and in severe cases even blindness.

There are about 12 new cases of OLM diagnosed annually in the UK5.

Reduce the Risk

- Pick up after your dog every time your dog makes a mess. Keep a packet of bags next to the dog's lead as a reminder to take them with you;
- Ensure you regularly worm your dog - every three to six months. Use a prescription wormer from a veterinary surgeon;
- Do not take dogs into parks that have children's playgrounds. The Control of Dogs Ordinance (1992) specifies that dogs are prohibited from children's play areas;
- Do not let your dog off lead if they are likely to run out of sight. If you can't see them how can you know if or where they have had a poo!;

A poo bag is very similar to a nappy sack. It is a small plastic bag with two handles at the top. A knot can be tied in the handles to seal them closed. The filled bag should be carried home for safe disposal or via the refuse bin or dog too. Alternatively use a 'poop scoop' which is a very simple plastic claw device that is used in conjunction with 'poop bags'; and

Pregnant women and individuals with impaired immunity should take extra precautions when cleaning up the faeces by wearing disposable gloves available from chemists.

The address to report issues <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/report-dog-fouling>

BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

There were 49 members and 3 visitors at the first meeting of the year on 9th January who were welcomed by David Cowling, the Chairman, who then went on to give apologies and welcome back those who had not been able to come for a while. Christine Broadbent, the Welfare Officer, gave her report after which Tony Brazier, the

Secretary, reminded everyone who were Social Members that subscriptions for the coming year were now due. He also said that the planned trip to the Postal Museum would not go ahead due to lack of numbers, but the trip to the Theatre Royal at Winchester on Wednesday 20th March to see "The Verdict" was already fully booked.



The speaker this month was Dan Allen from the Victorian Military Society who gave a talk titled "What did you do in the war Granny?" He gave a history of women serving in the armed forces which started in 1881 when the Women's Army Nursing Service was formed and sent 80 women, who had to be over 25 and single or widowed, to serve in the Boer War. When Queen Victoria died in 1901 the name was changed to the Queen

Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (now the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps). There were a number of unofficial groups that sprang up including the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (the FANYs), a volunteer group of women who rode on horseback to tend to soldiers injured in the front line before they were taken to hospital. The Women's Legion, the Women's Land Army, the Women's Forage Corps and the Women's Forestry Corps all served by doing jobs that would otherwise have had to be done by men. In 1917 the

Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (later named the Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps) was founded to amalgamate all the women's groups and under Dr Mona Chalmers Watson, the first Chief Controller and senior officer, over 57,000 women served between January 1917 and November 1918 before it was disbanded in 1921. Dan illustrated his talk with many photographs and quotes from members of the Corps which gave an insight into the varied types of work they carried out.



The next meeting is on 6th February when Brian Graham is coming to give a demonstration of candle making. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Details can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 07715 640171 and for information about our trips please contact Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.



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Marie Curie Collection

Thank you very much for your generosity at Chineham Shopping Centre in the busy month of December. We raised an amazing £379,80.

Marie Curie Care provides nursing for seriously ill people in their home; unfortunately they are unable to provide nurses in the Basingstoke area at this time but there are ongoing discussions that might change this. They do have nurses in other parts of Hampshire and they also use the money to pay for research into Palliative Care.

The Great Daffodil Day is the major fundraising event for the year. If you have an hour or more to spare in February / March please call Sally or Sophie on 023 8026 3123 or go to the link below to register. Chineham Shopping Centre is to be confirmed - either 2 or 9 March.

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/collecting>

The Sherbornes Art Exhibition

Painting, Sculpture and Ceramics local artists are exhibiting their latest work for sale.
Open: Saturday 20 April 2017: 10am - 5pm
Open: Sunday 21 April 2017: 10am - 4pm
Sherborne St John Village Hall, Kiln Lane, RG24 9HP

The Sherbornes Art Exhibition is a biennial event formed over 10 years ago by artists Pat Burt and Lindsay Berry, not only to exhibit their own work but to invite different artists each year to join them in raising funds for charities close to their hearts. Lindsay Berry is a dedicated Watercolour artist while Pat works in acrylic and has close connections to the tutorial world. Works from a group of painters led by professional artist Mike Hall are included along with local guest artists including Cicelie Fry, Len Murrell and Jenny Kennish. Also showing are guest sculptural artists in wood, glass and ceramic. The aim is to keep the exhibition as "local" as possible showing quality work in a variety of artistic styles. While also supporting our own Village Hall the charity benefiting this year is Wellington and Dummer Riding for the Disabled Association, Charity no. 1073726.

Entry-Free with disabled access
Refreshments-Lunches, coffees and teas available for purchase throughout the weekend
Artwork-Local and invited artists exhibiting latest 2D and 3D work
Parking-Village Hall Car Park, or top Car Park at the Swan Public House (opposite)
Benefitting Charities-Sherborne St John Village Hall Charity no. 301945 and Wellington and Dummer Riding for the Disabled Association Charity no. 1073726



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Basingstoke Air Scouts

Base 2000, Carpenters Down, Popley, RG24 9AE
Website, www.base2000.co.uk
Registered Charity, 267734

Group Scout Leader Colin Karslake 07796 772500
Beaver Leader Katie Alexander 07969 804859
Cub Leader Douglas Gowen 01256 412326
Scout Leader Kevin Pocock 07717 108560

Just for a change this month I thought that I would tell you all about my first camp as a new Leader with Basingstoke Air Scouts, some twenty years ago.

I really did wonder what I had let myself in for, especially as I had no previous experience of Scouting, not even as a child. It was something that never interested me, living right on the edge of the New Forest I had way too many other things to do! Anyway, within a few weeks of joining the group we were off on camp. Cricket Scout Campsite, just a few hundred yards from the River Itchen near Southampton. I must admit I was a little apprehensive at the start as I'd only ever been camping once before as a child and didn't really have fond memories of that. We arrived at the campsite the evening before the kids turned up just to set up and get settled in. This was probably a good thing as it rained and blew a force ten gale most of the night. I particularly remember some of us holding on to the guy ropes of a rather large marquee for some time that night. As you can probably imagine I was ready to go home and find my bed at that point.

Anyway we eventually got some sleep, only to be woken again by the smell of bacon being cooked! It was a glorious morning, the sun rising above the trees and bacon sarnies all round, what more could you want. Soon parents were arriving with kids, we had Cubs and Scouts from our own and Oakridge Scout group for the camp. We went on to have a fantastic week visiting many local attractions including the Submarine museum at Gosport and doing many on-site activities including archery and air rifle shooting. And best of all we had no more rain that week, and most of us went home with a bit of a suntan, not bad as it was only Easter.



Now you can't keep me away from Scout camps, I absolutely love them. The highlight for me is sitting around the campfire in the evening joining in with campfire songs with a nice mug of hot chocolate and then having a good old chinwag with other Leaders after the kids have gone to bed. And if I'm really good the Scouts allow me to make my own campfire, which is most of the time now!

Currently all three sections have spaces for new members, so if any of that takes your fancy, you are more than welcome to come down on a Tuesday evening for Beavers and Cubs, or a Friday evening for the Scouts for a taste of what's it's all about. More details can be found on our website at www.base2000.co.uk.

To continue providing all these and more activities for all three of our sections we are in need of more adults to help out or even maybe to become Leaders. Full training is available for new Leaders, much of which can be done online in your own time. The only qualification needed, you must like working with kids and like having a bit of fun. If you are interested please contact myself, Group Scout Leader, Colin Karslake on 07796 772500 or contact us through the group website, www.base2000.co.uk or even via Facebook.

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6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter



This month the young people have been learning ways they can help our planet. They've learnt about their family's carbon footprint, how this has an impact on the planet and how they can reduce it. They are also learning how to reduce, reuse and recycle to help combat their impact on the world. It's amazing what a few small changes to your daily routine can make a big difference.

With each year we are attempting to grow our ranks and to help, Boys' Brigade headquarters have set us a challenge, **Raise The Bar!** This challenge is all about asking the question **'How can we do better?'** It's about taking time to consider our approach to specific areas of our work, looking at what needs to change and setting targets to strive for. Over the last few years many companies have had an increase in members but unfortunately there has been a bigger decrease. Nonetheless will take on the challenge and grow our company so we can continue to help those in the community. If you know of anyone who would like to join please get in contact via the details below.

We're recruiting?

We are looking for new members to join both our age groups, 5-10 and 10-18yo. If you'd like to see what we are about come for a taster session on a Monday evening, 6:15 - 7:15pm (5-10yo) and 7:00-9:00pm (10-18yo). Contact us on **07775 535434** or drop us an email at **6thbasingstokebb@gmail.com**.

Basingstoke Clean Air Campaign

Basingstoke Transition Network (BTN) is a local campaign group promoting lifestyle changes, with an overall aim to help combat a climate change catastrophe.

One of the key factors in this arena is pollution, and in particular air pollution. Evidence is growing that such pollution is causing premature deaths (especially amongst the young and older age groups), and does not confine damage to lungs, but also reaches into other organs, including brains.

Parts of Basingstoke and Deane have a significant air pollution problem such that the government has chosen to intervene and ordered the borough council to demonstrate how it is intending to remedy breaches in statutory limits.

From separate monitoring conducted by BTN, the A33 is believed to be a particular source of pollution and most especially at the Binfields Roundabout.

An associate grouping to BTN – Basingstoke Clean Air Campaign – is now organising a public meeting to enable residents to learn more about these issues and possibly also engage with pressure on the authorities to take the problem more seriously than it is felt they are at the moment.

The meeting is to take place at Christ Church, Chimeham on 21st February, commencing at 7pm. Speakers have been invited but are not yet confirmed and so if you would like more information nearer the time, please call 352434.

Tea coffee and biscuits will be provided.

Martin Biermann, Basingstoke Transition Network



Volunteers Needed to Help Change Lives in Basingstoke

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association needs volunteers in Basingstoke to help improve the confidence and independence of visually impaired people. Some of those hoping for a volunteer have been waiting for many months, so getting involved could really help change someone's life.

My Guide is a service that Guide Dogs offers whereby a trained, sighted guide, is partnered with someone with sight loss. My Guides accompany service users to facilitate tasks such as running errands, practicing everyday routes, using public transport, or going to the gym to build confidence in these areas.

Laura Robertson, My Guide Volunteering Manager, says "When someone loses their sight, they can also lose confidence; or in the worst cases become socially isolated. Introducing a My Guide into someone's life makes a real difference. In volunteering a couple of hours a week, it can make the seemingly impossible, possible for a service user."

Guide Dogs provides full training for all volunteers. To apply, go to the Guide Dogs website (<https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/>) and click on Volunteering or call the team on 01189 838 892.

About Guide Dogs

Every hour, another person in the UK loses their sight and if this happens to you, Guide Dogs is there to make sure you don't lose your freedom as well. We want everyone who experiences sight loss to be able to live their lives the way they choose and feel confident, independent and supported in the world. A UK-wide charity, we're specialists in giving people who are blind or partially sighted the means to live life on their own terms and to step out into the world again. Find out more at [guidedogs.org.uk](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/). To help us continue our life-changing work, we rely on donations from individuals. There are almost two million people in the UK living with sight loss today, a number which is predicted to double to four million by 2050.

Additional Information

My Guide is the service provided by Guide Dogs which offers a mobility aid in the form of a volunteer to people who don't have a guide dog.

To learn more about the My Guide service go to: <https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/services-we-provide/my-guide/>



Serving our community

CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts -
helen@highpathway.co.uk
or
Paul Temple:-
tempaul45@gmail.com

YOUR LOCAL
ROTARY
ROUNDUP



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2019

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Basingstoke Festival of Transport

Sunday 12th May 2019 from 11.00 - 16.00

The War Memorial Park,, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH, will once again be filled with over 900 vehicles at the Basingstoke Festival of Transport 2019.

The Thorneycroft Society, after 26 years of running the Festival of Transport in the Memorial Park for the people of Basingstoke the Society has handed over the running of this event to **Basingstoke Deane Rotary Club**.

The Thorneycroft Society has over the years built this Festival into one of the biggest events of its kind and Basingstoke Deane Rotary are honoured to be chosen by the Society to run this event in the future. The Festival is run in conjunction with Basingstoke and Deane Borough (BDBC),

We would like to recognise the work of the Thorneycroft Society in the preservation of old vehicles and in bringing this wonderful Festival of Transport to the Memorial Park for so many years.

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 men and women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to www.rcbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more . You might be pleasantly surprised!

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

War Memorial Park,
Basingstoke,
RG21 4AH.

Come and see a huge range of vehicles on static display, including classic, vintage, commercial, fire engines and military trucks.

There will also be a variety of specialist car clubs, trade stalls and catering outlets. Basingstoke Festival of Transport is a great day out for all the family, whether you're a keen motor buff or you just want an interesting and enjoyable Sunday! This event is free of charge. Parking is available at Old Common, London Road for £2. Website details below.

WHAT IS ROTARY

Rotary is about helping communities, both local and internationally through our network of clubs with 1.2 million members in over 200 countries. It is a non-religious and non-political organization comprised of both men and women. There are 77 clubs in our Wessex area which covers most of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, the Channel Islands, and parts of Dorset and Wiltshire, and they do some fantastic work each year. To find out more about Basingstoke Deane Rotary check out the links below.

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Exciting times here at the hall! Great news! After 5 years of fund raising, consultation and planning, our building project will finally start on 11th February!! We are having a new hall built on the area that is currently enclosed with railings, the entrance will be enlarged and fitted with double width automatic doors, a new outdoor enclosed play space with safety flooring. Inside all lights will be replaced with eco friendly LED fittings, all radiators are being replaced, a staircase fitted to better utilise first floor storage, and a new reception. We aim to keep disruption to a minimum. The building will remain open during the project with the main entrance temporarily at the rear of the building. Full plans can be found on our website, and we will post regular updates and photos to our Facebook page too.

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 JANUARY:

- MONDAY:**
 12.30-2.30pm Bingo!
 7.00-8.00pm Yoga with Tory
 7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
 9.30-11.30am Popley Little People
 7.15-10.00pm Bingo (13th November - End March)
 5.15-7.15pm Sama Karate
 9.00 and 11.00am Slimming World with Jo
 11.45am-1.30pm Oasis Lunch club
 5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World with Julia
 9.30-11.30am Community Café
 3.50-6.30pm Dance (15th November - End March)
 7.00-9.00pm 4 Fits Sake
 10.00am-12.00pm NHS Dairy free parents group (Last Friday of the month)
 6.15-9.15pm Friday Youth Club
 9.15am-4.00pm 7th Day Adventist Church
 10am Sabath School - Bible Study
 11.30am Divine Worship
 1pm Free Community Lunch
 Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812
- TUESDAY:**
- WEDNESDAY:**
- THURSDAY:**
- FRIDAY:**
- SATURDAY:**
- SUNDAY:**
 Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.



Everest Community Academy
 To make our best better

Upcoming Dates
 18 February—Year 9 Parents Evening
 25 February—Year 11 Mocks Begin



Winchester University Trip

Some of our students in Year 8 and Year 10 enjoyed a trip to Winchester University, taking part in workshops and developing key skills. Students were given the opportunity to learn about the diverse traditional degrees and apprenticeships available at the university.



Transition

Year 7 so far has been so exciting and I think without this school I wouldn't have succeeded in all my mini assessment tests and long SAs. As soon as I heard that this school was the most improved school, it would be impossible to turn a blind eye. So here I am! Enjoying myself.

P.E for me hasn't always been my strong point, but now at Everest Community Academy I have the option to be able to go to clubs either after school or at lunchtime, which I think is a spectacular idea because one term goes extremely quickly, so when I knew that this was possible, I ran straight to my parents and told them about this exciting news, I have now to practice my football, basketball and my favourite so far...TRAMPOLINING!

CIDA has been amazingly different and beneficial to my brain, because there were keyboard shortcuts (HACKS) that I thought never existed. Also it is great using my own personal computer that I can control and keep my personal data because in my old school, I didn't have the opportunity and freedom to be able to.

To make a different point, homework has been very new to me, but it turns-out that it has been extremely fun. It makes year 7 students feel more confident and know about what projects we're doing such as: asking your friends for their opinion and telling them how they could improve.

By Oliver Green Year 7

Basingstoke Voluntary Action

The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke, RG21 4AF

Help and Advice for Community and Charity Groups in Basingstoke and Deane

For more information contact us via: 01256 423816 or email:

admin@bvaction.org.uk or checkout our website: www.bvaction.org.uk

Also on *Facebook* & *Twitter*

Whether you are a charitable, voluntary or community group looking for [help and advice](#), or a resident wanting information on community services, charities or activities, you can find all the help and advice you need at Basingstoke Voluntary Action. **Working in partnership with the Borough Council our priorities are:**

- **Group Development** – Pro-actively identify needs in the local community and facilitate improvement in service provision to meet those needs. (Policies & Procedures, Finances & Budgeting, DBS Checks, Training and more).
- **Training & Volunteering** – Provide access to training courses and seminars for local voluntary and community organisations (VCO). To support and increase the quality, quantity, impact and accessibility of volunteering locally, including processing Disclosure and Barring Service requirements.
- **Support & Liaison** – Assist local VCO to function more effectively and deliver quality services to their users, members or constituents. To facilitate effective communication, networking and collaboration among local voluntary and community groups.
- **Representation and Strategic Partnership** – Enable the diverse views of the local voluntary and community sector to be represented to external bodies. Facilitating effective working relationships and two-way communication embeds the sector as an integral part of local planning and policy making.

Our comprehensive database and website provides useful guidance and contact information for a wide range of organisations and services to assist groups and individual members of the Basingstoke and Deane Community.

Local Charity and Community Groups in Basingstoke & Deane

BVA work in partnership with a very wide range of Charitable and Voluntary Organisations within Basingstoke & Deane so check out the search option 'Find local organisations' on the home page of our website to see what groups operate within the area and maybe visit one or more to see what's on offer. Additionally, BVA manage a Volunteer Centre Database <https://www.volunteernorthants.org/>, so if you fancy Volunteering some of your time, check it out to see what's on offer. Keep up to date with events taking place and local news also via our website and Facebook page.

Basingstoke & Deane Community Plans

BVA are also working alongside Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council on local Community plans including one for the Popley area. These are to assist residents to enjoy the local environment, become active, empowered and involved, create a place of opportunity, become people friendly with good access and create a clean and safe community. Details of community plans and contacts are available via <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/communityplans>

Dear Friends

In an odd kind of way I rather like the month of February. Yes, it is the shortest month of the year but mostly for me is because it means spring is on the horizon. Already there are signs of spring appearing as the new bulb shoots begin to push through the ground and the buds on the trees begin to thicken. Signs of new growth – in any circumstance or situation - always bring HOPE! The hope of something better to come. In spring it is, perhaps, the hope of warmer weather and lighter evenings. In relationships signs of new growth can mean a more intimate understanding of each other. Even in the economy; signs of new growth can bring hope of stability and prosperity and goodness knows we need that right now with all the stuff about Brexit going on (I'm writing this while the government is debating the PM's Brexit deal!).

St Gabriel's has been growing steadily over the past few years, in number, in fellowship, in family, Spirit and worship – and of course in our buildings! Even so there are many more signs of new growth beginning to show through. I am often surprised at the many different ways in which that growth can be seen. I know the church has an amazing reputation across the community as being open and welcoming to all and of being family friendly; but it isn't just about Sunday!

The church buildings with the new community extensions are very much a focal point for community activity with groups using the hall, Bill Ind Room and David Cockerell Room almost every time and every day of the week. We are also continually looking at ways to serve our community and so we have our two Young Families Workers, Jo and Cath both of whom are reaching out with new initiatives.

One of these is the Hope Café that meets on a Tuesday morning from 10am till 12pm. The Café is there to help break down the barriers of isolation so many young families in our community are caught in. The Café also provides a great cup of barista style coffee – and it is very affordable. This is complemented by Friday morning TAG, a café style toddler group with coffee, play and chat and once a month Messy Church.

I know that St Gabriel's is a very 'hopeful' place and there is a very real sense of anticipation of what God may be calling us to in the year ahead and we would love you to be part of it. So may I invite you to step in and give it a try; come to the Café, to TAG, to Messy Church or even Sunday Mornings at 10.30am – who knows what may transpire!

St Paul wrote: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Whatever your hopes for the coming year may you be richly blessed and see them come to fruition.

With every blessing for the month ahead.

Revd. Arthur

St Gabriel's Church, Popley.

www.stgabrielspopley.net

01256 324734



Probos Hears About NATO

NATO (the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) was founded in 1948 and enlarged in 1949 to a total of 12 countries bordering the North Atlantic. The criterion of NATO membership is that any armed attack on any member country in Europe and North America would constitute an attack on them all.

Member countries assign assets in the form of military hardware and personnel to NATO and are managed in all operational roles by NATO staff.

Probos member and Basingstoke borough councillor Paul Miller outlined his personal involvement in this international defence structure over four decades. As an officer in the RAF and latterly as a civilian he rose within NATO eventually based at their headquarters in Belgium.

Today the membership has grown to 29 countries. Many newer members of NATO were originally eastern bloc countries that formed the basis of the Warsaw Pact organisation set up by Russia.

The Balkans crisis starting in 1989 which included the Bosnian and Kosovo campaigns were only as successful as they were due to the cooperation of the former communist countries of the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary who allowed their airfields to be used by NATO forces. In return they hoped that it would help with their subsequent applications to join the EC.

NATO air forces needed to have surveillance and operational access to this airspace despite tourist planes still flying. It eventually ran an air campaign over 78 days involving 38,000 sorties which allowed in a multinational peacekeeping force which brought an end to ethnic cleansing.

Today NATO has become a Crisis Management organisation as its forces continue to lead the way in Kosovo, Afghanistan, the Mediterranean and several other places including Iraq where it is carrying out training of national forces. NATO is carrying out work on the European migrant crisis and has 20,000 troops in action around Europe and elsewhere.



Age Concern Hampshire has been providing services for older people in the Basingstoke area for nearly 60 years. We are very fortunate to be awarded some grant funding from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to continue and to expand. In order for us to do this, we need some additional volunteers who can commit to a couple of hours per week to support our social groups running in Popley on a Thursday morning, and Oakridge on a Wednesday morning.

Please get in touch with Kirsty on 01256 423874 for a chat and what you might be able to help us with – we would love to hear from you. Our groups really make a difference to those who are socially isolated. There is no personal care involved. Full training and support will be provided.

Check our website to get an overview of the whole organisation: www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk



Millennials – It's Time to Make a Will

It is estimated that only 12% of people aged under 34 have made a Will.

However, many of these so called Millennials, people born between 1981 and 1996, share a property with their partner or are already married. Many will have started a family or are planning to start one.

These life events represent significant changes in their personal lives. Making a Will may be something they have never considered, perhaps because they think this is not something they need to worry about at the moment.

Talking about death can make people feel uncomfortable, but if someone dies without a Will this can cause problems for their loved ones.

A Will is a very important legal document that directs how your 'estate' will be divided. Almost everyone, whatever their age, has their own 'estate'. This can include anything from the house you own, money, shares, cars, jewellery and even furniture. It can also include your digital assets like Facebook and email accounts.

For those with children, making a Will could be one of the most important things you can do to protect their future should the unimaginable happen.

Without a Will, your loved one's financial future could be at risk as the law will decide who gets what. This could mean members of your family could receive less than you or they expected.

For example, if you are unmarried your partner is not automatically entitled to anything as unless you own your assets jointly, they might be disinherited under Intestacy rules. In the worst case scenario this could mean your partner not being able to stay in the family home or not having enough money to bring up your children.

Our Wills and Probate team can help you make the right decisions in relation to your Will, to ensure it reflects your wishes and provides appropriately for those you care about most.

For more information call Caroline Wallis on 01256 854637 or email caroline.wallis@phillips-law.co.uk

For more information about our services please visit www.phillips-law.co.uk/wills-probate





Lions Club of Basingstoke

I was boring the pants off my Peruvian/Scottish/New Zealander eldest son by moaning about my total lack of success when trying to recruit you, dear reader, to our Club. His advice (always sound) was to take a leaf out of the standard Sales and Marketing Techniques manual viz. "Sell them a lie to get them to buy!"

So, as being boringly truthful hasn't worked, let's see how you respond to something a little more imaginative.

Of course, the real reason we have such a high attendance rate at our business meetings isn't at all to do with enjoying each other's company. It's to do with alternating performances by Eastern Natch Dancers and Australian Male Strippers. This combination seems to find favour with all persuasions.

And, of course, the monthly dinner meetings are just another excuse for drunken debauchery. Roman bacchanalia are child's play compared with what our Dinner Secretary manages to dream up – larks' tongues and badgers ear lobes served in a garlic and aspidistra sauce is a firm favourite with real spotted dick to follow and all washed down with a mead-e-ochre ale.

And then, of course, we have our fundraising ventures. Alas, the use of public stocks to punish backsliders is no longer allowed. Our version of it, the Lions' Den, while seemingly innocuous, has on occasion proved fatal when a golf ball hit with excessive force has lodged in the gullet of the miscreant pinned down behind the Lion's mouth. And our musical entertainments are often quite reminiscent of Robert Burns famous "Tam o Shanter". You know, the bit where Tam is overcome by lust at the sight of the semi-naked cavortings of the witches coven and calls out "Weel done, Cutty-sark!" and is then pursued by the coven for his pains.

Yes, it's a great life in the Lions. But you must demonstrate a real talent for mischief to be accepted!

Of course, by the time you read this, the season of goodwill to multinational shareholders will be well and truly over and you will have sunk into the prolonged hangover engendered by your Christmas credit card bill. Serves you right! Intelligent people do not continually repeat their mistakes. But, I ask you, what will you be doing in eleven months time?

Instead, join us and we'll make sure you don't have the time to engage in this "shopping" nonsense, and your credit card balance will be the best present you've ever had!

The foregoing has been written with absolutely no regard whatsoever for the high ethical and moral standards espoused by the Advertising Standards Authority.

Philip Wilson

Website: www.basingstokelions.org.uk/



Under 8s are happy to be back, and what a great fixture to return from Christmas with; a Popley derby where friends met friends. A great football spectacle from all involved and a brilliant standard for all supporters to admire. Jamie T scoring 5 goals was a stand out performer for MFC.

Under 10s have enjoyed getting back to football after the Christmas break. The games have been competitive and enthusiastically contested, and the players continue to progress and develop all elements of their game. Looking forward to a good run of games during the winter period now as we prepare for the spring cup competition. Thanks to the players and parents for their continued participation, and special thanks to sponsor Nick Groves at **Groveswood Machines Ltd** for their generous support.

Under 13s were still suffering from all the turkey sandwiches consumed over the festive period and in our first fixture of 2019 we lost 3-1. It was just great to see so many shiny new boots and so many happy faces.

Under 14s Predators - Fought out a 0-0 with old friends from Headley Youth in our final fixture of 2018 before welcoming even older friends in Yateley Utd as our first fixture in 2019. Our Predators were left with a depleted squad with a number of absentees but managed to hold out a very good Yateley squad at 1-1 until injuries took their toll with us going down 3-1 with no fit subs left to relieve the players on the pitch.

Chairman's Mention - Congratulations to our U16s who competed in their 3rd Hampshire Cup Semi-Final in a row v Basingstoke Town on Saturday 12th January. 3rd time proved more successful with them becoming the first MFC Team to make the final by securing a 2-1 victory over a very competent opponent. Well done and good luck in the final.

Zak Collingwood

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Email library@hants.gov.uk telephone 0300 555 1387

An online form is also available from our website, search Hampshire Home Library Service.