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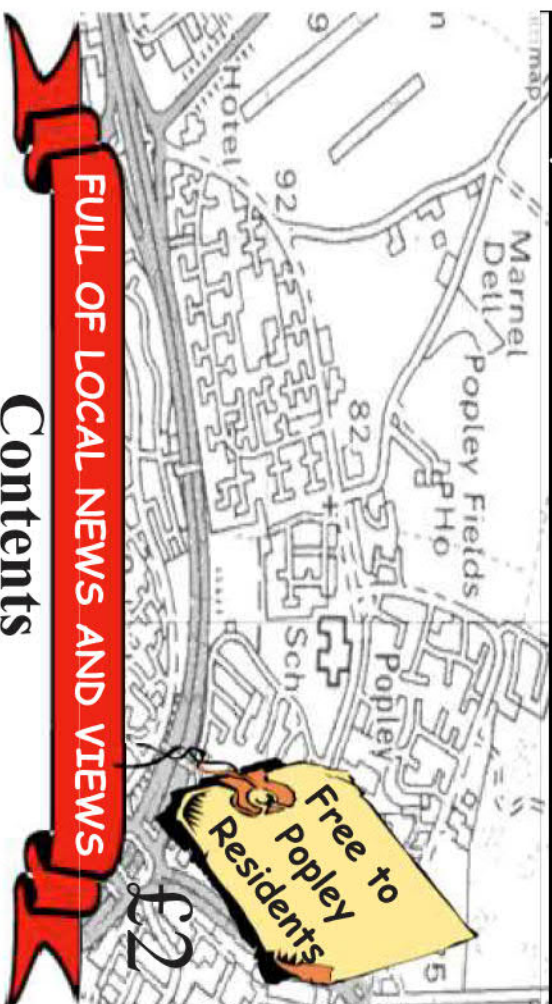
POPPLY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

July 2019

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 209



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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-7-19) editor@poppleymatters.org.uk



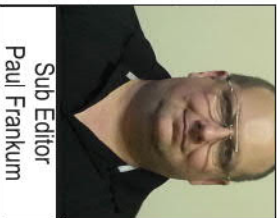
Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: We are now in the "holiday period" and lots of readers will be going on holidays, though many are not be able to go away. Please be aware of children out playing and think when you park your car. Yes I know most will park in allocated parking spaces but there are still those who park across the pathways and dropped kerbs, also in places where it is impossible to be able to see around whether they are a pedestrian or driver. Please also the few who do not poop scoop after their dogs, families use the parks more and they are there for everyone to share. There are litter bins to put your rubbish and mess in but if they are full, take your litter home and dispose of it there.

We hope you enjoy reading your Popley Matters and find it informative. We are always happy to hear from our readers about the clubs they go to or volunteer with.

I was saddened to hear about the break-in and burglary at St Gabriel's Church and that some very important records were destroyed and property damaged, perhaps we can show support by going to the St Gabriel's Summer Fayre; details on page 1. I am concerned, as we all are, about road safety so there is an article on page 13 and hopefully a more targeted article in next month's issue. After residents and Councillors complaining bitterly about the poor service received with our waste collections the council have given notice about changes of rounds and this may change the day or time of your collection. It starts on 22nd July but there are no specific details yet just that residents will get a letter advising of the new times. There is a contact address on page 18 that you will be able to check on the Basingstoke and Deane Council website for the changes that may affect you.

We are still looking for volunteers to deliver your Popley Matters if you can help please contact me details below. Popley Islands in Aspire area and people to cover for our present deliverers when they are on holiday are key. 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.

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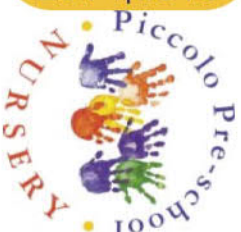
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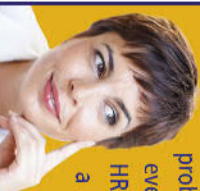
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THE HALL HAS NOW RE-OPENED AFTER A FULL REFIT AND IT LOOKS FANTASTIC. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME TO OUR OPEN DAY OF WHICH THE DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN NEXT MONTHS ISSUE.

WE HAVE THE POPLEY EXPLORERS PRE-SCHOOL HERE MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8.30AM TO 3PM (for further details-contact ELAINE ON 363156)

MONDAY CMA KICK BOXING FROM 6.30PM TO 8PM

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

WEDNESDAY 6.15PM TO 7.15PM LOU BEDFORD YOGA CLASSES FOR DETAILS RING LOU ON 07753109222 OR GO ONLINE AT WWW.LOUBEDFORDYOGA.CO.UK.

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Chineham Library

It's amazing to think that another Summer Reading Challenge is almost upon us. This year's challenge is called Space Chase and runs from 13th July – 14th September. Do encourage your children aged from 4 – 11 to sign up and read six books in order to earn their medals and certificates. In addition, there will be free space-themed crafts on offer every Wednesday from 10am – 2pm, starting from 24th July. There will also be competitions to enter with exciting prizes such as vouchers for local play centres.

Rhythmes run as usual, with under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. There will be a craft session on Saturday 6th from 10am–12pm, and storytimes all the other weeks at 11am. The children's Chatterbooks group meets on 18th July at 3.45pm. Stay and Play finishes for the Summer on 10th July. Age Concern also break up for the Summer, for details and to book sessions please contact their office on: 01256 423874.

All the adult groups meet as usual, with the Crime reading group on the 20th July, and the General reading group on 27th, both at 10.30am. The Writing group meets on 11th July at 5.30pm, and the new Cuppa and Chat social group for seniors on 3rd and 17th July at 10am. New members are very welcome at the groups.

We are due to hold another of our popular events for children on 22nd August, when there is a Slime Lab workshop at 3pm. Adults are required to stay in the library while children enjoy the opportunity to play with slime! Tickets costing £3 are available from the library or online. Further events may be scheduled for the summer, so please check in the library and on social media for up-to date information. **Cathy Foster**

St Gabriel's

SUMMER

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This month the team was out in force - we had at least ten people on the Friday evening setting bottle traps and and double that up and out at 8am the next morning to see what had been safely caught. We had a couple of trained experts on the scene to ensure the Newts were handled correctly, our Alan being the main man. The great crested newts are a protected species as they are rare, and should only ever be handled by trained experts - any questions please ask. It's also an offence to disturb the GCN habitat, so please bear that in mind as you're enjoying our open spaces during the spring / summer months.

Luckily we found all 3 types of newt species we know to be present in our ponds. It was a close one though with the GCN not being present until the very last trap was checked! There are lots of great photos on our Facebook page.

The next event in our diaries is the Love Parks week on the 12th- 21st July! There are tons of events happening around Basingstoke, most are free but some you will need to book and pay for but on the whole the programme looks excellent for all types of people and groups - pop over the www.basingstoke.gov.uk/loveparks for details. Activities include toddler walks at Eastrop, Poochsticks at The Wyne, Insect identification at Down Grange and Bat walks at Basing Wood - I'm sure you might see some of us floating around at different activities during the time.

As usual, if anyone has any questions, queries or feedback, pop on over to our Facebook page - Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers, or email us at Popleyponds@gmail.com

MHA (Methodist Homes for the Aged)

Well we have been busy in the Methodist Home for the Aged charity office arranging day trips galore for our members. Thursday was our annual trip to Bournemouth seaside - it was a cold and damp day but that didn't dampen our spirits one little bit. We all had so much fun and laughter all day. We all enjoyed a fish and chip lunch in Harry Ramsden's restaurant followed by a visit to the pub, which always goes down well.

A date for you to put your diary for August; we will be having a wine tasting fundraiser at St Gabriel's Church on Thursday 29th August; more details to be published nearer the time

We at MHA predominately live at home and our aim is to provide exciting and different activities for the over 60s in Basingstoke and East Hampshire helping to alleviate isolation within the older community. If you know of a neighbour or family member that would like to join us on any of our activities or could use a befriending service, then please contact Francesca Willdash at francesca.wildash@mha.org.uk or telephone myself or Claire on 01256 346022.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the befriending service and joining us on activities and our lunch clubs and day trips.

Many thanks
Francesca Willdash

County Councillor Report : The planning application for the new special school Austen Academy for 125 children with complex needs is going to be reviewed and if all is well it will be built starting at the end of this year ready to open in the spring of 2021. I have seen all the plans and drawings and it looks very impressive.

Soon it will be the school summer holidays and I have spoken to the officers for safer journeys to school and they have invited all the school Yrs 6 and 8 to a special show at The Anvil where they will be talking to the students. I have asked for the list of schools that have not responded as I think it is really important that we teach children road sense. I have also invited them to write an article for the August issue in time for the start of the new term.

Hampshire County Council have started a public consultation inviting residents to suggest ideas on how they, the council, should or could balance their budget. <http://www.hants.gov.uk/balancingthebudget> closing date is 17th July. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

Popley West: After many complaints about the poor bin collection and bins constantly being left unemptied the council has reviewed the rounds and from 22nd July your bins may be collected at a different time or day. Once we have the details we hope to put them in the next Popley Matters. In the meantime the council should be contacting all residents in time for them to put their bins out for the rubbish to be collected.

The consultation on extending some double yellow lines in Marnel Park finished on 1st June. There were over fifty responses and the officer is going through them and he says it will take some time as he wants to be sure he gets it right on what the residents want. Once he has sorted them he will consult with Paul and me and present the report to the cabinet member who has the final say.

At long last some new parking spaces have reached the top of the list and there will be new spaces created in between 253 to 282 Abbey Road. Others that are on the list will slowly rise to the top.

Paul and I have been doing our walkabouts and have reported some more damaged street signs, and broken walls with loose bricks. Some are Hampshire County Council some Vivid and some are the responsibility of the developer as the roads have not been adopted.

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

Popley East: During a storm in the winter of 2017/18 a large tree in Shakespeare Road fell down. Urgent action was required to remove it but the stump has remained ever since. Residents have asked us why it's still there and we've taken it forward with a request that it now be ground out and the grass reinstated, however, this has not proven to be as straightforward as first thought. As can often be the case in locations where the trees have grown substantially over the years they can sometimes interfere with services and cabling, as has found to be the case here. Having now established ownership of the services, arrangements are being made for the company and the tree surgeons to work together to ensure the safe removal without disrupting any services.

We've written before of our concerns raised by residents about drivers undertaking dangerous u-turns at the junction of Popley Way and the Reading Road. We all agree that the road design when the Dunelm and Lidl complex was developed could have been better but it's now established and won't be changed so we have been pushing for measures to be taken to help prevent these manoeuvres. A series of barriers has now been installed and we have also asked for appropriate No U-Turn signage to be added.

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

Basingstoke Deane
Rotary



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CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts:-
helen@hampathway.co.uk

or
Paul Temple:-
tempau45@gmail.com

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Christmas is a long way off!
'Spread a little happiness this Christmas'



Get involved
It's surprising but there are still children who live in poverty and rarely get presents even at Christmas. For many years Rotary's Shoebox scheme has given a little happiness to some of these children, with your help we spread that happiness even further.

Last year Rotary Wessex (Hampshire and east Dorset) distributed over 22,000 shoeboxes to children in Montenegro, Moldova and Albania and to make sure they don't go astray Rotarians supervise the whole process including volunteers going to the countries to make sure the boxes get to the children.

Remember that recipients will be opening the box in eager anticipation of finding it full of toys and useful items, possibly the first gifts they have received. We have been told by recipients of shoeboxes, who have now grown up, of the excitement with which they were opened and what treasured memories they have of that special gift.

Christmas is a long way off but for Rotary to plan ahead we need to let you know about what can be put in the shoeboxes so you can start collecting items to include, one item a week will fill your box:

- Playing** - ball, skipping rope, small games, cards, dominoes, harmonicas/recorders, cars, small toys, Cuddly toy
- Washing** - soap, toothbrush
- Writing** - pens, pencils, sharpener, notebook, colouring book, puzzle book
- Wearing** - hat, gloves, scarf, socks, hair accessories, jewellery (items need to be new or in good/as new condition)

Collect for either boys or girls, ages 1-3, 4-7, 8-11, 12-15

Get your workplace, church, club, your school, Scout, Cub, Brownie & Guide groups, your children, grandchildren or just you involved, start planning now so we can make this Christmas special for these children. Please also attach £1 coin to each box for transport cost.

For more information, check out our facebook



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.rctbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more. You might be pleasantly surprised!

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We are now almost at the finish line with the building and refurbishments! The new hall is looking great and bookings are coming in fast. We will be holding a grand opening party in September; watch this space for more details.

We are looking at the viability of providing an after school club; would you be interested in using this service? Please let us know, either via the poll on our facebook page, by e-mail or telephone.

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

WHATS ON IN JUNE:

- MONDAY:** 12.30-2.30pm Bingoli
7.00-8.00pm Yoga with Tony
8.00-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
9.30-11.30am Popley Little People
- TUESDAY:** 9.00 and 11.00am Slimming World with Jo H
- WEDNESDAY:** 5.00 and 7.00pm Slimming World with Jo E
- THURSDAY:** 9.30-11.30am Community Cafe
7.00-9.00pm 4 Fits Sake
- FRIDAY:** 11.45am-1.30pm Oasis Lunch Club
10.00am-12.00pm NHS Dairy free parents' group (Last Friday of the month)
Friday Youth Club
- SATURDAY:** 6.15-9.15pm 7TH Day Adventist Church
9.15am-4.00pm Sabbath School - Bible Study
10am Divine Worship
11.30am Free Community Lunch
1pm Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812
- SUNDAY:** 10.30am Morning Service
6pm Evening Service
Melrose Christian Fellowship - Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351

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Basingstoke Air Scouts

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 Beaver Leader Mandy Pain 07508 204098
 Cub Leader Douglas Gowan 01256 412326
 Scout Leader Kevin Pocock 07717 108560

On Tuesday 18th June the Cubs had a chance to visit the new Basingstoke Police Investigation Centre in Jays Close.

The visit started with PC Sarah Lawdon taking the Cubs through the different equipment a Police Officer carries and when and how it's used. This included one of the Cubs being used to demonstrate the different ways they can handcuff somebody and in what circumstances they use each method.

Sarah went on to talk about how her Police radio works. She explained that if she pushes the red panic button everyone will come running and that she has a limited amount of time to give a precise as possible location, so they know where to go to find her.

From here we went outside to have a look round one of the Police vans, with the warning "DO NOT PUSH THE RED BUTTON". The Cubs also had the opportunity to be "locked" in the back, which for some reason they all thought was great fun. As Sarah parked the van, much to the delight of the Cubs she put on the lights and sirens.

The next part of the visit, was a visit to the cells. On previous visits to the old Police Station it had not been possible to get there due to area being too busy to get the Cubs to, but this time the Duty Custody Sergeant was able to get the Cubs to one of the Cell areas and to talk to the Cubs about what happens when someone is brought in. Again they were given the opportunity to be shut in the Cells.

The evening ended with Sarah asking the Cubs what other things the Police did and some of our Cubs came up with answers that hadn't been mentioned before by previous groups when they have visited

Douglas Gowan
Assistant Group Scout Leader

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.



Day	Time	Activity
Monday	9-12am	10.30 to 11.30 - Polish toddler club class 11.00 to 12.00 - Over 50s exercise class
Tuesday	12-3pm	1.45 to 4.00 - Parkinson's group (1st Tuesday of the month) 5.45 to 9.00 - Poppies School of Dance
Wednesday	3-6pm	2.00 to 4.00 - Tai Chi class 11.15 to 12.15 - Breathe easy exercise class 7.30 to 9.30 - Sing Now choir 7.30 to 9.00 - NTCOG prayer meeting
Thursday	6-11pm	9.30 to 11.00 - Thursday Tots 10.30 to 11.30 - Tots play 10.00 to 1.00 - Embroiders Guild sewing (last Thursday of month) 1.00 to 4.00 - Embroiders Guild meeting (last Thursday of the month) 5.45 to 7.15 - Youth club 8 to 10's 7.30 to 8.00 - Funk n Twist fitness
Friday		10.30 to 11.30 - Messy Monkey Makers
Saturday		10.00 to 12.00 - Poppies School of Dance Available for private functions from 12.30
Sunday		10.30 to 12.00 - New Testament Church 10.00 to 11.00 - Messy Monkey makers 2.30 to 4.00 - RCCG Rehoboth Chapel Church Available for private functions all day
Mon-Fri		Treasure Island Play school 9.15 - 3.15 Community Cafe 10.00 - 2.00

Please contact us at office@popleyfields.org.uk or tel: 01256 41494
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What's on at Popley Fields Community Centre





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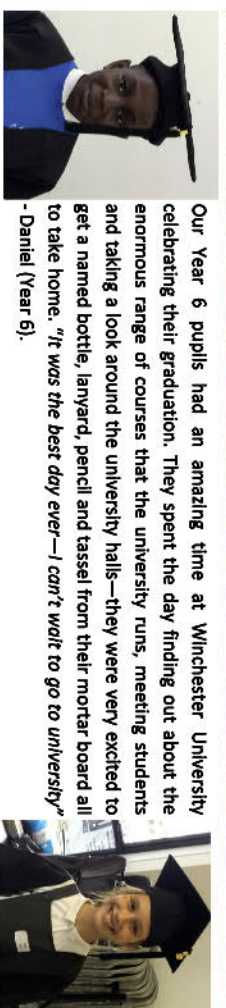
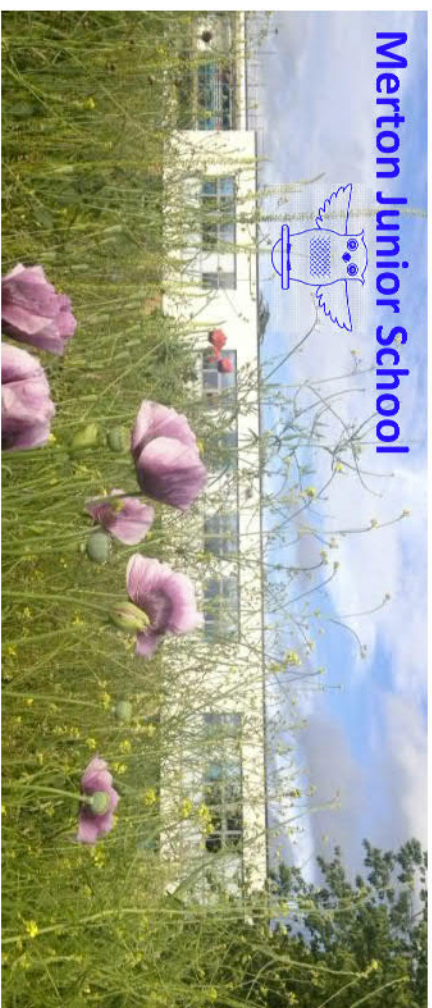
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Merton Junior School



Our Year 6 pupils had an amazing time at Winchester University celebrating their graduation. They spent the day finding out about the enormous range of courses that the university runs, meeting students and taking a look around the university halls—they were very excited to get a named bottle, lanyard, pencil and tassel from their mortar board all to take home. "It was the best day ever—I can't wait to go to university!"
- Daniel (Year 6).



Well done to all of our Year 3 pupils for producing some phenomenal Stone Age huts—we are incredibly impressed with the high standard and the creativity—great work!



Our Year 4 pupils overcame their fears when Zoziab came to visit – they held or stroked an African Land Snail, a millipede, a tarantula, a scorpion and a corn snake!



If you are looking for a Year 3 place for September 2020 then come and visit us on 9th October 2019 – Between 2pm-3pm or 6pm-7pm.



Romsey Close, Poppley, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9HB
admin.office@merton-jun.hants.sch.uk (01256)
326573



Popley Explorers

Come to Popley Explorers, we offer a range of stimulating activities tailored to your children's needs to help them on their journey to 'Big School'. Your child will be provided with the opportunities to help them thrive, develop and grow into a confident child ready to take on the world. We will ensure they meet their personalised targets in our safe and friendly environment and our helpful and friendly staff will be right there along side you to celebrate every achievement.

01256 973125 popley.explorers@hotmail.co.uk

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Over 55s Forum

The Forum is still getting people wishing to join the Forum every week. I am not sure if the general public realise our Forum represents ALL Over 55s in the Borough, not just our members. So if you are over 55 and have issues that affect you we are here to help you when we can.

At our Open Forum meeting on 12th June our guest speakers were Michael Ullman from the Forestry England (new Name) and Roger Cansdale from the Basingstoke Canal Society. Also Nicola Searle from the Basingstoke Sports Centre talked about "Walking Netball", great fun apparently!

Speakers for our Open Forum meeting on 14th August will be Bonny Sartin. Bonny was a member of the well-known Somerset "Yetties" folk group. Bonny tells us he has 13 different and fascinating topics to select from. There will also be a representative to talk about The Dogs Trust.

Our 2019 ever popular annual Variety Show will be held on Saturday 28th September at Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke - 2pm to 5pm. This exciting event will be compered by Christopher Gee, he is also a very good comedian and Impressionist. We are lucky enough to have Will Chandler who does an amazing Cliff Richards tribute act ("he looks like Cliff)- Will has performed and spoken to Cliff and Cliff remarked that he was impressed and rated Will highly. Another sensational quality act will be the multi award winning group The Boyle O'Dowda Irish Dancers. Tea and cakes will be provided in the interval. We have again kept the price per ticket to only £6.00.

Tickets on sale at Newbury Building Society and others to be announced.

Other trips and events;

18th September a day trip to "Stow-on-the-Wold" with a steam train ride from Broadway to Cheltenham. Price for non-members £28.50

16th and 23rd October "Afternoon at the Pictures" at Wantage – on 16th the film will be "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and on 23rd it will be "Singing in the Rain". Also provided will be a 3 course meal, popcorn and Prosecco. Please note there are 25 steps into the theatre. Price for .on members £40.00.

Our November trip is to Kew Gardens with an evening Laser Show. Details are to be decided and we will put them in Popley Matters once it is all finalised. The wonderful Christmas Carols Event on 22nd December is at the astounding Royal Albert Hall, in London, tickets at only £42.00 – plus coach cost, to be paid by November at £17.00.

If you wish to join us on any of these trips, please contact Gerald on 07792535116 or gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com.

Supporting local families in Popley

Mothers' Union is really excited about their new Child Contact Centre at St Gabriel's Church Hall in Popley which opened on 1st June. Many children lose contact with one of their parents when the relationship between partners breaks down, and this can lead to distress for the children and sometimes behavioural issues. Our Contact Centres supports for these families by providing a safe and welcoming place for the non-resident parents to spend time with their children.

We already run a Contact Centre in the URC in London Street on two Sundays a month, and the new Centre in Popley will run on two Saturdays each month and will provide additional opportunities for parents to meet and play with their children. It is really heart-warming to see children come out of their shells and build loving relationships with their non-resident parent. In most cases attending a Contact Centre has enabled the parents to learn to trust each other and to move onto less formal access arrangements. Both of these Centres are run by trained volunteers who make sure that the children and parents can make the most of each two-hour session, while at the same time providing reassurance for the children's main carers who are not present at the sessions.

If you want to find out more about Child Contact Centres, then you can visit the website for the National Association of Child Contact Centres nacc.org.uk. To find out more about the Mothers' Union in this area, please contact Sue Murphy on secretary@mmwlinchester.org.uk or 07514 024157.

Basingstoke Male Voice Choir Concert in Aid of Alzheimer's Society

Most of us have heard about the benefit that music can bring to dementia sufferers and some of you may have seen the recent TV documentary 'Dementia Choir'. As a result BMVC have decided to donate the proceeds from their Summer Concert to Alzheimer's Society in support of dementia sufferers locally.

The concert will take place at the United Reformed Church, London Street on Friday 5th July at 7:30pm.

This is a great opportunity to see the Basingstoke Male Voice Choir in action and also to support a great charity locally. The choir will be aided by a guest performance from Sound Company – a vocal group from Farnham. The concert will also feature some great new songs which should give a more contemporary feel to the performance

Entrance to the concert is priced at £10 and tickets can be reserved by sending an email to Basingstokemvc@outlook.com or at the door. Please come and help us donate a huge amount to charity.



My name is Sarah. I am 35 years old and am currently building my PT business having moved to Basingstoke in December 2018. My husband and I built our gym in our garage to allow me to have a PT studio and really allow clients to be focused without having to worry about being in front of other gym goers and feel self-conscious. We are also lucky enough to live close to woodland and big fields so that the cardio sessions can be taken outside in the great outdoors. I qualified as a PT 2 years ago having decided that I didn't want to work in a corporate office environment any more. I have always been very aware of health and fitness. I trained for 2 years to join the military some years back, but sadly my medical history would not allow me to join. I have an issue with my foot that cannot be fixed completely, and in the past have broken my back in 3 places from a former life as a head groom at a livery yard. Throughout these injuries I have always kept moving, and even competed at a low level of CrossFit. Whether this was out of pure determination to stay in shape or just bloody mindedness because I was told that I wouldn't be able to do these things, I'm not sure.

I am currently in the process of starting some boot camp classes in the Spiers Meadow development to bring people together for some fun sessions which will challenge them physically, but also build their confidence and bring about all of the positive things that exercise has to offer. It is also a great way to bring a community together and build new friendships. I have also started a closed group on Facebook for the attendees to chat and discuss things together, photos can be added and they can discuss what they want to see at future sessions etc.

I would also love to get the group to enter races and really challenge themselves going forward, Exercise is addictive and once a seed is planted, I am hoping that people will really make it a big part of their lives and make healthy positive changes.

I am really excited to get these classes started from 3rd July 2019, and hope to add more classes should it become popular, I hope to see you there.

Instagram: [@strive4healthandfitness](https://www.instagram.com/strive4healthandfitness)

Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/strive4healthandfitness>

Email: strive4healthandfitnessuk@gmail.com



Phillips
SOLICITORS

Stressful summers can drive divorce

Divorce can come about at any time but often we see a slight spike in enquiries after the summer holidays.

While most couples and families will enjoy the summer break, 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.

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.

At Phillips, our Family Law team are on hand to give advice that you can trust, particularly when it comes to your children, home and sorting out your finances.

We will listen to your concerns and discuss your options, letting you know what your rights are, as well as those of your former partner.

Our objective is to help you as quickly and effectively as possible with the best outcomes for you and your family.

Whatever the issues you face we can help you and your family find a way forward.

To find out more about our Divorce or Separation

Legal Services or to arrange a meeting with one of our divorce solicitors, call Hayley Eachus on 01256 854633 or email hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk

More information about our wide range of legal

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Basingstoke and Deane

Changes to Council's Bin Collections

Rubbish, recycling and garden waste collections in Basingstoke and Deane are set to change as part of a move to improve bin collection routes

to make them more efficient and environmentally friendly. Working with Serco, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is changing waste, recycling and garden waste collections to reduce the distances bin trucks are travelling, revise the routes to incorporate new homes in the area and simplify collections for some residents so their glass and recycling is collected on the same day.

The changes will be introduced from Monday 22 July and will mean that over half of Basingstoke and Deane's homes will see a change to the day or week their waste and recycling is collected. Nearly all of the garden waste customers across the borough will be affected. Those residents remaining on the same collection day may have a change to their collection time, therefore bins need to be put out by 7am.

The waste bins will continue to be collected weekly and recycling and glass collections will remain a fortnightly service. Those people signed up to the garden waste service will continue to have their bins and bags collected every two weeks.

The council will send a leaflet to all Basingstoke and Deane residents in early July to advise of any changes to their existing waste and recycling service. Garden waste customers will receive a separate leaflet.

Information on the new collections will also be available on the council's website www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bin-changes from Monday 1 July. Updates will also be provided on its social media channels.

The borough council's Cabinet Member for Environment and Enforcement Cllr Hayley Eachus said: "Working with our contractor Serco we have been looking at how we can improve the efficiency of the bin collection routes, simplify collections for some of our residents and ensure we are prepared for new homes in the borough.

"By revising the routes our bin trucks currently take and changing the days or weeks some residents receive their collections, we can achieve all of these benefits while also retaining a weekly waste and fortnightly recycling collection."

Cllr Eachus added: "I appreciate these changes may be confusing at first as we are all in the habit of putting our bins out on a certain day, but we will do everything we can to minimise the impact of these changes and keep residents informed."

Serco's Transformation Director Duncan Hadland said: "These changes will also ensure that the workload is more equally spread across all of the crews, who have been fully involved in the process. Their local knowledge has been invaluable with the fine-tuning of the rounds and I would like to thank them for all of their help and support."

For more information about bin changes in Basingstoke and Deane please visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/bin-changes

Bobby Scheme Offers Home Safety Advice

The Bobby Scheme is a free practical service providing reassurance and a sense of security to vulnerable people in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight within their own home.

The scheme aims to bring peace of mind and reduce the fear of crime, particularly for elderly people and victims of burglary and domestic abuse. It is the charitable arm of the Blue Lamp Trust and is supported by Hampshire Constabulary and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service.

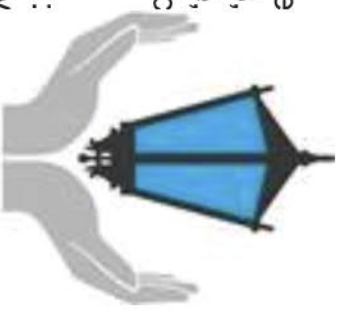
How does it work?

A full crime prevention and fire safety survey is carried out by one of the scheme's trained, police-vetted fitters. They will provide both general and specific crime and fire prevention advice to improve home safety.

When appropriate, they will fit such items as locks, spy-holes, door chains and smoke alarms. This service is completely free. The Blue Lamp Trust can supply and fit police approved key safes for a small donation. The Blue Lamp Trust also gives talks at community groups to offer advice about home crime and fire prevention.

Since the Bobby Scheme started in 1998, more than 17,500 homes have been visited. In 2018, the scheme helped over 1600 vulnerable people, 175 burglary victims and 355 victims of domestic abuse.

For more information please visit: www.bluelamptrust.org.uk or contact the Bobby Scheme directly on Tel: 0300 777 0157 / e-mail: bobby@bluelamptrust.org.uk



**THE BLUE
LAMP TRUST**

The sun is shining (most of the time) and we are now into our summer programme.

During the summer months we change our regular lessons and concentrate on enjoying the summer. The staff have been planning and creating new and exciting activities which now run the whole duration of BB evening. The young people have so far been getting to grips with Ultimate Frisbee (any game with the word *ultimate* in it is always a winner) as well as enjoying classic games like rounders, cricket and football.

As part of the nationwide campaign, **Raise The Bar**, we are continuing to work on increasing our numbers in all 3 of our sections. Our aim is to get way above the average number of young people in a section, which is 11, so we are not that far off but we want to exceed that. If you would like to come along or you know someone who would like to join our friendly and fun group check out 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**.



MFC Popley All Stars - Spaces have become available to join our group. If your child is in Year R (currently) and wants to join a fun, safe and enjoyable football team, please contact us on: Allstars@mtfcpopleyyouth.co.uk.

Under 8s have performed superbly in all their tournaments. Winning tournaments at Oakley and Andover, then getting to the semi final at Tadley. Can they make it a hat trick of trophies at Westwood?

We are looking for new players to join next season's Under 8 squad (school Year 4 in September). If interested please contact the club at committee@mtfcpopleyyouth.co.uk.

Under 11s have had ups and downs in their first 3 tournaments, losing in the 1/4 final, semi final and group stages.

Hopefully one of the next 3 will produce a trophy or, who knows, two!

Under 13s have gone out with a bang, showing how good they are at the recent Oakley Tournament with an impressive 2nd place in a very difficult group of teams. Good luck to all for the future.

Zak Collingwood

Dear Friends

I was sitting in the pub with a mate of mine having a pint and our conversation went something like this:

"So when are you coming to church then?"

"Well" says he, "I believe in God an' all that - but church? Nah, it's not for me. Besides, you don't have to go to church to be a Christian do you!"

"Fair comment" I say, "except ... have you ever seen a brick lying by the side of the road?"

He looked at me with a puzzled expression on his face, so I continued.

"We've all seen the odd stray brick lying around and a brick on its own is just a brick. It will never be anything else except a brick! But a brick that's part of a wall can rise up to become a home, or a cathedral, a palace or a kingdom. A brick left lying by the road usually ends up getting crushed to dust!"

"Hmn," he said, thoughtfully, sipping at his pint. "I get your point - but church? Well, it's all a bit naff isn't it? I mean, singing all those boring hymns an' stuff".

I laughed and said "So when was the last time you went to church then?"

"God!" he says "I haven't been since I was a nipper. Mind you it was a bit different then. We used to do loads of good stuff - and it was fun!"

"So what's changed?" I asked him.

"Dunno!" he says looking down into his pint.

So I said: "Did you know that in the Bible Peter describes us as 'living stones being built into a spiritual house?' Church is where you find family and friends; someone to share the good stuff with and find support when the going's tough. A bit like all your family going round to your Dad's place on a Saturday afternoon for tea."

"Yeah!" he said "we still do that, and I wouldn't miss it. It's always cool to meet up with the family and catch up!"

"And that's what church's like" I said.

"Hmn," he said again, "okay, I might give it a go. But what if I don't know anyone?"

"You know me" I said "and you know God, so that's a good start and you might just be surprised who else is there. Don't come to church expecting everyone to be perfect! We're just ordinary people. You know what families can be like."

"Tell me about it" he says! "Alright then, I'll give it a go, can't do any harm can it. Who knows, I might even like it! So then - your round is it?"

Sound familiar? You know, I have this conversation so often and yet I still come across so many stray 'spiritual' bricks lying by the side of life's road just wanting and waiting to be part of something bigger than themselves. God is really into long term relationships, but that relationship will struggle to blossom unless it's within His family.

So if you think you might be something of a brick (I mean that in the nicest possible way) why not come along to St Gabriel's on a Sunday morning at 10.30am and see what it's like to be part of God's family - who knows, you may become part of a great building! Go on, give it a go! You know you want to!

God's Blessing for a warm and peaceful summer break.

Rewd. Arthur

St Gabriel's Church, Popley

www.stgabrielspopley.net

01256 324734

Basingstoke Discovery Centre

Castles, Knights and Princesses Drama, Dance and Singing Workshop

Thursday 25 July :10.30 am-11am & 11.15-11.45am/ £2

A thrilling adventure to recover the Sword in the Stone from the wicked Morgan Le Fay. Meet Queen Guinevere and Sir Lancelot before celebrating around the Round Table!

Aimed at ages 4-8 years.

Tickets available from Basingstoke Discovery Centre, through the booking line on 01256 478670 or online at www.hants.gov.uk/shop



PERFORM
WICKET BALL CLUB PARTNERS

Slime Lab

Wednesday 31 July 1pm/ £6

Another session to come along and get slimy with Slime Lab UK Basingstoke! We have been dabbling in slime for a while and the time has finally come to offer our Slime making workshops to you.

Aimed at (but not exclusive to) children ages 5-10 years old. Your Slime fanatics will spend 60 - 90 minutes creating one to two different slime pots, experimenting with slime handling, join our Slime stretching competition and hang out with some new pals!

We will provide an apron and wipes but please try and remind your children to wear old clothes and tie up long hair.

Tickets available from Basingstoke Discovery Centre, through the booking line on 01256 478670 or online at www.hants.gov.uk/shop



The Reading Agency and Learning Process

Summer Reading Challenge 2019

Summer Reading Challenge 2019!

Saturday 13 July – Saturday 13th September

The Summer Reading Challenge 2019 theme is **Space Chase**, an out-of-this-world adventure inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Children taking part in the Challenge will join our super space family, The Rockets, for a thrilling mission to track down books nabbed by mischievous aliens!

Children can read whatever they like - fiction, fact books, poetry, joke books, picture books, audio books - just as long as they are borrowed from the library.

Children receive special rewards each time they finish a book and there's a certificate for everyone who completes the Challenge.

The Summer Reading Challenge is open to all primary school aged children and is designed for all reading abilities. **Schools** work with local **libraries** and give out information to encourage children to take part, and most libraries run Summer Reading Challenge linked early years activity for pre-schoolers.

Throughout the Summer Reading Challenge, library staff and **teenage** and adult volunteers support children, helping them to discover new authors and explore a wide range of different types of books.

Road Safety Education Programmes

The Road Safety Team at Hampshire County Council run various schemes for Primary and Secondary aged children to teach them about the dangers of the road as a pedestrian, cyclist or vehicle occupant. See below for more details:

Streets Ahead Pedestrian Training - The Streets Ahead Pedestrian Training scheme is aimed at Year Two children and is led by volunteers from each school. The course involves three practical sessions, which include using the Green Cross Code, what to wear and how to behave, keeping safe on the pavements as well as finding the safest route. We currently have 2,500 children taking part in the scheme.

Junior Road Safety Officer scheme - The Junior Road Safety Officer (JRSO) scheme involves one Year Five and one Year Six pupil becoming JRSOs. They teach their peers about road safety through assemblies, having their own notice board and running competitions. The JRSOs are trained at two annual events led by the Road Safety Team with the support of various partners. The Road Safety Team has over 350 JRSOs across Hampshire in 171 schools, which means our key messages are being taught to 42,000 children.

Bikeability - Hampshire County Council offers Level 2 Bikeability to primary schools and Level 2 and 3 to secondary schools, giving children the opportunity to develop new skills, improve confidence and gain a sense of pride and achievement. The Road Safety Team currently has funding for and is training 8750 children across Hampshire.

StreetSense - 'StreetSense' is aimed at secondary school students aged 11 -16 and highlights the dangers of being distracted at the roadside. The aim of the programme is to educate both teenagers and pre-teens about keeping safe as they travel on foot or by bike, particularly to and from school; reminding them of the dangers of mp3 players, mobile phones as well as conversations with friends whilst crossing the road. The Road Safety Team is currently working with 31 secondary schools across Hampshire, which means our key messages are being taught to 45,000 students.

Your child's transition to Secondary School – advice to parents

With traffic being the biggest single cause of accidental death for 12-16 year olds, it is essential for teenagers to be aware of the dangers and therefore the Road Safety Team's StreetSense programme highlights the importance of being seen and giving the road your full attention – and not leaving your senses at the roadside. Through Year 7 and 8 assemblies, Theatre in Education and Year 9 workshops, teenagers across Hampshire are being taught how to keep themselves safe and make responsible choices.

As well as learning about the dangers of the road at school, it is essential that you are aware of how to help your child develop good road safety skills. Young people pick up habits from adults and therefore if they see older people taking risks, they are likely to follow the pattern and take risks themselves. This means ensuring you are setting a good safe example as a pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle occupant.

As your child moves onto Secondary School, they will be making more independent journeys and possibly using public transport. Ensure you have discussed the risks and they are able to assess the risk of each stage of their journey, making it as safe as possible.

Take time to discuss the safest way to make the journey to school. Encourage them to think about it before they begin their journey and be prepared for unexpected things. Get them to consider the following:

- What route will they take? Where are the road hazards? Could changing the route make it less risky? For example, walking to safe crossings rather than taking short cuts.
- What are the times and cost of public transport?
- What would they do if something unusual happened?
- What distractions might there be? How could they avoid being distracted?

Remind your child to give the road their full attention and not to be distracted by their mobile phone, music player or friends. If cycling, they should always wear their cycle helmet as 50% of injuries to cyclists are to their head. If using public transport, remind them to wait safely for the bus and when disembarking, be aware that traffic cannot see them if they cross near the bus – make the responsible choice and either wait for the bus to move or move away from it to cross safely.

Please visit <http://think.direct.gov.uk/> for more information and leaflets on teenage road safety.

Update from Chineham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Like other practices, Chineham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) are continuing to involve people registered as patients in developing services. The PPG would like to publicise some developments to help patients make the most of the support available from the Practice

Appointments are now available on weekday evenings 6.30 - 8.00pm and on Saturday mornings 9.00 - 11.00am. The appointments take place at either Chineham Medical Practice, Whitewater Health (Hook) or The Clift Surgery (Bramley). To access these appointments please speak to the reception team by popping in to the practice or calling 01256 479244. There are now also pre-bookable appointments on Sunday Mornings 09.00am - 1.00pm and on bank holidays. These appointments are held at the North Hampshire Urgent Care premises at the Hampshire Hospitals site. Remember you can always speak to a medical professional when the surgery is closed and it's not an emergency by telephoning 111. For more information please visit <https://111.nhs.uk>. Whether you are feeling lonely, looking to become more physically active but need help with motivation, or want to find out how to take part in local activities a British Red Cross Connector now offers drop in sessions at Chineham Medical Practice every Wednesday from 10.00am-12.00pm.

The Practice is also working with MIND Andover, offering mental health support to patients aged over 16 years who are concerned about their well-being and mental health for such things as low mood, recovering from an upsetting life event, self harm, carers who are stressed or overwhelmed and people with a mental health diagnosis, including serious mental illness. Appointments are bookable through the receptionist team or doctors.

If you are interested in finding out more about joining the groups please contact:
Karen Nicholls Tel: 01256 479244



Tea at 3 Throughout the Summer

With summer in full swing, it's the perfect time to think about hosting your very own Tea at 3 event in support of St. Michael's Hospice. There are so many ways to get involved over the summer months including hosting a coffee morning, garden party, tea dance or teddy bears picnic! Since launching in 2011, St. Michael's Hospice Tea at 3 events have raised over £57,000. This has allowed the Hospice to deliver care to 11 patients on the in-patient unit for the average length of stay which is 10 days. If you would like to make a difference to local patients and their families, please contact Lynne Grimshaw on 01256 848845 or email lyne.grimshaw@stmichaels hospice.org.uk and she will be happy to help.



Lions Club of Basingstoke

I'd been looking at this page for about half an hour with all the mental activity of a stunned mullet before deciding that enough was enough. I went out on my bike to play with the traffic for an hour. Alas this failed to stimulate the cerebral cortex to the same degree that it stimulated the self-preservation instinct. Writer's block continued.

Racking my brains I came to the conclusion that the most exciting thing we'd done this month was hold a business meeting. That is not to say that our business meetings are unexciting, far from it. On this occasion our regular talkwister was absent and her duties were taken on by A.N. Other who in her own words magnanimously and unsolicited (in fact surreptitiously) took notes of the general shenanigans going on around her and issued fines accordingly. Forgetting Lennie's bucket (a heinous crime) committed by the Welfare Chairman who went on to forget when his next meeting would be, and then the Fundraising Chairman for "a statement of the bl...ing obvious" were castigated. This was followed by one member being fined for "failing to keep his pet rat under control" before a mass fine was issued on all members who had mentioned the words "transport, Sunday or Thornycrofts". Yours truly was then fined for recording wrong dates in the minutes and stating the winning wine raffle ticket number to be one which had not yet been issued. It was a thoroughly competent Lions performance all round. I wish I could say that it was unusual.

We have some projects simmering on the back burner, but nothing substantive to report on them. The same cannot be said of David Chatten-Smith and his team at Helping Hands for the Blind who are to be congratulated for instigating and bringing online their Community Radio Station. Well done one and all!

Our next fundraiser is that group of true originals "The Moscow Drug Club". So please do come along and get in the mood with some gypsy jazz at QMC on 20th July. Tickets are available from Maurice Hockley email: mauricehockley@hotmail.com or telephone 01256 421867, Toucan Travel at Chineham or direct from our website www.basingstokelions.org.uk This will also allow you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter if that is your thing.

Our programme for the rest of the year is currently:-

21st September: Ali Mak Rhythm and Blues band at the Royal British Legion
9th November: Quiz Night at the Millennium Hall (note changed date)
16th November: Basingstoke's very own Heritage Light Orchestra who are in the throes of putting together a special performance for us. More anon!