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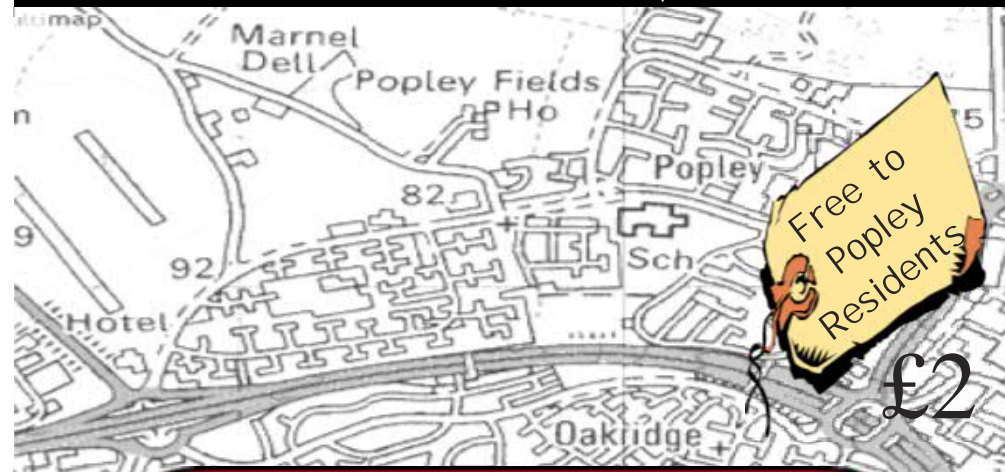
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

June 2020

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 220



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles and adverts (5pm 15-6-20) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: There are so many mixed messages and government advice is changing so fast, and frankly sometimes so mixed that it is hard to follow what we should or should not be doing that we thought best not to put loads of Covid-19 advice in this issue of Popley Matters. But I would still advise caution and for everyone to stick to the two meters apart rule.

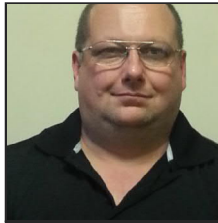
The Matters is a little late for a good reason, we wanted to be able to put in about the wonderful Queens Award for Voluntary Service and it was embargoed till today 2nd of June the Queen's birthday. I was privileged to be asked to help sponsor Basingstoke NeighbourCare for this award the highest award for volunteers. I have been a supporter since Kim first wanted to start up a NeighbourCare Scheme in Basingstoke and I have watched it grow. They need more volunteer drivers as they will be needed more once we come out of this pandemic and once again the vulnerable can get to the shops and their clubs and appointments you are paid petrol money.

Who knows what next month will bring but hopefully if we all are sensible we will be a step nearer to a normal life again. It would be good to see the community centres and churches open again and people meeting up again. We will try to keep you all informed.

Could you pass on and/or share the Popley Matters on Facebook and any other method. We are on line and will be changing the content every month, we have not missed an issue yet.

The competition was quite popular and the five winners have been notified details on page 27. We have a competition now for the children on page 14. Sue Lawrence is a well-known author of children's books and she is donating her Harry The Cats Tale signed copy as the prize. See the details on page 14 you can put your poems, stories and drawings through our door at 405 Abbey Road RG24 9EL Lets see if the children can enter more entries than the adults did.

Please look after yourselves and stay safe. Email or phone on 01256 819924, or e-mail me editor@popleymatters.org.uk.



Sub Editor
Paul Frankum

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the editorial team, the members of the committee, or the Popley Matters magazine.

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

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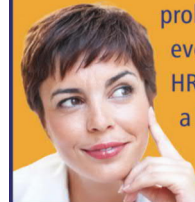
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Along with supporting callers by phone, email and face to face, we also have strong Outreach Teams supporting our Community. These teams support our schools and colleges, the railway station, give talks to Groups, distribute literature to GP surgeries, our hospital, libraries and CAB and organise events in shops and supermarkets raising awareness and fundraising.

Like all Samaritans branches, Basingstoke is completely self-funded with donations from members of the public and organisations that choose to support us.

We are always looking for new members and all volunteers receive full training in preparation for the kinds of conversations we have. New volunteers are initially supported by an experienced mentor, offering experience to ensure we are doing the right thing for our callers. If Listening isn't for you, we also have several support roles to help our branch function.

We offer a chance to develop a range of new skills and the confidence to use them.

If you are interested in finding out more come to an information session, or sign up on the below link: <https://www.samaritans.org/support-us/volunteer/>



Basingstoke NeighbourCare receives the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

NeighbourCare, a group of volunteers based in Basingstoke have been honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.

They provide accompanied driving and befriending services for elderly people to reduce isolation. They support hundreds of elderly people with limited mobility and lonely people who value companionship.

Basingstoke Neighbour Care is one of 230 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious award this year. The number of nominations has increased year on year since the awards were introduced in 2002, showing that the voluntary sector is thriving and full of innovative ideas to make life better for those around them.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Recipients are announced each year on 2nd June, the anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. Award winners this year are wonderfully diverse. They include volunteer groups from across the UK, including a community shop in Cornwall, an environmental group in Swansea, a group working with refugees and vulnerable people in Stirling and a thriving community arts centre in County Down.

Representatives of NeighbourCare will receive the award from Nigel Atkinson, Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire later this summer. Furthermore, two volunteers from NeighbourCare will attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace in May 2021, along with other recipients of this year's Award.

NeighbourCare's Chair, Colin Hunsley says: *"This is a tremendous achievement which recognises the dedication, excellence and compassion of our volunteers and follows the Celebration of our 21st year in the Anvil in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant and Mayor."*

Editor's Note:- Congratulations on this tremendous honour from all of us here in the Popley Matters Team to NeighbourCare. Peter the chair wanted to say thank you to Popley Matters as many of his volunteer drivers come from Popley after advertising in Popley Matters and they are always looking for more.



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Aurbi T-Shirt Winners

Thank you to all the people who entered the competition the correct answer are:- The first Version was 1 Stay Home - 2 Protect the NHS - 3 Save Lives

The second and current answer was 1 New Stay Alert - 2 Control the Virus - 3 Save Lives

Well done to our winners:- Kay Rowand; Josh Dempsey; Angie Sellwood; Penny Barlow; and Gavin Williams.

A big thank you to Vik the owner of Aurbi Fashion for hi donation of five T-Shirts

Vik is designing a support NHS and Keyworkers as their work will go on long after we are all back to normal.



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Bermuda Community Hall

Tiny steps pre-school starting soon, for further details ring Helen or Connie on 07907815270

There are lots of activities going on at Bermuda Hall, come along and join in!

Monday from 6:30pm to 8pm we have kick boxing.



Tuesday night is bingo night New members are welcome! Doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 8pm and finishes around 10pm. Refreshments are available.



Wednesday is yoga night with Lou Bedford. It starts at 6:15pm and finishes at 7:15pm, for more details ring Lou Bedford on 07753109222 or at www.loubedfordyoga.co.uk



Come along on a Thursday night for street dance and ballet 4:30pm to 6:30pm for details ring Samantha Pike on 07811299484

Friday Club is available to infants/juniors Yr R to Yr 6 at 6pm to 7:15pm. There are many activities for the children to get involved in: singing, super book animated bible stories, games, tuck shop and more. Friday Club is now free.



The hall is also available to hire for parties at reasonable rates. Ring 01256 363156 for details.



MFC Popley Youth on Social Media.

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

MFC Popley Youth, FA Charter Standard Development Club & Nike Partner Club, has a dedicated club page on

Facebook (as well as individual team pages), and you can also find us on Instagram.

We also have a dedicated club shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories -

For more information, or if you have any queries, please contact the club through our main website: or on any of the above social media platforms.

Zak Collingwood

County Councillor Report: It is still chaos at Wade Road waste and queues waiting up to three hours. The press release said "essential items" but clearly people either thought their rubbish was essential, urgent or dangerous to leave it in their garden areas. The tip had the hours increased but it made little difference so it will now be by appointment only and if you are not booked for an appointment you will be turned away. Fly tipping is at an all time high and rubbish and large items are being left down country roads in the middle of housing estates and even at the babies and children's cemetery gates near the hospital. I have included the press release from Hampshire County Council.

I have been assured that dropped kerbs where they are too steep to really be accessible will go on the work list. It is at least the first stage of a long slow process. Some really bad areas for accessibility for instance along the sides of Abbey Road where myself and another resident had an accident in our disabled buggies will be done as a priority. I am also happy to say that after the virtual meeting with officers Paul and I have been assured that the path and crossing at the Apollo end of Popley Way will be another priority. If you know of an area where the path needs attention please let me know. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email: jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk.

Popley West: Things are very slowly getting back to normal council wise, but there is a long road ahead. The white parking lines have been done in the Abbey Road shopping centre. The grass has started to be cut and it was certainly needed in some areas as it got so tall it was knee high. We saw the operator spraying the weeds with the weed killer along the paths as well. They were able to go back to doing this because people are starting to return to work so where they had been seconded to do other vital work they are now getting back to their original departments.

We are hoping work will recommence in Popley Community Park very soon with the fencing and then later the new equipment. The yellow/white lines that were approved after resident consultation should be started soon in the Marnel Park. It has been held up as so many people have been at home due to the pandemic there would not be the access for the contractor to do a good job. The park and estates would look a lot better if the few inconsiderate people picked up their dogs mess there are eleven rubbish bins in the community park so there is no excuse.

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 are well aware of the problems residents are facing during the lockdown and we are full of admiration for the support offered in the community by volunteers and charities. We continue to give support to people wherever necessary recognising that problems don't go away during these difficult times and new and unforeseen issues arise. Many of the normal agencies we deal with are operating with reduced staffing numbers and many staff have been furloughed which leads to greater delays in getting responses where required.

Within these constraints we are able to advise and support constituents and will continue to do so for whatever period the crisis lasts.

In the meantime we hope everyone will keep safe and stay well."

Cllr David Potter 07941507801
cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200
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Asthma UK and British Lung Foundation Partnership Support Group, Breathe Easy

Due to the Corona virus pandemic the group has not been meeting.

A lot of our members are in the 'Shielding for vulnerable people' category.

This does not mean our support has been taken away. Accurate and up to date information is always available from the British Lung Foundation : blf.org.uk/helpline or tel: 030000 030 555.

Just now there appears to be a lot of confusion in the media, about shielding. Some people are getting texts to shield longer, some being taken off the shielding list but when checking with their own GP's the doctors are saying they know nothing about this!

For anyone with health problems it's best to check with your own health care team. However, for those with lung conditions who have been shielding, I checked on the British Lung Foundation helpline today (31st May)– their advice is to keep shielding until the end of June.

Keep safe everyone, keep your distance and carry on washing your hands
 Glenys West (publicity volunteer BLF support group)
 Reg charity 326730



Pre-booking system planned for Hampshire Household Waste Recycling Centres
 Hampshire County Council will be establishing a pre-booking system from mid-June for residents to access Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to manage demand and reduce queuing traffic

Councillor Rob Humby, Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council, said: "We have recently extended opening hours, which has helped, but with very high demand and long queues persisting at a number of sites, we now need to consider other options, including limiting visits with a pre-booking system."

With new measures in place at HWRCs for safe social distancing, the number of vehicles now able to access each site at any one time is much less than before the Coronavirus outbreak.

Residents have been urged to make use of kerbside collections provided by district and borough councils and only visit an HWRC at this time if they cannot safely store waste at home, but traffic queues have continued to be significant at a number of HWRCs across the county. This traffic has impacted on local people trying to get to work as well as having a detrimental impact on the ability for businesses nearby to get back up and running and deliver essential services.

Councillor Humby continued: "Hampshire has one of the largest HWRC networks in the country, and we recognise how Hampshire residents value the service which has been both convenient and effective in promoting recycling and managing waste. However, the level of demand we are currently seeing cannot be accommodated with social distancing and safe working requirements without long delays, and therefore we will need to bring in more significant changes."

Similar booking systems have been introduced elsewhere in the country, not just for HWRCs but recreational activities such as gardens and parks. The system will allow for between 25 - 30,000 visits per week and people will be able to book several days' ahead. The new pre-booking system will be operating at all Hampshire HWRCs from mid-June. Full details on how to book will be available at the end of next week.

Until the pre-booking system is up and running, additional customer liaison officers are being deployed to HWRC sites where queuing traffic is causing safety issues or obstructions.

Councillor Humby said: "I'd ask people once again to take notice of highway signs, be considerate of others and not block roads or junctions when queuing."

Further information is available at: www.hants.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling



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Dear Readers,

I am sure, like me, you have witnessed our community slowly reawakening as the lockdown eased gradually in these last few weeks. It has been refreshing to see more of us out and about, despite the fragility of the situation and keeping to the socially distanced rules. Although, a few of us are back at work and some children back in school; normality still feels out of reach. But Summer is finally here and it will be a very different and strange one for all us. And so, I have been researching the various "national days" which we could look forward to and celebrate at home this June. The first week of June is National Volunteers Week. This celebration is especially poignant this year and for us to celebrate the millions of NHS and neighbourhood volunteers, to thank them for their contribution and dedication. I also found out that 5 June is National Fish and Chips Day. This is definitely worth queuing outside the award winning, Oliver's for our dinner. It also seems that June is the time for all our favourite national Drink Days. We have World Gin Day on 13 June, Beer Day on 15 June and English Wine Week from 20 – 28 June. Although, we might not be able to enjoy these summer drinks sat in the glorious sunshine of a pub garden surrounded by friends and family; I am sure we will all find ingenious ways to enjoy these, be it in the garden, park or balcony.

Stay safe and until next month,

Vina R

Resident of Marnel Park



Hello Popley,

We have been extremely busy supporting our vulnerable members and making the referrals to Spotlight for food parcels and helping with getting food and supplies to several of our other members in our community. We are also working with Oasis cafe that's based inside the URC church and offering our members a hot meal and pudding at a cost of £5 a day the meals. They are well and truly gratefully received by our members. What's better they get to see me out delivering them that breaks up there long lonely day, of course adhering to the guidelines we have a 10 minute natter. We have cancelled all other activities until further notice even the group holiday in July has been cancelled to Brembrigde in the I.O.W which we had a really good show of members wishing to go on.

We our continuing offering befriending service via telephone link and supporting our members where we can. Times are hard, days long and boring for all our members. I'm lucky to have secured some books and puzzles from the community which I shall be dropping off to our members. If anyone has any puzzles 500 pieces or more that they would like to donate or books please get in contact with myself. Together we can stop loneliness and isolation within our community.

Please contact me on 07720680403 or at Together we can beat covid-19 a huge thank-you to all NHS staff, carers, shop workers and especially to Spotlight who have also been working so hard with the taxi drivers also getting food supplies out to those that are in need.

Many thanks be safe, stay indoors

Francesca

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Press Release

Exciting improvements planned for local health system

HEALTH services across north and mid Hampshire are set to undergo their biggest modernisation programme in 50 years.

Hampshire Together: Modernising our Hospitals and Health Services is an exciting programme that will involve all NHS and social care services across Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Eastleigh, Winchester and the surrounding areas.

The centrepiece will be the construction of a brand new hospital – but the programme’s impact will reach far beyond the walls of this new building, involving GPs, mental health, community care, social care and the wider voluntary sector, as well as acute hospital care.

The central aim is to deliver a joined-up healthcare system that supports patients, their families and their carers to access the right care, in the right place, at the right time in order to keep them healthy.

The programme is being led by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups and West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group, in partnership with Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, which runs Andover War Memorial Hospital, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Royal Hampshire County Hospital, in Winchester.

Hampshire Hospitals was last year named as one of the trusts chosen to receive capital funding as part of the Department of Health and Social Care’s Health Infrastructure Plan (HIP). This is designed to support 40 hospital building projects across the country between 2025 and 2030 and it is this funding that will be used to create the new hospital.

Throughout June and July, these NHS organisations will be seeking the views of the public based on a listening document that explains the challenges currently faced, the opportunities that the programme presents and the factors that need to be considered when making what will be some difficult choices.

The listening document, along with much more information about the programme and an online comment form can be found at www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk. You can also find Hampshire Together on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/HampshireMOHHS](https://twitter.com/HampshireMOHHS)) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/hampshiretogether).

If you would like to receive the listening document and a comment form by post, write to the programme at FREEPOST Hampshire Together (no stamp required) with your name and address.



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Basingstoke Deane

Rotary



CONTACTS

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

YOUR LOCAL
ROTARY
ROUNDUP

June 2020

ROTARY IN LOCKDOWN

Zoom & other on-line communication tools have become essential parts of our lives over recent months. With embargoes on live meetings our Rotary Club, led by our younger members, embraced this modern technology and whilst at first somewhat tentative, we are now running our weekly club meetings and also a Saturday coffee morning on Zoom, as well as Board Meetings. This has meant that we have been able to carry on with all that Rotary does in supporting our charities. The unexpected bonus of this is that it has enabled us to keep our club fellowship and camaraderie, a very important part of being a Rotarian. We have maintained our friendships with our meetings, as ever, full of fun and humour along with the serious business.

Being a member of a Rotary Club has been a life line for us in these times

We still have guest speakers and members have organised Desert Island Discs and Room 101 sessions, it's amazing what we've learnt about each other

Rotarian Julian Ricketts has been entertaining us each Saturday evening with his Cocktail Master Classes on Facebook. Unfortunately you can't sample them but you can follow the class and make your own – and no need to worry about driving home!

BASINGSTOKE FESTIVAL OF TRANSPORT
RESCHEDULED for 13th SEPTEMBER 2020 in the Memorial Park 11.00am until 4.00pm.

This is a free outdoor event & we are crossing our fingers and hoping that this great celebration of British life and engineering will give us all the lift we need as life returns to normality.

Check our Website and Social media for updates

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. We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane

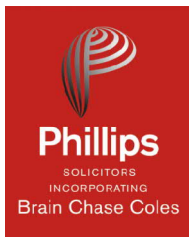
CORONA QUIZ

Below are clues to Places around the world, the spelling is not always the same, it may just sound similar.

e.g. to wander = Rome

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Urinating monarch |
| 2 | Goes to bed with Dougal |
| 3 | Good French |
| 4 | Ms Loren |
| 5 | Pa's suitcase |
| 6 | French friend belongs to me |
| 7 | Boleyn on the floss |
| 8 | EEE |
| 9 | Knitted by a cow |
| 10 | Elizabeth c'est good |
| 11 | Where does superman buy his clothes |
| 12 | Royal bird on the briny |
| 13 | Bouncing in wonderland |
| 14 | Please purchase |
| 15 | Long delay for a line of people? |
| 16 | I will question the woman |
| 17 | Meadow Full Of Cooks |
| 18 | Italian Ford |
| 19 | Water barrier made of domesticated rodents |
| 20 | Python film |

Answers will be on our website and Social Media after June 1st 2020



Writing your Will During the Coronavirus Lockdown

A Will might well be the most important legal document you ever sign as it protects your most important asset – your family. Understandably, the current situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has caused people a great deal of worry, especially the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, as to whether it is possible to create or update their Will.

The Service we offer

Here at Phillips Solicitors incorporating Brain Chase Coles, our Wills and Probate team is coming up with solutions to help you get your affairs in order while keeping to the social distancing rules. We are still on hand to answer your questions and give you the advice you need and ensure that your Will is up-to-date.

We can arrange an in-depth telephone conversation to understand your requirements, or potentially use video conferencing if that is something that you feel would suit you.

We will then draft your Will and send it by post or email accompanied by an explanatory letter.

Having your Will signed and witnessed

Once you are happy with the Will we will post it to you with clear instructions on how to have it signed and witnessed to ensure its validity.

Even in these unprecedented times, under current rules, two adults must witness the signing of a Will. However, they must be independent and cannot be beneficiaries or be married to a beneficiary.

The witnesses, who for example could be your neighbours, also need to sign the Will so you need to place it in a convenient spot visible to everyone and move two metres away. Everyone must see everyone else sign.

Both witnesses should separately approach and sign the Will, taking the necessary precautions, such as using their own pens, making no physical contact, wearing gloves and conducting the process quickly as well as adhering to strict handwashing measures afterwards.

To find out more please contact Lucy Watson, who is the head of the Wills and Probate team at Phillips Solicitors incorporating Brain Chase Coles on 01256 854646, by emailing lucy.watson@phillipslaw.co.uk or via our website www.phillips-law.co.uk



My first meeting at the Probud Club

I arrived at the meeting venue in good time so as not to make a poor impression had I been late. Fortunately my host was waiting for me in the bar (where else?) and introduced me to a number of members standing close by.

I was a little nervous at first not really knowing what to expect but everyone was very friendly and welcoming. All were wearing a club tie and lapel pin in their jackets. Oh yes dress code. As it was mid morning and not evening I did not have to wonder if it was a black tie occasion (because I was unsure if my dinner suit would still fit me since my retirement) or, would a lounge suit or jacket and tie be sufficient? I was reassured that my smart jacket and tie seemed to suit the occasion admirably.

After a while we were called into the dining room which had several large tables. Oh where do I sit? Anywhere and everywhere was the answer. Wherever there's a spare seat; after all Probud does not encourage cliques but wants a clear mix of members from one month to another to allow everyone to know each other better.

After a short introduction there followed a talk by an outside speaker. On the first occasion the topic was about the Oregon Trail in the USA. Subsequent talks have been about cycling the length of the USA, life observations by someone who naturally enough always saw the funny side of life (and was indeed very funny) and the life and times of a BBC radio reporter. The talks are varied, informative, humorous and always well received.

Lunch followed. A traditional English meal was served followed by a dessert. I had chosen the biscuits and cheese as an alternative to the dessert. Conversation flowed and the noise increased with laughter and chatter all around me. I discovered that members were retired having followed a wide variety of careers including bomb disposal, bank note forgery, nuclear science, paper manufacture, motor heads and many other occupations. In turn upon retirement members had devoted their spare time to cruising, holidays, bird watching, playing golf, politics and so on. What an eclectic bunch.

After lunch, the President, resplendent in his chain of office, made various announcements of interest to the assembled members including what many considered the most important decision of the meeting – what to eat at the next lunch meeting!!

Other announcements followed including details of various trips being organised that would be of interest to members and their partners as well as less formal meetings at various pubs and restaurants being held throughout the year.

I made my way home in the early afternoon thinking what great value for money I had enjoyed. For a modest outlay of £25 annual subscription plus £13 a month for the cost of the meal I wondered about the people I had met, the conversations that followed and the interesting and fascinating lives of those around me.

For more information about the Probud Club of Basingstoke see www.probudasingstoke.club



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Group Scout Leader	Colin Karslake	07796772500
Assistant Group Scout Leader	Douglas Gowan	07733325498
Beaver Leader	Mandy Pain	07508204098
Cub Leader	Charlotte Bell	07919148376
Scout Leader	Kevin Pocock	07717108560

With there still being no Face to Face Scouting happening due to Covid-19, the Section Leaders have been busy setting challenges that can be completed by the Beavers, Cubs & Scouts at home.

One of the events most of the Group took part in was titled the "Big Indoor Sleep-out, that involved the Beavers, Cubs & Scouts building themselves a den and sleeping over night as well as under taking a number of activities at home including.

- Going on an Indoor Scavenger Hunt, where they had to find several items round the home.
- Helping their Parents cook Dinner & Breakfast
- As we were unable to have a traditional Scout Campfire and all that goes with it they had to make their own campfire using an old CD, Stones, Twigs & Paper
- Stargazing
- Mini Beast Hunt
- Making a Time Capsule.

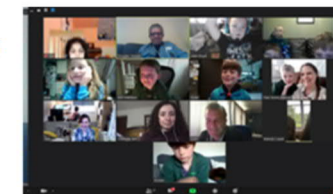
The event was held to tie in with Northumberland Scouts attempt to hold the biggest Camp at Home event in the world, which they did with 97000 Scouts, Guides from 67 different countries taking part from as far away as New Zealand and countries including the UAE & Oman, just goes to show how big Scouting & Guiding is.

Below are a few photos of event.



On Friday 8th May to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day the Group held a Street Party, with everyone holding a party in their own homes/gardens with tea, cake singing & dancing and complete with a private "RAF Fly Past" consisting of the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and siblings making paper airplanes and flying them over their party

On Tuesday 12th May the Cubs & Beavers held their first "virtual" meeting using Zoom, activities included a catch up to see what everyone has been up to, a Cubs vs Beavers quiz & Scavenger hunt. Watch this space to find out what else we get up to with our virtual meetings over Zoom



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Dear Friends

As I write this I am coming to the end of one of those really 'mad' weeks when it feels as though I have hardly had time to draw breath! I'm beginning to really miss my church family and our community. I miss being out and about, I miss visiting school assembly and people around the parish, I miss being the vicar as was!. Being an extrovert is really hard in these circumstances but praise God that the lockdown restrictions are at last being eased and let's all use common sense as they are) and praise God that the weather has been absolutely glorious – long may it continue.

This past weekend we celebrated a special day in the church calendar that we call Pentecost – the day the church was born. It dawned bright with a little cloud and even that soon cleared. At 10.30 a.m. we began our online service celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. Everything after that became something of a blur as the day passed so quickly. The prayers that were offered up for Pentecost were certainly heard and answered and for the community of Popley it lit up the whole day for me personally.

Pentecost is a time when we celebrate the birth of another community that we know as the Christian church. Today there are around 1.2 billion Christians around the world who share that same sense of community and as community share a common purpose; that is, to show the world how much it is loved by God, even in all its brokenness, and how he loves each and every one of us, no matter where we are or have been in our lives – I hope we that sense of blessing continues throughout this pandemic.

This is an amazing time to be part of this community we call Popley and an even more amazing time to be part of God's community. If you'd like to join come and see us any Sunday at 10.30 a.m. in Tewkesbury Close.

In closing my thanks go out to all those working to keep St Gabriel's as ever present in our community and a big thank you to God for the blessing of his weather. Alleluia!

With every blessing

Rev. Arthur
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www.stgabrielspopley.net



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Facebook - <https://www.facebook/groups/mertonpoppits>
Email: mertonpresch@gmail.com
Tel: 01256 353100**



IF YOU DON'T KNOW ME BY NOW

We're Melrose Christian Fellowship and we're the church that meets in Melrose Community Hall, Popley 4, off of Abbey Road (next to Premier, the post office and the pharmacy). Our church has been meeting there for the last 42 years.

WHEN WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?

We use zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) to see each other. Everyone connects through their computers or phones via zoom in their homes. You have the option to show your face or not, but still hear what's going on. Here's what's going on during lock down:

ZOOM QUIZ NIGHT (STARTS 23RD JUNE)

Want something to do on Tuesday evening 7-8pm, why not join our quiz night, join a team & test your general knowledge! Let us know if you are interested. GAME ON!

ZOOM FRIDAY CLUB INFANT + JUNIORS 6.15-7.30

This is our kids club for children. We sing and dance, play games, learn the books of the bible in a fun rhyme and have a bible story (YR R - YR 6)

ZOOM SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE 10.30-12.00

This includes singing, communion, sharing what's been going on in our lives, a sermon (a talk) and praying. (We pray for each other and the community. Got anything you want prayer for? Let Rhoda know.)

ZOOM FRIDAY CLUB SENIORS 7.45-9.30

This is our club for youth. We chat, play games, discuss the hard questions of life and God. (YR 7- YR 11)

HELP! I NEED SOMEBODY

We've been helping people in the community since lock down. Do you, or anyone you know, need help? We can:

'Help, help me'
Collect prescriptions

'Fast Food, Feed me Fast'
We're connected with
'The Community Food Link'

'I'm so bored' Join our
community Quiz night

'Food glorious food...'
Help with your food shop

'A little more conversation'
Chat on the phone

If you want to know any more about the above, please contact Rhoda on rhodamcf@outlook.com or 07415685049 (First quiz question will be name the songs found on this page)

MARNELL BOWLING CLUB

We are looking for new members, come and meet us:



- Bowlers of all ages and abilities;
- Outside Bowling (April - September weather permitting);
- Short Mat Indoor bowling (October - April);
- Refreshments available, fully stocked bar at club prices;
- Leagues on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and club friendlies;
- 80% off for first year subs, only £12 first year, £60 each year after;
- Qualified Coaching available; and
- Make new friends.

Practice Outdoor Tuesday 6-9pm; Indoor Monday 7-9pm; Wednesday 2-4pm; and 7-9pm. Come along and have a go (All equipment can be provided).



Where are we?

Behind Popley Fields Community Centre.
(next to Basingstoke Air Scouts Hall and Nursery).

For further details contact John: **01256 411469.**

or Club Captain Sue: **01256 326147.**

or visit Marnell Bowls Club Website.

www.marnellbowlingclub.co.uk

 **@MarnellBowlsClub**

Latest update from Chineham Library

Dear young budding writers and artists,

I'd like to invite children of all ages to enter a competition to write or draw from their imaginations on the topic of staying at home.

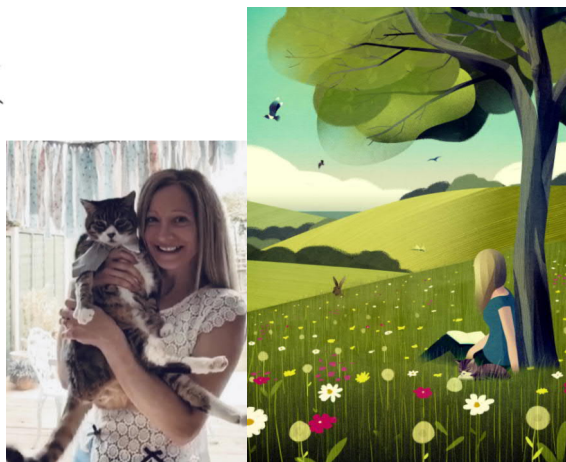
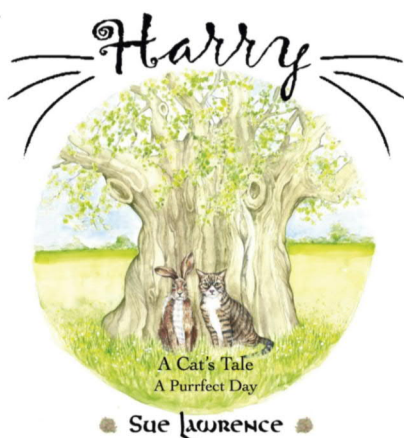
This could take the form of a short story or poem (maximum 500 words) or a piece of artwork. It can be as fantastic and fanciful as you'd like, so let your imaginations run wild!

My name is Sue Lawrence and I'm a local author of two children's picture books featuring my tabby cat Harry: 'Harry a cat's tale' and the sequel 'Harry a cat's tale, a purrfect day'. I'll be donating a copy of my latest book to the lucky winner!

You can find out more about myself and my books on my Facebook page 'Harry a cat's tale' and on Harry's instagram page @harryacatstale.

So children, get out your pens paper, pencils or crayons and have fun! Please send entries to editor@popleymatters.org.uk (photographs/scans of handwritten or drawn entries accepted)

Sue Lawrence



Libraries in Hampshire are busy planning and adapting services so that we can reopen safely and in line with Government advice. At the moment we are awaiting further information on when libraries are allowed to reopen, and what services we will be able to offer from our buildings.

We will share our plans with you as soon as we can so that you will know what to expect. In the meantime, you can access eBooks, eAudiobooks and other resources online from [and](#) by using the [app](#).

We are also sharing some of our daily library activities on social media, helping you to stay connected with libraries from your home.

We have temporarily frozen fines for overdue items.

Be barbecue safe this summer

BBQ advice...

As barbecues begin to sizzle across the county, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) is urging the public to take extra care when cooking outdoors this summer.

Behind the bangers and burgers, people are being urged to be safety conscious around barbecues, especially when lighting them.

Community Safety Officer Gary Elston said:

"After a slow start to the summer it's natural to want to go outdoors and enjoy it with family and friends - many of us can't wait to get the barbecue lit. But to make sure your event is enjoyable and safe, please make yourself familiar with the safety precautions surrounding barbecues."

"Also, if you've planned a barbecue and the weather lets you down, don't take the barbecue indoors or into a tent. In recent years, some people have suffered carbon monoxide poisoning as a result, so we are urging everyone to stay safe this summer."

Among HFRS's top tips for ensuring your barbecue is safe and enjoyable are:

- Only use barbecues in suitable and safe areas and never indoors or in a tent
- Make sure the coals are cool before you move the barbecue and always keep a bucket of water, sand or a garden hose nearby in case of emergencies
- Only use recommended fluids or fire lighters and **never** petrol

Gary continued:

"This may seem like a long list but most of these things are common sense. By far the biggest danger is the use of flammable liquids to light the barbecue."

"Pouring petrol onto the charcoal in an effort to get it going can have violent and dangerous effects."

"Prepare well in advance and light the charcoal early. Most of all, enjoy yourself safely."

For more information on outdoor fire safety, please visit www.hantsfire.gov.uk/barbecue-safety.