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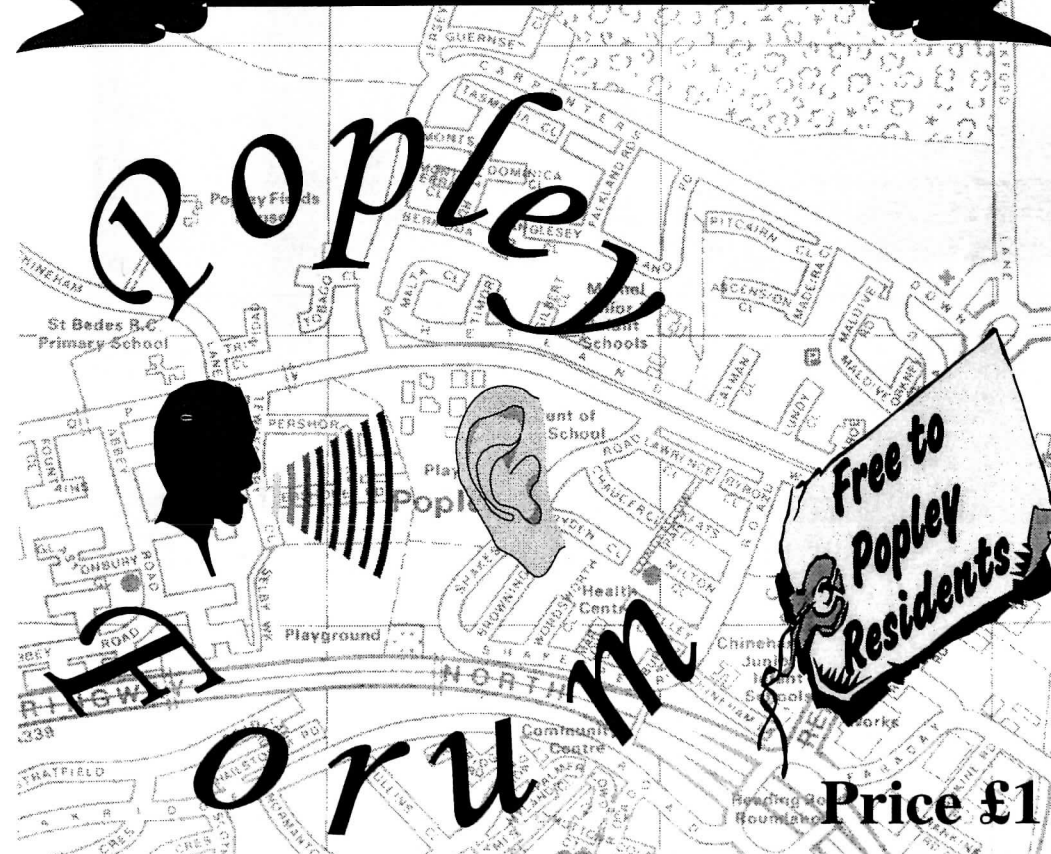


# POPLEY MATTERS

March to May 2001

Volume 3 Issue 12

FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS



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To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:-

Popley Matters  
Melrose Hall  
Abbey Road  
Basingstoke  
Hampshire  
RG24 9ES

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team. Or the members of the committee of Popley Forum/Matters.

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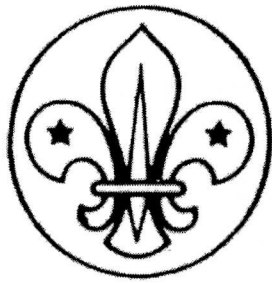
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## Basingstoke Air Scouts

Beaver Scouts have been busy making Valentine cards recently and having lots of fun with glue and paint. They've also been making coco-pop cakes.

The Cub Scout section has been run by the Assistant Cub Scout Leader for the past few weeks as Akela is on holiday in New Zealand. The pack are looking forward to hearing all about her travels when she returns but meantime have kept busy by finding out more about the country for themselves and celebrating New Zealand Day. The section now publishes a Pack Newsletter called Jungle Drum which aims to keep parents up-to-date with activities. The younger members of the pack were delighted to take first place in the under 9 1/2 swimming competition recently and they only narrowly missed out on taking the overall winners cup. Future plans include participation in the District Cub Scout Football competition in March and a summer camp at Old Burghclere.

Scouts have spent most of the winter evenings preparing and achieving skills badges such as Stage 1 and Stage 2 Swimmers badges, Artist, Junior Airman and Writer and Communicator. Several members attended a recent Pro-act weekend course to qualify for the Camp Cook and Camper badges. Despite the winter weather, five of the senior scouts are due to attend a special Winter Training course for patrol leaders based at Ferny Crofts in the New Forest later this month. Future plans include a summer camp in Dorset and participation in the District Six-a-side Football competition in March. New recruits to all sections are always welcome. Contact the Group Scout Leader, Jan Saunders on 01256 410514 or e-mail [janice-saunders@bravo.globalnet.co.uk](mailto:janice-saunders@bravo.globalnet.co.uk) for details

## HELP REQUIRED

We need more people to volunteer to deliver the POPLEY MATTERS all the work on this magazine is done on a purely unpaid voluntary basis and there have been some people who have complained that they are not receiving the magazines quarterly and we are reliant on volunteers you can deliver as few or as many as you can manage please contact our distribution manager Iris King on 411113 or me on 819924 Editor Jane Frankum

## Message From the Editor

I have seen the snowdrops and the crocus and it means that spring is on its way but it is hard to believe when we have seen all the rain/snow and hailstones. Spring brings new beginnings and it is that way in Popley. You will notice a questionnaire with this issue and I hope as many of you as possible will fill them in. You will understand the importance when you read the Popley Forum report on page 10. By working together with different agencies we can make big differences in Popley.

We are starting a voluntary bus service on a Friday that will do a loop around the estate so at least on a Friday you can get transport from one Popley estate to the other the fare will be a pound each way and it will take in the doctors at Marlowe and Bermuda, Tescos and into town At this moment in time we are looking at a shared scheme with Community Transport and NeighbourCare, negotiations are bit slow but we want to get it right and make it a passenger friendly service. When we are ready we will make sure it is announced in the papers on radio and notices in the community centres around Popley

Popley Forum has its fourth birthday with this issue and I want to thank some special people who have worked with us through thick and thin. Iris King who tries to get all the Matters delivered more helpers needed always. Paul Frankum who spends hours laying out and getting the Matters ready then takes it to the printers, Kate Lomas our advertising manager, Tracey Bentley our treasurer, Dave Phillips who writes us some good articles read about re-cycling on page 4 and never to forget our willing helpers that deliver through wind and rain. All of us are volunteers who just enjoy helping in the community.

We are in desperate need for more volunteers to deliver the "Matters" just deliver to your road. We would also like more articles perhaps you have a funny or sad tale to tell, about you or something that has happened to you. You could have lived in Popley for years (I have lived here with my family for over 30 years) or maybe you have just moved in and want to say hello.

Popley Partnerships have been working on our behalf and there is a questionnaire to fill in and send free of charge. If you care as desperately as I do about Popley please fill it in, the more people that do the more likely we are to get our real concerns across. Read the article on page 2.

This brings me on to our Popley Service to the Community Awards. We have had some nominations and we will announce them at the next Forum meeting however there is still time if there is any one you would like to nominate ring me on 819924 or Iris on 411113 *Jane Frankum (Editor)*

## COMMUNITY CONSULTATION WITH POPELY RESIDENTS

What do you think should happen to the Popley area? Now is your chance to make your views known!

The Popley Partnership is a group working for a better future for Popley. The Partnership is made up of representatives from the Council, Oakfern Housing Association, the police, your local councillors, the Popley Forum and other interested groups.

We have asked Market Research UK, an independent survey organisation, to carry out a programme of consultation with Popley residents, to find out what they want for the Popley area and to discuss with them how any improvements can be funded and put in place.

This programme of consultation starts in this issue of Popley Matters, with a reply paid survey form – this is a blue card, enclosed with the magazine.

Please fill in this survey form, giving the 5 top priorities you have for improving the area, and other brief details. If you want to come to a discussion meeting or one of the workshops, please fill in your name and address on the enclosed survey form.

Then just pop the completed card in the post as soon as possible, you don't need a stamp.

The next stages of the consultation with Popley residents will be as follows:

- a survey of a random sample of 500 households in Popley, to find out their needs and preferences for the area on a wide range of issues
- a series of small meetings around the area with residents, to discuss key issues and solutions in detail
- visits by residents to other areas where they have faced similar problems, to see what might work in Popley
- two workshops with residents and interested agencies, to put together a plan for the area and to discuss how to put this into practice

We shall be keeping you up to date with the consultation programme, so you will have plenty of chances to give your views about the area. In the meantime, fill in the blue survey form in this issue of Popley Matters!

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We also operate an extensive day excursion programme to many places of interest throughout the year with local Popley pick ups. There are also a limited number of weekend breaks and all week holiday tours available.

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tourist information centre, Willis museum.  
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## Letters to The Editor



Dear Editor: My name is Jamie and 8 years old. I get cross because there is so much mess near Abbey Road shops and I am a Melrose Litter Picker and I pick it up and its hard work  
 Jamie aged 8

**Editor;** I gave this letter to the Council and they sent back a Thank you letter and some "goodies" I think it is wonderful that we have children that care and we older people should be more careful what we do with our rubbish.

Dear Editor: Popley is at last improving in many ways and I noticed that there are workmen do jobs around the estate but there seems to be even more rubbish in some places. I accept that we as residents must have made the mess in the first place but it is a minority of thoughtless people that do it. The leaves are another matter we have no control over them so at least they could be cleared occasionally. Just about all the alleys have piles of leaves that have been there since the Autumn, If the Council remove the leaves and the residents take more care with their rubbish Popley would be a cleaner place to live and bring up our future generations.  
 Mrs M of Popley

**Editor;** Dear Mrs M I could not agree more and I hope you read the Councillors report on page 6,

Dear Editor: I have read reports about play areas not being safe and this is a worry to me as I have three young children. When I see broken glass I phone the Council and it is quickly removed. What do they mean by at risk play equipment.

**Editor;** I have spent some time researching the play areas in Popley and talking to parents and children the remarks that come back time after time are that they want decent sized play areas that are closed in so dogs don't go to toilet there, and a variety of items to play on that are fun and exiting.

*The risk items could be a bolt sticking out though it may have been like that when the play area was built and never caused any accident it could be swings too close together or too near a main road. Some play areas have not got gates any really risky/broken items are soon removed there is an inspection every week but we could report any concerns to the Council ring 844844*

*Editors Note we look forward to reading your letters on all sorts of subjects. We do not print your name or address if you wish us not to but of course we can not accept*

Please send your letters to :  
 The Editor, Popley Matters Melrose Hall,  
 Abbey Rd, Basingstoke. RG24 9ES  
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**What is Basingstoke NeighbourCare?**

Basingstoke NeighbourCare was formed over 6 years ago with one simple aim.....to be a good neighbour. Today, the scheme is affiliated to a further 120 care groups, and has the full backing of Social Services, the Police and the Church.

**What does Basingstoke NeighbourCare do?**

Basingstoke NeighbourCare uses an extensive team of volunteers and contacts to complete simple tasks for those in genuine need. Absolutely anyone can use Basingstoke NeighbourCare...the young, the old, the abled and the disabled !

**What type of help can Basingstoke NeighbourCare offer?**

Basingstoke NeighbourCare offers a wide variety of assistance to anyone with a genuine need. Typical requests for help include providing lifts to and from the doctors, dentists, hospitals, chiropodists...lifts into town, help with shopping, collecting pensions, collecting prescriptions, light gardening, befriending

**How can I get help from Basingstoke NeighbourCare?**

It is very easy....if you have a genuine need, simply call 01256 332424 and ask for either Kay or Hilary. Kay Elliott and Hilary Pote are the Central team who accept your calls and marry up your request to a team of eager volunteers !

**Want to know more?**

If you want to know more about Basingstoke NeighbourCare and the great help it can provide OR if you feel you could become a new volunteer, offering as much or as little time as you like simply call the Helpline on 01256 332424

## **No not Wade Road dump but Wade Road re cycling centre**

Yes we all know it as the Dump, but now it isn't. With the build up of the rubbish over the last Christmas period now is the time to think more about re-cycling. Lots of the Christmas rubbish could have been re-cycled, all those glass bottles could have been kept separate and dropped off at one of the many bottle banks. There is one at all our shopping parades and all the supermarkets.

Plastic bottles and cans can go into your piggyback bin or clear plastic bags along with newspaper, magazines, old catalogues and glossy handouts. Foil containers and clean cooking foil can go in the containers provided there is one in Tesco's car park.

I have spent some time at the Wade Road depot, seeing what does come in and what can be re-cycled.

Providing it has been sorted you can re-cycle scrap metal, cardboard, paper small quantities of rubble, soil, tins, plastic bottles, clothing, engine oil electrical items and your garden waste. All of these items can be re-cycled and this saves it going into landfill sights.

Some electrical items and the clothing go out to third world countries, with the remainder going back to the manufacturers to be cleaned and reused.

Garden rubbish, i.e. grass cuttings, leaves, shrubs etc are reduced into high quality compost that can be bought and it is about half the price of buying it from a garden centre.

Some items at the moment can not be re-cycled and they have to go into landfill sights. At Wade Road about 73% of incoming items are re-cycled. This figure could be even higher if only we learn to sort it out first.

Have you got your own compost bin? If not see the next edition to see how easy it is and the rewards you will get from it. Dave Phillips

Editors Note Any bulk items such as furniture and mattresses can be taken away free of charge just ring 844844

## **Popley Forum visits the new Police Station**

Iris King chair of Popley Forum Jon Hartley spokesperson for Basingstoke Labour Party and myself Councillor Jane Frankum went and met Superintendent Alison Queen at the new refurbished Police station. We explained the concerns of many of the residents in Popley particularly when reporting crime to the control room. Superintendent Queen explained that all calls went through a central switchboard miles from Basingstoke. We expressed most strongly that this was wasting time as valuable minutes can be lost just trying to explain where the incident was occurring.

We wanted to find a way forward to help reduce crime in Popley and put the point most strongly that we saw CCTV as a positive way to reduce crime Superintendent Alison Queen said the crime had reduced in Popley Poets and gave her support.

We hope to continue with further meetings in the future.

## **POPLEY FESTIVAL 2001**

This years Popley Festival looks to be the biggest and best yet. Walls Fun Fair will be on site for the day with fun filled rides for everyone. A number of activities will be running in the Junction 6 youth wing, very much with the youth of Basingstoke in mind. There will be the usual crockery smashes sponge throwers, tombolas, raffles and traditional summer fete activities. Also a few musical surprises are in store, come along and find out more.

The boot sale looks like being even bigger and more varied but there are still places left just come along on the day. The Popley festival Car boot must be about the biggest in Basingstoke so there will be plenty of good bargains to pick up. The plant stalls also do well and have loads of beautiful plants and shrubs also Craft Fare & Charity Market.

Go Karting is back again this year and is always very popular. The police will be there in force with their display trailer and the Fire service are expected to join in the fun as well. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council will bring their trailer you can tell them of your concerns and pick up a little gift maybe a key ring or pen.

Why not surf the net in the Basingstoke Management Centre that will be throwing the doors open on that day come to the cyber Cafe. The well known John Hunt Pre School will be providing facilities for the little ones to allow parents and carers to look around the rest of the festival in peace!.

All this and more to be announced nearer the time. Any one wanting to get involved or find out more contact Patricia Langley on 465303 or Iris King/Dave Phillips at the Melrose Hall.

Hope to see you there for a first rate family day out with fun for everyone. There have been over 5000 visitors every year for the last few years so don't miss it.

## New Youth Arts Worker in Basingstoke (Junction 6)

Hi, my name is Bianca Webb and I would like to introduce myself as the new Youth Arts Worker in Basingstoke employed by Hampshire County Council Youth Service. Caire Hobbs left the project in September

I am based at Junction 6 Youth Arts Centre on the John Hunt of Everest school site. This means I will be working closely with the young people of Popley on arts based projects which may vary from music to dance, painting to sculpture. I also manage the Popley detached team of youth workers who work on the streets with young people locally. Inevitably this means that I will be liaising with the wider community and look forward to meeting as many people as possible.

I am from a varied background in youth work including club-based work, schoolwork to information, advice and counselling. I completed my post graduate in Youth and Community Work last year at Brunel University and look forward to putting my knowledge and skills into action here in Basingstoke.

Through detached work and the arts my team hopes to achieve the current youth service priorities. These are:-

- 1) To enable young people to develop personal and social skills
- 2) To involve young people in democracy and decision-making
- 3) To promote the social inclusion of young people
- 4) To engage young people in new opportunities and challenging experiences
- 5) To encourage young people to lead healthy lives

At the moment Junction 6 is open to young people aged 11-25 on Mondays between 7 and 9-30 and on Tuesdays between 3 and 10pm specifically for those who want to work with music. The detached team works on Monday and Thursday nights on the streets between 7 – 10pm. It is hoped that in the near future the centre opening times will be increased to enable more young people to access the project.

I am really excited about my new post and getting to know Popley. If anybody would like to get in touch to find out more about the programme or share some information call me on 359596


## Treasure Island Play Group

At

Popley Fields  
Community Centre  
Mon-Fri 9:30am - 12:00pm  
Mon & Thurs 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Parents & Toddler Group  
For More Information  
Phone



 414014

Registered Charity No. 282848



## The Boys' Brigade

6<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke (Popley) Coy.

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## Councillors report

I have been asked about several areas in Popley that "works" are going on and it was thought it might be a good idea to have a Councillors page.

Madeira Shopping area has been having a tidy up and dropped kerb to make access easier for the disabled and pushchairs etc. Abbey road Shopping area is having the dangerous canopy removed as youths were getting up there and jumping down. The walls are being repaired and we are trying, with help of others to get CCTV by the Abbey Road shopping area as it has been shown to benefit all, like Longfellow Parade.

Abbey Road is getting some traffic calming at last, we were the second highest road for accidents in the whole of Basingstoke and Deane, 245 square miles. I hope you agree that protecting children and people from injury is a higher priority than letting cars speed down Abbey Road. It will affect a few people who will not be able to park on Abbey Road and they may have to park a few yards further away, I am currently looking into parking issues

I took a walk with a lady from Tintern Close and Bob Brookes the Cleansing Manager on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb to look at the rubbish around Popley a rapid response team is working at clearing up the mess and as soon as we get a few days of dry weather the leaves that are down alleyways and paths will be swept away. Then it is up to us to pick up our rubbish and dispose of it in a responsible manner when all is said and done it is our rubbish. I was embarrassed when we noticed dirty nappies in the bin right by Merton's School entrance, You will also see over the next few weeks that men are reducing down the height of many of the shrubs, and I hope all these measures will make Popley look a better place as long as we look after our estate.

Popley Ponds had a major clear up and Hampshire wildlife have been consulted as to the best way to make use of the site without too much disruption to the crested newts that are protected species

The play areas are in the news and I have gone on record as wanting us to make the areas as safe as possible. I know this means that in some areas quite a few items will be taken away but it is better to be safe than sorry. I am on the panel that will report on findings and suggest a way forward. I will keep you informed.

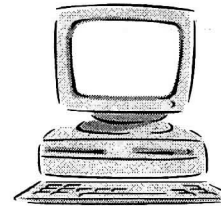
The North of Popley new development is ending its public consultancy period and I was glad to see over 70 people from Popley come to visit Melrose Hall. There was also a chance to say how you felt about John Hunt School being replaced with a brand new state of the art school.

What's happening at

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Classes commence week starting 30<sup>th</sup> April 2001  
(Except where otherwise stated in the programme)

**Full programme in the Basingstoke Gazette  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2001**



**Wessex**  
**Ranger Brigade**



AFFILIATED TO YOUTH CLUBS UK  
NABC CLUBS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The Wessex Ranger Brigade is a uniformed youth organisation that was formed in Basingstoke 25 years ago. The Popley unit was formed 24 years ago and with the closure of the Worting unit it is now the senior unit in the brigade. Initially meetings were held in the John Hunt School but after the Brigade moved its headquarters from Winchester Road to Shakespeare Road, Popley the local units began holding their meetings there.

During the past 24 years many of the Popley Rangers have held senior positions in the Brigade. The first Brigade Sergeant Major was from the Popley unit. Six more Popley Rangers have also held the position including the first girl.

Popley Rangers have attended camps in Kent, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucestershire, Yorkshire, Dorset and the New Forest. They have also visited Austria, Holland, and their favourite Switzerland (7 times). There have been many weekends in the Crabtree Plantation, Aldershot, Minley and Leckhampstead.

The activities taken on by the members are varied and challenging. The programmes are based on a common syllabus. Badges and certificates are awarded upon successful completion of the various segments.

Membership is open to boys and girls aged between 8 to 18 and meetings are held at Brigade Headquarters, Shakespeare Road, Popley. Uniforms are provided free but must be returned when a member leaves.

If you would like to know more why not come along one Monday evening and see what we have to offer.

For further details contact Brian Smith on 350074

### **Oasis Lunch Club**

Did you know that you can get a really good lunch for just £1- right in the centre of Popley? Every Wednesday, from 12noon to 3pm the Oasis Club opens in Melrose Hall, supplying hot and cold lunches for any one that wants to come along. Tea and coffee are free.

Oasis is sponsored by members of PACT (Popley Action Churches Together) to provide a meeting and eating place, with caring and welcoming atmosphere, for those of our community. If you live alone, or feel housebound sometimes with the kids or maybe out of work for a time and you would like to make friends, young or old come along for lunch on Wednesday.

For more information contact Jane white at Melrose hall.



# 1st Popley Everest Scout Group

The 1<sup>st</sup> Popley Everest Scout Group has been quietly busy building up numbers and has now got approximately 50 members. We started out with 9 Beavers at the start of the term, went down to 6 as 3 swam up to the cubs and we have now settled at 18 which is a good number to look after in the size of hall we use.

The Cubs have come up in leaps and bounds. We started off with only 4 and now we have 12. One of the sixers went on a "pro-act" weekend sixers camp recently. This was a County run event aimed at helping the sixers to run their sixes. Also it is a good weekend away where they enjoyed different activities such as archery, hiking and plaster moulding to name but a few. The Scouts have only got 5 members but that does make a standing patrol, and they get on very well with each other, always a good sign.

Our group staged its annual bring and buy sale on November 14<sup>th</sup> and well over £50 was raised for the Children in Need Appeal which was a good effort considering that most of the toys on sale went for between 10 to 30p.

We are constantly on the look out for new leaders as well as new youth. At the moment we are in desperate need of a new Scout Cub leader. The Scout leader is running the Cubs at the moment, but having both the Cubs and Scouts running at the same time by the same leader is a bit much and the Scouting suffers as well. So come on all you Popley folk, we need adults who are willing to spend a bit of time keeping your youngsters off the streets. All you need to do is talk to one of the leaders (names etc below) who will be only too happy to give you all the information and help to become a leader. There is really a sense of satisfaction in Scouting when you see a young Scout Cub or Beaver succeed in completing a task that would have been impossible before you showed them the skills required.

Raven	Skip	Bulldog	Kookaburra	Eagle
Debbie McCall	John Talks	Andy Summer	Janice Lee	Eddie Lee
419446	414168	355671	410617	414086



# Boys Brigade News

Once again we have been very active with our basic programme and all the other events we hold.

Christmas is well passed but not without our outings. The anchor boys and junior section went to the Haymarket Theatre to see Jungle Book. The staff were amazed how quiet they were except for the noisy bits. The Company section spent an evening at the bowling alley and all had a happy and fun time.

Lots of events and outings are planned for the next few months, with the Company section also joining the Popley/Winklebury 6 a side football league.

The car boot sales did very well last year with a record £2197-50p being taken. This is the third year in a row that we have beaten the previous years record. Many thanks must go to all of you who have donated items and have come along and purchased our goods, also the parents and friends and BB members who help to run the stall.

Arrangements have been made for a car boot to be held at the John Hunt School every Sunday and Bank holiday Mondays for the rest of this year. They are being arranged by BB, Air Scouts and John Hunt PTA

Because of changes at the school every section has room for more boys, so if you are interested or know any one else that is and you are between 6 to 18 come and visit us on a Monday night and have a go. It is often better if a couple of mates come along too they wont be disappointed see our main advert for times and places.

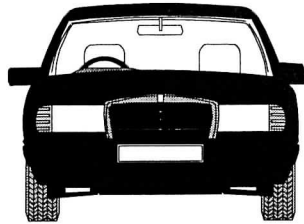
The Company is formulating plans for the Popley Festival to be held at John Hunt School on Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>. We hope to do something different this year so watch out for the details.

**Congratulations** to Dave Phillips on taking on the writing for the Gazette Village section. Dave has asked for more information on your club, group, organisation, church or schools.

You can contact Dave on 323564 or write to 37 Willoughby Way Basingstoke, RG23 8AX

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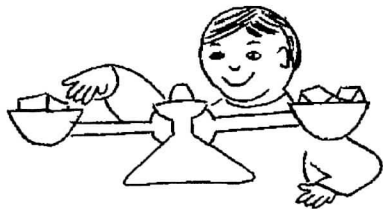


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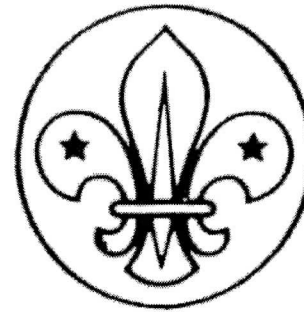
## Merton Poppits Playgroup

Merton Infant School, Romsey Close, Popley.  
Leader Mrs. T. Richards Tel. 351036

OFSTED approved...stimulating, friendly environment...quality of teaching is very good an example of a playgroup and school working together (Ofsted June 1999)



Visits to the playgroup are welcome. Please phone the above for times of sessions.



## Base 2000

The new Air Scout HQ is beginning to take shape at Carpenters Down and the roof is now in place which will provide some protection for the workmen who have had to endure the most appalling weather in recent weeks. Building works are about three weeks behind at present but the contractor is still expecting to hand over the building in April 2001. Preliminary arrangements are being made for an official opening in May.

Popley District Guides will have units of rainbows, brownies and guides meeting in the building once it is complete and promotional leaflets are being prepared to encourage others members/groups of the community to make use of the new community facility.

The building offers two halls together with toilets and kitchen facilities which are included in hire costs which start at £3.50 per hour for non-profit making/charity groups rising to £7.50 per hour for Saturday/Sunday use. Special rates will be offered for bookings encompassing the entire weekend.

Enquiries can be made to either Jan Saunders on Basingstoke (01256) 410514 or e-mail janice-sauders: [bravo.globalnet.co.uk](mailto:bravo.globalnet.co.uk) or Beryl Mullender (01256) 321596 e-mail [beryl@mullender.org.uk](mailto:beryl@mullender.org.uk)

You are warmly invited to  
**WORSHIP WITH US**

at  
Popley Fields Community  
Centre  
Carpenters Down  
Popley  
Basingstoke  
Sunday Morning  
10:30 am to 12:00 noon

For more information phone:  
Graham and Barbara on  
(01256) 410715

New Testament Church of God



[www.basingstoke-new-t.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.basingstoke-new-t.freeserve.co.uk)

## Popley Forum 25<sup>th</sup> January 2001

It was a horrible night outside cold wet and windy which is why there was such a poor turnout however the meeting was very interesting and every one there thought it was an excellent opportunity to speak to the guests that came.



We started with an update to the last meeting. Stagecoach have put an extra bus stop in the hospital grounds and moved the starting time for the number nine forward by five minutes so that the hospital staff get into work for the early duties.

Jane Frankum said that she was now on the bus working Party and hoped to be part of the new Bus Users Group along with some representatives of users. Jane is also on the panel looking at safety and other issues in play areas.

Our first speaker was Inspector Ian Broach who is the Area Inspector. He praised the efforts of his beat officers who were very committed and worked hard with limited resources. Inspector Broach said he was aware of the problems in Popley that were mainly youth nuisance and criminal damage. The problem they faced was that people would not come forward to make statements and this tied their hands. The audience then told the inspector of their real concerns. When phone calls are made local or 999 the control room seem to have no idea as to where the location is and they found it frustrating and time wasting. One resident asked if Police surgeries were likely to be reintroduced but the Inspector thought this was not a good use of time as it ties the police up and maybe no one came, their time could be better spent on detection.

The question was asked about CCTV as this is an issue that many people have been working on for some time, the inspector said that it cannot solve all problems it cannot see around corners or stop people/youths hanging around the shops, most offenders can not be arrested because people are not prepared to make statements. The fact that CCTV was not effective was hotly denied and the reduction of

problems in Longfellow Parade was cited as proof.

The chair thanked Inspector Broach and WPC Emma Beatty for attending the meeting and answering so many questions.

Karen Ayling from Oakfern Housing gave a talk on her involvement in Popley that is now about 60% owner-occupiers. Karen reported that youth crime was down especially in the Longfellow shops area. Karen spoke about the Popley Partnership which is made up of Jane & Paul Frankum Popley Councillors, Iris King Popley Forum Chair Oakfern Housing, Tony West Community Safety Team, Jon Gates Crime reduction Officer, Popley beat officers and they have now employed consultant Euan Ramsay from Market Research to look at the problems and put forward some solutions from their research. Tony West told the meeting of some initiatives that he is working on, for instance a trip for 14/16 year olds to visit Popham Airfield and BCOT computers. Tony then handed over to Euan Ramsay who outlined his remit working for Popley. A survey would be included on a separate card with free postage so that every one can have their opinions taken into account. It will only work if we make the effort and by doing so we prove our commitment to our and our children's futures.

Councillor Jane Frankum gave a report of improvement plans that have just started or are about to start: Abbey Road shopping area, quicker removal of abandoned cars, traffic calming in Abbey Road, Maldiva Shopping area, Shrub height reduction, Popley Pond clearance, play areas and litter pick ups. Jane asked that if you see a problem then please do not hesitate to get in touch with your Councillors.

The community transport for Popley was going to meet with other agencies to see if we could work together in setting up a scheme.

The time has come for the Popley Community Awards and if you know any one that deserves an award please get in touch with Iris King 411113 or Jane Frankum 819924.

Finally our thanks go to Peter Moore who stepped in and took the minutes of the meeting.