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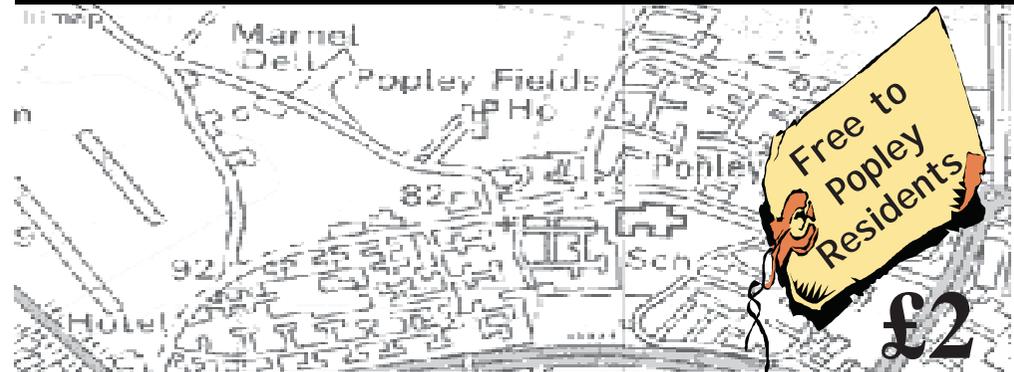
POPLEY MATTERS

OVER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

November 2010

Distribution of 4,500

Issue 105



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor:- Christmas goods are already in the shops, advertisements for Christmas parties and dinners are in the papers and as I write this we are only days away from Bonfire Night! I saw on the news that swans are three weeks early to our country and this is a sign of a hard winter. At least the farce of saying you can be sued if someone falls when you have been clearing snow has at last been verified and thank goodness you wont be! Mind you I would like to point out, cat litter is NOT a good idea as a substitute for salt. It is clay based so it holds the water for a while then when it thaws it becomes dangerous and slippery. It also breaks down like chalk and tramples all in your carpet and the

chemicals that are supposed to get rid of the smell, and rots your carpet.

There are quite a few charity events in this issue on page 13 is a race night in aid of Macmillan Nurses Also on the 20th is the Lions Charity Concert at Queen Mary's College on page 13 Merton Junior School have their Christmas Fayre on 26th November. on page 7

The Pink Rose Breast Cancer Charity are asking for volunteers on page 34

Popley Matters also need some good people to offer to deliver Popley Matters, especially in Melrose Walk .

A 78 year old gentleman was stopped and robbed of some money that was physically taken out of his pocket. This was a low and despicable thing to do. If anyone has any information please contact the police on 08450454545.

If you want to write an article, advertise or be a volunteer for Popley Matters, contact us Jane Frankum on 819924 or Iris King 411113 via email editor@popleymatters.org.uk, or write to Popley Matters Group, PO Box 6727, Basingstoke RG24 9GG.



Sub Editor
Paul Frankum

To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:- Popley Matters Group, P.O. Box 6727, Basingstoke RG24 9GG, e-mail: editor@popleymatters.org.uk. The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team, the members of the committee, or Popley Forum/Matters.

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**For details please call 01256 81 81 18 – we're just
around the corner in Priestly Road (near the hospital)**

Beckie's Column

11 October 2010



Hi! It's been hard trying to find enough time to write this; we've had so much homework! I don't mind doing my art though. It's much more interesting and you get to do whatever you like really, as long as it covers the subject.

I'd just thought I'd mention the speed limit on Carpenters Down. My friends saw the accident and, I don't know if they have, but I really think the speed limit should be lowered. So many people cross the road there and it's just really dangerous. I don't understand why it hasn't been lowered already. Maybe a zebra crossing would be a good idea! What do you think?

Bonfire Night! I love it. Do fireworks make you feel really happy and excited? They are a little scary if you're stood underneath them. We found some indoor fireworks once. They're really weird. Some squealed all the time (my dog couldn't understand what the noise was!); others were like a blue flame. It was quite mesmerising. My favourite was one that looked like green paper but when you lit it, it burned down to look like branches on a tree. It was really cool! I defiantly prefer outdoor ones though. How about sparklers? I used to love waving them about and writing my name in the air, though I don't believe they ever lasted long enough! And, I know you've heard this plenty of times, but be careful around fireworks and sparklers, getting burned by one would really hurt!

Oh, and before I go, (to carry on with more homework!) I found out about a Mary Rose exhibit down at the Willis Museum, in town, and there isn't any entrance fee. In case you're interested, it's all about the Mary Rose shipwreck which was recovered from the seabed. Some of the artefacts found on it are being displayed at the museum for a while. The display is on from October 1st to 24th December.

Well, enjoy the fireworks. Goodbye!

Beckie

Dear Parents/Carers

Last week a Year 7 girl was in a road accident on Carpenters Down opposite the Tesco store. She suffered a head injury which caused her to have concussion. She is expected to make a full recovery and return to College this week. Unfortunately, this is the third child who has met with an accident in this one road area.

On Friday 8th October I met with Councillors Jane Frankum and Andy McCormick and they will be working on road safety measures with the Council. At College, we are starting a petition for a Road Crossing Person to be stationed on Carpenters Down. If you are in College, please sign the petition either at the main reception or the Community reception.

Road safety is a great concern for all of our young people; they are very precious to all of us. We give safety advice to the children at Everest through regular assemblies. Can I please ask for your assistance in reminding students as they leave for College, to be extra aware when crossing roads, and if they are redirected, eg A footpath is closed, they must follow the alternative route.

Can I ask all parents and carers who drop their children off at College and collect them at the end of the day by car, to observe a 5 mile speed limit once you are through the gates. We now have a Hampshire Bus in addition to our two mini buses that transports students. Please do not park where the buses pick up and drop off. If cars are parked in this area, students must walk between cars to get onto the buses which is very dangerous. I would appreciate everyone's co-operation with this request.

You may have read in last week's Gazette, more questions being raised by a very small minority of people in the local community, about our examination results this year. I was approached by the Gazette and felt it important to meet with Emily Roberts to explain to her again, the unique and one off set of results we had this year and why. She explained to me that the Gazette felt that they had to do a follow up story on our examination results this year because of comments they had received on their website from a number of their readers.

I have received email's of support from parents and have also read positive comments posted on the Gazette website. I, like many of you, are fed up with the negativity that a few people in the community have about Everest. Anyone who has concerns is always welcome to come in and see the College in action for themselves and speak with either myself or a member of the Leadership Team. Regrettably these individuals repeatedly decline this offer.

For the past three years we have had a very positive relationship with the Basingstoke Gazette and I hope that this continues, so that we can celebrate publicly the many successes and achievements of our children. If you are, like myself and the students, fed up with negative stories I would urge you to contact the Gazette personally.

Yours sincerely
Ms J S Rose
Headteacher



Bonfire/Firework Safety.

REMEMBER:

-  Fireworks are explosives.
-  Always buy fireworks that comply with the British Standard.
-  Follow all instructions and always put safety first.

ALWAYS:

-  Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
-  Dispose of sparklers in a bucket of water as soon as they are finished.
-  Never give sparklers to a child under five.
-  Ensure that all children with fireworks are well supervised.
-  Keep fireworks in a closed box or tin.
-  Use them one at a time, replacing the lid immediately.
-  Follow the instructions on each firework, using a torch - never use a naked flame.
-  Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper or a firework lighter.
-  Do not drink alcohol if setting off fireworks.
-  Stand well back.

NEVER:

- Never** go back to a lit firework, it could explode in your face.
- Never** put fireworks in your pocket.
- Never** throw fireworks.

BONFIRE TIPS:

-  Never use/pour petrol or other flammable liquids onto a fire to get it going.
-  Always start and keep bonfires away from buildings, sheds and fences etc.
-  Check the bonfire for animals/pets that may be hiding within it before lighting it.
-  Be aware of neighbouring/nearby thatch properties.

Useful contact points and further information:

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service: www.hantsfire.gov.uk
 Community Fire Safety Department: 023 8062 6809
 Email: community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk



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The Pink Place Breast Cancer Charity

We are a new local charity set up to assist the well-being of women in the Basingstoke and Deane area who are affected by breast cancer. We are based at Taylor's Hair And Beauty Salon, Wote Street, Basingstoke and offer free beauty and hair advice and treatments, complementary therapies, and counselling.

Pink Place Guests

If you are currently undergoing treatment for breast cancer or have finished your treatment in the last two years and would like some support and pampering, please contact us as follows: info@thepinkplace.org.uk or call Janis on 07900 244636 or The Pink Place mobile on 07899 970841. Please visit our website www.thepinkplace.org.uk for further information. We look forward to welcoming you to The Pink Place.

Pink Place Volunteers

We are keen to recruit volunteers to help us provide this invaluable service and raise funds so that we can expand our charity. As well as general volunteers we have the following roles:

- ◆ Volunteer Coordinator (coordinating and supervising our growing group of volunteers)
- ◆ Appointments Coordinator (taking phone calls from our service users and booking appointments for treatments)
- ◆ Data Protection Adviser (working with the Trustees to ensure we are complaint with data protection issues within the charity)
- ◆ Fund Raising Assistants (enthusiastic people to help with our many brilliant fund raising ideas and bring their ideas too).

If you would like to join our team, have some fun and volunteer at The Pink Place please contact Janis on 07900 244636 or Diane on 07846 109134.

The Mary Rose Making the Tudor World

- * A special exhibition in the Sainsbury Gallery at the Willis Museum
- * Basingstoke area
- * Willis Museum
- * 10:00am Friday 1st Oct 2010 to Friday 24 Dec 2010
- * This special exhibition uses objects from the wreck of the Mary

Rose, the favourite warship of Henry VIII.

The Mary Rose was a home on the sea for its crew. It carried everything that they needed for everyday life, from weapons to table wear and from clothes to gambling games.

All of these items were hand made. The exhibition looks at how these beautiful objects were created and will offer you the chance to make your own.

This exhibition has been created in partnership with The Mary Rose Trust.

- * Cost: Free Admission
- * Venue: Willis Museum
- * Telephone: 0845 603 5635



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Terry's Memoirs Chapter Part 3

“My Fault Again”

I do not know what it is about Christmas festivities that get me in the mire, but on the last day of work at the Town Hall in Fulham Broadway we went across to the “King’s Head” pub at lunch time where I entertained on the piano, leading to a glorious singsong. However, none of us were watching the time. On realising our dilemma, we all walked back over the road (more like stagger) back to the office, somewhat later than scheduled. The Town Clerk was beside himself with rage, and gave each culprit a good telling off. Then he came to me. In his opinion, I was the instigator of all things merry and, without a mention of Christmas greetings closed the office as none of us were sober to attend the public enquiries. Back to the pub for the rest of the day!

I then completely lost my head, having been left on the shelf by a long - time sweetheart. I joined the army to forget and I became a member of the Royal Warwickshire Fusilier’s Band at their barrack’s in Sutton Coldfield. This started the most unpleasant part of my life that would make the going on at the Deepcut Barrack’s look like a kid’s party. I attended rehearsals each day, directly after Muster Parade. I came under the gaze of two Corporals who took me to the back of the camp and forced me on to my hands and knees on a path with stones. The Musical Director came looking for me, and threw the book at my two protagonists. After this I got lots of abuse from various officers, but I carried on regardless. However at the weekend, not going on leave, I was in my barrack room when one of the lads was taken ill.

With no one qualified in first aid on the camp, a Sergeant arrived. On seeing the young soldier in tears and in great pain, he smashed a heavy fist into the boy’s stomach causing him to collapse on the floor. I opened my big mouth asking as to what good such an attack would have. I then got attacked and ended up on the floor as well!

Monday morning’s Muster Parade found the Platoon Commander ordering me to his office for an explanation of the weekend’s events. Sometime later that day I was told that the Sergeant concerned in the assault had been “immediately” transferred to a unit in Germany where he knifed and murdered, a German civilian in a bar. I then realised that us lads had been very lucky. The whole incident made me feel quite ill, and as a consequence I collapsed in parade with a SLR (self-loading rifle) at my side. I was rushed to RAF Cosford Hospital. My problems were just about to begin all over again. But that’s another story.

The Popley Spotlight Centre

Friends Club

We are a charity working in the building that was formerly Chineham Park Primary School, on Shakespeare Road – which is now called The Popley Spotlight Centre. We aim to provide affordable activities for all!

If you want to meet new and old friends in a relaxed and friendly environment then why not come along to one of our “Friends Club” sessions – for games, chat, tea and coffee. £1.50 a week

Monday (10am-12pm), Tuesday (1pm-2.30pm) and Thursday (2pm-4pm)

We are also running adult Dance Fitness, Irish Dance and Chair Aerobics classes. £2 a week – please call if you’re interested 01256 325420

We hope to be a hub for the Popley community so pop in anytime for a chat or to be shown around the building – we’d love to meet you! The Popley Spotlight Centre also has a Cafe and Charity Shop which are open daily from 10am.

The Popley Spotlight Centre

Parent and Toddler Groups

We have been running in the former Chineham Park Primary School on Shakespeare Road for about five-weeks now – and our parent and toddler groups are really starting to take off. Why not come along?

These groups are run by our experienced staff and are packed full of toys, games and activities – including soft play, arts & crafts, books, pretend shop, colouring, painting, dolls houses, toy cars and much more!

Spotlight Parent and Toddler groups run on Tuesday (10am-12pm), Wednesday (10am-12.30pm inc. Special needs provision) and Friday (10am-12pm).

We also run lots of other pre-school activities including Funky Feet Dance, Parent and Toddler Fitness, Musical Madness and Preschool Ballet.

The Popley Spotlight Centre aims to run affordable activities for all and all our pre-school classes are just £1.50 per week. Please call to book your place 01256 325420, or just pop in!



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Tuesday evening Community Bingo doors open at 7.00pm, eyes down at 8.00pm. Finish around 9.45pm.

(Light Refreshments available half time)

Wednesday evening C.M.A Kick boxing from 7.00 - 8.30pm

Thursday evening Ladies keep fit from 6.30-7.30pm for details ☎422687

Friday evening Friday Club (children) 6.30 - 7.30pm

Sunday Afternoon Christian Family Fellowship 4.00 - 6.30pm

This hall is also available to hire for parties ect at very REASONABLE RATES.

Family Prize Bingo Evening on 6th December 2010 at the Popley Fields Community Centre Hall Carpenters Down.

Doors open 6pm, eyes down at 7pm. Many varied prizes for all the family to enjoy. Organised by your three Community Centres. bar, hot snacks, and Refreshments will be available. Come along for a great evening.

TEA AND CHAT.

Also starting every Wednesday from the 10th November from 1.30pm -3.30pm. An afternoon of tea and chat. Every one welcome pop in and have a cuppa and maybe a piece of cake. Dont sit at home on your own, come and meet new people . If you need transport to get to the hall please call the hall and we will try to arrange for you to be picked up and taken home.

Dear Friends

I have been struck by all the recent images on TV of the rescue of the thirty three trapped miners from deep in the bowels of the earth at a copper mine in Copiapo, Chile. Over the 69 days of their entrapment in the mine a small town has grown up around those on the surface working to save the miners. This small, tented, town has become known as Camp Hope and their families and friends have gathered along with media crews from across the world to witness the efforts to save their husbands, fathers and sons! As the first miner was brought to the surface there were scenes of ecstatic joy as he was reunited with his family and friends and embraced by them, the rescuers and even the Chilean president. The look of joy and happiness on their faces as they welcomed back the ones they thought they would never see again were just amazing. Dramatic and emotionally charged scenes indeed; scenes that were repeated time after time as each was winched safely to the surface and reunited with loved ones.

I am sure that in Heaven scenes just like this one occur every moment of time and throughout eternity as loved ones are reunited once again. Words like hope, rescue, save, reunited, restored, joy and happiness are very familiar to the Christian and they are particularly poignant at this time of the year for St Gabriel's as we prepare for our annual Bereavement Service on All Saints Sunday at 3pm in St Gabriel's and on 14th November at 1030 our Service and Act of Remembrance for Remembrance Sunday again in St Gabriel's. Please do come along to either or both of these occasions.

More importantly those words of 'hope, rescue and save' take on even greater meaning as Christmas approaches. It is at this time of the year that we begin to prepare again to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Lord Jesus Christ who came to this earth, born as a human baby, to rescue and save each one of us that we might not be lost but reunited and restored to God.

We may sometimes feel in our lives that we are, not unlike those miners, trapped, not underground but by circumstances: families, relationships, finance, health or just the hectic pace of life. If this is you then the good news is that the Rescuer is here and waiting to hear from you. He is waiting to rescue, restore and save you and all you need do is call out to him.

As the Christmas preparations gather pace that this year I pray that you may be able to celebrate the true joy of a Saviour. If you want to know, more please do come along to St Gabriel's.

Warm greetings

Arthur

Vicar St Gabriel's

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Discrimination

new rights - In England

The government has introduced a new law, called the Equality Act 2010, which gives you better protection against discrimination.

Discrimination means treating someone worse than other people because of things like race, religion, age, sex or sexuality.

Some of the new rights in the Act include:

- more protection at work if you are a carer. So, for example, you shouldn't be disciplined or dismissed if you have to take time off to care for a disabled parent
- more protection if you're changing your gender, (gender reassignment). You'll no longer have to be under medical supervision to be protected from discrimination and harassment
- more protection at work if you're pregnant or taking maternity leave. So for example, your employer shouldn't discipline or dismiss you for taking too much time off sick when your illness was related to your pregnancy. You can now make a claim for pregnancy and maternity discrimination if this happens
- more protection for women who are breast feeding. You can't be asked to stop or to leave a public place like a café, shop or bus, just because you're breast feeding.

To find out more about the new Equality Act and the new rights it gives you, see the CAB website at www.adviceguide.org.uk

Need Help

Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau can help you with any queries you have on relationships, mortgage repayment issues, debt, benefits and employment problems. Due to the library refurbishment, we have temporarily relocated. Please contact us by telephone on 01256 322814 for an initial interview. This service operates from 10-3.30 Monday to Friday (10-12 Thursday) and Saturday mornings 10-12.

You can drop in to our outreach services at these times:

CAB Outreach Popley – Tuesday morning 10-1230 at the Bermuda Practice, Shakespeare House Health Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley
CAB Outreach Buckskin – Thursday morning 9-1 at The Ridgeway Centre, off Buckskin Lane
CAB Outreach South Ham – Wednesday morning 9-1 at Westside Community Centre, Paddock Road

Sentinel

Revamp of Popley estate completes

Seven years ago, local residents were plagued by antisocial behaviour, and were fearful of walking through the disused buildings, alleyways and garage blocks in and around the Longfellow Parade area of Popley Poets. This sparked a £15m regeneration of the area by Sentinel Housing Association and Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council.

Since then, the area has been transformed with the creation of a new bustling row of shops and 50 outdated flats replaced with 99 new homes aimed largely at families. The relocated One-Stop shop has reported a big increase in trade since opening in May last year, Sentinel and partners marked the completion of the project by dropping in to check on a new resident.

Sentinel Chief Executive Martin Nurse said: “This project is about providing great places to live, and it’s clear from the comments we’ve received that residents and neighbours genuinely feel this project has made a real difference.”

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council’s Cabinet member for Housing and Health and Culture Cllr Cathy Osselton said: “After seven years I am very pleased that the regeneration scheme in Longfellow Parade has been completed and that residents are delighted with their new surroundings.

“It takes many years of careful planning by the housing associations in partnership with the council to undertake regeneration projects within the borough and it is always a triumph for everyone involved when a project comes to fruition.”

Meanwhile, Sentinel is continuing the regeneration in Popley Islands, where new residents are expected to start moving in during January 2011.



Junction 6

Junction 6 is a popular youth centre on Everest College site run by Hampshire’s Youth Team. We are open on Tuesday and Wednesday nights between 7 and 9.30 for local young people aged between 13 and 19. We run a range of activities and projects which participants help to plan and organise. This may include drugs education, looking at healthy lifestyles, trips to the theatre, anger and stress management etc. We are also able to offer a listening ear, information and support to young people who may be having a difficult time.

We have varied resources including a suite of computers, a performance space, kitchen and a music recording studio which is open on Wednesdays from 5pm.

It costs just 50 pence to come in. New faces are always welcome!

Give me a call on 07983995393 or email me on bianca.webb@hants.gov.uk if you would like any more info.

Thanks Bianca Webb

Youth worker, Children’s Services Department, Basingstoke Youth Team



Merton Junior School ‘Be Wise, Together we Succeed’

The children have settled in really well and calmly after the long summer break and look really smart in their uniforms. The school had a new perimeter fence erected over the holidays and hopefully this will help to reduce trespassing and keep our grounds nice for our children. I appreciate the help we have from our observant neighbours who keep us informed of any suspicious behaviour.

We have had an exciting start to our Autumn Term. Upper school received a visit from an ex MI5 agent called ‘Mr X’. They have heard all about his work and have been working hard on their Superheroes topic. Lower school have been working on colours and light, including making rainbows and putting on a production for parents of their own performance poetry.

On 24th September Merton’s new library was opened by our guest of honour, local MP Maria Miller. The whole facility is fully computerised allowing the children to scan their own books in and out.

The children have also enjoyed a trip to the cinema. They were lucky enough to be invited to a free screening of Planet 51 and Toy Story 3. On return to school they have been writing all about different aspects of the films.

We have also had a Harvest Festival celebration in school. The children did an assembly for their parents and collected food donations which were taken to the Basingstoke Food Bank.

We are now fast approaching the Christmas season. Our Christmas Fayre is on 26th November 2pm—4pm. There will be a variety of stalls, a raffle and Santa’s grotto. We would appreciate you coming to support the school and who knows, you may even be able to buy some Christmas gifts at the same time.

If you would like any information about our school or about our forthcoming events please contact the office on 01256 326573 or view our website www.mertonjuniorschool.co.uk.

Merton Junior School, Romsey Close, Popley, Basingstoke



Stay Safe On The Roads.

Don't drive tired –

- Plan in a 15 min rest break for every 2hrs of driving.
- Avoid making long trips between midnight- 6am and 2-4pm when natural alertness is low.
- Share the driving if possible.

Don't drink drive –

- Nearly one in six of all deaths on the road involve drivers who are over the legal alcohol limit.
- The only safe option is not to drink any alcohol if you plan to drive and never offer an alcoholic drink to anyone else who is driving.
- Driving whilst above the legal limit or unfit through drink carries a maximum penalty of 6 months' imprisonment, a fine of up to £5,000 and a minimum 12 months driving ban.

Don't use your mobile phone while driving –

- On 27 Feb 2007, the £30 fine was increased to £60 and three penalty points on your licence. Penalty points = higher insurance costs.
- If you get six points within two years of passing your test, your licence will be revoked and you will need to re-sit the test.
- If the case goes to court, you could risk a maximum fine of £1,000, which rises to £2,500 for the driver of a bus, coach, or heavy goods vehicle.

Always buckle up -

- Drivers and front seat passengers in cars must wear a seat belt, unless they have a medical exemption certificate.
- Children under the age of 14, travelling in the rear of a car that has appropriate restraints, must belt up.
- Adults travelling in the rear of a car must also use seat belts. If they are fitted, it is the responsibility of the adult passenger (not the driver) to ensure that they are using the seat belt.

Useful contact points and further information:

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service: www.hantsfire.gov.uk

Community Fire Safety Department: 023 8062 6809

Email: community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk



Activity Club For Over 50s Every Friday 3-5pm



LAUNCH DAY
FRIDAY 12th
NOVEMBER
3pm



This club can be what you want it to be!
Your club—your ideas

Possible activities include badminton, table tennis, digital photography, music, Wii games, Epod room and more!!

Refreshments on the day.

To register your interest & if you have any suggestions please contact the Community Team on 01256 337573



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www.base2000.co.uk

Headquarters - Base 2000 Carpenters Down RG24 9AE

Charity number 267734 HQ registration number 42755

Group Scout Leader - Colin Karlake (01256) 410559



Lot's of cooking going on in Base 2000 recently as the Cubs concentrate on Chef's activity badge. Not only had they to cook however they had also learn about food hygiene and storage issues. In between times they held an international evening and made make guys for Group Bonfire night in November. Hope they didn't get the ingredients mixed up!!

Beavers enjoyed an evening based on United Nations and have started to make up nativity boxes. The visit to the 'jolly green giant in a red coat' at Paultons Park will take place in November.

Some people may wonder why there is a small paper rocket lodged in one of the lights in the main hall. The scouts have been experimenting again; this time with rocket propulsion on a mini scale (very successfully it seems!). Next project is to work out how to get it down without injury. The troop is also set on completing the Scout Global Challenge award this session. They must make international contacts with scouts elsewhere in the world; investigate an international issue and understand its compass; compare how the issue affects the UK and overseas countries and take some action as a result of their findings.

New recruits welcome in all sections. Contact the section leaders as shown below for more information. First meeting is free but thereafter a weekly subscription of £2 is required which can be paid termly by cheque if preferred. Uniform is required.

Booking enquiries for Base 2000 to bookings@base2000.co.uk or telephone Colin on 01256 410559. One-off occasions, children's parties, meetings welcome - consideration given to anyone wishing to hold a regular activity in one or other of the halls. Hire charges range from £3.50 per hour for the smaller hall on weekdays to £10/12 per hour for large hall at weekends.



Boy and girls 5¼ - 8 years

Tuesday 5.30 - 6.45 p.m.

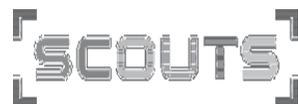
Eve Alexander 07790 018 171



Boys and girls aged 8 - 10½

Tuesday 6.30 - 8.15 p.m.

Elaine Devenport 01256 323453



Boys and girls aged 10½ - 14

Friday 7 - 9 p.m.

Andy Welham-Jones

01256 410629

A BIG BIG THANK YOU from PEBBLES

We hope you all enjoyed our holiday activities with your little ones. We loved seeing you here. The staff here continue to work hard to try to meet the needs of the families living in and around Popley but we do need your help and input!

Have you thought about joining our Parents' Forum? These are informal meetings held on the second Monday of each month. You will get to meet other local parents, have a cuppa and chat about what goes on at Pebbles and be able to tell us what you need... Make your voice heard. The next get together will be on Monday 8 November 9.30-11am and you are welcome to bring your under 5's with you ☺

Facebook

You can now keep up to date with information on our Facebook page. If you log in to your own account, search for Pebbles Sure Start Children's Centre and then click the 'like' button, you will see all our latest news!

Discount Panto tickets for Pebbles families

Fancy taking your kiddies to see the Little Mermaid on Friday 7 January 2011 at Oakridge Hall for All? This is your chance to purchase special discounted tickets at a price of £2 each for families registered at Pebbles. Tickets must be reserved and paid for at reception by 5 December 2010.

Lone Parents' support group

If you are a lone parent and would like some support go to The Spotlight Centre (next door to Pebbles) Tuesdays from 10.30-12.00. for more information call 01256 325420 - We look forward to seeing lots more things happening here.

Dads Club

Next Dads Club is on Saturday 13 November 9.30-11.30 at Pebbles CC. We have a great group of dads coming along who would love to see some new dads attend with their under 5's - So Don't be shy, come and play!!

Coffee Mornings, Stay and Play, Young Parents Group, Bumps Mums and Dads, Teen Bumps, Chill and Chat



These groups and sessions are continuing to be offered by Pebbles so please pick up a timetable or call or email us to find out more!

For full details, contact **Pebbles Children's Centre** on **01256 357028** or email pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk.

Pebbles Children's Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9BP





Phillips' Legal Corner



Question:

I am nearing retirement age but would like to continue working – where do I stand legally?

Answer:

'At the moment your employer must give you notification of your proposed retirement date within 6 to 12 months of that date, but if you don't want to retire you have the right to request to stay on in your job after your employer's retirement date,' says Kelly Rayner, employment solicitor at Phillips 'and your employer has to consider your request.'

'You may have read recently that the government is now encouraging individuals to work beyond 65 and is going to phase out the default retirement age ('DRA') which currently enables employers to dismiss employees when they reach 65.

The impact of these Government proposals for you is that your employer will be unable to issue a new notice of retirement using the DRA on or after 6th April 2011 and then after 1st October 2011, your employer will not be able to use the DRA to retire you compulsorily.

But Regulation 3 of the Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 will remain and so employers can continue to have a compulsory retirement age providing they can objectively justify the difference of treatment on the grounds of age: if they can prove that it is necessary to meet legitimate employment policy, labour markets or vocational training objectives, and that a compulsory retirement is an appropriate and necessary means of achieving these objectives. There will, of course, still be scope to dismiss employees on grounds of capability, conduct, illegality (e.g. no right to work in the UK) and redundancy.

Working after State Pension Age does not affect your right to the state pension. However, you can choose to delay drawing your state pension while you're still working and this will entitle you to a higher annual income or a lump sum payment when you do retire.

There are several reasons for encouraging individuals to work beyond 65: people are living longer; the financial benefits to employees and the country as a whole; the health and social benefits people gain from working; retirement should be a matter for employers and employees to determine rather than the state; and not forgetting the removal of the costs and associated administration burden of the statutory retirement procedure.

In conclusion,' says Kelly, 'you'll have more choice on whether to retire upon reaching pensionable age (either State pension age or the occupational pension age) or to continue working. There will be a time of transition so if you need help, call me on 01256 854608.'

You can call Kelly or email Kelly at krayner@phillips-law.co.uk

Find out more on our website at www.phillips-law.co.uk

Phillips Solicitors – helping our clients achieve

November What's On @ Everest Community

Over 50s Activity Club - Launch Day – Friday 12th November 3pm – We would like to hold this club every Friday 3.00-4.30pm. Come along to the College on this date for a tour around the facilities followed by refreshments and a short discussion as to what shape you would like this club to take. There are plenty of possibilities and we would like to hear your views. For more information call Community Reception 01256 337573.

Family Fun Short Courses (4 weeks) – All our courses below are fun but with an element of learning and are aimed at interaction between parent/carer and child. Learn new skills and have a great time doing it. All our tutors are staff from the College and we have kept the prices as low as possible to make them affordable to all. Please note child age on all courses is 8+.

The Internet – Content will include how to navigate your way around; setting up email accounts on yahoo; online shopping; social websites etc.

Venue Community Office.

Tutor Songul Adams.

Starts Monday 22nd Nov 4.00-5.00pm.

Cost £16 per pair.

Cooking - Simple, quick, useful and fun menus. Emphasis is on the child to do the cooking with support from the parent/carer.

Venue Food Tech Room.

Tutor Theresa Paice.

Starts Monday 22nd Nov 4.00-5.00pm.

Cost £16 per pair (includes ingredients).

Steel Pans Workshop – You've seen them on TV and now is your chance to have a go; an hour and a half introduction to this exciting sound will bring out the rhythm in you both.

Venue Junction 6 at the College

Tutor Andrew Purkiss.

Date Wednesday 24th Nov 4.00-5.30pm.

Cost £4 per pair.

Taster Sessions – These are FREE (but please book to give us an idea of numbers) and are designed to give you an insight and to gauge interest with a view to putting on regular sessions.

Mums & Daughters Netball Taster – Beginners and players to take part in some exciting and fun games.

Venue Sports Hall

Coach Christine Thresher

Date Monday 8th November 4.30-5.15pm

Cost FREE! Book Now!

Dads & Lads 5 A Side Taster – Let's get a game going!

Venue Sports Hall

Coach Dean Ridgers

Date Friday 12th November 4.30-5.30pm

Cost FREE! Book Now!

To book call in to Community Reception or telephone 01256 337573

Knitability

Once again our club "Knitability" has had a busy year, gaining a few new members. The biggest event was hosting the Annual General meeting of the Machine Knitters Guild in June. It was the first time it was held in this part of the country, and with the good facilities of the Popley Community Centre, this contributed to it being a really successful day. About a hundred people descended on Popley from various clubs from all around the country. After the AGM business was quickly dealt with, then there were two talks followed by an informal fashion show of garments knitted and worn by the knitter.

There were various competition entries to be judged including amazing knitted jewellery boxes with jewellery and a Punch and Judy Show. There is no end to things that can be done on a knitting machine! We too had our knitting competition, of pin cushions. (See photo). Our club also has hand knitters, and many are the garments that we have sent to various charities.

Earlier in the year, a large pile went to orphanages in Romania. Now we are working on tiny teddies. I am sure there are other knitters in the area, who would enjoy company while they knit, and have the pleasure of knowing that what we produce for ourselves, or for charities is useful and helps those less fortunate than ourselves. If you have a machine sitting in the attic, do get it out and join us. We can help get you started again. We all learn from each other. If you only have knitting needles, you are welcome too.

We meet on the first and third Friday of each month, excluding August, from 10am to 12 noon. If transport is a problem, I am sure we can sort this out. Enquiries to Mrs Pauline Wooster 01256 772083.



Conservation in the Borough

Did you know the borough has one of Europe's most important sites for winter roosting bats? And is also home to a very rare British butterfly - the White Letter Hairstreak - and two protected species - the Great Crested Newt and Dormouse? To support the local environment and wildlife in the borough, several voluntary conservation groups regularly carry out activities such as tree planting, pond management and coppicing. Getting involved in conservation activities is fun and a great way to meet like minded people. Learn about nature and get fit! Supervision, tools and equipment are provided but you need sturdy footwear. No experience is necessary.

For more information please contact

Karen on 01256 845649 or email

karen.evans-prosser@basingstoke.gov.uk.

You can find information about the groups at
www.basingstoke.gov.uk/leisure/conservation

SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

Marnel Park & Merton Rise:

The spine road from the Everest to the A33 Reading Road roundabout is now open.

Elm Bottom safety:

Following the earlier meeting, the anti-slip surface has been added to the A340 and new signage will be completed shortly. The PC has again reported the poor condition of the road surface on Elm Road where it meets the A340, and has requested HCC Highways improve the visibility by cutting the hedges up the hill.

Bus services:

This continues to be an issue for our residents who rely on a reliable and frequent bus service to reach the towns amenities. Please let us know your thoughts and experiences. Is the door to door Dial a Ride mini bus service working for you? Are you aware of (and using) the communal bus service after the bi-weekly Seniors' Coffee Mornings - designed to get you to the shops and back?

A survey will be sent to you via Popley Matters or the Villager magazine. Please find time to complete and return this questionnaire so that we can lobby for the right service at the right time and cost for you.

New Councillor joins SSJPC:

Our active search is over and we are pleased to announce Mr Syd Abraham as our newest member to the PC. If you are also interested in getting involved with the Parish Council please contact the Clerk, Mrs Clover Morgan.

Neighbourhood Watch Officer required:

Are you interested in co-coordinating a scheme? Then make yourself known to the SSJPC or our WPC. Naturally all suspicious or criminal activity should be reported to the police without delay. Find out more by asking about your no obligation neighbourhood watch officer responsibilities.

Village Projects:

- Delayed but not cancelled, our Teenage Play Area at the Chute Playing Fields has received new funding initiatives and we hope that we can now progress and complete this project.
- The Chute Pavilion driveway footpath is now complete and phase 2 of a handrail and flower garden are planned.
- Planning is approved and valid for 3 years for our Church Path Lychgate, however (like all funding) 2010 budgets have been reduced or withdrawn. Subsequently, there is no grant available this financial year - we will seek alternative funding opportunities.
- The Parish Council will keep up the pressure to secure early repair to the damage to the Church Pathway at the pond - which is also affected by lack of funds.

Chute playground maintenance:

The annual inspection has taken place and Councillors are looking to repair or replace to the slide as soon as possible.

MFC Popley



It's been another great month at the all-conquering MFC Popley, the local youth football club which continues to do Popley proud in the Pete Houseman Youth League.

In the Under 7, the nursery of the Club, Manager Will Pearce and Alex Matthews, his assistant, are doing a great job.

They have 13 boys signed on, an impressive total for Under 7, and they are already playing some fabulous football.

They recently got the better of the useful Oakley FC, with striker Rowan McNair banging the goals in, and Ronnie Collins

impressing in goal.

The Under 8s, managed by Club Chairman Lee Austen, have also been doing well. They recently beat Basingstoke Town Colts 6-1 away with several players impressing, including Jake Lunnon, Adam Poynter and Alfie Austen.

Meanwhile, Russell Graves's Under 9s, in their first competitive season, have been acquitting themselves well. They beat Tadley Calleva 3-1 and Oakley A two-nil at home.

Among those who have been impressing Manager Russell Graves are forward Sheldon Wright, midfielders Nathan Taylor and Edward Graves, while, between the sticks, goalkeeper Caos McNair has been outstanding.

The Under 10s continue to do the Club proud. Manager Justin Taylor's Dynamos are proving simply unstoppable in the Elite Division, their latest win being 5-0 on the road at Loddon Sports A.

This followed a superb 12-1 victory over Overton at home at Marnel School - which featured a superb headed goal by sweeper Kieran Carr - and a Club record breaking 20-0 win in the Cup over Berg.

The Dynamos have an incredible array of talent and it would be unfair to leave any of them out so we won! Josh Poynter (goalkeeper), Kieran Carr (sweeper), Kallum Cousins (defensive midfield), Nick Bundy (wide right), Callum McKeaveney (wide left), Liam Thomas (midfield), Aidan Lea (attacking midfield) and forwards D'Andre Brown Taylor Ross and Aaron Taylor.

Meanwhile Danny Oates's Raiders are moving up their table too, their latest win being 4-0 at Loddon Sports B. Playmaker Cole Oates, winger Morgan Best, midfield hard man Ray Adebawale and forward Felix Davies (leading scorer with seven goals) are just four who have impressed in recent weeks. Kai Adebawale, Andrew Hyde, Louis Windebank, Tyrese Richardson and Ryan Suparta have also done well.

Paul O'Shea's Under 11s are also doing well, with defenders Zak Barker and Joe Okunseri particularly impressing the Manager.

Lee Austen's U12s have also been playing well, with Jacob Austen, Fynnlie Judd, Cameron Meritt and George Graves catching the Coach's eye.

At Under 14, Danny Oates's lads are playing with credit, with wide left midfielder Billy Marshall working hard down that left channel and pleasing his Manager no end.

And at Under 16, a 1-0 win on the road at Basingstoke Town Colts recently was particularly commendable for Manager Jake Perrin's lads.

'Night at the Races'

In aid of Cancer research UK & Basingstoke Macmillan Nurses

On 20 November 2010 come and have an evening out with a difference - and raise money for a good cause. An experienced compere will take you through each of the horse races which will be shown on a large screen. It is an excellent night out and lots of fun!! Why not get a group of friends/colleagues/family members together and have some fun. At Kempshott Village Hall, Pack Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire. All for £10 per ticket (includes a buffet). All proceeds will go to Cancer Research UK and Basingstoke Macmillan Nurses. Arrival from 7.30pm - first race to start at 8pm sharp. Ample free parking right outside the venue.

Please contact Nicola Lawrence on 07841 576539 or email nicolalawrence1@sky.com to purchase tickets.

Tickets are limited so buy early!



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Or Dawsons Music Shop the Town Centre

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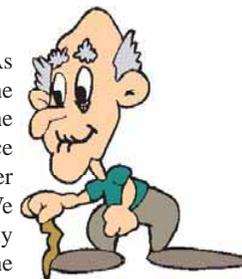
Diaries from the Old Codger

It was back in the early part of the 1950s when we as a family left London. As a boy I spent most of my time with my Nan and Granddad in West Ham. The house had two rooms downstairs and one up. The scullery was tacked onto the back of the house and the loo was out in the garden. Boy was that a cold place in the winter! At night we had to use the chamber pots under the bed. We never went in the front room of the house, that was kept for high days and holidays. We would all cram into the small room at the back. At Christmas the whole family would come to stay. There were seven of us alone in my family, but with all the aunts and uncles it was a bit of a tight fit, and that was one of the high days. Nan would let them use the front room, kids were not allowed in it. We all sat on the stairs or were out in the back yard playing games. Then of course we had the street, all the kids out with there with new toys. Many made for them by their dads or uncles, but we didn't care it never bothered us. Sleeping was another thing, You would be surprised how many kids you can get in a bed! And every chair was taken up by the adults. These were the days when family life was hard on us, if you were not at work hard luck, you got no money. It fell on the family and they would all help each other out. The NHS was in its infancy and at that time still very crude. I can vouch for that, when they took my appendix out boy you would think it was a butcher's shop. Another time I had an operation, I was about five years old. I won't say what it was but boy it would make your eyes water fellas to think of it. Happy days though.

I said last month Her Indoors is now officially a pensioner. Can't let her stop work though, I have standards she needs to maintain! Great party with all the family and a few days after her birthday our son came over from Australia for four days, so it rounded off a good week, with yet another get together. Mind you it gives me a chance to have yet another dig at her the OAP. I wonder why the senior citizens and we as disabled have to take the brunt of the usual government cuts, no matter who runs the country. If it is not us, it is the young families. They now want people to work longer in life. Yes some may wish to, but on doing so how can our youngsters get jobs as more and more senior citizens take up jobs in say these big DIY stores and other working sections. There is no logic in all of this, a bit catch 22. My family have been lucky in so much as when we came to the town it was new and fresh. There were two great schools to go to, but both are now closed down. I do not believe we are going in the right direction with this new idea of the academy schools. I believe it tends to isolate a child that may never achieve the high standards of what they require of them. To me they do not take into consideration the skills kids have in other ways. Many kids will leave school with nothing but their wits and their mind that can solve things ten times quicker that of brain box of the class because this is the way people's minds work. I would like to give you one example of this. Our youngest left school with lowest grade GCSEs, he went on to the college to train as an electrician. They told him that with his predicted grades he may struggle, but he got in. Year One was fine but Year Two they nearly all failed and wanted them to repeat the year, We said "No go onto Year Three" I sent him to another college, as a night school pupil, because I believed in him. He passed with flying colours, just three months after he failed. He ended up running the company where he worked for a time. All his clever so called brainier friends now ring him up and ask him to do many electrical jobs, or can he come and program their computers if they break down. He turns his hand to most things and his brain is so quick. Had he gone to an Academy School instead of an all around one would he have failed as well? He can make a computer "sing" and makes it look so easy. People need to look ahead at the potential in kids. Some will disagree as they will have seen the benefit from the other side but....? Only what the school before tells them. We were born with hands and minds some can use both to extremes but many can only dream of this. These are kids that should be encouraged. So please government don't make too many specialist schools as this could leave future generations sadly lacking in basic skills.

Look out for the Old Codger next month. As we arrive into the month to celebrate 40 years of married
life and nearly 40 years in the town.

The Old Codger



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SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER FROM 1PM
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Marnel Community Infant School.

A new school year has begun at Marnel. We have welcomed many new families to our school and we are very pleased to see our Year R children settle into school life so quickly. The children have been busy working on their topics. In Year R the children have been learning many songs and rhymes for their 'Move and Groove topic.' Their parents were invited in to take part in a short singing session. In Year 1 children have been celebrating being 5 years old. Their families were invited to join the children in the hall to make a page about themselves for the class book. This event was very well attended and families brought in lovely photographs and lots of information to present on the pages. Stickers, glitter and felt tips were in abundance to decorate the pages and the class books look lovely. Year 2 parents were invited to attend the interactive display of 'The Aquarium' This was the culmination of Year 2's topic 'Commotion in the Ocean'. Parents were able to enjoy the activities with their children including using the computers to make an underwater scene, shopping for souvenirs and a treasure hunt. We were pleased to welcome so many parents and see them enjoying this event and all the other events so far this year. *Mrs B. Cole Head Teacher*

Piccolo Pre-school Nursery

Piccolo Pre-school Nursery Limited has grown from strength to strength since it opened 2 years ago. We are based in the Sports Pavilion in the village of Sherborne St John and our idyllic location allows us to make use of the large outdoor area, which includes a children's playground. We cater for children ages 2 ½ to school age and we are open 5 mornings and 2 afternoons a week, during school term only. Our last Ofsted inspection was very successful and we are fully committed to provide high quality care by offering children a happy, secure and stimulating environment. If you would like to find out more about our nursery, please contact us on 07528 726 248 or e-mail: info@piccolopsn.com. Mayte Neary- Manager

Shakespeare Community Residents Association

We are holding a public meeting on 26th November 7-8pm at the Popley Spotlight Centre (old Chineham Park School, Shakespeare Road). To vote on changes to the constitution we really need people to make the effort to come! Everyone living in the Shakespeare Road area and Elevate estate, aged over 18 are eligible to vote.

Our Quiz night was a fun evening despite low numbers. We would like to thank those that braved the torrential rain that evening, and we will be putting on more events as soon as we are able to. Also thanks to Peace of Mind Care at the Spotlight Centre, who have been kind enough to let us use their premises.

If you would like to get involved in the Residents Association, have any ideas for fund raising or community projects, or need information please contact us. *Julie Johnson, Chair – 01256 816101*



Melrose Hall Christmas Bazaar

CHANGE OF DATE!!!!!!

We will be having our Christmas Bazaar on Saturday 16th November at 1.30-3.30 NOT Saturday 20th November as previously advertised. New and used items, gifts bargains and refreshments.

WHAT'S ON:

MONDAY:	10.00-12pm	Friendly Café
	7.30-10.00pm	Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	4.00-9.00	Petite School of Dance
	9.30-2.30	Pebbles Childrens Centre
WEDNESDAY:	10.00-11.30	Popley Little People, Mother and Toddler group
	9.00-11.00	Quit Smoking Clinic
	12-2pm	Oasis Lunch club
THURSDAY:	10.00-12PM	Friendly Café
FRIDAY:	6.30-7.45	MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
	8.00- 9.15	age 11 plus.
SATURDAY:	9.00-12.30	Petite School of Dance
SUNDAY:	MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services.	

Melrose Community Hall is available to hire for birthdays, wedding receptions, and conferences. Please Ring Vicki Jackson on 01256 420676 for more information or e-mail us at Melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk.

Over 55s Forum

At the Basingstoke & Deane "Young at Heart" Over 55s Forum October Open meeting one of our guest speakers was our patron Lawrie McMenemy. His talk about his life and jokes were absolutely brilliant and all those two hundred plus who attended a wonderful morning.

The December Open Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th December 2010 at the Carnival Hall, Basingstoke 10.00am to 1.00pm. The first few minutes will be taken with our AGM business, then our guest speakers will be Sue Taplis from the Willis Museum, Daniel from the Hearing Department at the Basingstoke and North Hampshire. Hospital, plus singing by the Carnival Chorus. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served as usual.

The dates for 2011 will be issued shortly.

We would like to offer a big "thank you" for all those people who supported our Variety Show on the 2nd October 2010 at Queen Mary College to celebrate the "International Day for Older People." It was another successful show with 5 local acts performing very well. Dove House School received the biggest ovation.



Letters to the Editor.



Dear Editor: Hello I would like to write an article for your magazine! I have lived in Popley for over 23 years have loved living here . I have recently moved into Marnel Park, only to be confronted by children and people cutting and throwing their rubbish into my garden. I have lager cans, and today I caught a young girl from Everest throwing her rubbish into my garden and when I asked "Would you please come and pick it up, the mouth that I got back from her was dreadful!! Shall we start the old saying an eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth? And I will go to her garden and start throwing rubbish into her garden. What will her parents say? Or is she one of these children that has become a complete pain to other members of the society and we have to tolerate it? I am fed up with they are misunderstood and they have problems and come from single parent backgrounds. I know many single parents and their children are delightful and have respect. These children do not have respect for other people as they have to respect themselves first!

Also as for the man who has his motorbike stolen... there have been more than several incidents regarding this. Perhaps again we should go round and start taking their property. These again as children out of control and a menace to POPLEY. The police are aware of this situation so please contact them. Hopefully they will be able to add more to their case. Before anyone can say oh she doesn't have children I do in fact but they have been brought up with morals! So Popley is not as perhaps nice as you wish it to be and this is caused by a minority of people!. Shame but true!

Editors reply:- We welcome letters and articles for Popley Matters Community magazine. I will pass your comments on to Ms Julie Rose, Head of Everest College. I agree that people do seem to label single parent families, and it is not fair or justified to infer "they are all the same".

I also get frustrated when I hear that the children of Popley are blamed for any amount of issues etc. I am not saying all the children are angels but I have met many good and kind youths too.

Dear Editor; have just been reading a letter in the October edition of Popley Matters about sewage coming from a manhole in Abbey Road.

I would like to point out that the leaking sewage

does get reported by myself and the residents of the property near the manhole cover. Many times I have reported the leak to Sentinel Housing, and Basingstoke Council who both say its nothing to do with them, I have also contacted Thames Water and get the same reply, either that day or within a couple of days a sub contractor turns up and unblocks the sewer and cleans up the mess that is left. I have never seen it left for two weeks as stated in the letter, I live opposite side and can see when its leaking.

The sewer in question is on a public footpath near a crossing point in Abbey Road which is used by young children going to and from school and I don't think its fair the children have to walk around the mess the leak makes. We should be able to report the leak to the council who could pass on the details to whoever is responsible for the sewer so that the mess can be sorted. I hate to think what sort of health risk is caused with the raw sewage covering the path and running down Abbey Road.

Another thing that was in the letter is about how slovenly the residents of Popley are getting towards dirtiness of the area. It's not the residents in this area that are making the mess but mums, dads, school children from other areas who walk to either Merton Schools or Everest College. We have a street cleaner who does a fantastic job of keeping this area tidy the best he can.

Editors reply:- The responsibility at present is for the resident to contact Thames Water, as much as I agree it was better when the Councils previously had responsibility for the drains.

Editor's 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 cannot accept letters that are sent anonymously.

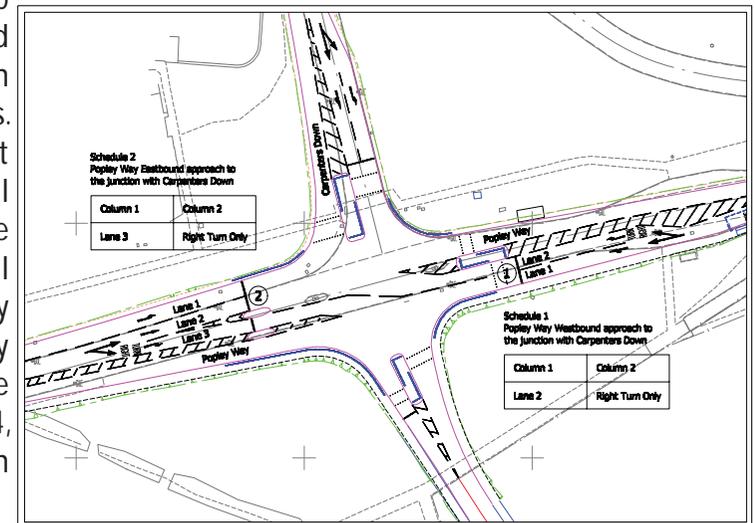
Please send your letters to: The Editor, Popley Matters, PO Box 6727, Popley Basingstoke RG24 9GG or email: editor@popleymatters.org.uk or phone 819924



Councillors Page:

There was another accident at the junction of Popley Way and Carpenters Down where a first year student at Everest Community College was knocked down. Luckily she was not badly hurt. This was the third serious accident in three years. The 1.2 million pounds of improvements to that junction, new paths, dropped kerbs, traffic islands and the moving of the bus stop should be completed by the end of the year. Most of the new safer crossing points in Popley Way are near completion. There will be even more safer crossings in Carpenters Down that will be finished around Easter. There will also be new paths to help make safer journeys there. I know I seem to be saying this in most of the Popley Matters as we have tried to keep you informed, after it has taken over three years to get Hampshire County Council to agree, find and access the funding and draw up the plans. Then there was the effort to get the Police Road Safety Officer to finally agree to the 30mph speed limit. Although none of the accidents I believe were the fault of the drivers, or down solely to speed. The signage for the 30mph has caused a lot of comment mostly about the lack of it and the poor quality of the signage that is there. We complained and have now been assured that new signs are being ordered and with our insistence school crossing signs to be added.

There is a petition going around asking for a School Crossing Patrol Officer at the accident hot spot. If you want to sign it there are copies in Everest Community College reception. The Fitness and Health Wing, Community Centres, Fastfare Pharmacy, LA Hair and Beauty, the school crossing patrol officer at Marnel School Youngs Fish Shop and some concerned residents have been knocking on doors. You can also contact any of your local Councillors Jane Frankum and Paul Frankum at Popley Labour, 405 Abbey Road, or phone Jane and Paul on 819924, Andy McCormick on 419376.





Hello! Such allot going on! And so little space on the page to write!

The Beavers joined the Cubs in a visit to the police station where they were shown around the station including a police van and the cells! A big thank you to the staff at Basingstoke police station for showing us around!

The Scouts have had to deal with a mock first aid scenario where they had to treat some actors for a broken collar bone, and an open leg wound to prepare them if they ever have to do it for real! They also have had a fun night with Wii's and large dance mats supplied by Basingstoke and Deane borough Council, Thank you!

The Scouts have also been learning about fire safety in preparation for them too learn about fire lighting skills and what is needed to make fire.

There are so many challenging and adventurous activities that will be taking place over the next few months at 1st Popley Scout group.

Are you a child or an adult (or even both!) who has ever wanted a challenge and seeks adventure. If so please call 07854860895 (Martin Lee Scout Leader) to enquire about joining the group.

Thought for the month: The real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people- *Lord Robert Baden Powel (1857-1941) - Founder of the scouting movement.*

facebook (Search for 1st Popley Scout Group)
twitter Follow us @ 1st_popley



Boys & Girls 6-8
Tuesday 5pm-6.15pm
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6.30pm-8pm



Boys & Girls 10 ½ -15
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