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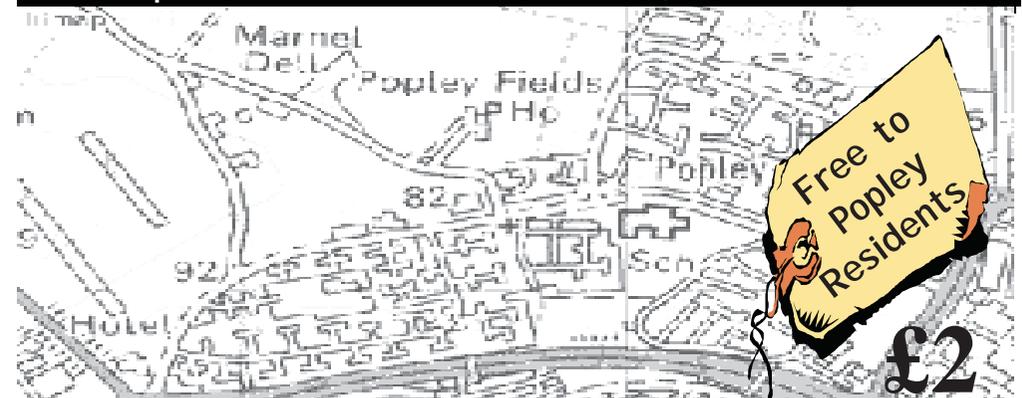
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POPLEY MATTERS

OVER NINETEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

September 2011 Distribution of 4,600

Issue 115



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (18-09-11)



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor:- Sadly on 21st July my dear husband Ken passed away, but not before Popley Matters was at the printers. On the 19th Ken told Paul to go and get Popley Matters ready Paul did not want to leave his dad. Ken got in the big guns and asked the doctors to make Paul go home and do the Matters. By that night the Matters was laid out and Ken said “Proofing?” So we had to take it to the proofers on the 20th they returned the copies to us on the 21st in the morning. Paul did the corrections and printed a special copy for Ken, large size. In the evening we told Ken all was done and the copy was now at the printers. Ken passed away that night, but not before he said “Look after Popley” and we will. As a family we have lived here for over 40 years and would not want to be anywhere else. Ken was a

quiet modest and generous man and at his funeral I was reminded of some of the things he did to help people from repairing cars to cutting hedges for the elderly. Please accept the family’s most sincere thank you for the cards and letters we received, and for the people who came to share our last goodbye to Ken at his funeral.

We have quite a lot of events going on in and around Popley. Macmillan Cancer are asking people to hold coffee mornings on 30th September to raise funds for their valuable work, (on page 23). On the 24th there is the annual charity beer festival at Sherfield on Loddon details on page 10. At Marnel Lodge they are starting a Come and Meet Us event details on page 11. On 1st October it will be International Day for Older People, details on page 11. Shakespeare Residents Community Group are holding a Quiz and Pudding Night, details on page 12. Merton and Marnel Community Group are holding a Halloween Party on 22nd October, details for this are on page 30.

Do you have events or appeals for new members, just let us know and we will try to help.

If you want to write an article, advertise, or be a volunteer for Popley Matters, contact Jane Frankum on 819924 or Iris King 411113, via email editor@popleymatters.org.uk, or write to Popley Matters Group, 405 Abbey Road, Basingstoke RG24 9EL.



Sub Editor
Paul Frankum

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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Beckie's Column

Hello again. By the time you read this, it will be almost the end of the summer holidays! Back to school again, for some more hard work. Did you enjoy your holidays? I really did enjoy mine. We've been to Cadbury World and to a safari park, where the baboons stole some of our car parts! Cheeky monkeys! I've been on my activity camp too. We did loads of activities and collected loads of bruises. I think I've got about 20 on my legs! Because it is the end of the school year, our young enterprise company has closed. We only have a few final things to sort out and then it's over! We had fun running the company, and learned a lot from it. We each get £15 out of the company which is great! Thank you to everyone who helped us, and also bought our products. We are going to be the oldest year in the school in September. I remember thinking in Year 7 that the next couple of years will go really slowly, but they've gone really fast. We only have a year left, well not even that, if we finish early like the other Year 11s. It all seems so unreal! Then there's the Prom. This year's Year 11 girls looked really good in their dresses. I can't wait for our Prom! Most of the girls I know have already started looking for a brilliant Prom dress!

Well, enjoy the rest of your holidays!

Beckie

SPOT LIGHT

Run by Peace of Mind Care. Registered Charity 1129258. Raising money for local people.

Indoor table top sales starting on Saturday 3rd September, 1.30-3.30pm and every Saturday thereafter at the Popley Spotlight Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley. £5 a Table. To book a table please email peaceofmindcare@hotmail.co.uk.



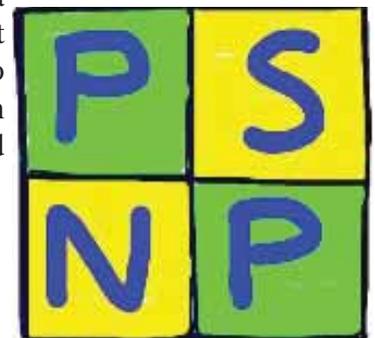
Dear Residents

The Popley Team have been working on the three core priorities as selected by the PSNP (Popley Safer Neighbourhood Panel). This quarters priorities are: 1) Drug issues in and around Abbey Road ;2) Trespassing on school grounds and 3) ASB and drugs issues in Priestley Road. We do not wish to spoil anyone's fun but historically Popley schools have faced bills of thousands of pounds for damage caused by children. The drug issue continues to rear its head in Popley hence the continued priority for our team and the community. Priestley Road has been quiet. We are always looking for more residents to join the PSNP. Please get in touch if you would like further information. You can also follow the work of the PSNP on twitter @PopleySNP. We now have over 90 followers but we would very much like more residents to add us. We provide regular information on the team's work and useful crime prevention advice relevant to Popley. The PSNP and the local Beat Officers are there for the residents of Popley. We aim to work with you to ensure you and your families feel safe in Popley. We welcome feedback from you in relation to what matters to you in your community, and how we may help achieve this. I am currently involved in several community issues. One of the issues was reported by a resident from Popley. She reported that another resident possibly had a dangerous breed of dog. I have been able to work with this resident to ensure that he complies with the law in relation to his dog. Further updates to come. The recent events in London have shocked and appalled all of us. The incidents have affected most police forces including Hampshire. Officers from Hampshire helped bolster the numbers and, as I type, they are still helping out. Officers from Basingstoke have been working extended tours of duty to ensure that communities are not missing out on Police cover over these tough times. As far as I'm aware, Popley is as it was prior to the troubles and I, along with my team will ensure high visibility patrols as often as possible. Tonight, 14th August 2011, we located a male smoking cannabis in the park on Tobago Close. This is wrong on a number of levels and the male was suitably dealt with. Anyway, follow us on twitter and I hope to see you in Popley. I'm happy for you to stop me on my bike and have a chat. p.s. I also love tea and biscuits (hint) Stay safe.

Regards

PC Dan Carter

Popley West Beat Manager.



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Further information about the store can be found on the Hospice website www.stmichaels hospice.org.uk.



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MFC POPLEY Youth staged a very successful Tournament at Basingstoke Powerleague, Brighton Hill, and in the process raised valuable funds for the Samantha Dixon Brain Tumour Trust.

By 2012, the club hopes to be able to move the event to Popley Fields with the blessing of Popley Fields Community Centre - that way, even more cash can be raised for this worthy cause.

In the meantime the club's Managers are busy signing up players for the new season.

Andy Williams has done particularly well with his fledgling Under 7s squad, with a record number of signings for that age group already.

Other signings include Harry Wildash, who joins the Under 11s from Winklebury Wizards.

Next season the club will be represented in the Peter Houseman Youth League by teams at: Under 7s, Under 8s, Under 9s, Under 10s, Under 11s, Under 12s, Under 13s and Under 15s, as the club grows bigger than ever.

Shakespeare Community Residents Association

Residents of the Popley Poets area, Elevate and Everest estates, are invited to our Quiz Night and Pudding Party on Tuesday 27th September 2011 at 7-9pm at the Popley Spotlight Centre. Come and test your general knowledge or just taste the free puds. You will also get chance to take part in an initial consultation about our area and hopefully meet some new neighbours. We will also be holding a short AGM after the quiz before tucking in to the puddings. If you would like to become a member of the Committee, or you would like more information, please contact me.

Julie Johnson, 01256 816101, jjohn957@aol.com



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Dear Friends

Summer! What summer? They weren't kidding when they said it was the wettest August on record, I would not be surprised if July weren't far behind. I guess the weather affects many of us and our moods and I know a lot of folk have struggled to cope with the weather over the last couple of months – a very definite lack of clear blue skies and warm sunshine can often bring on a feeling of melancholy. Take heart – I'm told September will deliver what July and August should've done (but I'm not holding my breath!).

In spite of the weather some of the venues for next year's Olympics have been coming on line and test events run at them. I have to say it all looks magnificent and a suitable platform for all our athletes to show off their best. It's a tribute to all the training and preparation in the years running up to their events. Hard work and commitment coupled with focus on the task will always bring its reward.

The journey of our athletes can be likened to the Christian journey through life. Sports and games were as popular 2,000 years ago as they are today and athleticism and the ability to compete and win were much admired – I'm certain they had their own Ben Ainslie or Chris Hoy. St Paul makes a distinct comparison as he writes to a small church in a place called Corinth *“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize... Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly.”*

Alice Cooper, the rock star, said that 'becoming a Christian was the hardest thing I've ever done'. It still is for me, it takes hard work, commitment and focus but the crown at the finish line is an eternal one and that for me makes it worthwhile – and I do have an excellent personal trainer!!!

In, September St Gabriel's will celebrate two major events. The first is on the 18th at 1030am when we host the Battle of Britain service with representatives of the Royal Air Forces Association, the Air Training Corps and the Royal British Legion. Please do feel welcome to come along, especially if you or a member of your family is a former member of the RAF. The second event will take place on the morning of Sunday 25th September when we launch our new 9.00am Communion Service with more traditional hymns. We warmly welcome you to both. We are also launching Messy Church on Friday 23rd September so watch out for more details!

God Bless.
Rev. Arthur.
Vicar, St Gabriel's

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WHATS ON:

MONDAY: 10.00am-12pm Friendly Café
7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic

TUESDAY: 4.00-9.00pm AG Dance Academy
9.30am-2.30pm Pebbles Children's Centre

WEDNESDAY: 9.30-11.30am Popley Little People, Mother and Toddler group
9.00-10.45am Quit Smoking Clinic
12-2pm Oasis Lunch club
7.30-9.00pm Slimming World

THURSDAY: 10.00am-12pm Friendly Café

FRIDAY: 10.00-11.30am Pebbles children's centre
6.30-7.45pm MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
8.00- 9.15pm age 11 plus.

SATURDAY: 9.00am-12.30pm AG Dance Academy

SUNDAY: MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Keble 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. Also find us on facebook: Melrose hall.



BERMUDA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

REGISTERED CHARITY No 1112068

40-44 BERMUDA CLOSE
BASINGSTOKE HANTS
RG24 9PE

TELEPHONE
OFFICE: 01256 363156
HALL: 01256 308442

We have excellent Popley Explorers pre-school here Monday to Friday 8.30am - 3.00pm Also available- Breakfast and Lunch clubs (for further details contact Elaine on 363156)

Monday evening - C.M.A Keep Fit & Kick boxing from 6:30- 8.00pm
Tuesday evening - Community Bingo doors open at 7.00pm, eyes down at 8.00pm.
Finish around 9.45pm. (Light Refreshments available halftime)
Wednesday evening - C.M.A Kick boxing from 7.00-8.30pm
Friday evening- Friday Club (children) 5.00-6.30pm
Sunday Afternoon- Christian Family Fellowship 4.00-6.30pm

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Cornerstone Nursery News - September 2011

Cornerstone Miss Muffets in Popley Way - 01256 840300

July was a month of mixed emotions, we held a party for our school leavers which involved lots of fun, party games and yummy food. Although it was sad to say goodbye it is always good to see how far the children have come and how much they have achieved. We look forward to welcoming our new starters from September and continuing to support and enhance their learning and development. Some of our 2-3 year olds enjoyed a visit to the mobile library as their topic was all around their favourite books.

Through August the children will be enjoying lots of outside play in the sunshine, messy play, sensory play and sparkly craft activities.

Cornerstone Nursery in Priestley Road - 01256 818118

During this month we have been doing lots of exciting activities, including our monthly theme day, which was under the sea. Children dressed up in their finest costumes and took part in lots of different activities including hat making and designing a role play area. All children joined together in the hall for an afternoon tea party. We had fish sandwiches with vegetable crudites and seafood sauce, prawn crisps and ice cream cones for pudding. Yum yum!

We would like to say goodbye and good luck to all of our children whom are going off to school this year. We will miss you lots and look forward to your return visits. We would also like to say a big congratulations to our kitchen staff, Denise, Amy and Luke as we received the maximum 5 star rating for our recent inspection. Well done!

Cornerstone Sunrise at Aldworth Science College - 01256 356166

Our older children have been learning about height and length this month, they have been measuring with tape measures and very big rulers and also put up a height chart and have written their names on there so they could compare their height with their friends. The children have been enjoying lots of picnics in the garden at tea time and setting out the picnic area by themselves. They have also been gardening, planting out all new types of plants and watching the butterflies and bees that have visited the plants by using the magnifying glasses and even the binoculars from the other side of the garden.

In the baby area the younger children have been concentrating on colours and hand printing, which lead to trying all different textures and talking about big and small. The babies have been singing new songs, "Grandpa's little train goes choo choo choo". They have also been doing the actions to "Twinkle twinkle" and some of the older babies are now singing the songs independently.

All settings currently have spaces in all age groups but spaces are limited so please contact the manager at your preferred setting.

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Cheque guarantee card scheme closure



On 30th June, the UK Domestic Cheque Guarantee Card Scheme was withdrawn. This means that it is no longer possible to guarantee a cheque using a plastic card.

On the run up to the closure of the scheme, banks and building societies have been managing the removal of the facility differently. Some removed the cheque guarantee function (indicated by a logo - a hologram of Shakespeare) from their cards before 30th June. Others may be only removing the logo on renewal. This means that although the logo will still be on your cards after 30th June, it will be redundant.

You can still pay for goods and services by cheque but just cannot use a plastic card to guarantee it. A trader can decide whether it is prepared to accept it. The trader will have the certainty that under cheque clearing rules, a cheque will be cleared and will not bounce at the end of the sixth working day after the cheque has been paid into the trader's account. The trader will know it is safe to release goods or services at this point. There are also other alternatives to guaranteed cheques such as:

- debit or credit cards
- cash payments
- online payments
- phone banking payments.

The end of the Cheque Guarantee Card Scheme does not mean the end of the use of cheques. In December 2009, the Payments Council set a target date for the closure of the central cheque clearing in 2018. However, closure will only be confirmed if, by 2016, suitable alternatives to cheques are in place and are being successfully used by individuals and businesses.

UK Payments Administration have produced a leaflet which you may find useful. It is available on their website at www.ukpayments.org.uk.

Need further information or Help?

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

The Advice Line telephone number is 01256 322814

Or you can drop in to our outreach services at these times:

CAB Outreach Popley – one Tuesday morning per month 10am-1pm at the Bermuda Practice, Shakespeare House Health Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley

CAB Outreach Buckskin – one Monday morning per month 10am-1pm at The Ridgeway Centre, off Buckskin Lane

CAB Outreach South Ham – one Wednesday morning per month 10am-1pm at Westside Community Centre, Paddock Road.

Online help from Citizens Advice can be found at www.adviceguide.org.uk



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Councillors Page: I hope the repairs to the roads that got so much damage with the big snowfalls will be finished very soon and that they are strong enough to withstand poor weather if it happens again.

I have asked for suitable signage at the entrances to Popley and have suggested to Hampshire County Council that we could ask our residents and school children to submit ideas. We could have a sign that says "Welcome to Popley" or "Popley Welcomes Careful Drivers." Please let me know what you think.

Although the Childrens Services got an excellent Ofsted I am disappointed that there have been so many cuts to so many services and some that I truly believe did a great job: Connections,, Junction 6, and big changes to the Sure Start centres.

The severe cuts of 45% to subsidise the bus service will have an impact on the number 5 bus. It has now been scheduled to miss out the hospital loop, starting on October 30th. They say the figures show that this route is not used enough to justify continuing to subsidise it, and the number 4 will still be available to get to the hospital! Do you use it? Will it impact on you?

To contact me, phone 819924, mobile 07974098131, email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk or write to 405 Abbey Road, Popley, Basingstoke RG24 9EL

Popley West: David Wilson Homes are putting in a planning application to build 450 more dwellings in the fields by Jersey and Guernsey Closes. They are hosting two exhibitions for you to go and give your comments. If residents don't go they will assume that you all agree to 450 more dwellings. I have already made my opinions known. They should finish the 784 already proposed on the Merton Rise site. When completed it will go right up to the road by the hospital. I don't believe our roads, schools and medical services will be able to cope and now we read in the press that the walkin clinic that was supposed to help provide services for these homes may close? There is a possibility that if there were a new school built (as David Wilson Homes were suggesting) what would happen to the old Chineham School building could that be demolished and yet more development thrust into Popley? To contact me, phone 819924, mobile 07974098131, email cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk or write to 405 Abbey Road, Popley, Basingstoke RG24 9EL

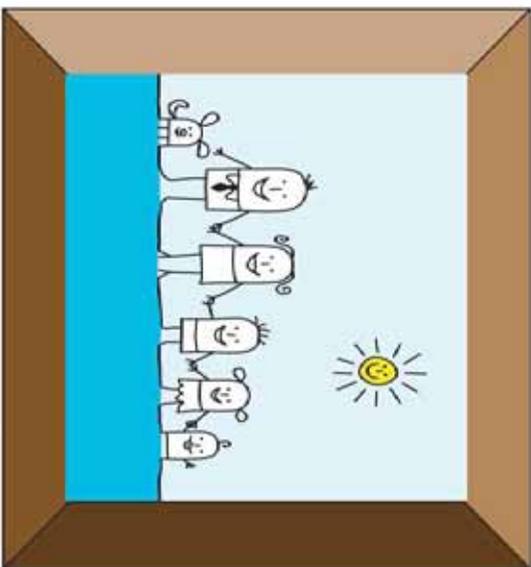
Popley East: Summer seems to have finally arrived the last few weeks. The weather has been lovely while I have been out and about doing street surgeries in the ward and delivering thank you leaflets. I was pleased to see last week that Popley Paddling Pool in Chineham Park has now been opened. It was looking lovely and clean and packed with families when I went by. I had emailed the council a few weeks back to grumble that the pool was not open over the spell of good weather we received in July so this was a good result.

In other news more of the redevelopment over at Faroe Close has now been finished. The new homes are looking good and lots of new residents have now moved in and are very happy and settling in well.

Lots of you have mentioned the new fitness craze sweeping the area known as 'zumba' to me recently, and I know that many of you attend the weekly classes at the Spotlight Centre and Popley Fields Community Centre. Well, I hope you'll be pleased to know that I have decided to take your advice and try it out. This weekend I am taking part in the two hour charity 'Zumbathon' at Everest and look forward to see many of you shaking it there! please call me on 07834818489 or email me at Cllr.Shelley.Phelps@basingstoke.gov.uk.

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OPEN EVENING NOTICE

Thursday 22nd September
at 7:00pm



BASINGSTOKE OPEN DofE CENTRE

- Aged 14 - 24
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- Like the outdoor life?
- Looking to learn new skills or hobbies or develop existing ones?
- Want to meet and make new friends?

If the answer to any of the above is Yes then

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award could be for you!

Basingstoke's Open Duke of Edinburgh Centre will be holding an open evening for both new participants and their parents/guardians (if under 18) at the Junction 6 Bldg, Everest Community College on the evening of 22nd Sept'11 at 7:00pm.

All the leaders are Hampshire County Council (HCC) trained (with enhanced CRB checks). The Basingstoke Open DofE Centre is operated by HCC.

The centre has been operating for over 6 years providing an alternative for participants who are unable to undertake the DofE award at their school/college.

To find out more, come along and perhaps bring a friend as well !



The DofE award is open to any young person aged between 14 and 24 who wishes to undertake the challenge of this prestige award, make new friends and learn new skills. For more information please contact Lisa on 07801931738 or email lisa.tibbs@ntlworld.com



1ST POPLEY SCOUT GROUP NEEDS

YOU!

Well that was a nice rest over the holidays! All systems are going again for all sections and everyone is ready to go for the following weeks. Among the events and activities we have planned is a International sleepover in October where all sections will be learning about different cultures and hopefully even speaking to Scouts from other countries.



The Internet makes it very easy for events like this to happen. We also like to make use of the internet for communicating with you. Since opening our webpage (www.1stpopley.orgfree.com) and Facebook page (facebook.com/1stpopley) we have had alot of people coming to the pages to see what we are up to, all the contact details you need and an insight into Scouting are here for you to view, please make use of them!

As ever please make contact with Martin Lee (Group Scout Leader) on 07854860895 if you have any questions or you would like to join us in our adventure! Whatever your age there is a place waiting for you!



Boys & Girls 6-8

Tuesday 5pm-6.00pm



Boys & Girls 8-10 ½

6.00pm-7.30pm



Boys & Girls 10 ½ -15

7.30pm-9.00pm

(All meetings held at St Gabriel Church Hall, Tewksbury Close during term times)

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- Hog Roast, baked potatoes, chicken in a basket and snacks.
- Music from midday and live bands from 2.30pm.
- Ales purchased using tokens available inside the hall.
- Enjoy the Village Hall garden (weather permitting!). Marquee to provide additional covered area.

covered area.

- Free entrance to under 18s if accompanied by an adult.
- Hourly buses run until 5pm from Basingstoke Bus Station or Bramley Train Station.

Station.

- From 6pm a free shuttle taxi service between Bramley station and the Village Hall.

Hall.

- Taxis available to other destinations (at normal costs).

Live Bands

There will be music from midday and live bands from 2.30pm featuring: No Way Out (2.30-4.30pm), Groovy Suitcase (5-7pm) and The Rolling Tones (8.30-10.30pm)



Charities we are supporting



All money raised will go to St Michael's Hospice and Sherfield Village Hall. Opened in 1992, St Michael's Hospice provides care for patients across North Hampshire with a life-limiting illness and the goal of care is to help patients achieve the best possible quality of life. The Hospice receives less than 30% of its running costs through the Hampshire Primary Care Trust so the remainder needs to be raised through its shops and fundraising activities. With the help of the local community the Hospice can continue to provide its vital services.

Sherfield Village Hall is a great asset to the village and is used by many local organisations. Being a lovely old building, its upkeep is not cheap and renovations need to be done in a sympathetic manner. As a charity, the only regular income the hall has is from its hiring fees so donations and fundraising events are essential.



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And we're asking everyone who can, to join in and hold their own event for Macmillan Cancer Support's **World's Biggest Coffee Morning** on **Friday 30th September.**

Together we can make it the biggest ever and help change lives.

Sign up your event now >

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING Friday 30th September 2011



'My mother has sadly passed away, what are the risks if I deal with the probate myself?'

'It is entirely possible to apply for probate and deal with an estate, without seeing a lawyer, but it's not without risks' warns Ben Holden, one of our solicitors at Phillips specialising in wills and probate.

'Many professionally drafted wills contain trusts to save tax, to avoid those who inherit paying care fees and to reduce the likelihood of potential disputes. They can be very complicated. We have noticed an increase among people, who have tried to do probate themselves, returning to us to seek advice when they have made a mistake or found the paperwork too tricky' says Ben.

'A minority of families apply for probate themselves and if they have both the time and the confidence, they may derive satisfaction from taking responsibility for completing the financial affairs of their loved one. But do be careful because some areas are complex and unless it is a very simple estate it will normally take between 6-9 months. In general, straightforward estates are those where the deceased did not own a property of any kind and their personal wealth falls below the Inheritance Tax threshold which currently stands at £325,000.

We do recommend that you take legal advice if any of the following apply:

- You think there is a Will but have not been able to find it
- There is some doubt about the validity of the Will, or it's likely to be contested
- You don't know where the beneficiaries live
- Part or all of the estate will be subject to Inheritance Tax
- There is no Will and the deceased was married with children and the estate is over £250,000
- Irrespective of whether there is a Will or not, a part of the estate is to pass to children under the age of 18
- The deceased has left money or property in a trust, owned a business or was a partner in a business
- The deceased owned land or property that has an unregistered title or is abroad
- Someone is due to benefit from a 'life interest' in the estate
- The estate is insolvent

If you are at all uncertain you may wish to speak to our Wills and Probate solicitors who are members of Solicitors for the Elderly:

Ben Holden, direct line: 01256 854618, email: bholden@phillips-law.co.uk.

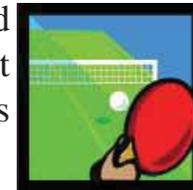
Sheila Glyn-Owen, direct line@ 01256 854637, email sglyn-owen@phillips-law.co.uk.

Visit our website for lots more information at www.phillips-law.co.uk.

Table Tennis Club

Fed up with nothing to do or just want a change on a Monday night? Well come and join us at the Spotlight Centre in Shakespeare Road, Popley.

We are about to launch a table tennis club for adults, starts on 12th September at 6 - 9pm. It is open to anyone who is interested in having some fun. Whether you have never played before or you've been playing for years it doesn't matter, and it only costs £3 per person and all proceeds go to the Peace of Mind Charity.



Over 55s Forum

Our Variety Show to celebrate the International Day for Older People is on 1st October. Tickets are only £5 each and can be purchased from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council offices at the Parklands Building, Age Concern at The Orchard, Oakridge Hall For All or myself on 01256 4512119 or e-mail gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com. Tickets are starting to sell well at this moment in time, so book now to avoid disappointment.

Marnel Lodge Care Home

Coffee Morning

Come and meet us at Marnel Lodge Care Home, Carter Drive, every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Join us for free tea, coffee and biscuits with fun activities. Starts Tuesday 13th September at 2.00pm.

All are welcome ☎01256 471250



Shakespeare Road, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9BP
 Tel : 01256 357028
 e-mail : pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk
 web : <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/pebbles-cc.htm>



Well what a wonderful Summer Programme we have had here at Pebbles Children's Centre!! If you have been to any of our Summer Activities – we hope you enjoyed them as much as we have.

Some of our highlights:

The Big Fun Day: There were so many things to do and the weather was perfect. Faces were painted, pottery was made, animals were petted, police and firemen brought their vehicles to be inspected and general fun was had by all!!!! A big 'Thank you' to all who attended and made the day such a success, over 400 of you!!!

The Bournemouth Coach Trip: Again the weather was perfect and a very good time was had by all who travelled to Bournemouth on Friday 12th September, for sun, sea and fun.

The new autumn term is nearly upon us and we are looking forward to seeing those of you who will be joining us throughout the term in the various sessions, groups, classes and lots of fun. There are still places available on some courses/classes. Pop in to see us or give us a ring to check out what you can join in with.

Also don't forget to watch what's happening on facebook.

Marnel and Merton Community Group

Marnel and Merton Community Group are now well into the planning our Family Halloween Party on Saturday 22nd October. The venue, disco and bar are all booked and we are now working on the details for the evening like the games for the children including traditional apple bobbing and a competition for the best Jack 'o' Lantern. The event will be ticket only and tickets will be on sale towards the end of September – look out for the leaflets we will be posting through Marnel Park and Merton Rise letter boxes.

You may be aware that David Wilson Homes are planning to submit a planning application to develop 450 new homes on the fields north of Marnel Park. Prior to submitting the application to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council they are holding two public exhibitions. The exhibitions will give all residents in the area an opportunity to look at the proposals in detail. The exhibitions are being held at Popley Fields Community Centre (Carpenters Down) on Friday 16th September between 2.00pm and 9.00pm. On Saturday 17th September the exhibition moves to Melrose Community Centre in Abbey Road from 1.00pm to 5.00pm.

We would encourage you all to go along and take a look at the plans and make the most of the opportunity of the David Wilson team being there to answer all your questions.

Don't forget to "save the date" for our Family Halloween Party and we look forward to telling you more about it next month.

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Diaries from The Old Codger.

After many years living in Popley I have met and known many people. At the end of July we saw the passing of a true gentleman in every sense of the word, Ken Frankum. I have known Jane for far too long to remember. What I can say is that Ken and Jane have two strong boys.. They will unite to give each other the strength to pull through all of the pain, then remember the good that Ken has done. Her Indoors and I will remember with fondness the good they have all done. A sad month for their family a month that so many go through in this life. It only hits home when everyone is so close like the people of Popley are, and they too will join me in what I have said about the Frankum family.



WHEN I WAS YOUNG

Boy so long ago now. Old Codge has less and less of the memories but now and then something very small will come from deep within my mind. The story I want to share with you was, for many years, only know by my brother, my father and me, but I want to tell this and you can make up your minds on what my brother and I saw. It was one day no different from the next, we decided to go up to Kenley aerodrome to see if there were any spitfires or hurricanes standing on the end of the runway. We must have been about nine or ten years old. We knew there was an opening into the aerodrome past the guards and would often climb up and sit in the cockpits pretending we were flying in the sky shooting at each other. That's until the guards saw us and then we would be away like rabbits.

We got out of the fenced area and across the road. There were about twenty air raid shelters all about 6ft long and very dark inside. We would find all sorts of things left behind from the war years. Don't get me wrong these shelters had been abandoned as if everyone had just left it. The Mary Celeste comes to mind. We went into one of the shelters and were messing around when deep in the far end we heard a very frightening growl. We shot out like a rockets and ran back over the road. The noise got louder and louder, then out of this shelter came a man with a large chain and on the end of this chain was a huge man. We talk about it nowadays to remember what he looked like. Our dad was six feet tall but this man was well over that and he can only described was in a Michelin Man suit but blue as if he were a spaceman. He let out a massive growl again and we did not stop running till we got home, except to tell a man and a woman that were walking that way with a little girl to not go up there. Needless to say it was quite a few weeks before we ventured back up there. Mind you we went mob handed about ten of us. We never told them what we saw that day. It just leaves to the imagination what was going on in these shelters. Some say they went down many floors in the ground and they did a lot of testing up there. All we know is what we saw, and no matter if we are believed or not. Would this be just a story or were we imagining it, were we just fantasizing? We know what we saw and that is all that we care about. It is a day that has stayed with us all our lives. I am sure as I can be it was not Her Indoors but YOU NEVER KNOW DO YOU!

Till next month take care The Old Codger.

Basingstoke Air Scout Group

www.base2000.co.uk

Headquarters - Base 2000 Carpenters Down RG24 9AE

Charity number 267734 HQ registration number 42755

Group Scout Leader - Colin Karslake (01256) 410559

Beavers: Eve Alexander 01256 346510 07790 018 171

Cubs: Elaine Devenport 01256 323453

Scouts: Andy Welham Jones 07971 491 145



Beaver Scouts enjoyed soaking the leaders thoroughly at their last meeting before the summer break. The leaders were not so keen - but beware they are hatching a plot for revenge! During the summer break Beavers have been challenged to do odd jobs for family and friends and to be kind and helpful in preparation for the Promise Challenge which is part of the Beaver Scout Bronze Award.

New recruits will be joining the Colony in September with some of the older members moving on to the Cub Scout section. Help needed to collect at least 24 2-litre ice cream tubs with lids as part of a nativity project. If you can help please bring them to Base 2000 any Tuesday or Thursday evening. Many thanks.



The cub pack is off to Brownsea Island in October to visit the home of Scouting and see the commemorative stone of Lord Baden Powell's first scout camp in 2007, follow the woodland trails and see how many red squirrels they can spot. It promises to be a great day and a great memory for them all!

Later in the autumn they hope to get a report back from a local cub scout leader's visit to Uganda as part of the Hampshire Scout Expedition's trip to help some of the world's poorest children.

Scout section took part in Hampshire Scouts Summer Camp at Lyons Copse in the middle of August and were hoping to experience a few of the newer activities such as an overnight bike hike, rafting and visit to Romsey Rapids. They'll be expected to prepare and cook their own food too and not just watch the fire burn!



Meetings for all section restart week commencing 5th September. New members welcome. All sections open to both boys and girls. Beavers (aged 5½-8) and Cubs (aged 8-10½) meet on Tuesdays; Scout section (aged 10½-14) on Friday. Contact section leaders as above for times. Explorer section for those aged 14-18 - contact Group Scout Leader.

Enquiries for bookings at Base 2000 can be made to bookings@base2000.co.uk or telephone Colin on 01256 410559. Hire charges range from £3.50 per hour for the smaller hall on weekdays to £10/12 for large hall at weekends.

... who's up for more adventure? - come and join us!

BATS Next Gen

BATS Next Gen are, we believe, Basingstoke's premier youth musical theatre group. We were formed in 2002 by a group of parents whose children had appeared as the Von Trappe family in a local production of The Sound of Music.

Our ethos is to provide affordable musical theatre experience for children using the skills of local people. Since our formation, local people have volunteered to teach theatre craft, so keeping costs of running the company to a minimum. We are completely self-funding and do not receive any grants or funding from any outside source – all monies made from ticket sales goes back into the company for the next production – and is entirely run by volunteers

Our age range is 7 to 18 but sometimes we have to restrict the age-range depending on the show we are performing. All children wanting to join the company have to audition, and continue to audition for each and every show, so standards are maintained and also everyone gets a chance to be a principal, as different shows need different skills. We run free pre-audition workshops, so children know what the show is about, who the characters are and work on the audition pieces before the audition.

Previous productions include We Will Rock You, Hairspray, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, pantomimes and variety shows. Our next production will be Our House – the Madness musical, which will be performed from Wednesday 26th October to Saturday 29th October 2011 at Queen Mary's Hall, Queen Mary's College. Our House features many of Madness' hits including "Baggy Trousers", "My Girl's Mad At Me", "It Must Be Love" and "House of Fun" and, of course, "Our House". Tickets are priced from £10 (concessions available) and can be purchased from the BATS Next Gen website (www.batsnextgen.co.uk) or from the Box Office on 07919 597785.

For further information on BATS Next Gen, or if you would like to know when the next production and pre-audition workshops are, please contact the secretary, Sandie, on secretary@batsnextgen.co.uk.

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<http://www.popleymatters.co.uk/Adverts/Peters.pdf>

Cutting Rubbish Whilst Cutting Costs

Residents often tell us that the collection of waste and recycling is their highest priority service. The council has been looking for ways to make the service more efficient while also driving up recycling and reducing costs.

To help achieve this, the council has entered into a new collection contract for waste and recycling, working in partnership with Hart District Council.

The council will still collect residents' waste weekly, but from Monday 3 October 2011, when the new collection contract comes into force, residents with a grey wheelie bin will only be able to put out the rubbish that fits in it. Sacks, boxes or bags left beside the grey bin will not be collected, and, unless an exception is agreed, only one grey bin will be allowed per household.

So the message to residents is to start recycling all they can in their green bin and at recycling sites across the borough, to help cut their waste.

These are the main changes will be:

- One waste bin per household
- From Monday 3 October 2011, households with six residents or less will have one waste bin emptied each week. The waste bin has a capacity of 240 litres. All households should have a green recycling bin (or sacks for certain properties).

Additional bin policy

Households with more than six residents, who are recycling everything possible, can apply for a second waste bin if they feel that they need the extra capacity.

There is no limit on how much recycling we can collect from you and households can still have two or more recycling bins if required.

No excess waste

All waste must be contained within your grey wheeled bin; waste sacks left on top of or next to your waste bin will not be collected.

Once the recycling has been separated, a 240 litre waste bin will be enough capacity for one week's waste from a household of six residents.

We will still be able to collect extra recycling from you. If you have extra or bulky recycling (e.g. cardboard boxes) please put them out next to your green bin on collection day.

For more information on the changes please call the council on 01256 844844 or visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/binchanges

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Kiln Farm Land

(Land Adjacent to Jersey and Guernsey Close)

David Wilson Homes are planning to submit a planning application shortly to develop 450 new homes on the fields north of the existing Marnel Park development in the fields at the side of Jersey Close and Guernsey Close along the back of Marnel Park. Before they put in the formal planning application to Basingstoke and Deane they are holding two public exhibitions to show the details of the proposals for the site.

The aim of the exhibitions is to provide all residents in the area an opportunity to view the plans and give feedback on the proposals. Members of the David Wilson Homes project team will be at the exhibitions and will be able to answer any questions you may have.

David Wilson Homes will be putting details of the exhibition in the Gazette nearer the time and will also be leafleting houses on the new estate. They were given the opportunity at a meeting in Chute Pavilion to advertise any meetings or to give information to **all** of the residents of Popley. So far they have not approached any one on the committee. I made the deadline very clear and the date has passed. This application will have an effect on everyone as it would be on top of the 784 that will be finished in Merton Rise. This will generate much more traffic, put a strain on doctors and all other services. I read in The Gazette that they may be closing the walk-in clinic that is by the hospital. This was supposed to help serve the residents as they moved into Merton Rise and there is the possibility of more development, 122 dwellings in the Spinney, (by the Post Office Sorting Office), on the old golf course by the old Park Prewett, then add in the 133 dwellings proposed and refused so far on the triangle in front of the hospital, then add more of an unspecified (so far) amount on the Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority land by Popley Fields. This is cramming in every space they can.

If residents don't go to the exhibition or make their opinions known David Wilson Homes will take it that residents approve this massive amount of development.

I would encourage all of you to visit the exhibition and find out more about the proposals to enable you to make an informed decision as to whether or not you wish to object to the proposals once the planning application is formally submitted to Basingstoke and Deane.

The details of the exhibition are as follows:-

Friday 16th September
Popley Fields Community Centre (off Carpenters Down)
2.00pm to 9.00pm

Saturday 17th September
Melrose Community Centre (Abbey Road)
1.00pm to 5.00pm

