

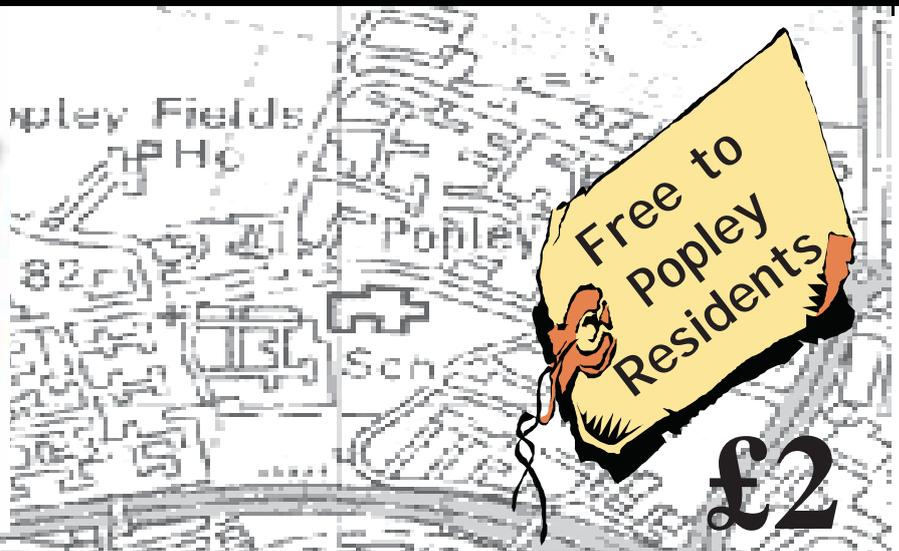
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVICING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1992

May 2012

Distribution of 4,800

Issue 123



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 18-05-12) editor@poppleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor:-20 years of your community magazine and a summary is on page 1. I think I could write a whole book on the history and characters connected with Popley Matters! If you have stories or memories please write to us and we may even publish it in a future Popley Matters. On page 6 we have a resident willing to do odd jobs for charity. Congratulations to Merton Junior School who gained a Good in their Ofsted Report, I know a lot of hard work has gone into this by pupils, teachers and governors. Read about it on page 10. There seems to be a lot of activities for all in the Spotlight Centre on page 12, from art classes to football and dancing. More activities with Get With

on page 16 and an appeal for volunteers for the Summer Streetz program on page 34. Kath Gorick has written about her campaign for abandoned dogs and details if you want to join the group on page 14. On page 29 there is an invitation to Meet the Newts. There certainly seems a lot going on in Popley, I think it looks like a busy summer . Then there is the now famous Popley Festival on Sunday 20th May lots to do and hopefully a beautiful sunny day. It is great to meet up with so many people that it's like a reunion every year. I wonder just how many years Popley Festival has been going. I think from the small start by The Boys Brigade and St Gabriels Church in their car park all the way through to the old John Hunt School grounds and now in Popley Fields it must be around 30 years, anyone remember? I can remember one year on a hot sunny day that it was estimated that 15,000 people visited. I know I have picked up a few good bargains at the boot sale and some delicious exotic meals and juicy beefburgers. This year there will be a cake stall run by Marnel and Merton Community Group and I have had some of their cakes. Oh well the diet will have to wait another day mmmm!

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 Matters.

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Thank you for the support

Celebrating 20 Years of Popley Matters.

It just seems impossible that twenty years has gone by since Popley Matters was first published. I must confess I knew very little of the first five years, but then there were only 4 printed:- May 1992 ,August 1993, March 1994 and December 1996. Towards the end of 1997 a group of residents were talking about how annoyed we were that Popley was given a really bad name and though there were problems in some areas, they were no more or less than a lot of other areas in and around the town. The other residents and said how much we loved living in Popley and were very happy to bring up our families here.

We approached the council and said we wanted to do something to quash these unfounded misconceptions about Popley. A meeting with a council officer and residents was called, and the very lively meeting resulted in an action plan that included restarting the Popley Matters on a regular basis, and that three of us would go and meet the Editor of the Basingstoke Gazette. When we met we told the Editor, then Bill Brown, that we had started our own Popley Matters newsletter and that the aim was to give the residents information and the opportunity to have a voice. In the beginning we went out quarterly but soon realised that there was so much happening in Popley that the “news” was old and often stale. Our Sub Editor Paul had said he would do one edition, and as we often joke about it “famous last words”, 15 years later he is still doing it. It was Paul who encouraged the committee to go monthly and now we average 40 pages an issue.

Twenty years ago we had a circulation of around 3,000 we now have 1,800 more already, with a plan to increase another 200 in the next few months, taking us to 5,000. We have a fantastic group of people who deliver the magazine for you through wind, rain and snow. A big thank you to them all, and to Iris King the Distribution Manager the only surviving committee member for the full 20 years. Of course we could always do with more people to deliver and write for us. The magazine is funded by the advertisers and we just about manage to cover the costs as we are a non-profit voluntary group of residents.

I wonder what the next ten years will bring. It will be 2022 and I suspect a circulation of 6,000 or even more and that’s just with the planning applications already in, though I confess I think that Popley has taken the lion’s share of the developments and we need to have a chance to gel as a community. We are on the edge of fields that have been and still are being farmed. It is sad to see farming and the growing of good fresh quality crops losing out to large developments of flats and housing. There are sites all around that are more suitable to build on that are not used for crops.

Heres to the next 20 years and please let us know if you have any ideas on how we can improve your magazine, and if you would like to volunteer that would be appreciated too. *Jane Frankum Editor*

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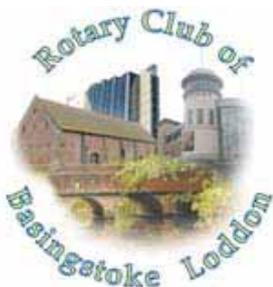
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Our annual "Jubilee" Family Fun Duck Race will be held on the afternoon of Monday 4th June on the Loddon River at Milestones Pub in Old Basing, RG24 8AE.

Run by the Rotary Club of Basingstoke Loddon (www.basingstokeloddon.org.uk) this promises to be a fun afternoon.

Tickets are just £1 per duck with funds raised going to our local St Michael's Hospice and other Rotary charities. You don't need to be there to have a duck in the race and any winners will be contacted if they are unable to attend.

The many prizes include a flight in a private plane and a "Royal Hamper" of food and wine.

There will be music for the adults and facepainting for the kids plus food and drink available from the pub.

Please contact Sally Dowdle at sallye@carnelianassociates.com to purchase tickets for a good cause or visit your local St Michael's Hospice Shop.





Promoting the 2012 Olympics



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Basingstoke Traditional Aikido Club is pleased to offer
A taster session of Japanese Martial Arts to include

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These will be held at the Basingstoke Dojo on two Fridays every month until the Olympics
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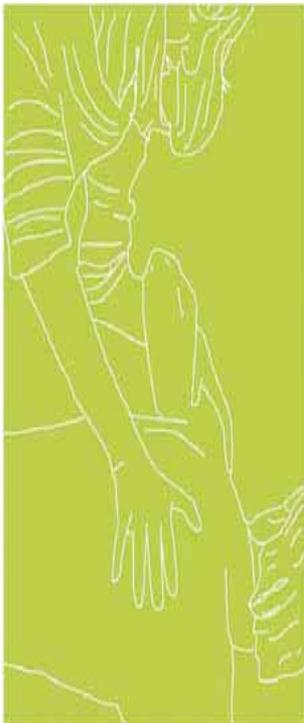
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Councillors Page: The Kiln Farm Fields planning application looks like it will now go to the June planning meeting, though we have asked that it should be withdrawn in light of the High Court ruling that the Local Development Framework process was unlawful in that it should have included Manydown. This has the effect that as there were enough allocations of land for housing and development that Kiln Farm Fields is not needed for some years to come. In our research only 56 people on the housing list had put that they wanted to be housed only in Popley, so why does Popley need more than the 1,000 already allocated to be built, and that's without the 450 David Wilson Homes are pushing to force through? They now should have to fit the criteria that was in force before the now unlawful new strategy. Popley has grown and many Popley families have new homes and we welcome all our new neighbours, but there is a limit and they need to realise that our infrastructure such as, roads, schools and health services just can't cope with so many more.

We continue to lobby for better Broadband services especially in the new developments as the service is very slow and substandard. The sooner the newly developed areas get adopted by Basingstoke and Deane Council the better, and we can also negotiate better paths, roads, reduce the speeding and get a street cleaning service and remove the litter.

Abbey Road at the St Bede's Church end will be closed for one day on 12th June for essential road maintenance work. Stagecoach has been informed and will run the bus down Abbey Road, turn and come back on itself to lessen the inconvenience for passengers. Whilst on the subject of buses negotiations are still going on to get a better service to include the hospital. The most likely outcome will be that the number 4 route will go half hourly with the cost being met out of 106 section developer money. There is a shuttle bus that now runs from the railway station leaving at 10.38pm through Oakridge, Popley East to Chineham. It is not a pickup service but at least it gets people home safely from the town. Use it or lose it is a phrase that comes to mind. Also, if it is used enough it might get us improvements or even the resumption eventually to an evening service again.

The resurfacing of Tintern, Buckfast, Romsey, Fountains and Glastonbury Close that were stopped because more intense repairs were clearly needed should be on this year's maintenance list. As soon as we get any more information we will let you know.

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

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Basingstoke Lions Club

After our fundraising efforts over the Christmas period when we collected nearly £2,900, we have held a **SWIMATHON** in the Sports Centre, which raised around £2,000, and a **QUIZ NIGHT** at the Cliddesden Millenium Hall which raised £250.

Most of the money we raise is used to aid local people and organisations. To date this year we have given minor assistance (spend of under £200) in 18 cases of severe personal hardship, and more substantial help in 7 cases. The larger donations are mostly to organisations which serve people in the Basingstoke area and are highly dependant on public support such as the Sequal Trust, Open Sight, Naomi House and the Women's Refuge. However we also assisted with the purchase of 2 electric wheelchairs and shared the funding of Christmas parties for disadvantaged children with the Loddon Valley Lions Club.

Our main fundraising events over the next few weeks will be "An Evening of Jazz" performed for us by The Graeme Hewitt High Society Jazz Band at Costello Technology College on Saturday 26th May and our annual charity cycle on Sunday 10th June. The band played for us last year and was a huge success. Tickets are £10 and the bar is at club prices. **Contact 01256 325280 or 421867 if you fancy it. Contact 01256 352393 if you like a pleasant ride through the countryside.** Of course you can also register your interest in any of our events on our website basingstokelions.org.uk

We will also be taking our stall (a putting game called the Ratrace) to the Yateley Fair on Monday 7th May, Thorneycroft Transport Fair on Sunday 13th May and the Tadley Treacle Fair on Sunday 3rd June and to many school fetes. **Please support us wherever you can.**

Unfortunately our membership is now at a level and composition that will force us to do less and diminish the support we are currently able to provide. This will affect many, many people. **Please think about joining us and contact me, Philip Wilson on 01256 352393.**



ODD JOBS FOR CHARITY

Hello,

I am a local resident living in Englefield Way and I am climbing Kilimanjaro for Help for Heroes in October. I'm looking for the support of my local residents by offering my services for any odd jobs to be completed by myself during evenings/weekends and my days off work. All the profits for the jobs will go towards my climb and can be paid via my fundraising website www.justgiving.com/Dougle4 if preferred - this way you know all funds are processed correctly.

I have worked for Scottish and Southern Electric for 3 years, however prior, to this I was self employed doing odd jobs for over 2 years and have worked on construction sites carrying out various trades since I was 16. I can carry out carpentry, bricklaying, painting & decorating, landscaping and gardening, amongst many other things. No job is too small. This is your chance to get any dreaded jobs done or work carried out at a reasonable rate. This can vary from patio extensions, fence painting, car washing, gardening or dog walking (I have two dogs of my own) and you know you are doing your bit for charity at the same time.

Thank you for taking the time to read this - if you would like to have any work carried out please contact me via the details below or if you would like to make a small donation please don't hesitate to visit the website www.justgiving.com/Dougle4.

I am also looking for small local companies or national sponsorship to have company details on all my training and climbing wear and to be worn at all running events that I compete in this year.

Thank you for your support.

Darryl Dalton

07794483645

Dougle4@hotmail.co.uk

Marnel and Merton Community Group

The past few months have seen Marnel Park, Orchard Grove and Merton Rise becoming more peaceful, with the machines finally leaving the last finished homes to us humans. And with the warmer weather, the winter hibernation has come to an end: walking to the swings and greens in the light, for example, rather than huddling up at home; and getting out and about. The things that need improving here come easier to the mind when tripping over some litter or watching out for speeding cars, for instance.

In the next couple of months, members of the group will be visiting every home with a short questionnaire. The answers will enable us to form a Community Plan for the area and for all of us who live here. We will be posting a letter through everyone's door with more details soon.

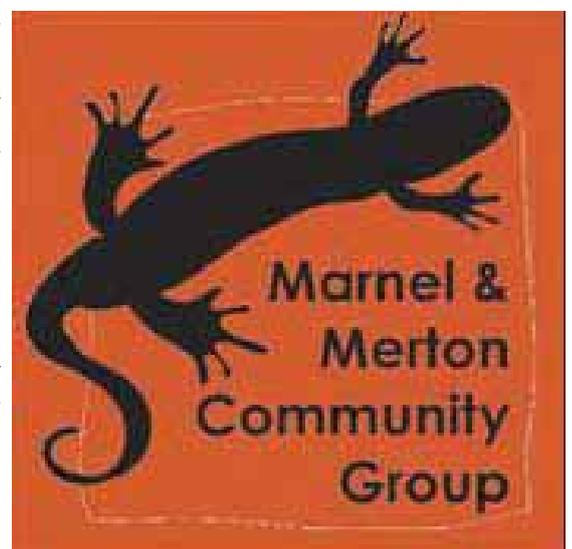
The Easter Egg Hunt went down a treat on the 7th April with over 50 children and their parents having a grand time hunting down clues around the estate to get their chocolate egg prizes. Certainly something that should become a tradition. Leftover eggs were donated to North Hants Hospital children's ward, where they were gratefully received. A monumental thank-you to Natalie for coming up with the idea and all the organisation.

Mark Sunday 26th August in your diaries for our summer event. It's a way away, but plans are brewing for a special Olympics Day for all the family. We'll keep you updated in the coming months.

It doesn't feel nice even thinking about Christmas in April, but there will be a children's do at the Chute Pavillion on the afternoon of Sunday 16th December. This is just a "save the date" for your diaries. More details will follow closer to the date.

Please visit the website at <http://marnelandmertoncommunitygroup.org.uk>. It will be updated much more frequently now the group is building up steam. Visit it on your iOS or Android device and the website will automatically display a mobile friendly version, great when you're waiting for the Jazz 3 in town. We're also on Facebook and Twitter.

See you all soon when we come around with the questionnaires. Every answer to every question from every home will count.



Women in the Basingstoke Aikido Club of the Ellis School of Aikido

Traditional Japanese Aikido is well suited for training women in the martial arts of self defence because of the spiral pin down techniques for which Aikido is well known and the fluid movements used in both attack and defence. It also incorporates stick fighting katas using poles approximately 5ft (or for the younger readers 1.5m) long, with some movements similar to those performed with smaller cheer leader batons which may have been practised in physical education classes at school.

The Basingstoke Aikido Club has always had female members since it was founded in 1968. Although there are some slight differences to the techniques taught to the male members, general practise is otherwise a very mixed class. We currently have 2 practising female Dan (Black Belt) grades.

At our Basingstoke club Karen, who started practising Aikido at Warwick University in 1998 in association with the Ei Mei Kan Aiki-Kai Dojo in Birmingham and spent a year training at the Bayreuth Dojo in Germany, joined us at the Basingstoke Sports Centre in 2002. She runs her own company translating technical literature from German and Russian into English and has taken time to train in Moscow, Hamburg and Mainz. Karen received 1st Dan Black Belt from Henry Ellis and Derek Eastman in 2009 and now helps with our children's class on a Monday.

Anita Wilson, who trained at our Bracknell Dojo as assistant to Henry Ellis, has visited Basingstoke many times particularly coming with us to teach our American members at the Greenham Airbase, two of whom established their own Dojos: one on the giant airbase at Alamogordo where the stealth bombers flew from and the other in Dallas, Texas. Anita made several visits to their clubs with Henry Ellis and later received her 1st Dan from Jei Nakazono, son of Masahilo Nakazono, at the Memorial Day in 2007.

Both helped organise and took part in the 2005 Kenshiro Abbe Memorial Day celebrating 50 years since the introduction of Aikido to the UK in 1955 and the subsequent Masahilo Nakazono Memorial Day held in Neath, S.Wales. These special events were attended by many founders and members of the various martial art organisations, with many dignitaries including members of the 1964 Olympic Judo squad, the Japanese Ambassador, and, accepting our offer to be recognised among those presented, World Champion Judoka Jenny Earl from Basingstoke.

Andy Lyon from Basingstoke now is senior instructor at the Bracknell Dojo.

Derek Eastman

Basingstoke Aikido Club,

Oakridge West Community Centre, Upton Crescent off Oakridge Rd.

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After



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OFSTED says Merton Junior School is a 'GOOD' School



Merton Junior School governors are very pleased and proud to announce that Ofsted have graded our school as a **GOOD** school, with **outstanding** pastoral care, at our recent OFSTED in March 2012. We did know that already, however, we are happy that the inspection has confirmed our beliefs. Merton Junior is one of the first Junior Schools in Hampshire to receive a 'Good' outcome under OFSTED's new tough evaluation schedule.

We are a small, but growing, school hidden in the centre of Popley 4, or Popley Abbeys as some people call us. Hopefully this fabulous result will give us the recognition we deserve and we look forward to a thriving future for our pupils and staff.



Ofsted inspected us in four areas.

Achievement of pupils;
Quality of teaching;
Behaviour and safety of pupils; and
Leadership and management.

All of these judgements were given a 2 or 'Good'.

The way we look after our children (pastoral care) was graded 1, judged as outstanding.

Some highlights: 'Pupils have positive attitudes to school',
'Lessons are fun and pupils enjoy coming to school',
'Communication and partnership with parents is a strength';

and 'Pupil groups attain above average levels'.

We would like to congratulate all of the teaching staff for being 'Good' teachers and also thank all of the support staff for being superb at what they do. We acknowledge the support that the school receives from the pupils' parents, grandparents and carers. Also we would like to thank those members of the local community who support our school.

Our final mention has to be Helen Palmer, the Headteacher of Merton Junior. It has been her drive and vision that has directed the school to ensure that our pupils make the progress they can expect for themselves and to obtain the ever improving results at the end of their stay with us.

Well done!

Merton Junior School Board of Governors.

Cornerstone Nursery News

Cornerstone Miss Muffets in Popley Way - 01256 840300

There has been a hive of activity in the nursery throughout April. All the children have enjoyed an Easter egg hunt and lots of fun activities including pin the tail on the bunny. The older children in our puffin room have been making Easter cards using lots of glue, tissue paper and felt tip pens. In our 2-3 year old room the children have been exploring using role play, looking at their families and being very creative making their own musical instruments. The younger children have enjoyed a variety of craft activities using brushes, sponges and their hands, they really enjoyed getting messy. They have also had lots of fun playing in the water tray in the sunshine and starting to learn actions to songs. In our baby room they have been enjoying the sunny outside environment using the play equipment and exploring. They have also been investigating their new sensory area in their room. They have been shaking glittery bottles and home-made shakers, playing with metal objects and rolling the balls.

Cornerstone Nursery in Priestley Road - 01256 818118

In the month of April we have been doing lots of fun activities around Easter which all the children have enjoyed. We held an Easter craft day at the beginning of the month for all the children in the area to come along to and take part in all the Easter activities. The children made Easter nest cakes, decorated an egg, took part in an egg hunt and lots more. It was a very enjoyable morning for everyone.

Throughout the nursery the children have been getting very messy during sensory play where they have explored lots of new and exciting materials. Some of our under 2 children have had the opportunity to go to the park and had a brilliant time, enjoying going on the swings and slides with their friends. Some of our preschool children have been looking at mini-beasts as a topic, they have been looking in the muddy areas and under rocks and stones in the garden for anything they can find!

Cornerstone Sunrise at Aldworth Science College - 01256 356166

In the Baby unit the babies have been listening to stories and doing lots of singing. Wheels on the Bus is a great hit this month. They have been learning about where different parts of their face are. This has also included looking in mirrors, which is always good fun and creates lots of giggles! The babies have also been playing with our Heuristic play materials, filling the giant tins with lots of shells, bangles and paper. It was very interesting watching them transferring from one tin to another then tipping out and starting all over again! Our older children have been finding out about planting and growing this month. We have planted some hardy plants in the tubs in the garden. The vegetable plot has been prepared ready for the plants and seeds we are going to be growing for us to use in our cooking when they are ready. We have made a "Natural Garden" outside and in it we have logs, sand, pebbles, compost, soil and lots of digging equipment. We are very interested on the texture of the different material that is used to create natural pictures. The children in both rooms have been doing Easter printing and made some lovely rabbit ears which were worn at nursery. The children had seen some rainbows so they painted some brightly coloured rainbows for our wall display, this then prompted all the staff and children to sign the rainbow song! **All settings currently have spaces in all age groups but spaces are limited so please contact the manager at your preferred setting.**

Affordable family fun at Spotlight UK

At the Popley Spotlight Centre we provide inclusive activities at affordable prices for all ages and abilities. The charity currently funds approximately 90 children in weekly activities from low income families. Without this vital support from Spotlight UK many young people would be on the streets and vulnerable to negative influences.

Due to the Charity's tireless efforts we are able to keep the cost of activities as low as possible without compromising on the quality of coaching. We hope this encourages families to get involved in positive activities and develop their creative talents, as well as meeting new faces and making friends.

New additional classes for summer 2012

Sports- Outside football coaching sessions on Fridays, 4.30-5.30pm for the 4-7 years and 5.30-6.30pm for 8-12 year olds. £ 2 per session or £14 per term. This is a fun mixture of fitness and ball skills so if you feel you may have a budding Beckham on your hands come along and let them have a structured kick about. You can even join in to show them a trick or two.

Adult table tennis Monday evenings 5.30-8.30pm £3 per session, all adults welcome even beginners, Come and join in, have some fun and make some new friends!

Adult mixed fitness classes every Tuesday evenings 6-7pm open to everyone of all fitness levels. Many different exercises change weekly to keep you on your toes!

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Music- Spotlight Band age 12 plus. If you play an instrument and would like to join a band, come along have some fun make friends as well as making sweet music. Tuesdays 7-8.30pm, £3.50 per session or £24.50 per term.

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SEN Shining Stars singing- for children with special needs between 8 and 16 years old every Monday between 6-630pm at £2 per session. Our qualified coaches make this fun and enjoyable a chance to learn, grow and meet new friends.

SEN Multi Activity Club - 4.30-5.30pm every Thursday, £3 per session. Lots of multi activities to try and enjoy.

To book your class or to view our full timetable visit www.spotlightuk.org or call us on 01256 325420

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Action for Abandoned Dogs

By Kath Gorick

Recently, a few neighbours and myself tried to get help to rescue some abandoned dogs locked in a house alone for several days in our road. The task seemed impossible as the RSPCA would not come out, saying they did not have the manpower to attend all reported incidents. The Dog Warden employed by our local Council came out and was as concerned as we were about the poor dogs but Dog Wardens do not have the power to enter a premises to remove an animal. I tried calling the Police who told me I should phone the Council. The Police also told me that if a member of the public attempted to enter the house and rescue the dogs they would be arrested and would end up with a criminal record! I tried calling Sentinel but they said they did not have the authority to enter the house without the tenant being at home. So we asked Cllr Jane Frankum if she could help and she also phoned the Police, Council and RSPCA several times. In the end after advice I decided to go to the press and tell them of the appalling situation.....the RSPCA were told of this and hey presto they arrived on the scene with two dog vans within an hour!

Following this deeply distressing fiasco I realised that this type of scenario is not unusual. Lots of people I spoke to had similar stories of trying to call out the RSPCA and failing. I decided I had to do something and attended a Council Meeting at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on 29th March to put a question to Full Council to clarify the procedure currently in place to manage animal cruelty and abandonment in the local area. I discovered that the local authority has no responsibility to rescue animals in distress if they are abandoned in a house. This situation is not acceptable. Fortunately I was able to request a supplementary question and asked that the matter be progressed for discussion at Committee by the Council and this was agreed. I have been informed that I will be able to attend this meeting and speak to the committee.

In the meantime there is a new campaign group on Facebook called AA DOGS (Action for Abandoned Dogs). This is an Action Group which is concerned with the welfare of dogs abandoned inside premises. Its aim is to get workable procedures in place nationwide to give local authorities the power to enter a property to remove a dog in distress when necessary and to create new legislation which makes them responsible for doing so.

You can contact Kath on Facebook at AA DOGS.

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What on earth are solicitors **like**?

What would you **expect** if you had to see a solicitor?

Are all solicitors the **same**?



Modern life can seem so complicated and sometimes, just sometimes, you may need a professional to help you sort things out - perhaps an accountant or your bank manager or even a solicitor. No-one likes to get involved in a legal dispute but sometimes it's unavoidable – you may have a really difficult neighbour who disputes the boundary round your house, or a boss who discriminates against you. But if you have never set foot inside a law firm before, what on earth should you expect?

Well, now's your chance to find out.

Come along to our informal 'Open Morning' on Saturday 16th June and drop in for coffee and cup cakes. You'll be able to meet our friendly solicitors who really are approachable, speak your language and are people you can trust with your personal and business affairs. You may be thinking of moving house, making a Will, concerned about business issues, or you may be in the thick of a relationship breakdown. Whatever is on your mind, you'll find us good listeners and we do make great coffee and cup cakes! After all, we've been serving our local business and private community for the last 26 years.

Phillips' 'Open Morning' on Saturday 16th June 2012,

9.30am-12.00pm

Drop in for coffee and cup cakes - we'd love to meet you.

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Telephone: 01256 460830; visit our website at www.phillips-law.co.uk



We've started gearing up for our 2012 Get With holiday activity programme, and there will be a few changes this year.

We have a new partner who will be running the activities in the Basingstoke area and they'll have a great programme lined up for you running out of the Everest Community College site.

As well as the usual sports and dance sessions there will be a whole week of spy, detective and adventure activities, an Olympic Xperience week and a final day family party.

We expect activities to start on Monday 30 July and run until Friday 24 August. There'll be more information in the summer edition of Spirit Magazine for Sentinel customers, on our website www.getwith.co.uk or on our facebook page at www.facebook.com/sentinelha



Pancreatic Cancer UK

Many thanks and congratulations to all who helped and took part in the walk round the village on 4th March, especially the Millstone, who coped with the dripping walkers and helpers so well. At the last count we had raised over £1000 for the charity.

We are holding a Coffee Morning on Saturday 12th May 2012 from 11.00am to 1.00pm in the Bedington Centre, Rileys Lane, Old Basing. Coffee, tea, biscuits, raffle, and Bring and Buy. This will be for Pancreatic Cancer UK and for NET Patient Foundation (the support for the rare cancer that I have).

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March 2012 (PCDC Blogs)

14th- Op Slipstream patrols in Popley/Oakridge/Town Centre/Chineham. I located a male in Normanton Road with cannabis. The male was reported for summons.

15th- I crewed up with PC Jim Charlton to patrol most of the south beats. I issued a male with a cannabis caution in Dankworth Road.

16th and 17th- another great Op Slipstream weekend. Arrests galore! Hopefully keeping the good folk safer in the town.

In other news:

I arrested a man in Popley after an allegation that he was verbally abusive, and threatening, to staff at Tesco Express. Such incidents are impactful on the wider community, and I will be robust when taking action.

19th- I crewed up with PC Rich Heard today. We patrolled Popley and Oakridge. Not much going on! Just nice sunny patrols.

22nd- 'Popley Day Of Action' today, 'Safer Neighbourhoods Officers' from all over Basingstoke took part in the day. PCSOs were static at three points: 1) The Tesco Express on Carpenters Down/Fastfare on Abbey Road/One Stop on Shakespeare Road. Crime prevention advice was given out to members of the public. SNT beat managers were involved in drugs warrants, and pro-active patrols. I located a male smoking cannabis near Shakespeare Road. I issued the male with a cannabis caution. Later I located a male on a stolen mountain bike in Priestley Road. I arrested the male and he was later charged.

Basingstoke Observer article, in relation to the day:

Day set aside for making Popley safer

Police are set to hit Popley streets on Thursday to give out a host of crime prevention advice to residents.

Officers from the Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) will set up in FastFare convenience store, on Abbey Road, and at One Stop in Shakespeare Road, from 10am to 6pm as part of their day of action.

Residents will be invited to learn methods to on how to secure homes and keep vehicles safe from thieves.

PC Dan Carter said: "We want to offer the people of Popley a chance to come and meet their local officers and get any crime prevention advice they may need.

"We would always encourage people to keep their home, valuables and vehicles secure at all times. The simple message is lock it or lose it."

SNT officers will also visit Marnel Infant and Junior schools, on Shetland Road, for a free bike marking session.

The security tag is designed to deter thieves, and help trace a stolen bicycle. The team will mark bikes from 11am to 12pm at the infant school, and 12pm to 1pm and the junior school.

For more information, or to contact local safer neighbourhood teams, contact 101.

24th- A very busy weekend again for the #FedsOnPeds I arrested a male for failing to provide his details, to allow me to disperse him under section 27 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act.

25th- Sunny Sunday patrols of most areas in Popley.

26th- PC Chris Brindley chaired the PSNP quarterly meeting today. The three new priorities for Popley were voted in:

1) ASB in Sark Way 2) ASB in Barrington Drive 3) Drugs issues across Popley.

31st- Community tension has been running high lately, due to a group of youths causing ASB in Marnel Park. I arrested a boy on suspicion of criminal damage to a car in Egerton Drive. The boy has been bailed for further evidence gathering. Patrols have been increased to tackle the issues.

A busy month for the Popley Team. PCSO Phil Rapley will be leaving us soon, so he has been preparing PCSO Rich Strauss for the beat. Rich will be the temporary replacement until a Permanent PCSO joins us.

April 2012 (PCDC Blogs)

1st- The final Operation Slipstream!! 😞 Well for the time being. Slipstream has been a highly successful operation, tackling violent crime, in the town centre. I will miss it, however, it will be great to just concentrate on my beat for a bit! Especially after losing two of the team recently :/ (PCSO Phil Rapley and PCSO Sarah Danks).

Past midnight, I heard a call out on the radio from 'Bar Rock'. Door-staff had detained a male suspected to be involved in drugs. I searched the male and located a rock of cocaine. I arrested the male, and he was later given a caution.

Even earlier in the morning I located a male on May Place, without his top on! As it was cold out, this surprised me! I was soon arresting the male on suspicion of criminal damage to May Place House, and section 5 of the public order act. The male was shouting and swearing at me all the way to custody!! Don't worry I can take it 😊. The male was later charged with both offences, and he was remanded for court on Monday.

2nd- A male that had previously been arrested for drugs offences, handed himself in at the front counter. I arrested him for failing to appear at court.

3rd- Paperwork and more paperwork, boo.

4th- I patrolled Oakridge and Popley today, including Barrington Drive, a current hot spot area. The beats were very quiet.

In other news: I attended the Melrose Community Hall, coffee morning. I was offered a cup of tea and a lovely hot cross bun. I like hearing all the old stories about officers giving kids a clip around the ear. I try to explain to the elderly residents that things have changed, but some don't listen 😊.

10th- First day back after 4 days off. I caught up with some paperwork. Later I patrolled Oakridge, and Popley with PCSO Tarren Porter. I took details of a suspicious incident that occurred along Popley Way. The incident was soon resolved however.

In other news: After several complaints, about an address, in Barrington Drive, I have arranged a meeting with the residents to discuss ways to resolve the issues. This will take place on the 12th of April. I will let you know how it goes.

Also, I gave a bike induction to an officer on an attachment to the, 'Safer Neighbourhoods Team'. So if you saw us doing seemingly silly manoeuvres in Eastrop Park... that's our excuse 😊.

11th- I managed to get out on patrols early. I mostly patrolled Marnel Park, and Popley West. I took more statements in relation to a recent criminal damage in Marnel Park.

12th- I patrolled Oakridge and Popley, and all seemed pretty calm. I took a statement, on behalf of the Oakridge team, in relation to a shoplifting.

In other news: I attended a 'Popley Festival' meeting in preparation for 20th May. I have been tasked to locate lots of police cones for the event. These will be used along Carpenters Down. Parking will only be permitted on the field.

Later, I attended another meeting with Hampshire County Councillor, Jane Frankum, and residents from Barrington Drive. The meeting was to discuss anti social behaviour at a particular address. On-going work is being conducted to resolve the issues. These include, regular patrols, joint visit, tenancy warning, multi agency strategy.

13th- A lovely day for patrols!

I attended an address in Barrington Drive to issue a verbal warning to a teen after several ASB reports. This is linked to the above report.

In other news: I was flagged down by a home care nurse. She couldn't get a patient to answer the door of his address, and it was the first time she had attended the address. After scaling the back fence and wading through a Jurassic garden, I managed to wake the chap by banging on the back door. It turns out the poor chap is a diabetic with narcolepsy. He was all in order and I resumed.

Also, a number of residents are currently up in arms over parking issues in Marnel Park. Marnel Park is one of the newer areas in Popley, and the roads are un-adopted. I am told that each address should have parking for 1.7 cars!!! Lots of families have two or more cars so I can see how things could get out of hand. The problem with Marnel Park is there are many cars breaching some kind of traffic violation. This could be cars parked on pavements/parked inconsiderately/too close to junctions etc. On a case by case basis some vehicle owners will be asked to park more considerately. Although a pain to some, parking issues are not a policing priority in Popley. That would be a full time job!

14th- Training day in Alton. A refresher day on 'intelligence' and first aid.

As always you are able to contact me in a variety of ways. Take a look at this link on the web: <http://kimtag.com/PSNP>

You can also reach me on 101, or flag me down whilst I'm on patrol.

To view crime/ASB in your area visit: <https://www.crimereports.co.uk/>

Regards

PC 20686 Dan Carter

Popley West

Safer Neighbourhood Team Manager

(Meet The Team)



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01256 423870 (Mon and Thurs 9am- 4pm; Wed 9am-12pm)



Do you have spare time? Have you ever thought of volunteering at your local community centre? Contact Vicki in the office for further details.

The Melrose Community Association AGM will be held on Thursday 28th June 7.30pm at Melrose Community Hall, all are welcome.

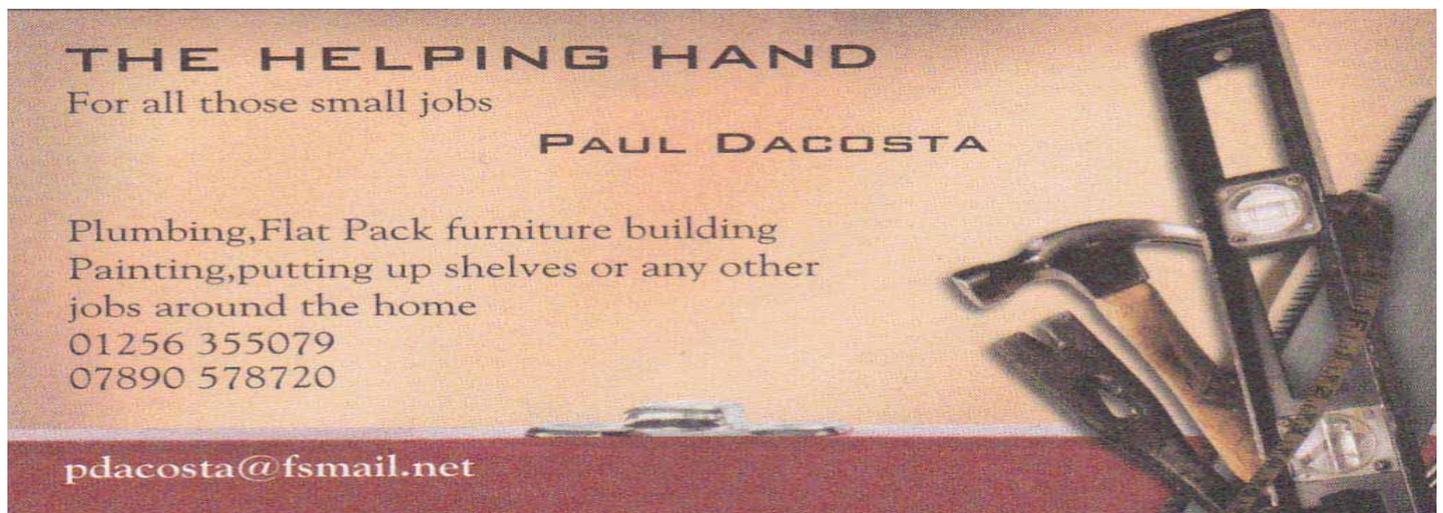
Are you looking for a new venue for your group/club? We have a variety of both daytime and evening slots available at very competitive prices, contact Vicki in the office for further details.

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TUESDAY:	AVAILABLE FOR HIRE	
WEDNESDAY:	9.30-11.00am	Popley Little People, Baby and Toddler group
	9.00-10.45am	Quit Smoking Clinic
	12-2pm	Oasis Lunch club
	5.30 and 7.30pm	Slimming World
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Friendly Café
FRIDAY:	DAY TIME HIRE AVAILABLE	
	6.30-7.45pm	MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
	8.00- 9.15pm	age 11 plus.
SATURDAY:	9.00am-12.30pm	MG Dance Academy
SUNDAY:	MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Keble on 462351 for times of services.	
	NEW!!!	4.00pm Beginners - Phoenix Dog Training Club - Starts 6 th May
	NEW!!!	5.00pm Improvers - Phoenix Dog Training Club - Starts 6 th May

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Dear Friends

As I write it is exactly 100 days until the start of the 2012 Olympics. The newspapers, TV and other media have features every day on the various sports, activities, venues and politics of the Olympics all designed to build anticipation and excitement toward this global event. Not a day now goes by without someone saying only so and so days to go!

For the athletes involved it will be the culmination of years of training and qualification events – all will go for gold, many will have their hopes dashed; others will settle for silver or bronze some, the few, will be acclaimed with glory as they reach the pinnacle of their chosen event.

And for us as spectators? The thrill and privilege of watching these finely tuned men and women as they strive to compete over 17 days of sporting events. Sadly, all too soon it will be over and we'll have to wait another four years before the Olympic torch is lit once more.

The journey of our athletes is not dissimilar to the Christian journey through life. Sports and games were as popular 2000 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.”*

Unlike the Olympics, the Christian faith invites us not to be just spectators but to actually take part. We may hone our bodies to perfection, we may increase our wealth of knowledge and academia but oh so often we forget that we are created body, mind AND spirit! Without the discipline of training and building up our spiritual selves we become much like a milking stool with only two legs and more liable to fall over!

When was the last time you thought about your spiritual well being? Jesus invites us on a life transforming journey with him. 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!!!

Look forward to seeing you on the track!

Every blessing

Revd. Arthur

Vicar St Gabriel's

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If you don't have enough money to pay the loan back on your pay day, the fees and charges can quickly start to mount up. And a loan company can come after you to try and get their money back.

Asking your bank for an overdraft may be a cheaper way for you to borrow money, but watch out you don't go over your agreed limit. You could also look at other ways to borrow money on lower interest, such as from your local credit union.

If you find you're needing to get pay day loans every month, it's best to get help with budgeting and dealing with your debts

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 0844 245 1283.

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

DIARIES FROM THE OLD CODGER



I start this month with the news about dear Bill Ind, wishing you well Bill. I hope he gets to read Popley Matters on the web at www.popleymatters.org.uk. I have fond memories of your time in Popley. The day before our youngest son was due to be christened, Bill came round to talk about it. When he came in as usual we went to turn off the TV. It was rugbys Five Nations Cup. He sat down then said “Great, leave it on, we will talk later. He had a beer and he was cheering on England with us, all it was a great day. On the Sunday, as the service was about to start, he told everyone. Do not make your children sit down. If they want to play, let them, as we all love children playing”. To Her Indoors and me, this is Bill. He was a pillar in our community of Popley. The last I saw him was on TV surfing. We wish you a speedy recovery Bill.

We would also like to wish Andy McCormick all the very best in his new venture and hope he will make a difference in the elections up north. Take care Andy.

My book has been republished at long last. I hope the schools that sell them will make a good profit for their schools. The rest of the money is to have my second book published. My niece who is an art student is to do the pictures in the new book, and more of them to make it more fun for children if they wish to colour them in. Her Indoors as I have said is now working part time and boy, do I know it! The dog and I had quiet all day long, but not any more, nag, nag, nag as soon as she gets in. I know Jane and Paul have not been too well of late but we hope they are on the mend. Why is it as the years go by more things go wrong? In your mind you feel that you can still do what you did in your twenties but the body still won't react quickly enough to your commands. So how do you cope? I think I am lucky in that I have a good family in Basingstoke. This includes Jane who I call Sis as we adopted each other many years ago.

WELL CONGRATULATIONS POPLEY MATTERS
ON YOUR TWENTIETH BIRTHDAY.

Till next month
The Old Codger



Fear of the Dark

The pounding of my footsteps began to follow a beat that sounded in the distance, each thump onto the pavement echoing out into the street. The more I ran, the louder the beat grew. I could feel my heart pulse with the rhythm, as did the pounding in my head. Everything I was doing, every thought I created, was repeating that same, repetitive beat.

I caught my breath, suddenly realizing that the beat was drawing me in, hypnotizing me, like an Anglerfish does to its prey. I continued to run, knowing that if I were to stop, It may catch up to me, and then all of this running would have been futile.

I could now feel the pulses from the rhythm being absorbed into my body. It was so tempting to stop running, to allow It to engulf me, to take me to the source of the rhythm itself and to just stay there, forever, as if I would be forever high on the drug that was the beat. But this wouldn't happen, It wouldn't happily take me away to the source. I would be engulfed entirely, I would be drawn into Its jaws of eternal nightmares. I would die.

I looked behind me, It seemed so far away, as if It would never catch up to the speed at which I was running. However, I knew that this was just a psychological mind game It was playing. Draw me into false security, make me slow down... and then pounce. I couldn't risk slowing down, not even slightly; I had to speed up, I had to run faster. But, I was tired, oh so tired...

That's when I heard the quickening footsteps of It behind me. I panicked, fear striking me in the heart. I couldn't believe that I had slowed down, how could I have even dared it? Now It was approaching me, at a much faster pace than my own. The beat was deafening by now, growing more monstrous and destructive, rather than how hypnotizing and breathtaking it had been earlier.

I dared myself to turn my head, to look behind and see how much closer It was coming. However, I had never gotten the chance to, for a long, black tendril had snapped out from behind me, wrapping itself around my arm.

"No!" I cried out, the tears streaming down my face. Another tendril whipped out and wrapped itself around my other arm and, immediately, I felt a force pull be backwards, dragging me along the pavement towards It.

I struggled so much, an attempt to break free from Its hold, but It was too strong, and I knew my time was nearing an end. The dragging stopped, and, knowing that It was right above me, staring down at me with hunger, I kept my eyes closed. I was filled with so much fear, with so much horror, that I was too afraid to look at Its face just before I was engulfed into Nothingness. My trousers dampened, a clear sign of how afraid I was.

It hovered there for a few moments, swaying Its head in a terrifying, animalistic manner. After what seemed like a lifetime filled with horror, It opened Its large, gaping jaw and hovered again for a few moments. I stared into what seemed to look like a never-ending hole, the fear inside of me rising to an impossible level. Then It lunged. **Adam Seal**

‘Meeting the Newts’ at Popley Ponds.

The weekend of the 30th/31st March saw local residents of Popley come face to face with the newts of Popley pond.

Popley ponds, near Basingstoke is a popular breeding ground for the protected Great Crested Newts. Owned by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, and managed by Popley Conservation Volunteers, the ponds form a valuable network for the newts.

The joint event between Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and Popley Conservation Volunteers, aimed to raise awareness of the newts and other wildlife in the pond, and saw a great turn out of both local residents and newts. On the Friday evening, children and adults alike enjoyed pond dipping in the pond, whilst learning more about newts and what can be done to help them. As the evening got darker, pipistrelle and Daubenton’s bats made a brief appearance, whilst hunting for insects. The super keen braved the 8am start Saturday morning to watch as the bottle traps set the night before were emptied. Around 100 newts were caught in the traps, all three species; the more common smooth and palmate newts, as well as the great crested newts. Some of the crowd had never seen a newt, so it was a great opportunity for them to see the newts up close, and understand a bit more about them.

Great Crested Newts, although widely distributed throughout Britain, are suffering from large declines across Europe. These declines are mainly due to habitat loss, fragmentation of existing ponds, and disturbance. They are protected by both British and European Law, making it an offence to intentionally or deliberately disturb, destroy, capture, or damage Great Crested Newts, or their habitat. It is therefore really important that we know how to help these creatures, and protect the ponds and surrounding area that they live in.

For more information, please contact Sarah Lynes on sarahl@hwt.org.uk , or for information about how to get involved with Popley Conservation Volunteers, please contact Dave Jewsbury on 01256 381103.



St. Gabriel's Church, Popley

Invites you to two exciting summer events

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Presents

A Concert of Songs from Five Continents Celebrating The London 2012 Olympics.

*Highlights Include Waltzing Matilda, One Love by Bob Marley
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Admission Only £5

Includes wine and refreshments.

Saturday 12th May, 7pm at the church.

A Strawberry Fayre

Saturday 23rd June 1- 4pm

Fantastic Grand Raffle –

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Tombola, BBQ, Refreshments, Games

**A brilliant afternoon of strawberries &
fun for all the family!**

*In the grounds of the church,
Tewkesbury Close, Popley Way*



THE countdown is now well underway for the MFC Popley Youth Six-A-Side Tournament (sponsored by SENTINEL Housing) on Popley Fields on Saturday 12th May and Sunday 13th May.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and the Hampshire FA have sanctioned the event, which promises to be a great success with many teams entered at: Under 7, Under 8, Under 9, Under 10, Under 11, Under 12, Under 13, Under 14, and Under 15.

Ian Davies, Tournament Director and Chairman/Club Secretary of MFC Popley Youth said: "This promises to be a great event for the local area. We are expecting four-figure crowds on Popley Fields on both days and, with plenty of food, hot and cold food and drinks and other attractions on offer, it promises to be a carnival atmosphere."

Meanwhile, on the pitch, the Club's teams are ending the Peter Houseman Youth League season all guns blazing. Andy Williams' Under 7s continue to thrive, with more good results against a decent Thatcham outfit recently, Warwick Sear-Jarvis' Under 8s are much improved, Lee Austen's Under 9s are doing well as are Tom Bartlett's squad in the same age group, and Russell Graves' and Glenn Taylor's Under 10s have had a fab season.

Paul O'Shea's Under 12s have reached the Supplementary Cup final, Dave Wright's boys are doing well at Under 13s and Chris Gordon's Under 15 sare locked in a tight promotion battle at time of writing.

And a special word for Danny Oates' Under 11s. Despite enduring a tough season in the PHYL Premier Green Division, the boys are ending the campaign on a high in the Supplementary Cup Yellow, with a 9-0 win over Barton Rovers Rebels, a 7-5 victory over Andover Youth, a 4-2 win at Thatcham Tornadoes Black and a spectacular 15-0 win at Basingstoke Town Colts Dragons at Water End.

Spotlight

Hello,

My name is Penny and I am Mum to 3 lovely daughters and we live in Popley.

On Sunday 11th March all 3 of my girls "showcased" in the Spotlight Showcase at Everest Community Academy. They danced, sang and performed and I was a very proud parent (along with other parents, grandparents etc.)

The Shining Stars performers (children with special needs) performed admirably, acting out their favourite activities. Well done to them and their qualified tutors.

If you have children who want to dance, sing, act, do gymnastics or have fun with music, then, I highly recommend the Popley Spotlight Centre .The activities are affordable and you can even get drama qualifications from L.A.M.D.A (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) there.

As a family we also enjoy the social activities held there. Family discos are a favourite

My children have certainly benefitted from the activities they attend at the Spotlight Centre and are confident happy (and loud) teenagers in an increasingly challenging world. They are also fans of the charity shop where they can buy affordable good quality clothing and Mum is left happy with more money in her pocket!

So why don't you come along to the centre and find out what Spotlight is all about?

Phone 01256 325420 or email admin@popleyspotlightcentre.co.uk



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at shahida@ageconcernbasingstoke.org.uk

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Headquarters:

Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader: Colin Karlake	01256 410559
Scout section: Andy Welham-Jones	07971 491 145
Cub Scout section: Douglas Gowan	01256 412326
Beaver Scout section: Eve Alexander	01256 346510

The Cub Pack may have been disappointed by its failure to reach the finals of the District Cub Football competition but they picked themselves up to tackle the next challenge – the District Cub Scout Mastermind and **WON. Well done!** They will now go on to represent the District at the Hampshire County competition later in the year. The ‘sleepover’ was a great success as always and the Pack now find themselves getting ‘out and about’, pond-dipping, exploring the woods, hiking and getting ready for Cub Camp.

The Scout section had a fantastic time with the Ocean Turtle Club in Odiham to experience a taste of Scuba Diving. Other topics in recent weeks have included indoor gateway using canvas, aviation skills, meteorology and the ‘egg-drop-challenge’! The components of the flight simulator computer programme has arrived and the leaders are currently wrestling with its technology (maybe they need a few techno-whizz kids to give them a hand)



Leaders from Air Scouts spent many hours finalising the Service for the District St. George’s Day Parade in the town centre on 22nd April. Several hundreds Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and leaders from across the District paraded through the ‘top-of-the-town’ to St. Mary’s Church in Eastrop for a Celebration themed on Dedication to Service and the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. A number of Air Beaver Scouts were presented with the Chief Scout Bronze Award during the service. This is the highest award a Beaver can attain - super!

Douglas Gowan, Assistant Cub Scout Leader was presented with the Scout Association Merit Award by the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane, Councillor David Leeks recently. Douglas has been with the Group for twelve years and prior to that gave service to the Scout movement in Napier, New Zealand.



New members welcome. All sections open to both boys and girls. Beavers (aged 5¾-8) and Cubs (aged 8-10½) meet on Tuesdays; Scout section (aged 10½-14) on Friday. Contact section leaders as above for more information. Explorer section (for those aged 14-18) – contact Group Scout Leader.

We have been pleased to welcome the Caged Birds Society and a Meditation Group to our list of users in Base 2000. Enquiries for bookings can be made to through 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.

May Day (Garland Day)

May Day originates from the Pagan festival of Beltane, and falls exactly half a year on from 1st November, which also marks various neopagan festivals.

The earliest May Day celebrations are thought to have occurred during the Roman era when youths would celebrate the coming of spring with a day of dancing dedicated to the goddess Flora.

During medieval times, May Day became dedicated to Robin Hood and saw songs and plays performed up and down the country to celebrate the coming of spring.

Many May Day celebrations were banned by the Church during more puritanical times, due to the pagan origins of the festival. Some Roman Catholic organisations celebrate the Virgin Mary on 1st May, with a 'May crowning' of the Blessed Virgin.

The Maypole itself, traditionally made from Birch, is deeply rooted in the Germanic Pagan tradition.

In the 16th century, Maypoles were erected by a group of villagers in a symbol of community bonding, though were a fierce source of inter-village rivalry.

Rumour has it that Mayfair in London is named after a particularly debauched and raucous festival held during the 18th century.

It wasn't until 1978 that the Labour Government introduced the May Day Bank Holiday to the national calendar.

Viv Washbourne

Summer Streetz

Summer Streetz is a community led programme of activities for 11 to 17 year old during the evenings in summer holidays. If you're interested in volunteering to help to run these sessions please contact Stephen Bate, Community Development Officer, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on 07500 987638 or Stephen.bate@basingstoke.gov.uk to discuss how you can get involved.

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Beckie's Column

Hello! How were your holidays? The weather's horrible at the time I'm writing this. I've just walked home in hailstones; they were very cold and actually hurt! And, just to make it even worse, as soon as I got home the sun came out.

Our canal boat holiday was brilliant, even if we did get soaked at one point! I did attempt to steer the boat once, however, I wasn't very good at going in a straight line! We did the Caen Hill locks at Devizes (a group of 29 locks very close together) in the rain as well. We were very tired by the end of it! A couple of days later we had to turn around and do them all over again on our way back!

My highlight of the week though was when a helper for the one of the canoes (there was a race down the canal) dropped the canoeist's food on the grass, picked it up and fed it to him as he canoed past! Poor guy, but it did make us laugh.

Now that the sun is out, a lot more kids are heading off to the park. I was thinking, though, that there isn't a proper park in Popley 4. There's a big one over the main road but that can be dangerous to cross, especially for the younger ones. We do have a tiny park next to Merton Junior School though. Maybe it's time for that one to be updated? The same with the courts as well. They both seem to be a little shabby now. Anyway it's something to think about. What do you think?

Speaking of Merton, they got their results back from Ofsted and was given a Good rating of 2, 1 being the highest! Well done, but I always thought they were good anyway!

Well, I think that's enough from me and I hope the weather's much better when you're reading this!

Beckie



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Tuesday evening -

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Finish around 9.45pm (light refreshments available halftime)

Wednesday evening -

C.M.A Kick Boxing from 7.00-8.30pm

Thursday evening-

Street Dance and ballet classes for two and a half years to adult.

4.30-6.30pm Please contact Samantha Pike on 07811299484.

Friday evening-

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