

PROUDLY SERVICING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

December 2015 Distribution of 5,200 Issue 166



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Merry Christmas

From the Popley Matters Team

FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Editor Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: The team at Popley Matters wish you a very Happy Christmas and a great New Year. It is a lovely time to remember, and to thank the people in your lives that have helped you. Firstly for me it's my sons Paul and Tony, then the wonderful team that work to produce and deliver Popley Matters. Sometimes you wonder if the hours and days are worth the effort each month, then you meet someone at the shops who says how much it means to them. Only this month when I was struggling to see if Popley Matters could keep going, a lady said "It is like a friend coming through the

door every month. I don't get to see many people so Popley Matters tells me what's going on". Thank you, we really do try as a team to inform and entertain our readers.

Page 1 is an appeal from Everest for books for all ages. I told them be ready for a deluge of books as Popley is a very generous community. I know many people would love to have a library they could use. Later Everest want to be able to offer use of the Internet with a nice cup of coffee. Page 5 is an appeal for befrienders. When I was contacted I was told "I know you did an appeal before Jane and it was successful so could I do it again?" More evidence as if we needed it of the wonderful spirit of Popley. Popley Matters could

do with more helpers too if you have an hour or two to spare each month. The centre pages show more groups and activities that are around in Popley, so go along join in and make new friends.

Congratulations to everyone that took part in Beat the Street Popley was the first and only area in Basingstoke that was involved and I think you all showed what a wonderful idea it was. Hopefully it will be done again in Popley and other areas. Contact me either by phone on 01256 819924 or email: editor@popleymatters.org.uk.



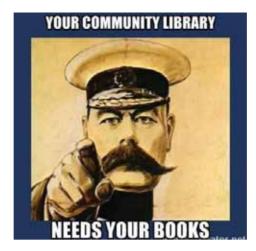
Sub Editor Paul Frankum

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

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Whilst Chineham and Basingstoke Libraries are relatively close, they are hard to reach for numerous reasons. **Everest Community Academy** would like to help provide an accessible library for the local Popley Community based at the school opening at various times throughout the week.

Ultimately we aim to offer a lending service as well as a place to do photocopying and access the Internet (and have a coffee!).

But we need your help!

Do you have any books you no longer need or use which might be of interest to others of all ages?

We would like to request a book donation/amnesty week throughout the community commencing **Monday 14**th **December and running through to Sunday 20**th **December**.

Drop off places will be...

St Gabriel's Church, Merton Junior School, Marnel Junior School

We will also be running a collection service during this week Monday to Friday – please call 01256 337573.

Please support this exciting initiative so we may all help each other.

If you would like to be involved in the project or interested to find out more please telephone the number above.



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Councillors' Page: Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year, it has been a tough year for many and I hope next year will be a better one.

Dark mornings and earlier dark nights show up any faults on the street lighting. There is a website you can report them or phone 08000 482437.

All street lamps that are Hampshire County Council's are marked and numbered on a map on the website. If they are owned by a housing association or developer, they will not be serviced by Street Lighting.

http://lightsoninhampshire.co.uk/public/ReportFault.aspx

With the cutbacks by the Government I have been told there is not likely to be any extra grit bins. The need for one has to be on a bus route, hill or major junction. If you feel that there is a priority area that needs one under Health and Safety, let me know and I will try to get one installed.

The poor surface in Abbey Road by the crossing to Oakridge will be repaired, along with some more paths, due to the damage done by tree roots and poor surfaces. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk

Popley West: Residents spotting litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dog fouling, overflowing litter bins or broken glass can now let the Council know exactly where they are on a map and upload a photo, thanks to a new feature on the website. The 'report it' section has been upgraded allowing the teams to get out to clean up even quicker. Abandoned vehicles, noise nuisance, overflowing recycling banks and dead animals can also be reported this way.

The Popley Councillors attended the Popley Community Group where there were other representatives from Health Services, Schools, the Popley Fields Community Centre, Sentinel, Marnel Park and Merton Rise Community Group and Sentinel. We talked about the surveys and results from the two community groups and the results coming through from the survey that was delivered via Popley Matters two months ago. I will get the results when completed and hopefully publish them in the next Popley Matters.

When the snow and ice come, please remember to use the proper salt or grit, not cat litter as this is dangerous when it starts to thaw and is difficult to remove the stains from your carpets.

Please be careful when you answer your door to strangers, don't let anyone in that you have either not invited or checked on.

Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 cllr.jane.framkum@basingstoke.gov.uk Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924 cllr.paul.frankum@popleymatters.org.uk **Popley East:** We wish all our residents a peaceful and happy holiday break and New Year as we get to the end of 2015.

Once again we have tried to support the community throughout the year, much of which is on a personal level when problems occur and help is needed to deal with outside bodies of all types.

Our main aim as Councillors is to improve the wellbeing of residents and the environment and in this regard we have dealt with lots of different issues, from seeking to make sure that David Wilson Homes, for example, have proper regard for the adjoining community whilst building takes place at Spiers Meadow, through to helping with applications to get work done on trees in established areas which are causing problems for adjoining residents and lots of other case work in between.

The work done by various groups in preparing Community Plans was exemplary and Popley has been chosen to host the second pilot of the Neighbourhood Partnership Project. We hope new volunteers will be able to play a part in this project so that decisions about improving the community are taken at a local level.

We always try to make sure that the best interests of Popley are represented well and the reputation of the area is enhanced.

Clir David Potter 07941507801 clir.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk Clir Viv Washbourne 07900890088 clir.vivien.washbourne@basingstoke.gov.uk

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How much time do I need to commit?

Just 2 hours a week, or less, can make a real difference to a patient living in your local community.

What support will I be given?

All relevant training will be given, as well as regular and on-going support and supervision.

Interested?

For further information contact Caroline Nash or Sue Horton, Befriending Coordinators on: 01264 835293 Email: Caroline.Nash@hhft.nhs.uk Susan.Horton@hhft.nhs.uk

Interested volunteers will be invited to an informal interview and the role is subject to references, simple health checks and DBS clearance.

CHRISTMAS OPEN STUDIO at the GLASS STUDIO

The Glass Studio will be open on Saturday 5th, 12th, and 19th of December from 11.00am to 4.00pm.

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Dear Friends

I read the following recently: REASONS WHY SANTA CLAUS HAS TO BE A WOMAN ... men can't pack a bag; men would rather be dead than caught wearing red velvet; men don't answer their mail; men aren't interested in stockings unless someone is wearing them; men don't think about buying gifts till Christmas Eve when it's too late; men refuse to stop and ask for directions when they get lost; finally being responsible for Christmas would require a commitment!

I also read the following ... "The hinge of history is to be found on the door of a Bethlehem stable" (both quotes from J.John & Mark Stibbe, A Barrel of Fun).

The season of goodwill, peace to all is upon us, though looking at the world around us you wouldn't think so! Apart from Syria and Iraq there are so many other areas of conflict in the world, there are droughts, famines and diseases, extremes of climate with such a terrible loss of life and livelihood. Some of the world's problems may seem to dwarf our own personal difficulties but they are no less important – anxiety over health, relationships or jobs and money can all combine to block out the light.

This is especially true at Christmas when all we really want perhaps is some peace and quiet and some time to enjoy our families and friends. Archbishop Justin Welby has spoken out recently about the stresses and strains that the so-called season of goodwill can bring for many. All these demand our quiet consideration and prayer.

In December the church moves into the season of Advent, a time of preparation. Similar to the season of Lent, it's an opportunity for taking stock, a chance to examine our lives and see where we've gone wrong and make a commitment to change those attitudes of our hearts and minds that cause hurt to those around us and to God and to do so before its too late. It's a tough call, but once we make it we can feel renewed, refreshed and ready to start again. I hope this year you'll take that opportunity.

Amid all your Christmas preparations and as you're putting up the Christmas lights, I hope that you will take time to consider the baby in a manger who came as 'the light of the world' and will one day return in majesty and power to draw us all before God. May the light and peace of Christ be with you and yours this Christmas season and in the year ahead.

With warm Christian greetings Arthur Vicar, St Gabriel's 01256 324734

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Please feel free to join us at one of our Christmas services. We're having a Christingle Service on Sunday 13th at 5pm: A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight on the 20th at 6.30pm; a Nativity on the 24th at 4pm and Midnight Communion at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. There is also a Family Celebration service on Christmas morning at 10.00am so please do join us for the celebrations.

CHRISTMAS AT ST GABRIEL'S

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Wednesday 2nd December

Guides Carol Service 6.30pm

Saturday 5th December

Christmas fair 1 - 4pm

Tuesday 6th December



Christmas Community Café from 10am



Thursday 10th December RAFA & ATC Carol Service 7pm





Carols for Christmas featuring Watership Cantible Choir

Sunday 13th December

Christingle Service 5pm

Monday 14th

Boys Brigade Christmas Party

Friday 18th

Santa visiting Toddlers Group 11a.m.



Nativity Service at 4pm
Midnight Candlelit Service 11.30pm

Christmas Day

Family Celebration with Carols 10am



The team at Popley Fields would like to say a huge thank you to all those who have supported our events at the centre this year. We hope to bring you another year of fun and community spirit in 2016! However 2015 isn't finished yet so please come and join us for the Christmas Extravaganza on Monday 14th of December at 6pm and for NTCOG's Carol Concert on Sunday the 20th of December at 10.30am.

We've had a number of new groups' start in the last few weeks, so why don't you join us for one of the following?

Mondays - 11am till 12pm - Exercise class Tuesdays - 10am till 11am - Messy Monsters Wednesdays - 2pm till 4pm - Forever Young Thursdays - 6.30pm till 7.30pm - Skip Fit Fridays - 10.30am till 11.30am - Badminton

For more information please contact us at, office@popleyfields.org or tel: 01256 414494

If you would like to get involved with the Community Association we have our AGM on Thursday 14th of January, 7pm at the community centre and would welcome new members to our team - no previous experience required!

Popley Youth Club is also looking for volunteers to help with the sessions for 11-16 year olds on Thursday evenings 7-9.30pm. Training opportunities will be provided along with DBS clearance. If you are interested in helping out please email: popleyyouthclub@gmail.com or call 07470 260225.

Lastly we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

The Popley Fields Community Association team



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Merton Junior School

We welcomed everyone back to a 'golden leaf' start to the half term. Autumn is most definitely upon us. As I write this I am watching our children running around, enjoying kicking the leaves and playing games on the playground—lots of laughter and lots of fun.

Merton's grounds enjoyed a complete 'make-over' in the half-term holiday as one of the last parts to our 'big build' and are now looking really luscious and green. It was lovely to see the children's faces light up as they saw the new gardens and entrance areas.

Part of the grounds work was the addition of more cycle and scooter pods so

children can store their bikes safely and $\dot{}$

securely.

Our football team travelled to Gosport recently to take part in a tournament organised by Chelsea Football Club. We won 3 games and lost 1, scoring 7 goals in total. Sadly we missed out on going into the finals by goal difference!

Ofsted Inspectors visited school last month and I am very pleased to say the outcome was extremely positive. This first monitoring

inspection confirmed what we already knew about our school and the Inspector told us verbally that we would not be receiving any more visits until our next full inspection. We are now focussing on continuing the good work we do.

Keep up-to-date with all of our learning fun on our

website: www.mertonjunior.co.uk or

our public facebook page: MertonJunior School or

twitter site: @Mertonjunior



Headquarters:

Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader:Colin Karslake01256 410559Scout section:Kevin Pocock07867 046 759Cub Scout section:Douglas Gowan01256 412326Beaver Scout section:Eve Alexander07790 018 171

Facebook news https://www.facebook.com/BasingstokeAirScouts

Spotlight on Cub section this month - for boys and girls aged 8 - 101/2 years

The Pack started the autumn term in September with a themed "Battle of Britain" night to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Activities included making paper planes followed by a mock competitive 'dog fight' - the winning team being the team with the most 'downed' planes in their area at the end of the game.

As the evenings drew-in the Cubs made use of one of the last lighter evenings before the clocks went back by taking part in a Doctor's Nature Scavenger Hunt. Sadly a witch doctor had told each Six that our GSL (aka`Teddy Bear'!) had been struck by a deadly disease the likes of which he'd only ever seen twice before. On the second occasion he found a cure and all the Cubs were hastily despatched to the woods to find all the ingredients to concoct the remedy to cure 'Teddy Bear'! Luckily all the Sixes were successful in finding everything required to save his life or we'd be looking for a new Group Scout Leader!



To celebrate 50 years since the BT Tower in London opened, the Cubs had a go at building a tower out of garden canes and rubber bands stable enough to support a cup of water the right way. Of the two towers one was more successful than the other!

November is a month for Remembrance and,

in a novel approach this year, the Cubs made a wreath of hands, with each hand containing a poem or prayer for Remembrance Day, before the hands were attached to a wreath. The Pack held a short Remembrance Service and the Cubs read out their personal contributions followed by a two-minute silence.



Earlier on in November they made Clothes Peg Bi-planes and Mini-catapults with lolly pop sticks. Great fun was had by all especially when it came to firing marshmallows from the catapults. Other activities have included making and eating "armpit" fudge (not as gross as it sounds, just google it! ©), making "bristle bots" and also having a go at programming "Robo Cub" to carry out a simple task.

Fancy a spot of the action? Come and join us. Tuesday evening 6.30 p.m.- 8 p.m. Base 2000 Carpenters Down RG24 7LE. Look forward to seeing you

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Headquarters registration number 42755



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BEAT THE STREET WELL DONE TO POPLEY!

From 30th September to 11th November in a six week period over 2,000 Popley residents, school children and local groups took part in Beat the Street and walked the equivalent of going around the world once, clocking up over 24.000 miles! The overall winner for achieving the most miles was St Bede's Catholic Primary School with Marnel Junior School as runners up! Winners who achieved the highest average score were Melrose Hall and Popley Fields Cycling Club with St Bede's Catholic Primary School as runners up! The winners receive £500 and runners up £250 so once again the Popley community will benefit from the achievements of all involved.

All prizes were awarded to the winners and runners up, including individual awards by the Worshipful the Mayor of Basingstoke Cllr Anne Court at a prize-giving ceremony held at Melrose Hall on 20th November 2015.

Now if this has left you full of enthusiasm and you want to carry on getting fit why not think about joining some of the local activities, listed below, that are happening in Popley?? Either do it and act now or, as Christmas fast approaches, commit to making it one of your New Year resolutions!! Popley has already travelled the world once, let's go around again!

Melrose Hall and Popley Fields Community Cycling Club

FREE – Leisurely guided bike rides, 1 to 1 cycle coaching. Get active, meet friends and make new ones in Popley! Open to adults and kids.*

Bring your own bike or borrow one of ours.**

Melrose Hall Community Centre, Abbey Road, Basingstoke, RG24 9ES.

Schedule and enquiries- Vicki Jackson or Andrea Regan T:01256 420676 E: melrosehall2@gmail.com or Tracey Judge T: 01256 414494 E: office@popleyfields.org.

If you are also interested in becoming a volunteer and training to be a cycle leader please get in touch!

*Kids must be accompanied by an adult aged over 18 years.

**Kids bring your own bikes.

Health Walks

There are two free weekly health walks leaving from Popley. The walks are led by trained leaders and are the ideal way to gently improve your fitness, make new friends and enjoy your local parks and open spaces. There is no need to book on to the walks, just turn up on the day and register.

• Basing Wood entrance, Carpenter's Down, RG24 9AE.

Every Tuesday at 11.30am.

A moderate paced walk for an hour.

• Shakespeare House Medical Centre, Shakespeare Road, RG24 9DS

Every Friday at 11am.

A choice of two walks: one of around 30-60 minutes are a slower pace

and a faster paced walk of around 60-90 minutes.

For more information on Basingstoke Health Walks scheme please visit www.basingstoke.gov. uk/healthwalks or contact the scheme coordinator on 01256 845752 or healthwalks@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Back to Netball

A New Back to Netball sessions have started in Popley. These fun and informal sessions are aimed at beginners or those who would like to start playing netball again.

Dates: every Thursday from 5 November – 10th December, and then 7th January – 11th February.

Time: 7-8pm,

Cost: £3 (or £2 for Popley residents)

Venue: Popley Fields Community Centre, RG24 9AE.

For more information on the sessions please contact Carey McCormick on 07595 086751 or carey.mccormick@englandnetball.co.uk.

Couch to 5km

We'd like to see if there is enough interest to start a beginners Couch to 5Km running group in Popley. The group would be aimed at those with little or no running experience and sessions would be delivered in a friendly, fun and inclusive manner by a fully qualified UK Athletics coach. Sessions would take place on a weeknight at a cost of roughly £3 per

week

If this sounds like something that you might want to give a go, then please register your interest by contacting Amy Sambell, Assistant Wellbeing Officer – Sport, on 01256 845752 or amy.sambell@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Buggy Fit

Want to meet other mums? Why not join a one hour buggyfit class. The free six week course is suitable for all levels of fitness and all types of pushchairs and buggies. For more information or to book onto the course please contact Emma Perkins on 07973 389407.

Forever Young

Over 55? The Forever Young group meets every Wednesday 2-4pm at Popley Fields Community Centre. As well as activities and trips they offer an opportunity to take part in keep fit and yoga at a gentle pace. To be part of this social group please contact Tracey Judge T: 01256 414494 E: office@popleyfields. org or just turn up!!

Everest Health and Leisure Club

Don't forget you have your own local health and leisure facilities in Popley based at the Everest Community Academy site. For further details of their programme and activities contact Everest Health and Leisure Club on 01256 337573 or http://www.everestcommunityacademy.org/health-leisure-club/.

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Chineham Library

It is hard to believe that Christmas is already approaching fast. During December many of the library activities will have a Christmas theme as the big day approaches. There will also be Christmas stock available to borrow, to help get you into the Christmas spirit. As well as our normal days, we will be closed on the public bank holidays and on Saturday 26th December. No loans will be due on these dates, and it will still be possible to return items through the letterbox to avoid incurring charges.

Our next Saturday craft session for children of primary school age will take place on 5th December between 10am and 12pm. The other regular groups meeting this month will be the CHIPPS reading group for parents and preschool children on 16th December, from 10 - 11am, and the Crime Reading Group on 12th December, 10.30 - 11.30am. New faces are always welcome at these groups.

Age Concern are still holding their computer sessions for the over 50s between 10am and 1pm. They will break for Christmas, so if you wish to attend, it will be best to check with library staff or the local office on 01256 423874 first. The Card Making Group will be meeting on 3rd and 17th December, and they would also love to see some new faces there.

In addition to the new sections of Quickpicks and Author of the Month sections which we started recently, we are starting another new section of Fastbacks. These are the current bestselling 10 titles for both fiction and non-fiction. These will be displayed prominently at the front of the library. They are only available for a two week loan period, to ensure maximum access to these popular books. We would welcome your feedback on these new sections. The Library Service is also carrying out a consultation exercise over the plans for the future of the Service through to 2020. There is more information about this available on the website and in the libraries, including a questionnaire which you are invited to submit.

The whole team at Chineham Library would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas. *Cathy*

Foster

From the Friends of the Willis Museum

You must have noticed the Basingstoke Triumphal Gateway, that modern public art work at the end of London Street, but have you had a really good look at it? Why is it there, why is it shaped like that, who designed it, how was it constructed and when, and what are the images all about on those sixteen bronze panels? If these questions interest you, you might like to know that the Friends of the Willis Museum have a popular book on the subject which has just been reprinted. The Gateway's design and construction is explained with help from its designer Peter Parkinson, whilst the images on the bronze panels are fully interpreted in words – the panels were cast in Basingstoke, by the way, by the famous Morris Singer Foundry. Actually the panels amount to a thematic history of Basingstoke, and so therefore does the book, referring for example to the development of local industries, leisure and transport facilities,

and to episodes such as the siege of Basing House and the gruesome case of Mrs Blunden accidentally buried in the Holy Ghost Cemetery whilst still alive. The lively text is lavishly supported by illustrations, many in colour, including specially taken photographs of all the bronze panels and of relevant exhibits in the town's museums. Copies can be bought from the Willis Museum, or through the Friends' website, as also can; the acclaimed "Story of Basingstoke" DVD, with the commentary to part one spoken by the late John Arlott; Dear Mr Willis, Derek Wren's biography of the museum's founder; and a recently revised short guide to Basingstoke's old buildings. Any of these could make a welcome Christmas present for someone with a genuine interest in our town. The Friends is a registered charity, and every penny they make goes towards improvements to the Willis Museum for Basingstoke people and visitors to the town. **John Hollands**

The Basingstoke
Triumphal
Gateway

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Get ready for winter with our seasonal homecare tips

Make sure your pipes don't freeze....If you have an outside tap, either turn it off at the stop cock or get a special jacket to stop it freezing.

Make sure your tank doesn't burst...if you're going away over winter, drain your tank or make sure your heating is still coming on to stop pipes freezing.

Make sure you know where your stop cock is

Keep your home safe....Give a key to a trusted neighbour or friend and ask them to make sure post isn't left visible and curtains are opened and closed. Buy a timer to turn lights and a radio on and off. Don't leave Christmas presents or the boxes they came in anywhere visible in your home or in the rubbish bins.

Keep warm...bleed your radiators, get a keyhole cover and fit thermal linings to your curtains.

Make sure your heating is working properly...if you have gas central heating and it's due a service, get it booked with Central Heating Services (CHS) on **0800 917 9306**.

Condensation can cause mould – keep your windows open on trickle vents, use lids on saucepans, don't dry washing inside, keep your heating on a constant low setting and shut the door when you're showering or bathing. Snow and ice....stock up salt/grit for footpaths and have a shovel to be prepared for snow.

In case of power cuts....

- •Keep a torch with fresh batteries in an easy-to-find place;
- •Turn off electrical appliances and lights, but leave one light switched on so you know when the power is back on;
- •Be careful if you use other forms of heating and lighting (like paraffin heaters and candles);
- •Remember that your doorbell probably won't work (unless it runs on batteries); and
- •Food in the freezer should keep for about eight hours without power. Don't open the freezer doors unless you have to.



Oral history project

Collecting memories of the years before the NHS

Hampshire Wellbeing Services is now progressing to the second stage of its groundbreaking Heritage Lottery funded Sharing Heritage project. We are now ready to collect oral histories of the oldest members of the Basingstoke community (75+).

We will record these stories and use them to inform and educate younger people in the area about the heritage of Basingstoke's oldest residents.

We have now trained our interviewers in oral history collection techniques. In the next two months they will operate as volunteers to collect the participants' memories, stories, attitudes and approaches to life, health and wellbeing in the times before 1948 when the NHS was established. For instance, our interviewers will want to find out what they and their families did when someone was ill, what remedies were used and whether they had to pay for using a hospital.

A male graduate of the oral history training said: 'I totally enjoyed today. Great visit to Pemberley and a warm and pleasant afternoon session. Well run and organised. I am looking forward to getting started'.

We are now recruiting older members of the Basingstoke community (75+) with stories and memories of caring for health and wellbeing pre-NHS. We also want to hear from older people who migrated to Britain and found their way to Basingstoke to find out about their memories health systems and approaches to health and wellbeing in other countries.

Remarking on the oral history training, Hampshire Wellbeing Services, Managing Director said, as part of the course all our participants had the opportunity to practice their interviewing skills with older members of the community who volunteered. Even during those short interviews we: heard stories from local heroes and sheroes heard about; attitudes and survival approaches in those times; and revisited bygone social systems and approaches to caring for their wellbeing. There are a lot more exciting stories to collect'.

The interviews will take one hour and will be conducted in the individual's home or in another quiet location. The voices and memories we collect will become part of Hampshire's history and will be stored at the Hampshire Record Office for future reference by the public.

If you, or someone you know, would like to take part contact Jayne at HWS for more information on: 01256 423 830 or send an email to: services@hantswell. org. with 'Collecting Memories' in the subject bar.



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Everest Health & Leisure Club New member offer

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You may claim this offer simply by coming to the Community reception at the school and requesting it. Tel 01256 337573

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Many thanks to all the players and their families that made our Halloween Quiz Night such a success. It was absolutely fantastic to see so many of you having fun and entering into the 'spirit' of things!

At the time of writing we are well into 'cup season' and a lot of our teams have found themselves up against some stiff opposition but, as is the MFC Popley way, each and every one of our players has

faced up to the challenges before them with grit and determination resulting in some excellent team displays and further enhancing our growing reputation as one of the top clubs in Basingstoke.

Keep up the good work guys and gals! #REDandBLACKARMY #BattleCry

MFC Popley Youth FA Charter Standard Development Club and Nike Partner Club now have a dedicated club-shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories for both children AND adults.

Please visit the MFC Popley club-shop website - <u>www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/</u>

As always, we are looking to recruit new volunteer coaches into MFC Popley Youth. Experience is not necessarily required, as full training will be arranged by the Club, but a passion for football and teaching children how to play the game at grassroots level is a must. Please contact the Club by email at volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk for more details.

The Club welcomes more parents getting actively involved with MFC Popley Youth, especially on match days with refereeing (in particular our under 7s), running the line (under 11s upward) and the set up of the pitches and Respect lines. If you are interested in helping out please make yourself known to the manager/coach of your particular age group.

Also if any parent/guardian of players in any of our age groups would like to volunteer their time as a member of the committee, please feel free to contact the club either by email or through your child's manager/coach.

You can get regular updates from the club by following our twitter account, @MFC_PopleyYouth & by using the hashtags #MFCPY #REDandBLACKARMY.

Also, MFC Popley Youth has a dedicated club page on Facebook.

Contact the club -

Main website: www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Club Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer & Club Welfare Officer: mfcpopleyyouth@

<u>live.co.uk</u>

Volunteer enquiries: <u>volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk</u> **All-Stars Recruitment:** <u>allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk</u>

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We have Popley Explorers Preschool Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 3pm. For full details ring Sharon on 363156.

We also have lots of exciting things going on in the evenings!

Monday night is keep fit and kick boxing from 6-30pm until 8pm. Come along and join in the fun. Tuesday night is BINGO NIGHT! Doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 8pm. New members are welcome. Come along, meet and make new friends. Refreshments are also available and it finishes around about 10pm.

Wednesday evening is Dance to the Beat, 5pm until 7pm. For details ring Miss Lacey on 01256 321160.

Thursday night we have street dance and ballet classes for ages two and a half years to adults, 4.30pm until 5.30pm. For full details ring Samantha on 07811299484.

Also kick boxing from 7pm until 8.30pm.

Friday night is Friday Night Club from 5 until 6:30pm

The hall is also available at reasonable rates. For details ring Janet on 01256 363156.

Melrose Community Hall is available to hire for birthdays, wedding receptions, conferences and regular groups. Please ring Vicki Jackson on 01256 420676 for more information or e-mail us at Melrosehal2l@gmail.

<u>com</u>

Also find us on facebook: Melrose hall.

WHATS ON IN DEC:

MONDAY: DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE

7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic **TUESDAY:** 9.30am-12.00pm Popley Little People

5.15-7.30pm Suma Karate

AFTERNOON AND EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

WEDNESDAY: 9.30am Slimming World

12-2pm Oasis Lunch club

5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World 9.30-11.30am Community Cafe

THURSDAY: 9.30-11.30am Community Cafe
DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE

FRIDAY: DAYTIME HIRE AVAILABLE

9.40am Group cycle Ride (weather permiting)

Free bike loan available

SATURDAY: 9.00am-4.00pm 7TH Day Adventist Church

10am Sabath School - Bible Study

11.30am Divine Worship

1pm Free Community Lunch

Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 for further details

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SUNDAY: Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351

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Attorneys, Deputies, decisions and gifts By Michael Le Fort

If you have applied to act as a Deputy for a loved one or close relative then it is most likely this has arisen as a result of the failure by the person you wish to act for to put in place a Lasting Power of Attorney. It should be borne in mind that the Court of Protection has made it clear that there is no automatic presumption of right to act as a deputy simply because you are related to the person on whose behalf you are making the application.

If approved in your role as Deputy you will find that you have responsibility for the property and financial affairs of another and may feel that they have failed to take advantage of potential financial opportunities, such as ways to mitigate their potential inheritance tax liability such as gifts. After all, you would take advantage of such mitigation so perhaps you should make sure that they do.

In dealing with such issues the Court of Protection has made it clear that we should accept that what is true for those acting as Deputies is also true for those acting as Attorneys under a Lasting Power of Attorney. The Court has been at pains to point out that both Deputies and Attorneys should realise that they only have limited authority to make gifts and that in certain circumstances they should apply to the Court for more extensive gift making and tax planning powers. In his recent ruling Senior Judge Lush has made it clear that while managing your own money is one thing managing someone else's is an entirely different matter. Unfortunately, but perhaps understandably, most Deputies and Attorneys labour under a misapprehension that they are authorised to act as the individual might do and not in the more objective way a Trustee must act.

The Court is quite happy, where funds allow, for small gifts and the annual allowance of £3,000 to be used to assist with such mitigation but larger sums are unlikely to be acceptable without the permission of the Court being sought in advance. We are advised by the Court that a gift must be of a value that can be described as not unreasonable and this is to be determined by taking into account all the circumstances with an emphasis on, and a reference to, the size of the estate of person for whom you act. If in doubt about the size of any gift, tax mitigation or payment the advice must always be to apply to the Court for permission. These matters are a question of fact and degree and while common sense is required if in doubt seek permission first.

For further information you can contact Michael Le Fort on 01256 854637, michael.lefort@phillips-law.co.uk or visit www.phillips-law.co.uk



Jax eastern European foods has been trading on the edge of Chineham Business Park since March



2015. We stock a wide range of Lithuanian, Russian, Hungarian, Polish, Latvian and Romanian foods as well as a selection of wines beers and spirits. As the festive season is approaching we are selling traditional Royal tree cakes and boxes of chocolates, also winter drinks and festive gift hampers. Come down and take a look.





From $1^{\rm st}$ December 2015 we will be selling Christmas trees from the shop. They are between 5.5 to 6ft tall, and are an original English grown Normann Fir, they are priced at £32.00 per tree. You can pre order your tree from the shop or call 01256 478880.

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Superfast Broadband Update

The Internet has been transforming how we live and work for over 20 years, and Superfast Broadband is becoming a necessity for many households, whether to shop or bank online, make doctor's appointments, Skype family, do homework, work from home, run a business, catch up on a soap, or tweet, Facebook and Snapchat friends. However it's been anything but superfast to arrive for many, who have been stuck with speeds introduced nearly 10 years ago.

As we reported in September, following campaigning by residents and the support of our local Popley Councillors, BT's Openreach Division committed to upgrade more of their network in Popley to be capable of providing superfast "fibre" broadband.



The good news is the physical work to provide the additional green fibre cabinets began in early November; one covering the Elevate/Everest Park/Glaciers developments on the former John Hunt school site; and the other covering the eastern end of Marnel Park (the western half was enabled in 2013).

Once complete, we believe **all** Popley residents will finally have the option of at least one superfast fibre broadband service, and though some in the Maldive Road/ Faroe Close area are limited to Virgin Media to obtain superfast speeds, the majority have a competitive choice of provider.

At the time of going to press, the two new cabinets had been sited and Openreach were carrying out cabling works. If all goes to plan, and after completing testing, we hope they will both be ready for customer orders around the time you read this in December.

The latest news on the upgrades can be found on the community website http://fibre.everestpark.org.uk, which also includes information all residents may find useful when choosing a broadband supplier, as well as links to check on superfast fibre

broadband availability and forecast speeds.

As a reminder, there are no fibre fairies, and people will not automatically receive faster speeds when fibre broadband arrives; existing "ADSL" services continue to be available and often provide the lowest prices. by Oliver



Angela M Rabess

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For further details ring **2**357637

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