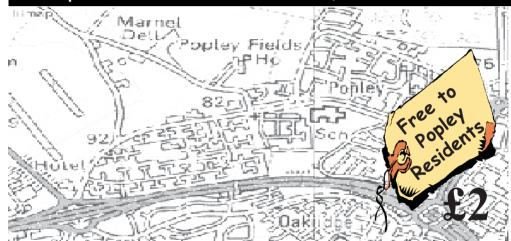
# POPLEY NATTERS

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April 2016 Distribution of 5,300 Issue 170



## FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Editor Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: April this year is a very poignant month for me as I would have been celebrating my Golden Wedding anniversary with my late husband Ken. I am grateful that we had 45 years together but, of course, sad at the same time. It made me think of how life is now and brought back so many memories, not least of which is Popley Matters and how all the family got involved 19 years ago next month. April brings a mass of colourful flowers and the time to plant seeds for more, and of course healthy, vegetables to harvest later in the year.

Merton Infant School has sent Popley Matters pages of wonderful poems written by the children in Year 6 and over the next few issues we are happy to share them with you, starting this issue on page 26. Merton Junior along with many other schools, had a World Book Day event and the children dressed as their favourite character. The staff too dressed up; read about it on page 14.

Not long now to the ever popular Popley Festival, I love going and meeting people who move away but come back to say hello at the festival. There is always so much to see and do and the car boot sale always has a few spaces spare but better if you book early details are on page 5. Another fundraising event is the Basingstoke and Deane Rotary Club, read about it on page 24. Home Start also has its main fundraising event on page

17, Age Concern Information Day has the answers to many of your questions, get more details on page 20.

Popley Matters still needs more volunteers so if you want to keep fit and meet people, delivering The Matters is good way to start. Please contact me at editor@popleymatters.org.uk we also have some limited space if you want to advertise, we deliver 5300 magazines. 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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#### Fairtrade at Everest Community Academy

At Everest, we have been celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight by raising awareness about the farmers who don't have Fairtrade and need help to buy food or other important supplies.

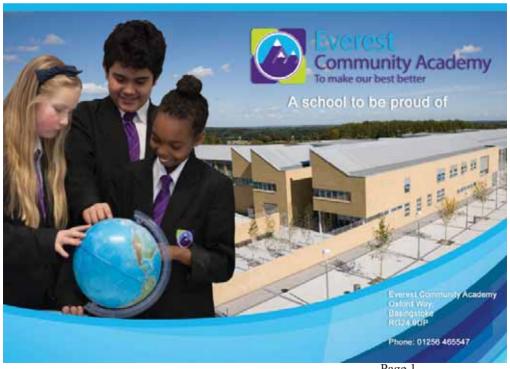
Several activities were organised and enjoyed by all in the Academy including; Fairtrade assemblies, a steel pans concert, a Fairtrade treasure hunt, a Fairtrade bake-off and a Banana Brunch using Fairtrade bananas kindly donated by Fyffes.

Our Year and School Councillors encouraged all the students and staff to partake in the activities to raise awareness and money for Fairtrade.

Everest has just "graduated" from being a Fair Awareness school to a Fair Active school.

Everest Education Correspondent Jenny Welldon





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Councillors' Page: There is an ongoing consultation by Hampshire County Council on a proposal to close 10 of the 11 Sure Start Children's Centres and reconstruct the services in Basingstoke and Deane. Pebbles in Popley is one of the suggested cuts. The centres help families with children under five with many issues and problems, from breast feeding to health and family issues. It is a centre where young families can to go to get help or meet and share their knowledge. Only the most vulnerable will be able to go to the only centre, that will be across town in Buckskin. This begs the question who is able and not able to go, who will decide? The service is suggested to expand to up to nineteen year olds. Is it a good idea to mix troubled teenagers around mums and babies that are at their most trying times, is it fair on the older teenagers too? Travel to Buckskin from around the town and villages will be expensive, and time consuming. If you think this is wrong you can sign the petition on line or in the many places in town including Fastfare shop and pharmacy. I have some copies of the petition if you want to sign, or take one and get your friends and family to sign. There is a campaign in all Hampshire as it is not only here that will suffer, they want to close 43 of the 64 Sure Start Centres. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane. frankum@hants.gov.uk

**Popley West:** We are supporting a Local Infrastructure Fund application that St Bede's School and Church have applied for. They want to get extra parking places on site. There have been so many issues for local residents over the years. With St Bede's being a very good and popular Catholic school, children come from all over Basingstoke and Deane and a solution needs to be found that helps everyone.

The double yellow lines experiment/trial in Marnel Park comes to an end very soon so if you have any comments or issues please send them to Local Government and Litigation Team (01256) 845243 or better still to the communityservices@ basingstoke.gov.uk Several residents in Appleton Drive have asked for the double yellow lines to be extended to parts of their road. The portfolio holder cllr.robert.tate@basingstoke.gov.uk will be making the decision very soon so you need to act as soon as possible.

We have been working with Basingstoke and Deane Council and Hampshire County Council to get a walking map for around Popley and some more improvements to the area. We will to be able to tell you more next month.

The improvements to the Abbey Road shopping area and in front of the houses in the square are due to begin soon. There were some serious antisocial behaviour problems especially with ball games and this should help to address this, and also smarten up the car parking area too.

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924 cllr.paul.frankum@popleymatters.org.uk

**Popley East:** The Bermuda and Marlowe GP Practice has been awarded the new contract to run the services for patients starting on 1 April 2016. The new contract will run for five years with an option to extend this for a further five years. This followed a long period of uncertainty and we think the community will be pleased to know that the service will continue to be run by trusted local practitioners and support staff.

David became actively involved in the Patient Participation Group (PPG) which was able to play a significant role in looking at the quality and value of the bids for running the service, and making sure that NHS Wessex finally appreciated the need for certainty regarding the way the Practice would be run in the years ahead to serve the local population.

It is always open to members of the community to play a part in the work of the PPG.If you are interested in getting involved with this please contact the Practice direct.

By the time this edition of Popley Matters is distributed we hope that outstanding maintenance issues at the Browning/Dryden Closes Play area will have been resolved.

It has taken many months to get the design and build company responsible for the play area to admit its liability to repair and replace equipment, which it now has, and we hope to see the work done by the Easter break.

Cllr David Potter 07941507801 cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk Cllr Viv Washbourne 07900890088 cllr.vivien.washbourne@basingstoke.gov.uk Page 3

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We also have the chance for you to take part too!

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Further details can be found of our website at

www.popleyfestival.org.uk





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'Spring is sprung and the grass is green!' so the old nursery rhyme goes. As I write this we've been enjoying several days of blue skies and sparkling sunshine and it has been a real joy to be able to get out and about – an added bonus, the days are slowly getting longer and the lighter evenings are just over the horizon. The rhythm of life (a powerful thing – so I've heard) is beginning to pick up again after the long winter days. Already there are many daffodils in flower and it does somehow lift the spirit to see all these new signs of life! New life is what our Christian faith is all about and nowhere is this more apparent in the Christian year than the Easter season we celebrate in church.

Easter, for so many, sadly will only be associated with eggs, particularly those of the chocolate variety. Why do we have Easter eggs? Well, doesn't an egg represent all the potential for new life, new beginnings! And why are Easter eggs hollow? Because the empty egg is symbolic of the empty tomb of Jesus when he rose from the dead to resurrection life on that first Easter Day offering a whole new life for all who would follow him.

St Paul wrote "If anyone is in Christ they are a new creation, the old has gone the new has come" (2 Cor 5:17). If we truly want a fresh start for our lives, if we truly want to leave the mess of the past behind, then as a Christian I believe there is only one place to start, or rather only one person to turn to and that's Jesus. And this new life is not just for the now but for all eternity; Jesus himself said "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have life eternal." (John 3:16).

So as the new life of spring begins to emerge all around us may your thoughts turn to the possibilities of new life for yourself and, if like me, you're a chocoholic then may your Easter eggs this year take on a new and added meaning. Hope to see you at one of our Easter Services!

With God's blessings, your friend and Vicar Revd. Arthur 01256 324734 St Gabriel's

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## Over 55s Forum

Our next Open Forum meeting will be on Wednesday 13th April at the Carnival Hall at 10.15am start. All are welcome, providing there is room.

### Trips.

10th June Cadbury's World will include a guided tour on the coach of the Bournville Village, which is a very interesting tour. Also an Exhibition of how chocolate is made, with a small cup of warm chocolate, afternoon tea and a visit to their large chocolate shop. There are still some seats available, Price £31.25 members - £33.25 Non Members.

<u>18th and 19th June</u> A fabulous weekend in De-Panne (Belgium) De-Panne is a beautiful seaside town with a very large beach and good shops. You will be staying in the Ibis Hotel in De-Panne. We will be travelling by Eurotunnel. Price £99.00 members - £101.00 Non Members.

**28th June** Littlecote House (Warners Hotels) a "Jane Seymour Package" has been booked which includes a Welcome Drink - Tour of the Historic House - afternoon tea and a Cabaret/Show. Price £32.15 - £34.15 Non Members.

<u>11th October</u> Brick Lane Music Hall (London) these are brilliant show. The 2016 show will be the "The Best of British", a celebration of British talent from television to stage and screen, with an afternoon tea. Price £47.25 - £49.25 Non Members.

 $\underline{22nd\ July}$  Chelsea Hospital Tour (Chelsea Pensioners) The tour starts at 1.30pm with a 2 hour walking tour around the grounds, including into the Great Hall, Wren Chapel and the Museum. Price £21.75 members - £23.75 Non members.

Carnival Chorus (Over 55's Singing Group) meet for practice at the Carnival Hall every Tuesday 1.30 to 3pm. Why not come along and try a session. Non members £2.50.

**Every Thursday 11.00am to midday** "Movement and Stretch" sessions for Over 55's, at the Carnival Hall these sessions are proving very popular and make you feel good. £2.50 members - £3.50 non members.

**18th April 2pm to 4pm** New Age Kurling will be on the at the Carnival Hall. Non Members £3.50.

I am also the Governor for Older People at the Hampshire Hospital Foundation Trust (Basingstoke, Winchester and Andover) I would ask that all those people who are not members, should seriously consider being a member, which is FREE and all members are sent a newsletter throughout the year of what is happening and information. I must stress that it is General Public hospital, so why not support it by being a member, forms can be obtained from myself or the hospital. If any of the general public have concerns with the hospital, they can contact myself and I will try and get it sorted to their satisfaction.

Gerald. L. Merritt 07792535116 or e-mail gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com



## Spring News March 2016

Aiming High, Achieving Together

All the children have been very busy learning our new MERTON Values to reflect our new school expansion. We have updated them to reflect our recent school expansion. We now have 3 fantastic new Year R classrooms, a purpose built Year R outside area, a Dance / Music studio and a library.

Motivation
Excellence
Respect
Teamwork
Opportunities
Never give up





#### Year R - 'On the Farm'

The Year Rs were lucky enough to visit Bucklebury Farm and see the farm animals in their habitats. When they arrived back at school they used their experience to deepen their knowledge about farm animals, their babies and their life cycle and therefore wanted to adopt a farm animal of their own. They decided they would like to raise the money by having a cake sale. To do this they improved their writing skills by writing posters, invitations, letters and signs. They put the posters up around the school to invite Year 1 and 2 to bring in their change and buy a scrumptious cake! The children in Year R were thrilled as they raised £109.69, enough to adopt their animal!

#### Year 1 - 'Growing Good'

Our Year 1s have been learning about plants with Mr Guntrip, a dear friend of Merton Infant school who owns an allotment in the area, now they have become experts! As it is spring time, they have decided that it is the right time to inform the local residents about how to grow and look after their plants in the hope of making Popley bloom this summer! They have made leaflets and have written poetry. Soon, they will also be inviting parents to a 'Growing Good' assembly to show them what they have learnt.

#### Year 2 - 'It's Basingstoke ... NOT Boringstoke!'

Year 2 have been learning about our local community, thinking about how we can attract more visitors for the summer. They decided that they should visit the places they think will be interesting so they can persuade other people to visit. They chose the Odeon cinema and Bowlplex at the Leisure Park. They had a fantastic trip and came back to school buzzing with ideas to persuade any holiday makers. But then, the Year 2s received an email from a little Scottish girl called Katie Morag. She has requested that the Year 2s make a leaflet about Basingstoke to help her decide where to take her summer holiday. So, they are working on their persuasive language.



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## New Defibrillator at Popley Fields

Due to a generous grant from Cllr Jane Frankum from her Hampshire County Council Devolved Budget Allowance, Popley Fields Community Centre now has a fully automatic defibrillator (AED). These devices can deliver a high energy shock, if required, if someone is possibly having a cardiac arrest (heart is stopping or beating erratically). Research has shown that victims have an increased chance of surviving if a defibrillator is used when those assisting are waiting for an ambulance to arrive. Many public areas such as gyms, theatres, shopping centres, and airports now have these available along with their first aid boxes for such events.

A defibrillator is really simple to use and a responder does not need to be trained but awareness of how to use one is desirable. The Popley Fields model is fully automatic and when switched on the device gives step by step audible instructions. The Popley Fields Community Centre model can be used on children from 1 year of age and adults, although some models are for adults only.

Once in position the defibrillator detects the heart activity. The defibrillator will not deliver a shock unless one is required.

The Popley Fields defibrillator is registered with the local ambulance service so

that a caller to 999 will be directed to their nearest defibrillator if required.

If you come across someone not breathing, the most important thing is to ring 999 and start chest compressions or CPR until professional help arrives.

Popley Fields Community Centre has put in a bid for CPR / defibrillator awareness training for Popley residents. There have been three awareness sessions so far which have been informative and well attended. Information on further sessions will be published on the Popley Fields website and in Popley Matters and from Heather Burt and Tracey Judge at Popley Fields Community Centre.

Heather Burt



Page 11



#### **Headquarters:**

#### Base 2000 Carpenters Down, Popley RG24 9AE

Group Scout Leader:Colin Karslake01256 410559Scout section:Kevin Pocock07867 946 759Cub Scout section:Douglas Gowan01256 412326Beaver Scout section:Eve Alexander07790 018 171

Three months in the life of a Beaver Scout ....



The weeks fly by when you're a busy Beaver Scout with the Air Scout Group. It seems only yesterday we were off for our annual visit to Paultons Park for a day of primarily outside activities (and a present from 'you-know-whodressed-in-red' to cheer us all). It was a great success.

Six Beaver from our Colony completed

all the requirements to gain the Chief Scout's Bronze Award recently. This is the highest award any Beaver can achieve and requires commitment and hard work — and having lots of fun on the way. The awards were presented by Basingstoke East District Commissioner, Andy Cullen





The customary New Year Party was lots of fun and very entertaining. The Group Scout Leader played his part as a 'dressing-up victim' and was rewarded as his team won the prize.

The Beavers all hand-painted photo frames for Mothering Sunday and inserted a black and white photo of themselves to surprise their mothers. The results were varied and attracted many favourable comments from delighted mothers.

The Colony has raised over £200 for Guide Dogs for the Blind so far but Beavers have until the end of April to add to this sum. They enjoyed a visit from Vadar a

to add to this sum. They enjoyed a visit from Vadar a guide-dog-in-training recently and we hope that will encourage everyone to make extra efforts to raise as much money as possible for this worthy cause. There is prize of a £10 book voucher for the Beaver raising the most money.



We have been pleased to welcome more adult help with section in recent months and Blue Beaver is bringing new ideas into our weekly programmes assisted by Sarah.



St. George's Day will be celebrated by a parade through Festival Place in Basingstoke on the morning of Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April attended by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Jane Frankum. Basingstoke East, Basingstoke West and Silchester Scout Districts will join together for special celebrations as it is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the formation of the Cub Scout section this year. Over 1000 young people, all members of Scouting, are expected to attend in full uniform with flags flying and a balloon launch to commemorate a very special year.

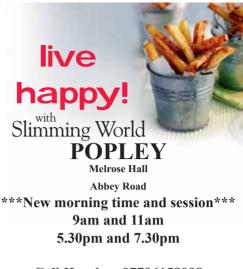
The Colony is always pleased to welcome new recruits (boys and girls aged from 6 years) but the Beaver section is frequently oversubscribed so you may have to join the waiting list in the first instance. Enquiries to Beaver Section Leader Eve on 07790 018 171

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Toe 2 Sole

#### Illustrating times at Merton Junior School - World Book Day 2016

The children at Merton Junior School have been lucky enough to be visited by author and illustrator of the Icky Doo Dah books, Simon Murray. They have experienced an illustrator in action, as Simon drew the character Icky Doo Dah for all of the children to see.

As well as taking part in a range of activities linked to many other famous illustrators such as Quentin Blake and Nick Sharratt, in which the children have worked extremely hard to produce their own art work, they also had the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.











There were a range of different book characters walking around school, from Harry Potter to James Bond and from Mr Sneezy to the Very Hungry Caterpillar.

And as with everything that we do at Merton Juniors, the staff have to get involved too!







#### **Mental Health Matters**

We all have mental health, like we all have physical health. Both change throughout our lives. And, like our bodies, our minds can become unwell.

Mental health problems might actually be more common than you think. At any time one in four people in this country will be experiencing common mental health problems, meaning you or someone you know is likely to be feeling some form of distress right now.

#### Where can I go for help?

North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group funds 'italk' a psychological therapies service specifically for people with common mental health problems including depression and anxiety. The service is open to anyone aged 16 and over who is registered with a GP in the locality of Basingstoke

italk currently accepts referrals directly from you (self-referrals) or via your GP.

The service treats the following:

- Depression
- Generalised Anxiety Disorder (GAD)
- Stress
- Health Anxiety
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Panic Disorder
- Social Anxiety
- Agoraphobia
- Specific Phobias
- Insomnia

#### About the service

The service offers a wide range of treatment options including educational workshops and groups which teach people how to manage stress, anxiety, insomnia and depression. There are also a number of one to one options available including Guided Self Help, Interpersonal Therapy, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, Dynamic Interpersonal Therapy and Couples Therapy for Depression.

## Launch of new Online Support from Silvercloud

The italk service has recently launched a brand new online support programme from SilverCloud; perfect for anyone suffering from mild to moderate depression or anxiety, who has a busy lifestyle or prefers to work online rather than chat.

Accessing it couldn't be easier as you can login via your mobile, tablet or PC. Visit <a href="www.italk.org">www.italk.org</a> and select treatment options and choose 'online support'.

To contact the service; call on: 02380383920 or email on: info@italk.org.uk

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Bespoke hours catered for.

To arrange a visit please contact me on **07540622818** 

#### **BERMUDA COMMUNITY CENTRE**

REGISTERED CHARITY No 1112068



40-44 BERMUDA CLOSE BASINGSTOKE HANTS RG24 9PE

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 always 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, 6pm until 7pm. For details ring Miss Lackey on 321160.

If you like to dance we have Street Dance and ballet classes on **Thursdays**, for ages from two and a half year to adults, 4.30pm until 6.30pm. For full details contact Samantha on 07811299484. Also kick boxing from 7pm until 8.30pm.

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

The hall is also available to hire for parties etc at reasonable rates.

For information, ring Janet on 01256 363156



#### WHAT IS CRIMESTOPPERS



Crimestoppers is a national charity which provides an anonymous phone line for members of the public to give any information on crime. The call is free, the caller remains anonymous and a cash reward of up to £1,000 is available (enhanced rewards can also be paid for specific high profile crimes). Calls are taken 24/7 by the national call centre, based in Godstone in Surrey.

The telephony hardware is configured so that it is impossible to trace a caller - there is no '1471' facility, caller display or other means of identifying people using the service. Calls are not recorded and no answering machines are used and therefore there is nothing to be disclosed to a Court that might compromise the caller's anonymity.

Anonymous information can now also be given on line via the Charity's website - www.crimestoppers-uk. org Systems are in place to ensure that this information cannot be traced back to the source. Unless the caller tells people themselves that they contacted Crimestoppers, no one will ever know!

#### HISTORY

The idea for Crimestoppers originated in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1977. A murder had occurred in a small community but the Police Department was unable to solve the crime, despite it being clear that there were a number of witnesses and people with information. A phone line was set up offering anonymity, hoping to encourage members of the close-knit community to come for-ward. As a result the Police Department was inundated with calls regarding crimes of all sorts - although not necessarily about the murder!

After the murder of PC Keith Blakelock QGM at Broadwater Farm in London in 1988, Michael (now Lord) Ashcroft KCMG, PC approached the Commissioner to officer his support, and perhaps put up a reward to help catch the killer. Sir Peter Imbert QPM suggested that the scheme he had heard of in America may be well suited to this incident as it likewise involved a community unlikely to engage with the Police. Lord Ashcroft set about developing Crimestoppers in the UK.

#### HAMPSHIRE & IOW CRIMESTOPPERS

A huge number of calls are made to the Crimestoppers offce as a result of the television, radio and newspaper features, and other work that the Hampshire & IOW Crimestoppers team undertake. In 2014/15, 2530 'actionable' calls were passed to Hampshire Police (calls that give sufficient information for us to be able to use) giving information on crimes, and over 448 people have been arrested as a result. Thousands of pounds worth of drugs and other property was also recovered. These are some of the best figures in the country, which is all thanks to the people of Hampshire and Isle of Wight who take the trouble to call and 'do their bit' for their local community.

Around 95% of calls to Crimestoppers are of use; either leading to an arrest, as a contribution to the intelligence we already hold, or disrupting/impacting on criminal activity. The interference of crime cannot easily be quantified, but clearly calls to Crimestoppers do have a huge impact on this. Not all calls will lead directly to an arrest, but intelligence in addition to that already held is always welcome.

Remember, if you have any information about local crime or criminals and don't want to get personally involved, call the Crimestoppers number, 0800 555 111, or log on to www.crimestoppers-uk.org where you can submit any information online and still remain anonymous.

Information passed to Crimestoppers may not be acted upon immediately, so anything of an urgent nature should be dealt with by way of '999' in the usual way.





Would you and your family like to join us for a weekend of fun? We are looking for volunteers to join us in hosting French families from our twinned community centre in Alencon over the Popley Festival weekend. You will host guests in your home (with an allowance for guests food), in return you will join us on a day trip, an evening of dining and fun entertainment at the hall and can join us next year visiting France. Our guests arrive Saturday morning and

leave Monday afternoon. Please contact Vicki in the office for any further details.

Our new computer hub is now up and running!! Tuesday and Friday 12.00-2.00pm. Come along for free use of our computers and access to the Internet. Learn how the Internet can help you! Or learn basic computer skills. Research you family tree with Ancestry, make a doctors appointment, learn how to use social media, send an e-mail, the possibilities are endless! Booking is advisable just contact Vicki in the office.

WHATS ON IN APRIL:

MONDAY: DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE
7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic

**TUESDAY:** 9.30-12.00am Popley Little People 12.00-2.00pm Computer Hub

5.15-7.30pm Suma Karate

AFTERNOON AND EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

WEDNESDAY: 9.00am Slimming World

11.00am Slimming World 12-2pm Oasis Lunch club 5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World

THURSDAY: 9.30-11.30am Community Cafe

DAYTIME AND EVENING HIRE AVAILABLE

FRIDAY: DAYTIME HIRE AVAILABLE

9.40 for 10.00 ride- Group Cycle Ride (weather permiting)

Free bike and baby trailer loan available

12.00-2.00pm - Computer Hub

**SATURDAY:** 9.00am-4.00pm 7<sup>TH</sup> Day Adventist Church

10am Sabath School - Bible Study

11.30am Divine Worship
1pm Free Community Lunch

Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 for further details

EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

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

for times of services.

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 <a href="Melrosehal2l@gmail.com">Melrosehal2l@gmail.com</a>

Also find us on facebook: Melrose hall.

## Age Concern Hampshire Information Day Wednesday 27 April 2016

Age Concern Hampshire will be holding an Information Event at St Michael's Church Cottage, Church Square, Basingstoke, RG21 7QW between 10.30 am and 1.00 pm. This is just outside Festival Place behind St Michael's Church.

We have invited local organisations to attend and promote services they provide for older people, their relatives and carers in the area. These include the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service, Princess Royal Trust for Carers, Open Sight, Deaf Plus, Better Balance & Falls Prevention and many others. Age Concern Hampshire will also be available offering free and impartial advice.

Please come and join us at this popular event and enjoy the delicious, reasonably priced food and refreshments at our Café which is open as usual. There is no parking at the venue but the town centre car parks are within easy walking distance.

If you require any further information, please contact our Basingstoke Office on 01256 423874.







#### Small businesses and costly disputes Pt. 2

By Ben Pearson

In the Autumn I wrote about the options available to prevent disputes occurring in the first place through work we do to improve on the contracts you have and the Terms & Conditions you trade under. I also briefly referenced alternative ways of resolving any disputes outside of the Court. This is why: an increasingly austere legal landscape is throwing up plenty for parties to a dispute to consider before entering into formal proceedings. For starters, the Small Claims Track of the County Court is now something of a misnomer as it deals with claims up to £10,000 in value. It is always worth being mindful of the threshold for Small Claims as in those cases legal fees are not as a rule recoverable. That means that Claimants retaining lawyers to work on Small Claims cases may find themselves out of pocket even if they win, or at the very least find that the margin of victory is eroded by legal costs.

Current national policy is therefore fairly clear: when it comes to Small Claims, even where there are complex issues to be dealt with, claimants are financially incentivised to act in person (without lawyers). That is coupled with the fact that starting a claim is easier than ever: claims can be issued online now which is cheaper and more efficient than the paper based alternative. However there are still plenty of pitfalls for the Litigant in Person. The Court process is not straightforward at the best of times; we regularly deal with Claimants that find themselves in difficulty by having made mistakes that can stall or undermine their claims — whether it is understanding the legitimacy or quantum of a particular claim or dealing with procedural matters, it is important to get it right if you are to succeed. Issuing a claim in person can be a false economy if the claim is a non-starter in the first place or legal advice is needed later on to rectify matters for instance by amending a claim.

We try to address the pressure on potential litigants by offering initial advice for a fixed fee. The idea is that without the risk of legal costs escalating you can have your questions answered and establish where you stand legally. Our meetings are not time limited and are always followed up with a comprehensive letter of advice dealing with the strength of your position legally, the options available to you along with cost/risk analysis. The idea is always to put you in a position to make commercially sensible decisions. In that regard we also advise on the full range of options including alternative means of resolving matters outside the Courts such as mediation.

For more information or to arrange an initial fixed fee appointment please call Ben Pearson on 01256 854 608 or email <a href="mailto:ben.pearson@phillips-law.co.uk">ben.pearson@phillips-law.co.uk</a>.

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## PART-TIME VACANCY SHERBORNE ST. JOHN VILLAGE HALL AND CHUTE CENTRE

Sherborne St John Parish Council is looking for 2 people to work part time as Caretakers overseeing and looking after the Sherborne St. John Village Hall and Chute Sports Centre.

The 2 positions could suit a wide range of ages – from older retired people – both men and women – to students studying 2/3 year courses.

Duties include carrying out required Health & Safety checks, opening & closing the buildings when rented, setting up for functions, showing prospective users around and generally ensuring the facilities are in good working order. Applicants should expect a percentage of the role to involve light/medium manual tasks as in setting up for functions.

While the work may involve making small repairs the expectation is that for most work needed the successful candidates would liaise with contractors brought in to undertake these works arranged by the Parish Clerk and the Village Hall Committee.

A positive and cheerful attitude and enjoyment in dealing with a wide range of people and situations is wanted, rather than experience, with a 'can do' approach in order to pro-actively manage the day to day issues of both facilities.

Living within the Village environs or nearby is an essential pre-requisite of both roles.

The 2 people will work as a team to ensure cover to both premises are maintained to a high standard and to provide holiday and sickness for each other. Each role will be for 8 to 10 hours per week (overtime can be anticipated).

For further details (inc. details of salary) interested applicants should contact Penny Mayo, Sherborne St. John Parish Clerk, on <a href="mailto:ssize:ssiz



Congratulations are in order for our under 16s who have won the North East Hants League in their age group. Well done to all the players and coaches.

Also a special mention for our under 11 Venom team for their continued success in their cup matches. Keep up this fantastic run boys!

MFC Popley Youth are pleased and excited to announce an exclusive partnership with Basingstoke Sports and Social Club which will see the whole club (with the exception of our All Stars and Under 7s for the time being) relocate to a new home at May's Bounty.

As you can imagine, members of the committee have been working hard over the past few months to move this forward in time for the start of the 2016/17 season. The transition will begin over the coming months and hopefully the benefits will be felt by everyone associated with the club.

We are always looking to recruit new, enthusiastic 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 grass roots 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 7's), running the line (under 11's upward) and the setting 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.

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

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

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

#### Contact the club -

Main website: www.mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

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

live.co.uk

Volunteer enquiries: volunteer@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk All-Stars Recruitment: allstars@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Zak Collingwood



#### 2 Day Family Festival 1<sup>st</sup> & 2nd May 2016 Venue: Basingstoke Rugby Club, Down Grange, Basingstoke RG22 5HH 11.00 to 5.00 both days

In conjunction with Basingstoke Rugby Club, Basingstoke Rotary will again be running our popular Family Festival.

This year, entry and parking will be totally free.

There will be stalls and a whole range of family entertainment including;

- **GMG Falconry** with Paul Gray giving two flying displays each day.
  - Up to 12 birds of prey will be on display at their gazebo, including a Golden Eagle.
- **Scott's Circus Workshop** will involve all participants in plate spinning, stilt walking, diablos, fun wheels and juggling.
- Walls Funfair
- Displays by local groups including

The Basingstoke Gym Club The Wolverine's Cheer Team Junior Rugby Tournament

#### Plus many stalls selling exciting products for the home and garden.

In addition we intend to include many other fun activities plus local groups and charities will also be very much represented. Rotary will also have a display about the work we get involved in.

Local Charities to be supported by this event will include **Homestart**, and **Spotlight UK**. Last year Basingstoke Rotary helped, amongst others, the following Charities;

- The Arc Cancer Charity.
- Cardiac Risk in the Young, in conjunction with Lord Wandsworth College.
- Homestart (funding of a training course for volunteers).

We would be very grateful if you would pass on this news to your readers. We will of course supply more information if you want it. Our contacts are either me, Jeffrey Morgans, on 01256 468300 <a href="mailto:jeffrey.morgans@gmail.com">jeffrey.morgans@gmail.com</a> or Jim London at London Clancy 01256 480905 <a href="mailto:jimlondon@londonclancy.co.uk">jimlondon@londonclancy.co.uk</a>

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Page 25

#### **Pretty Plants**

New seed big and brown. I dig a hole and drop you in I give you a water. I give you warmth. **GROW GROW GROW** 

You show ...... A shoot. Your leaves come out own by own.

YOU have pretty petals. Your pretty plants. You're as big as a bus. You're as spiky like a rose.

I water you every day with a hose. You have red dots and black spots. NOW YOU'RE ALL GROWN.

**Bv Abbie** 

#### Garden

Trees go crunch Grass goes icv Frogs go ribbit Fire goes pop pop pop! By India



#### My green plant

My green plant needs water, sun and soil. It has four leafs and it is little. The tall plant it stands like a tall giant.

By George

#### Little Brown Seed

Little brown seed I put you in the earth I give you love then Pop out the ground

Now you are

A flower By Bailey

My flower was falling I can see the seed blooming The wind was blowing the flower.

#### Twinkly Seeds

Twinkly seeds big and brown underground. Nice and quiet not a sound. I'll give you some water right now.



I'll give you sunshine. I will leave you for a week. You're as Twinkly as a star.

Bv Adam

#### My Magic Rainbow Seed

My magic rainbow seed grows all night, And it gets bigger and bigger and bigger. My little rainbow seed needs light, And it grows bigger and big and bigger, It can touch the moon and sun.

**Bv Olivia** 



#### Bees

Buzz buzz buzz Honey honey honey Bees get nectar from the flowers Bees are really funny By Tyler H

#### Silly Tree

The silly tree is tall. And has no leaves at all. It is so tall I cant reach it. Now the tree is grown up It is super tall. It has leaves on it now.

Then Autumn comes and All the leaves fell off.

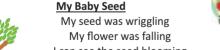
**By George** 



#### The Very Tiny Seed

The very tiny seed was growing slow and tall, The very tiny seed grow taller and taller like a tree, The very tiny seed was a giant flower now.

By Filip



By Eliza



#### My little seed

In the heart of a seed. Buried deep so deep A tiny plant Lay fast asleep







#### Lions Clubs International

### The Lions Club of Basingstoke

Registered Charity No: 274337

Website: www.basingstokelions.org.uk

Sadly we had to say goodbye to David Side on the 19<sup>th</sup> February. As a Doctor and as a 47 year member of our Club he was truly a man who devoted his life to community service. He held us together in tough times and his wisdom, wit and warmth are sorely missed. There wasn't a dry eye at the end of the service which concluded with "The Carnival is Over" by the New Seekers.

#### **Fundraising:**

**The Sussex Jazz Kings** gave us a superb evening's entertainment at QMC. Their presence on stage is remarkable as is their proficiency with their instruments. The evening raised £964. The great news is that they are returning to play for us at a New Orleans style Jazz party to be held later in the year.

Welfare: Four instances of assistance were approved for a total of £750.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

9/04/2016 The Heritage Orchestra will be taking us on a musical tour of Paris and London probably via the Seine, the Moulin Rouge, Bow Bells, the Old Kent Road and the Albert Hall. One of our best evenings entertainment.

Venue: QMC 7pm for 7.30. Tickets: <a href="mainticehockley@hotmail.com">mauricehockley@hotmail.com</a> or tel: 01256 421867 and tel: 01256 325280 or <a href="mainticehockley@hotmail.com">jomolincoln@btinternet.com</a>

**16/04/2016** Quiz Night at the Millenium Hall, Cliddesden 7pm for 7.30 start. Book your table with <a href="mailto:philipjhwilson@btinternet.com">philipjhwilson@btinternet.com</a> or tel: 01256 352393 Remember we can only take 22 tables of 4.

The Lions Den, Our popular putting game, will be doing the rounds in support of other charities and schools open days. Have a go if you see us. But dads, please don't enter into competition with your kids unless you're into humiliation. You can book it for your event by contacting email: bazmore@virginmedia.com

Our Website Events calendar now shows all our planned events for the year including a couple of totally new ones. Please, take a look. www.basingstokelions.org.uk



#### The Pink Place Cancer Charity

The Pink Place is a registered cancer charity based in Basingstoke Town Centre that provides FREE hair services, complementary therapies (massage, reflexology), beauty therapy (manicures, facials), counselling and support for people with cancer. These services are provided at our weekly Monday sessions and allow people with any form of cancer to enjoy some pampering, support and to meet others in similar situations. Our aim is to improve the feeling of well-being of people with cancer.

We are based on  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  floor of 3 Wote Street (above Taylor's Hair Salon) in relaxed and friendly premises. Our sessions run 10am-12:30pm and volunteer therapists work on rota so exact services vary. Our guests can chose two or three services during their stay split into 30 min slots. This gives time for guests to chat and enjoy refreshments and home baked cakes.

We are currently open for sessions every Monday and once a month on Tuesdays. We also have monthly drop-in Coffee Mornings and Lunch Club open to anyone with cancer.

Currently our sessions are for ladies but we are hoping to launch "Blue Space at the Pink Place" this year with evening sessions for men with cancer. We are actively fundraising at the moment to get this started.

Our next event is a Charity Spring Ball at The Hampshire Court Hotel with ex-England cricketer Shaun Udal as our MC, a top Robbie Williams Tribute act and 3 course meal. This will be on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets available now. More details on our website and social media.

In February we were delighted to welcome Deputy Mayor Cllr Jane Frankum to The Pink Place. The Deputy Mayor met volunteers and guests and learnt about the various therapies on offer in our relaxing salon style premises.

Can we help? If anyone is touched by cancer and would like to come to The Pink Place, please call us on

07899 970841 or email info@thepinkplace.org.uk. You can get more details on our website www.thepinkplace.org.uk, facebook The Pink Place or Twitter @ThePinkPlaceOrg

Can you help? We rely on volunteers and fundraising to provide this service. If you would like to help, visit us, attend an event or know more then please email <a href="info@thepinkplace.org.uk">info@thepinkplace.org.uk</a> or phone 07899 970841. Reg charity







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# WANTED!

**Everest Health and Leisure Club are looking for Qualified Class Instructors.** 

Whether you are newly qualified or have been in the business for a few years. We are looking for a class instructor that can teach a range of fitness classes.

If you are looking to expand your client base then this could be a great opportunity for you. If you are interested please contact: ajones@everestcommunityacademy.org

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