

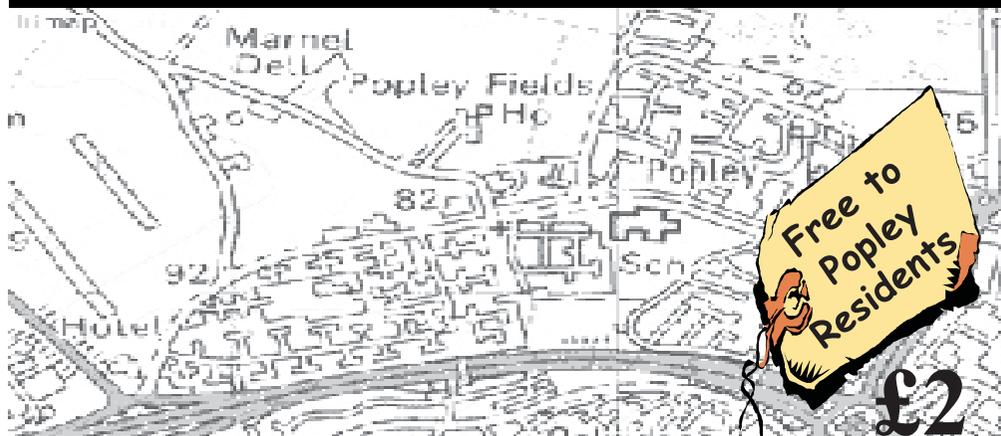
POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

March 2019

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 205



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-3-19) editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: March and how time marches on, although some things seem to take ages especially when it's things you want to happen or you see as priority and there's miles of red tape to go through first. At least we are nearer the, hopefully, sunny weather and warm sunshine.

I hope you do read and enjoy your community magazine as it takes so much time and effort to produce every month, and even more effort to get as many copies as we can delivered. We do really need to generate more income to pay for the printing although everything else is paid or done by our wonderful volunteers. I guess I am asking if there are any local businesses that would like to advertise; we start at £30 a month for a quarter page, great value as we have a print run of 5,400 but are trying to afford to go up to 6,000 copies. We also do large copies for the community centres, churches and individual residents with sight problems and even one on pink paper for a dyslexic reader. The magazine would also like to open up to people sponsoring it and of course this would be noted. Another appeal is on page 5 for St Michael's Hospice for volunteers to collect from door to door. The Army Flying Museum is looking for trustees and that is something so many charities need and are in short supply of.

This month we have quite a few events coming up :- like Popley Festival and we hope for good weather for the festival it attracts thousands of people to Popley. Read about it on page 1. There is a family farm day on page 10. There is great news as Melrose Hall has started all the expansion and new kitchen area and it will have so much more to offer. Bermuda Hall is moving on well so things are looking up for our community.

We welcome our readers to write in and send us articles about you or maybe the group you belong to. If you have ideas how we can improve (finances allowing) your magazine please let us know via editor@popleymatters.org.uk or message us on our Facebook page Popley Matters 200.

We welcome articles from groups and clubs, also residents who might like to write about their hobbies or the history of Popley? Email the Editor at editor@popleymatters.org.uk. Contact me at either 405 Abbey Road, phone me, on 01256 819924 or email me at 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.

Editorial Team:- Editor Jane Frankum; Sub-Editor Paul Frankum; Chair Terry Jones; Area Distribution Manager Jeremy Jackman Martin Biermann; Treasurer Christopher Martin; Proof Reader Lorraine Beaney.

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Thank you for your support.



POPLEY FESTIVAL

Sunday 19th May 11am – 4pm

Are you a member of a local club or organisation? Would you like to promote your organisation to more than 8,000 people? Now's your chance by getting involved with the Popley Festival!

This year we will have a performance space at the centre of the Festival and would love to get as much of the community participating as possible. Do you dance, sing, kick box? We are happy to consider any performance. We also have spaces for stalls and tents; please contact us for more information at:

contact@popleyfestival.org.uk

As usual we will have all the fun of the fair, a massive car boot sale, food stalls, licensed bar, displays, fun and games and much more. Hope to see you there!

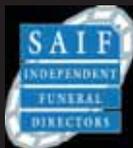
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Councillors County: The application for the building of the new SEND school will be going through the county Council Regulatory committee very soon.

I have had residents asking about more salt/grit bins and for the areas that HCC are responsible for. You can apply online for a new bin at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/saltbinrefill> New grit bins have been approved for Sark Way, Burns Close /Shakespeare Road, and near 34 Falkland. Jersey/Guernsey are applied for with two more for Abbey Road, one by the bridge to Oakridge by the shops the other for the subway near the Soldiers Return Park. There are over 20 bins in our area. The HCC bins they are responsible for are normally blue and numbered inside the lid but there are a few yellow ones. You can find where the gritting routes are on the Hampshire County Council web <https://maps.hants.gov.uk/highwayssaltroutes/>. During the last bad snow 43 salt trucks covered Hampshire and some from the south were sent to Basingstoke. It was difficult to get to some areas; people had dumped their cars and they could not get through.

Other good County news is that at last the uneven and often flooded path from Don Allen Drive to the hospital will be tarmacked, drainage issues addressed and the safety barrier have been put to the top of the list and, if finally approved, work should start by this summer.

Public consultation on extending the yellow lines in the Appleton Road area is imminent. I am waiting on the officer to announce when the public consultation will be from. All too often it does not tie in with our publication dates so you can also check on Facebook pages Popley Matters 200 or Pride of Popley and Marnel Merton and Spiers Meadow pages too. As soon as I have any news I will post it on there. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

Popley West: We have been contacted by many residents again about people who do not pick up their dog's mess. The article in last months Popley Matters has prompted residents to report back issues on just how bad it is in places like Popley Community Park. There are 11 bins in the park so no excuse for not using a bag, tying it up and placing in one of the bins supplied. It is dangerous and selfish not to pick up the dog's mess like most dog owners or walkers do.

The overgrown bushes in Chineham Lane leading all the way past Speckled Wood towards Everest Community Academy have been cut right back and are now adopted by Basingstoke and Deane. The workmen did a really good job of cutting and clearing them up, and I have passed on the thanks of the residents who had joined us in trying to get a permanent solution as to who would take responsibility.

The very real problems of collecting the waste goes on and we are still having issues with bins being collected a day or two late and even some people's bins being missed for several weeks. It is not the fault of the bin men who clearly try to catch up but the whole issue of rounds and timings need to be looked at and adjusted. We continue to monitor and report back to BDBC.

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924
cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924
cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk

Popley East: The recent spell of extreme weather conditions with heavy snow highlighted the need for sufficient well-placed grit/salt bins to be available for use in key places. Clearly the problems caused to the community, when these extreme weather conditions occur are exceptional but proper planning can help the situation. We are seeking to make sure that Popley is well provided for in this regard.

Fouling of footpaths and pedestrian areas by dogs not controlled by their owners is becoming a real problem in Popley. We have had many complaints about this problem and we are trying to influence the irresponsible dog owners concerned by education and sanctions where necessary. CSPO colleagues are concentrating resources where they can to improve the area for the community and are posting notices explaining the responsibilities of dog owners.

The Environmental Renewal work covering landscaping and street furniture in the Popley Poets area has started.

Demolition work for the new special school at the Spotlight site, off Shakespeare Road, is imminent. Some preliminary work at Chineham House will be starting soon as the first steps towards the conversion of the building into housing units.

The Splash Pad will be tested and commissioned ready for another successful season commencing in April.

Cllr David Potter 07941507801
cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk
Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200
cllr.janet.westbrook@basingstoke.gov.uk

Basingstoke Shed Public Meeting

You may be aware of the Basingstoke Shed but did you know we have opened a second location on the south side of town in a facility provided by Queen Mary's College (QMC)?

Come along and meet us at our Public Meeting at QMC at 4pm on Monday 11th March. Ask for us at Reception.

Grab a cuppa and we'll chat about what we get up to and our exciting plans for the future.

The Men's Shed concept started in Australia and is spreading rapidly worldwide. Originally targeted at mainly older men who might appreciate a chance to get together, shoot the breeze, drink tea, do personal and community projects, share and learn skills etc. You'll be pleased to know that we also welcome women members too.



At any other time if you are in the least bit interested, please be in contact by phone or email or maybe drop in for a chat and a cuppa when we're open at either site - we like visitors.

Alternatively, you may know men and women who may benefit for a chance to get out, meet a few new people, indulge in some banter and be involved in practical things.

Find and "Like" us on Facebook and check out our website.

We try and put recent activity on Facebook.

The website will have the up-to-date opening times and directions on how to find us at either of our two locations.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/basingstokeshed/>

Website: <http://basingstokeshed.org.uk>

The Latest Cold Calling - Loft Insulation Scams

Trading Standards and Hampshire Police have been receiving reports of companies which are actively cold calling on elderly residents, quite often using scare tactics and misinformation to pressure them to sign up for a loft insulation spray foam. This foam is totally unnecessary for homes, and the homeowner will be charged thousands of pounds. The people they target are not being advised of a cooling off period (14 days) or their consumer rights once they have signed up, and then contractors will turn up the very next day to do the work.

Once the foam sets (like concrete) it traps moisture so the wood in the roof starts to rot, meaning the foam will need to be removed. Not only will the homeowner have paid thousands for the unnecessary work, they will then have to pay thousands to remove the foam, then pay again for repairs.

These companies have websites and are registered on Companies House, but this is no means a confirmation that they are reputable. Trading Standards are investigating these companies, and have seen company directors jailed in the past.

Our advice is to never buy at the front door, and never feel pressured to accept an appointment from someone who has telephoned you. Always seek the advice of a trusted friend, relative or neighbour, or if you have no one to ask, please call Hampshire Police on 101 or the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 04 05 06.

Hampshire Constabulary Crime Prevention Advisor

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) House to House Collections

**Your Hospice Needs YOU. Volunteers needed for
St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire) House to House
Collection in June**

St. Michael's Hospice is looking for volunteers to help out with their annual House to House collection. If you have a couple of hours to spare in June to deliver and pick up envelopes and would like to be involved then please contact Lynne Grimshaw, Community Campaigns Coordinator on 01256 848845 or email lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk

For additional information please contact:

Lynne Grimshaw, Community Campaigns Coordinator

St. Michael's Hospice (North Hampshire)

Tel: 01256 848845

Email: lynne.grimshaw@stmichaelshospice.org.uk



The graphic features the Bourne Education Trust logo (a stylized leaf) in the top left. The main title 'Everest Health & Leisure Club' is centered in large red and grey text. Below the title are five small images: a dance studio, a row of gym machines, a meeting room with purple chairs, a gym machine, and a gym floor with a red bench. At the bottom, three white boxes with red borders contain text about amenities, memberships, and sports facilities. The footer includes the club name, address, and contact numbers.

Bourne Education Trust

Everest

Health & Leisure Club



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GYM:- 38 stations
Matrix Trainer
Classes

Four Court Sports Hall
Floodlit 3G & MUGAs
Junior & Senior Football Pitches
Oversized & Mirrored Dance Studio

Everest Health & Leisure Club
Everest Community Academy, Oxford Way, Basingstoke RG24 9UP
Gym Team: 01245 337576 Main Reception 01256 337573

Tadley WEA Spring Seminars

Have you ever been fascinated by a documentary because the presenter was so good? Do you enjoy meeting people in a setting of shared interest? Do you love learning when you don't have to take tests? Then our WEA offerings are for you!

The WEA is a volunteer-led, national organization providing adult education in the community. We are especially fortunate to have an active branch delivering excellent classes in Tadley. On offer are one-day seminars and more in-depth weekly courses on a range of subjects.

Enrolling in a one-day seminar is a great way to try us out. This spring there are three Friday seminars on offer. All are from 10am – 4pm in the Ambrose Allen Centre in Tadley, RG26 4ER. The £30 fee/seminar includes lunch.

- **British Architectural Styles since 1815** with Mike Grundy. 26th April
Reference: C3743366
Exploring styles from the 19th century classical/Gothic to the 21st century

- **The Art of Trade** with Glenis Kerr Elliott. 3rd May **Reference:** C3742892
Looking at the Silk Road, textiles, gold, jewels, spices, and paintings

- **Britain from 55BC to 1066AD – An Archaeological Perspective** with Michael Pengelly.

24th May **Reference:** C3743945

Learning the impact of Rome, the Dark Ages, the Vikings, and the Norman invasion, with lots of opportunity to handle artefacts.

To enrol please quote the course reference either online at WEA.org.uk or by ringing 0300 303 3464

For further information please ring Jan Smith 01189832251 or jancsmith@btopenworld.com

Old Basing Bowling Club

We invite you to come and try out the game of outdoor bowling and sample our facilities at Old Basing Bowling Club free of charge on one of our Open Days. These will be held on Saturday/Sunday 13th/14th April and Sunday 21st April between 10.30am and 2pm. Beginners and existing bowlers are very welcome. Equipment will be provided and supervision where required. Please try and have flat soled shoes. We look forward to seeing you at our club which is located in Old Basing just off The Street on the recreation ground by the Parish Council offices.

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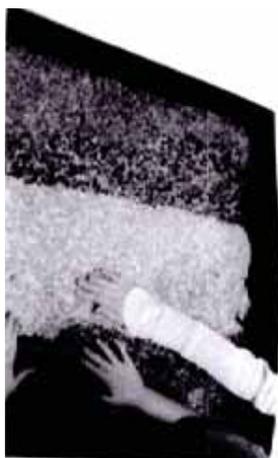
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£10 in advance or £12.50 on the door
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Over 55s Forum

The Basingstoke and Deane Over 55s Forum has now started to bring in people who have been on our waiting list for some time, due to the response from the general public to join our ever growing Forum. We have had to put a cap on to limit the numbers to a maximum of 650 members as there is not a big enough venue in Basingstoke to cater for a larger number.

We held our first "Open" Forum meeting for 2019 on Wednesday 13th February and the guest speakers were from the Hampshire and I.O.W Air Ambulance, and Richard Trueman (the owner) of Trueman's Coaches who gave an interest talk on the history of Truemans Coaches that started some 66 years ago. This is the company we use for our trips. Our attendance for our first meeting was 263.

The first three months trips are; **8th to 10th March** Cabaret Weekend at the Queens Hotel, Eastbourne, with 2 free drinks with your evening meals, cabaret both evenings, includes sunday lunch and all coach travel, £99.00 per person. (100 going).

29th March visit to Leeds Castle and Teapot Island which has over 8,000 Teapots and over 2,000 for sale (104 going).

12th /13th April a visit to the Queen residence at Sandringham, then an overnight stay in Norwich, on the Sunday a paddleboat trip along the Norfolk Broads. The hotel can only take 1 coach.

25th April a visit to Shaftesbury and a visit to a "Jigsaw" actory to see how jigsaws are made (100 going).

17th to 20th a 4 day trip to York with a steam train ride from Whitby to Pickering, plus a guided tour of York, free time, price £279, 2 coaches.

A date for your diary: our celebration of "International Day for Older People" Show will be held on **Saturday 28th September** at Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke from 2pm to 5pm with entertainment of comedy, song and dancing and afternoon tea for only £6.00 per ticket.

20th December 2019 to 2nd January 2020 a New Year Celebration at the hotel "De Paris" Cromer, Norfolk, 2 coaches.

Other trips to be arranged are: day trip to Brighton, Malvern Flower Show, Stratford on Avon River Festival, Evesham Plum tour, Kew Garden Laser show and many more.

Anyone is more than welcome to attend our Movement and Stretch sessions for Over 55s every Thursday from 11.00am to midday at the Carnival Hall, only £3.50 per session, good value. Every Tuesday, also at the Carnival Hall, why not come along and practice your singing. Our singing group is called the "Carnival Chorus" and we go round to care and residential homes and other places singing to all the folks.

Many thanks, Gerald (Secretary and Tour Manager)

Mill Cottage Farm Experience & Easter Fun day

Saturday 6th April, 12 - 3pm

Come feed, touch and learn about our farm animals, also Easter egg hunt, Easter craft activities, Tombola, cakes and refreshments

£2 per child

£3 per adult

£10 family of 5

Popley Fields Community Centre
Carpenters Down, Popley
RG24 9AE

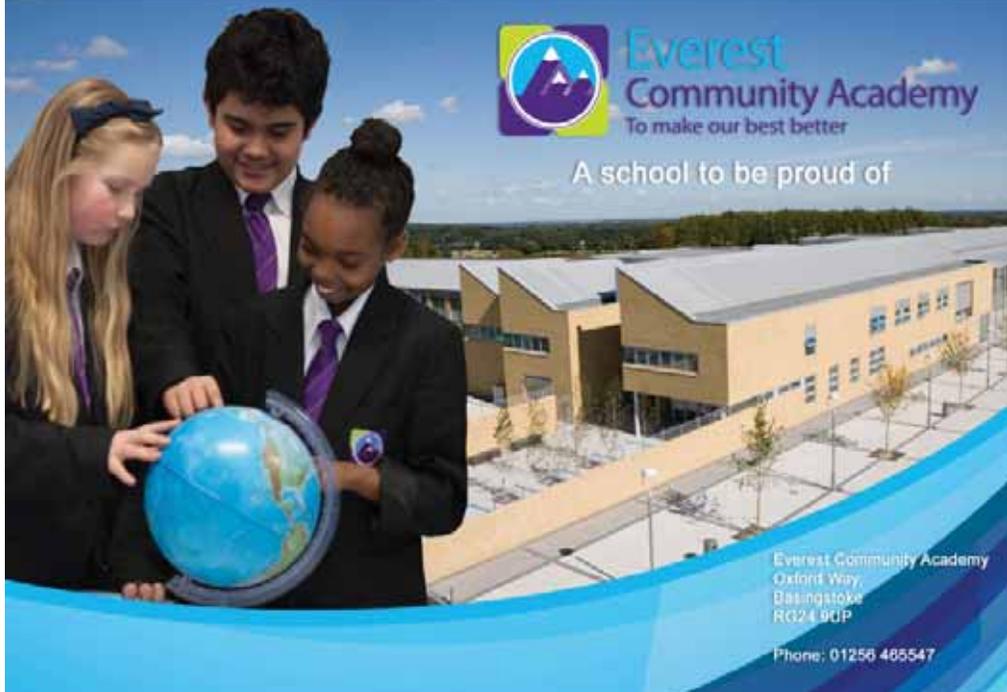


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**Everest
Community Academy**
To make our best better

Upcoming Dates

14 March—Year 8 Parents/options evening
Thursday 4 April—Year 11 Parents Evening
Friday 5th April— 23rd April Easter Holidays



**We are pleased to announce the appointment of
our new Head of School, Mrs H Dibden**

It's been a busy half term with Year 9 visiting the Aspire Day at The Apollo Hotel, Year 11 preparing for their final mocks before they sit their GCSE's in May/June 2019. A visit to the Academy by Maria Miller MP, student meetings with The Governors, UK Maths Challenge, the launch of our new website and the Year 11 Valentine's Day raffle, sale of roses and cup cakes to raise money for their School Leavers Prom.





Under 8s, once again, are having great fun on the pitch showing an array of skills. Pressing the ball is our next phase of learning and we love seeing the players desire to win the ball back. Riley has been our stand out performer this month.

Under 13s have been hit heavily by the weather and games have been effected. Many of our players are flying the Popley flag on the School District stage. Well done team! We are looking for new recruits for the new season 2019/20 (Year 8 and 9 in September). For more details contact our

club at clubsec@mfcpopleyyouth.co.uk

Under 14s - A tough set of fixtures were facing the team during our last Popley Matters update with games against teams battling it out for the Premiership title. We faced a very strong Aldershot team at home where the players provided a great performance but ultimately were undone by some great play from Aldershot in a 3-0 loss. Next up were last seasons Champions in Fleet Town and after taking a deserved lead we were pegged back 2-1. The team responded well to make it 2-2 but the quality of the opposition meant a 4-2 loss. Great performance and the opposition were full of praise for our players.

Zak Collingwood



Well, the snow well and truly got in our way last month, as we're sure it did yours! We hope you are all safe and, unlike Bryan's ribs, didn't suffer too much from slips, trips and falls.

We had to cancel the February working group due to the adverse weather, but the good news is we had some great photos sent in to our Facebook page by Paul. Why not head on over to our Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers to check it out. We'll be adding in an extra session when the weather is a bit more pleasant.

Even better news is that our resident expert, Allan, has been down to the ponds since and spotted all three species of newt mating. The plan is to go down one evening and look for further signs of movement but it really looks like all our hard work is paying, really paying, off!! Wahoo!!

If you have any questions or queries, as the usual advise goes, please email us at popleyponds@gmail.com or nip on over to our Facebook page.

Are you planning to pop the question any time soon?

If you are, make sure you do not just put a ring on their finger – give consideration to a prenuptial agreement.

That is the advice of solicitor Hayley Eachus, who is a member of the Family Law team at Phillips.

She says rather than being regarded as something unromantic and mercenary, prenups should be considered by anyone contemplating marriage.

Marriage is about love and sharing the rest of your lives together, but in the eyes of the law, it is a contract between two people and it deals with the financial consequences of the marriage ending.

Naturally, you are not going into marriage thinking that your relationship might break down, but unfortunately that happens more frequently nowadays, so here are just a few good reasons why you should have a prenup:

- If you are much wealthier than your partner, then a prenup can ensure that your partner is marrying you for all the right reasons;
- If you are remarrying and you have children from a previous marriage, own a home or other significant assets, then a prenuptial agreement can ensure that when you pass away, your assets are distributed according to your wishes, and that neither your first family, nor your new family are cut off;
- If you own part of a business and your marriage ends, your spouse could end up having an interest in your share of your business if you do not have a prenup. You and your business partners may not want this to happen; and
- It may seem tough to talk about your loving, committed relationship as if it were a business arrangement and it may seem unromantic, but if you can sit down and discuss your future plans and expectations, logically rather than emotionally, you will find it much easier. This may also prevent highly contested divorce proceedings, if you were ever to separate.

A legal professional like Hayley will help you to understand the different kinds of issues that might be covered in a prenup. The better informed you are, the easier it will be for you to explain things to your intended spouse.

Contact Hayley if you would like any help with this or any other personal matter by calling 01256 854633 or email hayley.eachus@phillips-law.co.uk

For more information about the Family Law services offered by Phillips Solicitors please visit www.phillips-law.co.uk/family





IT'S STARTED!!! Very exciting times here at Melrose Hall, after 5 years of planning and many hurdles our extension and refurbishment has finally started. The hall is open as normal, please follow the signs and use the side entrance. All plans can be viewed in the office. We anticipate it will be finished in late July so

join us for our relaunch party in the summer. Follow the progress on our Facebook page and website.



Looking for a venue for your party or group? Ring Vicki on 01256 420676 or e-mail us melrosehall2@gmail.com for hire information or to arrange a tour. Or find us at www.Melrosecommunityassociation.co.uk or on facebook.

WHATS ON IN JANUARY:

- | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| MONDAY: | 12.30-2.30pm | Bingo!! |
| | 7.00-8.00pm | Yoga with Tory |
| | 7.30-10.00pm | Peregrinus Healing and Holistic |
| TUESDAY: | 9.30-11.30am | Popley Little People |
| | 7.15-10.00pm | Bingo (13 th November - End March) |
| | 5.15-7.15pm | Sama Karate |
| WEDNESDAY: | 9 and 11am | Slimming World with Jo |
| | 11.45am-1.30pm | Oasis Lunch Club |
| | 5.30 & 7.30pm | Slimming World with Julia |
| THURSDAY: | 9.30-11.30am | Community Café |
| | 3.50-6.30pm | Dance (15 th November - End March) |
| | 7-9pm | 4 Fits Sake |
| FRIDAY: | 10am-12pm | NHS Dairy free parents group (Last Friday of the month) |
| | 6.15-9.15pm | Friday Youth Club |
| SATURDAY: | 9.15am-4pm | 7 TH Day Adventist Church |
| | 10am | Sabbath School - Bible Study |
| | 11.30am | Divine Worship |
| | 1pm | Free Community Lunch |
| | | Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 |
| SUNDAY: | Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351 for times of services. | |

If you're struggling to pay your mobile, phone, internet or TV bill

Contact your service provider as soon as possible to explain the situation and ask if you can go on a payment plan to pay off what you owe.

You might be charged extra for not making a payment if you don't contact your provider to arrange a payment plan.

Your service provider will work out the amount you have to pay. The payment plan will include an estimated amount for what you currently use and an amount for what you owe.

Your service provider shouldn't try to get you to pay more than you can afford. Tell them straight away if you don't think you'll be able to keep up with the payment plan - they might be able to reduce the payment.

If you have a contract (for example, an 18- or 24-month contract), you'll usually have to pay instalments for the whole period even if you're not using the service. If you don't want the service anymore you might be able to cancel the contract early without having to pay anything other than what you owe. However, your provider might not let you break the contract..

Getting a better deal

You might be able to [switch phone providers for a better deal](#) - but check your terms and conditions to see if you're still under contract before trying to switch.

You can [see a list of price comparison sites which have been accredited by Ofcom](#) on the Ofcom website.

If you're getting benefits you might be able to get a [low cost landline phone service from BT](#).

Need further information or Help?

Citizens Advice Basingstoke, (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 which is pre-booked appointments only) and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm. Wednesday evenings we are open until 6.30pm.

The Advice Line telephone number is 03444 111 306.

The Citizens Advice Basingstoke website can be found at www.basingstokeandtadleycab.org.uk

Online help from Citizens Advice can be found at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>.



Vehicle Crime Update Basingstoke

Theft from motor vehicles has been and continues to be topical in #Basingstoke in that we are still experiencing some mainly overnight. Thefts of steering wheels have been in the south of the town #HatchWarren #BrightonHill #Beggarwood this may be part of a more organised picture. Just under ten offences in the last few months.

Unlocked vehicles being targeted and items stolen from within mainly in and around #Popley #Oakridge #Chineham #SherfieldPark

We have also had some thefts from work vans with tools being the target.

Most offences have been overnights but mainly in the early hours of the morning.

Our local neighbourhood team is employing many differing tactics to address these issues along with stepping up local patrols in line with ongoing investigations.

The one thing which assists the most is where members of the public have had activations of their home CCTV and have contacted us to report this. The images provide a significant help in identifying suspects and we ask that even if you aren't the victim of a crime that you may still hold vital images which could assist us.

Many CCTV systems have notifications which if checked may show persons.

Please ensure that your vehicles are locked with any valuables removed from sight.

Any keyless entry vehicles – that the keys are as far away from the vehicle as possible or using a key guard or pouch designed to block the signal when not in use.

Thank you to those who have already called and supplied these.

You can email us here basingstoke.town.police@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

We have had great success recently and would like to work with you to maximise our opportunities to prevent more offences.

Did you know if you join Hampshire Alerts you can not only get useful news and updates bespoke to you – You can register if you have CCTV so that we can quickly and easily contact you if a crime occurs in your area. It takes just a few minutes by clicking this link.

www.hampshirealert.co.uk

Thank you Sergeant Trevor Taylor

Message Sent By

Deborah Doherty (Police, PCSO, Basingstoke District)

Dear Friends

It's coming to the end of February already and in the news this morning you would think the world has gone bonkers. The tensions continue in the Middle East; the migrant crisis; tensions concerning the world economy with the confrontation over trade tariffs between China and the USA; and closer to home, the dreaded Brexit.

Should we be anxious or afraid? Jesus said, "When you hear of wars and rumours of wars do not be afraid, these things must happen!" Thinking about it, most of the tensions we read about or hear about through the media boil down to one thing and one thing only – the use and abuse of power! Power over individuals, power over communities and nations, power over wealth and resources; it is essentially human sin and rebellion against God that causes these abuses whether international, national or personal, that is to say in our own lives and relationships too!

In the few short weeks of Lent, marked by Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) and Ash Wednesday we have time to prepare for one of the great events of the Christian calendar, Palm Sunday. This is the day that marks the beginning of the holiest of weeks in the Christian year. Palm Sunday is the day we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the last week of his earthly life. As Jesus and his followers approach Jerusalem, crowds rush out to lay down a carpet of palm fronds (hence Palm Sunday) and cloaks as they welcome him with cries of "hosanna to the Son of David". Sadly those cries all too quickly turn to shouts of "Crucify Him." It was the abuse of power that led to the events of that week.

Lent is the time of preparation. It is not necessarily a time to give up something, but rather to deeply examine our hearts and lives and surrender to God those attitudes – things we think, say or do – that cause hurt to others, those abuses of power. It is a difficult but worthwhile journey to make and has the power to change the direction of our lives. It is not one we make alone! Jesus promised his followers that He would be with them wherever they go and there is nowhere that Jesus has not been. So no matter what situation you may think you are in, Jesus promises that it can be changed and that He will be with you on that journey.

I hope that this Lent, rather than giving something up you might consider taking something up! Perhaps you might take some time out to think about your life; your past, present and future and invite Jesus to shine His light into those places in your heart where you would rather not go and that you would allow Him to forgive, to heal and to restore you.

I pray that Lent and Easter will be a time of real blessing for you and your families. Please do come along to any (or all) of our Easter Services, I can promise you'll be most warmly welcomed.

Your friend and vicar
Rev. Arthur
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www.stgabrielspopley.net
01256 324734



The **Army Flying Museum** at Middle Wallop which aims to be entertaining, engaging, and inspiring is in the throes of completing the capital element of a £2.5M refurbishment. The Museum is also looking for talented new Trustees to join their Board at an exciting time in its development.

As a member of the Board you will have the opportunity to make a real difference to people's lives by helping overall performance, development and monitoring of their strategic goals and supporting the team and volunteers in the delivery of their programme. Trustees will need to demonstrate enthusiasm for heritage, a collegiate working style and a strong commitment to the mission, vision and values of the Museum. We are particularly looking for experience in:

- Commercial
- Marketing
- Fundraising
- Community Relations

The roles are unremunerated. There are 6 board meetings a year and trustees would normally also join one of the committees, which meet on a similar frequency.

For more information, please contact the Chief Executive, Chris Munns: Tel: 01264 883784

. Please send a CV and covering letter by email to: chiefexecutive@flying-museum.org.uk

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Probus Hears about Thornycroft in Basingstoke

Today Morrison's supermarket sits on part of the site Thornycroft established their works on when moving from Chiswick to Basingstoke in 1898. The Thornycroft roundabout is close by.

Garry Bone, a director of the Thornycroft Society, gave an insight of the changing fortunes of Thornycroft in a presentation to the Probus Club of Basingstoke.

Thornycroft steam powered lorries were supplied to the British Army from the Boer War onwards, with commercial versions sold to many retail customers. Introducing petrol engines in the early 1900s saw Thornycroft making cars until 1913 henceforth concentrating on lorry and bus production.

During WW1 over 5,000 J Type lorries were produced with many adaptations. They also made marine engines, trench mortars, depth charge throwers and munitions.

Post war saw surplus military vehicles depressing new orders but by the mid 1920s the company was rising again. Many orders for lorries came from railway companies with about half of the output exported.

By the 1930s eleven models of lorries were reduced to turn round the loss making Thornycroft. In 1930 they had 1800 employees reducing to 731 by 1936 returning to profitability.

WW2 saw Thornycroft working 24 hours a day with 2,500 employees, over 800 being women. Specialist military vehicles were made, two pounder and 17pounder guns, torpedo parts and many engine parts. 2,000 Nippy and Sturdy lorries were made for civilian work.

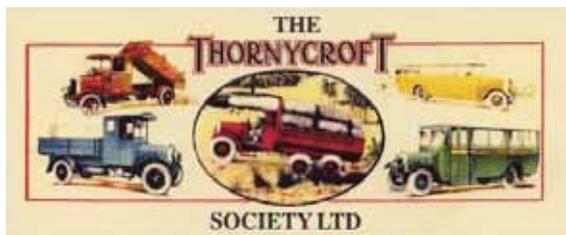
1948 saw the subsidiary company Transport Equipment (Thornycroft) Ltd formed. The introduction of the Mighty Antar heavy duty tractor unit was very successful with the UK military using this vehicle in many guises as its main heavy transporter.

Associated Commercial Vehicles (ACV) bought TET in 1961. Basingstoke would concentrate on the Mighty Antar, Big Ben and Nubian heavy duty vehicles. Leyland Group bought AVC in 1962, whose subsidiary, Scammell, also produced specialised lorries which led to reducing orders for Basingstoke.

In 1972 British Leyland sold the Basingstoke works to the Eaton Corporation of Ohio. Employees reduced from 1,100 to 738 with the pledge to keep them in its transmission business. This did not last long as the last lorry was built in 1972 and the works sold in January 1973.

(Bob Clarke is acknowledged as providing many of the above statistics)

See www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com





Group Scout Leader	Colin Karslake	07796 772500
Beaver Leader	Mandy Pain	07508 204098
Cub Leader	Douglas Gowan	01256 412326
Scout Leader	Kevin Pocock	07717 108560



Hello and welcome to the Cub Section Report. As 2018 headed towards Christmas the Cubs spent an evening making Christmas based crafts and then finished the year off with a party, with loads of Christmas music, Games and of course food! At the beginning of the New Year the Leadership Team met to plan the programme for the term, including a few ideas that the Cubs had.

At the end of January, the much anticipated "Escape Room" programme took place where, at the start of the meeting, the Cubs were advised that they were now locked in Base2000 (don't worry, they weren't really locked in, but they believed they were!) and that the only way to escape was to solve several puzzles and challenges. Working in groups the Cubs used their skills to successfully solve all the challenges and "escape" by the end of the evening.

The 5th March saw the beginning of the Chinese New Year, so to mark the day the Cubs learnt how each animal gained their space on the Chinese Zodiac. They then worked out which sign of the Zodiac they were born under and if any characteristics of their sign matched them. They also made a Chinese Good Luck Banner, which are hung in Chinese homes at this time of year. The Cubs have also visited a couple of the local chip shops to buy a portion of chips that they then went on to give a mark out of 10. Future activities this

term include; making "Bristle Bots"; a visit to Pets at Home to learn about animal care; carrying out a survey of Festival Place to determine how friendly it is for disabled people; building bug hotels in the woods; and ending the term with Pond Dipping.

Currently all three sections have spaces for new members, so if any of that takes your fancy, you are more than welcome to come down on a Tuesday evening for Beavers and Cubs, or a Friday evening for the Scouts for a taste of what's it's all about. More details can be found on our website at www.base2000.co.uk



To continue providing all these and more activities for all three of our sections we are in need of more adults to help out, or even maybe to become Leaders. Full training is available for new Leaders, much of which can be done online in your own time. The only qualification needed, you must like working with kids and like having a bit of fun. If you are interested please contact myself, Group Scout Leader, Colin Karslake on 07796 772500 or contact us through the group website, www.base2000.co.uk or even via Facebook.



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Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

There were 53 members at the meeting held on 6th February who enjoyed the usual tea, coffee and biscuits before David Cowling, the Chairman, welcomed everyone and gave apologies from those unable to attend. Christine Broadbent, the Welfare Officer, gave her report after which Tony Brazier, the Secretary, reminded everyone about the trip to the Theatre Royal at Winchester on Wednesday 20th March to see "The Verdict" when the coach would leave Oakley at 10.45am and the Leisure Park at 11.00am



Bookings were now being taken for the trips to the Bombay Sapphire Distillery and Hinton Ampner on Thursday 18th April and to Kew Palace and Garden on Wednesday 8th May.



The speaker this month was Brian Graham from Rowhill Candles who gave a demonstration of candle making. He first explained that there are different types of wax which can be used and that they all have different properties mainly in their different melting points. For instance for gel wax it is 110°C, bees wax 62°C, paraffin wax 46°C and soya wax 45°C. As the soya wax has the lowest melting point, and is also more environmentally friendly, this is the one mainly used by those wanting to make candles at home. He went on to

demonstrate the process by firstly melting the wax in a double boiler along with the required fragrance and colouring. He then inserted the wick of a suitable length into a container and secured it in a vertical position before pouring the wax around the wick leaving about 1cm showing. He then went on to show how different effects in the colouring could be obtained and explained the way that candles of different sizes would burn. He had brought with him a selection of products to buy along with some kits for people to make their own at home.



The next meeting is on 6th March which is the AGM followed by lunch at the Conservative Club. The speaker at the meeting will be from Co-op Insurance to give a talk on "Tax, Care and Toy Boys". The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10 am to 12 noon and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Details can be obtained from the Secretary Tony Brazier on 07715 640171 and for information about our trips please contact Kate Lambeth on 01256 328791.

Are you a parent or carer looking for something to do with your baby or toddler?

Thursday

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

THURSDAY TOTS *Parent and Toddler Group*

Thursdays from 9.30 – 11am
at Popley Fields. £2 a family

Activities include craft and painting, play doh, stories, song time and a snack, as well as lots of toys!



For more information contact Popley Fields on 01256 414494 or find us on Facebook at Thursday Tots, Popley.



What are we doing next?

28th February - masks

7th March – paint stampers

14th March – faces craft

21st March – planting cress

28th March – Mothers Day cards

4th April – bug hunt



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6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter

This month our younger group have been learning all about conservation, understanding and applying techniques around the home to help save the environment and save money (a nice bonus for the parents). They all have been given the challenge to bring along a friend to BB and show them what we get up to, a great way to spread the word of BB and increase our ranks.

Our older section's classes have been a bit more practical. One week we found out what first aid is and some of the basic practices when finding an injured person. They have also been learning about *what bullying is*, unfortunately it is a continuous issue that some schools and young people have to face but educating them will hopefully help them if they ever are.

As part of a joint event with another Boys' Brigade group, 3rd Basingstoke, we arranged a games evening for the young people. This evening saw both companies join forces and challenge each other to see who was the best. Games were played, certificates were presented and snacks were demolished, a great evening had by all.

We're recruiting?

We are looking for new members to join both our age groups, 5-10 and 10-18yo. If you'd like to see what we are about come for a taster session on a Monday evening, 6:15 - 7:15pm (5-10yo) and 7:00-9:00pm (10-18yo).

Contact us on **07775 535434** or drop us an email at **6thbasingstokebb@gmail.com**.



Old Basing Tennis Club

Do you fancy playing tennis? If so, we would love to hear from you! Old Basing Tennis Club is a small (4 all weather courts) club which has a Club House and is set in the Recreation Ground in Old Basing. There is nothing better than playing tennis outside in such a lovely location. As well as Club Nights we also have teams playing in the Basingstoke and District Tennis League. We run a Summer Tournament for all members and hold many social evenings, including our Annual Quiz and a Skittles Night. We are delighted that JBTennis will be coaching at our Club this year. Junior coaching takes place on Tuesdays from 4.00 - 5.00pm - please contact Jamie and Ben directly for more information: jbtennisacademy1@gmail.com.

If you would like to find out more about the Club please do contact us, we would love to hear from you.

Please email our Secretary, Jan: OBTC.Information@gmail.com

Or message us on Facebook: [@oldbasingtennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/oldbasingtennisclub)

Or visit our website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/OldBasingTennisClub



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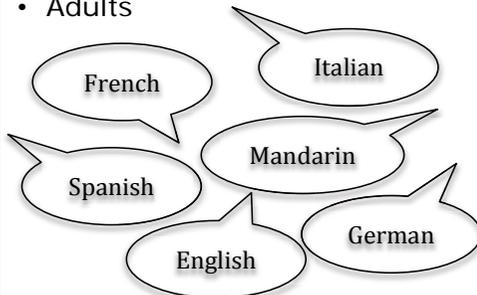
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Chineham Library

Following on from the successful Drama 4 All and Harry Potter events, on 2nd April we have an event for adults entitled 'Who Killed Pamela Ware'. Commencing at 6.30pm, the evening takes the form of a presentation by former police officer Graeme Sheppard expounding his theories about the crime. Tickets costing £3 can be obtained from the library or the online shop. Should be a very enlightening evening.

All our regular adult activities will take place this month, with the crime reading group on 16th March and the general reading group on 30th March, both meeting at 10.30am. The writing group will meet on 7th March from at 5.30pm. The Stay and Play reading group for pre-school parents meets on 13th March. Both these groups would particularly welcome new members. Age Concern will continue to offer computer tuition for the over 50s on Wednesday mornings. To book places please contact their office on: 01256 423874 and availability is good at present.

Children's activities also continue in their normal pattern. Rhymetimes take place on Tuesday mornings, with sessions for under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am. Saturdays there is a craft session on the first Saturday of the month to drop-in between 10am-12pm, and all other weeks we hold pre-school storytime at 11am. Construction Club providing Lego and Duplo to play with runs from 2.00 – 3.30pm every Saturday. The Chatterbooks children's reading and craft group will meet on 14th March at 3.45pm. Places for the next term's Code Club can be booked via the library.

We hope to see you in the Library soon and remember to check social media for the latest details of our activities.

Cathy Foster

Poppies School of Dance

Budding dance enthusiasts of all ages in the area now have an amazing opportunity to enhance their dancing skills thanks to one budding local entrepreneur. Poppies School of Dance, renamed and re-energised from its former entity and now managed by Jess Carpenter, aims to provide the basis for local people, young and old, to join other like-minded local residents in their love of dance.

"I've always been involved in dance since a very young age", said Jess.

"Dance is something which anyone can do no matter what their age or skill level, and is a great way to keep fit as well as meeting new people and making new friends".

Assisted by many friends and family, Poppies School of Dance and the dancing skills they teach is rapidly becoming a popular local dance school with many former students having returned in recent months as well as a growing list of new dancers joining the ranks. Adult Tap Classes is a recent idea which Jess has recently introduced and is proving a big favourite with many people who have never danced before.

"It's a lovely way to let off some energy and to meet up with other people once a week" one such dancer said.

Poppies School of Dance currently runs classes every Tuesday evening and Saturday morning at Popley Fields Community Centre. For further details please contact Jess Carpenter at poppiesschoolofdance@outlook.com

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