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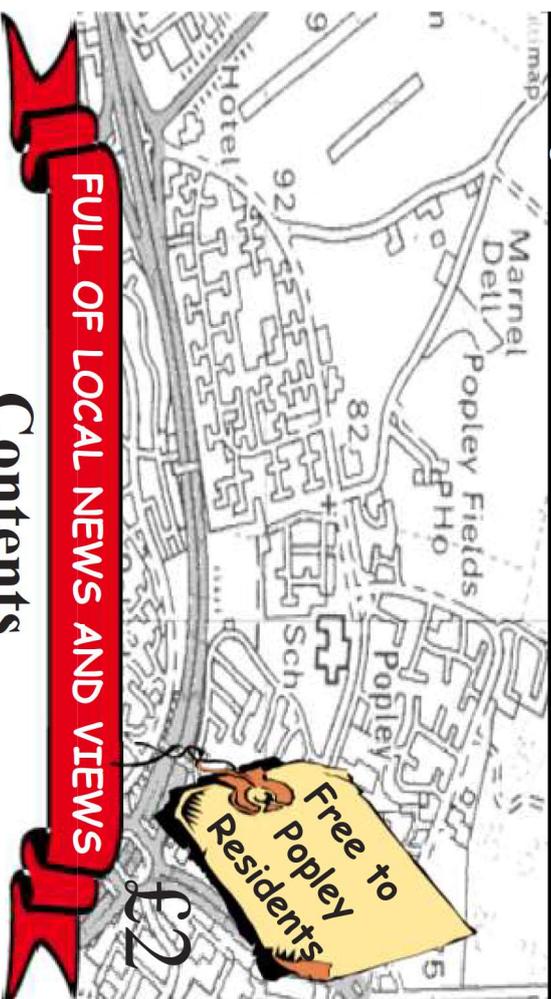
POPPLY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

August 2019

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Issue 210



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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-8-19) editor@poppleymatters.org.uk



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message from the Editor: It's August and many of our readers

will be going on holiday, or for days out and will be making many happy memories. I wonder what the weather will be like. Just a gentle reminder, please think about the children out playing and be considerate with your parking and driving. The report on page one is from Hampshire County Council to update you on the roadworks that have and are in progress.

There is a useful list of meetings and groups for those of us of all ages with disabilities on page 4. Memories from Merton Junior School on page 7; it certainly brings back memories in our family as Paul and Tony went to school there and I was a school governor for quite a few years. Page 12 MFC Popley. This reminded us of when it first started with Lee Austen, a father in Popley and it has grown a great deal and had a lot of success since then. On page 17, Rev. Arthur Botham's report shows again just how our community comes together after the shocking burglary from the church but also good news on the Summer Fair. It was a hot and very busy afternoon and enjoyed by hundreds of residents. Page 20 has the report from Francesco (most of us know her as Frankie) one of our Popley residents writing on the charity she works for, MHA shows that there are groups and events to go to so you don't feel isolated at home, and they provide transport. Give Frankie a call and join in the fun. Air Scouts Beavers report on page 23 and need more Leaders: could that be you? If Air Scouts isn't your thing there try Sea Scouts on page 7 or Boys Brigade on page 15. Great news for two of our community centres that have been having extensive extensions and refurbishments. They will be having their Open Days: Bermuda Hall have their Open Day on 10th August read about it on page 24; and Melrose Hall are having their grand reopening party on 21st September.

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. eliverers always needed too 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.

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Over 55s Forum

Our August "Open" Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th August 2019 at the Carnival Hall - 10.15am to 1.30pm. We have guest speakers from the Newbury Dogs Trust who will be bringing along a friendly dog. Our other guest speaker will be Bonny Sartin who was a member of the "Yetties" Folk Group in Somerset. He informs myself that he will throw in a song or two, so that should be great.

Our Variety Show to celebrate the "International Day for Older People" will be held on Saturday 28th September 2019 at Queen Mary's College, Cliddesden Road, Basingstoke - doors open at 1.30pm start and finish at 5pm. We have Christopher Gee who is a brilliant comedian/impressionist who will also act as Compe - Will Chandler tribute act as Cliff Richards (the real Cliff has seen and spoken to Will, he states he is very, very good, he looks like Cliff), also the Boyle O'Dowda Academy of Irish Dancers. We will be holding a Grand Draw and will be including an afternoon tea and cakes. Tickets are £6.00 each. Tickets can be brought from Newbury Building Society, Shopmobility, BDBC, Oakridge Hall 4 All and myself Gerald on 07792535116.

There are places available for the "Afternoon at the Pictures"; on 16th October, - Breakfast at Tiffany's; and 23rd October, Singing in the Rain, both with a 3 course meal, Popcorn, prosecco and coach. Price £40.00 each.

Thank you.

Gerald. (Secretary & Tour Manager)

Chineham Library

This year's Summer Reading Challenge, Space Chase, has already launched successfully! Don't worry if you haven't been able to register your children to date as the scheme runs until 14th September, so there is still plenty of time. Don't forget if you come on Wednesdays between 10am and 2pm there are free space-themed crafts for the children to enjoy while collecting their stickers. Alongside the Challenge we are also running a children's colouring competition with prizes, including free tickets for various local venues. Saturday storytimes will continue every week at 11am, and Construction Club in the afternoons from 2 – 3.30pm. The weekly Tuesday Rhythmes continue as usual, with under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am.

In addition to all this, there are several extra ticketed events during August. On 10th are some exciting sculpture workshop sessions at 10.30am–12.30pm and 1–3pm. These are aimed at 5 – 10 year olds, with bookable tickets available for £5. On 22nd August at 3pm we have Slime Lab, in which children have fun with slime. This is also aimed at 5 – 10 year olds and tickets are available at £6 each from the Library or the online shop. Then on 29th August there are three themed workshops provided by Explore Learning. These are aimed at 4 – 7 year olds, and free tickets can be booked through the Library. Chatterbooks and Code Club break for the summer and will resume in September. Stay and Play has ceased at present.

All the adult groups will continue to meet, with the Crime Reading Group on 17th August and the General Reading Group on 28th August. Both meet at 10.30am. Our Writing Group meets on 22nd August from 5.30pm. Age Concern take a break for the summer.

Enjoy your Summer holidays

Cathy Foster

A33 Road Improvement Schemes

The A33 corridor is a key strategic route for Basingstoke, providing a link between the A339 Ringway and the north east of Basingstoke, heading towards the M4 and Reading.

There have recently been several road improvement schemes along the corridor designed to ease congestion and improve journey time reliability in the area. The schemes were funded by Hampshire County Council (HCC), Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and Local Enterprise Partnership grants. This article provides an update on the progress of these schemes and any outstanding works to be completed.



Ringway Roundabout – the junction is operating at increased capacity and no further works are planned.

A33 / Popley Way – additional bollards have been installed since the main junction works were completed to prevent dangerous u-turning manoeuvres at the junction. Whilst this has been successful in preventing u-turns at this location, the problem persists in the wider area. Additional signage is currently being proposed and assessed by HCC design team.

Crockford Roundabout – The main widening works, signalisation and improvements to drainage system are complete but further landscaping works are in progress. These works are seasonal and so could not be undertaken during the main works contract. In addition to landscaping improvements and based on feedback regarding road markings, signage, signal phasing and cycle improvements, HCC design team are currently working on implementing some changes later this year. Whilst they are confident none pose a serious safety risk, they are open to making changes to improve the operation of this junction for local people.

Birfields Roundabout – As with Crockford Roundabout, HCC have listened to feedback on the operation of the junction. They are currently assessing road markings and lane dedication amendments, particularly when accessing the shopping complex and Great Birfields Road whilst approaching from Crockford Roundabout. Additionally, improvements to crossing facilities on Old Reading Road and the cycle link parallel to A33 Reading Road to improve links to Crockford Roundabout are due to be implemented later this year.

A33 / Thornhill Way – Works to add an additional lane to Thornhill Way and improve traffic signals have recently been completed. The junction has been operating well and no further works are planned at this stage.

These schemes were funded and implemented to help ease congestion in two of the major employment areas in Basingstoke, Chineham and Hampshire International Business Parks. Several consultation events were held prior to design completion and implementation. HCC have considered all the feedback they received and continue to do so. For further information or updates on progress of additional works, please visit <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transport/schemes>

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- Upcoming Dates**
- First day of term—Wednesday 4th September
 - Year 7 Parents Evening—Thursday 26th September
 - Year 11 Parents Evening—Thursday 17th October

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Celebration Evening

We had a lovely evening on 10th July celebrating all those students who have achieved beyond their own, leader's and peers expectations academically over the last year. Our special guest this year was Ross Brawn OBE who is the Formula One Managing Director of Motorsports and Technical Director, who gave an honest and practical talk about making the most of opportunities that come your way. Ross is pictured here with our new Head Boy, Henry Welldon and Head Girl, Bethany Fletcher along with Mrs Dibden, Head of School.



Year 11—2018/19

GCSE results day—Thursday 22nd August

Open Evening & Mornings for Year 5 & 6

Open Evening - Thursday 10th October 2019, 6.00pm till 8.30pm
 Open Mornings - Wednesday 16th & Friday 18th October 2019, 9.15am till 10.15am

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OPEN DAY 10TH AUGUST 2019
11AM TO 3PM

AFTER EXTENSIVE REFURB AT THE HALL WE WOULD LIKE EVERY ONE TO JOIN US AT THE OPEN DAY.
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LOTS OF THINGS GOING ON RAFFLES
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We have the Popley explorers Pre School here Monday to Friday 8.30am to 3pm (for further details phone Elaine on 363156)

Monday CMA Kick boxing from 6.30pm to 8pm

Tuesday bingo night doors open 7pm eyes down 8pm. finishes around 9:45pm, light refreshments available at half time.

Wednesday 6:15pm TO 7:15pm Lou Bedford Yoga classes for details ring ring Lou on 07753109222 or go on line at www.LOUBEDFORDYOGA.CO.UK.

Thursday 4:30pm TO 6:30pm Street Dance and ballet classes two and a half to adults,(term time). For details contact Samantha Pike on 07811299484.



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

ON 3RD AUGUST AT THE BERMUDA HALL. MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS
DAVID POTTER AND JANET WESTBROOK FROM 10am

Abbey Road Post Office Petition

We as Councillors for Popley West have started a petition asking Post Office Counters to grant the licence to Dev and Nayna who have bought the old Post Office and newsagents shop. Basingstoke Labour has an online petition <https://basingstokelabour.org/news/2019/07/14/post-office-abbey-road-popley/> you can sign or go into the Fastfare Convenience Store or Fastfare Pharmacy. You can also contact Paul or me at 405 Abbey Road and sign it there. You may want to contact your councillors too as there were people from all around Basingstoke and Deane that were signing the petition in the store and pharmacy. There could be some volunteers that may be knocking from door to door and that is another way you can sign.

While I was collecting signatures in the shop I heard just what a bad impact it has had. One young man has had letters from his social landlord saying he had not paid his rent and warning about eviction and he was worried it could affect his credit rating. He used to regularly pay into Abbey Road Post Office and now has to fit in with work to go into town. One single mum told me she was trying to run a small business so she doesn't have to live on benefits but it's extra cost and time having to get the bus into town and lug the parcels, pushchair and little one with her.

So far over 400 people have signed and we will be contacting Post Office Counters to arrange to present the petition, hopefully with Dev and Nayna too.

County Councillor Report : I am delighted to be able to report that at planning on 24th July the

application will go forward for approval for a new purpose built SEND (Special Educational Needs Department) school. People have said it is much needed in Basingstoke and Hampshire. If the application is passed it is planned to be ready to open in the Spring of 2021 and will be for 125 special needs children from 5 to 16. The plans can be seen online. <https://myurl.com/y3nkr8c>. We have received two applications for Houses of Multiple Occupation one in Abbey Road for up to 7 single people and the residents are objecting strongly and we are supporting them; the other application has just arrived and is for 3 to 4 people in Barrington Drive. Details will follow later.

At the meeting about major roadworks for the next nearly three years the subject of the Red Men Roundabout traffic lights, road markings and drivers turning into Popley Way was brought up by the Popley Councillors and several other councillors too. We continue to work with the County Council Officer to get it safer to drive there. I requested an update it is on Page 1. I have asked for an update on the consultation in regard to the proposed double yellow line scheme in part of Marnel Park and will report back when I hear anything. The officer has said he wants to look at the many emails and contacts he has had to get it right and then he will get back to us before presenting the recommendation report to the portfolio holder who will make the final decision. We will of course get back to you with an update in next month's report. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924** email.jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk

STOP PRESS:- Just got back from Winchester where I proposed approval of the planning application for the new Austen SEN school. Delighted to say after seven years of fighting to get a school replaced on the old Chineham Park School it went through unanimously. I will do an update report ready for next months Popley Matters with more details.

Popley West: We have just started phase three of renewing broken, missing or defaced street signs and the removal of graffiti as the new budget year is now in force and there is money to enable to do some more. We do regular walkabouts, well Paul walks while I go in my mobility buggy, a real eye opener on lack of dropped kerbs and other pitfalls. If you have any issues please let us know details below or just knock on our door. We have an open door policy and are happy to meet anyone, and talk about any concerns or issues.

Now some great news, £406,365 of developer £106 money is being released to improve Popley Community Park and upgrade others in Popley West. There will be a public consultation as we want the residents to say what their priorities are for play facilities and to make this a real all ages family park. We have already said what we would like and have been asked for by residents over many years that it has taken to get this far.

253 to 282 Abbey Road parking issues have at long last reached the top of the list. We continue to try to find solutions for other roads when we can but it is a very slow process and not helped because, despite us pressing the issue over many years, it has meant the needs have grown.

We are working with Vivid to find a solution to the lack of facilities to dispose of rubbish and recycling in Melrose Walk and hope it can be extended across the borough for all flats and apartments where possible.

Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924

cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk

Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924

cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk

Popley East: We are concerned to see that planning applications for the conversion of family homes into an HMO (House of Multiple Occupation) are featuring more and more throughout Popley East. Whilst we appreciate that there is a need for this type of accommodation we believe that they must be in the right location. We will continue to work with residents, as we have previously, to resist these applications.

Some areas of landscaping in the ward, particularly the shrub beds, were in a poor state being in urgent need of maintenance and weed treatment. We arranged to walk around the ward with officers from BDBC to highlight the problems and it was agreed that action would be taken to bring them up to standard. A programme of weed spraying, expected to take some 4-6 weeks, would be carried out.

As Councillors for Popley East we are available to deal with any concerns you may have and can be contacted via phone, email or letter. We can then arrange to either visit you in your home or a location of your choice. Our contact details are below. We have also started holding regular monthly surgeries on the 1st Saturday of every month at the Bermuda Hall from 10.00 to 11.30am.

Why not come along and have a chat.

Cllr David Potter 07941507801

cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk

Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200

cllr.janet.westbrook@basingstoke.gov.uk

Connexions Coffee Morning

Connexions coffee morning – free tea / coffee and cake, social informal coffee morning on 3rd Wednesday morning of the month 10am-12noon. Next date: 21 August. meet at the Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke RG21 4AF at 10am for an optional gentle walk around War Memorial Park - route suitable for mobility aids, dogs and pushchairs or simply enjoy a free cuppa in The Orchard coffee bar, chat or play a game.

Connexions coffee afternoons - free tea / coffee and cake, social informal coffee afternoon 12.30-2.30pm. Last date at Church Cottage (behind St Michael's Church) will be 6 August. We will be providing information about fantastic activities available to people with a disability, with an opportunity to try out disabled bowls.

Fibromyalgia / Chronic Pain Support Group this new support group will take place on the 1st Tuesday of the month from 6 August, 6-8pm at Popley Fields Community Centre.

Disability Information Day will take place on Friday 13 September 9am-4pm. Come along to speak to the local professionals who will be able to offer advice and information about the disability you or a member of you family is affected by. We will be in The Malls, Castle Square (outside Primark) with BDDF signpost service.

Members event will take place on 23 October 6-8pm at Proteus Creation Space. To book your place to hear our disabled motivational speaker, enjoy free refreshments and find out how to get involved in the local community, email Amanda at info@bddf.org.uk.

FREE Advanced IT Course – will run Mondays from 7 October for 7 weeks. Time 10am-1pm. We have space for 10 learners so please request a booking form quickly. info@bddf.org.uk.

Disability Signpost service – We are taking enquiries via email, telephone and 1:1 at our bigger events.

Fun Fit Friday – for children and young persons aged 8-18 with additional needs and their siblings. Date: Friday 3 Jan 2020. Time: 2 sessions available, 12:30-2:15pm or 2:30-4:15pm. Location: Sports Centre, Basingstoke. Cost: free. Pre booking essential.

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By the time you read this our works will be completed!!! As I sit hear typing this I am surrounded by workmen beavering away on the final stretch! Exciting times!! Watch this space for information about our grand re-opening party on 21st September!

NEW IN SEPTEMBER!

Isis Out of School

Club opening in September 2019. Collecting from Marnel, Merton and St Bedes Schools. We provide a light, healthy tea and fun activities until 6pm. Contact us to book your space on isisclub@aol.com 07516209578/07516828567.



Out of School Club

WHAT'S ON IN JUNE:

MONDAY:	12.30-2.30pm 7.00-8.00pm 8.00-10.00pm	Bingoll Yoga with Tony Peregrinus Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	9.30-11.30am	Popley Little People
WEDNESDAY:	9.00 and 11.00am 5.00 and 7.00pm	Slimming World with Jo H Slimming World with Jo E
THURSDAY:	9.30-11.30am 7.00-9.00pm	Community Café 4 Fits Sake
FRIDAY:	11.45am-1.30pm	Oasis Lunch Club
SATURDAY:	9.15am-4.00pm 10am 11.30am 1pm	7 TH Day Adventist Church Sabbath School - Bible Study Divine Worship Free Community Lunch Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812
SUNDAY:	10.30am Morning Service 6pm Evening Service	Melrose Christian Fellowship Melrose Christian Fellowship - Contact Pastor Phillip Keeble on 462351

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Welcome! Join us for a better future

The Basingstoke Sea Cadets are a local charity operating with the support of the National Sea Cadet charity. We are a growing unit, with many new recruits recently joining our fantastic group of young people aged 10 to 17 years.

We aim to give young people a fun experience that will help them grow into the person they want to be in a safe and friendly environment. Through various activities, cadets are able to gain nationally recognised qualifications and learn teamwork skills, respect, loyalty, self-confidence, commitment, self-discipline and honesty. Watching cadets grow into the best version of themselves is what makes volunteering for this charity so special.

We are a friendly unit run by adult volunteers of all ages. We are always looking for other enthusiastic volunteers to join our team. You don't need to have a navy background or previous experience, as all training, equipment and uniform is provided. Whether it's just lending a helping hand or becoming a trained instructor, your help is always welcome!

We are currently hoping to find volunteers who can help us with a wide variety of tasks. Our Training Officer would appreciate some assistance inputting data regarding cadet attendance, boating hours and qualifications, creating kit lists and producing letters and receipts. Other instructors would love to hear from anyone able to offer cadet support, supervision and mentoring. We also require support at our local community events, help with running our tuck shop, maintaining unit kit and uniforms and assistance with fundraising and grant applications.

We would also love to hear from anyone who could help us provide practical training in the areas of sailing, rowing, power boating, kayaking, catering, first aid, campcraft, adventure training or the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

If you feel you are able to provide even a few hours of help on an infrequent basis, please contact us for an informal chat.

So what are you waiting for?

Basingstoke Sea Cadets
Sycamore Halls, Sycamore Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG23 8AB
Telephone: 01256 335893
Mobile: 07880 037113
Email: tsmarYROSESccc@btconnect.com



Base 2000, Carpenters Down, Popley, RG24 9AE

Website: www.base2000.co.uk

Registered Charity: 267734

Group Scout Leader	Colin Karstlake	07796772500
Beaver Leader	Mandy Pain	07508204098
Cub Leader	Charlotte Bell	07939148376
Scout Leader	Kevin Percok	07717108560

IT was out of this world!

The County Beaver Space Camp took place at Ferry Crofts, in the New Forest over the weekend of 6-7th July.

Three Colonies from Basingstoke East were there to take in the atmosphere and to explore different activities and events, plus spending a night under canvas.

1st Basingstoke, 8th Basingstoke and the Air Beavers all joined the fun and adventure, trying climbing, cooking smoores, bananas with chocolate and camp bread over open fires. They also took part in space activities, including launching rockets high into the air. There was also archery and crate stacking to really tire the Beavers out.

The Saturday evening was completed by not one, but two Camp Fires as there were so many Beavers on site that one just wasn't enough.

Around 600 Beavers and their Leaders from across Hampshire took part in the weekend which was a huge success.

We currently have a waiting list for new members, so if any of that takes your fancy, you are more than welcome to get in touch to be added to the waiting list. More details can be found on our website at www.base2000.co.uk.



Rocket Launching

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 Karstlake on 07796 772500 or contact us through the group website: www.base2000.co.uk or even via Facebook.



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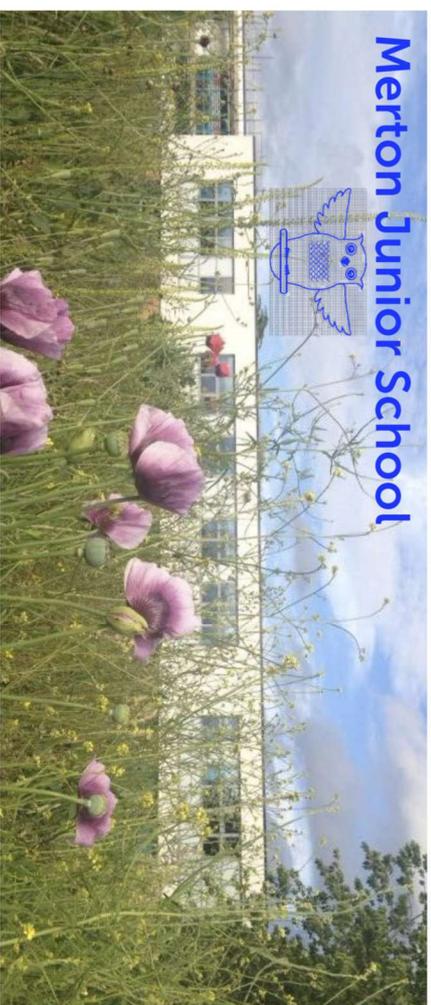


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Merton Junior School



At Merton, we love to make memories - some of our Year 5/6 pupils combat their fears at Windmill Hill, our recent residential trip – climbing to heights that they had only dreamt of, putting trust in their friends, aiming at targets in archery, building rafts and seeing their teachers overcome their own phobias! Here are a few pictures of just some of their activities....



Whilst some of the children have been at Stone Farm, Year 3 and 4 have been very creative - designing some natural pieces of art, inspired by Andy Goldsworthy, using items around the school site.



If you are looking for a Year 3 place for September 2020 then come and visit us on the 9th October 2019 – between 2pm-3pm or 6pm-7pm for an informal look around!

Join us for our Summer Fun Day on Saturday 28th September from 12 midday – 2:30pm to celebrate 50 years of Merton!



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Probus Hears about Cycling the World



The Probus Club of Basingstoke welcomed two ladies to their last lunch meeting. The Worshipful the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane, Cllr Diane Taylor, was their guest of honour. She was presented with cheque by President Richard Wood as a contribution towards her charity appeal. The speaker was round the world cyclist Barbara Cummings.

Not one to sit at home and lose physical and mental resilience after being made redundant from the NHS, Barbara, from Old Basing, decided to retire in 2012 and embarked on what has become a series of long distance cycle rides.

Her thinking was very simple – going north was uphill while going south was downhill. With that simple philosophy she decided that her first long distance ride was down the east coast of America as it had a “Greenway” path from north to the south. With a stop off in Iceland she saw a sculpture put up by an American benefactor which claimed to have a similar one in Florida. That became a target – to see the one near Key West. That trip was 2,500 miles but had not been too difficult.

After that her cycling adventures multiplied with one from the Russian border near St Petersburg which took two months, and another across France from the east coast to the Mediterranean. A four months trip in Australia and New Zealand was completed by visiting Fiji and Hawaii. India was next, followed by North Africa.

In a few months Barbara will be tackling the USA Pacific coast and, like all her trips, she travels alone. Never being concerned about being a single woman on a camp site she has been overwhelmed by the kindness of strangers who have given her soap powder, a luminous watch so that she could see the time at night in her tent, given her lifts to a country's border and even taken her into their homes with overnight accommodation.

She has now cycled in 24 countries and during that time only suffered three punctures, and that was on her east coast trip in USA. She has cycled on every continent except Antarctica but even that is planned for 2021.

She self finances all her trips but gives talks about what she has seen as a means of raising funds for two charities, Headway, where she is a trustee, and Asthma UK.

For more information about the Probus Club of Basingstoke see their website www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com or phone their secretary, Peter Hayes, on 012565 882495.





Wow what a busy few months we have had at the Basingstoke Live at Home. We have been on several day trips over the summer period with more to come over the next month. We at MHA support the older community aged 60 and over bringing quality to later life with activities and lunch clubs across Basingstoke and East Hampshire, we offer a mini bus service to assist members getting to and from activities and a pool of volunteers that also help with transport as and when required.

Let's talk about Strong and Steady Exercise Group. This is a lovely group that meets every week in two locations the first being held at John Eddie Court in South Ham at 1pm till 2pm and the other at Oakfield's in Lychpit on a Tuesday at 11:30am till 12:30pm. This session is tailored to the individuals needs and can be done seated or standing. Each session cost £4 and is payable in a block session. Transport is available at an additional cost of £5 pp per week.

Dates for our upcoming fundraiser in Popley is on Thursday 29th August at St Gabriel's church it is a wine tasting evening time 6.30-9.30pm entry £10 pp, all monies raised will come back into our very own Live at Home scheme which enables us to keep the cost of activities as low as possible. We work to stop isolation and exclusion of our over 60s within our community.

We at MHA Live at Home also offer a befriending service where we will visit our most vulnerable members at home and sit and have a natter, or possibly a small walk all depending on our members' needs and requirements. We couldn't offer this service if it wasn't for the pool of volunteers we have. We are always looking for more volunteers to help with our growing befriending service and activities. We also need volunteer drivers. If you could possibly spare an hour a week or month to assist with any of the befriending services driving or activities please contact Francesca on 01256 346022 or email me at Francesca.wildash@mha.org.uk - together we can help reduce isolation and loneliness within our community

**Many thanks
Francesca**



We're in the midst of our summer break at the moment! Stop by our Facebook page to see what we've been up to and we'll be back in action properly in the autumn.

In the meantime feel free to contact us either by Facebook or on our gmail - Popleyponds@gmail.com with any questions or queries.

Hope you're all enjoying the summer and that the holidays bring lots of sunshine and fun!

**Have a great summer!
Warm wishes from the Marnel and Popley Conservation
Volunteers**

Basingstoke Deane
Rotary



Serving our community

CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts:-
helen@highpathway.co.uk
or
Paul Temple:-
tempau45@gmail.com

**YOUR LOCAL
ROTARY
ROUNDUP**

What does Rotary do?



In Basingstoke there are 4 rotary clubs with over 100 members, every year we raise money to support local organisations and charities. We also supply support to other organisations and provide vital 'manpower' to assist in their fundraising. It all sounds very serious but we all have loads of fun getting involved with our local community. Our clubs are part of an international organisation of over 35,000 clubs in over 200 countries. A portion of the income from all clubs worldwide goes to Rotary Foundation, our international charity, it donates over £1 million a week to Rotary's major international projects. The other focus of our international funding is the eradication of polio throughout the world, **'END POLIO NOW'**

Rotary's part in ridding the world of polio

In the early 20th century two diseases, smallpox and polio, killed large numbers of people around the world. After a long worldwide vaccination campaign smallpox was finally declared eradicated by the World Health Organisation in 1980.

There is no cure for polio and it was the one of the most feared and dreaded diseases in the first half of the 20th century. As late as 1947 it killed 688 people and affected a total of 7,650 in the UK. Many of

those that survived were left with irreversible paralysis, sometimes mildly but for others it meant a life time in an Iron Lung (a breathing machine) because they were no longer able to breathe independently. There were other major outbreaks in 1950 and 1955. In later life people continue to be affected by Post-Polio Syndrome. By 1990 cases of polio in the UK were down to single figures. All children in the UK today are offered routine polio vaccinations in infancy and boosters later in childhood. This herd immunity has kept our population safe from the ravages of polio

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL is one of the core partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Along with our partners, we have helped immunize more than 2.5 billion children against polio in 122 countries. We have reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent worldwide and we won't stop until we end the disease for good. For every £1 Rotary donates the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donates £2. Unfortunately there are still cases of polio in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria and the immunisation programme needs to continue to be funded until it is eradicated, without immunisation disease will take hold again. **ROTARY proud to be part of Irradiating polio**

Basingstoke Deane Rotary is a group of 35 men and women from a wide variety of backgrounds. All live locally in the borough but some commute to work outside Basingstoke. Most joined Rotary to help others less fortunate, and they find Basingstoke Deane Rotary adds another extremely enjoyable dimension to their lives.

If you would like to find out more about how we enjoy ourselves, just tune in to www.tbdbd.org.uk to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more. You might be pleasantly surprised!

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBStokeDeane

**Have a great summer!
Warm wishes from the Marnel and Popley Conservation
Volunteers**



Phillips
SOLICITORS

It can be a real challenge to get onto the property ladder. However, there is help on hand with the Help to Buy scheme. There are two parts to the scheme – the Help to Buy equity loan and the Help to Buy ISA which the Governments tops up by 25% when you come to buy your house.

The Help to Buy equity loan

This scheme is only available on new-build properties that have a purchase price of up to £600,000. It is available to both first time buyers and existing homeowners, but the property you buy must be your only residence and is not available to buy to let investors.

You only need a 5% deposit and the government will lend you up to 20%. You will need to apply for a mortgage from a commercial lender for the remaining 75%.

For the first five years you will pay no interest, but after that it will cost 1.75% of the outstanding balance each following year.

Help to Buy ISA

A Help to Buy Individual Savings Account (ISA) is a high-interest savings account available for people buying their first property and is available at most high street banks and building societies.

You can earn up to 2.53% interest tax-free and then the Government will add 25% free cash on top of what you save providing you and the property you purchase meet the qualifying criteria.

You will need to make an initial deposit of £1,000. After that you can deposit a maximum of £200 a month.

The ISA can be used for a property with a full market value of up to £250,000 or up to £450,000 in London.

However, the Government has set a closing date for new applications of November 30, 2019, so please do not delay in taking advantage of this scheme.

Provided you open your Help to Buy ISA before then you can keep saving until 2029.

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Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship

There were 52 members at the meeting held on Wednesday 3 July who were welcomed by the chairman, David Cowling. The secretary, Tony Brazier, gave details of the forthcoming trips, and the Welfare Officer, Christine Broadbent, gave an update on those members who had not been well.



The speaker this month was Ian Kennedy who gave a talk titled "The View from my Sitting Room" in which he described the view that Queen Victoria had from Osborne House on the Isle of Wight. He started by giving a background as to why the Queen wanted a non-castle residence which was because she remembered some happy times spent there as a girl on the island and wanted somewhere for her and her family away from the hustle and bustle of London and Windsor. Robert Peel suggested the estate at Osborne which was purchased in 1845 for £28,000 and Prince Albert then set to work employing Thomas Cubitt to knock down the old Queen Anne property and building a light, airy and sunny residence. The building was completed in 1851 and the Queen loved the place, especially the view down to the sea, and she also found solace there after Albert's death in 1861. Some additions were made to the building over the years but on Victoria's death in 1901 no members of the royal family wanted it so the King gave it to the nation in 1902. Today it is maintained by English Heritage and has over 300,000 visitors each year making it one of the top attractions on the island.

The group's next outing is a Thames trip from Abingdon to Oxford, with lunch at the Duke of Monmouth, on Thursday 12 September. Then on Friday 11 October it is the Mystery Trip which includes evenings, lunch and afternoon tea.

The next meeting is on 7 August when the speaker is Paul Whittle giving a talk about Florence Nightingale. The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Brookvale Village Hall from 10am to 12noon and all retired Civil Servants, their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about our trips can be obtained by contacting csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com.

David Cowling

"All in the Mind"

When I attended the All in the Mind Festival in March 2018, all I knew was that it is an annual event held by Fluid Motion Theatre Company in Basingstoke, exploring mental health and the challenges it presents to society.

I was recommended to volunteer at the information desk, as I had recently arrived in the area after heart surgery, and was looking for something to fulfil me, as I could not take up full-time employment.

I'm glad I did, because I was pleasantly surprised to find such a variety of performances raising awareness about mental health challenges, and promoting the thinking that *"It's OK to not be OK"*.

Arriving early to orient myself and catch some performances, I was impressed with how professionally everything was organised and how frank and willing the performers were to talk openly about their problems.

Having personally battled with anxiety, depression and anger issues following my stroke in 1992, growing up in an era when mental health wasn't discussed in families, let alone with outsiders or doctors, it was only twenty years later that I accepted I had a mental health issue. It was refreshing to hear the honesty of the performers, speaking so publicly.

As a man, who was told to sort myself out or shape up instead of deal with my problems, I am pleased to see attitudes towards mental health changing for the better.

Thanks to the efforts of groups like Fluid Motion, mental health is no longer a taboo subject, wrapped in stigma. The knowledge that anyone can be affected – from children taking exams and pre- or post-natal parents to front line service and blue light personnel, even celebrities – means that it can now be discussed openly.

Going to the All in the Mind Festival was one of the best things I could have done.

Chatting with like-minded people, facing a variety of challenges, in glorious sunshine (weather NOT guaranteed), listening to poetry and music, or watching dance routines and theatre, inspired me with how society can extinguish the prejudice attached to mental health.

It helps to show what we can ALL do to help ourselves, and those in need.

Best of all – it motivated me to take writing up again: a medium I find helps me to sort through the plethora of thoughts that crawl around my head: disturbing my sleep, affecting my ability to put things into perspective, causing me stress, anxiety, depression, frustration and sometimes anger. I am now calmer and happier, so thank you All in the Mind and Fluid Motion. I will definitely be attending again this year and would highly recommend it to others.

The next festival is on **14th September 2019 at Eastrop Park, Basingstoke**.

For information visit www.allinmindfestival.com or tel: 01256 423836

Ade Ballard

- **Mental health problems are not rare. Nor are they exclusive to any one "type" of person. They can occur in anyone, regardless of age, sex, race or colour. It is an invisible disability in the majority of cases.** - Anon
- One in four adults and one in 10 children experience mental illness, and many more of us know and care for people who do. [Source: NHS England 2019].



MFC Popley All Stars - spaces have become available to join our group. If your child is in Year R (currently) and wants to join a fun, safe and enjoyable football team, please contact us on: Allstars@mfcpopleyouth.co.uk

We are very pleased to announce we have filled all our spaces for the MFC Popley U7s 2019/2020 squad and are looking forward to the new season.

U7s - the boys played really well after the first part of their summer break. They came back fresh and ready to play with style and class, playing some beautiful football to score some lovely goals during their recent tournament. There were lots of encouraging comments on the teams level of football which is very pleasing to hear as a parent and as a coach.

We are currently looking for a few players to boost numbers in the squad, (under 8s next season), so that is school year 3. For more information, please email gstar22@hotmail.co.uk.

Under 8s finished their season at Westwood Wanderers Tournament with a brilliant 2nd place in the Champions League final. We say goodbye to Harry D who is playing for Southampton and good luck to Riley on his trial with, Reading FC.

We are looking for new players to join next seasons squad (Under 9s). If interested please contact the club at committee@mfcpopleyouth.co.uk.

Our u11s got to the semi final stage in the Andover tournament but, despite a very spirited display, couldn't find the goals to take them through to the final. The under 11's did, however, win the Barton rovers 6 a side tournament on Saturday 13th July

We are Looking for new players to join next seasons Under 12 squad. If interested please contact the club at committee@mfcpopleyouth.co.uk

The u13s ended their season, and last ever appearance for MFC Popley, at Westwood Wanderers tournament with a 2nd place finish. They gave everything they had but they just couldn't achieve the fairy-tale ending, conceding only 1 goal all day. Tears were shed as they left the pitch but lifetime friendships will forever stay strong.

U15s - enjoying the summer break at the moment following performances at Burghfield FC and Farnborough Youth FC tournaments. Delighted to announce that we have a full squad, including some new additions, ahead of the August pre-season training period.

You can get regular updates on Twitter, @MFC_PopleyYouth and by using the hashtags #MFCPY #REDandBLACKARMY.

MFC Popley Youth has a dedicated club page on Facebook (as well as individual team pages), and you can also find us on Instagram.

MFC Popley Youth, FA Charter Standard Development Club and Nike Partner Club, has a dedicated club shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories - www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/

For more information, or if you have any queries, please contact the club through our main website: <http://mfcpopleyouth-co-uk.bisongrid.com>

Zak Collingwood

Dear Friends

Well what a month July has been for us as a church! The month kicked off with a burglary when thieves broke into the church office and stole the safe containing our Christian Aid collection, communion silverware, marriage registers and some other bits and pieces of cash and keys. How they managed to shift a safe made from 3inch thick steel and weighing almost three quarters of a ton I will never know – though I did consider phoning around the hospitals to see if anyone had come in with a hernia or bad back – there were no drag marks or wheel marks in the new carpet where they exited. Damage and goods came to almost £8,000. Thankfully we have insurance and at the end of the day it was just stuff and noone was hurt – praise God! The congregation, community and other churches have been absolutely brilliant in their support for us.

Following fast on the heels of the break-in we had our annual Summer Fair and what a wonderful day it was and so well supported by so many of you – thank you! We try each year to introduce something new and this year we had a World Foods stall, a Prosecco and Beer Tent and some really yummy cream teas. This was combined with lots of kids' activities and a capital Grand Draw. We owe a huge thank you to our organising committee and so many from the wider community who contributed prizes for the Grand Draw.

There is a real sense of movement taking place at St Gabriel's. As we continue to grow into our community with all the new facilities (check our new community garden) we are seeing more and more families joining the regular congregation as well as some returners. It's an exciting time and God is blessing His people in so many ways. Jesus said "I have come that they may have life and life in all its abundance!" Why wouldn't you want to be a part of that?

Someone once said that we all have a God-shaped hole in our lives and we try to fill it with so much stuff that never really and truly fills that space. I believe that! Please do come along and join us on any Sunday morning at 10:30am for a taster and see if it that 'thing' you've been looking for!

ALPHA will be running again starting in September – a unique opportunity to meet informally, listen to some stuff and then join a discussion to seek answers to those questions you've always wanted to ask about the Christian faith in a safe and non-judgemental environment. No qualifications or previous experience required!

May you and your family enjoy a blessed and peaceful summer break.

Yours in Christ

Revd. Arthur

St Gabriel's Church, Popley

www.stgabrielspopley.net

01256 324734

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www.popleyday.org.uk



Playday is the national day for play in the UK, traditionally held on the first Wednesday in August. As well as a celebration of children's right to play, Playday is a campaign that highlights the importance of play in children's lives.

Popley Fields Community Centre, Carpenters Down, RG24 9AE

01256 414494

office@popleyfields.org.uk



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citizens advice

Basingstoke price.

If something is advertised at the wrong price

If something you want to buy is advertised at the wrong price, you may be able to buy it at the lower price.

Buying in a shop

Your legal rights in a shop will depend on whether you've paid for the item yet or not.

If you haven't bought it yet

If you take an item to the till and are told the price on the tag or label is a mistake, you don't have a right to buy the item at the lower price. You could still try asking the seller to honour the price.

It's the same if you see an item advertised anywhere for a lower price than the one on the price tag.

If you've already bought it

If the shop sold you an item at a lower cost than they meant to, you don't have to give it back - they're only legally entitled to ask you for more money if you'd talked about the price (eg £100) and they ended up charging you much less instead (eg £10).

If you realise you've paid more for an item than it was advertised for at the time, ask for the shop to refund the difference between what you paid and what was advertised. Keep any evidence of the mistake, if you can - for example, you could take a photo of the advert in the shop window.

Shopping online

Your legal rights depend on something fairly tricky in the law: whether or not you have a 'contract'.

Depending on the company's terms and conditions, you'll have legal rights (and a contract) either:

- once you've paid for the item; or
- once they've sent it to you.

You'll need to find the company's terms and conditions to find out where you stand. Contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline if you need help. It may be too tricky to work out yourself.

If you have a contract, the company can't usually cancel your order, even if they realise they've sold you something at the wrong price. They'll only be able to cancel it if it was a genuine and honest mistake on their part that you should've noticed.

If you don't have a contract and someone realises they've told you the wrong price, they can cancel your order.

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 10-3.30 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>



Basingstoke NeighbourCare Needs You!

DRIVERS REQUIRED

We provide a service for elderly people in YOUR community. Particularly for those who find it difficult to use public transport or lack the confidence to go out on their own. We provide a driving service to pick them up from home, take them to their appointment and bring them home again, using our volunteers own car. We also take clients shopping, to social events such as lunch clubs, helping them remain part of their community.

We need drivers who can spare a few hours a week during the daytime, Monday to Friday, and who have a car that is comprehensively insured and suitable for carrying an elderly person. In return we will cover your petrol cost from home currently we pay 45p per mile. Some of our drivers currently work shifts and can only offer 1 or part of a day per week but even this amount of time can help us. You can choose what hours/days you are available and what duties you undertake.

BEFFRIENDERS REQUIRED

Would you have an hour a week free in the daytime (Monday to Friday)? Many elderly people would love to have someone to come and see them for a cup of tea and a chat. You could be the first person they see that week who has time just for them! You will gain great satisfaction and help them to relieve their loneliness. We try to find you someone who lives near to you so that if you do not have your own transport you can walk to them. But if you have to use your car or public transport we will reimburse your costs.

We need people who have time and patience and like talking to elderly people. You need to have good listening skills and be able to show empathy. We will provide you with training and support and match you with one of our clients. Our befriending co-ordinator will take you to your first meeting with our client and support you as necessary.

If you are interested in either or better still both of the above opportunities please do contact us either by phone on 01256 423855 or email volunteering@neighbourcare.com

6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade Newsletter



During July we got involved with St. Gabriel's Summer Fete which was fantastic, a lot of people from the local community turned up to enjoy the various stalls and competitions. The Boys' Brigade took care of the important stalls: the BBQ and the bar (obviously this was a staff only stall, the young people were there to enjoy themselves).

As we are a self-funded group we have to raise funds throughout the year to keep ourselves open and keep prices down for families. We like to keep the cost down so everyone can get involved. A recent fundraiser we did was at Tesco supermarket in Chineham. We raised a fantastic amount and we'd like to thank all those that donated and spoke to us during the event.

Just around the corner is our annual Summer Camp which we'll cover in our next Popley Matters article. Everything is running smoothly, tents have been aired, bikes have been cleaned and activities have been planned. We are ready! But please keep your fingers, toes and everything else crossed for good weather that week.

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.

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club OPEN DAY

Saturday 7th September 10am-4pm

Basingstoke Leisure Park, Churchill Way West, Basingstoke, RG22 6PG

Tel: (01256) 356507

E-mail: info@loddonvaleibcc.co.uk

This is an opportunity to enjoy some light healthy indoor exercise for all ages and meet new friends.

Bowlers of all ages are welcome, we have a very strong junior section from 8 years of age onwards.

New members are always welcome with tuition available on the day from one of our fully qualified club coaches, or just join us for a tea or coffee in our comfortable air conditioned premises that include a bar and catering facilities.

We look forward to meeting you on the day.