

# FASTFARE

Your Local Family Convenience Store

Abbey Road (Shops) ☎(01256) 323679

Open seven days a week

Monday–Friday 7:30am–9:00pm Saturday 8:30am–9:30pm Sunday 9:00am–9:00pm

Grocery | Stationery | Off Licence | Fresh Fruit & Vegetables | Fresh Flowers

Fresh Sandwiches | Pies | Ethnic, Polish & Indian Groceries

We serve crushed Ice Drinks

- Now Available UPS Parcel Service • Play Now Lottery + Scratch Cards
- Faxing and photocopying available • We Accept Milk Tokens
- Paypoint pay your bills Gas, Electric, Mobile Top ups ETC.
- Western Union Money Transfer Services • International Phone Cards

## NEW FRESH CREAM CAKES TO ORDER

If you don't see what you want in the store, please ask and we will try to get it for you.

# FASTFARE PHARMACY

UNIT 3 ABBEY ROAD SHOPS ☎/☎357637

## FREE PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE

We fill your prescriptions at Fastfare Pharmacy from most surgeries.

There is also a free collect and deliver service. We also take your repeat prescription, collect and deliver FREE OF CHARGE. NHS or Private.

Among our many services we offer:- blood pressure check, diabetic, cholesterol check-ups and monitoring. A private consultation area for patients. We advise on medication and treatment of minor illness by our qualified Pharmacist. Pregnancy advice and morning after pill available. We hold a comprehensive stock of motability equipment for hire or purchase. Just ask and help us to help you.

For further details ring ☎01256 357637

### Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm; Sat 9am-5pm



Printed by Personalised Print ☎352434 Email:p.print@virgin.net

# POPLEY MATTERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE POPLEY COMMUNITY SINCE MAY 1992

March 2020

Distribution of 5,400

Issue 217



## FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

### Contents

Message from the Editor	Page 1	6th Basingstoke Boys' Brigade	Page 19
Advice from Police	Page 3	Asthma UK and British Lung Foundation	Page 19
Councillors' Page	Page 5	Marnel and Popley Conservation Group	Page 21
Melrose Hall What's On	Page 5	MHA Living	Page 21
New Properly Local Radio Station Launches	Page 5	Vina R, Resident of Marnel Park	Page 23
Popley Fields What's On, Farm Experience	Page 7	Update from Chineham Medical Practice	Page 23
Rotary Basingstoke Deane	Page 9	Bermuda Community Hall	Page 26
Phillips Solicitors Advice	Page 10	MFC Popley	Page 26
Air Scouts Report	Page 11	Everest Community Academy News	Page 27
Local Dancers Competing on a World Stage	Page 14	Chineham Library News	Page 28
Arthur Botham	Page 15	Over 55s Forum	Page 28
Merton Junior School	Page 17		

Closing date to submit articles and adverts (5pm 15-3-20) editor@poppleymatters.org.uk



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:** I think we all have phobias and fears and mine is the wind. Gentle breezes are OK but gale-force winds have me with curtains drawn and TV or radio on maximum. I didn't know why it scared me so much till I was on the phone to my brother and it was gale force winds in the background, "Gosh Jane you are just like Mum she hated winds too". It shows just what we pick up from our parents. I like to think I inherited my mother's gentle caring ways but I know I have my father's temper if I see injustice. Do I hold a grudge? Yes, if something has hurt someone and that goes double if it's a family member or dear friend.

The consultation about closing two libraries or passing them over to volunteers closes mid this month. I hope lots of people from Popley have filled in the form as the document shows that Popley is not in the "catchment" area and this has a big effect on our schools as they do not get school visits like other nearby schools. Yes, unjust, and I have said so.

After putting up with all this rain and winds I hope that we have a gentle spring and a warm summer to enjoy. There is an open day for Marnell Bowls, perhaps something you might like to try on page 12; for our young reader's football on page 17. We are lucky enough to have three community halls with events and clubs and not forgetting the newly extended St Gabriel's Church. They all seem to have something going on each day. There are Scouts and Boy's Brigade and if you don't like organised things we have Popley Community Park near the Apollo, The Splash Pad in Chineham Park and outdoor gym in Pershore Park along with other play areas. If you like just chilling on your own why not get a book out from Chineham Library.

We welcome articles from groups and clubs, especially residents who might like to write about their hobbies or their history of living in Popley. Email the Editor at [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk). Deliverers are always needed and welcomed too - it can be half an hour a month or more if you can? Please contact me at either 405 Abbey Road, phone me on 01256 819924, or e-mail me [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto: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.

**Distribution Team:-** Hom Bahadur Pun; Jenny Bailey; Linda Banfield; Mollie Beeson; Amanda Bellemy; Martin and Chansopha Bierman; Mark Budden; Charmaine Chapman; Lynne Cooke; Pam Crouziers; Tricia Dennis; Melissa and Amelia Griffiths; Pat Hamilton; Stacy Hart; Stuart Humphries; Dee Jackman; Jeremy Jackman; Terry Jones; Simon Leadbetter; Cathy Li; Angela Lockwood; Christopher Martin; Marta; Alan Marsden; Milly Mcgann; Martin Meppam; Vera Mitchell; Peter Moore; Sue Roux; Sheila Rowland; Luke Simmonds; Alan Simpson; Christine Spencer; Arthur Taylor; Jean Taylor; Wendy Taylor; Christine Thresher; Gell Toungue; Richard Townsend; Chucka Uju; Janet Ward; Carole Wheeler; and Carole Wetton.

**Advertising Index**

Mitosu	Page 2	GreenScaping LTD	Page 13	Linguatastic	Page 24
Aurbi Custom Printing and Emboidery	Page 2	GR Autos Service LTD	Page 16	Peter's Chinese Fish & Chips	Page 25
Everest Health and Leisure Club	Page 2	Mickey's Handyman Services	Page 16	Ovenclean	Page 25
Roller Garage Doors Centre	Page 4	Apollo Hotel	Page 16	Unique Block Paving	Page 25
Blue Angel Live-in Home Care	Page 4	Your Local Locksmith	Page 18	Kids Nursery Popley	Page 25
Weight Watchers	Page 6	IPS Hair	Page 18	Everest Community Academy	Page 27
JBDrive	Page 8	Niall Catlin Plumbing and Heating	Page 18	1st Response	InsideBP
Spine Team	Page 8	Mark Smith Plumbing and Heating	Page 20	Jonathan Williams Independent Funeral Directors	InsideBP
M H Autos	Page 8	K.G.Matthews Carpentry	Page 20	Lawrence Young Ltd	InsideBP
Rayner Appliance Care Ltd	Page 8	Spencer and Peyton Ltd	Page 20	Fastfare Store	Back Page
Phillips Solicitors	Page 10	Naomi Tropical Stars Travel	Page 22	Fastfare Pharmacy	Back Page
Marnell Bowls Club	Page 12	Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling	Page 24		
		Julia Tavener Foot Health	Page 24		

Thank you for your support.

**1st Response**

Heating & Plumbing



FOR

- Heating Installations
- Boiler changes/upgrades
  - Servicing
  - Breakdowns
- Landlord Safety Checks
  - Power Flushing

24 hour – 7 Days a Week

CALL  
**Jamie Davenport**  
Tel No: 01256 398611  
Mobile No: 07876 687422

**JONATHAN WILLIAMS**

Independent Funeral Directors

- Family run Funeral Directors with traditional high standards
- Providing a caring dedicated and professional service 24 hours a day, 365 days year
- Private and peaceful Chapel of Rest
- Our Family caring for your family



35-41 Essex Road  
Basingstoke RG21 7TB  
**01256 817603**

(24hrs)



**What do accountants ever do for businesses?**



"Well, our accountant does our VAT, payroll and year-end, saves us a load of tax, monitors our cash flow and our financial performance, makes sure we comply with HMRC rules, takes an active interest and is always there when we have a problem... they even handle our HR issues, so quite a lot really."



Call us now on 01256 811415 to book your FREE business review with an active accountant. Offer limited to 4 businesses per month



Chartered Management Accountants, Tax Advisers and Business Advisers to growing businesses in Hampshire, Berkshire and Surrey.

Saving you time. Saving you tax. Saving you money.

Lawrence Young Ltd. Hart House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke RG24 9PU

[www.lawrenceyoung.co.uk](http://www.lawrenceyoung.co.uk)

# Chineham Library

Regular activities follow their usual pattern this month, with children's rhymetimes for under ones at 10am and over ones at 11am on Tuesday mornings. From 10.30am there is also now a volunteer-led coffee morning from 10.30am which those attending are welcome to visit. This offers a chance to meet others with young children in the Acorn Room. On 7<sup>th</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April, we are holding the monthly drop-in craft session, commencing at 10am, and at 11am on all other Saturdays a storytime will take place.

Our Cuppa and Chat group continue to meet weekly on a Wednesday morning at 10.30am and would very much welcome some new faces. Our reading group continue to meet monthly at 10.30am on the last Saturdays of the month. The writing group next meets on 5<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 5.30pm. We now have two sources of IT tuition/guidance available, the Wednesday morning Age Concern sessions which focus on working with your own device are bookable through their office on 01256 423874. A donation is requested. In addition, Tuesday mornings we have a volunteer available to assist with using the library terminals. Sessions with her are bookable through the library.

The trio of crime talks finished last month and has been a great success. We have two more crime-related talks coming up. There is a 'Scenes of Crime' talk with former police officer Ken Wells on 26<sup>th</sup> March, and a 'Great Train Robbery' talk with Tony Keep on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Both take place at 6pm and tickets costing can be booked through the library or the online shop.

Don't forget that the library is now able to offer room hire, including times outside library opening hours. Charges and further information are available from the library.

*Cathy Foster*

---

## Over 55s Forum

The Basingstoke and Deane Over 55s Forum started 2020 with their first 'Open' Forum meeting on the 12th February 2020 with guest speaker Nick Boyle speaking about Medieval Glasses, Nigel Luke from Hampshire County Council and Christine Rowley Helping Hands for the Blind. The April 'Open' Forum meeting will be on 8th April 2020.

We are now starting to bring in people who were on our waiting list, to make them full members. This year is lower, because not many have resigned. We had about 100 on our waiting list, so not all will be lucky to join.

### TRIPS for 2020.

We have arranged a 3 day break from **6th to 8th March** to the Cavendish Hotel, Exmouth, South Devon, for £99.00. This includes all coach travel, dinner, bed & breakfast, a free drink with your evening dinner, Entertainment, half day trips out and Sunday lunch.

**27th March** "Afternoon at the Pictures" with 3 course meal, Prosecco & popcorn, plus the film "Calamity Jane" for £38.00 including coach.

**16th April 2020** a trip to the Mayflower at Southampton to see "Riverdance". £56.00 which includes the £41.00 ticket and coach.

**17th to 20th April 2020** "Late & Live" at Warners Lakeside, Hayling Island, You will have full use of the leisure facilities and the same seat for all your meals and entertainment in the Cabaret restaurant. Price £249.00.

**28th to 1st June 2020** - Northumbria & Beamish "The Living Museum of the North", includes admission to Beamish "Living Museum of the North, return journey on the South Tyneside Railway, cruise on the River Tyne and journey on the Tanfield Railway.

Non members are able to go on these trips if there are vacant seats. Booking through Gerald on 07792535116 or email gerald.merritt@ntlworld.com More trip information in your next edition.

**Thank you,**

**Gerald (Secretary & Tour Manager)**



I am once again providing residents with some fraud prevention advice, as it is now the most commonly reported crime and anyone can become a victim, regardless of age, sex, or income. Every year the British public loses billions of pounds to fraudsters who bombard us with online, mail, door-to-door and telephone scams. Fraud occurs when someone lies or deceives you in order to cause harm, most commonly by taking money, and there are many types of fraud.

With this in mind Basingstoke Police would like residents to bear in mind the following advice:

### Email:

- Ensure your computer is protected by personal firewall and anti-virus software and keep them regularly updated;
- Report any abuse to your internet service provider (ISP);
- Never reply to any email you are unsure of;
- Visit Bank Safe Online to report all suspicious banking emails;
- Report suspicious PayPal emails to [spoof@paypal.co.uk](mailto:spoof@paypal.co.uk); and
- Report suspicious EBay scams or emails to [spoof@ebay.co.uk](mailto:spoof@ebay.co.uk).

### Telephone:

- Never accept offers over the phone "if they sound too good to be true, they usually are";
- Never give personal details over the phone;
- Report any suspicious phone calls to your phone company;
- Consider registering your number with Telephone Preference Service (TPS Online) or 0845 070 0707 Most telephone providers will block anonymous callers;
- Never give your credit or bank card PIN number out over the phone. This information is never requested legitimately by your bank or the police; and
- If you think something is wrong, hang up the phone.

### Post:

- Many postal scams look genuine and are designed to trick you. Never respond by sending money or personal details to unsolicited mail;
- If you respond to one postal scam you may be bombarded by others as your name may be circulated to other scammers;
- If you are unsure about a piece of mail, ask a friend for their opinion or contact Consumer Direct on 0845 404 0506;
- Beware of unwanted mail from outside this country or from a postbox (PO Box) address in this country; and
- Consider registering with Mail Preference Service either online or by calling 0845 703 4599.

In Hampshire all fraud should be reported to Action Fraud via [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk), or by phoning on 0300 123 2040. In addition, you may wish to report to the police direct by calling 101. You can find more information on the types of fraud and scams commonly used and how you may better protect yourself from them on the Action Fraud website and the Hampshire Constabulary website under the 'Advice and Information' section.

Regards,  
PCSO Holt, 16552.



Your Independent Stampin' Up! Demonstrators in Basingstoke

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW HOBBY OR CRAFT GROUP?**



**YES? THEN WE ARE RUN REGULAR CARDMAKING CLASSES TWICE A MONTH IN CHINEHAM CHRIST CHURCH AS WELL AS FREE DEMONSTRATIONS IN HOBBYCRRAFT.**

All for £12 including materials and FREE tea/coffee  
Please bring a basic craft kit containing glue, scissors etc

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY & HEAD OVER TO OUR WEBSITE

[WWW.MITOSUCRAFTS.COM](http://WWW.MITOSUCRAFTS.COM)

FOR MORE DETAILS

See you soon  
**BARRY & JAY**

**GARMENT PRINTING & EMBROIDERY**



PERSONALISED PRINT AND EMBROIDERY ON T-SHIRTS / HOODIES / SWEATS

FOR UNIVERSITIES / COLLEGES  
WEDDINGS / HEN PARTIES / STAGS  
OFFICE UNIFORM OR WORKWEAR  
SPORTS CLUBS  
*at affordable prices*



FASHION IS COLOURFUL HERE

web: [www.aurbi.co.uk](http://www.aurbi.co.uk) email: [info@aurbi.co.uk](mailto:info@aurbi.co.uk)



To make our best better

A school to be proud of



Everest Community Academy  
Oxford Way,  
Basingstoke  
RG24 9UP

Phone: 01256 465547



**Everest**  
Health & Leisure Club



WiFi  
Classrooms  
Meeting Rooms  
Performance Theatre (200 Seats)

Memberships from £20  
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



To make our best better

**Upcoming Dates**  
Year 11 Mocks—Monday 2nd March to Friday 13th  
Year 8 Parents Eve/Options Eve—Thursday 5th March



Transforming schools... changing lives

**Years 7, 8 & 9 Trip to the Science Centre in Winchester**  
Three of our year groups had a fantastic day out at the Winchester Science Centre in February. The centre is one of the largest science and discovery centres in the county, full of interactive, hands on exhibits, including the exciting and immersive Explorer Space zone and Planetarium. The students were transported by 3 double-decker buses and 1 single coach. Many students thought the Planetarium was awesome and amazing. A wonderful time was had by all and the students were a credit to the school, all on their best behaviour at all times.

**Years 10 & 11—Raising Aspirations**  
While the lower year groups were at the Science Centre, years 10 & 11 had a day of activities focused on raising aspirations here at the school. It's aims were to develop problem solving and writing skills, gain insight from successful people from a range of industries and backgrounds and to spark their imagination and allow them to dream about how their life could pan out. We would like to thank our very talented Governing team who came and spoke at sessions for the students along with a journalist from Sky Sports and an air accident investigator who had previously served in the Navy. We also had contributions from the University of Winchester and QMC. The students went away feeling inspired and hopefully a step closer towards their future goal. One quote from a student said "I really enjoyed the talk by the air accident investigator as I want to go into the military. It was interesting to hear about his career."

# Bermuda Community Hall

Tiny steps pre-school starting soon, for further details ring Helen or Connie on 07907815270

There are lots of activities going on at Bermuda Hall, come along and join in!

Monday from 6:30pm to 8pm we have kick boxing.



Tuesday night is bingo night New members are welcome! Doors open at 7pm, eyes down at 8pm and finishes around 10pm. Refreshments are available.



Wednesday is yoga night with Lou Bedford. It starts at 6:15pm and finishes at 7:15pm, for more details ring Lou Bedford on 07753109222 or at [www.loubedfordyoga.co.uk](http://www.loubedfordyoga.co.uk)



Come along on a Thursday night for street dance and ballet 4:30pm to 6:30pm for details ring Samantha Pike on 07811299484

Friday Club is available to infants/juniors Yr R to Yr 6 at 6pm to 7:15pm. There are many activities for the children to get involved in: singing, super book animated bible stories, games, tuck shop and more. Friday Club is now free.



The hall is also available to hire for parties at reasonable rates. Ring 01256 363156 for details.



## MFC Popley Youth on Social Media.

You can get regular updates on Twitter, @MFC\_PopleyYouth & by using the hashtags #MFCPY #REDandBLACKARMY.

MFC Popley Youth, FA Charter Standard Development Club and Nike Partner Club, has a dedicated club page on Facebook (as well as individual team pages), and you can also find us on Instagram. We also have a dedicated club shop website where you can purchase kit and accessories - [www.clubwebshop.com/a-z/clubs/mfcpopley/](http://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://mfcpopleyyouth-co-uk.bisongrid.com> or on any of the above social media platforms.

**County Councillor Report:** The consultation on the possible closing of ten libraries in Hampshire County Council finishes on 17<sup>th</sup> March. In Basingstoke two libraries will be affected: Chineham and South Ham. I was shocked and frankly very annoyed to see that Popley was not considered to be in the catchment area and the remark from one member of staff that there are no members of Chineham library in the Popley area and that included all the new houses this left me very angry. At the last County Council meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February I said how disappointed I was and the committee Chair responsible said they would look at it given the amount of protest from the residents. There is a Facebook page "Friends of Chineham Library" and they have been organising events and protests. Please support them and fill in the consultation forms that are on the HCC website. We need to keep up the pressure to save the library that many of our residents of all ages use. The option of getting the public to run it as a community library would mean that HCC pass on all the costs of renewing books and magazines plus finding the cost of employing staff and cost of running the building. It would also mean redundancies to staff that have worked for years. The web address is [www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation](http://www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation). There are also some paper copies in the libraries or contact me and I will arrange for you to get a copy. Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 email [jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk)

**Popley West:** You may notice some markings on the dropped kerbs along Abbey Road these are marked for them to be repaired and made more disability friendly at present they are too steep for the use of a lot of disability buggies. We have also asked the borough to remark all the white lines in the Abbey Road parking area at the shops and Melrose Hall. Thank you to HCC for doing the markings along the path along Popley Way. The residents of Magnolia Court asked Paul and me if it could be done as they were concerned at the speed that cyclists went on the paths and not slowing down at the entrances of Magnolia Court, Abbey Court and St Bede's school and church. They have told us it has made a difference and they feel safer. We have also asked for the markings along Popley Way to be renewed this would involve closing sections of the road so will take a bit longer to arrange but at least it is now on the works list.

The officer told Paul and me that the yellow lines and parking controls should be started in this month of March for Marnel Park. Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924 [cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk) Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 [cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.jane.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk)

**Popley East:** As your Councillors, we supported the declaration of a climate emergency last year and this recognises the urgent need to take action to tackle this important issue.

As part of this we are seeking your help to improve recycling as there are items that can be recycled ending up having to be put into the general waste.

Did you know that if recyclable items are put in carrier bags or black sacks in our recycling bins, the equipment at the recycling plant can't identify what's in it so the whole bag is rejected and put into general waste for incineration. It's the same if we put the items in a cardboard box.

For residents who have to take their recycling from their apartment to a communal store, the Council have produced a handy reusable bag which can then be emptied straight into the recycling bins and they have a useful reminder on them as to what can and can't be recycled. Residents that have their own individual recycling bins may also find one of the bags useful. You can request one by calling the Council or pick one up from our surgery on the first Saturday of every month at the Bermuda Hall between 10.00 and 11.30am.

We will be attending the Open Day at the Marnell Bowling Club, Carpenters Down on 18<sup>th</sup> April. Please come along and have a look around. Cllr David Potter 07941507801 [cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.david.potter@basingstoke.gov.uk) Cllr Janet Westbrook 07747335200 [cllr.janet.westbrook@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.janet.westbrook@basingstoke.gov.uk)



**Roller Garage Doors Centre** | Fitting Garage Doors since 1995

- ✓ Fully insulated
- ✓ Custom made & British built
- ✓ Free no obligation quotations
- ✓ Best Price Guarantee
- ✓ Free 7 year motor warranty

**T. 01256 962660**

Roller Garage Doors Centre  
(Part of Access and Security Systems Ltd)



[www.rollergaragedoorscentre.co.uk](http://www.rollergaragedoorscentre.co.uk)



## Blue Angel

### Live-in and Home Care

Stay in the comfort of your own home and enjoy life to the fullest

**FOR A FREE ASSESSMENT CALL**  
**01256 592 593**

[www.blueangelcare.com](http://www.blueangelcare.com)  
[hampshire@blueangelcare.com](mailto:hampshire@blueangelcare.com)



# Peter's

**Chinese Food and Fish & Chips to take away**

Unit 2, 1 Fair Isle House  
Popley, Basingstoke  
Hants RG24 9XD  
(Maldive Road Straight Up)

**Telephone Basingstoke**  
**01256-328740**

Telephone Orders (To Collect)

**Opening Hours**

**Monday**

5:00pm–10:00pm

**Tuesday To Saturday**

12noon–2:00pm and 5:00pm–10:00pm  
**Sunday & Bank Holiday Mondays Closed**

## DOMESTIC OVEN CLEANING

By the UK's largest oven



Non-caustic  
Ovens, hobs, extractors and microwaves cleaned

Fresh solutions every time  
**Don't forget we clean BBQs too!**

**01276 473118**

**07882 886736**

[www.ovenclean.com](http://www.ovenclean.com)

## UNIQUE BLOCK PAVING

**Derek Hooley (NVQ Qualified)**

- Driveways & Patios
  - Walls
  - Fencing
- Cleaning of existing drives and patios

**No job too small**  
**Daily rates for labour only or supply and fit**

Fully insured, local tradesman

**Free, no obligation quote.**

**01256 474912**

**Or**

**07973 865359**



### KIDS NURSERY IN POPLEY

We offer inclusive childcare provision for children from 3 months to 4 years. We are open 51 weeks of the year 8am-6pm

#### SPACES AVAILABLE

Please Contact: 01256 464750

KIDS Nursery, Shakespeare Road,  
Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire,

RG24 9BP

**FREE TRIAL SESSION!**

**Why not get into indoor bowls?**

**It's friendly, it's fun and it will help keep you fit.**

**Why not try one of our Wednesday free drop in sessions 12.0 - 2.0pm & 4.0 - 6.0 pm?**

Loddon Vale Indoor Bowling Club,  
Leisure Park, Churchill Way West, Basingstoke, RG22 6PG  
Tel: 01256 356507, email: info@loddonvaleibc.co.uk



# Julia Tavener

MCFHP MAFHP

Experienced  
Foot Health  
Professional



Foot care in the  
comfort of your  
own home

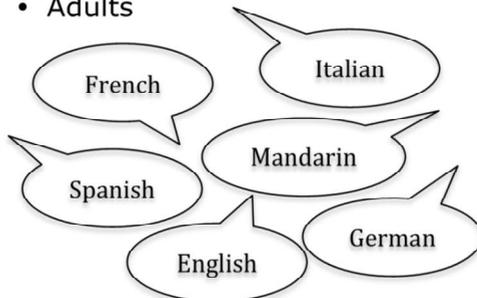
**07875 137299**

j.tavener@hotmail.co.uk

## LinguaTastic Language Academy

Classes for:

- Babies/ Pre-schoolers
- Primary school children
- Secondary school children
- Adults



info@linguatastic.com

471 474



**COMING SOON!!** Afternoon tea with Cliff Richard impersonator. Watch this space for more details or check out our website.

### WHATS ON IN MARCH:

<b>MONDAY:</b>	12.30-2.30pm 6.30-8.30pm	Bingo! 4 Fits Sake
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	9.30-11.30am 6.00-7.00pm	Popley Little People <b>Singing and exercise with Debi - NEW</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	7.00-8.00pm 7.00-8.00pm 8.00-9.00pm 9.30am-4.00pm 11.45am-1.30pm 5.00 and 7.00pm	Boxercise with Lynsey Fight Klub with Dawn Diamond Fitness with Kinga Pamela's Memory Club Oasis Lunch club Slimming World with Diane
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	9.30-11.30am 7.00-8.00pm	Community Café Yoga with Tory
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	6.00-7.00pm	Yoga with Ben
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	9.15am-4.00pm 10am 11.30am 1pm	7 <sup>TH</sup> Day Adventist Church Sabath School - Bible Study Divine Worship Free Community Lunch
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	Contact Emanuel Ampofo on 07456068812 Melrose Christian Fellowship 10.30am Morning Service 6.00pm Evening Service Contact P Keeble 01256 462351	

### New 'properly local' radio station launches for Hampshire and Berkshire

On Valentine's Day at 6am, a brand new DAB local radio station was launched especially for Berkshire and Hampshire: Radio 210.

Radio 210 is dedicated to playing just songs from the 80s and 90s. With a bigger playlist than other stations, local listeners can enjoy fewer repeats on the new, fully-local-based commercial radio station. The station boasts shorter ad breaks too, bringing local listeners back to the music even faster.

Listeners can tune in on DAB, on their mobile using the dedicated Radio 210 app, and on a smart speaker by asking it to play Radio 210.



## Get 12 weeks free

WW and Hampshire County Council are working together and are delighted to invite you to join WW

To qualify for this free programme you need to be:

- Over 16 years of age (16-17-year-olds need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian)
- A Body Mass Index (BMI) of 30 or above
- A resident of Hampshire County Council

To join for free

Call 0345 602 7068 quoting: WWS095 or visit [ww.com/uk/hampshire](http://ww.com/uk/hampshire)

WW logo and Health Solutions™ are the trademarks of WW International, Inc. © 2020 WW International, Inc. All rights reserved.



Working with  
Hampshire  
County Council



# Find your nearest WW Workshop



**St Gabriel's Church**  
Tuesday 1:30pm and Thursday  
6:30pm Tewkesbury Road, Popley  
RG24 9DU

0345 677 7788\* [WW.com](http://WW.com)   

\*Standard network charges apply.  
WW logo is the trademark of WW International, Inc. © 2020 WW International, Inc. All rights reserved.

### Dear Readers,

I hope your 2020 has got off to a good start and those resolutions are looking good. My resolution, on the other hand, started with great vigour and enthusiasm but the joys of full time work and life have put a spanner in the works. But there is still nine more months to this year and plenty of time to make good of those resolutions. Just a little reminder for myself that Mother's Day is around the corner and for those of you panicking – it is on the 22 March – so plenty of time to plan that perfect day.

I have spent the last few weeks trying to be more organised and productive with my days. A never-ending to-do list and a vast selection of distractions means that a lot of house/ life tasks are postponed until it cannot be ignored anymore. Working and household chores means that family time is much shorter than I would like. As for the word "to relax"; it seems it only exists in a galaxy far, far away. And so in my quest, I found something called "The Rule of Three". The idea is that at the beginning of each day, you set three important tasks which you have to complete by the end of the day. That can be work tasks or personal ones like renewing the car insurance or clearing out that messy cupboard. This approach helps to focus the mind on the three tasks for the rest of the day. I tend to find this method works for my very long to-do list. Everyday, I scan through the list and select three tasks, which has to be completed today. I find that once I have completed one task, the sense of fulfilment and control spur me on to complete the rest of the tasks on the list. Some days, I find that I can actually tick more tasks from the to-do list, but some days squeezing even three tasks is a push. Whatever it is, the sense of accomplishment has allowed me to feel in control and therefore less stressed. And surprisingly, by being calmer I am able to plan ahead and be more productive. In all honesty, this is not an easy fix and I have to work at it every day. I do hope that I can keep this up and get more done in 2020.

*Until next month, Vina R, Resident of Marnel Park*

### Update from Chineham Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Do you ever need health care in a hurry? Even though the emergency department at the hospital might seem the easiest choice, opting for a more appropriate service can often be more convenient and save you time. For example, you can get help and advice virtually from your GP. Simply submit an *E-consult* via the practice website <https://chinehamsurgery.webgp.com/> and a GP will respond with advice, prescription or, when necessary, make an appointment. This can often avoid delays and having to wait for an answer. The practice can also help you access medication reviews and health check reviews such as for high blood pressure through this service – just make sure you answer the questions as fully as possible.

Pharmacies and minor injury units can also help, whilst A&E is the best choice in a life-threatening emergency. Find out more about how to ensure you always know, or you can download and read (which has all the information) about where to go and what to do when you need help in North and Mid Hampshire if you've had an accident or illness. Call the NHS on 111 if you're unsure of the best place to go and a fully-trained adviser can help you make the right decision. More information and a handy guide for when you need help in a hurry can be found at <https://northhampshireccg.nhs.uk/need-nhs-help-in-a-hurry.htm>.

If you would like to find out more information about the Patient Participation Group please contact Karen Nicholls Tel: 01256 479244.

# TROPICAL STARS TRAVEL

## WORK FROM HOME AS A TRAVEL AGENT

- WEBSITE PROVIDED
- TRAINING PROVIDED
- EARN WHILE YOU LEARN
- AMAZING SUPPORT NETWORK

GET PAID TO BOOK HOLIDAYS!

WE CAN BOOK AFFORDABLE HOLIDAYS IN THE UK AND ABROAD. FROM THEATRE TICKETS TO AIRPORT TAXIS AND EVEN TRAVEL INSURANCE. CRUISES, DISNEY, HONEYMOON PACKAGES AND SO MUCH MORE!

T:07948521450 |  NEL TRAVELS |  facebook join our group TROPICAL STARS TRAVEL

# Mill Cottage Farm Experience & Easter Fun day

Saturday 4th April, 2 - 4pm

Come feed and touch the farm animals, also Childrens Entertainer, Easter egg hunt, Easter craft activities, cakes and refreshments

£2 per child  
£3 per adult  
£10 family of 5

Popley Fields Community Centre  
Carpenters Down, Popley  
RG24 9AE

01256 414494  
office@popleyfields.org.uk  
www.popleyfields.org.uk

  
Popley Fields  
Community Association

# JBDRIVE

James Bone **M: 07823884522**  
ADI

Patient friendly instructor, learn at your own pace  
with 1 to 1 lessons inc Evenings & Weekends  
Good Pass rates Fully insured Dual control car

**10 Hours for £270**

**£30 per Hour**

**£29 P/h students**

Single lesson Discount for holders of  
Student NHS or Forces ID cards

Full 'L' Test training with theory tuition included



WWW.JBDRIVE.CO.UK  
E: JBDRIVE@LIVE.COM

## M H AUTOS SERVICE CENTRE

Unit 11 Vickers Business Centre  
Priestly Road, Basingstoke  
RG24 9NP

Servicing and repairs to all makes and models  
cars and light commercials  
Pre-MOTs/MOTs arranged by appointment  
clutches, brakes, shockers  
free fit exhausts, timing belts  
tuning, welding, diagnostics checks

Motor vehicle specialist

Free delivery and collection service  
Mobile & workshop facilities to suit you

For a friendly and personal service call Mark on  
Tel: 01256 467707 Mobile: 07879 638650

## SPINE TEAM CHIROPRACTIC

High quality and friendly MSK, Back and  
Neck Pain with professionals who listen

Annette and Gordon Linscott

35 Years in Basingstoke  
Specialists in Long Term or Recurrent  
Back and Neck pain

If you have a long wait for treatment or it  
has not worked come and talk to us

East Barn, Lychpit Centre  
01256 466 666

www.spineteam.co.uk

### DOMESTIC APPLIANCE SERVICES

# M I Rayner

Rayner Appliance Care Ltd



## REPAIRS • SALES • HIRE

REPAIRS TO ALL LEADING MAKES & MODELS OF  
**Washing machines • Tumble Dryers**  
**Dishwashers • Electric cookers**

25 Years Experience in  
Domestic Appliance Services in Basingstoke  
Trading standards Approved



**BASINGSTOKE 01256**  
**354295**

'Our success has  
been in your  
recommendation'

www.raynerappliancecare.co.uk



The team was out more than once February - firstly  
a litter pick on 25th which saw them clear a load of  
rubbish from the site. So much in fact that the  
council had to come and remove the debris after  
they'd finished.

We felt like it'd be useful to reiterate the importance of not flushing wipes or  
sanitary products down the loo. It's more than a bit gross that as volunteers we have  
to spend time picking up your rubbish and frankly it can be dangerous to our health,  
the public, dogs walked and wildlife in the area. Youths have a bad rep for littering  
but most of the items they had to clear were domestic waste - we're all as bad as  
each other it seems so lets pull together to make it right.

Moan over then.

The crew headed up there more recently to find the water level still really high - this  
is great for the newts who thrive in these conditions! They spent a morning lovingly  
restoring habitats where the newts along with the local lizards live.

We've had a few new members in attendance this season, thanks for coming, for  
your hard work, or following our page - we really appreciate your support! The  
prettiest new member by far (sorry lads and lasses) is the little robin who kept an  
eye on my colleagues from a nearby branch at the last work party, chatting away and  
stuffing his face while the team got to work.... you can check him/her out on our  
Facebook page!! :)

### Marnel and Popley Conservation Volunteers



bringing quality to later life

Hello Popley

Well we certainly have been busy, we have had a huge  
interest in the annual holiday to Bembridge in July and we  
have nearly filled a coach this year. The interest has been  
amazing.

We have currently been enjoying our activities with huge  
member turn out especially at our lunch clubs as it is always  
a lot of chatter and fun and some quizzes and sing-along.

This month I would like to mention as always the importance in checking in with your  
frailer elderly neighbours it just takes a minute to brighten up someone's dull and lonely  
day with a quick visit and natter. We are always looking out for volunteers for our  
forever growing activities and befriending service. We will give full training and DBS  
checks and we will cover your fuel and cost of travel. If you would like more information  
on our activities or becoming a volunteer please ring me on 07720680403 or email me  
at I really do hope to speak to you real soon. **Francesca Wildash**



**MARK SMITH**  
EST. 1971  
PLUMBING & HEATING

MARK: 07968 808454  
MARKMSPH@GMAIL.COM  
GREG: 07766 111302  
INFO@MARKSMITHPLUMBING.CO.UK  
WWW.MARKSMITHPLUMBING.CO.UK



### NO CALL OUT CHARGE AND FREE QUOTATIONS

All Plumbing and Heating Undertaken  
Bathroom Design and Installation Service  
Including tiling, flooring, lighting & decorating  
Landlord Safety Certificates  
Gas Boiler service, breakdown and replacement  
Oil & Gas Boiler installation: Ideal, Worcester & Grant  
Water Softeners  
Digital shower / pumps and replacement  
Tap replacement or repair  
Unvented hot water  
Gledhill, Megafllo & all makes of cylinders  
Wireless room thermostats / heating control upgrade  
Hive and Nest installation



Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

## K.G. Matthews

Carpentry and Construction



All types of Carpentry work including:  
• Kitchen and Bedroom units

- Stairs, Locks and Doors
- Also Home Improvements



For a Friendly and Professional service call

Ken now on

**07920003278**

tadleycarpenters.co.uk

## Spencer & Peyton Ltd

Funeral Directors and Monumental Masons  
24 hours a day



3rd Generation family owned and run since 1961

Pre-paid funeral plans discussed without obligation

380 Worting Road  
Basingstoke, RG22 5DZ  
**01256 323165**

7 London Road  
Hook, RG27 9DY  
**01256 761717**

Trading Standards approved

spencerandpeyton@btconnect.com  
www.spencerandpeyton.co.uk

ON SITE FLORIST



**01256 355556**  
www.theflowergirlflorist.co.uk



Basingstoke Deane

**Rotary**



### CONTACTS

Helen Ricketts: -  
[helen@highpathway.co.uk](mailto:helen@highpathway.co.uk)  
OR  
Paul Temple:-  
[tempaul45@gmail.com](mailto:tempaul45@gmail.com)

**YOUR LOCAL  
ROTARY  
ROUNDUP**

### HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL MARINES CAME TO TOWN

With the Royal Corps of Drums and special guests The Chelsea Pensioners, the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines gave their usual stunning performance at our Annual Charity Concert at The Anvil on 26th January.

On the day everybody won. The Band got to perform to a nearly full house in our magnificent Anvil Concert Hall. 12 Chelsea Pensioners and a group of local Army Cadets were given a great day out. The Cadets, from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Corps of Drums, all musical instrument players, were invited by the Director of music to shadow the Marines during the band's rehearsal. From this they got a feel of how it is to be part of a professional Military Band before they watched them perform.

Hospital to purchase a new piece of equipment to help with the treatment of atrial fibrillation, this will mean hundreds of patients being treated in our local hospital instead of having to travel to Southampton or perhaps even further afield. Our thanks to all the local folks who supported this event and hence these great charity causes. We hope you had a wonderful time, and that we see you again at our concert next January.



### PEACEJAM SLAM

Winchester University will again host PeaceJam this March but this year's youth leadership development conference will be a 1 day 'Slam'. We will again be sponsoring a group of young people from Cranbourne School and from Whitchurch WAAG to attend. This year the inspirational speaker will be The Right Honourable Stuart Lawrence the brother of Stephen Lawrence, the black British teenager from Woolwich, south east London, who was murdered in a racially motivated attack while waiting for a bus in Well Hall, Eltham on the evening of 22nd April 1993. There will be a programme of development workshops and action projects covering topics such as conflict resolution and water aid

To find out more see:

<https://peacejam.org.uk/events-winchester>

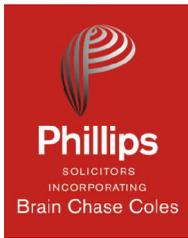
The audience were given an outstanding concert. The Anvil itself is a Charity which received much needed revenue from a nearly full house. And profit was made for charities supported by your local Rotary.

Some of you are doubtless aware that we have been supporting the Ark Cancer charity for a number of years and we are continuing to support this great project. However lead by our President Alf McCarthy we have started a new project to help the Cardiology Unit at Basingstoke and North Hampshire

*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.rcbd.org.uk](http://www.rcbd.org.uk) to see what we have coming up, or contact Helen or Paul above to find out more. We think you'll be pleasantly surprised.*

Facebook: @RotaryBasingstokeDeane

Twitter: @RBstokeDeane



# A Good Time to Make a Will

One of the best times to think about writing a Will is when you buy your first property.

Unless you have a 100% mortgage you will have some equity in the property and therefore something to leave.

If you are buying a property jointly, you will also need to make some form of provision if you die. This is because should one of the joint property owners die, his or her share in the property will not automatically pass to the surviving owner.

When drawing up a Will, it is a good idea to list all of your assets so you can think whether there are any items you would like to pass on to particular family members and friends.

Bear in mind that the value of your home can increase your estate to over the threshold for Inheritance Tax, which is currently £325,000.

If the total value of your estate is less than this amount there will be no tax to pay.

For those who already have a Will, it is worth reviewing it every five years or so to reflect any life changes and major events such as having children, getting married or divorced.

Our Wills and Probate team can help you make the right decisions in relation to your Will, to ensure it reflects your wishes and provides appropriately for those you care about most.

We will ensure that all the wording is legally sound and that there are no loopholes that could endanger your estate.

Once your Will is written it will be permanent unless you decide to change it or make a new one.

For more information contact Lucy Watson, head of our Wills and Probate team by calling 01256 460830 or email [lucy.watson@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:lucy.watson@phillips-law.co.uk).

For more information about Phillips Solicitors incorporating Brain Chase Coles please visit [www.phillips-law.co.uk](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk).



# 6<sup>th</sup> Basingstoke Boys' Brigade

With these colder months we thought we'd treat the younger group to some winter treats. We did a bit of baking as it was National Nutella day (any excuse to make Nutella filled muffins), we usually don't need an excuse to make them, but it helped us justify the extra calories :-)

They also tested their cooking skills with a class in pizza making; making the dough from scratch, rolling it out and adding the sauce and all the other topping goodies. Lucky for them the older section didn't know it was happening and no pizza went "missing".

The Company section, our older group, took part in some very interesting classes. One of those was a drawing class, working on how to draw the human head and its features and making sure to keep them all in proportion. They also had a class about the rules of ice hockey getting them ready for a future trip to watch the Basingstoke Bisons later in the month. They also had a class on working out how to budget and manage money, working with a lump sum and budgeting the remainder.

## 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](mailto:6thbasingstokebb@gmail.com).



## Asthma UK and British Lung Foundation Partnership

### Support Group : Breathe Easy

#### News from BLF

It's an exciting start to the year 2020 for those of us living with lung disease. Asthma UK and the British Lung Foundation have now joined forces.

Once all the reorganising involved is done I'm sure their combined efforts will help bring about some much needed advances for all of us.

#### Local News

Our guest speaker for January, Robert Taylor, gave an inspirational introduction to Sebastian's – [sebastiansactiontrust.org](http://sebastiansactiontrust.org).

An uplifting account of the support they give to children, with life limiting illness, and their families was followed by hearty applause.

Our usual break for a cuppa and a biscuit seemed to fly by as we all caught up with our friend's news.

Plans for social outings are underway, suggestions for these and guest speakers, from members are always welcomed.

A warm welcome awaits at our next meeting.

31<sup>st</sup> March, The Shaftesbury Room, Christ Church, Chineham, RG24 8LT 2pm.

Anyone with lung problems, their carer, family or a close friend will be made welcome.

The guest speaker will be Brenda Pullen from Connect to Support, signposting us to the best places to get help we need.

# YOUR LOCAL LOCKSMITH

Malcolm - 24/7 personal service

Call: 01256 464778  
 Mobile: 07557343492  
**NO CALL OUT CHARGES**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

Locked out - Broken Key or Lock - Lost keys  
 Doors, Windows, Garages etc. + Hardware & Accessories

Member of the UK LOCKSMITHS ASSOCIATION  
 Fully Insured - Fully Guaranteed & DBS Checked  
 Email: [m-wallace@outlook.com](mailto:m-wallace@outlook.com)

# IPS hair

Styling for the whole family

Award winning and experienced stylist. Available to style your hair in the comfort of your own home

**£5 OFF**

Cut & Blow Dry

~~£30~~

Only **£25** With this voucher

Phone Ian on: 0790 9577 199  
 01256 363600

[www.ipshair.co.uk](http://www.ipshair.co.uk)

# Basingstoke Air Scouts



Base 2000, Carpenters Down, Popley, RG24 9AE  
 Website, [www.base2000.co.uk](http://www.base2000.co.uk)  
 Registered Charity, 267734

Group Scout Leader	Colin Karslake	07796772500
Assistant Group Scout Leader	Douglas Gowan	07733325498
Beaver Leader	Mandy Pain	07508204098
Cub Leader	Charlotte Bell	<b>07919148376</b>
Scout Leader	Kevin Pocock	07717108560



**We NEED You.**  
**Can You HELP?**

# BEAVERS cubs SCOUTS

Recent figures from The Scout Association show that across the country there are now over 60,000 young people aged 6 - 18 years, wanting to join Scouting but are unable to do due to a lack of adult volunteers. That is roughly 6x the population of Popley, can you imagine that?

Every week we give the young people of the area the skills they need for school, college, university, that all important job interview, the tricky challenge and to succeed in the big dreams they have for the future. This only happens because of our great Leaders, but we need more people like you so we can offer more young people these skills.

You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join us. You don't need to have been a Scout when you were younger. You don't even need to know how to put up a tent.

Whatever your skillset, lend a hand for as little or as much time as you can spare, and we promise you'll get more out than you put in.

We provide the training. You show up, get stuck in, and make new memories for life. Sounds fun? Worthwhile? It is.

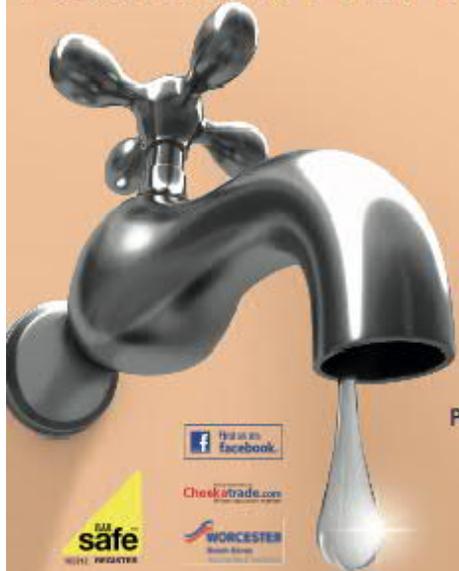
So why not put a spring in your step and start a new hobby, while at the same time putting something back into your local community? We will find you a role that matches the time you want to give, so please contact us today to start your Scouting adventure and help to change lives by giving young people skills for life.

To find out more please call...

Colin, on 07796 772500 or email [colink@base2000.co.uk](mailto:colink@base2000.co.uk)

Douglas, on 07733325498 or email [nikau@thescoutingpages.org.uk](mailto:nikau@thescoutingpages.org.uk)

# FOR MORE THAN JUST A LEAKY TAP



## Niall Catlin PLUMBING & HEATING

EST. 1991

Leaky taps to full bathroom installation  
 Power flushing | Water softeners | Hot water cylinders

Boiler breakdowns, repair and servicing  
 Boiler replacement | All allied trades  
 All aspects of plumbing and heating



Checkatrade.com



[www.niallcatlin.co.uk](http://www.niallcatlin.co.uk)

01256 818086 | 07774 741021

# MARNELL BOWLING CLUB



## OPEN DAY 2020

All are welcome to our open day on  
**18<sup>th</sup> April From: 11am - 4pm**



## Why not come and take the opportunity to meet

- Bowlers of all ages and abilities;
- View our clubhouse which has refreshments (including a fully stocked bar);
- Have a try (no obligation) All equipment provided to have a go; and
- Make new friends.

## Where are we:

Behind Popley Fields Community Centre  
(next to Basingstoke Air Scouts Hall and Nursery)

For further details contact: **01256 411469**

or visit Marnell Bowls Club Website

**[www.marnellbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.marnellbowlingclub.co.uk)**



## Merton Junior School



### 2020 so far at Merton...

We have had a 'Healthy Schools' day which started with an assembly where Miss Wright broke the news of how much sugar children their age should be limited to! Throughout the day, the children learnt how much sugar is in day-to-day items which they eat or drink—and were shocked with the results! The children took part in different activities. The idea of these tasks was to show the children how they are able to keep their bodies (including their teeth!) and minds healthy and included things from meditation to Taekwondo to food tasting.



Year 5 visited Milestones and had a brilliant time learning and exploring!



We are incredibly proud of our Netball team who are currently 2<sup>nd</sup> (out of 16) in the league – well done to each of our star players – keep up the great teamwork!



### Raising money...

We think it's important to do our bit for charity - our amazing staff raised £131 through a staff raffle, for the Basingstoke Night Shelter - with Gift Aid aided too, this is the equivalent of 11 x overnight stays. As a school, we raised a magnificent £314.20 for Children in Need in November, a huge £258.94 at our recent Coffee Morning AND a donation of £48.50 has been made on our behalf to Cancer Research from Braiswick photographers from the sale of the school photographs –thank you to all of our pupils and their families for being so generous!



Romsey Close, Popley, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9HB  
admin.office@merton-jun.hants.sch.uk  
[www.mertonjuniorschool.co.uk](http://www.mertonjuniorschool.co.uk)  
01256 326573

# G R AUTOS SERVICES LTD

**ALL YOUR MECHANICAL NEEDS**

SERVICES, M.O.T.s, REPAIR WORK,  
BRAKES, CLUTCHES, CAMBELTS, HEAD  
GASKETS, TYRES, RECOVERY, AIR  
CONDITIONING

LOCAL FREE COLLECTION AND  
DELIVERY

QUOTE THIS CODE FOR 10% DISCOUNT- TCS06

CONTACT:-GRAHAM HOBBS

07900675181

grhobbs52@hotmail.com

Qualified Plumber and Property  
Maintenance Services

Based in Popley

Bathroom and Kitchen refits  
Plumbing and Heating  
Certified Gas and Electric Works



563148

Plastering, Painting and  
Decorating  
Carpentry  
Fencing

**HANDYMAN SERVICES/  
SMALL JOBS WELCOME**

No call out charge

Free Estimates

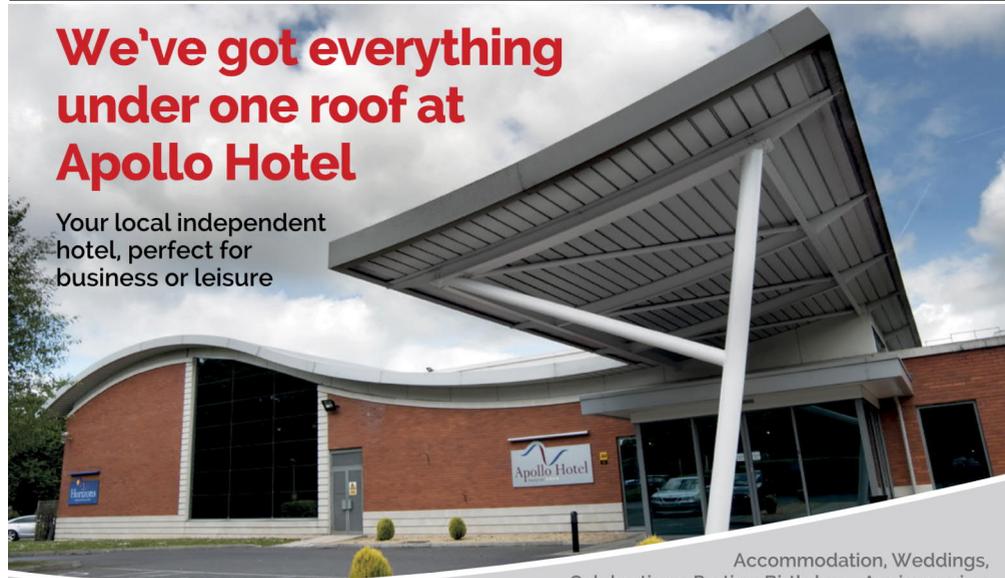
Call Mickey

Tel No: 07888 828 542

Email: mickeyfish@hotmail.com

**We've got everything  
under one roof at  
Apollo Hotel**

Your local independent  
hotel, perfect for  
business or leisure



Accommodation, Weddings,  
Celebrations, Parties, Birthdays, Anniversaries,  
Meetings, Health & Fitness Club, Beauty Treatment Rooms

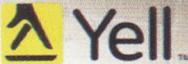
01256 796700

www.apollohotels.com

enquiries@apollohotels.com

  
Apollo Hotel  
Basingstoke \*\*\*\*

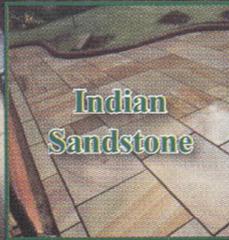




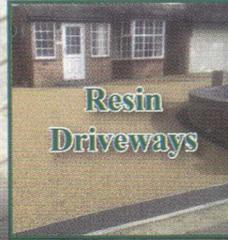
# GREENSCAPING Limited

Greenscaping Ltd are specialists in  
landscaping services working throughout  
Hampshire and the surrounding areas.  
All our work comes with a guarantee and  
is never finished before the customer is  
satisfied. We will work hand in hand with  
you from design to completion to ensure that  
you get the finished product you wish for.

  
Astroturf

  
Indian  
Sandstone

  
Block Paving

  
Resin  
Driveways

**Fully Insured | Fully Qualified | Free Estimates And Advice  
You Are Entitled To A Fourteen Day Cooling Off Period**

Office: 01256 637 870  
On Site: 07379 700 762  
www.greenscapingltd.co.uk  
greenscapetreeandlandscaping@outlook.com  
The Square, Basing View, Basingstoke, RG21 4EB

## Local Dancers Competing on a World Stage

Two local dancers Megan and Katie have been selected along with thirty three other dancers from Basingstoke Academy of Dancing (BAD) to represent Team England at the 2020 Dance World Cup being held in Rome.

This is a very exciting opportunity for the girls and they are all very busy with rehearsals.

Dance World Cup is the largest dance competition in the world with over 6,000 competitors from forty eight countries competing in the finals. This is the greatest all-genre dance competition in the world for children and young adults.

As well as training hard, the girls will be involved in numerous fundraising activities to raise money to go towards all the dancers' additional costs in travelling to this competition and they would really appreciate any local support.

BAD have set up a "Go Fund Me" Page for anyone wishing to donate to help all these dedicated girls on their way to an opportunity of a lifetime [www.Gofundme.com](http://www.Gofundme.com) and search for our page called **Help B.A.D compete for Team England in Rome.**

You can also sign up to Easy Fundraising and Fundraise whilst doing your online shopping, without costing you a penny!

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/teambad>

The Dance School will be holding fundraising activities at the Studios in Joules Road, Houndmills.

**1<sup>st</sup> March** – Fundraising Carwash

**29<sup>th</sup> March** – Sponsored hair shave and/or chest wax!

**2<sup>nd</sup> May** – Solo Mia Spring Fashion Show

**Raffle** – If anyone has any raffle prizes they could donate we would be most grateful.

If you are interested in more information please contact Debbie Robinson at [debbierobinson29@hotmail.com](mailto:debbierobinson29@hotmail.com) or 07824 880808.

On behalf of the dancers, thank you for supporting our local girls.



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 Corona virus is dominating the news along with climate change – Storm Ciara and Dennis have just passed across the UK – Brexit is almost done but there is doom and gloom about whether or not we'll secure any trade deals and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has resigned after Boris's reshuffle. Do we have cause to be anxious or afraid? Thinking about it, most of the issues 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 Christianity's great events, Palm Sunday. This is the day that marks the beginning of the holiest of weeks in the calendar of the Christian church. 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*".

Lent is the time of preparation for these events. It is a time, not to give up chocolate, alcohol or cigarettes, 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 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. You'll find all the info on our webpage

**Your friend and vicar**  
**Revd. Arthur**  
**St Gabriel's**  
**01256 324734**