

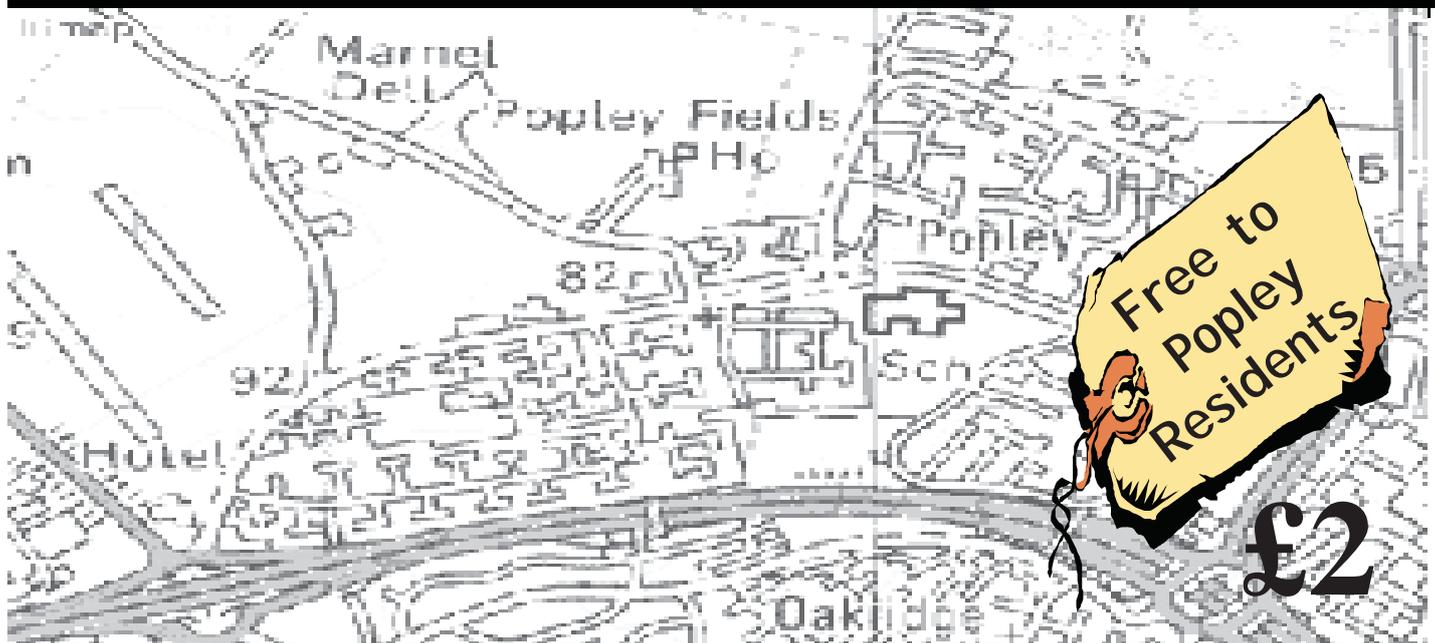
# POPLEY MATTERS

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June 2013

Distribution of 5,000

Issue 136



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (5pm 15-06-13) [editor@poppleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@poppleymatters.org.uk)



Editor  
Jane Frankum

**Message from the Editor:-**What a great day at the Popley Festival and the busiest I have seen in many a year. The sun shone and I even got sunburnt. I love the Popley Festival as I meet up with so many Popley people and many who have moved away but make it almost a pilgrimage to meet up with their old friends and neighbours. There were so many groups and clubs and churches it would not be fair to try to name them all as I would be sure to miss out someone. There is a report on page 7. But I hope that the organisers will write a full report for the next issue of Popley Matters.

Paul and I met up with quite a few of our wonderful band of volunteer deliverers of your Popley Matters at the Festival, and we met residents who say they read the Popley Matters every month. They also said how much they enjoy it. It is Popley Matters' 21st birthday, oh dear where have all those years gone? We do however need some more volunteers to help us to do the deliveries especially in the Popley Poets area. Any volunteers out there?

I was met in the street by Carnegie who is one of the Popley street cleaners. He was upset as Popley Matters had not printed that he was a good street cleaner, and this started me thinking about the many people who do so much for Popley voluntarily without pay, or go beyond their job to help make Popley the great place it is to live in. If you want to thank someone who has helped then please let us know, and perhaps we can thank them through Popley Matters. I know I can think of quite a few. I would like to thank Iris King who has been the Distribution Manager for Popley Matters for as long as I can remember. Thank you to Dev and Nayna and family for all the extra things they do that you never hear about. I would also like to highlight Christine Taylor the Lollipop crossing officer who waits extra time for one pupil who goes to an after school club one afternoon a week just so she knows that he gets across the road safely. I know there are many more so please let us know about other unsung heroes that deserve a thank you.

Contact us via email on [editor@popleymatters.org.uk](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk) if you want to submit an article, place an advertisement or want to promote your club or group. You can call me on 01256 819924 or write to me at 405, Abbey Road. RG24 9EL



Sub Editor  
Paul Frankum

The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team, the members of the committee, or Popley Matters.

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Thank you for the support

## My Latest Visit to Minsk (the Capital of Belarus).

As my friends and neighbours in Abbey Road are aware I visit Minsk twice a year. I have now been staying with the same family for ten years, who live in Rokossovsky Avenue.

Their flat is normally a ten minute walk from the trolley bus stop where I catch a 20 or 30 trolley bus to the underground station, which is known as the 'Metro'. From the Metro station I can travel to the five universities and the radio station, where I speak to students, record texts and take part in English language broadcasts at Radio Belarus.

This year I arranged to arrive at Minsk airport on 17<sup>th</sup> March, which is a few weeks earlier than normal. On the Friday before I was due to arrive they had a blizzard in Minsk, which is unusual for March! This closed the airport and flights were being diverted to Kiev and Gomel! Luckily for me, the airport was back to normal on the Sunday I flew out!



The main roads had been cleared but here's a picture of outside the flat I stay in. It now took me at least 15 – 20 minutes to slip, slide, and slither down to the trolley bus stop avoiding the three feet deep snow drifts!

Despite the Artic conditions and slipping over twice, I managed to keep all the appointments at five Universities, Radio Belarus and to see all of my many friends in Minsk.

The students, teachers and professors

of English lack practice with a 'native speaker' and, consequently, lack confidence.



Not too many English people visit Minsk, and of those who do, not all of them are prepared to meet students, teachers and professors of English.

Here's a picture I took of Natasha, standing proudly holding her 'English' notepad she bought last year in London when she was staying with me, with

some of her students who she teaches English. Hopefully, Natasha will be coming to Basingstoke again in July this year. Last year, Natasha was most impressed with Abbey Road and how friendly the friends and neighbours I introduced her to were to her. Speaking to them all improved her English, which is very, very good in any event, and boosted her confidence immensely.

Terry Jones, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2013

PS Next spring Minsk is hosting the World Ice Hockey championships!

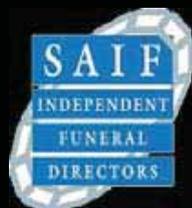
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# North Popley Estate - Access Improvements Update

Work is due to commence in early July on the access improvements to the North Popley estate, providing improved footways and better cycle connections on the main routes. This is the next phase in the programme that has already brought safety and accessibility improvements to Popley Way and Carpenter's Down, which will now provide improved links throughout North Popley, including onwards connections to the town centre, Everest Community Academy and the North Hants Hospital.

The scheme will improve the local environment by upgrading the main footway routes, allowing easier access to key destinations both locally and further afield. It will improve the local environment and compliment earlier work in the programme, as well as that of the private sector in recent residential and commercial developments. The County Council has been coordinating with the Sentinel Housing Association to make sure our planned improvements will connect with their recent facilities, in order to provide direct and accessible routes through the whole North Popley estate.

The details of the scheme have been progressed with the detailed involvement of all local Councillors, including Cllr Jane Frankum, Cllr Paul Frankum, Cllr Vivienne Washbourne and Cllr David Potter. This is as well as other key stakeholders, including utility companies, the above Sentinel Housing and a variety of officers at Hampshire County Council and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. It is as presented in the public consultation event held in March 2010 in the Popley Fields Community Centre, where it was supported by over 94% of attendees.

The work to construct it will take around 20 weeks, during which time some sections of footway will be unavailable at times. We will try to keep this to a minimum, but we do ask for patience, as we are confident there will be significant improvements afterwards.

The plans for the scheme and further information can be seen on the Hampshire County Council website ([www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)) and by following the links to "Roads and Transport", then "Transport and Road improvement schemes" and clicking on the link to the "North Popley Estate Access Improvements". If you have any further questions, then please direct them to Tom Robison at Hampshire County Council ([Tom.Robison@hants.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Robison@hants.gov.uk)).

**Councillors Page:** Thank you to all the many residents that voted me back in to serve them in the County Council district of Basingstoke North. I was humbled by such a big majority and will continue to work as hard as I can for all the residents in my area.

There is some major work on improving the paths and cycle connections starting in July. It is a continuation of the phases of safety measures in Popley with Poets and Abbeys to follow in the future. A fuller report is on the previous page.

Section 106 developer money and a campaign backed by all the Popley Councillors and petitions from residents has brought about a new bus route through the Marnel Park and Merton Rise new developments. It enables the residents to access the hospital and town centre. The 106 money has also enabled more picnic benches on the Popley Community Park so that families can use and enjoy the park much more. **Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924 jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk**

**Popley West:** The Popley Councillors attended or wrote submissions for the Planning Inspector's appeal in the council chamber. At the Tuesday evening public hearing we met some of the protestors before going into our AGM meeting. We had given our evidence and submissions in the afternoon. We presented several pieces of evidence and photographs, now we just have to wait for the report and decision which is expected by 24th September. You may have read in the local press or via Facebook that the council cabinet have sanctioned spending nearly £800,000 of tax payers money on the shell of a drive through coffee venue which they will get £65,000 a year rent return. It will take twelve years to recuperate the outlay plus they have an option to break the lease after only 15 years. There are already 12 places in close proximity to buy coffee and refreshments. How does that make good business sense? 370 people have signed the petition already but we need the administration to know just how residents feel about spending our taxes without consulting you? Also many people told me there were other facilities that could generate an income and be more desirable to spend our money on. Sign the petition on Facebook or on the forms in Abbey Road shops or contact us by email.

*Cllr Jane Frankum 01256 819924*

*Cllr Paul Frankum 01256 819924*

**Popley East:** May has been a busy month for all the Popley Councillors with the County Council elections at the beginning of May and the Kiln Farm Appeal running from 30th April to 10th May 2013.

Congratulations to Jane who was not only re elected but also increased her majority. The Kiln Farm appeal came to a close on Friday 10th May. As Popley Councillors we had the opportunity to give our statements against the development to the planning inspector either in person or by written statement on the afternoon of Tuesday 7th May. Later that evening local residents also had the opportunity to speak against the development. It was fantastic to see the council chambers full of local residents from Popley and Sherborne St John, showing the strength of feeling against this opportunistic development on the popular Kiln Farm Fields. The planning inspector will now pass his findings on to Eric Pickles Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, for a final decision to be made.

**Cllr David Potter tel.07941507801**

**Cllr Viv Washbourne tel.07900890088**

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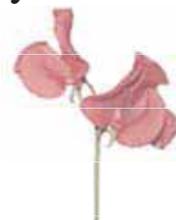
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We will be holding our AGM on Monday 24th June at 7.30pm. So come along and find out how your local community centre works. Have you ever wanted to do volunteer work in your local community? How about becoming a member of the Melrose Committee?

**WHATS ON:**

**MONDAY:** 9.30am-12.00pm Little Rainbows (child minders)  
**AFTERNOON AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**  
5.30-6.45pm NHS Quit smoking  
7.30-10.00pm Peregrinus Healing and Holistic

**TUESDAY:** 9.30-11.00am Popley Little People  
**AFTERNOON AND EVENING AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

**WEDNESDAY:** 9.30am Slimming World  
9.00-10.45am NHS Quit Smoking Clinic  
12-2pm Oasis Lunch club  
5.30 and 7.30pm Slimming World

**THURSDAY:** **AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

**FRIDAY:** **DAY TIME HIRE AVAILABLE**  
6.30-7.45pm MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years  
8.00- 9.15pm age 11 plus.

**SATURDAY:** **AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

**SUNDAY:** MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Keble on 462351 for times of services.  
4.00pm Beginners - Phoenix Dog Training Club  
5.00pm Improvers - Phoenix Dog Training Club

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# Popley Festival 2013

The Festival this year was very successful. We had fantastic weather , which encouraged lots of people to attend and there were lots of stalls raising money for their individual organisations, as well as the normal car boot sale.

The Spotlight dancers started the arena events followed by egg and spoon races/football skills/three legged races and tug of war pulls. The arena also had an obstacle course competition which saw the Scouts/Beavers/Cubs/Boys Brigade and ARC taking part the winners were the team with the fastest time overall. The arena events ended with a camp fire sing song from the Beavers and Cubs

St Gabriel's Church had their morning service at the festival which was very well attended. Also in their tent they had puppet shows/Proclaim Choir/Messy Church as well as a tearoom/youth zone and baby zone.

This year we also had a Music tent this had several groups performing throughout the day, who were all excellent. Concept were the group that managed to pack the tent out with lots of young girls screaming and taking photos with their mobiles.

The funfair was also very busy with their rides and side stalls

The Festival that has been running for many years would not be possible with out the help of many local groups. So a big thank you to all those that helped organise this year's festival .

---

## MFC POPLEY



MAY was an amazing month for MFC Popley Youth. On the weekend of the 11th/12th the Club staged its now annual Tournament on Carpenters Down.

Over the two days, an aggregate four-figure crowd saw over 80 teams ranging from Under 7s to Under 14s playing some fantastic football, and the event drew scouts from Chelsea, Fulham, Southampton and Reading, who were all very impressed.

The MFC teams excelled and the Club won three of the six competitive trophies on offer, with the Under 10s, Under 12s and Under 13s all successful in their categories.

The non-competitive teams, the Under 7s and Under 8s also did brilliantly, as did the Under 11s, with one team making the semi finals of a very hot, 18-team event.

And the Under 9s, the Under 10s Panthers and the Under 14s performed with credit too.

The Club's Presentation Night took place later in the month and was also a huge success.

The Club now offers Children's Football Camps during all school holidays at Everest. Contact Chairman Ian Davies on 07884 185 693

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# The Everest Silver Sherpas

What do you know about sudden cardiac arrest or the use of a defibrillator? I think we can safely say that we knew very little until a visit from Robert Grieve, a mature student from Bournemouth University. Robert is studying TV Production and has made an educational film about these subjects. There is a difference between a heart attack and a sudden cardiac arrest and if a defibrillator can be used there is a very good chance that the heart can be re-started before the paramedics arrive. There is currently no legislation for these devices to be at venues such as gyms, theatres, schools, colleges, shopping centres etc but we found out what amazing pieces of equipment they are.

Twelve members of the group stretched their legs on a walk around the remains of the Roman Wall at Silchester. The sun shone as we ambled along taking in the scenery. There were many interesting facts to take in, for example, the height of the wall when first built was about eight metres high and four metres thick at the base, made mainly of flint, a huge building feat in the Iron Age. We also viewed the Amphitheatre, capable of holding 3,000 people. Another interesting building was the 12th century Parish church of St Mary the Virgin, with its beautiful stain glass windows.

If you want to know more, then please telephone Dean or Danielle on 01256 33573.



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## Popley Islands Community Group

A reminder to all Popley Islanders that the Popley Islands Community Plan Questionnaire should be completed and returned as soon as possible. The date for return has been extended to 30th June. Popley Islands Community Group, is working with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, is now developing an action plan for our community based on the views of people of all ages who live in Popley Islands. We would really appreciate you spending 10 minutes helping your community by completing the questionnaire and involving as many members of your household as possible. We will be able to draw up an action plan using your concerns and suggestions. This means we can all work together to tackle the issues which are of most concern to our community.

If you have mislaid your paper copy delivered with last month's Popley Matters you can complete it online by going to the following link: <http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/general/snapsurveys/popley-islands-community-plan/>

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*Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2013*

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# Merton Junior School



Saturday 27th April 2013 saw Merton Junior School take on the 2013 Global Rock Challenge. The children spent the day rehearsing for the main show in the evening. The performance was amazing, the crew were incredible and all showed off their talents in front of a sell out audience of 1500 people. After a short interval the judges had made their decisions and it was announced that Merton had been placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall also winning the awards for Press Coverage and the School Community. A few weeks later the school found out that they had got through to the next round and were competing in the final which will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013. A huge congratulations to all of those who took part this year in the Global Rock Challenge. Your hard work, dedication, commitment and enthusiasm throughout all the weeks and weeks of rehearsals definitely paid off. Good luck for the upcoming Global Rock Final in June.



Hello Folks,

It has been a fairly quiet first quarter for the Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Team. As the weather warms up so will the ASB no doubt!

There has been a shift around of team members and we now have a new PCSO. Stephen Burgess joined us last month and he is very switched on and eager to get stuck in. Stephen is the Popley East PCSO. PCSO Addison Maker is the Popley West PCSO and he has just returned to work after 6 weeks sickness. As you may be aware I am now the Safer Neighbourhoods Team Manager for the whole of Popley. I have been in Popley for 7 years now and I have seen many changes. Most changes have been for the good.

The current priorities for our team are: 1) Drugs issues in Popley including possession and dealing 2) ASB in Sark Way including rowdy youths and criminal damage 3) Youths playing ball games in Abbey Road causing damage to vehicles/property.

May has been the busiest month so far this year. On 2nd May I was crewed up with PC James Hope when we located a lad with cannabis on Shakespeare Road. The youth was still in his school uniform! Also on the 2nd, youths had started an unauthorised camp fire between Everest Community College and Marnel Lodge. The youths will be visited by PCSO Burgess in due course! On 3rd May I located a male in Oakridge with a bag of cannabis. This male received a cannabis caution.

To see more of the team and our current work, please visit our website via Google browser: <http://psnp.zapd.net>

As always if you have community issues and or would like more information on the team, then contact us via the website or <tel:101> or email: [daniel.carter.20686@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:daniel.carter.20686@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

Regards

*PC 20686 Dan Carter*

**Popley Safer Neighbourhoods Beat Manager**

*[PSNP Website](http://psnp.zapd.net)*



Wow what a fantastic day we had at Popley Festival. While the weather held out, people were getting sunburnt. Great live music which was very well received, and displays from a variety of local groups in the arena made it a memorable day. We were selling out of cakes, while a lady from the council was next to us finding out what you wanted from the new play area to be built in the middle of the Poets. This was an opportunity to give your opinions on the suggested layouts and styles of equipment, which will all be considered when finalizing the design for that area. It was refreshing to see so many of you taking an active interest in what happens in our community. Building is due to start after the summer holidays.

If you think you could spend a small amount of time helping us out, please get in touch.

**Julie Johnson, Chair of SCRA, tel: 816101, email: [jjohn957@aol.com](mailto:jjohn957@aol.com)**



**Headquarters:**

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

**Group Scout Leader:** Colin Karlake 01256 410559

**Scout section:** Andy Welham-Jones 07971 491 145

**Cub Scout section:** Douglas Gowan 01256 412326

**Beaver Scout section:** Eve Alexander 01256 346510

Beaver Scouts had a great time making crowns for St George's Day with a fantastic array of innovative designs. The Colony took advantage of one of the warmer evenings of weather by exploring the woods and having lots of fun playing on the adventure equipment. Packing equipment into a rucksack proved challenging for some on a colder evening however – especially those who forgot the trousers! Never mind, the winners enjoyed their Maltesers. One Beaver has worked so hard on gaining badges that he is well on his way to achieving the Bronze Chief Scout Award and he has only been with the Colony for just under a year - a g-great effort! Future meetings will cover first aid, fitness and healthy eating.



Blue Beaver (Katie) a Young Leader with the Beaver section has completed all four YL 'missions' to gain a Young Leader Buckle which will be presented at the AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> June. Well done, Katie!



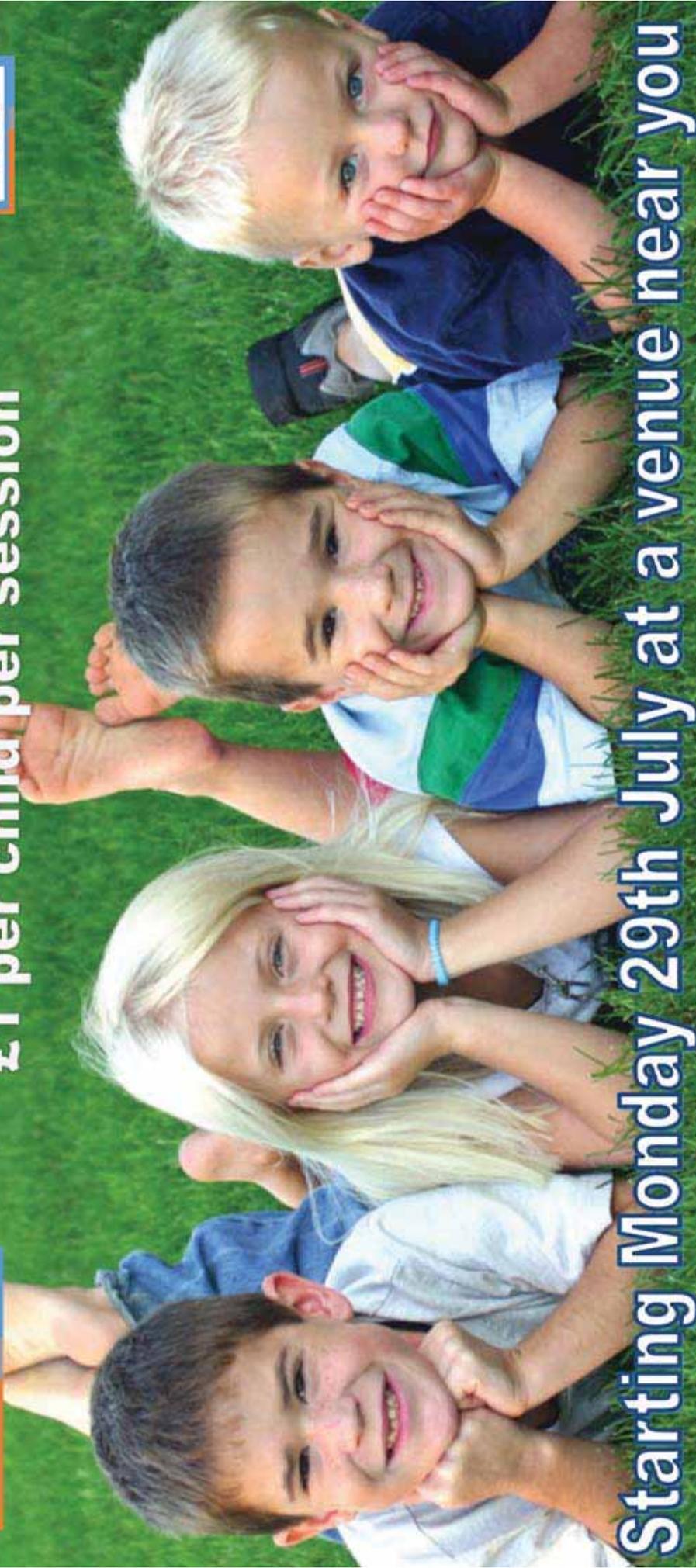
Cub Scouts worked on science activities during May and have learnt how to make a simple electricity switch and what happens to a bean seed if you turn it upside down after it has started to shoot and grow. They've also looked at star constellations and identified some from the patterns they make in the night-time sky. The Pack visited Eastrop Park one evening 'pond dipping' and discovered all manner of creatures living in the water before following a tree trail to find out what trees grow in our local parks. Camp preparations will start in earnest after the half-term break. For many it will be their first time camping as Cubs which is very different from camping in the back garden or with mum and dad on holiday.

**REMINDER - Group Annual meeting for Parents – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June – be there!**



# Open Access Playschemes

£1 per child per session



# Starting Monday 29th July at a venue near you

Check our website [www.rcsplayservices.org.uk](http://www.rcsplayservices.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/RcsPlayServices](https://www.facebook.com/RcsPlayServices) for details of venues nearer the time



## **The Universal's here**

### **I've heard about Universal Credit. What is it?**

If you claim any of the following benefits you'll be affected when the new Universal Credit is rolled out later this year:

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, and Housing Benefit. The Government's Universal Credit merges these benefits and tax credits into one monthly payment and you'll pay all your bills, including rent, from this one payment. Housing Benefit won't be paid separately, so you'll need to pay your rent directly to Sentinel. **Paying your rent is a priority payment, and if you don't pay it you could lose your home.**

### **When will the changes take place?**

October 2013 New claimants move to Universal Credit

Spring 2014 Current claimants will start changing from their existing benefits to Universal Credit

2017 The switch will be complete.

### **How do I claim?**

To claim Universal Credit you'll need to register online, you'll also be able to check payments and organise your budgets.

Sentinel customers who don't have access to the internet, can use a computer at our offices in Basingstoke or Fleet. You can also visit your local library, or any internet café. Your local council or jobcentre may also be able to help.

### **What about Disability Living Allowance?**

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) will not form part of the new Universal Credit or fall under the benefit cap. However, from April 2013 it will be changing to the new Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for all new claimants. If you already claim DLA you'll be re-assessed under PIP criteria when your current DLA comes up for renewal, unless you're over 64 or under 16. You'll probably have to complete a claim pack and attend a consultation with an independent assessor. They'll advise the person who makes the decision regarding how much you may be entitled to.

### **What about my Pension Credit?**

Pension Credit will change from October 2014 and help with rent will be called Housing Credit. If you're claiming Pension Credit you'll also be entitled to claim Housing Credit from October 2014. If you're already a Housing Benefit customer, over pension credit age, you'll be transferred to the new Pension Credit system between 2014 and 2017.

### **Want to find out more?**

Sentinel customers can call 0800 195 5515 from a landline or 0300 666 5515. Visit Citizens Advice Bureau at [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk) or call 08444 111 444 to find your local branch. Turn2us a charitable service which helps people access the money available to them – through welfare benefits, grants and other help. Visit [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)



## **Anna Kennedy Online Celebrates Talented Children and Young Adults In Autism's Got Talent Supported By Pineapple Arts School**

On the evening of Saturday 11th May, Everest Autism and ADHD Club were delighted that Jane Frankum was able to join us on our visit to The Mermaid Theatre in London to watch Autism's Got Talent.

The show brought together a diverse group of people from across the United Kingdom all at varying positions on the Autistic Spectrum. Anyone out there in the world with the thought that someone with a disability may be lacking in talent would be in for a real shock. We were shown just how great the performers were and what they are capable of. It was wonderful for our children to see they too can achieve their ambitions and goals in spite of their disability and should not be deterred by the challenges they face. We are sure it was a boost to their confidence.

Audience members and performers alike were given a chance they don't often get; to be in an environment which many people take for granted. At this event, any noise from within the audience and slight hiccups on stage were not an issue, whereas within another theatre environment it would be. Many of the problems faced by people on the Autistic Spectrum exist due to the lack of understanding and awareness from society around them. Many children with Autism look like any other child and so they and their parents often face disapproval and "tut tuts" from the general public in respect of their behaviour when they out in their community.

Children with Autism also have to face the issue of bullying. This was portrayed to us through dance courtesy of Pineapple Arts School.

As well as pioneering Autism's Got Talent, Anna Kennedy has a registered charity called Anna Kennedy Online. This charity offers help and advice to struggling families. Anna received an OBE last summer due to her tireless work in the Autism world having set up two schools by remortgaging her home and writing a book called "Not Stupid" about her struggle to help her two sons (both on the Autistic Spectrum) access an education.

The charity's campaign "Give Us A Break" is in partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance and targets unstructured periods within the school day such as break times and after lunch when our Autistic children are more likely to fall victim to bullying. Anna has been delivering talks in mainstream schools to raise children's awareness and understanding of Autism. A greater understanding of Autism removes a lot of the bullying problems that are encountered by Autistic children in mainstream education.

Everest Autism and ADHD Club are supporting those who are affected by Autism and hope to make their lives a little easier by spreading the word about this often invisible condition.

# Neighbourhood Watch & Police Newsletter

## Credit/Debit Card security.

Unfortunately we are still seeing crimes related to card issues. Please be extra careful when entering pin numbers on any terminal in any establishment. It is all too easy for criminals to watch your actions and then come up with some excuse to distract you later, perhaps in a car park or elsewhere whilst an accomplice steals your card. Often this may be the only item stolen, so you may not notice it missing, till quite some time later. Meanwhile the criminals have plenty of time to use the card without your knowledge.

## Illegal/Unlicensed Raves.

Last week I added information received from Hampshire Constabulary onto the BDNW website, with things to look out for and how to call in potentially useful information. This is part of Operation Enigma.

## Suspicious Vehicles or persons.

Should you spot any suspicious vehicles/occupants in your area, ESPECIALLY WHITE VANS, then do please note the registration number for when you call 101, as this makes things so much easier if the police need to trace vehicles as part of any investigation. Similarly for persons seen acting suspiciously, try to get a good description.

## Warm Weather Advisory Warning.

Now that the weather may be getting better, and people will be out in gardens, local parks and beauty spots, a timely warning to be extra careful with your homes, vehicles and property. We have a new article on the BDNW website with some very useful information and would encourage everyone to take a look at the BDNW website (as below) and put **Warm** in the top right search box. There is a very useful leaflet which you can reference by clicking on the attachment at the bottom of the article. **Tip.** Make sure you set the web page to "Full Screen" otherwise the Search box will be obscured.

## Ongoing Crime Issues. – The Old Favourites still happen.

There are several new witness appeals on our website this week, relating to recent crimes in our area. Please take a look.

Also new this week on our website is an article about supermarket car park scams. Please be careful.

**Opportunist theft from all types of motor vehicles is unfortunately still happening**, especially in rural areas like beauty spots, rural restaurant car parks and any similar areas.

**This is mainly being fuelled by valuable items being left visible and inviting crime.** The police often undertake major crime prevention initiatives and you may get a letter from them, if their patrols reveal you are thought to be leaving your vehicle and valuable contents at risk. Also ongoing is **thefts from vans** in many areas of the Basingstoke patch. Where possible, please remove or hide all valuable items from your vehicle, especially when parked overnight. Do remember that thieves know where to look for your valuables and it just takes seconds for a thief to rob you of your most treasured items. **NEVER** leave keys in your vehicle when it is not being driven and always lock it when parked and don't leave any items on view.

Always remember that the issues from previous editions never go away. We are always aware of rogue traders offering their services heating oil thefts, cold callers, other scams, and frauds etc.

Also be aware of any "extra devices" designed to skim your details, when using your credit/debit card at cash machines, petrol pumps and other outside card facilities. If it looks strange or different, don't use the card machine, but do report it ASAP.

Every piece of information really does help the overall fight against crime. Every call can also help in deciding policing strategy.

# NEW DANCING COURSES – JUNE 2013

Sherborne St John Village Hall, Kiln Road, Sherborne St John, Basingstoke, RG24 9HP

David Smith Music & Dance Academy - Fellow & Examiner UKAPTD / LIDTA / GPTD

## START THE SUMMER WITH SOMETHING NEW!

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8:00pm – 8:45pm

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Starting - Friday 21st June 2013

8:45pm – 9:30pm

Come & Learn this Popular Latin American Dance

5 Week Course

£5.00 per person / per week

#### Beginners Latin in Line - Beginners Sequence Dancing

See the July edition of The Villager for further details of these New Classes.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday 15th June

#### Sherborne St John Summer Fayre

Keep an eye out for the David Smith Music & Dance Academy Dancers performing at this year's event!

Friday 19th July

#### Summer Ball Night

(Ballroom, Latin, Popular Sequence & Latin in Line)  
7:30pm – 10:30pm • Tickets £5.00 per person (To Be Purchased In Advance Only)  
Bring & Share Supper • Raffle • Come in your finest evening wear

### WEDDING DANCE LESSONS

Book Lessons to learn that important first dance (Call or email to enquire)

### INDIVIDUAL LESSONS

Why not book some individual dancing lessons for you and your partner and move at a pace that suits you. (Phone or Email for availability)

### DANCE LESSON VOUCHERS

Why not give someone the perfect gift and treat them to a dance lesson.

### All classes are 'pay as you go'

For any further information please Phone or Email for Details

Dear Friends

As I write this I am coming to the end of one of those really ‘mad’ weeks when it feels as though I have hardly had time to draw breath! I’m sure you know what I mean. It started last Friday with a Family Fun Quiz in the church hall. We packed in around sixty adults and children for a quiz based on film and television and for a buffet of pasta and/or chili. Halfway through the evening it seemed the children were finding it much more fun to run the length of the church and throw themselves onto a huge pile of beanbags – I suspect there were many of the adults who were feeling the same! It turned into a very special fun evening with everyone enjoying themselves immensely.

On Saturday we had a team of loaders and un-loaders to move the church from St Gabriel’s up to Popley Fields and into the marquee that had been erected for us. It was the first time we had undertaken anything on this scale and it was with a certain amount of trepidation and excitement that we began to slowly transform the marquee from empty tent to church event ready for Sunday’s Festival.

In the marquee we set up a café, baby play zone, youth chill out zone and a worship area that would also stage the puppet show and the choirs who were booked to come along and play and sing for us. By 7 O’ clock in the evening the marquee looked amazing and Stan (who is getting on a bit) volunteered to act as night watch until 10pm when another couple were due to stay until midnight. I spent an hour with Stan and as the sun went down it felt very peaceful just sitting there in the semi-darkness imagining what the next day might bring.

The festival day was also a special day in the church calendar we call Pentecost – the day the church was born. It dawned bright with a little cloud and even that soon cleared. At 10 a.m. we began with our opening service celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. Everything after that became something of a blur as the day passed so quickly. All about the Festival was amazing, there was a great sense of family fun and enjoyment in every tent, around the funfair and at the car boot sale. Everywhere folk were just making the most of the glorious sunshine and the opportunity to have a bit of fun. It was no different in St Gabriel’s marquee and everywhere you looked there was orange!! The prayers that were offered up for the Festival were certainly heard and answered and the community of Popley lit up the whole day for me personally.

Pentecost is a time when we celebrate the birth of a another community that we know as the Christian church. Today there are around 1.2 billion Christians around the world who share that same sense of community and as community share a common purpose; that is, to show the world how much it is loved by God, even in all its brokenness, and how he loves each and every one of us, no matter where we are or have been in our lives – I hope we did that at the festival.

Popley Festival was an amazing time to be part of this community we call Popley and an even more amazing time to be part of God’s community. If you’d like to join come and see us any Sunday at 10.30 a.m. in Tewkesbury Close.

In closing my thanks go out to the Popley Festival Committee and in particular Phil Mean for all his, and their, dedication and hard work in making this year’s Festival one of the best I can remember. And a big thank you to God for the blessing of his weather. Alleluia!

**With every blessing**  
**Arthur**  
**Vicar**  
**St Gabriel’s**

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## Sham Redundancies - Are You A Victim?

There are not many families that have avoided that dreaded word “redundancy”. It is hard enough for employees to come to terms with their employment being terminated when there is a genuine redundancy situation. It becomes impossible when their employer uses it as an excuse to dismiss without genuine cause.

An employer can only lawfully dismiss an employee for a potentially fair reason under English law, e.g. capability, misconduct, because of a statutory restriction, redundancy or for some other substantial reason.

However, employers will often look to avoid dismissing employees for capability or misconduct due to the time-consuming procedures in place which they would be expected to follow.

Sometimes employers wish to dismiss for discriminatory reasons (e.g. because of the employee’s age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership or religion or belief) but are not permitted to do so. They may wish to dismiss for what would be an automatically unfair reasons (e.g. because of jury service or because the employee has complained about issues relating to health and safety, working time, minimum wage, flexible working or perhaps because an employee has whistle-blown or joined a trade union) and so the employer dismisses under the guise of redundancy.

For a redundancy dismissal to be fair, there must be a genuine redundancy situation, the employee must have been fairly selected for redundancy and the employer must have followed a fair procedure. When determining the fairness of a redundancy dismissal Employment Tribunals are not normally entitled to investigate the reasons behind the redundancy situation. There is no requirement for employers to demonstrate that they were forced into making redundancies because of economic reasons, a sound and objectively justified commercial reason will suffice. This does not mean to say that they will always take the employer’s reason at face value, especially where an employee establishes facts which suggest that their selection was discriminatory and the redundancy situation was a sham.

It is important to know that there are very short time limits that apply to Employment Tribunal claims, e.g. three months (less one day) from the date of dismissal or the date of the discriminatory act, so if you think you may have been treated in this way, don’t delay in seeking advice as you could be prevented from bringing a claim if your time limit has expired.

If you think that your employer has dismissed you, or is trying to dismiss you, for an unfair or discriminatory reason but they are labelling it ‘redundancy’, why not call one of our qualified employment lawyers as soon as possible for advice.

You can read a longer version of this article at [www.phillips-law.co.uk/news/latest-news](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk/news/latest-news)

Karen Bristow is a lawyer specialising in employment law at Phillips Solicitors. For more information please call Karen on 01264 854670 or email at: [kbristow@phillips-law.co.uk](mailto:kbristow@phillips-law.co.uk) and visit our website at [www.phillips-law.co.uk](http://www.phillips-law.co.uk)



# New Post Box Comming

On 9th May the Popley West Councillors Paul Frankum and Jane Frankum met with Phillip Gee the Plant Collections Manager from the Royal Mail. We all did a site visit to show the increase in developments and the developments that are due to come that evidenced the need for the much saught after post box to serve Marnel Park and Merton Rise area. We were informed that there is a very strict criteria and they must be at least 400 metres away from the next nearest post box or post office and on a main though fare, It was agreed that we had evidenced the need for a post box and that Benham Drive fitted the criteria. Paul has asked for a timescale of when it would be erected there. It depends if planning permission is required, or in this case if David Wilson Homes will agree prior to the area being adopted by the council. We continue to push for the adoption to be completed. We are hopeful that it should be well inside of this year.



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## **BERMUDA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**



REGISTERED CHARITY No 1112068

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TELEPHONE

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HALL: 01256 308442

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Monday evening - C.M.A Keep Fit & Kick Boxing from 6:30-8:00pm  
Tuesday evening - Community Bingo, doors open at 7:00pm, eyes down at 8:00pm.  
Finish around 9.45pm (light refreshments available halftime).  
Wednesday evening - Dance to the beat. 5pm -7pm.  
Thursday evening- Street Dance and ballet classes for two and a half years to adult.  
4:30-6:30pm. Please contact Samantha Pike on 07811299484.  
Friday evening- Friday Club (children) 5:00-6:30pm

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Page 24 E-mail: [sue@suesdrivingschool.com](mailto:sue@suesdrivingschool.com)



Dear lido Rosie Whitney-Fish & Company presents Dear Lido, Basingstoke

**Where:** Festival Place

**When:** 29 & 30 June at 12pm, 2pm & 3pm

Dear Lido is a playful site-specific performance based on and around the splendor of the much-loved outdoor public pool. This pop up piece makes a humorous splash with touching poolside characters, dance and theatre. Dear Lido has toured to a variety of lido venues since 2010, bringing the allure, glamour and tradition of this bygone era.

This year in partnership with Basingstoke Festival, Dear Lido will work with local dance groups, providing workshops to learn movement from Dear Lido, in the lead up to the festival, culminating in a parade performance from Festival Place led by 120 participants from local dance groups and Rosie Whitney-Fish. The parade will be met by the cast of Dear Lido who will perform a 15-minute dance piece. This entire performance will be repeated several times throughout 29 & 30 June at Basingstoke Festival 2013.

*"Dear Lido have toured the UK and Europe so we are thrilled they will be performing at Basingstoke Festival this year! We are excited to work in partnership with Dear Lido, to bring a unique and fun community experience to locals of Basingstoke, participants and audience a-like."* **Basingstoke Festival**

Whitney-Fish has collaborated with set designer Lora Avedian and the National Theatre's costume department to create an exciting array of themed costumes and props to bring the parade to life and create a real sense of occasion through Basingstoke's High Street.

### Notes to Editor

**Biography:** Rosie Whitney-Fish is a London based choreographer working across commercial, independent and education fields. Rosie has created choreography exclusively for professional performers, intergenerational groups, gifted and talented young people. Her work has been funded and supported by Arts Council England, the Cultural Olympiad and Big Dance.

Rosie is the creator and director of Dear Lido, site-specific dance theatre production, which in 2011 toured across to working and non-working Lidos in London. In 2012 Dear Lido went on a UK and European tour, touring both their education work and professional performance.

Rosie was most recently commissioned by the Olympics to produce a series of short dance films, which were screened in all of the Olympic stadiums during the London 2012 games.

Rosie has worked with Rambert Dance Company, East London Dance as both a dance artist and project manager producing dance pieces and projects for the Southbank Centre, Lillian Baylis, and Sadler's Wells.

Her commercial work has seen her touring to Australia, Asia and Europe for television, theatre, fashion and commercials. She is inspired by non-traditional dance spaces and creating sense of escapism. Her work has been described as witty, honest and beautiful.

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

For further information, interview and image requests please contact Rosie Whitney Fish: [rosiewhitneyfish@googlemail.com](mailto:rosiewhitneyfish@googlemail.com) or 07852271270

# Diaries from the Old Codger

It will be June when you read this and as you all know our Councillors on Popley and Sherborne have been fighting to stop any more building on Kiln Farm. They deserve great credit no matter how things go. When I was a young boy where I lived we had some lovely woods and fields to wander in. At the back of our house there was a large wood and it was destined for building on, so with my box brownie (your mums and dads will tell you kids what a box brownie is) I went into the wood, as I had done for some years and got snapping at all the bugs, birds and plants. I took rolls of film and got them all developed by a friend down the street. Off I went with my photos to the main council offices, I could not quite see over the main reception desk but told the lady I want to see who was in charge and I that I was not leaving. I waited for over two hours in this cold office, I was not going to budge. The receptionist said "You can wait all you want but he will not see you." I replied O.K. Tell him I have some very interesting photos I am going to take to the newspaper. He must have got the message because he came down the stairs talked to the woman on the desk then came over. "I understand, young man, you want to see me." "Yes sir, I do. Our woods are to be built on and it is not fair that all these animals, bugs and plants are going to be killed off." I gave him the photos, he said "Thank you, you will hear from me, I will keep the photos." Some months went past, then up the top of our road men turned up and started to erect a chain link fence about 6ft tall. I asked them what they are doing. They said "This area is going to be a sanctuary of special interest." Two days later I got the photos back and a lovely long, long letter from the leader of the council telling me what they were doing and thanking me for the hard work I had put in to show the council. I felt very proud and I think mum and dad did as well. The next week mum gave me a new camera.



So I ask as many people as possible can gather go up to Kiln Farm and start snapping. Remember to look at the edges of the pine trees, the small meadow flowers and birds. As many of you know there are deer in the forest and they can be seen grazing in the fields in the early morning and evenings. Make a stand it is your choice. Do we want yet more houses on Kiln Farm and in the village? Enough is enough. Get our council to earmark it as a place of special interest, get them to understand how our wildlife has been destroyed so much over the last twenty years of building in the area. We can beat them by joining as one united front and we can stop them.

Boy, can I go on when I get upset over moneymen! Build, cut and run. We have seen this too many times on Popley. Look at our roads and tell me they are fine! So many roads on our estates need to be resurfaced. Get the priorities right. This is what our council should think of, stop the patching up. Moving on to a lighter note I have, or should I say, we have (you know Her Indoors) adopted another dog. So now we have two mad animals belting around the house plus all the grandchildren it can be manic. This month we hold our family get together. We try to do this two or three times a year. We can have up to thirty people in the house. Let's hope I can kick them out in the garden. Mind you, Her Indoors will kick me out. Well I can't fight back can I? It is great fun, we play all the old fashioned games. What I love to see is the teenagers joining in the fun and not sitting sending text messages to their friends. I wonder what their friends would say if they saw them? We have a mad, mad family that love a good time with plenty of food and one or two beers.

Take care all and please stand up for Popley in our time of need.

**The Old Codger**



## Dr Seuss Sets The Limelighters a Fresh Challenge

It's been said that if parents buy only one book for their children then it should be Dr Seuss's "Horton Hears a Who". It's a book about love, family, friendship, determination, keeping a promise, persevering and recognising the value in everyone, however small and apparently insignificant they may be – all the characteristics parents surely want for their children.

In July the 21 young people of BAOS Limelight, from schools all over the Basingstoke and Winchester areas, are taking Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz and a host of Dr Seuss's other zany and colourful creations onto the stage as they present their first full-scale musical production, Seussical Jr at Everest Community Academy, Basingstoke. There will be two performances on **SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JULY** at 2.30p.m. and 6.30p.m. and a further matinee performance on **SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JULY** at 1p.m.

Tony winners Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty have not taken the easy option of simply show-casing one well-known story after another but have set out to weave together Dr Seuss's most famous characters and stories into a totally new, fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza! Fans of Dr Seuss and new readers alike will be enchanted by this tale following the changing fortunes of Horton, an elephant who discovers a speck of dust containing invisible 'Whos', including JoJo, a Who child who is always getting into trouble for "thinking too many things". Horton befriends him and vows to protect the Who families – no matter how foolish others may think him - but whilst doing so he faces ridicule, danger, kidnapping and even a trial. But as loyal Horton says "A person's a person no matter how small!" Throughout the show, audiences are taken on a journey of the imagination from the Jungle of Nool – home of the super-naughty Wickersham Monkeys and a feisty, disbelieving Sour Kangaroo – to the Circus McGurkus, McElligot's Pool and Palm Beach. Other characters include selfish, lazy Mayzie La Bird who takes advantage of Horton's kind heart, and the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz who, throughout it all, loves him and never loses faith in him.

Alex Stores, one of the co-producers, explains: "BAOS Limelight is still growing and developing, it's only been in existence for a year. The youngsters already have two very successful fundraising concerts to their credit but this is the first full-length production they have tackled. It's a big challenge but it's one they are relishing. I just know the performances are going to be amazing."

Tickets priced at £10 for adults and £7.50 for children, are available from [baoslimelight.ticketsource.co.uk](http://baoslimelight.ticketsource.co.uk). Family tickets cost £30 and there is a discount of £1 per ticket for groups of ten and over.

For more information, please follow us on [www.facebook.com/seussical.jr.baos.limelight](http://www.facebook.com/seussical.jr.baos.limelight) or @BAOSLimelight on Twitter. For group bookings please contact [baoslimelight@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:baoslimelight@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Readers

Hello it's Ellie

I am writing this on Tuesday, the second day into SATs. Yesterday I did a level 3-5 reading test and also got put in to do a level 6 reading test which is aimed at 12 to 13 year olds (I'm still 10) and today the YR6s across the country made history by being the first year to take the SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) test. Tomorrow we are doing a mental Maths test, Maths paper A and short writing task. I also did a science test which doesn't get sent off but helps my teacher see what level I am at. I did really well in the test and got a level 5. I had quite a busy weekend. On Saturday I went to my brother's football tournament at MFC Popley. He plays in the U7's league. Even though it is non-competitive his team did really well, and they won every match with no goals conceded. On Sunday my sister and I went to a big ballroom and Latin dance competition in Guildford. We did really well. I was dancing with someone who is 1 grade higher than me in ballroom and 2 grades higher in Latin and almost a year older than me. We only had three 1 hour lessons together but we won a 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophy for the couples Waltz, Foxtrot and Quickstep and a 4<sup>th</sup> place trophy for our Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba and Jive. In my individuals I did very well as I was placed 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 5 in my Foxtrot (which I have only learned recently). Even though I came 2<sup>nd</sup> I still know there is room for improvements. My little sister who has only been dancing for 18 months did well too. Her and her new partner (who only had 4 30 min lessons) got 1st places in the Waltz, Tango and Quickstep and Cha Cha and Jive. She also had to compete at U8 level (she's just 6) against 24 other girls and she got a 4<sup>th</sup> place. I also got my results back from my medal exam, I got 92 points in all my dances and a Highly Commended. The examiner put all good comments on my card which I was very pleased about. In November last year I went up to Blackpool and danced at the Winter Gardens. This was where I got my first 1st place. I had to compete against 52 other dancers and had to get through lots of rounds to get to the final. My mum, my dance teacher and I didn't realize that it was my number that was called in 1st place and I had won. I had to be told by another dance teacher that it was me. We were all shocked because I was competing against children that were higher grades and as I said there were so many in my category. Blackpool is my proudest achievement in dancing at the moment.

**Until next month**

**Ellie**

# Choosing the right care home for Mum was made easier.



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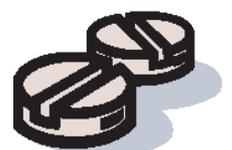
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