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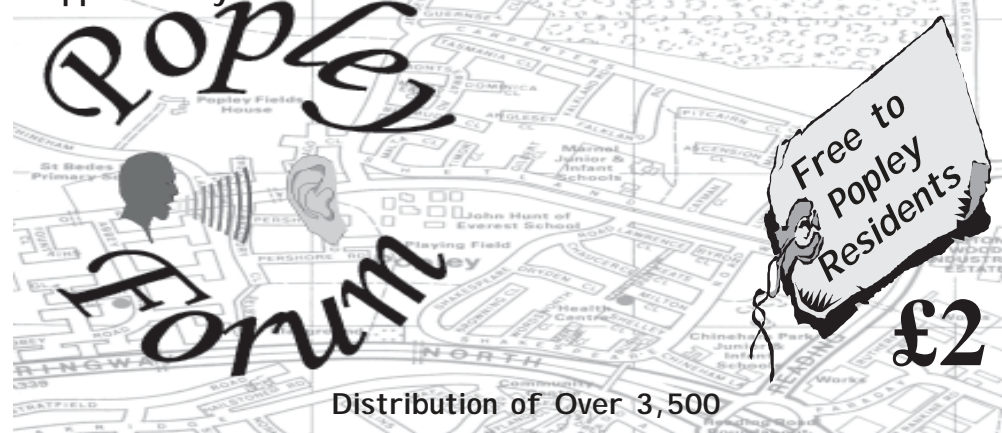
POPLEY MATTERS

OVER TWELVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

July 2005

Issue 41

Supported by the :-



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & Adverts (15-07-05)

Message From the Editor:- We at the Popley Matters as a voluntary team are really excited and pleased to bring together and edit Popley Matters newly on a monthly basis. This gives everyone a much better service and means that we can promote special offers and have up to date items. We will keep the same format of a booklet as it is easier to read and keep. We will be adding a useful numbers page at a later date as there is a lot of work to gather all the information together. We also hope to expand the features to include life style and learning opportunities, more articles and reminiscences of Popley and articles from our readers.

We are looking for a book keeper and helper to look after our advertising etc. So if any one out there has some experience with some time to spare (we will have plenty for you to do). There will be a small payment for the position, ad at the bottom of the page. I know we keep on asking for volunteers to help us but we really do need volunteers to deliver your magazine so if you can help please call me on 819924 or our distributions manager Iris on 411113.

With all this beautiful weather it means that schools will be breaking up and children will be playing outside. Drivers please be careful when children are playing they don't always stop,

Paul Frankum who is our sub Editor and does all the layout of this magazine is developing a web site for Popley Forum/Popley Matters where you will be able to read all about Popley and its history as well as sending in articles and letters. We plan to have a classified section for your announcements and a message section to leave messages and pieces of news that you would like to share. If you have any ideas we have a new Email address it is editor@popleymatters.org.uk . I look forward to hearing some great ideas and constructive criticism.

Finally we also have a new printers Martin in Personalised Print. Andy at Printwise has been a good friend to Popley Matters and we all wish him well and thank him for his dedication to our magazine and may his business continue to grow. *Jane Frankum Editor*

To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:- Popley Matters, 405 Abbey Road, Basingstoke.RG24 9EL email :editor@popleymatters.org.uk The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team. Or the members of the committee of Popley Forum/Matters.

Job Advertisement – Part Time

Popley Matters is looking for a part time book keeper to help maintain its professional approach to its well established Community Magazine. Joining a friendly team committed to serving Popley through the magazine. The role will involve some basic book keeping, administration and liaising with our advertisers. 3 hours a week initially with flexible timing. £6.00 per hour. For more details call Jane on 819924 or Iris on 411113.

Editorial Team:- Editor Jane Frankum; Sub-Editor Paul Frankum; Secretary Alison Walker; Treasurer Vacant; Advertising/ Liaison Kate Lomas; Committee Member Ron Rowe; Distribution Iris King; **Distribution Team:-** Ann Allwright; Jenny Bailey; Penny Barris; Ken Frankum; Jane Frankum; Paul Frankum; Win Harris; Iris King; Kylie Humphries; Colin Karslake; Cherry Lewis; Val Lye; Andy McCormick; Peter Moore; Derek Nicholas; Ron Rowe; Cathy Smith; Martin Stacey; Kim Taylor; Sue Toomer; Louise Tuck; Alison Walker; **Youth Volunteers;** Nathan Barris; Alex Humphries; Laura Humphries; Ryan Humphries;

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Pharmacy Opens At last

What a great start to the week more than 50 of us came to the ceremony to cut the ribbon to open the shop. A red ribbon of course, as it took two and a half years of cutting through the red tape to get our own pharmacy.

I was so pleased and proud I could not stop grinning and the same could be said for many of us there.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard it really does go to show that when you get a good team together we can beat the “big boys” and that sometimes we can be heard. When I think back, it goes to before the new surgery was built and we had our pharmacy in Abbey Road shops. The shop was empty and boarded up, I then found that the old company had several months left on the lease and they wanted to leave the shop empty for whatever reason known to them. We all knew that we wanted to replace the Chemist shop but it was to go to tender, for any type of business that tendered people were coming into Dev and Naynas shop and saying they wanted a chemist there. So the decision was put in a tender other companies did the same but theirs was the best offer.

What we did not realise was it is very rare that an independent person gets a pharmacy licence and how hard we were going to have to fight. A fantastic petition attracted 1750 signatures and more letters than I have ever seen written before from the elderly, young, disabled, health staff and two from the Councillors

“We were turned down”, Dev said he was not going to give up as “it is what my customers want so we will appeal.” More letters, more phone calls and an appeal for us to talk face to face to the panel. We were told that it was most unlikely and the appeal would be in Harrogate to say we were deflated would be an understatement. So we asked once more and it was granted. This was greeted with some joy by all the many people that were working together for our community.

Came the day of the appeal, Ann, Iris, Rosemarie and a few others did a silent protest outside the Orchard where the appeal was. We were outnumbered inside with three pharmacists on the top table and three area managers of Boots, Lloyds and Newmark there to say why they did not think we needed a pharmacy in Abbey Road. A representative from the hospital PCT sat in just to observe. We put our case for nearly four hours the panel listened and asked questions but we had done our homework my maths teacher would never have believed it as I quoted facts and figures and a heartfelt reasons why we should have a pharmacy.

We did all we could, then it was a question of waiting weeks, we waited, then came the great news we had won.

There was still lots of paperwork to get through to be able to open new shop design and most important a pharmacist that believed in serving the community and Dev was not going to settle for anything but the best and finally our new pharmacists were appointed. The opening was fantastic and I wish the venture all the good luck in the world.



Summit Judo Club

Further medal success at Portsmouth - On May 22nd Three players from Summit JC took part in the Hampshire Closed Junior Inter-Club competition. First up was Hannah Graham in the girls U42 kg category and despite being the shortest in the U42 kg weight group managed to win her first two fights. Showing great strength and skill she held down her opponents for the full 25 secs. to score Ippon. Her next fight was the final which was a very closely fought contest. Again Hannah used her skills to great effect but missed out on gold by one score. However, a very good performance was rewarded with a silver medal. Our second fighter was Reece Amos who was all geared up to put in a strong performance. Unfortunately he was injured in his very first fight, bruising his ribs and gaining a bang on the head. Despite being keen to continue he did the sensible thing by withdrawing from the competition. Finally Ryan Eagle took to the mat as our last representative. As soon as Hajime was called he went straight for the first score, and that's exactly what he got. Within the first 20 secs of the fight he secured a 2 yuko (5 points each) lead. Ryan continued to put in a good performance and proudly went on to win a bronze medal.

HIOW Games 2005 - Unfortunately, it now looks as though Judo will not take part in the HIOW Games due to organisational problems in Southampton. We have therefore had to cancel the trials which has left a lot of disappointed young players who were all hoping to qualify for a place in the Basingstoke team. To make up for it, Summit are now considering the possibility of hosting an inter Basingstoke Clubs competition later in the year. Website news - As advised in the last edition of Popley Matters, we have been working on our website. You can now see what we are up to by logging on to www.macsent.co.uk/summitjudo

Festival of Sport 2005 - We are continuing to put the final arrangements together for the visit of our friends from Euskirchen. We very much look forward to their arrival and the contest that will take place at AWE on July 2nd. A report on the event will be in the next issue.

If you would like to take part in a sport, which regularly appears at the Olympics then Summit Judo Club is the place to go. Come and join us on a Friday night at John Hunt School - Beginners (6 - 10 yrs) 6:30 - 7:30, Juniors (10 - 15 yrs) 7:30 - 8:30 and Seniors (16 - very old) 8:30 - 9:45. For more information contact Len Dunce on 01256 - 464526 or 07860 435831

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Popley Two Residents Association

There is to be an Annual General Meeting on Monday July the 25th at 8pm, to be held in the Old Bermuda Surgery in Bermuda Close Popley.

Members of the public are cordially invited to come along to hear of out plans that will be of benefit to the local community, from the very young through to the aged.

We need to adopt a new constitution which will incorporate a change to our title. The proposal for a new name is "Bermuda Community Association".

We hope to see many people attending and make a very interesting meeting. We need your views, comments etc, but more to the point we need new blood to add to our committee in order to improve upon the success we had up at Madeira Hall which now has been demolished.

There is already an established Bingo evening every Tuesday Evening from 7-10pm. We also have a very successful pre-school group "Marnel Explorers" held daily.

We want to get a youth group going, the hall is available for hiring also a small meeting room is available, for times and bookings see below.

Contacts for Bingo:-Ron Rowe 417858; Contacts for Marnel Explorers: Di Mallet 308442; Contacts for Hall Hiring: - Lynne Cooke 411264 Refreshments will be provided on the evening by the committee.

Ron Rowe (Chairman)

Popley Advice and Information Drop In

(Formerly Community Surgery)

We are changing our meeting place for the Community Surgery on the first Saturday of the month. We will be in St Gabriels Church and will be the Popley Advice and Information Drop In it started on January 8th still on the first Saturday every month at 1pm - 2pm. You can call in just to say hello or to ask advice on just about any subject. Police, Community Wardens, Sentinel (Oakfern) have your Neighbourhood Co-ordinator and a tenant representative and Borough and County Councillors will also be there, no appointment needed, confidentiality is assured. If your concern can't wait I also have drop-ins on the third Thursday of the month at Oakridge Hall For All and third Saturday of the month at the United Reform Hall. It has been four years since we started doing these surgeries as a new fresh idea of reaching people and making it easier to get help or advice, I have been informed that other areas in England have started doing the same, it is great to hear that it is achieving the goals we set out all that time ago Phone me on 819924 or 07974098131 for more details or if you have any concerns. *Jane Frankum County and Borough Councillor.*

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HELP US TO HELP YOU - PLEASE ASK

Page 3

Junction 6!

Still reflecting on fond memories of this years Popley Festival. The young people from Junction 6 took part in 2 impressive performances on stage as the "street Shakers" dance group and MC s Aistin and the Mad Hatter.

Working with Basingstokes, The Making and the Drum Runners we had a big presence in our creation of the large pyramid, lots of junk percussion sound and some beautiful mask making with help from the artistic talents from the whole community.

As ever the coming months are a hive of activity at J6. We continue to have dance and graffiti art sessions on Wednesdays 4-6 which have revealed some real talent in the area. The dance group will be taking part in some workshops at Londons world famous Pineapple studios in a couple of weeks time and it is hopes that some of the graffiti artists will become part of our bigger subway project. This project hopes to brighten up the John Hunt Subway making it an interesting and more inviting place to walk. It is supported by Basingstoke and Deane Environment and Regeneration Grant and the Highways Department. We hope to complete and celebrate our achievements during the week beginning the 15th August with a dedicated group of young artists. We are keen to involve the whole community in gathering ideas. Please contact me for further information about how you could get involved.

Our open sessions still run on a Wednesday between 7 and 9.30pm where any one aged 11 to 25 is welcome to attend. In partnership with Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council we are recruiting young people to be part of any of 3 exciting exchange trips this year. These involve themes of music, stories and film making and should be very exciting at minimal cost to participants.

The Express Dance and Drumming project will be culminating in a performance at Eastrop Park on Saturday 16th July. There is still a chance to be part of this project with a weekend workshop on 2nd and 3rd of July. Contact me for more info.

Before signing off Id like to share some work by MC Aistin a clearly talented local young MC who writes and performs his own lyrics. The musical style and culture of the language and style may not be everyones cup of tea but Im sure many can appreciate his thoughtful words and skill

keep yourself to yourself
dont take drugs it is bad for yourself
and i aint being funny

pretty soon you're gonna loose all your money and sell all your stuff people take drugs just to try and be tough and when your addicted u cant get enough gradually its gonna leave u confused if u get in debt with anyone you're gonna get bruised u wont ever be trusted police come to your house and u willl get busted

1 type of drug is LSD

and it makes you hallucinate

eventually u aint gna be thinking straight So just stay with me the aistin MC and if we work together the community will become a better place eventually

MC Aistin

Please contact me on 07958 016206 for any more information about Junction 6
Bianca Webb Youth Arts Worker

DIARIES FROM THE OLD CODGER

Well I have changed my mind on this month's diary, I was going to write about researching your family history but I will do this another time and instead I would like to tell you about a trip she is to be obeyed took me on.

This story has a moral to it. This is not an advert for this trip but just a place I would love you all to see and enjoy.

We went to a country hotel in Somerset run by Warner's. We went on a mid week break that was Monday to Friday but were having such a great time we stayed till the following Monday. Cricket St Thomas is a manor house; it is where they filmed To the Manor born with Penelope Keith. In the big house are photos and the original script for the programme.

It has a wild life park full of animals and birds from across the world all in large enclosures and you can walk round or take a wheelchair. You can also ride on the miniature train that takes you round. You can see all of the exhibits in a natural environment, and the marmosets come right up to you they live in the trees in the grounds. I took my disabled scooter and became an off roader it was great fun, I did get a bit worried when some kind person tossed a banana to me, well I think she did, as people kept saying look at that ape (I never saw one).

The grounds are immaculate with a bowls green, croquet lawns and putting green, or just take a leisurely stroll in the grounds the trees and flower beds are of the best I have seen. The ground staff are working on them all the time to keep them immaculate.

Back to the hall I have now been on a number of these holidays and find for our senior citizens and disabled they are ideal it is adult only. The catering staff were exceptionally helpful and food of high standard. The room we had was spacious and clean I had no problems getting in the doors with my chair or getting around most of it. Cricket St Thomas also has a small church in the grounds and some of Nelson and Hood's family are buried in there. It was a very restful place to go and look around, but not restful enough for her indoors to leave me there, I got out first just in case she had any ideas. For the more energetic they have an indoor pool, sauna and a gym all these activities were in the price. I must say this was undoubtedly one of the best I have had, she is to be obeyed went swimming and had a sauna, mind you it didn't change her. I tried to swim but with only one good arm kept going round in a circle so I gave up on that. I had great fun with the entertainment team they put on some of the best shows we had seen in the evenings. They would work putting on quizzes in the daytime plus numerous other activities. I don't think they knew how to take the Old Codger with the way I shake and my sense of humour. Then I put their minds at rest not only because of the number plate on my scooter (OLDGIT) But I said I had two jobs, as a lot of you know I suffer with stroke related Parkinson tremors, so I told them I am a part time cocktail shaker, and my mate puts me on his back shelf of his car as a nodding dog. Why not make people feel comfortable around you I don't want sympathy, I want fun and laughter, and I and she who is to be obeyed did just that. The staff at Crickets has gelled together as one big family by a feeling of belonging, and if you go and I hope you do they will welcome you with open arms.

Now the moral to this story is like the Popley Festival this year over 10,000 people came from far and wide and every year it grows and grows, just like Warner's in Somerset we the residents of the Popleys welcomed any one that wants to come along and see us with open arms. Will I be going again? I hope so but I have to watch out for the woman that gave me that banana! Mind you it could have been her in doors as far as I know I think I will leave her behind just in case. Till next month keep well.

The old codger.

Air Scouts Group News

Popley Festival turned out to be a 'sell-out' with not a burger or bun left at the end of the day, so good was the support and the weather. Its success quite made up for 2004 when we were not so fortunate! We would like to offer the Groups thanks to John Hunt of Everest School and others for organising this annual event which has become one of the highlights of community life in Popley.

The Group Annual Meeting was held in June and a new committee formed to take responsibility for fund-raising for the coming year, though we were pleased to see several 'old' faces offering to continue for another year. Thank you for your support.



**Base 2000
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RG24 9DR
www.base2000.co.uk**

Regular users of the building include groups of Rainbows, Brownie Guides,, Guides, Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, and Melrose Christian Fellowship. CMA Kick Boxing hold a Ladies Keep-Fit evening in the main hall on Wednesdays from 7.15 p.m. and the Basingstoke Video and Camera Club hold meetings on alternate Tuesday evenings for anyone interested to improving video and cameras techniques.

The building will be closed for one week from 13th August so that the foyer, kitchen and toilets can be redecorated and the carpets given a steam clean. CCTV has been fitted in the main foyer to dissuade pilferers.

Booking enquiries to Pete or Jan Saunders (01256) 410514 or e-mail base2000.bookings@ntlworld.com. Hire charges start at £3.50 per hour for the small hall and range up to £11 per hour for the large hall at weekends. Casual bookings for parties, school sales, charity fairs etc welcome subject to availability.

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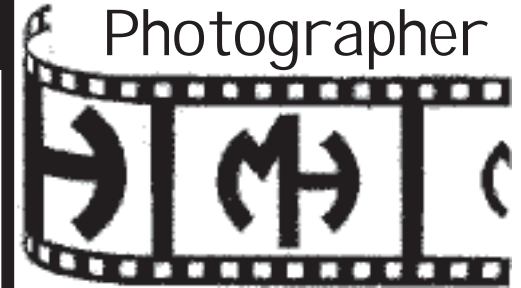
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Councillors Page

In the last Councillors page only a month ago we were saying that the tenders were out for the Hampshire County Council to grant funds so that the number 5 hospital connection would continue and I am pleased to say that it will.

Also we were expecting the youth area to be completed. We went to see its progress and met quite a few youths that were over there in Carpenters Down. The boys were playing football and practicing basket ball and most of the girls were sitting on the grass just talking. They said how disappointed they were that the youth shelter was closed off. We went over to have a look and we were horrified it was not one bit like the drawings and in a poor condition. We got in touch straight away and were assured that it would be put right within days, indeed the workmen are working on it now.

The temporary Fire Station at Popley Fields is proving to be an even greater success than was hoped for, response times to fires and accidents has been cut and improved immensely. I went with Cllr Jane Frankum to the Fire and Rescue Festival at Milestones as Jane is now also on the Fire and Rescue Authority the festival was an eye-opener to us both and while we were fascinated with all the fire engines from the horse drawn days right to the minute and the fantastic displays in the area. The showing of how they cut out victims from a car was so real that it made us appreciate all the expertise needed and the danger our fire-fighters face every day they are on duty. Congratulations to our young Fire-fighters based at John Hunt school they too did a great display of fire fighting.

The yellow lines are in place and have made a difference in safety just in time for the long summer school holidays. We have had a complaint that in one spot the resident now has to park three car lengths away, a small price to pay for the safety of people crossing the road. But we will meet with him and his near neighbour who also wants to park by their property to see if there is a way forward.

Kickstart has proved to make a significant difference and the police have had some prosecutions and also warned riders that they will confiscate their bikes, it seems more peaceful. The forms are still available to report offenders and keep a record

Finally ID cards what are your thoughts I can see lots of advantages like having information like your wishes on organ donation where you can say yes or no and should you be in a desperate situation (and I sincerely hope you never are) the grieving relatives wont have to make the decision for you.

Councillor Paul Frankum



Basingstoke Air Scout Group



Beaver scout section (for boy and girls aged from 6 to 8 years)
Meetings: Tuesday 5.30 - 6.45 p.m. Base 2000 Carpenters Down
Leader: 'Yellow Beaver' Eve Alexander 73 Falkland Road ☎346510

Beaver scouts have been out and about in the light evenings enjoying playing games and exploring the wide outdoors. Work on completing the Outdoor Challenge continues but several members have already been awarded the Explore activity badge in recognition of visits to Black Dam ponds and the Forestry Commission wooded area on Carpenters Down. Others have grown 'egg heads' of cress (and then made them into scrumptious egg and cress sandwiches for tea!) and some planted Giant Sunflower seeds to watch them grow. Now they proudly wear the Experiment activity on their uniform to show they've discovered something new about our in the natural world. The theme of creativity enabled everyone to make a card to celebrate Father's Day, and making models from salt dough. Great fun even if a bit messy with flour, salt, water and mixing it all up!

Three of our older members Claudio, Sam and William have moved on to the Cub Scout section and are finding new challenges to keep them busy. As they left us, the colony welcomed new recruits Daniel and Thomas but we still have two vacancies so welcome new members. – simply come along or contact Beaver Scout Leader, Eve Alexander for more information



Cub scout section (for boy and girls aged from 8 to 10½ years)
Meetings: Tuesday 6.30 - 8.00 p.m. Base 2000 Carpenters Down
Leader: Elaine Devenport 87 Saffron Close, Chineham ☎323453

The pack ventured off to Gilwell Park in Essex in June for the Annual Cub Fun Day. Some of them went swimming and played water games in the pool whilst others preferred abseiling and archery. There was even a special Magic Show with a chance to try out some new tricks for some lucky people! Ten cubs completed a mandatory swimming test to allow them to do canoeing with First Afloat on Hawley Lake. Early in July some of the pack will revisit Runways End to perfect their skills on the climbing tower or have a go on the archery range and even (maybe) try out rafting on a nearby lake.

Base 2000 was a hive of industry recently as cubs made kites from sheets of polythene and canes with one nearly five feet tall – and it actually flew! The following week it was experiments with crystal solutions to form crystals that kept them busy.

Cameron, David and Matthew have gained the Chief Scouts Silver Award (the highest award in the cub scout section). Well done all of you and good luck as you move up to the scout troop.

New recruits welcome – simply come along or contact Cub Scout Leader, Elaine Devenport for more information.



Scout section (for boys and girls aged from 10½ - 14 years)
Meetings: Monday 7 - 9 p.m. Base 2000 Carpenters Down
Leader: Colin Karslake 14 Gilbert Close 410559

The troop continues to grow in number and by the time you read this will have been to Kemble Air Show for an exciting day touring small aircraft and watching air displays. They also spent an evening trying out air rifle shooting (under strict safety controls and the specialist supervision of members of Hampshire Scout Shooting Club). Plans are being laid for canoeing later in the summer and in the autumn the troop hopes to take part in JOTI (the annual Jamboree on the Internet which takes place over a twenty four hour period and allows members to make contact with scouts all over the world). Quite a number of the scouts have become extremely proficient in computing skills and are qualified to wear InformationTechnology activity badges. Summer camp will be at Lyons Copse where the troop will join with a number of other troops from Hampshire at the County Scout Camp.

New recruits welcome – simply come to Base 2000 on a Monday evening or contact Scout Leader, Colin Karslake

Expand our horizons!

Last month I was hoisted to the top of our new church in Popley Way to tighten the last bolt on one of the crosses. I do not have a head for heights so found the ascent to the 21 metre mark a little unsettling!

Once up there I relaxed and became more interested in the view, and what a view! I could see a good distance in every direction, and I saw parts of Basingstoke that I had never seen before, and saw other areas from a different perspective.

Occasionally it is good to see things from a different perspective and to look at the broader picture. This is certainly true of life, culture, social issues, politics, religion, and other people's points of view. Again and again we need to broaden our outlook and vision and look beyond our own lives and immediate issues. 'Out there' is a world we are called to interact with, and by so doing, hopefully influence for the better.

Father Vincent Harvey

Popley Matters Merton Pupil Report 2005

Environment Week in Merton Infants

I liked it when we did the recycling challenge, bug dancing, ugly bug ball, model competition and sketching outside. We learned about birds. It was fun when we did the minibeast hunt. All of us listened very well to the Gordon Brown Centre and miss Keele. I listened very well to General Waste.

This is when I did the recycling challenge

Josephine

Editors note: I just wish I could reproduce the lovely writing and drawing that Josephine did in her letter to me. Mrs Clement told me the school had all had a great Environment Week and all the children enjoyed it very much. Well done to Merton Infant School.



Charity Quiz Night



ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE POPLEY FIELDS YOUTH CLUB



ALL WELCOME

BRINGING FAMILIES & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

FRIDAY 15TH JULY 7.30PM—11.00PM

QUIZ BY THE HAMPSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

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BY THE COMMUNITY
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LICENSED BAR



**Basingstoke
and Deane**

Call for help to make guide for over 55s as useful as possible

Organisations, community groups and volunteers who run activities and services for people over 55 are being urged to get them in a new guide.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, working together with partners, is putting together an essential guide to being over 55 in the borough.

The guide was identified by older people as something they wanted when participating in the development of the strategy *Promoting Quality of Life for Older People in Basingstoke and Deane*. They said they needed a single source of comprehensive and reliable information about the things that were important to them - including social activities, volunteering and work opportunities, transport, care services, housing and many more topics.

So if your group or organisation is providing a service for the over 55s or is running an activity they may be interested in then please make sure it goes in the guide by filling in the leaflet available from your local community centre, the council offices, via the council's website at www.basingstoke.gov.uk or by calling 01256 844844.

For more information about the guide call Heather Ann Worrell or Sara Shepherd at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council on 01256 845238 or 845493.

**For further information contact: Sara Shepherd, Senior
Communications Officer on 01256 845493
s.shepherd@basingstoke.gov.uk
Fax: 01256 844 707**



You are warmly invited to
WORSHIP WITH US

at

Popley Fields Community Centre
Carpenters Down

Popley

Basingstoke

Sunday Morning

10:30 am to 12:00 noon

For more information phone:

Graham and Barbara on (01256) 363692

New Testament Church of God

www.basingstoke-new-t.freeserve.co.uk

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Have I made a Will?

Have I ensured that my family and dependants are adequately provided for?

Do I know whether my estate is liable to Inheritance Tax? If I live in the Basingstoke area and own my own home it is quite likely my estate will be liable.

Would I want my nearest and dearest to have to cope with the above after my death when they are already dealing with my loss?

If you have answered No to any of the above let Clarke & Son Solicitors help put your mind at rest.
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Midsummer Madness Chineham Park Primary

Not even Mother Nature could put a damper on everyone at Chineham Park Primary School on Friday 24th June when they held their annual Midsummer Madness Fete. Torrential rain, thunder and even some lightning managed not to put off the stalwart parents, pupils and staff who came and spent a wonderful evening joining in the fun. We had a spectacular demonstration of kickboxing and a gymnastic display that made you wonder at the talented youngsters, the usual popular tombolla had some great prizes, There was a queue for the fun of jumping up and down on the bouncy castle, and the trundle trikes. The BBQ was up to its usually tasty food and the smell of the cooking travelled for miles, everyone got soaked but we all had a fantastic and fun filled time.

Well done to everyone who took part. by Janette Wearne

Rubbish Raiders Event Held on the 4th June

Sentinel Housing Group in conjunction with their partnering agencies Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, and the Community Wardens held a Rubbish Raiders Event on the 4th June. Rubbish was collected from the areas surrounding the Melrose Hall.

As a thank you to all the volunteers that participated in the event a BBQ was held afterwards. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those that participated and the Community Wardens for participating and providing the Mocktails bar, Blanche Miles from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for her attendance and assistance and the Popley Fields Community Centre for the use of their BBQ. I would also like to say a big thank you, to Phillip Keeble and his helpers from the Melrose Christian Fellowship for giving up their time and cooking the BBQ for us.



John Hunt of Everest

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Community News from John Hunt of Everest Community School

Congratulations to two of our families who received certificates and a £20 gift voucher as part of the national Adult Learners Week. We nominated the Graham and Allen families for the family learning Awards, the awards are for those families who have taken part in learning with their children, Mrs Graham gained a GCSE in Psychology whilst studying with her daughter, the family also helped run the school ice hockey project. The Allen family have been so enthusiastic and have taken part in family health walks, line dancing, aerobics, steel pans to name a few.

New Family Learning Autumn term programme will be available shortly, there are the usual entries such as the family football, steel pans, aerobics, line dancing, GCSE statistics and parenting courses but also lots of new additions such as the family judo, healthy cooking, beginners Spanish, a creative arts programme and GCSE child development.

The Parent Group will be holding their highly successful Quiz Nite on Monday 18th July from 7pm in the school hall, teams of up to 8, £5 per team, make sure the whole family is involved and look out for the children's rounds. No need to book just turn up.

Over 60 children aged between 8-16 years took part in the free Easter Holiday activities and enjoyed football, karate, dance, rugby and various arts and crafts workshops. Look out for the 5 week summer programme which again will be free.

The students and staff are working hard putting together the 'summer holiday' production for the Haymarket, this is being performed on the week beginning 11th July, make sure you have the date in your dairies and support your local school. Contact Suki Binning, School Community Manager on Basingstoke 338725 if you want any more information on any of the above events or want to be added to any of the mailing lists.



WHATS ON AT MELROSE HALL

| | MORNING | AFTERNOON |
|------------------|---|---|
| MONDAY | 9.30 - 12PM COFFEE MORNING | 7.30 - 10.30 Healing & Holistics |
| TUESDAY | 9.30am - 11.30am TINY ACORNS CHILDMINDERS | 4-8.30 PM PETITE SCHOOL OF DANCE OF DANCE |
| WEDNESDAY | 9.30 - 11.30 PARENT & TODDLER GROUP 9-45AM-11-30 STOP SMOKING CLINIC | 12PM - 2PM OASIS LUNCH CLUB |
| THURSDAY | 9.30-12PM COFFEE MORNING | 7PM-8.30PM WEIGHT WATCHERS |
| FRIDAY | 10AM 3PM LODDON ALLIANCE | 6.30PM YOUTH CLUB |
| SATURDAY | 9AM -1PM PETITE SCHOOL OF DANCE | |
| SUNDAY | 10AM MELROSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP | 6.30PM MELROSE CHRISTAN FELLOWSHIP |

For information on any type of booking call Coo Cook on 01256 420676 for information or booking or Email melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk

Don't forget the Wednesday Auction there are hundreds of bargains Popleys very own Bargain Hunt fortnightly on a Wednesdays July 6th/20th and fortnightly after that. 4-15pm for Lots, 5-30pm viewing, 6-30pm bidding

Sunday Outdoor Boot Sales at John Hunt Community School the boot sale will run throughout 2005 comencing at 10 am

Mum's dad's and kids. Aldworth Science College have Leisure and Learning courses for all the family including (fitness, cooking, pottery, guitar, childcare and more). We shall be running a 10 week computer course at **Melrose Hall** starting Monday 19th September 2005 at 1.00pm-3.00pm. For more details about this and any other courses due to start in the Autumn Term contact Kathleen on 01256 473698.

Countywide Travel

Excursion Club By Joining Countywide Travel's Excursion Club you receive discounts on all excursions and the opportunity to take part in our occasional exclusive outings and other functions. Membership costs £10 or £15 for joint membership, which lasts for any consecutive 12-Month period. Application forms are available form the Tourist Information Centre.

| JULY | TIME | DESTINATION | ADULT | OAP | CHILD | EX CL |
|--------|------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Sat 9 | 0900 | New Forest Tour | £ 16.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 10.50 | £ 14.50 |
| Sun 10 | 0830 | Brighton | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sat 16 | 0900 | Street for Clark's Shopping Village | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sun 17 | 0830 | Severn Valley Railway *Inc | £ 26.50 | £ 23.50 | £ 16.00 | £ 23.00 |
| Sat 23 | 0830 | Bournemouth | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sun 24 | 0830 | Isle of Wight *Inc | £ 23.00 | £ 22.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 20.75 |
| Mon 25 | 0900 | Oxford | £ 16.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 10.50 | £ 14.50 |
| Tue 26 | 0900 | New Forest Show (coach only) | £ 15.00 | £ 14.25 | £ 10.00 | £ 13.50 |
| Wed 27 | 0900 | New Forest Show (coach only) | £ 15.00 | £ 14.25 | £ 10.00 | £ 13.50 |
| Thu 28 | 0900 | New Forest Show (coach only) | £ 15.00 | £ 14.25 | £ 10.00 | £ 13.50 |
| Fri 29 | 0900 | Swindon (McArthur Park) | £ 16.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 10.50 | £ 14.50 |
| Sun 31 | 0830 | Caerphilly - The Big Cheese | £ 18.00 | £ 17.25 | £ 12.50 | £ 16.50 |
| AUGUST | TIME | DESTINATION | ADULT | OAP | CHILD | EX CL |
| Mon 1 | 0830 | Whipsnade Zoo *Inc | £ 28.50 | £ 27.00 | £ 19.50 | £ 26.00 |
| Tue 2 | 0830 | Swanage | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Wed 3 | 0900 | Chichester (Market Day) | £ 15.00 | £ 14.25 | £ 10.00 | £ 13.50 |
| Thu 4 | 0900 | Portsmouth & Southsea | £ 13.00 | £ 12.50 | £ 8.50 | £ 11.75 |
| Fri 5 | 0830 | Leamington Spa | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sat 6 | 0900 | Lymington | £ 12.00 | £ 11.50 | £ 8.00 | £ 10.75 |
| Sun 7 | 0800 | River Exe Cruise & Cream Tea *Inc | £ 27.00 | £ 25.50 | £ 18.00 | £ 24.25 |

Full details and bookings available at the tourist information centre, Willis museum. Telephone 817618

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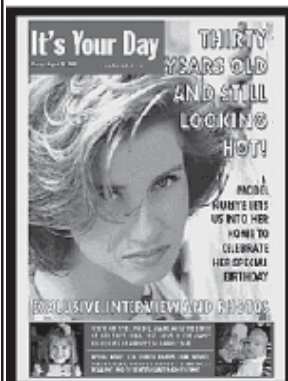
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St Gabriel's Church

RAINBOW FAYRE!

SATURDAY 16th July 2005
from 1p.m till 4p.m.

Craft
Cakes
Cafè
Games
Tombola
Raffle
Balloon Race
Bouncy Castle
Skittle Alley
Badgemaking

In the church grounds on
Tewkesbury Close, off Popley Way

Merton Junior Newsletter – Summer 2005

Building Work. Work on the staffroom extension and office refurbishments started at half term. Builders will be on site until the latter part of August. There will be more traffic entering the school than usual and it is important for safety reasons that pedestrians and parents cars do not use the school driveway before and after school. At the end of the work we will have a staffroom that we can all fit in, a new reception office which will be more welcoming and easier for parents, a ramp up to the front door and a new work room/medical room. Much of the work is being paid for by a government grant.

OFSTED Inspection. We were all very pleased with the outcome of our inspection which recognised the very good work of the school. I hope you all received your copy of the summary. Well done to all children, staff governors and parents who were involved.

Skipping! We now have some excellent skippers in school and, thanks to all the children who took part in the skipathon and the excellent support of their parents, we have raised £1397-06 for the British Heart Foundation. FANTASTIC!!! Thank you very much.

Super chef. Congratulations to Mrs Toomer, our school cook, who won her heat of the Hampshire Cook of the Year Award. She now goes through to the final. Good Luck.

Decorated Egg Competition. At the end of last term we had a competition for the best decorated egg. There were lots of excellent entries. The winners were Gemma Thorn, Chelsea Allsop, Chloe Cox, Alice Klein, Rebecca Hooley, Sophie Cox, Jessica Seward and Rebecca Northway. They all received an Easter Egg as their prize.

Newspaper Club. The children are busy collecting information for their next paper. If any children are interested in joining this club, which meets on Wednesdays, please see Mrs Kinchenton.

Tag Rugby. A Year 3/4 and a Year 5 rugby team took part in the tournaments at Overton Rugby Club. Both teams were a credit to the school playing with enthusiasm and in a very sporting manner. A big WELL DONE to the Y3/4 team who brought back the shield for the most sporting team in the tournament.

Reading Football Club. Barry Gordine, a coach from Reading F.C., has been coaching children at school and running an after school club for Years 4 & 5.

Football Tournaments. The boys and girls teams have been involved in competitions. The boys played in a “mudbath” at Brighton Hill and then in the Basingstoke Cup here at Merton, where they lost in the semi-final to the eventual winners. The girls played in the Basingstoke Tournament held at Newfound where they lost to Overton in the final. Nicola Taphouse scored 9 goals.

Stubbington Trip. 52 children spent a week at Stubbington Residential Centre on the South Coast before ½ term. They took part in a wide range of sporting, team building

and environmental activities. A very big THANK YOU to Mr Wells, Mrs Parker and Mr & Mrs Hill for spending their week supervising and organising the children.

Science & Maths Week. During the week 52 children were at Stubbington, the rest of the school took part in a range of science and mathematics challenges. There were a lot of problem solving and practical activities going on all round the school. Thanks to Mr Webber and Mrs Stacey for organising the very enjoyable tasks.

Totally Tennis. Children in Year 3 received professional tennis coaching as part of their P.E. programme this term. There was also an after school club for another group of children.

Book Week. Book week was again another huge success. Lots of book related activities went on, £900 of books were purchased from the book fair and the week culminated with the dressing up day with some fantastic costumes. Winners from each class received a £5 book token.

Popley Community Fete. On Friday 24th June we will be hosting a fete organised through the Melrose Hall Committee on our field and playground. It will start at 3.30p.m. and go on into the early evening.

There will be stalls, activities and a BBQ. We hope some of our children will be able to help run some “school” stalls and many of the children and their families will be able to attend. More details to follow soon.

Tokens. We have thousands of Tesco computer tokens and Sainsbury’s sports tokens. The Tesco tokens have to be sent off next week so please send in any you still have, we will be receiving a new computer this year. Many thanks for your support.

Dates for your Diary.

Thurs.16th June – Y6 Cricket Tournament

Fri. 24th June 3.30p.m. – Community Fete at Merton Junior School

Tues.28th June – Year 5 visit John Hunt School

Thurs. 30th June – Open Morning for Year 2 parents

Fri. 1st July – Year 6 Induction Day at secondary schools

Tues 5th & Weds 6th July – Year 3 & 4 visit Bramley Frith

Tues. 5th July – Year 6 Junior Citizen Event

Fri. 8th July – SCHOOL CLOSED – Staff Training

Thurs. 14th July – 1.15p.m. SPORTS DAY (Weather permitting).

Mon. 18th & Tues. 19th July – 3.50 to 5.00 p.m. Parents’ Opportunity to discuss Reports.

Fri. 22nd July – 2.00p.m. School Term Ends.

AUTUMN TERM STARTS – THURSDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

Fri. 21st October – School closed – Staff Training

24th to 28th October HALF TERM

Fri. 16th December – 2.00p.m. END OF TERM