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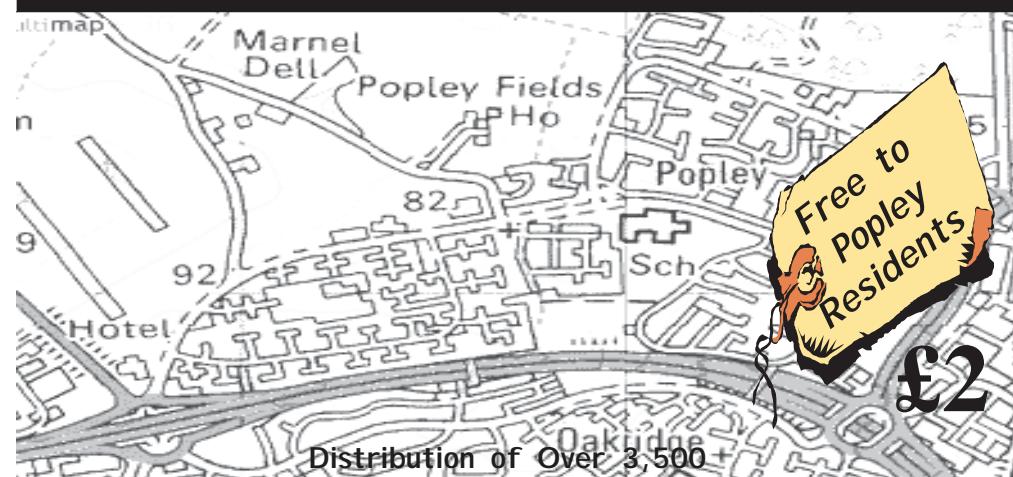
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POPLEY MATTERS

OVER TWELVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

November 2005

Issue 45



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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www.popleymatters.org.uk

Closing date to submit articles & Adverts (20-11-05)

Message From the Editor:-Here we are in November and Christmas just around the corner, is it me, or has this year seemed to go by so quickly. My dear Mother told me that as you get older the years pass much faster and she (as always) was right. I have joined the ranks of the OAPs and I have had a few surprises starting with a wonderful surprise party organized by my Daughter in Law Ame and my Sons Tony and Paul. So much for me saying that when they did the program "This is your Life" on the tele I would say that you can't organize a big event like that without the person knowing, well yes you can because I knew nothing till I opened the door and my dearest family and friends were there, some from hundreds of miles away. Thank you family, friends and neighbours it was just fantastic,

Another issue full of Popley news around Popley this month Popley is a very busy place to live. Read the centre pages to see what has been happening with our Scouts groups. Page 20 has a report on the children of Chineham Park, Merton and Marnell Schools and what they got up to with art and trees. Page 3 is about the latest news from Popley's own conservation group and the work at Popley Ponds. Page 1 is the wardens' report and it just goes to show just how busy they are.

There is a heartfelt appeal for wool and knitting needles so if you have any spare they will be put to good use. Some will be knitted to make jumpers and things for the "Children in Need" appeal and it is hoped to knit 200 hats for the children at the Christmas show and procession in Popley on December 19th from Popley Fields. Take them to Melrose Hall.

Sadly Margaret Smith passed away. People will remember her as she rode around Popley on her electric buggy. Condolences to her family.

We still need proof readers and volunteers to deliver. All it takes is a call to Iris King **411113** for deliveries and Jane Frankum on 819924 if you could proof read for us. All help is welcome . **Jane Frankum Editor**

Hits on popley.matters.org.uk website for month of October 559

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.

Editorial Team:- Editor Jane Frankum; Sub-Editor Paul Frankum; Chair Terry Jones; Vice Chair Ron Rowe; Secretary Alison Walker; Treasurer Kevin Walker; Distribution Iris King; Committee Members Louise Tuck, Kate Lomas; Administrator Sandra Cass;

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Letters to The Editor



Dear Editor; Why when the little ones were so excited did two idiot boys pull down their beautiful works of art from the trees. the children stood under the trees for shelter with the torrential rain and thunder crashing around them none of them wanted to go before they saw each others work festooned from the beautiful majestic trees. These two boys from the senior school knew exactly what they were doing and I hope that someone who saw who it was tells the teachers or police, because this could be just at the start of becoming criminals. A concerned resident from Popley Poets

Editors reply; It certainly was not funny it was not clever and it was stupid. I too hope that someone reports this act of vandalism, it takes just one or two youths to give a bad name to a school when most of our children in Popley at least know how to behave. I have seen such wonderful things done by our Popley children the Scouts on Fire event for instance. I would love to hear from people of children that should be recognised for the nice things they do like the child that ran up and picked up my walking stick when I dropped it there you are they said with a lovely smile as they had realised the difficulty I have sometimes with bending down.

The young man who opened the door of the newsagents when I had parcels in my hand and was about to struggle to open the door. The litter pickers that help to pick up rubbish and tidy gardens near Melrose Hall,

Dear Editor; I phoned Sentinel to report that there was a dangerous strip of metal hanging out on to a pathway also that the streetlamps are not working on the Shakespeare House Medical Center car park and they said the lamps were not a Sentinel matter. I finished up phoning both the council, and county council and both said it was not on their property and it was on the medical centres land, but the surgery was closed and I was getting frustrated with spending so much time and making my phone bill grow by the minute. Surely in this day and age of technology we should only need to make one call and then whoever we call takes on the problem, one central switchboard and the other people like gas electric water and councils share the cost of running it, or is it too simple? I am sure they will throw their hands up in the air and find a reason why it would not work. Do you think they will even listen? Frustrated and puzzled Abbey Road !!

Editors reply; What a good idea I will ask, Basingstoke and Deane have a call center maybe it could be expanded?

Editors Note We look forward to reading your letters on all sorts of subjects. We do not print your name or address if you wish us not to but of course we can not accept letters that are sent anonymously.

Please send your letters to :
The Editor, Popley Matters,
405 Abbey Rd, RG24 9EL or
email:
editor@popleymatters.org.uk



Hello from your Community Wardens.

We've been really busy out and about since our last article, and it's been very encouraging to see tangible results. We've had continued success in our partnership with Popley Fields Community Centre (PFCC) and Millennium Volunteers running Mocktails every Thursday evening at PFCC. We also ran football events every Friday through the summer which were well attended. Now we're working on launching a Street Dancing Workshop on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in partnership with Melrose Hall and Basingstoke & Deane Leisure Services. This will be held at Melrose Hall, please call us if you would like more details.

Without any doubt, our greatest asset in our job is you, the community. The number of calls from members of the community has been consistently high, and we consider this to be a great help. We can't be everywhere at one time, but if the whole community continues to work together we will be able to maintain and even exceed the current level of improvement and change.

One great example of community involvement was the Neighbourhood Watch event we ran with the Police on 22nd October. It was amazing to meet with so many people who are not only concerned about crime and anti-social behaviour, but who are enthusiastic about being part of the solution. If you couldn't attend the Neighbourhood Watch event on the day, but would like more information on being involved, please give us a call.

The Planning Team is up and running busy planning our Magic of Christmas event, which is going to be held at Popley Fields Community Centre on 19th December. We will be leaving the centre at 5pm on an hour long procession around the Islands area of Popley, then returning to the Centre for seasonal refreshments and entertainment. As part of our plans for the Magic of Christmas event, we need to ask the people of Popley for any kind donations of the following items:

- **Balls of wool** to make woolen hats and (or) volunteers to knit them.
- **Any green and (or) red material** to make children's goodie bags.
- **Old Christmas cards** which can be cut up.

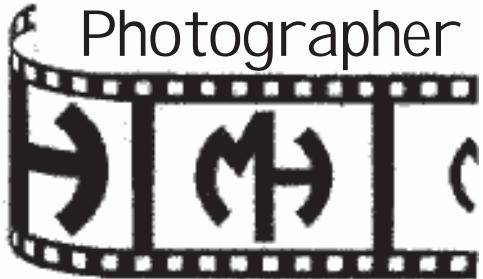
If you can help with any of these items please give us a call, so we can make appropriate arrangements.

Thank you all for your involvement and help in making our community such a great place. If you have anything you would like to talk to us about, please give us a call on 01256 845508. If you get an answerphone, please leave a message and we'll get back to you as quickly as we can.

All the best Stephen and Sarah Community Wardens for Popley



Michael Herod
Photographer



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DATE	TIME	DESTINATION	ADULT	OAP	CHILD	EXCL
Sat 5	0830	Bluewater	£ 17.00	£ 16.25	£ 11.25	£ 15.25
Sun 6	0830	Wealden Tour	£ 17.00	£ 16.25	£ 11.25	£ 15.25
Sat 12	0900	Salisbury	£ 12.00	£ 11.50	£ 8.00	£ 10.75
Sun 13	0830	Brighton	£ 17.00	£ 16.25	£ 11.25	£ 15.25
Sat 19	0900	Milton Keynes (shopper)	£ 17.00	£ 16.25	£ 11.25	£ 15.25
Sun 20	0830	Dorset tour	£ 17.00	£ 16.25	£ 11.25	£ 15.25
Sat 26	0530	Adinkerke & Calais Cite Europe *inc £ Mystery Tour	£ 29.00	£ 27.50	£ 19.25	£ 26.00

DECEMBER

Sat 3	0830	Bath Christmas Market	£ 17.50	£ 16.75	£ 11.50	£ 15.75
Sun 4	0830	Dickensian Christmas – Rochester	£ 17.50	£ 16.75	£ 11.50	£ 15.75

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Popley Conservation Volunteers You Might See Some Changes

First I would like to thank those of you who responded to my request for historical information about Popley and information about sightings of Great Crested Newts.

Recently, after a lot of work two of our members obtained their survey and conservation licences from English Nature. This means the group should be able to undertake more extensive conservation work around Popley Ponds than in the past.

At the time of writing we have just completed a day surveying the floor of the dried up main pond. By the time you read this, our tasks will be in full swing.

So if you visit the ponds this winter you should notice some changes. Below are some of our task dates. If you have any questions about what we are doing, do come along to the ponds and have a chat with us. Better still why not come along and lend a hand.

If you have any enquiries about any of our activities please contact our secretary Lee Roth on 01256 330738 or lee.roth@networkrail.co.uk

TASKS

Saturday 19th November:

Clearing reeds and rushes

Sunday 27th November:

Scrub clearing and dead hedging

Sunday 11th December:

Scrub clearing and dead hedging

Sunday 15th January 2006:

Scrub clearing and repairing steps

Saturday 28th January:

A final push to clear scrub

Getting things straight.

Popley Conservation Volunteers setting up the level in preparation for the pond survey

Sunday 12th February

Relocation of steps plus some ivy culling

Sunday 12th March

Getting rid of old barbed wire and rubbish from the boundary of the site.

Sunday 23rd April

Pond surveying in Basing Forest - including bottle trapping, water analysis, and invertebrate identification. Please Phone.

Sunday 30th April

Pond surveying in Basing Forest - including bottle trapping, water analysis, and invertebrate identification. Please Phone.

For all tasks meet at Tobago Close at 10.00 am



Getting things straight.
Popley Conservation Volunteers
setting up the level in preparation
for the pond survey

"North Popley and Replacement John Hunt of Everest School - Project Update"

Since my last contribution, the project has continued a pace over the summer. Following the completion of the initial infrastructure works which saw the introduction of traffic lights (with a pedestrian phase) to the Popley Way/Chineham Lane junction and construction of the first part of the spine road that will serve the replacement school, the Enabling Works for the replacement school have been undertaken. These works have involved the cut and fill exercise to create the playing fields and formation level for the proposed replacement school buildings. With the good weather these works have finished earlier than anticipated, and this means that before the commencement of the Main Contract in the New Year, it has been decided that Sherborne Road will re-open for the interim period. Once the Main Contract and the second infrastructure contract starts Sherborne Road will be again closed to allow the works to be undertaken in an effective manner.

Unfortunately, September saw the visit from some unwanted "friends" on the North Popley site and this has necessitated the introduction of earth bunds along the new access road and down the Chineham Lane and Sherborne Road frontages to prevent further access opportunities.

This autumn will see further site preparation works including further archaeological investigations (now on site), together with further parts of the structural planting along the ridgeline of the site.

The first phase of the existing school site was marketed this summer, and the projected site value supports the cost envelope for the replacement school project and has allowed cost certainty for the school project to be achieved. The selected purchaser for the phase 1 land has presented a contemporary scheme of very high quality and is just the kind of scheme we are seeking as a precursor to the quality of development we hope to achieve for the North Popley site.

One of the most significant pieces of work undertaken in the summer has been a branding exercise for the North Popley site which is so called as a consequence of the Local Plan designation for the site. As the owner of the site, the County Council has been keen to create the right image for the site which both reflects its ambition to achieve a high quality scheme of development whilst at the same time creating strong links to existing Popley. Through consultation with the community a new name for the site, Merton Rise has been identified. The key message associated with the new development is "A Connected Community".

A formal launch for the site is planned in early December, to be followed by a series of community events. There will be new site boards (planning application for these being currently determined), a launch brochure aimed at the community available in December, a future project magazine and a new website: www.mertonrise.co.uk which is currently under construction. With the commencement of the Main School contract, the marketing of the first phase of development land on the new Merton Rise site in January 2006 the project has entered a very exciting stage. Watch out for more updates in Popley Matters, local mail-outs, events and importantly the new project website.

Diaries from the Old Codger

I don't know how many readers of this page are Cockneys. For the people that do not know, it is a person born within the sound of St Mary-la-Bow church and the dialect has been born out of that area. Someone said we are common, someone said we are uncouth but the truth is we are a caring and friendly bunch willing to help anyone in need. At our house at meal times a place was always ready in case some one came in, they would be invited for a share of the meal that was in front of us. I never knew a Cockney that had the back door locked, no one came to the front unless you were a stranger; then you would be invited in, not left on the door step. This is how I was brought up and my children as well. If having a what we would call a good old fashion knees up (party) then yes we did have some good times, food and drink flowed but no trouble came into the house.

I was one of five children born in or just after WW2 We still had ration books but we made life as comfortable as we could. As I go around talking to people in Basingstoke no one turns their nose up at the way I act or talk, so when you read in the local press that a person is calling us common or that Cockney accent hurts it is racist against a people that were the backbone of the country in both wars by keeping supply lines open in order that the country survived, Men and woman working along side each other unloading ships of food, working in the munitions factories so we could defend the country. Men and women dying side by side when the bombs were raining down on London. These are the people that one person in Basingstoke has insulted to a degree that they should make a written apology to them, o.k. the Old Codger gets up and shouts but it is for my people that I do this, it is for the Cockney spirit yes, we can ignore it and turn the other cheek but why should we. The over spill was 35 years plus ago how long is it that this person has been grieving over this, have they been festering all this time. We are proud of Basingstoke for what they gave us and in return we hope we have paid Basingstoke back by what we have put into this great town. I know our local paper has to publish letters but to publish what I feel is a racist letter was not in keeping with the Gazette's good reputation. I hope I have not upset too many of you by this page this month but we are trying to get harmony among us all, not start to divide the community into segregation Cockneys Popley Poets, Welsh the Abbeys, Scots the Islands, is this what our town now wants? I only want a life now of peace for her in doors and me. The one thing that has come out of all this is the emails I have had and the outrage of people over the comment in the letter.

Now lets move on. On 19th October in Popley Dell we saw the erection in the trees of all the hard work the local schools have put into their projects. The work by the children was outstanding. I would like to thank the council, Q.M.C, the art tutor and poet that spent so much of their time in helping the children. It has been a great success I hope now this can go forward onto the main plan for this area which is to landscape and put in the monoliths with poetry on them, then for schools to use the area as an outdoor activity. Well done to you all, by the way thank you Merton School for letting me come along and see your efforts, oh yes and the lovely mess the teachers got in to they were having as much fun as the children. Till next month

Basingstoke & District Railway Society

The Basingstoke & District Railway Society, which this year is celebrating its 30th anniversary, recently held two meetings which reflected its interests both near and far. At its first September meeting they were entertained by a speaker from the Cholsey & Wallingford Railway, whilst a fortnight later the members enjoyed pictures taken on a steam tour in South Africa. These are examples of the varied topics enjoyed by the Society members.

The Society normally meets on the second and fourth Wednesday in each month at the Wote Street Club, New Road, Basingstoke from 20.00 hrs. to about 22.15 hrs. The programme includes film and slide shows given by guest speakers and Society members, as well as the occasional competition.

There is an annual subscription charge (currently £6), and attendance at meetings costs a further £1 per evening. This gives full Society benefits including the monthly *Newsletter* and advantageous prices for Society visits.

Forthcoming meetings include:-

26th October – The Great Central Journal 1905 – 1919.

9th November – The role of the Rail Freight Group.

23rd November – Confessions of a Great Rail Journeys tour manager.

7th December – The Railway Ramblers.

14th December – More from the BTC Film archives.

If you would like to share our interest, do please come along, or contact either the Membership Secretary, John Priest on 01962 890872 or the Secretary, Peter Tran on 01256 326096.

The Popley Dell Poetry and Visual Arts

On the 19th of October we saw the tree climbers hanging up all the hard work the children of Popley and Oakridge School put into this project as seen by the photos. It started off with light showers then thunder and lightning flashed around us. The local papers snapped away at the hard work that was coordinated between the council Ceri Adams and Q.M.C plus an artist and poet that went into the schools to help the children I went to see them at work in Merton School. The tree climbers continued their hard work putting every thing up. The Old Codger got soaked to the skin as well as all the others but smiles were on the faces of every one as you can see. Even children returning to John Hunt stopped to look and have a chat about it they loved it. I would at this point stop now but say to every one involved well done and I hope by doing this you have learnt more about the things around you, the sounds that the Dell give off when people are talking over the other side, in the summer come along and act out plays for your parents, take them down today and show them what the Dell is. Now for the end of such a wonderful project we come to the sad bit, two young lads came out of one of the local schools and decided it would be great fun to pull down the poetry and throw them away, what sad life's they must lead I do hope the families of the children that go to this senior school read this and take on board what there child may have done, out of all the students TWO YES TWO feel this was fun for them.

The Old Codger can only feel sorrow for them as they have only got this as fun for them selves to destruct something that a lot of people put so much in to. I would like to thank the girls that came to my door to tell me what had been done and I hope they can have the courage that I know they have to report these two to the school. The Old Codger

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Popley Fields Community Centre, Carpenters Down, Basingstoke Hampshire RG24 9AE

Mon–Fri 9:15am–11:45am

Mon & Thurs 12:30pm–3:00pm

Councillors Page

Yet another busy month with plenty of the usual issues to deal with, like parking, litter, rubbish collections and of course with the building work started to double the size of facilities for recycling at the Wade Road site, there will be a bit of inconvenience for a few months. It should make things a lot better and quicker when it is finished.

I have been involved in the planning of the Christmas Show with the Wardens, Police, schools and residents it is a lot of very hard work and the wardens are doing the major part of the organizing. We do need wool to knit with lots and lots of wool so we can give children a warm hat to wear, I have it on good authority that Father and Mother Christmas will be coming to see us in Popley that day and there will be some amazing visitors and events going on, we will be able to give you much more information in next months edition.

Congratulations to our Community Wardens who have been presented with a certificate of distinction from the office of the Deputy Prime Minister for their hard work and commitment, not forgetting all the other people who work within the team of Community Safety who together have started to make such a difference. The Labour Councilors are committed to increasing the Community Warden scheme and get more to go into even more areas.

Paul and I went to a Popley Project meeting where lots of people senior police, church representatives, wardens, leading Councilors, head teachers, and many more people who work in and for Popley went to talk about what is needed in Popley as you can guess it did not take long before we said what we want is action and all the powers that be agreed. Lesley Phillipson was there and spoke with passion about the new “Everest Community College” and how we need to work together to give all our families good opportunities for the future, education is so vital but it is not always about how many GCSE’s at the highest grades but using what talents we all have as everyone is different and that every child matters.

The Scouts on Fire was a fantastic event on Saturday 8th October with so many of our children from Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Air Scouts, Kick Boxing and the Young Fire Fighters who gave demonstrations. Of course our grown up Fire Fighters were as usual great with the demonstrations of a kitchen fire and showing the machines that put out fires and rescue people. They finished up with a truly stunning demonstration of how to cut people out of a smashed up car, in this case they told the children it was two teenagers who had stolen a car and crashed it and two young girls were trapped. The girls were volunteers from our Young Firefighters Association it was so real and brought back the memory of our car accident in April thank goodness it was not that bad but I was glad to see the firefighters there when they broke open the door to get me out.

I am proud to be on the Fire and Rescue Authority and I am looking forward to going to headquarters in Eastleigh for a visit to see how everything works and Paul is coming with me so anything that involves heights he can do. We will be able to tell you more after the visit.

The page has run out before time to write all that has been happening. We will write again in the next issue. *County Councillor Jane Frankum*

Abbey Court

Massive Megga Jumble Sale in Abbey Court

This is one of our main fund raising events to pay for the social and Christmas events for our tenants. Any one who has been to any of our previous Megga Jumble Sales knows what great bargains are to be had from new and nearly new clothes for all ages, furniture and some fantastic Bric a Brac. There are drinks and sweeties, books, toys and the best and biggest raffle so far, and don’t forget to visit our wonderful tombola stall. Some of our talented residents are knitting and making gifts for Christmas presents. The biggest queue is for the delicious home made cakes. Join in the Underground game

Come and support us and get yourselves some really good bargains.

Magnolia Court

My name is Julie Pior for those of you who do not know me I am the Scheme Manager of Magnolia Court in Popley Way, managed by Downland Housing Association, which is Sheltered Housing for older people who want to lead an independent life in their own home. It is designed to provide independence in a secure and friendly environment. My role is to support tenants, encourage independence and help tenants in organising social activities. If necessary contacting Social Services or other health professionals on residents behalf to arrange for additional help to be given in your own home. For example, meals on wheels, or help with personal care.

Scheme Managers are not on duty 24 hours a day and cannot provide nursing or home care services. We have out-of-hours cover provided 365 days a year emergency service to ensure that help is available even when the Scheme Manager is not on duty.

We have Bingo once a month, hairdressers on a Wednesday and Friday and coffee mornings every Thursday at 10.30am. All are welcome

If you would like further information on any off the above then contact me on 01256 462140.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to everyone who is involved with Popley Matters it’s very informative about what is going on in our area, I particularly enjoy the stories from the old codger, the topics from Funky Monkeys, Messages from the Editor and quiz nites. So to everyone keep up the good work and long may it continue.

Dear Friends,

Are you a HOARDER!! I know I am, and not ashamed to confess it! Having served in the RAF for a number of years we've moved house many times and every time we've moved I've been forced to have a clear out those things that I've stashed in the attic or garden shed **JUST** in case they come in handy – you never know when you might need one of those thingamabobs! Of course, I never do and quite quickly that precious rubbish accumulates and someone starts to nag you to have a clear out. I've just taken down the tip an old chair, some kitchen drawers that were left over from when the kitchen was fitted two years ago (I kept them just in case we broke one), a grass box for a lawn mower we no longer have and some off cuts of wood that might come in handy one day.

I find it really difficult to part with these sorts of things and I have been known to lose sleep in case something happens and I've thrown away the very thing I need! Again, of course, this never happens. If I really need something I can always find it at B&Q or some other retail outlet and so worrying about it is a waste of time. The real problem is that its so hard to let go – maybe it's a bit like 'Charlie Brown's comfort blanket in the Snoopy cartoons!

Emotionally and spiritually we can reflect the same behaviour. We sneak away in our hearts the memory of those things that have caused us to be hurt in the past. Scars are not necessarily visible ones and often when we're at a low point we pick at the hidden ones and open up old wounds and hurts. This is a dangerous pastime! When we do that, what emerges from that old, stashed away memory, is more often than not, a bitterness and pain that just wears us out!

Jesus said this: *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."* (Matthew ch. 11 v. 28 the Message)

Jesus came to take our burdens from us – not the physical ones-but the emotional and spiritual ones that keep us from living the life he has in mind for us. So! Is it time for you to have a clear out in your emotional and spiritual attic? We'll all be getting ready for Christmas over the coming weeks. Don't forget the real message of God's Son who became a human being in order to give us all the gift of true life and maybe consider taking a walk with Him!

Your Friend and Vicar
Arthur.



What is Oakfern Resident Forum?

Oakfern Residents' Forum meets every other month. Meetings start at 7pm and last about 2 hours. The committee consists of 14 voting members from 5 areas across the Basingstoke and Deane area, but all tenants are welcome to the meeting (next meeting 14th December at Oakfern House). We have guest speakers on different subjects that affect you from ground maintenance to the three year plan of the Borough Council. We discuss policy documents and issues that tenants have contacted us about. The representatives are elected for a three year term. Sentinel gives a high priority to helping you feel confident about getting involved in making decisions about your home and community. They provide and organise a range of free training and support. Training opportunities will be advertised in the Sentinel Review which is delivered to every tenant.

Popley falls into Area 3 which consists of Chineham, Old Basing, Mapledurwell, Monk Sherbourne, Popley, Sherborne St John and Up Nately

If you have any issues which you would like to discuss with your Tenant Representative the contact details are Mr Albert Jobling 01256 324294, Mr Anthony Mitchell 01256 462354 (Chairman), Mrs Marion Witts 01256 840032, Mrs Pauline Escourse 01256 331021 and One Vacancy (If you are interested in becoming a representative please contact the Participation Coordinator Kim Drewery at Sentinel on 0800 195 5515)

From the Oakfern Residents Forum two people are elected to represent the tenants on the Sentinel Board. The representatives are from Area 1 Kempshott, Park Village, Winklebury Mr Paul Frankum 01256 472496 and Area 2 Oakridge, South View, Town Centre Ms Kathy Hine 07776 223508

Support for participation

The Participation Team includes a dedicated Participation Co-ordinator who works with residents to support and encourage anyone who is interested in becoming involved. Neighbourhood Co-ordinators work with communities and go to meetings and surgeries to involve residents in local issues including how budgets are spent. There are also two Regeneration Liaison Officers who work closely with residents in areas of new developments. A full programme of customer satisfaction research is carried out including surveys, local consultation meetings and open days.

Financial support for participation

Sentinel provides financial support so that people are able to get involved and not left out of pocket. Travel costs, refreshments, childcare or carer costs and accommodation costs are covered where necessary. Signers and interpreters will be available when required.

Phone: 01256 414494
Fax: 01256 418529



Charity Reg No: 1052133
poplefields@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Youth Club: The Youth Club is very active at the moment. Half term is due to be busy with three trips planned in conjunction with Hampshire & Isle Of Wight Youth Options. On the 14th November the RAF will be running a motivational session involving team building games.

Xmas Tea Dance: A Tea Dance is being held at Popley Fields on Wednesday 24th November from 2pm to 5pm. There is live entertainment and a welcome drink, sandwiches, mince pies and tea and coffee are included. Tickets are available from reception and cost £4 in advance, (£5 on the door). Transport can be provided if booked in advance.

OAP Pantomime Trip: There will be a trip on 6th January to Dick Whittington at the Anvil for the Matinee performance. Transport will be provided. Please call us for more information or to book tickets. These need to be booked well in advance as they go fast!

Salsa Beat: Unfortunately due to lack of numbers this has had to be cancelled. If you are interested in finding out more, contact us and we can put you in touch with the organiser.

Floodlit Sports: We still have a couple of vacant spaces for this winter for our multi-sports pitch so if you are looking for a venue for your team for all weather training, call us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Xmas Shopping Night The National Childbirth Trust will again be holding their very successful shopping evening on: Friday 18th November - 7.00pm - 10.30pm

Xmas Bazaar: Saturday 17th December - 10am - 4pm.
Contact Tracy Rogers for information or to pre-book stalls.

Xmas Family Disco: Saturday 17th December - 7.30pm - Finish.

New Years Eve Family Night: Saturday 31st December - 7.30 - Late.

If you are planning an event in the New Year, please don't leave it until after Christmas to book. We are currently very busy and are even taking bookings well into 2007. So don't leave it too late or you may well be disappointed!



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



Apple Blossom Catering



Planning a wedding, party or any special occasion?

Yes....you could do it yourself, but why bother when we can do it for you
We will book the hall, decorate it to suit, provide a beautiful buffet and best of all clear up afterwards.

We can provide experienced security and bar staff if required.

We can also arrange the cars, the flowers, the photography, the disco and much much more!

Call us to discuss your requirements and relax
01256 841996 or 07734 499193 email: appleblossom213@aol.com

Nothing for you to do but enjoy your day we will do it all for you!

the community furniture project



Low cost, quality used furniture and household items

*Sofas from £30, Fridges from £15
Cookers & Washing Machines from £45
Pushchairs & Cots from £10
and lots more.*

*All electrical items safety tested
Low cost delivery available*

**Unit 6 Joule Road, Hounds Mills, Basingstoke
Tel 01256 320700**

www.cfpbasingstoke.org

Opening hours

Monday — Friday 9.30 to 4.00 (Closed 12.30 to 1.00)
First Saturday in each month 9.30 to 12.30

Registered Charity no 1082243



On Saturday 22nd October the Neighbourhood Watch Association, Community Wardens, and your local councilors held a Neighbourhood Watch day in Popley. We attended various streets with a Police van and I am glad to say that lots of residents attended and want to support Neighbourhood Watch schemes. I am keen to push forward with launching Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the area. Community spirit is very strong in the area and this type of scheme should help compliment this.

If you are interested in being involved in a scheme in your street then please call or email the secretary of the Neighbourhood watch on 01256 422395 or bd-nwa-secretary@ntlworld.com

We have had lots of problems with the theft of cars in Popley this summer. Please consider extra security products eg alarms & steering locks as these will help deter the thieves from choosing your car next. The older your car is the more likely it is to be stolen; particularly Fords older than P registered seemed to be favourite.

We hope you all had a safe summer and if you're having ongoing problems in your street you wish to discuss this with us then simply phone the switchboard on 0845 045 4545 and leave a message for either of us and we will call you back or hopefully you may see us riding our bikes around the area and stop us for a chat.

PC3126 Matt Deery
PC23234 Paul Thorne

Quit Smoking 0845 602 4663

Free specialist help for those who want to quit across North and Mid Hampshire
Benefits to stop smoking

Feel richer Quitting 20 cigarettes a day = £1500 to spend every year
Look younger Circulation to skin improves within a few hours of quitting

Feel fitter Lungs begin to work better within 3-4 days

Feel calmer Blood pressure returns to normal in just one hour

Be free from nicotine addiction



Go for it phone now





MELROSE HALL NEWS

Our ever popular Grand Christmas Bazaar will be on November 19th from 2pm to 4pm so put it in your diary. We will have affordable gifts for children to buy for Mum/Dad/Grand Parents/Aunts/Uncles/friends and teachers. Reasonable priced Christmas decorations We will also have fun things for children to play with.

Don't forget our Boot Sales at John Hunt of Everest Community School throughout 2005 starting at 9am. Come to our coffee morninngs, have coffee, cake and a chat we also have fun playing the odd card game, shove halfpenny and many "old games"

TINY ACORNS CHILDMINDERS.

Not a childminder? Please don't be put off by our group name. We are mostly childminders but all carers with preschool babies and children are welcome. No one person is in charge, but this isn't as chaotic as it sounds. Everyone's input is welcome Anyone who wants to takes a turn at organising our weekly craft. At song time we sing the children's favourites, old or new. We are always willing to try out your ideas, as long as they are safe and fun for the babies and children. As a small group we need to charge £2 a session at the moment. No joining fees, just pay if you turn up. Why not pop in one Tuesday to see if your little one enjoys themselves?

MONDAY	MORNING 9.30 -12PM COFFEE MORNING	AFTERNOON 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

KYLIE'S WHIPPER SNAPPERS

01256 410119

Do you need quality reliable childcare for children between 0-13?

Then why not phone us, we are 4 childminders with 11yrs+ experience we are open from 6.30am-7pm. Based locally we offer a homely, loving environment for children.

We have extensive training in Child Development,Special Needs, First Aid, NVQ3 Qualified Tutor etc. All meals provided are home cooked and nutritious,special diets catered for.

We go on regular outings and provide loads of activities for the children, we have a 17 seater minibus plus two 8 seaters fully insured.

Children have there own playroom lounge and dinning room and a large secure garden.We pick up from both Merton schools, Castlehill, Chalkridge and southview schools, also Treasure Island Playgroup.

Please feel free to phone us and arrange a convenient time to bring your kids to visit us.

ALBERTO CULVER

FREE HAIRDRESSING SERVICES

Models required

We are currently seeking Male & Female models between the age of 14-40 who are interested in having free hairdressing services including the occasional free products!

For more information please call

01256-705139 9am-5pm

Little Poppets



Is having a clothing party at Popley fields community centre on Thursday the 10th of November 9am-1pm

Ages 0-15 years Boys & Girls

Items from £1.00-£10

New & Nearly New Named brands Book a party NOW
Call Claire on 01256 322590
Or Naomi on 01256 843565

Get 10% off your order when you bring this ad with you

Cash or guaranteed cheque accepted



**Are you planning a meeting or conference?
– Perhaps we can help**

We are a Community Building, which houses local charities located on the edge of the Memorial Park within Basingstoke, which is just a few minutes walk from the town centre.

Our prices are very competitive and include the use of TV, video, screen, OHP, flipchart, laptop with internet wireless connection and projector, and more recently, Hearing Loop facilities kindly funded by Four Lanes Trust. We can also arrange the use of free internet access in our Atrium. Other facilities include refreshments and the use of outside caterers at very affordable prices. Should you require the use of fax, telephone or photocopier our friendly team of receptionists will be happy to assist you. Again these are offered at a reasonable rate.

If you'd like to book a date or an appointment to come and meet us and have a look around, please call Tricia Cubbage on 01256 423801.

COMMUNITY GROUPS ENCOURAGED TO CASH IN ON AWARDS FOR ALL

Grants of £500 to £5,000 in Lottery money are still available for community projects across England under the Awards for All programme and applications are being encouraged for the £2.5 million remaining to be allocated in the South East this year.

Awards for All is actively encouraging **small community groups**, schools, health bodies, parish or town councils with projects that support the arts, education, sport, heritage, health and the environment in their community to apply for funding under this scheme.

Money is available now through a straightforward application process. Applicants will be advised within eight weeks if they have been successful and information can be given to groups that are unsure about their eligibility or how to apply.

Liz Daw, Head of Programme Management at Awards for All said:
"The Awards for All programme can make a huge difference by directing smaller sums of money to the heart of community projects. Thanks to the straightforward applications process many groups who may not normally apply for lottery money have been able to access funds for people in their area. There is still money available this year for such groups and we would welcome applications from groups who may not have previously thought we could help them".

To find out more about Awards for All grants, who is eligible to apply and how to submit your application, log onto www.awardsforall.org.uk or call 0845 600 2040. If you would like to discuss your project before applying please contact the Awards for All South East team on 01483 462 943.

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, Popley 346510

Beaver Scouts have been 'busy people' for the first half of the autumn session. They've played parachute games, made Beaver masks and experimented with Tangrams. They had great fun making a jelly pond to help the newer recruits understand why the younger members of the Scout Association are called Beavers in this country and a little of the Beaver lifestyle. Another evening was based on Holland where the Beaver scout programme is based on a mythical character called 'Tall Do All' who wears a green top hat with red flowers. Every Beaver planted a tulip bulb and they all joined in the 'clog race'. Tasty titbits of typical food from Holland were also on offer. Four recruits were invested at the end of October and we hope Samantha, Owen, James and Harry will enjoy being Beaver Scouts and look forward to investing Ethan when he is better. Sorry we have no vacancies at the moment but we do keep a waiting list. Contact Eve Alexander on 01256 346510

cubs Cub scout section (for boys 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

Eighteen Cubs and four adults joined in District Camp at Lyons

Copse at the end of September and spent a very active weekend with bike riding, abseiling, orienteering and getting dirty (as all cubs do!). Some hope to take part in Pro-Act Badge Training weekends held indoors during the autumn months and others are busy completing activity badges such as Animal Carer and Musician and Swimmer. Three members of the Pack are very close to completing the Chief scouts' Silver Award which is the highest award in the section and involves development in a number of spheres as well as completing a personal challenge. More news of that next month. New recruits welcome – both boys and girls aged between 8 and 10 ½ years of age - come along to Base 2000 or contact Cub Scout Leader, Elaine Devenport on 01256 323453

SCOUTS 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, Popley (01256) 410559

Like the remainder of the Group the Troop has been kept busy at the beginning of the autumn term mainly with badge work. Some helped with the 'Scouts on Fire' event. Arrangements to take part in JOTI (Jamboree on the Internet) at the end of October continue. Nominations are now being taken for scouts from the District to take part in the 21st Scout World Jamboree in Essex in 2007 – the centenary year of Scouting. As well as providing an opportunity to meet up with scouts from all over the world, the jamboree will include a visit to Brownsea Island and all British scouts will participate in a period of home hospitality in Scandinavia as part of the celebrations. New recruits welcome – simply come to Base 2000 on a Monday) or contact Scout Leader, Colin Karslake on 01256 410559



Group News

Pat Brown, Group Scout Leader 07716 855474

Sadly our Quartermaster Pete Saunders and his wife Jan (Bookings Secretary and Group Executive member) have both resigned recently. We are sorry to see them go as they have been great supporters of the Group for over 20 years. Thank you Jan and Pete for everything you have done, especially in respect of the new Headquarters building at Base 2000

Six adults connected with the Group, mainly leaders, completed a Food Hygiene course at the end of October. All leaders are offered constant opportunities to extend their skills and expertise in many aspects. They must also complete a mandatory training to develop skills such as management, dealing with bad behaviour, finance, arranging camps and holidays and essential first aid.

'Scouts on Fire' for the community at Base 2000 on 8th October is expected to have raised just under £200 for the Hampshire Fire Service Benevolent Fund. We would like to have seen a few more people to see the demonstrations put on by the Fire and Rescue Service, and CMA Kick Boxing and the BBQ was its usual success. My thanks to Eve Alexander who was the whirlwind behind this event which may become a 'repeat' feature in our programme of community involvement

Sunday Boot Sales at John Hunt of Everest School continue with each sale run by volunteers from a local Popley charity and (weather permitting) are always well supported by 'booters' and buyers alike. 'Booters' are reminded that they must not obstruct the highway at any time and must remove any unsold goods, boxes and litter before leaving their 'pitch'.

Base 2000 Carpenters Down Popley RG24 9DR
www.base2000.co.uk



Regular users of the building include groups of Rainbows, Brownie Guides, Guides, Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Wiggins Teape Pensioners and Melrose Christian Fellowship. CMA Kick Boxing run a Ladies Keep-Fit evening in the main hall on Wednesdays from 7.15 p.m.

The Princes Trust sponsored by the Hampshire Fire Service, YMCA and Hampshire Constabulary returned for a new twelve week course for 18-25 year olds on 22nd August. The Princes Trust aims to improve young peoples skills and attitudes to better fit them for the world of work and/or further education. Many of the young people successfully completing the course find it leads to full-time employment. The programme includes a residential course and out-of-doors challenges as well as work experience and support for the community

Booking enquiries for the present should be directed to Pat Brown on 07716 855474 following the resignation of Pete and Jan Saunders. 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. **Beryl Mullender**