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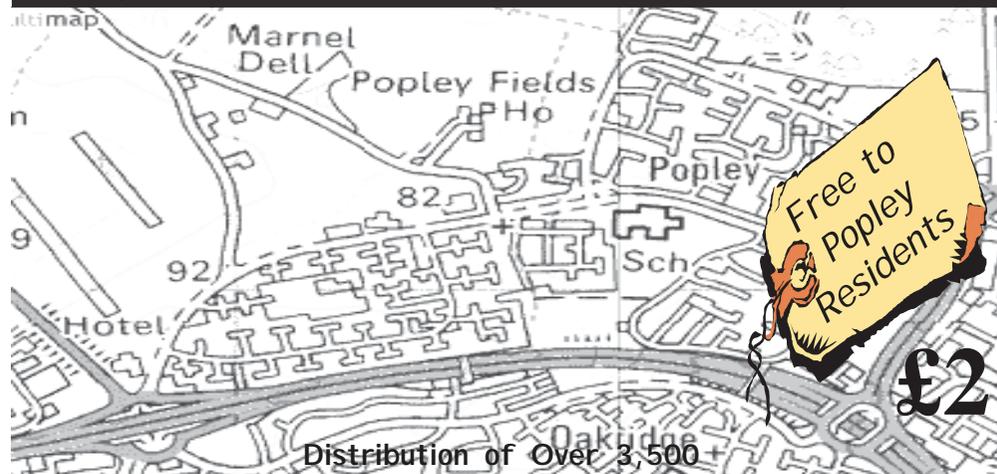
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# POPLEY MATTERS

OVER TWELVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

May 2006

Issue 51



**FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS**

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[www.popleymatters.org.uk](http://www.popleymatters.org.uk)

Closing date to submit articles & Adverts (20-05-06)

## Message From the Editor

Popley Festival time is here again and probably for the last time on the John Hunt School site. It promises to be the biggest and best so far with all the usual attractions and then some. Nearly 15,000 people came last year and lots of the charities raised quite a bit of money. It was great to see so many people taking part.

With the warmer weather comes the risk of Bogus callers and burglaries so please note the advice on page 13 from our local beat officer.

The community wardens are working hard on the Proud of Popley Awards. There are several categories and I am sure you will know people in Popley that deserve to be recognized for their commitment to making Popley an even better place to live. The details are on page 1.

The Wardens along with the Millennium Volunteers and Popley Fields Community Association are relaunching the "Mocktails" bar at Popley Fields Community Centre. It will be held every third Thursday of the month. They are delicious and non alcoholic. I have tried several and really enjoyed them. On a hot summers day they are so cooling, lets just hope that we get the beautiful warm sunny Popley Festival again, then everyone can try them.

I am appealing for volunteer delivery people yet again. If you could commit just half an hour once a month to deliver some Popley Matters it would help enormously and lighten the load for some of us that are trying to deliver hundreds each month. This magazine is non profit making. Please contact Iris King on 411113 or myself Jane Frankum on 819924 if you can help.

The physiotherapy team on Ward D5 work very hard with patients to get them mobile after surgery. Part of this includes putting bags of ice around the knee etc. up to four times a day. There is a serious shortage of old towels to sew into pouches for the ice and maybe you can be of help. Lots of us buy new towels and put the older ones to one side - if you have any old towels (white or pastel only please) could you take them up to the hospital and hand them in to the reception desk marked for the attention of Vicky, Physiotherapist, Ward D5

The consultation on regenerating the Maldive and Faroe Close area was very well attended and lots of residents filled in the questionnaire and left their comments on post it notes. In fact it was so successful that Sentinel have said that they will give a full report in the next issue. **Jane Frankum Editor**

*Hits on [popley.matters.org.uk](http://popley.matters.org.uk) website for month of April 2076*

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](mailto: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; Committe Members Louise Tuck, Kate Lomas;  
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# Letters to The Editor



Dear Editor; After just receiving the Popley Matters magazine this morning I feel very angry and taken great offence at being branded by one of your readers as 'just too lazy to walk round the other side of their houses to park in parking areas or our garages'. This is referring to a letter printed on your letters to the editors page. May I say that perhaps this concerned from Jersey/Guernsey would like to let us know exactly where our garage is and also just take a look at the parking issues we have here in Tasmania Close.

As the parking issue has been raised perhaps we could ask for your help in it being resolved. The parking here in Tasmania really is beyond a joke. If there was no way of a remedy then myself and the other residents couldn't moan. But the fact is, in the cul-de-sac where there are some parking bays we have two overgrown, unsightly patches of scrub land. If this was turned into parking it would not only help the residents but also the council would not have to look after it anymore on the odd occasion that they do.

In one respect I do agree with your reader, I have to look out of my garden onto a mud pond and it isn't very nice. I would like to point out though that now we ONLY park on the grass if there is ABSOLUTELY nowhere else to park. In fact one night when we returned home rather than park on the grass we found another area to park and subsequently picked up £60 in parking fines. Thank you for taking the time to read this. Mrs X. Tasmania Close

**Editor's reply; There is a shortage of parking places in just about every area in Basingstoke. When the houses were first built people did not own such a number of cars then. I remember when we first moved into**

**Abbey Road we were the only ones who owned a car in our close of 25 houses and we were the local taxi service or so it seemed at the time. It is not unusual to have two, three or more cars per household now. I see some quite large vans as well. The campaign for white lines to help to define the spaces goes on and I am at last hopeful that we will get some. Of course it will not cure the parking problem but it will help. There is no one solution so we will have to keep looking at it and taking it step by step.**

Dear Editor; I went to the party to celebrate Ron Rowe's 30 years of service to the Popley Community and to celebrate the great news that after a long and hard fought battle Ron has been given the all clear from his cancer. I remember Ron on the floats at the Basingstoke Carnival, his playing football, being the Chairman for the old Maderia Hall and now Chair at Bermuda Hall. It was a lovely night and we all enjoyed ourselves. Thank you to all who organized this event and for the lovely food and special "Bingo" cake.

**Editors reply; I was there too and I must say it was a privilege as I have known Ron for many years and we have worked together on quite a few campaigns. I think everyone one there had a good time and enjoyed the hospitality and the food and cake.**

**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](mailto:editor@popleymatters.org.uk)**



# How proud of Popley are you?



2006 sees the first Proud of Popley Awards. They will recognise and reward the people in our community who go the extra mile, who give without receiving or have made a great contribution to make Popley a place to be proud of.

You can nominate people for any one of the categories below:

1. **Good neighbour**, for anyone who lives in the area and you feel has made a great contribution to the area. There are three age groups in this category:
  - ▶ Under 18
  - ▶ 19 – 60
  - ▶ 61 +
2. **Job well done**, for people working to make Popley a better place, for example carers, teachers, doctors or shop keepers...
3. **Most beautiful garden**, (you may want to include some photos to show the judges just how beautiful the garden you've nominated is)
4. **Unsung hero**, for anyone either a resident or someone who works or volunteers in the area and makes a real difference

There's also a photo competition for residents of all ages to enter too, as long as it shows either Popley places or Popley people. If you have already taken some photos or want to snap either Popley places or Popley people then simply send them in giving your name; address; phone number; email address; and a brief description of your photo, where it is, who is in it etc.

There are three age groups:

Under 12s

13 – 18

19 plus

The top 12 photos will be used in a Proud of Popley calendar.

To enter the awards first call the Community Wardens on 01256 845508, or write to Proud of Popley Awards, Community Wardens office, John Hunt of Everest School, Popley Way, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG24 9AB, or send an email to [proudofpopley@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:proudofpopley@basingstoke.gov.uk) to get an entry form. A panel of judges from Popley will study the entries and will select winners based on the categories above.

There will be a glitzy event at Popley Fields Community Centre for an awards ceremony where the winners will be announced and everyone can celebrate the awards on 4 August 2006.

It's simple, so make sure you nominate someone or enter the photo competition yourself. **The closing date for all award entries is 31 May 2006.**



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# Popley Festival 2006

**Don't forget the date Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May, kick off is at 11am.**

If you are interested in having a stall then contact us asap. You do not need to book if you are intending to sell at the car boot, but do not turn up on the day before 9.30am as you will not be allowed in, and there can be no selling until 11am.

The entertainment scheduled is almost now finalised with Kestrel running the programme. We will have our usual performers plus some new acts the main one being an Abba tribute band.

There will be lots of other things going on for example Junction 6 together with The Making will be offering creative arts sessions for the whole family, there will be cooking demonstrations, the Police, Community Wardens will be holding various activities, and there will be lots of stalls to see.

**There will be the usual food court and beer tent.**

**Walls Fun Fair will be there in full strength.**

We hope you will be able to make it, do come over and let us know what you think of it. Suki Binning, on behalf of the Popley Festival Planning Committee



## Melrose Community Centre Mega Jumble Extravaganza

**2pm to 5pm**

**On**

**Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>**

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**For further details contact Iris king 411113**

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## Do Funky Monkeys have holidays?



Funky Monkeys is an adult and toddler group that meet at St Gabriel's Church Hall **EVERY** Friday morning from 10:30 until 12. So the answer is NO we don't have a break and stop meeting just because the schools are on holiday. Some of our members have children over 5 so are unable to attend the group but others have children from 0-5 who can attend every week.

We have lots of toys and games to play with as well as joining together to sing some nursery rhymes at the end of each session. It's only £1 per family that includes refreshments for everyone.

We've received a lot of support from many organisations and grants to buy all the equipment we need so a great big thanks you to everyone for their help.

So if you're a Funky Monkey or a Funky Monkey's mate, come along on Fridays to see you would be great.

Dear Friends

Hope you all had a great Easter break, it was good to see that it had a much higher profile than usual with the media, what with the 'Manchester Passion' and the Archbishop having a go at the Da Vinci Code and all.

Spring is at last sprung – though there is an old country saying “ne’er cast a clout til’ May is out” but its wonderful to see the trees in bud and the daffodils and tulips flowering. It kind of stirs the senses to want to start doing things like spring cleaning, gardening or that DIY project that’s been waiting since last year.

I have a problem with this! I have an intense (hate is probably too emotive a word to use here) dislike of gardening. I’m no Alan Titchmarsh and every time I try to follow his, and any other number of so-called gardening experts advice, somehow it never seems to look as good as theirs. Same with DIY! How come when I give a room a makeover it looks more like it’s been turned over?

Having got that off my chest I have to say that even though I do intensely dislike doing these things it’s a mistake to neglect them. We need to keep our gardens looking tidy otherwise they tend to take over and end up looking like a jungle and our homes need maintaining because they can become dangerous if neglected – things fall down on you, electricity and plumbing fail resulting in expensive repairs and a lot of fuss and bother. So it’s in our own interest not to neglect these things!

It’s the same with ourselves. We are created body, mind and spirit and what we find is lots of emphasis on maintaining the first two but little on the third! Did you know that in the last census 74% of Popley put down their religion as Christian! That’s around 7000 of you! So let me ask you – when was the last time you gave yourself a spiritual health check, this is important! If we neglect our spirituality then it can have eternal consequences. Jesus speaks quite clearly on this matter when he says that one day we’ll all be called to give an account of ourselves to God. While we may acknowledge that fact it does seem that it’s something we don’t like to think about!

On Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30 at St Gabriel’s we’re staging the one man play “The Life of Christ” starring Eric Petrossian. It’s an exciting play and a great opportunity to check out Jesus’ claims about himself. Tickets will be on sale in the church on Saturday and Sunday mornings at £3.50 with concessions. As we get stuck into our gardens and our DIY projects this spring can I encourage you to make a worthwhile investment in your spiritual property and check this out. Our homes and gardens will be there long after we’ve gone and someone else will be tending them but we are solely responsible for maintaining our spiritual well being.

With warm greetings in Christ  
Arthur  
Your Vicar.

# Voices for Change

VOICES FOR CHANGE 2006

*Voices for Change – Young People Change the World!* has been running international events for young activists and social entrepreneurs for the last five years and this year’s promises to be our most unusual yet. Following the success of the event in Pune, India, last year, Voices for Change is returning to the UK from 15 to 21 August.



Based in an outdoor environmentally sustainable conference centre, called “Green and Away” near Gloucester, the 2006 event will be home to 150 young activists from around the world.

Voices for Change combines skills and culture sharing events and workshops run by a mixture of participants and professionals.

To take part you need to be between 16 and 25. Individuals from Europe pay £250 or £200 if you’re coming from the rest of the world. People funded by organisations pay £300 (Europe) or £250 (elsewhere). We also offer a limited number of full and partial bursaries. If you are interested you need to send us your application by 30<sup>th</sup> May– see below for contact details to request an application form.



Voices for Change aims to support, inspire, motivate and skill up young people involved in running community projects, social enterprises, campaigns and youth organisations and create an international support network of young activists. The group has been hosting the event for five years at Atlantic College in Wales and near Mumbai in India.

“I’ve never experienced anything like it.” Natalie Lambert (participant, 2005 event)

For further information please contact Rachel Laurence, Voices for Change, The Hub, 5 Torrens Street, London EC1V 1NQ, tel. 0207 841 8959, fax 0207 841 8999 or

Email: [rachel.laurence@change-the-world.net](mailto:rachel.laurence@change-the-world.net)

[www.voicesforchange.net](http://www.voicesforchange.net)

## 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



All the Beavers made a cross stitch bookmark as Mother's Day gifts during March with varying degrees of skill! Everyone tried their hardest and we hope 'Mums' were suitably impressed. Ten Beavers attended Easter Fun Day and completed Explore badge as well as making crispy egg 'nests'. We went on an insect hunt at the start of the summer session and were especially pleased to espy two deer grazing in the distance. We watched them for some time and they seemed unaware of our presence as the Beavers kept so very quiet. New recruits welcome - telephone Eve (01256) 346510 - boys or girls can join but must be 6 years of age (we keep a waiting list for children who are too young to join immediately).



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

The pack took part in the District Cub Scout Five-a-side Football competition on the astro-turf at Queen Mary's College and were unlucky to be narrowly beaten in the semi final by 2 goals to 1. Cubs have achieved Hobbies, Home Help, Physical Recreation activity badges this month and several are to receive Nights Away badges recognising several nights under canvas. All the cub scouts will have the opportunity to visit Gilwell Park on 18<sup>th</sup> June to be part of Hampshire Scouts' Fun Day to celebrate the section's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. New recruits welcome - contact Akela on (01256) 323453 - or come to Base 2000 on a Tuesday between 6.30 and 8.15 p.m.



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

The troop took part in the District Cooking competition and were pleased to receive a special commendation from the judges at this their first entry in the event. They took their pilot mascot with them for good luck. The next District event is a Patrol Leaders and Seconds Training activity weekend at the end of April and later in the summer the Backwood Cooking competition. New recruits (boys and girls) welcome - come to Base 2000 on Monday evening or telephone Colin on (01256) 410559

Basingstoke Air Scouts - Group Scout Leader Enquiries: Pat Brown 351366 or mobile 07716 855474

The Group Annual General Meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2006. I urge all parents and supporters to attend. This is the one meeting in the year when we seek parental attendance and help with fund-raising and the more boring, but essential, administrative details of running a scout group - will **you** give two hours six times a year to help? We are also looking for more helpers for the two younger sections. If you like working with young people or have a skill/interest you would like to 'share' even if only on a 'one off' basis please get in touch. Warranted leaders and skills instructors are required to complete a Criminal Records Bureau clearance form before being permitted unsupervised access to young people.

Bob Lock, District Commissioner for Basingstoke East Scouts has recently announced that he is to retire as soon as a replacement can be appointed. The search is on to find suitable nominees to fill the vacancy. Nominees must understand and accept the aims of the Scout Association and be prepared to promote good quality Scouting in the District which extends from the town centre to Chineham, Popley and Old Basing, and help them be the best. Criminal Records Bureau requirements will apply. For more information telephone Debbie Evans, Field Development officer on 01635 247845. The post is voluntary although expenses such as travel and postage are reimbursable.

That's it for this month - see you at the Boot Sales and at Popley Festival when we shall run our customary 'best burger' stand. Have a great day!

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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

# Basingstoke in Bloom

Gardeners are being urged to show off their blooming gardens and our beautiful borough by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The council is entering the South and South East in Bloom competition and is urging residents to enter the Basingstoke in Bloom competition. The best Basingstoke in Bloom entries will then represent the borough in the South and South East Competition.

Basingstoke in Bloom includes three categories: best front gardens; best photographs of the borough; and best primary school gardens in the borough. The best school category closes on 26 May 2006, while the front gardens and best photographs categories both close on 7 July 2006 so there's plenty of time for green fingers to work their magic.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council parks team recommends some top water saving tips to help you to keep your garden blooming despite hosepipe bans and the threat of water shortages. By collecting rainwater, reusing bathwater, using mulches to keep the soil cool, watering first thing in the morning or last thing in the evening to minimise evaporation, knowing your plants as some need more water than others and not watering lawns as they will come back after a dry summer, you can do your bit to save water.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Head of Leisure Neil Cole said: "Basingstoke in Bloom is not only for horticultural enthusiasts but also about getting the communities involved, planting to suit the seasons, improving the environment and reducing the damage caused to it. We are really committed to the competition and provide a lot of support to make Basingstoke bloom. I'd encourage anyone to enter or make a nomination – because we welcome all entries."

As beautiful gardens are enjoyed by anyone who may pass by, anyone can now nominate gardens they like. So there can be entries not just from the gardeners themselves, but also from residents and neighbours who think a garden should get an award.

Basingstoke in Bloom winners will receive their prizes at the presentation ceremony to be held later in the year.

If you would like to enter the competition or make a nomination forms are available from the website [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/inbloom](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/inbloom) or by calling Liane Barker on 01256 845630.

**For further information contact: Katie Marlow, Corporate Communications Officer on 01256 845507 [katie.marlow@basingstoke.gov.uk](mailto:katie.marlow@basingstoke.gov.uk) Fax: 01256 844 707**



**Basingstoke  
and Deane**

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Phone: 01256 414494

Fax: 01256 418529



Charity Reg No: 1052133

[popleyfields@hotmail.com](mailto:popleyfields@hotmail.com)

This year has got off to a great start within the Popley Fields Youth Club, P.O.P Zone. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> of February we took 10 youths off on a residential trip to the Avon Tyrrell Centre in the New Forest. A great weekend was had by all. They took part in a number of activities including Raft Building, Trust Walking and a disco for them on the Saturday night. The photos of the weekend are on display within the centre.

We are already looking at booking another trip, this time to the Brecon Beacons, This will also be an activity weekend and will include Pony Trekking, Abseiling and much more as we hope to go from Monday to Friday this time. With the help of the Hampshire and Isle of White Youth Options we also have an activity programme during school holidays, which for a minimal amount the young people can go on outings such as Go Karting, Ice skating, Archery. We have also had a special effects make up artist visit and teach them how to apply the make-up to make them look as if they have been in accidents, as you can imagine they all thoroughly enjoyed this session.

The Youth club has set sessions on a Monday evening

6pm – 8pm 8yrs – 13yrs

8pm – 10pm 14yrs – 18yrs

If you have any young people aged 8yrs – 18yrs that you think would enjoy what we have to offer at our Youth Club then please bring them or send them along. Memberships are £5 per year.

If you know of anyone that can spare a few hours as a volunteer on a Monday evening please ring me on 01256 414494.

Tracy Rogers Duty Manager/ Youth Worker

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## Popley Fields Quiz Night

Dont forget the popular Charity Quiz Night at Popley Fields. Pit your wits against our great Firefighters and other teams. Teams must be a minimum of two. Lots of good prizes and a raffle and it all goes to our local charity P.O.P. Zone Youth Club in Popley Fields  
Time 7.30 Place Popley Fields Date Friday 12th May  
Only £1 Entrance

## Diaries from The old Codger

Back to 1939, Europe was in turmoil, war had been declared. My father George William Potten married my mother Ivy Guy, it was a tough time for families and loved ones. My mother worked at a factory in Silvertown called Tate and Lyle. Yes, they manufactured the sugar you have on your tables. The factory spread all around the docks. Then it started, "the Blitz" The thing was that Tate and Lyles had all German machinery in it and all through the blitz of London not one bomb dropped on it. My mother's old school took a direct hit killing 135 children and teachers.

Our family were evacuated to Wokingham then to Old Coulsdon in Surrey. We stayed there until 1960. When dad was demobbed in 1946 he was too old to continue to play football for West Ham, so he took up his hobby again, pigeon racing. It was the sport he loved till his dying day. Dad won many races in his long racing time and was awarded the Domoney Trophy for the Outstanding Loft of the Year. To win that is the accolade in pigeon racing. If you can imagine some times as many as 6,000 pigeons all going off at one time to race home from 60 to 400 miles. Dad and I would sit outside the loft on race day. Next door would be my grandfather and Jo my father's brother with their loft. I can remember when I was about twelve, we had a pigeon that could go fast. If we sent him he would be the first back. But would he go in our loft, no, he would sit on a branch every time 80 feet off the ground and just look at us. Well one day Dad said that branch has got to go, come on son he gave me a saw and hooked it to my belt and I had to climb this tree. Boy was it high up. Dad gave instructions as to the branch he wanted me to saw and I duly did the deed, it went tumbling down to the floor below. I held on tight, "that's it son, well done down you come" said Dad and I inched my way down. We sat in the garden, pleased with a job well done, "You fool" he turned to me and said, "What's the matter I replied?". "You cut the wrong branch off". "I cut the one you said", "Yes I know, but you cut the wrong one". So you know where I was off to, or should I say up. (I think that is where I get it from her Indoors. If it goes wrong I just say it's my fault. The same with money, what's mine is hers and what's hers is hers). Oh you fellows reading this are all nodding your heads now. See I am not the only one.

Dad received a letter one day. He was asked by the Queens Loft Manager if he would donate a bird for breeding. Dad duly did so with pride to think he was asked. His racing days had to come to an end when he got Motor Neurons in the eighties. But he was able to judge many shows and not only in the U.K. A professor in Australia invited him to judge a show out there. He was writing a book and Dad supplied him with a lot of information on breeding and racing. Dad could pick up a bird and tell you a week ahead of a race if it could race. He showed me everything on the way to breed, race, and judge. When we were in Old Coulsdon the phone rang one day it was pop singer Michael Holliday's manager. Michael wanted some pigeons. Dad said to come any time. I was about fifteen and girls were getting interesting to me. He turned up outside our house with the most gorgeous girls I had ever seen. He drove a pink Cadillac with an open top, He picked out about ten birds (the ones with feathers on) and Dad told him the price he would have to pay. That was the last we saw of him. Dad did not care who he was. He was not giving a pop singer them for free. I suppose if I wanted to I could sit down and write a book about Michael Holliday and others in that world. Also one of the greatest boxers this country ever had Freddy Mills still that's another day. When dad passed away in 2002 I inherited all his papers, amongst them was his feeding program leading up to race day, plus all his winning certificates. Dad was a gentle man but if you crossed him or hurt any of his children, God help them. Dad stood for right and wrong, He was strict not letting my sisters wear makeup or nylons until they were eighteen. I had to be in by eight and as I have said before within reach of his whistle. I remember one day a pigeon arrived home from a race. She flew straight into our loft and crash landed at the back. Dad got her, she was covered in blood and the front of her was split wide open, she had been shot. Dad got the rubber off her leg and put it in the clock. Mean time I ran down to get the needle and cotton, I held her whilst dad did the stitching. She stopped breathing. Dad massaged her heart, I know this may sound yucky but he put her head in his mouth breathed she came back to life. She never raced again but stayed as a breeding hen and we had a few good winners from her. She died at the age of twelve, it is old for a bird like this. This was just a small window in my father's life and a life he lived to the full, even with his illness. He would not let it beat him, just like his pigeon racing he was a winner and I loved him very much. That pigeon won the race as well. The Old Codger



On Saturdays we have started training for the U7's team (YEAR1), training will start at 12 noon and finish at 1.30pm.

We are in desperate need of players for the U9's team (YEAR 3) and we need another 8 players. Training also starts at 12 noon.

In last month's issue I said that if you were 9 before the 31<sup>st</sup> of September, you would be too old to play for the team I know now that I was misinformed and have been told on good authority that it is the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, so my sincere apologies. So that means anyone who is 9 years of age before the 31<sup>st</sup> of August will be too old to play for the U9's team.

I have had at least 3 kids interested in playing for the U9's team, who come and watch. When I said to go and tell their mums that they could come and play for the team and that it was only £1 a-week to train, I was very surprised to the response I got! They all came back to me and said either that they weren't allowed to play football (spoil sports) or even more shocking they couldn't afford it. A pound a week. I mean come on, what's a pound a week, nothing is it? There are kids out there who are gagging to play and their parents are either too busy, lazy, tight or couldn't care less about what their kids are doing, If I let them play for nothing it wouldn't be fair on the other kids and parents who are paying. I'd love to do it for no charge but we just can't do it, we need the funds to keep on with what we are, and what we want to do with the club.

On a good note, the Tornados and Whirlwinds are doing really well; they're really coming on. We also have a new member to the team, George Graves and a big thank you to his dad, Russell, who between himself and Duane (thank you) have kindly agreed to give us a hand in training, which is a great help, cheers.

We now have a player of the month award for both teams. The player who gives his or her best week in week out gets the trophy and certificate. The two players who won in March were Cameron (I'll bite yer legs) Grist and Bobby (Riverdance) Hewson. Well done boys. And finally this month's winners are Ellie (it's not my fault I look like me granddad) Dawber and Jacob (Goldenboy) Austen, Well done.

Thanks Lee

## Longfellow Parade Regeneration Update

Sentinel Housing Association has heard back from the Housing Corporation about funding for the regeneration project at Longfellow Parade. As part of the allocation of Social Housing Grant for the South East of England, the Housing Corporation has agreed to put the rented housing element of the regeneration project on a reserve list for funding, although we do not know as yet when the funds will become available. However, as such, funding has not been made available for the wholesale redevelopment and therefore cannot commence at this time.

### What will happen next?

Sentinel is now looking to secure support from its Board and Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council to continue to develop plans for the regeneration, the next stage of which will be further consultation with local people affected by the proposals, hopefully followed by a detailed planning application. What the funding decision does mean is that we cannot give any certainty over the timing of the redevelopment of Longfellow Parade.

Sentinel remains committed to improving your neighbourhood and we will write to you again as soon as we have any additional information for you regarding the next stage of the project.

### Popley Surgery

A Popley Surgery is held once a month at St Gabriels Church, Tewkesbury Road, Popley. The next one is on Saturday 6 May 2006 from 1pm to 2pm. Please come along if you have any questions to ask and we will do our best to answer them. Councillors Jane Frankum and Andy McCormick will also be in attendance to answer any questions you may have.

If you have any queries please contact Lynne Thomson, Regeneration Liaison Officer, by email: [thomson.lynne@sentinelha.org.uk](mailto:thomson.lynne@sentinelha.org.uk) or telephone: 01252 788730.

# Sentinel



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](http://www.basingstoke-new-t.freeserve.co.uk)

## **HM** Homeleigh Mortgages

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**To review your mortgage payments**

**Please contact**

**John Reardon or Bipin Mistry**

## "Mocktails" The Re-Launch

Millennium Volunteers working in partnership with The Community Wardens and Popley Fields Community Association.

**Thank you to Connexions for funding and their continued support.**

**Next "Mocktails" evening is on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Third Thursday Every Month**

**The Aim** is to encourage volunteering and to welcome all members of the community to the project and to provide an arena for taster sessions.

To continue to promote healthy lifestyles, by providing a non - alcoholic bar, complimentary health activities and entertainment.

**The Launch** .70 members of the community including 50 young people came to the launch on 23<sup>rd</sup> March at Popley Fields Community Centre Bar.

Volunteers had worked hard to set up the Hawaiian themed bar and a Bistro style seating area. We hired a Flair man from the Shaker School of Bartenders based in London. He showed the young volunteers a few juggling bottle tricks and a lot of tips on setting up the bar area to make life easy. Also many recipes and ideas to include fresh fruit in the Cocktails and as decoration. His presence behind the bar for the whole evening really gave it an edge and such a professional look. The young people couldn't take their eyes of him in anticipation of his next display of juggling the bottles whilst pouring the drinks

The benefit of his experience has encouraged and enthused the young people and we are now looking to bring a Flair course to the Community Centre to train 8 of the volunteers.

We had visitors from Hatch Warren Community Centre Youth Club. They came to see how we do it, and now they are making plans to start a Mocktails Bar.

3 Millennium Volunteers are volunteering at Hatch Warren Community centre currently. We have advised them with appropriate funding and suppliers.

They left excited, eager and impressed. Plans for Hatch Warren to join in with the future Flair course look promising and will help to share costs.

James MV's favourite singer songwriter gave the whole evening a real ambience; he played a few current hit covers, which went, down well with the, just right for Cocktail background music. The staff asked James as they would like him to get involved in the community centre events in the future.

Capoeira group stopped the centre in it's tracks. All the Kick Boxers that were having classes next door and Councillors that were having a meeting had to stop and come in and have a look. The Kick boxers are now looking to get more involved with Capoeira and with some of the activities that will be run alongside the bar on Mocktails nights. The Capoeira group will be attending again due to popular demand and some of the young people would like to get more involved. This is a good image for the bar to associate with. The physical energy needed for the dance helps to promote healthy lifestyles.

### **Conclusion**

The evening was a success. Not only did it "look the part" the idea of providing taster sessions to encourage interesting volunteering seems to have paid off! 3 new volunteers came forward and signed up for MV.

8 want to be Future Flair man to be trained. Hatch Warren volunteers wanting to get involved.

*Jaynie Lewis (MV Project Worker)*

## Countywide Travel

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 from the Tourist Information Centre.

MAY

|        |      |                                 |         |         |         |         |
|--------|------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Sat 13 | 0530 | Adinkerke & Calais Cite Europe* | £ 31.00 | £ 27.50 | £ 19.25 | £ 26.00 |
| Sun 14 | 0830 | Mystery tour                    | £ 18.00 | £ 17.25 | £ 12.50 | £ 16.50 |
| Sat 20 | 0830 | Weston - Super - Mare           | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sun 21 | 0800 | Torquay                         | £ 20.00 | £ 19.00 | £ 13.25 | £ 18.00 |
| Sat 27 | 0830 | Weymouth                        | £ 17.00 | £ 16.25 | £ 11.25 | £ 15.25 |
| Sun 28 | 0830 | Lyme Regis                      | £ 18.00 | £ 17.25 | £ 12.50 | £ 16.50 |
| Mon 29 | 0830 | Tour around the Wrekin          | £ 20.00 | £ 19.00 | £ 13.25 | £ 18.00 |
| Tue 30 | 0900 | Brooklands*                     | £ 19.00 | £ 17.50 | £ 14.00 | £ 16.75 |
| Wed 31 | 0830 | Chichester (Market Day)         | £ 15.00 | £ 14.25 | £ 10.00 | £ 13.50 |

JUNE \*To be booked & paid by 2/6/06

|        |      |                               |         |         |         |         |
|--------|------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Thu 1  | 0900 | Warwick                       | £ 17.50 | £ 16.75 | £ 11.50 | £ 15.75 |
| Fri 2  | 0830 | Swindon (McArthur Glen)       | £ 16.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 10.50 | £ 14.50 |
| Sat 3  | 0830 | Isle of Wight*                | £ 23.00 | £ 22.00 | £ 15.25 | £ 20.75 |
| Sun 4  | 0930 | Exbury Gardens*               | £ 22.00 | £ 21.25 | £ 15.00 | £ 20.00 |
| Sat 10 | 0830 | Cardiff                       | £ 20.00 | £ 19.00 | £ 13.25 | £ 18.00 |
| Sun 11 | 0830 | West Somerset Rly & Minehead* | £ 25.50 | £ 24.25 | £ 16.25 | £ 23.50 |
| Sat 17 | 0900 | Ludlow                        | £ 20.00 | £ 19.00 | £ 13.25 | £ 18.00 |
| Sun 18 | 0830 | Fathers day Lunch*            | £ 28.00 | £ 26.50 | £ 19.00 | £ 25.50 |

‡ on all trips abroad pickups are restricted to our depot in Oakley, Bstoke Churchill Way Coach Bay And Hook, Old white Hart (a30) only  
Full details and bookings available at the tourist information centre, Willis museum. Telephone 817618



Millennium Volunteers

## igstoke Parliamentary Constituency

**If you need help or advice, contact your Member of Parliament**

### Maria Miller MP

Maria represents all those who live in the Basingstoke constituency, regardless of how they voted at the General Election.

Contact Maria at: **House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA** Tel: **020 7219 5749**  
or: **149d Pack Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG22 5HN** Tel: **01256 322207**

or email: [millerm@parliament.uk](mailto:millerm@parliament.uk)

**Advice Bureau** sessions are held in the constituency regularly. Appointments can be made by telephoning 020 7219 5749

Promoted on her own behalf by Maria Miller MP, 149d Pack Lane, Basingstoke, Hants RG22 5HN



## “Merton Rise and Replacement John Hunt of Everest School Project, Basingstoke”

Progress on the new school building continues to be made with more parts of the concrete frame structure being erected every week. A presentation on the progress and key miles stones for the school building project and wider Merton Rise site is planned for the forthcoming Popley Festival on May 21<sup>st</sup> at which Andrew Pritchard, the design architect for the school and I will attend.

We have now selected a contractor for the next phase of advance infrastructure works which will see the construction of the Spine Road between Chineham Lane and Sherborne Road, together with the proposed light control improvement to the junction of Sherborne Road and Popley Way. This contract will start mid-May and will as before rely on closures of Sherborne Road or Chineham Lane (but never at the same same to provide local access). The overall contract will be for approximately 48 weeks and more information relating to the contractor, points of contact at the County Council during the contract, and timetable for road closures will be provided nearer the time.

The second stage of the marketing exercise for Phase 1 on Merton Rise has now been completed and we are now in the process of evaluating bids and schemes of development with a view to selecting a purchaser (or purchasers) for the land which will be ratified at a County Council meeting in June. The level of design quality from the schemes submitted has been very good and I believe that the vision for a high quality contemporary urban extension on Merton Rise will be fulfilled.

The Merton Rise project team is now turning its attention to further areas of “investment” work, which will see the planning applications for the first part of the open space strategy within Merton Rise to provide the proposed park on Chineham Lane early in the development and also the final part of the Spine Road between Sherborne Road and the A340 Aldermaston Road. We are also working up the urban design strategy for the Phase 2 land, which will include the new Neighbourhood Centre, with a view to securing approval from the Borough Council to a phase-wide master plan and also a series of sub-briefs to support the marketing of this part of the site in the Autumn.

See you at the Popley Festival!  
Louise Hague  
Merton Rise Project Manager



## **NEW GUIDE TO CARE AT HOME**

The latest Guide to Care at Home, for people who wish to continue to live in their own home but feel they need additional support, has been published by Hampshire County Council's Adult Services department.

The Guide to Care at Home is free, covers Hampshire, and is an essential reference for all people seeking help, information and advice about home care and how to find it.

The 96 page guide, updated annually, includes a list of organisations which provide help at home as well as information on claiming benefits and the cost of care, special equipment, home alterations, travel and holidays, help for carers and how Adult Services and the health service can help. Those who feel they may be eligible for help from Adult Services towards their care costs will have to meet the County Council's eligibility criteria.

The guide also contains specialist information for groups such as older people, carers, and people with learning disabilities, physical disabilities or mental health problems. There is also advice on what to look out for when choosing a Home Care service as well as contact details for the County Council's Adult Services department, other local authorities, Home Improvement Agencies and Councils of Voluntary Service across the county. The guide is available to Hampshire residents by calling free on 0800 028 0888, or from the County Council's five information centres, libraries, citizens advice bureaux, and Adult Services offices. Care at home information is also available at [www.hants.gov.uk/socservs/domcare](http://www.hants.gov.uk/socservs/domcare)

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## **Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

Julia Pior is running an Elder Abuse Awareness Day and Coffee Morning at Magnolia Court on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2006 starting at 10am and finishing at 1pm. To raise money for the elder abuse charity, but more importantly raise awareness.

Leaflets and Posters will be available to the general public to take away with them.

This is an important issue and all are welcome to come

for Further Information Call Julia Pior ☎462140

You are warmly invited to a  
Fantastic evening of Gospel music

Featuring the renowned

# **ARIA INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL CHOIR**

**Saturday 13th May @ 6.30pm  
Admission Free**

Popley Fields Community Centre  
Carpenters Down  
Popley

For more information phone Graham or Barbara on (01256) 363 692

Welcome

New Testament

Church of God

Basingstoke



Popley Fields Community Centre - Sunday 10.30 till 12.00



## **107.6 Kestrel FM Community Breaks**

Community Breaks are there to tell people what's going on in their community. They provide local clubs, schools, groups and charities with an opportunity to promote their fund raising and community initiatives on air reaching local listeners. Without them some events would not get the profile they need to raise money and awareness for local projects.

Sentinel have stepped in as a sponsor to help promote some of our events such as Get With activities and Pride in your Place Walkabouts, but to also enable all sorts of people from our communities to promote their events, such as MacMillan Coffee mornings held at Sheltered Schemes, school fetes and so forth.

If you have an event that needs some awareness then contact Kestrel FM on 01256 694000.

So for the 'Word on what's on in your community' tune into Kestrel FM!

# Sentinel



PC Matt Deery



There have been reports of Bogus Callers trying to operate in your neighbourhood and we all need to be aware of what you can do to avoid being a victim.

Bogus callers are conmen (or women) who use a variety of stories to gain access to a person's home in order to steal. They may pose as an official caller from a local authority or a utility company, Gas, Electricity and Water, with a plausible explanation for needing to enter the home.

Rogue Traders are people who pretend to be builders needing to do 'urgent' repairs or sales people offering bargain products. They often pressurise householders to pay in advance for materials or do poor work at highly inflated prices.

A common factor is that both Bogus Callers and Rogue Traders prey on vulnerable older or disabled people. Many offences go unreported.

When a bogus caller uses a trick to enter a home and steal property its called a 'Distraction Burglary'. You may also hear the term 'Artifice Offence' used.

Bogus callers succeed because they sound believable, so don't be fooled. Make sure in your own mind that they are whom they claim to be by following these simple steps:

- 1, Think before you open the door - use your chain and spy hole or look out of the window to see if you recognise them.
- 2, Ask callers for proof of identity. Genuine tradesmen should carry an identification card with their photograph on. Check this carefully. If you are unsure, telephone the company the caller claims to represent, (use a number from telephone directory and not any number they might give you)
- 3, The Utilities now offer a password identification system. Any caller from one of these companies should be able to give a pre-arranged password as additional proof of identity.
- 4, Beware of callers who attempt to distract you by claiming that they have seen something untoward in your rear garden or somewhere which may encourage you to leave your house - they may have an accomplice awaiting this distraction.
- 5, If you are not convinced of the identity of the caller, don't let them in. Ask the caller to come back later and arrange for a friend, relative or neighbour to be present on their return or ask the caller to contact this person. Use a one of our Nominated Neighbour cards (see below)

**Treat every stranger with caution. If you are still worried, dial 999 immediately and ask for the police.**

PC3126 Matt Deery

# KEEP YOUR BELONGINGS SAFE

**Don't leave anything on display in your car**

**If you have to leave items in your car, put them out of sight**

In the last three months in Basingstoke, 100 vehicles have been targeted by criminals trying to steal **SATELLITE NAVIGATION SYSTEMS.**

Don't leave temptation – completely **REMOVE** these, and their **CRADLES**, from your vehicle.

