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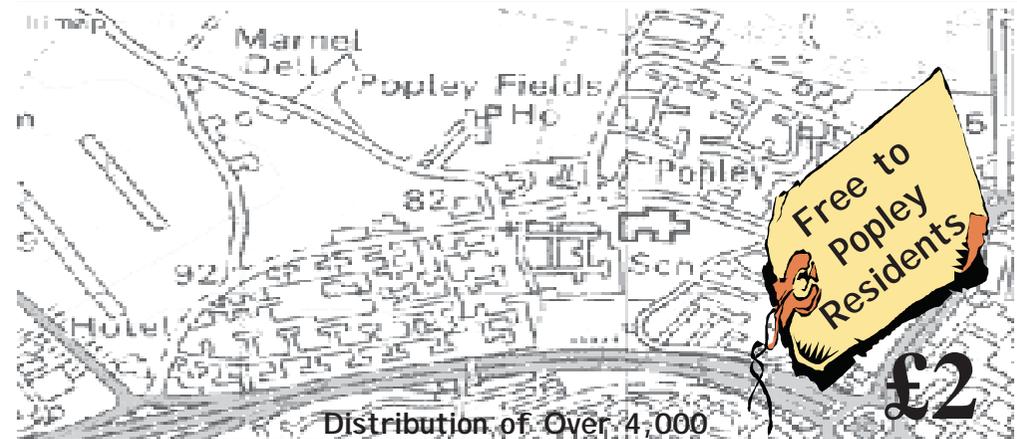
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POPLEY MATTERS

OVER SEVENTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

JULY 2009

Issue 89



FULL OF LOCAL NEWS AND VIEWS

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Closing date to submit articles & adverts (20-07-09)



Editor
Jane Frankum

Message From the Editor:- Summer holidays are here again and though many lucky people will be going on holiday, many more like myself will not. As much as I love to feel the warmth of the sun and love to hear the laughter of happy people, I worry about children playing out near the roads. Please be careful both children and motorists, especially in the estates.

The travellers have been a constant nuisance in Popley and are leaving the sort of mess that belongs down sewers. We need a permanent solution, not just in Popley but in Hampshire too.

There seems to be quite a lot of events to go to this month:- Get With on page 1. Charity raising events like the football on page 4 and cycling for St Michael's Hospice on page 28. There is some sound advice about safety from the Hampshire Fire Service on page 5 if you have a BBQ, and suggestions where you can go for some healthy walks on page 14. There's a recipe for Ann's diabetic cake that I am told is delicious on page 1. Perhaps you have a recipe that we could print? I would welcome some tasty but different recipes as we have a diverse community in Popley. For the fairly clever residents there's a quiz night at Everest Community College organized by the Parent Teacher Focus group to raise funds on page 18. The centre pages are a report written by the youth from Junction 6 and is well worth a read.

Iris King, who many of you know from Popley Matters and all the community work she does in Popley also for Neighbourcare, is in hospital as I write this. I am sure like me you will send our very best wishes that she is well very soon.



Sub Editor
Paul Frankum

To pass back ideas, comments, suggestions, articles or to offer help please write to:- Popley Matters Group, P.O. Box 6727, Basingstoke RG24 9GG, e-mail: editor@popleymatters.org.uk. The views in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editorial Team, the members of the committee, or Popley Forum/Matters.

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Chloe's Column.



Hello again readers. Sorry about not writing last month, I have started to realize how easy it is to be overloaded with coursework, and did not realize that I had not written my monthly article. However I will still of course continue to do my article.

What a strange month it has been! One minute it's cold the next minute we are getting sunny summer weather. Personally I hope the summer weather stays! Hopefully this year will make up for

the cold summer of last year. At Everest Community College, headteacher Ms Julie Rose has won the award for Best Head Teacher in the South of England, as she has turned one of the worst academic schools in Britain into a well performing school and given Popley some of its pride back. We are proud to have her at Everest and she will be entered in for the award of Best Headteacher nationally (fingers crossed).



Last month all year 11 students in Basingstoke schools left and now only have to come in for GCSE exams. Also at Everest Year 8 students had a Japanese week to help them learn about the culture language dress code and the food. Year 10 students were also on work experience, which is a reason why I have been busy. If you don't know what work experience is then it is a two week placement(s)

with a business to help us to learn what working for a living is like and help us be more confident when getting a job once we leave school or whilst we are at college. I don't really have a monthly moan this month (the good weather must be making me feel happy) apart from I wish I could have more sleep, I do love my bed. Anyway it's soon going to be the summer holidays (yay!!) and a lot of people are probably wondering what is there to do? Well what you might like to do is watch the DVDs you need to watch or you could read a book you have been meaning to read, catch up with old friends, go to Thorpe Park and try the new Saw Ride (if you are brave enough). And if the good weather continues the beach is a nice option and an easy chance to get a nice tan. Or even sunbathing in the back garden. There will probably



be some children's activities at Popley Fields Community Centre or Connections at Everest, so that should keep them busy (for a few hours). Then of course there's going on holiday! The best part of summer. Relaxation and a break. Even in England there are some lovely places to go like Butlins or Center Parks or Bournemouth or Weymouth to name a few. I hope everyone goes somewhere nice

and has a good time. Don't forget to use sun protection!!

Until next issue,
Chloe.



Everest Community College is expanding their children's summer programme with even more activities planned for this summer as part of the "GET WITH" scheme sponsored by Sentinel Housing. The "GET WITH" programme is entirely free to all children in the community!

The creative team at Everest have been liaising with local children to ensure an exciting and varied programme of activities will be available during the summer months. This year brings some new, innovative ideas aimed specifically at 13-17 year olds, such as offsite sessions of: Car Mechanics, DIY Trade Skills, Calshot Activity Centre, Snow Sports and outdoor crafts. In addition to these activities there will be a variety of Sports, Beauty Workshop, Capoeira, Streetdance, Crafts and Babysitting course, to name a few of the many fantastic opportunities available for children aged 8-17 years.

The scale of this year's programme is vast, and aims to work with other partners in the Borough to offer children the chance to try out activities that will give them new experiences and interact with other children during the holidays. Supervision by ACSO's, BCOT tutors, Community Wardens and ECC staff will ensure the children will be well supervised and provide a high standard of care and expertise.

For further information, and a registration form with full programme, please contact Dawn Purver, or the Community team on 01256-337573.



Ann's Diabetic Fruit Cake

Always tastes great and is a cake just about everyone can enjoy. It has been tried and tested at Melrose Hall's Friendly Cafe

Recipe

1kg mixed fruit
2 cups fruit juice or tea of your choice
2 cups self raising flour
2 eggs (optional)
Preheat oven to 125°C (very cool or slow) gas mark 1
Soak fruit in juice or tea overnight stir in flour into fruit (+2 eggs) Mix well spoon into a paper lined tin and bake for 2 to 2 1/4 hours in the bottom of the oven. Leave to cool \wrap in foil. This lovely cake can be frozen

Can you cook?

Do you have any recipes we can include in a Popley Cook Book?

If you would like to see your recipes in print,

please send them to Melrose Community Hall, Abbey Road or email them to: melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk

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We are currently taking enquiries and bookings
For further information please contact 01256 464750

Julie's Garden Tips

I am now starting to see the fruits of the hard work. The climbing French beans and runner beans are almost to the top of the canes, and today I noticed the first flowers on the peas. It seems that planting peas in large tubs is a better way of growing them. I have had many comments on how good they are looking, so I must be doing something right. I have noticed them wilt a couple of times during this hot weather, so now have large pop bottles full of water turned upside-down into the compost. This dribble of water keeps them going between waterings. I made the mistake of thinking that just because we had had a couple of wet days that the peas and beans would manage for a few days without the hose, but now I water them daily unless it is actually raining.

The cabbage plants never got put into the wall garden, and are now sat on staging in large individual pots alongside Brussels sprout plants. I managed to get a good deal on vegetable plants at a local DIY store, so despite being concerned I would not be making good use of the garden this year, I got carried away. I now have a massive selection growing in random containers all over the garden.

I have mentioned Freecycle before, but I would like to publicly thank the variety a people who have helped out by donating pots, planters, crates and buckets for me to grow things in. It would have cost a fortune to buy them all, and once my garden is established I will be happy to offer them on to other people in need.

Along with the cabbages and sprouts, I have carrots, beetroot, radish, cherry tomatoes, courgettes, aubergines, peppers and mange tout peas in large pots. I have calabrese and purple sprouting broccoli waiting for pots, although hopefully I will be able to plant them straight into the ground in a week or so. I also have sweetcorn sown in pots waiting to be planted up, and I will probably sow some more carrots or salad greens between them to extend the season.

I got a bargain from a large seed company selling off their seeds and young bedding plants too. If you have access to a computer it is worth signing up to these companies for their regular email offers, or check their websites regularly for bargains. I have planted some flower pouches with busy lizzies, lobelia and begonias, and planters with verbena, petunias, mimulus and busy lizzies. If I tell you I paid £2.49 for 84 busy lizzies, I think that shows how good a deal I got. I needed to get some flower into the garden to attract the insects that pollenate the tomatoes, peas and beans. I also bought packs of vegetable seeds for next year at half their sale price, so next year's crops will be doubly good value!

The best achievement I think so far this year has been my raised beds. These are generally made from plastic or wood, suitable for patios and decking as well as standing on soil. The idea is that you grow leafy or short rooted plants in them, and fill them with good compost and soil mix. Because the soil isn't likely to get trampled it is easier to fork over, it is easy to get at the weeds, and you can plant things closer together. However, the down side is that the initial outlay can be high. A family member suggested an alternative which has cost me absolutely nothing! Some local factories and stores use wooden collars to protect the goods on the pallets. These are often thrown away, but are ideal for raised beds. They are usually made from pressure treated timber and have riveted hinges on all 4 corners, and the best bonus is that they stack one on top of each other and are pretty stable too. I have seen these being offered on a certain internet auction site starting at £8 each, and since I acquired 12, I think it was worth the wait to get them free. If you are planning to use these on a patio or decking, you will need to line them with heavy gauge polythene to stop the soil staining the surface, and you will need to make drainage holes too. For an idea of what you can grow in raised beds, check the internet or library for more information.

A good tip for those who have very limited space for growing vegetables, is don't waste space on things that are cheap in the supermarkets while they are in season. Try growing some between flowers in your borders. You will be surprised at the colours and shapes you get from vegetables.

Hopefully by the next time I write, I will have had a few pickings of the faster growing vegetables, and the raised beds will be filled with plants for later in the season. In the meantime I am off to find a few more pots to sow another batch of carrot and radish, and maybe some white turnips too.



Young's Chinese Food to take away

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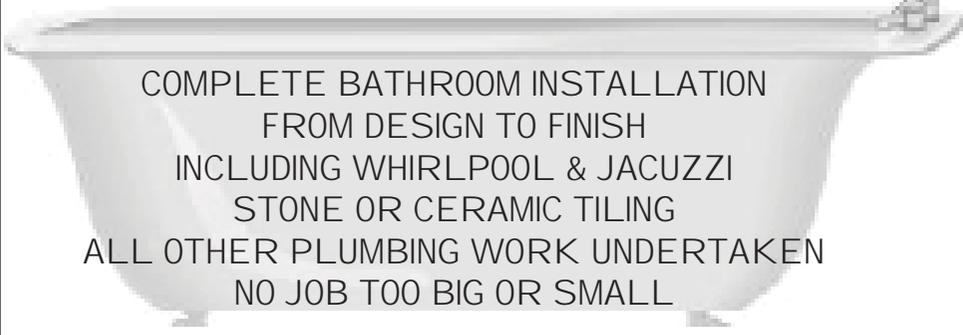
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Gambia Upcountry Development is a registered charity, number 1129241. No funds from donations or fundraising events are used to administer or run the charity. All work is done by volunteers and with the valued support of local businesses.

If you work, you have rights

Are you a migrant worker? If your ability to remain and work in the UK is tied to immigration conditions, you are. However, you still have rights under UK law - read on.



There are certain groups of workers who can take up employment in the UK without a work permit or specific permission to work. Other workers from abroad are allowed to work in the UK, but must have a work permit, immigration employment document, or other specific permission to work in the UK. If you are not sure of your status, seek help from your local Citizens Advice Bureau to clarify your particular situation.

Those migrant workers who have the right to reside and work in the UK (and are employees, not self-employed or workers) have the following statutory rights:

- to have a written statement of terms of employment within two months of starting work,
- to be paid the minimum wage
- to receive an itemised pay slip. This applies from the day the employee starts work
- not to have unlawful deductions made from their wages
- to be paid equal pay for equal work
- not to be discriminated against on the grounds of gender, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, or age
- not to be discriminated against because they work part time
- to have a limit on the hours of their working week (with some exceptions)
- to have paid holidays
- to be accompanied at a grievance or disciplinary hearing
- not to suffer for whistleblowing.
- unpaid parental leave provided they meet the necessary conditions.

Need further information or Help?

Basingstoke Citizens Advice Bureau can help you queries you have on immigration and employment issues, benefits and debt. We operate a drop-in service 10am-3.30pm Monday to Friday (except Thursday) and Saturday mornings 10am-12pm.

The Advice Line telephone number is 01256 322814

The CAB outreach service in Popley operates on a Monday afternoon from 1- 3.30pm at the Bermuda Practice, Shakespeare House Health Centre, Shakespeare Road, Popley



St. Michaels Hospice is holding its 15TH BIG WHEEL BIKE RIDE

On Sunday 26th July 2009
At Down Grange Sports Complex



There is a choice of 3 beautiful routes
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If you are interested in learning more about the event then please visit:

www.stmichaelsospice.org.uk/events

You can register and pay online

Or call 01256 848 848 for a registration form

Come and join in the fun and support your local Hospice!

Foreign Language Courses?

There is now an even more fantastic opportunity for young children to learn foreign languages locally with “Linguatastic”.

Yes, L'école Française with its track record and wide range of experience and success over nearly 25 years in the Basingstoke area including Popley is now diversifying. Long before it even became a fashion or government recommendation L'école Française has believed that the best way to acquire a new language is in a fun and easy way, at the youngest possible age. This last year, there has even been the opportunity for parents to join in a session with their under-2s. This has proven to be a great success. Linguatastic expands this concept even further with more sessions and more languages!

There will be two taster sessions at the Chineham Village Hall (the new extension to the left of the club) this July on Saturday 18 and Wednesday 29 from 10.00am – 12.00pm. So why not join us with your offspring/s at one of these sessions? Taster places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment. If you don't manage to book a place, it will still be possible to drop in and view activities on the day, without notice. For further details, please tel: 811100, e-mail: info@linguatastic.com, website: www.linguatastic.com. Fiona and Chansopha Biermann.



BBQ Safety.

-  Keep a bucket of water, sand or a garden hose nearby in case of emergencies.
-  Only use barbecues in suitable and safe areas.
-  Set up your barbecue on level ground away from bushes, tents or other buildings and do not put it where you have to squeeze past it.
-  Wear suitable clothing and use appropriate long handled tools.
-  Make sure the coals are cool before you move the barbecue. Once cool, dispose of the ashes safely - never place them in dustbins.
-  Keep young children, animals and ball games away from the cooking area.
-  Be careful when cooking fatty foods, the dripping fat can cause the barbecue to flare up.
-  Never use petrol or paraffin to start or revive your barbecue. Use only recognised lighters or starter fuel, on cold coals and follow the instructions on the container/packet.
-  Never leave barbecues unattended.

Useful contact points and further information:

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service homepage: www.hantsfire.gov.uk

Community Fire Safety Department: 02380 626809

Email: community.firesafety@hantsfire.gov.uk



Councillors Page: Firstly can I thank all the people that went out to vote and a special thank you for those that voted for me to be your representative. It will be a tough time for me as I will be the only Labour representative in Hampshire County Council. I will continue to do my best.

I also serve on the Hampshire Fire and Rescue, so I was pleased when I insisted that sprinklers should be a part of the planning application for a new care home in Popley. It will be a 62 bed residence for people right through to full 24hr cover need. I went to Birmingham for a three day conference where I learned so much about the Fire service and how it now is expanding its working in the community. I came back full of knowledge and ideas.

The public consultation meeting in Marnel School about the regeneration of Maldive, Faroe and surrounding area was well attended and scores of questionnaires and comments were handed in. We will keep you posted on the progress of the planning application.

Lastly we enjoyed the Popley Festival despite the cold weather but it was great that we met so many people. Thank you to the hard working committee and volunteers again, and good luck as you prepare for next year. Cllr Jane Frankum 819924, write to 405 Abbey Road or email jane.frankum@hants.gov.uk.

Popley West: The constant cost of clearing up after travellers and the anti social behaviour has enraged residents, and rightly so. I was surprised to find that Hampshire has no transit camp places despite other counties having them. If there were suitable sites in appropriate areas the police could move them onto them, and once they were full move any more travellers out of Hampshire. It is no good just complaining A permanent solution is needed.

I went to Junction 6 in the grounds of Everest College to see the "Positive Portraits Exhibition". It follows the work done by some of our youth in Popley and is an attempt by them to try and show that the negative stereotype portrayed of the youth is not always right. I enjoyed the talks we had with the people there and look forward to seeing the completed project in Basingstoke Library in the week of 6th July. A lot of residents had their photos and comments taken at Popley Festival.

Although the play areas are still the responsibility of the developers, we have secured that the Basingstoke and Deane street cleaning team will do litter picking in there and coordinate with the developers.

cllr.paul.frankum@basingstoke.gov.uk or phone 472496 or 819924 write to 405 Abbey Road Basingstoke RG24 9EL

Popley East: We've been having a lot of problems with travellers throughout April, May and June, and have received a number of complaints about the waste they leave behind. They keep rotating round the same sites and we are slowly making them all secure.

A planning application has been submitted for Phases 2 and 3 of the John Hunt site. This will be for 39 houses. The application is in its consultation period.

We've had a lot of new issues with Longfellow Parade now the redevelopment is moving onto its final phase. Much of Milton Close has been taken up which will mean the parking problems there will be even worse.

And finally, the Community Wardens' last month with us will be July. The Council have decided to axe them, ignoring our 1400-signature petition. I'd like to pay tribute to them and thank them for all their hard work. You will be sorely missed. Andy McCormick, Popley East

Marnel Infant School.

We are pleased to announce that our new community room is available for adult learning to support the Popley community.

We are currently running a literacy course on Tuesday mornings.

Would you like to improve your maths skills and keep up with your children?

- Help your children
- Increase your work prospects
- Take your skills to the next level
- Get an up-to-date qualification

An adult numeracy course will be running in Marnel Infant School community room in September. For further details please telephone 01256 329521

Can you help us as a Marnel Governor?

Do you have an interest or experience in the construction trades or workplace health and safety?

The Governors at Marnel Infant School could use your help on the site management committee which oversees safety, security and health standards as well as school building maintenance for your children and the staff.

Please join us, become a Governor, share your knowledge and support Marnel.

Mediumship

If you have started your mediumship pathway and would like to advance to doing platform work, we offer an evening when you can bring your skills "into play". Tailored to your own individual style and in a friendly atmosphere.

Platform mediumship will also help with your private readings, as well as preparing you for working in Churches, etc.

We will help your confidence grow, by gently taking you through all aspects: the personality of the person (who is contacting from Spirit ;the appearance ; relationship, memory links to the message.

Messages themselves may be needed for any number of reasons: to give love and support or advice.

Everyone is welcome and we need supporters to give their encouragement to the working mediums. You may even get a message!

1st Thursday of each month at Popley Fields Community Centre.

Spiritual healing 6pm-7pm and at the end of the evening, with registered healers.

Open platform from 7.30pm.

£3 each worker and supporter.

With experienced teachers / mediums of the Knights Circle for the Advancement of Spiritual Awareness & Healing. Est. 1972.

The Vyne Community School offers a wide range of community activities:



Indoor & Outdoor Sports Facilities - Netball, Football, Badminton courts
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Fitness Studio - no membership fee, monthly or casual use
Dance Studio - sprung floor, mirrors.

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www.vyne.hants.sch.uk (click on Community)
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 (5 minutes from back of railway station)



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Charity number 267734

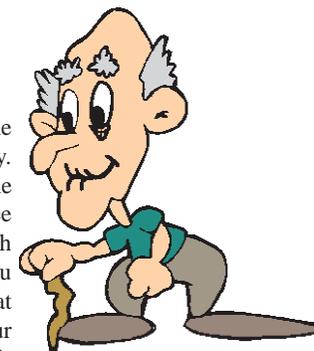
www.base2000.co.uk

Group Scout Leader: Colin Karlake (01256) 410559

Bookings/enquiries for Base 2000 Colin 01256410559



DIARIES FROM THE OLD CODGER



The Beavers made lovely 'yummy' biscuits recently; just the thing for a hungry Beaver! Some of the older ones are looking forward to having their first experience of a Beaver 'sleepover' later this month. I am sure they will have a super fun time and come home tired but happy.

The Cub section enjoyed District Camp at Runways End Activity Centre near Farnborough. The programme kept them very busy with abseiling, archery, canoeing and 'rock' face climbing.

The scouts have continued their links with an Explorer Scout Unit based at Lasham and hope to expand the range of 'air' activities offered. Some of the older members will be moving onto the Explorer Scout section soon. Good luck and happy scouting to you all!

Colin's BBQ at Popley Festival 'hit the spot' as ever but the Group could have done with more parental support. As a financial venture it was not as good as in previous years partially due to the weather and fewer people attending. We offer our thanks to the staff of Popley Fields Community Centre who co-ordinate the event and put such a lot of effort into the arrangements. Thank you.

The Group will hold its Annual Parent's meeting on Tuesday 7th July when the accounts for last year will be approved a new committee formed to manage the Group for the coming year. Every member of the Group is expected to have at least one parent in attendance at this meeting.

New members are welcome in all sections. Give the section leader a ring or simply turn up for a free 'taster' evening to see what's on offer. Subscriptions are £1.50 per week payable weekly or per term as preferred.

Enquiries concerning the use/availability of Base 2000 for fund-raising events, children's parties, meetings or other community occasions to Colin on 01256 410559 or e-mail bookings@base2000.co.uk Special rates for charities and non-profit making organisations.

It takes very special people in the town that want to give up their time in helping others. It is a town that has grown over the years as a family. Yes with all families you get the odd tiff or two but the main thing is the people of Basingstoke rally when needed. This time has come as we see the recession bite and now by joining into one group we can support each other from the Council down to the working man and woman. I ask you not to shut the door on the people that need our help in no matter what way they need it, even if it is just a bit of your time to talk. I ask our Council not to over burden the people of the town but help them in their time of need. Let's face facts we have the money sitting there for just this sort of crisis. Use it to help, do not sit by and see people leave the town. Make sure we can bait companies to come into the town and give people employment. They are the people the town depend on. Her Indoors says I do go on but I want to get it across it is not the few it affects, but all.

I was talking to Her Indoors the other day about how I learnt to ride a bike. My dad had an old bike I could just about reach the peddles on it, this bike had no brakes to stop, you had to peddle backwards, this was all very well for a man 6 feet tall and fourteen stone, he was built for it, I was just a young lad with legs like match sticks. Near to us was a path that lead up a steep hill to our church, it was not a real path as such but over many years people wore it down, it was more like a track. At the bottom of this path was a very, very steep hill of grass that went down to our road. "So son you want to ride do you", boy I could not get on his bike quick enough, we were at the very top of the path and dad said off you go with a hard push I was flying straight down the path. Straight down! That was until I cottoned on, how am I going to stop? I stood up on the peddles and tried my hardest to get the back wheel to stop, I managed that but I was on grass so the bike kept going with me on it screaming like mad woman. I stopped it ok, bang in a bunch of stinging nettles. Well that is how I learnt to ride a bike, but it was a long time after that day before I got on one again and I made sure it had brakes. As for all the stings I had, dad got some dock leaves and rubbed on my legs and arms and face boy was I battered up.

As I was telling Her Indoors this story she was having a right laugh, well that's ok because she will get it one day mind you if I ever get her to stand still.

I was very cross to note that one or two youngsters had the bright idea they could have fun pulling up all the new shrubs that have been planted around the regeneration site. Now I do know it is one or two of the dear darlings??? For all you readers please talk to your child and get it across that this not only costs money but also damages the future of the wildlife that rely on these shrubs for food, shelter etc. Please don't do it, it is your future as well. One other thing is as we all know Longfellow Parade is coming down and this site is going to be a very dangerous place to be. Tell the kids not to go in there and try your best to know where they are whilst the work is done. I would hate to see a child hurt themselves, mums and dads screaming at everyone about it. It is difficult but the work must be done, unfortunately it is coming up to school holidays.

YOUR CHILDS SAFTY MUST BE YOUR PRIORITY.

Well what a lot of preaching this month but the holidays are on us and kids will roam around. Everyone take care, kids play safe in the holidays and be good.

The Old Codger

PS I have just read the sad news in the Gazette about the closure of Linde. Good luck to all concerned in finding work.



Boy and girls 6-8 years

Meetings: Tuesday 5:30-6:45pm

Eve Alexander 346510

Page 8



Boys and girls aged 8-10½

Tuesday 6:30-8:15pm

Elaine Devenport 323453



Boys and girls aged 10½-15

Monday 7-9pm

Colin Karlake 410559



We have been enjoying a fun packed time in the last few weeks at Pebbles Children's Centre!

The Dad's Club which runs on the second Saturday of each month has been very well received. Even those dads who were a little apprehensive about attending thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The Centre staff took a few minutes before hand to reassure the dads that help and advice was available if they needed it and the dads relaxed more in knowing this. I've been told that the bacon sandwiches supplied at the end of the 1st Dad's Club were practically yummy!

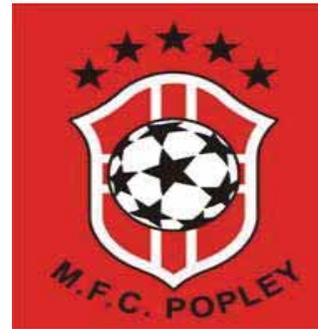
Half term was National Families Week and Pebbles held a number of events during that week. On Tuesday there was a walk to the library for Story Time, then a picnic lunch afterwards. Thursday, Pebbles held a Sports Day and Friday was the Family Feast. However the main event of the week was on Wednesday. A number of parents, children and staff went on a coach trip to Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Unfortunately it poured with rain so a couple of the activities could not go ahead. Extra craft sessions were laid on instead. We did however search for mini beasts in the downpour, peering under logs, in tree stumps and through leaves. My children found a number of beetles, a centipede, a millipede and of course several worms. We had special bug collecting pots but had trouble sucking the bugs into the pots because the leaf debris was so wet. We played in the playground which was all made out of local wood and shaped like insects. We went for a walk through the woodlands and explored the park but it was quite slippery on the hillside. The kids definitely jumped in lots of muddy puddles, got really soaked but generally had a very good time. It was definitely a wellies and waterproofs day!

At the beginning of June a group of parents from Rowner Children's Centre came along to our Parents Forum. They started their presentation to us with a song and dance as an icebreaker and then told their personal stories and what they do now with their Centre which has been running for 5years. After that we split into small groups and had a little brain-storming session, coming up with ideas that we felt Pebbles could offer Popley parents and children in the future. It was quite fun. Their Parents Forum really gets involved organising and running activities. They hold fundraising events and make a major contribution to what their Centre offers in way of services. They were a lovely bunch of ladies and it was good to hear how they did things and also pick their brains for information and ideas that we could use to move our own Parents Forum forward.

Thursdays Coffee and Song Time (10-11:30am) and Fridays Chill n Chat (1-2:30pm) are excelling themselves. Lots of parents are now attending and the children really have a great time, especially on the Fridays. Personally I am so pleased that these two weekly events are gaining more interest. My youngest is at nursery on Fridays but I still go because it's nice to chat to other mums, share experiences, interact with the kids and meet new people.

Lastly, congratulations to Brenda, our outreach worker. She has recently finished a course on breastfeeding so if any mum needs help, advice or just some support with breastfeeding issues, give the Centre a phone call or pop along and have a chat with Brenda.

Wendy Taylor



On 22nd May 2009 we had our End of Season Presentation at the Everest Community College. The evening started with Sentinel Housing presenting us with a cheque for £2,500 so that we can now go on and order the kits for next season, we then had a 15 minute movie with photos and outtakes from over the past season. The trophies were a great success thanks to Margaret, Norman and Steve at NBM Engraving.

The Tornado's won team of the year, Billy Wagstaff and Shane Pearce won MFC Popley Club Player of the Year. Blaise Ely, Jacob Austen, Scott Forder, Joe Mulcachy, Alfie Mitchell and Ryan McKeaveney also won Honours. Off the top of my head I can't remember all of the winners, but well done to all.

I am really looking forward to next season now, especially with the Knightmares U7s Barry and I are very lucky to have such a great squad of characters, and for obvious reasons you can see why we call them the Knightmares.

The U11s Tornado's had a friendly game against Thatcham Tornadoes and at half time we were 5-0 up with an absolute corker from Fynllie Judd. Jacob and Denis bossed the midfield and Ryan McKeaveney set Denis up twice to finish identical screamers top right corner. Travis Patterson popped in to score again. Well done boys! Cheers, Lee

ARK (Acts of Random Kindness)

Would you help? Would you help people who are struggling by donating any good quality furniture, white goods, food and kitchen equipment?

People can face sudden changes such as job loss, ill health and bereavement. Also, families and single people are moved from Bed and Breakfast, Safe Houses and Hostels into empty properties and most go with little more than they can carry. We collect at pre-arranged times and we will mainly deliver straight to recipients in the Basingstoke area. This project, known as ARK (Acts of Random Kindness) is self funded. We have a van, a store and a friendly team, which you are more than welcome to join!

For more details please call Sandra on 01256 861486.

1st Popley Scout Group

Based at St Gabriel Church Group no.: 14101908 National Scout Registration Number 44020



The Cubs and Scouts have been busy making bird boxes, the kids have had fun cutting them out and fixing them together, watching them loose with saws and screws was most worrying, but it was good no one got hurt. The bird boxes will be put up around the borough where they are needed. So look out for their handy work, they all looked great when they were all finished, any bird will be happy to call them home. The cubs went on camp at the weekend and for some it was their first time camping, but that did not stop them, what a fantastic time they had, from the time they arrived, till the time they went home, it was full of activities for them to do, there was climbing, abseiling, backwards cooking, mmm, that was nice,



They rapped up bananas with chocolate in them and placed them in the fire to cook, they were delicious. canoeing, caving, camp fire and much more. When it came to home time, some of them said they didn't want to go. They so enjoyed themselves. Plains are now started for their next camp in September. Last Tuesday they meet up with two other groups at Old Basing lime pits, to do part of their athletes badge, there were several bases with different sport challenges to do, it was like a sports day at school. It was great fun and everyone did their best well done all.

Meetings are held at St Gabriel's Church Hall, Tewkesbury Close.
Tuesday evenings, (term time only).



Boys and Girls 6-8 yrs
5pm – 6.15pm



Boys and Girls 8-10 1/2 yrs
6.30pm – 8pm



Boys and Girls 10 1/2-14 1/2 yrs
6.30pm – 9pm

For more information please contact:

Brigitte Cleall 01256 412307, John Talks 01256 414168
(cubs) Sarah Wallington 01256 325819

Or just pop along to your age group meeting.
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Jean 01189814880



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West meets East at Everest

Japan was the theme for Arts Week at Everest Community College between 15th – 19th June when students from Years 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed learning about Japanese culture and traditions.

Everyone in College was provided with plimsolls to wear indoors

to show respect for the College environment. Each morning staff and students took part in exercises on the open area in front of the College to prepare mentally and physically for the day ahead. Students then went off to their chosen activities; these included volcano-making, Japanese gardens, kimono-making, anime cartoons, raku pottery, origami, Japanese cookery, model-making and Japanese sports and street dance. Sumie Takahashi and her two assistants performed the tea ceremony to audiences of entranced students and in the calligraphy sessions, Sachiko Mason helped them to make bookmarks with their names written in Japanese. All students took part in taiko drumming, a very traditional and energetic Japanese folk art. The week's activities culminated in a Celebration Assembly on the Friday to which parents, carers and members of the local community were invited.

Everest Head comes top!

Everest Head, Julie Rose, was named Headteacher of the Year in the South of England at the recent Teaching Awards Presentation held in the Guildhall in Winchester. Ms Rose had been nominated by two members of staff, Caroline Hams and Catherine Papaioannou for the way in which she has led the transformation of teaching and learning at the College. After receiving her winner's plaque from BBC South Today presenter, Sally Taylor, Ms Rose praised the part played by staff, parents and students. 'It was a team effort that enabled me to win this award,' she said. 4 lower school students together with Caroline Hams and Sue Roberts, Ms Rose's personal assistant, accompanied her to the Presentation. Ross McGourlay, Year 7 student, said that the ceremony was very exciting and he felt very proud when Ms Rose won. Ms Rose now goes forward to the National Teaching Awards to be held in London in October. We all wish her the best of luck.

Everest gains Specialist College Status

We are delighted to announce that Everest Community College has been successful in its bid for Specialist College Status. From September 2009 it will become a specialist Mathematics and Computing College. The new status will enable us to provide students with an enhanced mathematical and technological education including a wider range of courses, enrichment activities and improved quality of teaching and learning. There will also be a number of wider community benefits from our Specialist College Status including master classes for Gifted and Talented primary school pupils, Functional Skills training for students following a Diploma course and IT and numeracy courses for adult learners in the local community.. Gaining status as a specialist Mathematics and Computing College represents a further significant milestone for Everest Community College and an opportunity to continue to raise standards for all our students.

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Are you a parent/career of a baby, toddler or preschool child? Did you know Pebbles Childrens Centre holds outreach sessions at Melrose Hall? The Stay and Play sessions are held on Tuesdays 9.30am-11.30am (mixed ages) and 1.00pm-2.30pm (baby to 18 months). Come and join in the fun, meet new friends and enjoy our play activities. Different activities arranged each week. Just turn up. 70p per week.

We would like to welcome Merton Junior School to our Gardening Club again this year. With judging of the garden (for Basingstoke in Bloom) soon upon us we are all hands to the pumps (or beds!). If you can spare any time to plant, dig, weed, litter pick etc.. or have plants you would like to donate, please contact Vicki in the office.

Are you thinking of having a party or looking for a venue for your group? We have very competitive rates, free parking, disabled access, hearing induction loop, kitchen facilities and more! Call the office for your no obligation quote or to arrange a viewing of our hall.

WHATS ON:

MONDAY:	9.30am-12pm	Friendly Café
	7.30pm-10.00pm	Peregrine Healing and Holistic
TUESDAY:	4.00pm-7.30pm	Petite School of Dance
	9.30am-2.30pm	Marnel Early Years
WEDNESDAY:	10.00am-11.30am	Popley Little People, mother and toddler group
	9.00am-11.00am	Quit Smoking Clinic
	12pm-2pm	Oasis Lunch Club
THURSDAY:	9.30am-12pm	Friendly Café
FRIDAY:	6.30pm-7.45pm	MCF Youth Club - age 5 to 10 years
	8.00pm- 9.15pm	age 11 plus.
SATURDAY:	9.00am-12.30pm	Petite School of Dance
SUNDAY:	MCF - Contact Pastor Phillip Keble on 462351 for times of services.	

Melrose Community Hall is available to hire for birthdays, wedding receptions, and conferences. Please ring Vicki Jackson on 01256 420676 for more information or e-mail us at Melrosehall@tiscali.co.uk.

Phone: 01256 414494

Fax: 01256 418529



Charity Reg No: 1052133

popleyfields@hotmail.com

Aerotone Goes Bikini Blitz

Come and join the Aerotoners in shaping up for summer, new aerobic routine every 5 weeks for age 16 and over to get you into tip top holiday condition. Be ready to work it, tone it and lose it! Classes run every Thursday 7.45 to 8.45pm you will need to bring a mat or towel and a drink. All abilities welcome for fun workout in a relaxed environment. Current offer £4.00 per session, 5th one free. Call Louise for more info on 07896757125.

Free Computer Classes

Free computer classes will be at Popley Fields Community Centre. They include: beginners guide to computing (Wed 12:30-2:30pm) Internet and email (Fri 12:30-2:30pm) a basic guide to digital photography (Fri 9:30-11:30am), and a beginner's guide to Excel spreadsheets (Thu 9:30-11:30am). For details either call the centre on 01256 414494 and speak to Debbie, or call Queen Mary's College 417517 to enrol.

MAD Academy

This high energy dance group for under 4s is continuing in popularity but there are always spaces available. Come along on Tuesday mornings from 10.15am-11.15am and speak to Cathy.

Silverwings Line Dancing

There is a beginners Line Dancing class held here on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm-7.30pm in our Large Hall. A more advanced class meets on the same evening from 8.00pm-10.00pm. Come along and give it a try.

New Testament Church of God – Coffee Morning for over 50's

This popular get together is held here on Thursday mornings from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Come along with your old friends and make some new ones.

Popley Fields Community Centre is also available for hire for conferences, meetings, private parties, weddings and under 12s children's parties all at very reasonable rates. Call now for more information on any of the above or to find out more about any of the other activities which happen at the Centre every week.

Tel: 01256 414494 or email popleyfields@hotmail.com

Dear Friends

Doesn't summer just bring its own special sights, sounds and smells? The wafting of barbeque smoke, cold beers on the pub lawn, the scent of flowers, children's laughter, the splashing of water in paddling pools, men in socks and sandals (I'm not allowed out dressed thus), open topped cars, late summer evenings and glorious sunsets, holidays. I could go on and on. I love the summer time, there's something about it that just lifts the spirit! This year, the flavour of summer is added to by the sport at Wimbledon, Ascot, Cricket (The Ashes!) and Football.!

I've been a footie fan for as long as I can remember, supporting Manchester City, through thick and thin (more thin than thick!) and in my heart of hearts I really want them to win the Premier League this coming season, I can't begin to imagine the celebrations that will take place around Manchester if they do - but what if they don't?

It's always difficult to deal with disappointments and the feeling of being let down; so can we be as generous and noble in defeat as in victory?

It's the same in our every day lives! If we raise our hopes and expectations too high only to be let down our natural instinct is to turn our backs and walk away in despair. But there is another way (to coin a phrase!). St Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance produces character; and character produces hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." These are wise words and worth dwelling on when you're going through a tough time. One thing you can be absolutely certain of is that God will never let you down, disappoint you or dash your hopes; he has a perfect plan for your life, even if it doesn't feel like that sometimes – why not give him a chance and try talking to him about it for a moment – you may be surprised!

Have a fantastic summer, long may the sun shine on you and may we look forward to a great celebration of England victory in The Ashes against Australia.

God's blessings.
Arthur
Your friend and vicar,
St Gabriel's Church.

Please feel welcome to join us at our morning service for the all the family – each Sunday at 10.30 a.m!

SHERBORNE ST JOHN PARISH COUNCIL

CALLING ALL TEENAGERS:

Have you grown out of swings and slides?

We would like your ideas and suitable proposals to provide 10-16 year olds with new play equipment at the Chute Recreation Ground. We have a small budget and welcome all ideas large and small ie. from a basketball hoop to skateboard decks.

Register your ideas by email, letter or attending our next PC meeting on 27th July.

Ground maintenance plans to the football pitches and improved Pedestrian access up the entrance slope have been submitted.

NEW SSJPC LOGO:

We are currently looking for a new logo for the Sherborne St John Parish Council.

Everyone is invited to take part with all entries made to the Clerk by 1st September.

A symbol or icon that says something about our village, whether it be an object of beauty or an historic emblem.

BOTTLE BANK:

The PC are aware the return of this facility is in high demand and strive to provide the Village with a new innovative sound efficiency bottle bank that does not become a noise nuisance to those who live close by. This objective is proving slow and difficult.

We are therefore considering limited access times and the best location for all to use.

We continue to seek better information from the BDBC.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- We are looking to provide better footpath access along Chineham Lane as part of our ongoing safer route to school campaign.
 - Loddon & Eversley Leader Programme is offering our Parish funding opportunities. Emily Preston joins us in June to hear your ideas eg. allotment maintenance.
 - Chickens are being considered at our Cranes Road Allotment Gardens. The Parish Council does not prohibit the keeping of chickens but every measure will be taken to ensure the welfare and keep of these animals should it go ahead.
 - Merton Rise & Marnel Park will soon be receiving our Villager Magazine. Extra copies have been ordered for June and we intend to hold an additional PC meeting in the Community Room of Everest Community College on 16th September as way of introductions/ welcome to their local issues.
 - Road Safety initiatives on the A340 crossing starts work and our Speed Indicator Device will be slowing down the traffic near you very soon as it continues to move around our village main roads.
- Refuse Bin stickers are available FREE of charge on request to the Clerk "choose to slow down"

JOIN US AT THE NEXT SSJPC MEETING 7.30PM MONDAY 22nd JUNE.

Paul Ashley, Cllr



Basingstoke
and Deane



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(far end of Down Grange, off Pack Lane, Kempshott)



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Thursday mornings at 11am

(please arrive a little early to register)

Meet at the Walled Garden, Down Grange, for a walk of about an hour. You are welcome to stay for refreshments after the walk.

There is no charge to come on the walks – all are led by volunteers.

For further information, please call **01256 845574** or find details on www.basingstokehealthwalks.org



walk 4 life

Shakespeare Road, Popley,
Basingstoke, RG24 9BP
01256 357028



e mail: pebbles.cc@hants.gov.uk
www3.hants.gov.uk/pebbles-cc



Mosaic – Made by the families of Popley

Drop In Sessions:

Our two new Drop In sessions are starting to be popular with local parents. We are really pleased that more people are calling into the Centre with their friends and we welcome them to attend our:-

COFFEE MORNINGS Every Thursday 10.00 – 11.30 am

Drop in and join us for a cup of tea or coffee. Meet with friends.



CHILL & CHAT TIMES Every Friday 1.00 – 2.30 pm

For Parents with Under 5s

Come and play with your children in the Nursery Room.

Lots of toys and a lovely outdoor play area available with sandpit and ride on play equipment



NEW MONTHLY DAD'S CLUB

This is also becoming an event that is well supported by local dads. It is held on the 2nd Saturday of each month. The next one is 9.30 – 11.30 am Saturday, 11th July

Is your child aged 5 or under? Would you like to have somewhere to go with your children at the weekend for a fun filled morning. Activities will include outdoor play, messy play, games, reading.



NEW GROUPS CURRENTLY RUNNING

We are delighted to be running the Baby PEEP group, the Introduction to Big School group, and the Bumps, Mums & Dads group all of which are new to this Centre. Parents are enjoying these groups and finding the information they receive useful. We plan to run more of these in the future so put your name down ready.

PARENTS' MEETING

If you are interested in getting involved and having your say on what goes on at Pebbles then please come along to our next meeting on Monday, 6 July, 9.30 – 11.30 am.

If you have any ideas for groups that you would like to take place please tell us.

A crèche is available but with limited places so please **PHONE EARLY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**



Family Quiz Night

**Wednesday 8th July
7-9pm**

**Doors open from 6:30pm
at Everest Community College**



**Bring your own food & drink
(non alcoholic only)**

Plus: Raffle & Spot Prizes

**Teams of up to 8 people
£5 entry per team**

Ring 01256 346298 to reserve your team a table

Marnel Infant School News

This term is a very busy one at Marnel Infants with year group trips, practising for Sports Day and making preparations for the official opening of our new Year R unit by the Mayor of Basingstoke. The opening of the new unit will be a fun day for the whole school, including a circus assembly and circus workshops for all the children with guests attending from the local Popley community and Basingstoke and Deane.

The whole school has just begun to follow 'Activate' for 15 minutes every morning. This is lively exercise to music shown on the interactive white boards for the children to follow. This is designed to raise the fitness and concentration levels of all the children (and teachers!) All the children are enjoying the lively start to the day.

Year R children recently went on their trip to the Watercress Line. Luckily the weather was beautiful and the children enjoyed a ride on the train followed by a picnic at Ropley. I am sure all the children would agree that the highlight of the day was seeing Thomas the Tank Engine at the station.

Year 1 children spent a day at Selborne on a field trip to support their geography work comparing Basingstoke with a village. Again the weather was perfect and in the morning they visited the church and found out about Gilbert White. They walked up the zig-zag path to the hangar. It was very steep and very tiring. After lunch the children followed a range of activities including drawing some of the houses and looking at the places where people work in the village. One group visited the school and talked to the Year 1 children there. All the children and staff enjoyed the day.

Year 2 children have been finding out amazing things about our world and are eagerly watching their class caterpillars turn into butterflies.

We are also delighted to report that Marnel Infant School has just been awarded the Arts Mark in recognition of all the work that the children do within art, music and drama.

I recently attended the M.F.C. presentation evening at Everest College. It was amazing to see so many families from Popley coming together to celebrate the achievements of M.F.C. All credit to Lee Austen and his loyal team. It is fantastic to see M.F.C. go from strength to strength. We all wish you the best for the new season.

Bernadette Cole, Headteacher.



I love ice hockey



I am a volunteer



I look after children



I love to make myself laugh



I run the youth forum



Im great at video games



I arrange charity events at work



I am a dancing tree hugger



I want to be a music producer

Positive Portraits @ Junction 6

Sick and tired of being negatively portrayed in the media, the young people at Junction 6 youth club initiated the Positive Portraits Project. They wanted to be recognised for their characteristics and positive attributes rather than the way they choose to express themselves through their clothes or by the music they listen to. The young people felt that it is unfair to be treated with hostility in their community due to presumptions, and came up with the following mission statement:

Let's get together to kick out negative stereotypes. After all, we are not all bad and have lots of positive things to say and do. Let our community rave by accepting differences and seeing everyone for who they really are and not for what they look like. We all know it's wrong to judge a book by its cover so let's not judge each other!

The project asks those willing to participate to have a picture taken, and to come up with a positive statement. This could include personal accomplishments, or a statement that contradicts their stereotype. Since initiating the Positive Portraits Project five months ago, in partnership with Youth clubs Hampshire & Isle Wight,



I am campaigning for more full-time female firefighters



I'm buying my first home



I ran the london marathon for spinal research



I am a green fingered singer songwriter



I didnt finish school but it hasnt stopped me from achieving my goals



I ♥ beats and bars



I have jumped out of a plane for charity

The project has received positive feedback from the community at events like Popley Festival. This has allowed the project to extend its reach, involving other youth clubs, and also expanding beyond young people to include everyone in our community (including the Women's Institute).

On Wednesday 17th June there was an open exhibition at Junction 6 to which all the members of the community were welcome. The mayor of Basingstoke visited the centre and was delighted with the exhibition. He hoped that when we meet him again in the autumn the Positive Portraits Project will have continued to expand. We will also be attending Basing stoke Live on the 11th of July 2009

This is only the beginning in our challenge to fight stereotyping. We believe that by getting as many people as possible involved we can spread awareness of the positive things that we can all contribute to our community. We hope that this project will allow people to embrace differences and to appreciate other people.

If you would like to take part or learn more about the Positive Portraits Project you can contact Bianca Webb at bianca.webb@hants.gov.uk