



Tot of the Pops

Bopping Babies, a monthly baby disco for pre-schoolers, has been created by Bramley resident Polly Thatcher as a unique way of giving yummy mummies and carers the glamour of the disco without the need to find a babysitter.

It's for mums who, before babies, spent their Saturday nights dancing round handbags, but now find themselves chained to their buggies and bored of hearing nursery rhymes over and over again.

Bopping Babies breaks the mould and proves life as a parent or carer does not purely have to be about endless episodes of *Noddy* and *In The Night Garden*. It's for carers who demand less of *Upsy Daisy* and more of *Oops Upside Your Head* and promises to be more fun than many standard mother and toddler groups.

For 90 minutes, mums and their young children can let off steam. Important to yummy mummies – *Bopping Babies* can help burn off calories and is guaranteed to be much more fun than going to an aerobics class.

The musical playlist has been carefully selected for young tots and guarantees adults will have plenty of laughs harking back to their own disco days. It will be good clean fun with music that spans the decades and will be themed each month, for example, November will be a Halloween special with music such as "Ghostbusters" to get everyone up to the dancefloor.

Like many mums, Polly had enjoyed a party lifestyle before setting down with her husband Jez, starting a family, and moving to the pretty village of Bramley in 2006. But she soon found that apart from the village baby and toddler group, there appeared to be little else on offer for pre-school children, especially in the afternoons.

Mum-of-two Polly, 34, said: 'Pre-school sessions generally happen in the morning leaving many afternoons' unfulfilled with bored tots and frustrated adults. *Bopping Babies* is about having fun, it is an opportunity for grown ups and tots to let off steam, jump up and down, dance around, to be silly and generally have a good time.'

Top 5 tracks at *Bopping Babies*

1. Bye Bye Baby – Bay City Rollers
2. Hit Me Baby One More Time – Britney Spears
3. Mama –The Spice Girls
4. Papa Don't Preach – Madonna
5. Lollipop - Mika



With a background in music and marketing Polly was prompted to start thinking about ways she could create something fun after spending too many drizzly afternoons stuck indoors with energetic young children and too much *Bob the Builder*.

Polly's idea for *Bopping Babies* had to be put on hold for 18 months due to the unexpected, early arrival of her second child, Millie, born three months prematurely and weighing 2lb in January 2008.

Millie was in and out of hospital for the first six months of her life, but now 18 months and thriving, Millie has a great love for music and gave her mum even more incentive to get it up and running and Millie is clearly going to be an enthusiastic *Bopping Baby*.

Polly said: 'After many months of worry and angst it is now fantastic to feel inspired and energetic enough to introduce a new and exciting event into the lives of other mums and babies.'

Notes to editors

Features idea: Journalists and their young families are invited to enjoy an afternoon at Bopping Babies. Entry will, of course, be free to the family.

When: Every month

Bopping Babies will premiere in Bramley on Wednesday, September 2nd at a special introductory price of £2 per family. (Usual price £4 per family)

Thereafter it will be held on the first Wednesday of every month - October 7, November 4.
Watch out for the Christmas special on December 2.

Time: 1.30pm - 3pm

Where: Bramley Village Hall

Who: Bopping Babies welcomes pre-schoolers (0-5 years) and their adult carers. Non-boppers can enjoy a selection of books, toys, musical instruments and other exciting quirks and gimmicks.

For more information go to: www.boppingbabies.co.uk or email info@BoppingBabies.co.uk

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Polly Thatcher's true inspiration is her incredible daughter Millie – the original *Bopping Baby*. (see over for pictures of Millie!)



Look what a difference 18 months makes...

