

July 2022

# BASINGA



Alan Morris



Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Magazine  
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## JULY NOTES AND NEWS

The **front cover photo** this month is by **Alan Morris**, a scene from the **Sealed Knot re-enactment** on The Common over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend. PLEASE NOTE, SOME **FILMING** WILL BE TAKING PLACE AT BASING HOUSE ON **WEDNESDAY, 27TH JULY**, AND THIS MAY INVOLVE SOME MORE **LOUD BANGS AND CRASHES**.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BASINGA

We welcome both regular and occasional items for the Basinga. The very **last date for copy** to the Editor for the **August edition** is **6pm on Sunday, 10th July**.

Please use the forms on the **Basinga** website **www.basinga.org.uk** to get your dates, articles and letters to us (**see box on page 15 for further instructions**).

All advertising enquiries – classified, free adverts or inserts (flyers) can also be made via the website. **Don't forget that we only accept articles with about a 300-word maximum and articles are only published at the Editor's discretion.**

## PHOTOS AND LOGOS FOR THE BASINGA

If any reader would like to offer a **photograph of the village environment** we would be happy to receive them, either for immediate use or to build up a portfolio of 'village views' that we can use. We now have a web form that you can use to send a photograph for the website archive and possible use in the magazine – go to **www.basinga.org.uk** and the form can be found on the '**Contributors Submission**' menu. Should you wish to submit multiple photos, or a photo is too 'large', they can be emailed directly to the **Editor**.

This feature should **NOT** be used for Free Ads or article photos, which can be attached to their own forms. We welcome **club** and **society logos**, with the option to use them within articles. Please send graphics to **editor@basinga.org.uk**

## WANTED – BASINGA ADVERTISING ADMINISTRATOR

The Basinga is looking for an **Advertising Administrator**. They will be a member of the Basinga Committee responsible for managing the advertising in the magazine.

They need to be re-active to contacts (phone/email) seeking advertising in the magazine. They need to be pro-active in administering advertisers and checking the correctness/quality of the advertisements. They need to maintain existing Basinga contacts and advertisers, build a network of potential advertisers willing to support the Basinga practically or financially. They need to be self-motivated, organised and work to the production deadlines for the Basinga and invoicing.

The estimated time commitment, on average, is two to three email/phone calls per week, plus one or two accumulated days during October/November when reviewing advertiser's contracts for the following year. They also need to attend committee meetings during the year (typically two).

If you are interested please contact **Peter Watson** – tel. **01256 352299** or email **advertising@basinga.org.uk** for more information.

## MARGARET PAYNE

**Old Basing Village Hall Management Committee Member, Margaret Payne**, has 25 years of voluntary service.

Margaret is a valued member of our committee, has brought a strong inclination to organise decorators for the general upkeep of the hall, overseeing the project on several occasions over the years. She has also learnt new skills, for example organising fire extinguisher checks and Electrical Equipment PAT Testing, vital maintenance on a building of this size. Before the Public Entertainment Licence was automated, researching the most economical price available. Margaret has an eye for colour, choosing the beautiful colours for the ladies toilets and assisted in the refurbishment and planning to coordinate the finished product. She is currently in the process of getting quotations for the refurbishment of the gentlemen's toilets, also taken up the challenge of getting funding from several sources, for this project as well. She has also sorted and served on an enormous number of jumble sales to raise funds, towards the general upkeep of our magnificent Hall.

This is one committee member who is so modest of her ability, but the committee members would like to congratulate her on her long service to the community. What skill or enthusiasm could you bring to the committee to continue our longevity of having a well-maintained and managed hall?

**Sheena Grassi (Vice Chairman of Old Basing Village Hall)**

Email [sheenagrassi@hotmail.com](mailto:sheenagrassi@hotmail.com)

## OLD BASING & LYCHPIT VILLAGE SHOW

An apology for the incorrect date for the **Old Basing & Lychpit Village Show** given in the May Basinga. It should have read: **Sunday, 4th September, with doors opening at 2.30pm with prize giving and auction at 4pm.**

It is hoped by now that you have planted all your flowers and vegetables and they are benefitting from your hard work and the warmer weather. Hopefully everything is flourishing. Plenty of watering will encourage growth and produce results worthy of displaying at the show. There are new classes, some for juniors and first time exhibitors are always very welcome.

**Schedules** and **entry forms** are available from village shops and committee members. Further details are available on our website at [www.oblvs.org.uk](http://www.oblvs.org.uk)

## BASINGSTOKE MALE VOICE CHOIR

Our recent open evening proved to be a great success and the choir is now larger than it was post pandemic. The hard work of integrating new singers into our line-up now begins and already rehearsals are proving to be an enjoyable experience for them. However there is no such thing as a choir that is too large – at our peak, BMVC membership stood at 98! We still need more singers.

You may have missed the open evening but you're welcome to attend our rehearsals which take place each **Tuesday evening at 7.30pm** in **St Michael's Church Cottage, Basingstoke**. We may not get to 98 but we'd love to see more singers on board. Come along – you'll enjoy it! If interested go to our website [www.basingstokemvc.org.uk](http://www.basingstokemvc.org.uk) or email [basingstokemvc@outlook.com](mailto:basingstokemvc@outlook.com)



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### COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

At the June Parish Council meeting we were pleased to welcome a new Councillor, **Francesca Maritan**, who resides in Old Basing and has a wide range of skills to offer the Parish Council. We do, however, now have another Councillor vacancy following the resignation of John Robinson who unfortunately resigned at the June Parish Council meeting. John has taken a keen interest in a wide variety of parish matters and has been an invaluable member of the council. We will be sorry to see John go and wish him well in his future pursuits.

### PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF HODD'S FARM SITE OLD007

It has recently been announced that the imminent threat of development of **Hodds Farm** is highly likely to be excluded from the next **Local Plan** update. The Parish Council will continue to work with other local groups to try and protect possible development sites **OLD001 ("East of Basingstoke")** and **OLD002 (Lodge Farm)**, which is undoubtedly going to be quite a challenge.

### WAR MEMORIAL

Anyone who has visited St Mary's Church recently will have noticed how resplendent the war memorial is looking. Local resident, **Kevin Day**, is a volunteer for the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and approached the Parish Council to offer his skills to brighten up the monument on its behalf. We are extremely grateful to Kevin for the time he's taken to bring such an improvement to this very special tribute and would like to thank him for his generous gesture.

### CLIMATE CHANGE MEETING

Many of you attended the **Parish Council's public meeting** in November, when we discussed a range of energy related issues such as insulation, heat pumps, waste and recycling and the need to plant more trees. The follow up meeting scheduled for December had to be cancelled, but the **next meeting** will now take place on **Wednesday, 20th July, at 7.30pm in Lychpit Community Hall**, when we hope that residents will form groups that will meet regularly and develop expertise, produce information, and promote action towards reducing energy use in the Parish.

### MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

This is an opportunity for you to raise any local issues you may be concerned about with your Councillors. For the next session, Councillors will be joining the **Village Café at St Mary's Church on Friday, 8th July (2 to 4pm)**, you'll be able to enjoy the very best cakes and tea/coffee. Since we are now looking for another Councillor to represent Old Basing, if you think you may be interested why not call in to find out more about this valuable role?

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two **meeting dates** are **Tuesday 5 July** and **2 August** commencing at **7.30 pm**

Parish Clerk: **Mrs Sandra Tuck**

Deputy Clerk: **Mrs Kate Hope**

Address: **The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7DA. Tel: 01256 462847**

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## OLD BASING WI



We had a very informative talk from Carl Shallow at our June meeting about the ways to avoid being scammed by email, phone and post. We thank him for giving up his time to talk to us. On 11th June we held another successful summer sale at the Beddington Centre. Thank you to all who donated cakes bakes and other items for us to make this such a success. We also took part in the St Mary's Flower Festival at the end of the month. Thank you to all who came to our stall and chatted with us at the event.

Our **July meeting** is a **Members Garden Party**. Everyone who is coming will know the venue, date time and the cost payable on the night. The competition on that evening is a homemade pudding for us all to sample and judge!

We have plenty of things planned for later in the year including a skittles afternoon at the Four Horseshoes at Sherfield-on-Loddon and we are working on putting on a coach trip.

For details of the WI in Hampshire and other WI activities go to [www.hampshirewi.org.uk](http://www.hampshirewi.org.uk)

If you would like to join our long-running and thriving group, please contact our President, **Sue Stewart** by email at [oldbasingpres@hampshirewi.org.uk](mailto:oldbasingpres@hampshirewi.org.uk)

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**Chineham and Old Basing NWR** meet on the **first Monday** at **2pm** in different houses. At the end of May we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in the conservatory of one of our members with a magnificent bring and share afternoon tea (accompanied by prosecco). The June meeting had a smaller turnout because many people were still on holiday. The brief was to research and talk about a village within 20 miles. These included Overton and Silchester. One of our members misunderstood the brief and spoke movingly of Oradour-sur-Glane, in France, which in 1944 suffered a wholesale massacre by the SS.

In **July** we will research and talk about an **American state**; fittingly the meeting is on **4th July**. Some members meet in the evening on the **fourth Thursday** to discuss the chosen **book**. A **monthly lunch** is also arranged on different days of the week at a local pub when we catch up with news with a friendly bunch of ladies, and 'put the world to rights'.

For more information go to [www.nwr.org.uk](http://www.nwr.org.uk) or you can contact **Dusty Brough** at [dmbc861@gmail.com](mailto:dmbc861@gmail.com) or tel. **01256 357276**. Try a couple of meetings without obligation.

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## 1 NEWS ABOUT BATS

Thank you to David Byatt for information about bats. Apparently we have lots! Soprano and Common Pipistrelles, Long Brown eared, Nactuals, Natterer's, Daubentons (which are particularly associated with water) and Barbestelles (who are present in Crabtree and the Old Basing area) and Bechsteins. The last two species are woodland bats. The rarest record from a few years ago was a grey long-eared bat which had to be nursed back to health and when released by the old watercress beds went down the Loddon for a couple of kilometres before rousting in Old Basing. Then its tracker failed.

## 2 RUBBISH!

Today, 27th May, there's a new little clutch of ducklings out on the Loddon by Bartons Mill. Let's hope they survive the heron and other predators. Sometimes you find less pleasant things in the river. The remains of an old wheelbarrow had to be fished out the other day. It was very difficult to see with the reflection on the water but any child or dog that jumped in on top of it would have been hurt. As a chalk stream the Loddon should be clear and pristine and we want to keep it that way and improve it to promote wildlife recovery.

## 3 INVESTIGATE OUR RIVER!

We have made up a Loddon trail with activities for families to do on the way. For details of activities, instructions and a map to follow go to the SOLVE website. It might take more than one outing so possibly something to do in those long summer holidays. You may learn something and we hope you have some fun.

## LOCAL PLAN UPDATE: "IT AIN'T OVER UNTIL THE FAT LADY SINGS!"

The Economic, Planning and Housing Committee papers continue to shortlist Pyotts Hill for 900 houses and Lodge Farm for a slightly reduced number of 600 dwellings. There are problems with odour – no surprise there – being located right next to a sewage treatment plant and incinerator! Please continue to log any bad smells when/running walking etc in the Loddon valley. It is important that we have an accurate picture of this problem as experienced by residents and not "what the algorithm says".

**Environment Agency Incident hotline (24-hour): 0800 80 70 60**

**Thames water: 0800 316 9800**

Hodds Farm is not currently shortlisted but the text relating to it is bizarre. If you are a natural optimist enjoy the moment; if a strategist then "It ain't over until the fat lady sings!". This means any site can come back in and there is a very real danger of that. We are pushing hard for the entire river catchment to be a Local Nature Recovery Strategy site; this would be entirely in keeping with the Biodiversity Opportunity Area designation this valley has had for a very long time.



Please do comment on the **East Basingstoke Natural Environment Plan** which covers the Lime Pits, Crabtree, Basing Common, the Mill Field and town centre sites. It's important to support and shape these initiatives and to ensure we have natural space and countryside in which residents and nature can thrive. Comments in by **Friday, 8th July**, so skates on! Website: [www.basingstoke.gov.uk/natural-environment-consult](http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/natural-environment-consult)

**Gill Moore and Kate Tuck**

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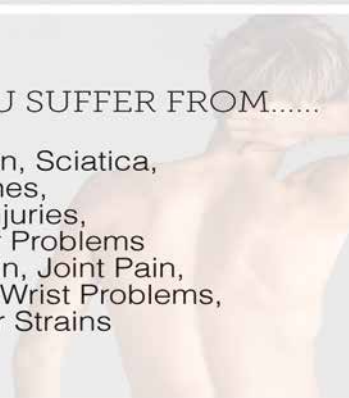
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## ADVERTISERS NEWS

Welcome to dramatots on page 43.

*We ask for submissions to the magazine and website to be made via [www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk) using the web forms:*

*Selection for Articles/Letters and Diary Dates will be found on the “Submissions” drop down and for Free Ads and Concession/Poster Ads on the “Advertise with us” drop down. Paid advertising enquiries can also be made from the same dropdown menu.*

*Submissions made via the forms now provide a common input for both the magazine and website and are automatically routed to the member of the team responsible for processing them. All submissions must be received by the 10th of the month (6th in December) previous to the magazine issue month.*

*If you have trouble finding the forms, you can of course contact us and we will advise.*

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<b><u>SHOES</u></b>	<b><u>£10</u></b>	<b><u>01256326615</u></b>
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Jacques Vert shoes. Mink fabric sling back shoes. Size 6

<b><u>CLUTCH BAG</u></b>	<b><u>£10</u></b>	<b><u>01256326615</u></b>
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Jacques Vert clutch bag with shoulder chain. Mink fabric to match Jacques Vert shoes



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When you are looking for a plumber, electrician, roofer, builder or anyone/anything else, please look in the Basinga first. Our advertisers are well-established and most of them have been with us for a long time, reliable and would welcome your custom.

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### CONCESSION ADVERTS

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#### PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

**Ploughman's Lunch** at the **Parish Room, St Mary's Church, on Thursday, 21st July, at 12.25pm**. It is important to book in advance as numbers are limited. Telephone **07946 596778** to secure a place.

### LOST AND FOUND

Found in the car park between Fraser Close and Cavalier Road, off Belle View Road, a comprehensive set of darts. Contact me to recover said item. **Terry McAnish: tel. 07990 602551** or email: **tmcanish@outlook.com**

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## VILLAGE CAFÉ

We hope you all had a great Platinum Jubilee weekend despite the weather being a little temperamental, a good reason to get together with relatives and friends to celebrate 70 years of the Queen's reign.

On **10th June**, we held an **unveiling ceremony** at **St Mary's Church** for the **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)**, which has been installed and is there in case of need. Thank you to our lovely Parish (and now Borough) Councillor, **Kate Tuck**, for ceremonially cutting the ribbon and supporting us in our fundraising (*see photo below*). We had a number of invited guests attend who have helped us to ensure the purchase and installation of this life-saving device. Thank you all and to our lovely volunteers for all the work they do every week.



We would also like to say a huge thank you to **Helen Armstrong**, who not only bakes and volunteers at the café but organised the AED training courses attended by so many. Being a **m e d i c a l** professional, Helen knows only too well how these AEDs can help save lives and the courses provided us with the confidence to use such a device in an emergency situation should we ever need to.

The café will be open on **Friday afternoons** between **2 and 4pm**, until **15th July**. We will then close for the summer and reopen with a **Macmillan fundraising afternoon** on **2nd September**. We will also have a visit, weather dependant, from local honey producers the same day and the produce will be available to buy.

We will continue to open **weekly throughout September**, changing to our new format of opening only on the **first Friday of every month in October**. We are mindful that as a community café, we want to provide for our customers as often as we can but also that the winter months tend to keep us all indoors more with the colder weather.

We look forward to welcoming you all during our opening times on a Friday afternoon, pop along with friends and relatives and enjoy scrumptious home made cakes, hopefully in the summer sunshine.

**Deborah Thorne**

## FAREWELL

Dear friends,

It has been a privilege to serve as Vicar of St Mary's over the past three years, and at the end of July I will be moving on to take up the post of Anglican Chaplain at Oxford Brookes University.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the community here in Old Basing and Lychpit. Although so much of my time here has been during the Covid pandemic, I am very grateful for the times when I have been able to be out in the community and meet so many of you, or to welcome you to church for a baptism, wedding, funeral, Sunday service or at Christmas. It has also been a joy to be part of the community at St Mary's Junior School, as a governor and leading Acts of Worship for the children and staff.

I have every confidence that St Mary's church will continue to flourish in the future. We have over 80 regular volunteers giving generously of their time. There are so many ways that people get involved at St Mary's from serving on the Parochial Church Council, to flower arranging, gardening, caring for the building, serving at the Village Café, organising festivals, contributing to the musical life of the church, helping with Church services and children's work and so much more! Thank you to each and every one of you for all that you do. I am also very grateful to Debbie our administrator for all her support, and Tina for keeping the building beautifully clean.

St Mary's also relies on the financial generosity of those who give to the church. The operating costs of the church are currently around £110,000 per year, and it is a combination of regular giving, fundraising events and legacies that help us to keep the church open. Thank you so much to everyone who gives, and if you would like to support the work of the church financially, do sign up at [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) (we could do with a little more support)!

As I go from here, I will continue to hold you all in my prayers, and of course will pray for whoever is to be the next vicar here in Old Basing and Lychpit. I hope that they will know the warmth of this community and together there will be much to thank God for in the years ahead.

My final Sunday here will be Sunday, 24th July, and you are all most welcome to join us at the 9:30am service at St Mary's.

With love and prayers,

*Reverend Heather*

**Editor:** Farewell Heather. Thank you for serving as vicar for the parish of Old Basing and Lychpit in these testing times. I always eagerly anticipated your articles for the Basinga; well-written, thought provoking and providing spiritual support and comfort to our readers. We shall miss you. Enjoy your new venture.

Colin



## ST MARY'S CHURCH

### REGULAR SERVICES

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8am</b>	BCP Communion
	<b>9.30am</b>	Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Prayer
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10am</b>	Holy Communion
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Prayer
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Morning Prayer
	<b>10am</b>	Diddy Disciples (Term time only)

Up-to-date details of all services are available on the St Mary's website:

**[www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](http://www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)**

### SPECIAL SERVICES IN JULY

<b>Sunday, 10th July</b>	<b>5pm</b>	Evensong celebrating our partnership with Katakala
<b>Sunday 24th July</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	Revd Heather's final service at St Mary's

### HALL FOR HIRE

The Parish Room at St Mary's Church, including the kitchen, is available for hire. There is availability for both regular bookings and one-off bookings. All enquiries to **Debbie**, email: **[admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)** or phone **07541 698235**.

### WEEKLY BULLETIN

Every week we send out a bulletin with information about all that is happening at the church. If you'd like to be added to our distribution list please could you email Debbie at: **[admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)**

We are also able to hand deliver bulletins to those without internet access. Please phone Debbie on **07541 698235** if you would like one.

## OLD BASING METHODIST CHURCH

You are welcome to come and join us on any of these dates:

<b>Tuesday, 5th July</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	Craft group meet. It is very informal. Just bring your own project and join us for tea and a chat
<b>Friday, 8th July</b>	<b>10.30am–noon</b>	Coffee morning
<b>Wednesday, 13th July</b>	<b>noon–3pm</b>	MHA meet at the chapel for lunch
<b>Tuesday, 19th July</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	Craft afternoon
<b>Tuesday, 26th July</b>	<b>2.30pm</b>	Midweek Communion led by Revd David Jenkins

We had a very happy and successful time at the beginning of June celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and our own Church Anniversary with a special lunch for all the church. After covering the cost of the delightful spread of food we were able to send a donation of £142 to Christian Aid.

<b>Sunday morning worship</b>	<b>10.30am</b>	All are welcome
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## CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)



This month's **working parties** will be on **Saturday, 2nd July**, at **10am** and **Thursday, 28th July**, at **2pm** – meet by the PIOCC noticeboard at the entrance to the Conservation Area. We will continue the summer season maintenance to encourage the wild flowers and associated wildlife. All are very welcome, both our regular volunteers and new participants. We are a community project, not just for churchgoers. Our volunteers make a real difference. You will be warmly welcomed.

Just turn up in gardening clothes and bring gloves. The tools are provided. Our **Saturday morning** sessions last about **three hours** (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our **Thursday afternoons** about **two hours**.

We hope you enjoyed St Mary's Church Summer Festival last month and visited our Conservation Area for the fun there too. The spring flowers have now given way to blue Meadow Cranesbill, lilac-coloured Field Scabious and purple heads of Common Knapweed flowers. Hopefully you will find butterflies as well. Meadow Browns and Ringlets in the more open Central Glade while Speckled Woods prefer the woodland through which they flit on sunny days. Swifts may soar overhead catching insects as they feed up before they depart next month. Why not come and see what you can find? The Conservation Area is a community space for all to enjoy. The WI seat is a lovely peaceful spot from which to enjoy a quiet moment within our busy parish. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this area.

For further information please ring **Fay Farrant** on **01256 476863**.

**Margaret Carr** – [www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](http://www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

## THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

On **Saturday, 9th July**, at **7.30pm (doors open 7pm)**, in the **Parish Room of St Mary's Church**, you are invited to sample the delights of two shows produced by the **Blue Fire Theatre Company** before they transfer to the **Edinburgh Festival Fringe**.

***The Diary of a Nobody*** has never been out of print since its publication in 1892 and local resident Tim Shaw has now adapted it prior to its run at the Festival. Join Charles Pooter whose diary covers a year in the life of a humble bank clerk with aspirations and his, not always intentionally, amusing observations on the mishaps, thrills and tribulations of a would-be gentleman in suburban Victorian London. Andy Smith portrays Mr Pooter as well as a panoply of friends and acquaintances from all strata of London Society (with occasional interjections from his wife and son).

The second show, ***Gilbert & Sullivan's Nightmare***, involves the longest-serving member of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company on awards night. Old Adam hopes that he might just get the recognition he thinks he deserves but nothing is guaranteed. Using some of Gilbert and Sullivan's best-known songs this is the comic tale of a career lost thanks to bad judgement and misguided loyalty. Edz Barret stars as Old Adam accompanied by James Hall on the piano and features songs from ***The Pirates of Penzance***, ***The Mikado*** and ***Iolanthe*** among others.

**Tickets** cost **£12 each** and there will be a cash bar available before the show and during the interval. Tickets available from **Ian Kershaw**, telephone **01256 355500** or email [igfkershaw@btinternet.com](mailto:igfkershaw@btinternet.com)



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## NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE



**BASING  
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RUINS AND GROUNDS

Firstly, thanks to all those who came to the Sealed Knot re-enactment over the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend (see *photo below*), and to those of you who put up with the bangs, crashes and other disturbances that it brought. The last event on that scale was in 2010, and it may be as long before we see another.



Basing House of course does not only have a Civil War history, but it was also one of the great houses of England during Tudor times and welcomed Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I. James I, the first Stuart king, also visited.

So, we move to that era for our next event, the **Tudor Weekend** on the **9th/10th July**. We will have a more peaceful re-enactors in the Walled Garden (or

the Knot Garden as it is also known). They will be playing the lute, demonstrating archery, embroidery, and bee keeping in full Tudor attire. There may be the chance for visitors to dress as a Tudor, too, and some Tudor board games will be waiting to be played.

Birds of prey will be on display on both days, in a living history tent with costumed handlers able to explain falconry which of course was a huge pastime for the Tudor rich.

On the Saturday there will be live music in the barn from Tudor group Courtlye Musick with much merriment and dancing, and if you have an annual ticket and arrive on foot don't forget to go to the Barn to see them.

Our fairy trail around the site – with twelve 'fairy houses' to be discovered, will feature all through July and all through the school holidays.

Normal admission arrangements will be back, with tickets (valid for a year) required and parking in our car park off Bartons Lane.

Fuller details are on our website: [www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house)

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- Visit the walled garden and learn about Basing House's fascinating history in the museum
- Walk your dog or find a picnic spot

## INFORMATION

Pay once, visit all year! With your ticket, you can enjoy unlimited visits to Basing House and return as many times as you like for a whole year! See our website for full details, admission prices and opening times.

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Hampshire Cultural Trust is a registered charity (no. 1158683) and company (no. 08984225) in England and Wales.



## ODIHAM AND OLD BASING HEALTH CENTRES

It's been a busy quarter as you can see from our **April practice figures** below.

We're delighted to welcome **Dr Holly Poppe, Dr Toyin Bode-Abass, Dr Sarah Sierens, Paramedic Jason Rausch** and Physicians Associate **Sitara Khan** to the clinician team and we're pleased to confirm we've increased our reception team.

Please continue to wear a facemask in our health centres unless you are exempt, we have had a high staff sickness rate and need to be well to help you.

### WHAT IS LYME DISEASE?

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can be spread to humans by infected ticks. It's usually easier to treat if it's diagnosed early. Not all ticks in England carry the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease. But it's still important to be aware of ticks and to safely remove them as soon as possible, just in case.

To remove a tick safely: Use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick-removal tool (you can buy these from some pharmacies, vets and pet shops), grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, slowly pull upwards, taking care not to squeeze or crush the tick, dispose of it when you have removed it, and clean the bite with antiseptic or soap and water.

The chance of getting ill is low. You do not need to do anything else unless you notice a circular or oval shape rash around a tick bite or become unwell. The rash can appear up to three months after being bitten by an infected tick, but usually appears within one to four weeks. It can last for several weeks. Information taken from **www.nhs.uk**

### UPDATE FROM THE PATIENT GROUP (PPG)

Our Patient Group aims to improve communication between patients and the surgery and supports the well-being of our community. We are therefore delighted to be able to share the recent data from the surgery showing that they have seen/spoken to and e-consulted with an amazing 5,330 patients during April. The full details are here. Well done to the whole team.

We are hoping soon to be involved in testing the new surgery website which will be launched over the coming months. If you would like to join our patient group network then please contact us at **odihampatientgroup@gmail.com** or join our Facebook group – **Odiham & Old Basing Patient Group**

### PRACTICE FIGURES FOR APRIL 2022

We are still seeing patients face to face as well as offering additional solutions online. We currently support 12,152 patients and completed a total of 5,330 consultations in April.

<b>Face-to-Face Appointments with a GP or Nurse</b>	<b>1,826</b>
<b>Telephone Appointments</b>	<b>2,558</b>
<b>Patients now using the app/online</b>	<b>6,549</b>
<b>Home Visits</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Econsults submitted</b>	<b>379</b>
<b>Additional Support Appointments</b>	<b>509</b>
<b>Patients who did not attend their appointment</b>	<b>81</b>

Odiham and Old Basing Health Centres website: **www.odihamhealthcentre.co.uk**



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## CHINEMAM MEDICAL PRACTICE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

We have an exciting update about our practice building! Approval of a new site. We are delighted that Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has recently approved plans to relocate the **Chineham Medical Practice** to **Jameson House**, Lutyens Close, and it is hoped the move into the new premises will take place the end of 2023. You may have already visited the site as it has been the vaccination centre for North Hampshire and is close to the Chineham shopping centre. Once developed the new premises will provide: more space – where you can have the care you need; better access – especially for people with disabilities; improved privacy – through better room design; and wellbeing focus – a garden designed with an emphasis on mental wellbeing. Jameson House will have modern treatment room space for other additional services (including baby clinics, ultrasound, physiotherapy, joint injections and the ability to carry out minor procedures) reducing the need for people to be seen in hospital.

The increased space will make it easier for health and social care professionals (such as GPs, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, counsellors, district nurses, social prescribers etc) to work more closely together in the same building. The practice will also be able to expand our role as a training practice, training new GPs and other health professionals. How can you get involved and find out more information? In the coming months we will be working closely with the Patient Participation Group (PPG) to give you opportunities to have your say on the look and feel of the new practice building. The PPG is always pleased to welcome new members – please let us know if you would like to be involved, email: [contactus@chinehamppg.org.uk](mailto:contactus@chinehamppg.org.uk) (further information will be available on the Chineham Medical Practice website and we will continue to keep you updated as the project moves forward). We look forward to sharing developments with you over the next eighteen months.

**Karen Ashton (Chair, Chineham Patient Participation Group)**

## BASINGSTOKE LIONS CLUB



On **Saturday, 30th July**, between **9.30am** and **4.30pm**, head to **Castle Square** in Basingstoke town centre to **meet** the loved and loving **Basingstoke Lions Club's mascot** in and around his 'lair'. Usually only seen by chance at fetes, fairs, supermarket and other community events, this is a day when snuggles, cuddles and/or 'hi-fives' from the gentle beast would be very likely! In addition, for a small fee let your child 'Be a Little Lion like Lennie' through the skills of talented face-painter Caroline from 'Funny Faces', on site between **10am** and **4pm**. AND to the lucky first 40 children to the 'lair', Lennie will happily give a free 'Colour-it-Yourself' Lion facemask to take home so the fun can continue. AND/OR take home a photographic memento of your visit – step into our huge Lion picture, alone or with a friend, pass us your camera and we'll do the rest. Or we'll take the photo and send it on. AND for the parents also – the third popular Lions' pre-loved book sale – a huge array of secondhand books, all looking for homes and each costing just 50p – or whatever you feel appropriate! 'Lennie' and his friends look forward to meeting you!

Note, as always, fundraising proceeds go towards the Basingstoke Lions Club meeting local needs, as part of Lions Clubs International. we will be donating a portion of the day's contributions to their Ukraine Appeal and hope that from the funds raised through other events we can donate more.

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## BOLTON UNDER 5'S PRESCHOOL SUMMER UPDATE



Our **Summer Fayre** was a huge success and a lovely event for our local community and our preschool families. Lots of you popped in, as it was a perfect day, perfect setting and perfect timing. I think everyone was ready for a bit of fun and a few party games. The weather was extremely kind to us, so the ice creams and Pimms went down well. It was lovely to meet many children and families from previous years, after two cancelled events!

The summer term is always a great one at preschool. There are so many exciting things going on, it's ridiculous. The older ones are also getting ready for their big transition, so there's lots of practice doing 'big school' things, which is very exciting for them!

There's also a big change for BU5's. Our very special ladies, who have been leading Bolton Under 5's for 12 years, are moving on. The time is right for them, now their families have grown up and Tina is a grandma. It will be hard to say goodbye, but we wish them lots of love and I know they will be sad to leave. However, they have accrued so many wonderful memories they will always be able to draw on and will make them smile. The preschool will have a new leader and manager, who is a very experienced Early Years' leader. More details in the autumn, but, for now, it's all about the exciting last few weeks for Tina and Sam.

**The BU5's Committee**

## LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE SCHOOL



July is always an emotional time for us at LinguaTastic, as we say *au revoir*, *auf Wiedersehen* and *adios* to the preschool years of many of our little ones. These are such magical years, a time filled with fascination, daily

discoveries and a love for the world around them. Learning occurs at a phenomenal rate, at an intensity that will not be present in any other period of life and what an honour it is that parents allow us to contribute to this time of their child's miraculous development.

Consider the following research findings – cited in an article by **K. Lehnardt** to be found at **[www.factretriever.com](http://www.factretriever.com)**

"At about 18 months, a toddler's spoken vocabulary explodes, adding new words at about one every two waking hours. Babies whose parents talk to them frequently know 300 more words by age two than babies whose parents rarely speak to them. Between ages one and two, a toddler's cerebral cortex adds more than two million new synapses (connections between brain cells) every second. By age two, they have more than 100 trillion synapses, the most they'll ever have in their life. By the time they are adults, more than 50% of those synapses are gone."

So, as you might conclude, early years are an ideal time to introduce children to other languages. Adults perceive languages as complex, but children take it in their stride and what's great about joining sessions at LinguaTastic is that all the while they are learning another language, children are also: developing their emotional and social skills through play; improving their mood and their spatial orientation and coordination through music, singing and dancing; fostering their fine motor skills through activities at the table; the list goes on...

To find out more and/or to secure your child's place on our toddler/ preschooler sessions in French, German and Spanish email **[info@linguatastic.com](mailto:info@linguatastic.com)** or telephone **01256 471474**.



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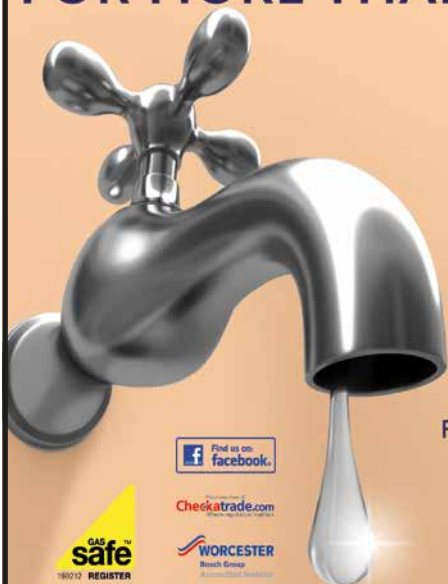
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## OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

# LIVE ON



**Monthly Branch Meeting**

**Thursday, 7th July, 8pm (Jack Morris Hall)**

### RBL WOMEN'S SECTION

**General Meeting and Summer Party**

**Thursday, 28th July, 7.30pm**

**(Jack Morris Hall).** Bring plate of nibbles. Competition: Summer Hat.

## THE IVY CLUB

If you feel like an afternoon of sociability then we are the place to come on a **Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 until 4pm** at the **Royal British Legion (Jack Morris) Hall**. All it costs you is **£2** for which you get fed and watered and a raffle into the bargain!

June has been a busy month with a visit from the Dogs Trust. Emma brought her three-legged fury friend, Bambi, and told us about the amazing work they do. Like most we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee raising a glass of champagne and held a raffle.

We are still plodding on with the exchange jigsaw and book programme, but have decided it would probably best be supported in the winter, so for the time being we are knocking it on the head. We are finishing this month with a party, entertainment and a cream tea in celebration of the life of one of our members, **Pat Perman** who died after a brave fight with such a very positive attitude. She made provision prior to her passing for The Ivy Club to have a party to celebrate her life and that is exactly what we are doing.

We have a **coach outing to Weymouth** on **Tuesday, 19th July**, cost **£19** per person. We have some seats available, If you are interested call to book your seat – tel. **01256 328196**.

**Sue Wilson** (Chairman)

## THE MILL FIELD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE



Many thanks to all of those who supported our annual fundraiser at **Bartons Mill** in May, the sun brought the crowds out to watch the **Duck Race** followed by our inaugural **Boat Race** which had lovely imaginative entries.

July is a vibrant month for the wildlife in the field; Parent Goldfinch will be carrying food back to feed their young in the nest and Whitethroats will be stalking around the scrub. During the day the stream is a popular spot for Swallows and House Martins swooping in on flying insects whilst visitors later in the evening will see an increase in the number of bats on the wing. Our butterflies and moths are emerging on sunny days so look out for daytime moths such as the Silver Y and the Burnet, distinctive for its red spots on black wings. Those looking for plants in July will find the Bee and Common Spot orchids, as well as the flowering of the towering Woolly Thistle. Check out our Facebook page for photos.

**Anne Francis** (tel. **07974 944439**)

Email: [millfieldnature@gmail.com](mailto:millfieldnature@gmail.com) Facebook: **Mill Field Conservation Group**

## JULY IN YOUR GARDEN

This is often one of the hottest months of the year so being water wise is the order of the month. Using water butts, trying to only water pots and new plants if dry and keeping bird baths and ponds clean and topped up should all be priorities. To make water go further, water thoroughly less frequently, rather than little and often, a few times a week rather than every day, depending on rainfall. If your ground has become dry, spike it gently with a garden fork before watering to aid the penetration of the water. If you have hanging baskets place buckets under them to catch excess water that can be used in other areas of the garden.

Unless in drought, lawns should be mown regularly. Setting the blades slightly higher can protect the grass in very hot weather, but any brown patches will soon recover once autumn rains return. Try to only use a sprinkler if absolutely necessary. Ants and weeds will probably be your biggest problems right now, so brush off the former and spot treat or dig out the latter. The growing rate of the grass will slow towards the end of summer so setting a higher blade height then will make the grass more resistant to wear. Summer baskets can be kept looking at their best if they are cut back and then fed. This can encourage new growth and revive their display. Deadhead flower borders and cut back hardy geraniums and delphiniums after the first flush of flowers to encourage more blooms.

You can propagate your own flowers by starting to collect seed heads and by taking cuttings of container and patio plants. Feeding and mulching borders will really help encourage a good display as well as retaining moisture, reducing the need to water and will also suppress weeds. It is probably the best thing you can do for your garden right now. The best mulches are 2 to 3 ins (5 to 7 cm) thick and are rich in organic matter.

Evergreen hedges such as *Lonicera nitida*, Box and Privet can be clipped this month and the clippings added to the compost heap if they aren't too woody. Once *Clematis Montana* has finished flowering, it can be cut back – hard if necessary. Honeysuckle and climbing roses will need tying in to their supports, the latter need to be tied as horizontal as possible to ensure the best showing of flowers.

If you need to propagate any shrubs, now is the time to take softwood cuttings of plants such as lavender, rosemary, hydrangea and philadelphus. While you are doing this now is the best time to cut lavender for drying, choosing newly opened flowers for the best fragrance, then hang up in a cool, dark place.

June-flowering shrubs such as philadelphus can be pruned now and while you are at it, take some semi-ripe cuttings to create new plants. Hydrangea and *Choisya* can also be propagated from cuttings that are placed in pots of gritty compost and placed into a cold frame. Remove suckers from rose bushes and trees and tie in climbers and ramblers as they grow.

House plants can benefit by being placed outside for the warmer months and plants in the greenhouse will need shading to protect them from scorching under glass. Keep an eye out for red spider mite, white fly, mealy bugs and scale insects and treat appropriately.

Finally keep on top of fallen leaves and flowers to help prevent some pest and disease problems. Above all, be sure to take some time off from weeding and watering to relax and enjoy the rewards of your labour.



## NATURE NOTES FOR JULY

On the evidence of residents that have nesting boxes, it would seem that it's been a pretty good breeding season for Blue Tits at least. These are the most prevalent of the Tit family to use urban nesting sites so all reports this year concern them. I have noticed a few Great and Long Tailed Tit families moving from tree to bush, hunting out any bug that will do but your messages suggest that broods, in camera boxes at least, have done well. Terry McAnish was like an expectant father waiting for the chicks in his box to fledge and then when they did, he was outside ensuring the ever-present Sparrowhawk wasn't around to pick up one of the four (out of eight eggs) that emerged.

Old friend Graham Cadell in Apple Way also enjoys the ups, and it must be said, the downs, of having a camera box because not always is there a happy ending. This year, most of the eight eggs laid did hatch and five chicks fledged so a reasonable result. Graham was astonished at the strength and tenacity of the parent as he watched it drag a dead chick out of the box, a completely necessary task which might have spelt the demise of the rest of the family had it remained there.



I'm guilty (again!) of not walking the river and surrounding area much this spring so have missed hearing the Whitethroats and other incoming songsters around the Mill Field. Nevertheless, I was delighted to hear from **Jim Andrews** that a pair of Cetti's Warblers successfully raised a couple of chicks in the reed beds opposite to Tithe Barn, which Jim believes is a first for Old Basing area. I asked if he'd managed to get a shot of the youngsters or adults, but they flit around in the undergrowth too much for that, but his photography skills did pick out this lovely picture (see *left*) of a **Roebuck** relaxing in the long grass of Mill Field.

I don't know if you caught the episode of 'Springwatch' this week that showed the macabre demise of a Skylarks nest?

Presenter Chris Packham admitted what happened was a first for him, in the shape of a hedgehog finding the ground located nest with two young in and then proceeded to eat them! It was ghastly to watch but hedgehogs are mostly meat eaters and aren't fussy what that means as long as it's a meal. Nature is cruel but with hog numbers down these days by 70% from 25 years ago, what would we prefer?

On the flip side to a reduction of one of our wild creatures, the comeback of the Red Kite has been astonishing, and we are all used to the sight and sound of these magnificent birds in the air above us. There has clearly been a successful rearing of some young going on as I watched three birds above my garden this week, drifting around on the breeze and calling as they do, but one was a bit wobbly and had a weird higher pitched contact call. I then noticed the bird had under-developed tail feathers, so it was almost certainly a bird perhaps on a maiden flight.

Don't forget to send all your nature-related photos to [rickbourne@yahoo.com](mailto:rickbourne@yahoo.com) or [naturenotes@basinga.org.uk](mailto:naturenotes@basinga.org.uk) or ring **01256 321108** for news. For all your bird food requirements, order it from me at 'Bird Drop-ins' use the former email address or ring/text me on **07900 648675** to place an order or get a form.

**Rick Bourne**

## DIARY DATES FOR JULY

For details of services and events at St Mary's Church please see page 24

### JULY

Fri 1	10.30am    noon	Ladies First Fri Coffee Morning (8 Norton Ride, Lychpit)
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 2	10.00am	PIOCC Working Party (meet at PIOCC noticeboard)
Tue 5	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (The Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
Thu 7	8.00pm	OB RBL Monthly Branch Meeting (Jack Morris Hall)
Fri 8	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 9	7.30pm	Show (Parish Room, St Mary's Church) – doors open 7pm
Sat 9	11.00am – 4.00pm	Tudor Weekend (Basing House)
Sun 10	11.00am – 4.00pm	Tudor Weekend (Basing House)

**Sun 10 – 6.00pm DEADLINE FOR AUGUST COPY TO EDITOR**

Fri 15	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Thu 21	12.25pm	Ploughman's Lunch (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Thu 28	2.00pm	PIOCC Working Party (meet at PIOCC noticeboard)
	7.30pm	OB RBL Women's Section Gen Meeting (Jack Morris Hall)

### AUG

Tue 2	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (The Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
Fri 5	10.30am – noon	Ladies First Fri Coffee Morning (3 Whitehead Cl, Lychpit)

## BASINGA EXTRA

This month we were unable to include every article that we received, or submitted long after the deadline. Content listed below is available on our website: [www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk)

*Basingstoke & District Railway Society*

*Basingstoke and Deane Rotary*

*Basingstoke Festival*

*Grants to Help Lower Energy Bills for Low Income Families*

*Hampshire & Isle Of Wight Wildlife Trust*

*Read Easy*



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## ● BASINGA

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<b>WEBMASTER:</b> Alan Morris, 29 Lingfield Close, Old Basing, RG24 7ED	01256 329417

## ● OLD BASING & LYCHPIT PARISH COUNCIL

<b>CLERK:</b> Sandra Tuck	01256 462847
<b>OFFICE AND HOURS:</b> The Pavilion, The Recreation Ground Monday to Thursday 10am to noon	

## ● CHURCH INFORMATION FOR THE AREA

### Church of England (Parish of Old Basing & Lychpit)

<b>VICAR:</b> Rev'd Heather Leppard, The Vicarage, Church Lane, Old Basing Email: vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk	01256 363612 07745 731729
<b>ADMINISTRATOR:</b> Debbie Filer	07541 698235

### Regular Services at St Mary's Church, Old Basing

**SUNDAY:** 8am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist and Junior Church

**OTHER DAYS:** Wednesday, 10am – Holy Communion; Monday, Thursday and Friday, 9.15am – Morning Prayer

*Changes to the regular service pattern and other weekday services are shown in the weekly news-sheet, a copy of which is displayed on the noticeboard in the church porch*

### Old Basing Methodist Church

<b>MINISTER:</b> Rev'd David Jenkins	0118 3271592 07973 195566
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**SUNDAY SERVICE:** Morning Service 10.30am

### Roman Catholic

<b>PRIEST:</b> Fr Dominic Adeiza St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke	01256 465214
<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b> 9am, 11am and 6pm	

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### Monday's

14.00 - 15.00  
Lychpit  
Community Hall

### Relax Yoga

*This class is for all levels of ability and uses postures to help you relax and deepen your yoga practice.*

### Tuesday's

19.15 - 20.15  
St Mary's  
Church Hall,  
Old Basing

### Sunday Morning Yoga

*This class is for all levels of ability and focuses on strength and flexibility.*

### Sunday's

09.15 - 10.15  
Lychpit  
Community Hall

### Sunday Night Satsang

*This is deep relaxation yoga. You will be led through a series of gentle yoga postures followed by an extended guided meditation.*

### 1st Sunday

of the month  
18.30 - 19.30  
Lychpit  
Community Hall



Contact Vicky on 01256 910108 or  
email [vicky@infiniteharmony.co.uk](mailto:vicky@infiniteharmony.co.uk)  
Don't forget to book your space.



For more information visit [www.infiniteharmony.co.uk](http://www.infiniteharmony.co.uk)



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