

March 2024

# BASINGA



Vaughan Snook



Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Magazine  
[www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk)



# Planning a party?

BIRTHDAYS • ANNIVERSARIES  
ENGAGEMENTS • WEDDINGS

*Beechdown is the perfect  
place to celebrate!*

Private bars, dedicated dance floor,  
atmospheric lighting and a wide  
choice of food options. Your party will  
really go with a swing at Beechdown.

Our Event Planners will help you  
create the party of your dreams



Beechdown Events

[beechdownevents.co.uk](http://beechdownevents.co.uk)

[events@beechdown.co.uk](mailto:events@beechdown.co.uk)

01256 36 22 11

Winchester Rd  
Basingstoke RG22 4ES

## MARCH COVER PHOTO, NOTES AND NEWS

This month's **cover photograph** was taken and sent to us by **Vaughan Snook**: "I took this photo of a pair of Scots Pines bathed in light at sunset in Basing Rec today, Saturday, 10th February. Thoughts of brighter days ahead!"

You've probably heard the warning to Julius Caesar in William Shakespeare's play of the same name: "Beware the Ides of March." Not only did Shakespeare's words stick, but they also branded the phrase—and the date, March 15—with a dark and gloomy connotation. It's likely that many people who use the phrase today don't know its true origin. The Ides of March actually has a non-threatening history. Kalends, Nones and Ides were ancient markers used to reference dates in relation to lunar phases. Ides simply referred to the first full moon of a given month, which usually fell between the 13th and 15th. In fact, the Ides of March once signified the new year, which meant celebrations and rejoicing.

## 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 **April edition** is **6pm on Sunday, 10th March**. Please use the forms on the **Basinga** website **[www.basinga.org.uk](http://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'. 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](http://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** at **[editor@basinga.org.uk](mailto:editor@basinga.org.uk)**

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

## BASINGA ADVERTISERS

The Basinga magazine is distributed free of charge to over three thousand households and premises in the Old Basing and Lychpit area, and a growing number of web 'browsers'.

The magazine is produced and distributed by teams of volunteers, while our printing costs are covered by paid adverts from local businesses. Without the income from adverts we would not be able to function and our readership's support for our advertisers is crucial in maintaining this magazine.

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.

Our website **[www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk)** has a list of our advertisers, either alphabetically or by page; from the home page choose 'OUR ADVERTISERS' then 'OUR CONTRACT ADS'.



## NEWS FROM ST. MARY'S CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

St Mary's pupils have been extremely busy working on all sorts of things and we are all looking forward to Easter and Holy Week in school at the end of this month.

Signs of spring are spreading through the school with our daffodils starting to bloom. But before that, let's go back a month to February to appreciate some of the fun-filled things that St Mary's has been up to.

The **Year 3** children had a very busy half term practising for their year group production. They performed 'Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes - Jack and the Beanstalk' and it was a great opportunity for all of them. They all had so much fun practising and performing and all the farm animal costumes were great! Well done to everyone involved.

Our **Year 5** pupils have had a massive amount of fun on their weekly visits to Queen Mary's College to learn how to swim or improve their swimming: many of them have made amazing progress in their skills and confidence.

Last half term for **Year 6** was full of excitement. They have been making their own model fairground rides in their DT lessons. They were able to make carousels, swinging chairs or ferris wheels. They even made them spin using circuits and motors! They also enjoyed their visit to the beautiful Woking Mosque where they learnt more about Islam.

Finally, **Year 4** really enjoyed their French Café organised by Madame Quick! Thank you to the Street Bakeshop (Old Basing), Indigo Bakery (Lychpit) and Tesco Chineham for donating many delicious pastries for this event. Merci!

We are looking forward to our RE units at the end of this term which will all link to the Easter story and mark the end of this season of Lent. We wish you all Happy Easter.

**Abi and Leon Year 6**

## OLD BASING SCOUTS



Everyone at Old Basing Scouts has been enjoying a multitude of different activities so far this term as they work towards earning new badges and experiencing new adventures.

Recently, the **Beavers** participated in Around the World in 180 Minutes. During this event they joined other Beavers from all over Basingstoke to enjoy a number of different activities based on countries from around the world. This allowed them to work towards their 'My World' Challenge badge. This is a special badge which goes towards the highest award a Beaver can earn the Bronze Award.

The **Cubs** have also been working towards their top award - the Silver Award. A few weeks ago several of our older Cubs met with Cubs from 1st Basingstoke for a special sleepover where they learned more about Pioneering, Tracking, Cooking and of course loads of games.

The **Scouts** also continue to enjoy many different activities during their weekly meetings but are also preparing for a hike in the next few weeks where they will need to navigate to bases, complete activities, and use their map skills to follow the route to the endpoint.

We are always looking for new people to join in the adventure.

If you're interested or want more information, email: [group@oldbasingscouts.org.uk](mailto:group@oldbasingscouts.org.uk)



# V&A

Threads of India

Design inspiration from the V&A archives

## SOFAS & STUFF



The Walled Garden, Herriard Park, Basingstoke,  
Hampshire, RG25 2PL

01256 637 240 | [www.sofasandstuff.com/toi](http://www.sofasandstuff.com/toi)

# OLD BASING BOILER SERVICES



Boiler Installations

Servicing and Repairs

Unvented/Vented Cylinders

Power Flushing  
of Heating Systems

Free Estimates

No Call Out Charge

Landlord Certificates

Fully Insured

01256819521 **Bill Martin** 07990514472

[www.oldbasingboilerservices.com](http://www.oldbasingboilerservices.com)

*Keeping you Gas Safe*



**CONTACT BASINGSTOKE  
01256 325575 ANYTIME**

**ARE YOU A WORKING WIFE?  
AND TIRED OF COPING WITH THE HOUSEWORK?**

## WE PROVIDE

REGULAR/HOUSE MOVE/END OF TENANCY CLEANS  
IRONING, OVENS AND CARPET CLEANING  
OVER 25 YEARS IN BASINGSTOKE



RING US TODAY FOR A FREE BROCHURE  
**01256 325575**



# CHEQUERS

Independent Estate Agents



One step ahead...

Successfully selling property  
in the Old Basing/Lychpit area  
for over 30 years!



**For your free valuation call us on 01256 810018**

**[www.chequersestateagents.co.uk](http://www.chequersestateagents.co.uk)**

\* If you have instructed another agent on a sole agency and/or sole selling rights basis, the terms of those instructions must be considered to avoid a possible liability to pay two commissions.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### CONGRATULATIONS

Firstly, to the **Basinga** on achieving Overall Fourth Place and **Best Edited Magazine** in the **National Parish Magazine Awards**. When you consider how many parish magazines are published, this is a great achievement.

We must also offer huge congratulations to local resident, **Katherine Antrobus** and her two Vodafone colleagues in breaking the world record as the fastest group of three women to row from La Gomera in the Canaries to Antigua in a race known as “The World’s Toughest Row” – what an incredible achievement! Katherine and her colleagues raised money for WWF and UNHCF with donations being match-funded by the Vodafone Foundation.

### THIEVES VISIT THE RECREATION GROUND – AGAIN!

Yet again the workshop at the recreation ground has been broken into and this time, unable to breach the security on the doors, the thieves smashed a hole through the wall at the rear of the building! Despite the alarm sounding and other security measures activating, thousands of pounds worth of grounds maintenance equipment was stolen.

Police and our security company were on site in less than eight minutes of the alarm activating but those responsible had disappeared. For some reason the automatic gate installed at the entrance to the grounds just before Christmas was open on that particular night. CCTV images have been passed to the police to enable them to build up a profile of this and similar incidents elsewhere in the Basingstoke area.

### ALLOTMENTS

During the winter our grounds contractors, Larkstel, carried out a huge amount of clearance work at the allotments and along the boundary with the cemetery. This work included removal of very old trees following storm damage and clearance of larger plots that had been vacated. As a result, we have been able to clear our wait-list and now have plots available if anyone is considering taking on an allotment. The plots have all been strimmed ready for someone to take over and Spring is the ideal time of year to start planting. If you are interested, please contact Kate Hope, our Deputy Clerk, using the email address: [deputy.clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk](mailto:deputy.clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk)

### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all those who completed and returned the Questionnaire. By early February a total of 518 had been received and, at the time of writing, are now being processed.

The next two Parish Council Meetings will take place on **Tuesday, 5th March** and **2nd April**.

Parish Clerk: **Mrs Sandra Tuck**

Deputy Clerk: **Mrs Kate Hope**

Address: **The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, The Street,  
Old Basing, RG24 7DA**

Telephone: **01256 462847**

Office Hours: **Monday to Thursday, 10am to noon**

Mobile: **07507 514498** (emergencies only)

Email: [clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk) Website: [www.oldbasing.gov.uk](http://www.oldbasing.gov.uk)







# R.KNIGHT

## JCB & PLANT HIRE

**All Ground Work Undertaken**

**Fencing & Tree Work**

Tel: 01256 324588

Mobile: 07703 458372

Groundworks | Footings | Driveways | Landscaping

**B . COOPER**

### DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Repairs and servicing to most makes and models of

**Washing Machines , Tumble Dryers ,**

**Dishwashers , Cookers ,**

**Microwaves , Fridges , Freezers ,**

**And Vacuum Cleaners .**

**Set Labour Charges , No VAT**

**Tel. 01256 466851 or mobile 07831 684375**



# MIKE'S

## GARDEN SERVICES

**Tel: 01256 325015**

[mnm.chapman@talktalk.net](mailto:mnm.chapman@talktalk.net)

[www.gardenerbasingstoke.com](http://www.gardenerbasingstoke.com)

AFFORDABLE CARE & SUPPORT  
FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN NEEDS



**07841 532 878**

*For all your Home & Garden needs,  
including:*

- Fencing
- Decking
- Shed construction & Bases
- Landscaping
- New lawns
- Artificial Grass

- Painting & Decorating
- Handyman Jobs
- Tiling
- Flooring

[www.primeimprovements.co.uk](http://www.primeimprovements.co.uk)

## T&S Tile & Stone Revival

Tile, Stone and grout cleaning specialist

**Professional deep cleaning  
and sealing of all  
natural stones and tiles.  
Interior and Exterior.**

**Dennis Buckland**

**T: 07834 787222**

[dennis@stonerevive.co.uk](mailto:dennis@stonerevive.co.uk)

INTERIOR

# Painter's Pride

EXTERIOR



**EXPERIENCED HOUSEHOLD  
PAINTER & DECORATOR**

NO JOB TOO SMALL

**TEL: 01256 355356 or 07876 495657**





# Hawkwood Marketing

your local marketing partner

**Want to find more customers?  
What are you waiting for?  
Let's chat!**

BOOK A 30 MINUTE  
NO-OBLIGATION MARKETING  
REVIEW

✉ [lou@hawkwoodmarketing.co.uk](mailto:lou@hawkwoodmarketing.co.uk)

☎ 07879 637899

🌐 [www.hawkwoodmarketing.co.uk](http://www.hawkwoodmarketing.co.uk)

**To advertise here contact  
[advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk)**

## THE FRAME GALLERY & FRAMING

FRAMING | ART | GIFTS | HOMEWARE

The Frame Gallery is in the centre of Odiham's High Street, where you can take advantage of the free parking and pop in for a no-obligation framing quote, from our experienced team. We stock a full range of 'made to measure' and 'ready made' frames plus you can enjoy the regularly changing original and limited print artwork and gifts.



Speak with Gallery Owner Katie Bleathman ☎ 01256 701082 @ [hello@theframe-gallery.co.uk](mailto:hello@theframe-gallery.co.uk)

Nº 81 | High St | Odiham | Hants | RG29 1LB

Tues to Sat 9.30am - 5pm

Stay Connected



## LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE SCHOOL



On **10th March**, it is **Mother's Day** here in the UK. Did you know though, that different countries celebrate this on different days? For example, in Luxembourg, it's celebrated in June and in

Argentina it's in October! But even within one country it can vary! For example, in most of Belgium, it is on the second Sunday of May, but in Antwerp, it's on 15th August, the Day of the Assumption of Mary.

Interestingly, Mother's Day as we know it, originated in the USA. After losing her mother in 1905, a woman named Anna Jarvis, campaigned for a day to celebrate mothers. Anna's mother had spent her life helping mothers to care for their children and she wanted mothers' work to be recognised. She is recorded as having said "I hope ... that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mothers' day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life."

A few years later, Mother's Day was introduced and by 1911, it was a holiday across every state in the USA. However, whereas Mrs Jarvis had wanted to celebrate the work done by mothers, Anna's perspective was that of a devoted daughter. Her motto for Mother's Day was "For the Best Mother who Ever Lived—Your Mother." And this is why, in her opinion, the apostrophe had to be before the "s" not after it!

The day continued to grow in popularity and companies saw an opportunity to make money and started selling special cards, flowers and more. Anna became disheartened by the commercialisation of the day and after having campaigned for the introduction of this day, she spent the rest of her life campaigning for people not to buy flowers, etc. at an inflated price and even for the day to be rescinded!

Whatever your stance on Mother's Day, LinguaTastic is keen to teach you about apostrophes (and more) in other languages.

For further information on our classes and cultural events, e-mail: [info@linguatastic.com](mailto:info@linguatastic.com)

## HELPING DOGS AND CATS UK RESCUE



### EASTER EGGSTRAVANGANZA - FAMILY FUN DAY!

Join us for a paw-some day of family fun at the **Wellington Social Club, Elmwood Way, Basingstoke RG23 8LE**, on **Friday, 29th March, noon to 4.00pm**.

Admission is free, and all are welcome!

Activities Include: **Easter Bonnet Competition; Fun-filled Easter Games; Exciting Prizes; Stalls; Refreshments.**

**Meet the Easter Bunny: £5** per child, including an Easter gift!

Don't miss the chance for your little ones to enjoy a memorable day while supporting a great cause. To book your place please email: [hdcukad@gmail.com](mailto:hdcukad@gmail.com)

Your participation will directly contribute to the well-being of dogs and cats in need. Let's make this Easter a joyous celebration for the entire family while supporting a noble cause!

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

# HORIZON SOUND & VISION

Family Run Business Est 1988

- Aerial, Satellite & Sky Q  
Freeview, Freesat
- Tuning & Set Up  
Remote control programming  
Weak/No Signal Repairs
- TV Wall Installation  
Hidden Cabling
- Additional TV Points
- Wi-Fi Signal Improvement and Network Cabling
- CCTV Installations  
Including Ring doorbell
- Starlink Installation  
Superfast Internet for Rural Areas

TRADING  
STANDARDS  
APPROVED

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

**01256 841860**

Essex Road Basingstoke  
www.horizonsoundandvision.co.uk  
info@horizonsoundandvision.co.uk

# Industrialware

Carpentry & Joinery

BESPOKE FITTED & FREESTANDING FURNITURE •  
TRADITIONAL JOINERY • OAK FRAMING • DECKINGS •  
GENERAL 2ND FIX

CONTACT :

• INDUSTRIALWARE.WLC@GMAIL.COM • 07770989962 •

# WATER SOFTENERS

AMS LTD

Water softener repairs (all makes)  
No call-out charge  
Can fully recondition with a guarantee  
New softeners supplied and installed  
10 years guarantee

E-mail: [info@amsmayfair.co.uk](mailto:info@amsmayfair.co.uk)

Tel: 01256 768171 • Mob: 07836 247694

**Brewers**  
DECORATOR CENTRES

Kieder Teal from the Albany  
Shangri-La Wallpaper Collection

Your choice for  
paint and wallpaper  
and the very best in free advice



138 Basingstoke Trade Park  
Worting Road, Basingstoke  
RG21 8BJ 01256 467373  
[basingstoke@brewers.co.uk](mailto:basingstoke@brewers.co.uk)

1 Whitney Road  
Daneshill Estate, Basingstoke  
RG24 8NS 01256 464745  
[basingstoke.east@brewers.co.uk](mailto:basingstoke.east@brewers.co.uk)

**£20 OFF**

When you spend  
£100 or more ZX520BSB



5019646988929

**£10 OFF**

When you spend  
£50 or more ZX510BSB



5019646988912

Valid until 31st December 2024 at Brewers Basingstoke only.  
Terms and Conditions apply, ask in store for details.



## NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE



Basing House **reopens** for the 2024 season on **Good Friday, 29th March**. The site contains the remains of a Norman castle, which became a Tudor Palace and then a Civil War battleground, a Jacobean walled garden and our spectacular barn, along with plenty of countryside. It will be **open Wednesday to Sunday until the end of**

**September, from 11.00am to 4.00pm.**

There is free Basing House car parking by **Bartons Mill** public house.

Purchase of a ticket grants you access for twelve months, so you can enjoy events for a year and come back any time.

To mark the reopening we are holding the **Big Basing House Easter Egg Hunt**, on **Good Friday** and **Easter Saturday**. 200 eggs will be hidden through our historic grounds so visitors can search for and discover eggs hidden all across the site -- a challenge for all the family. Every egg handed in gives one entry to our prize draw, so the more eggs found, the higher the chance of winning a very special Easter prize. This event is included in venue admission, but **only runs until 1.00pm on each day**. Our fairy trail will also be running.

**The Barn at Basing House** is also a wedding venue, so we are holding a **Wedding Fayre on Saturday, 21st April**. To see our wedding venue, or just to find perfect wedding day suppliers just come along. Our friendly and dedicated wedding team will be there along with the very best local wedding suppliers and experts, offering advice and services for the perfect day.

This fayre is free to attend on the day, or email us on [basinghouseweddings@gmail.com](mailto:basinghouseweddings@gmail.com) to book your wedding 'show round' with our wedding coordinator.

For more information about Basing House and both events please visit our website at [www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house)

**Andrew Howard**

**01256 327014**

## BASINGSTOKE AND DISTRICT RAILWAY SOCIETY



'Across the pond' on **Wednesday, 13th March** when **David Peel** presents **Coast to Coast by Amtrak**. David will illustrate his travels across the United States by train including two spectacular heritage railways: the Cumbres and Toltec and the Durango and Silverton.

On **Wednesday, 27th March**, Vice-Chairman **Ian Francis** will present the **BDRS Trip to Switzerland**. The story of last year's Society overseas trip will be illustrated with pictorial contributions from Ian and fellow travellers.

Our meetings are held at **7.45pm at The Wote Street Club**, which has a licenced bar, in New Road in Basingstoke town centre, RG21 7NG, and visitors are most welcome.

More details on our website at [www.bdrs70d.com](http://www.bdrs70d.com) or call the Secretary on **07837 320790**.

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH SUMMER FESTIVAL

**Friday, June 21st to 23rd and Saturday, June 29th to Sunday 30th**



The St. Mary's Festival Team is thrilled to present this year's **Flower Festival**, centred around the theme "**A Celebration of Summer**" with Flowers, Music, Art, and Open Gardens.

Start the weekend on **June 21st** with an exclusive preview of the **Floral Arrangements** and an **Art Exhibition**. Immerse yourself in the nostalgic sounds of the 1940s, marking the 80th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings, while also having the chance to buy the art.

On **Saturday, June 22nd**, and **Sunday, June 23rd**, from **11.00am to 4.00 pm**, join us for a lively **Summer Fete**. Explore a variety of stalls, indulge in a barbecue, savour cream teas, and enjoy refreshments. Revel in the musical atmosphere featuring school choirs and the RBL Band of Corps. Watch this space for upcoming details!

**Jeanette Edwards**



As well as holding the Flower Festival in 2024, St Mary's Church is also planning to hold our popular **Open Gardens**. The Open Gardens will be on **Saturday, 29th** and **Sunday, 30th June**, which is the weekend following the Flower Festival. This will enable more people to attend both events.

I have already contacted those who have participated in the Open Gardens in the past, but I'm keen to encourage more gardeners to join in. Please have a think. Would you be willing to open your garden for the weekend or one of the days? We are after all types and sizes of gardens.

If you would like to participate, want to know more information or would like to nominate a friend with an interesting garden, please contact me either in person or via Debbie Filer at [admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

**Julia Wright**

## VILLAGE SHOW

The date for this year's **Village Show** has been set as **Sunday, 8th September**.

Please register this in your diary now.

The new schedule has been agreed, with a few modified classes, and will be available for distribution or from committee members as soon as received back from the printers.

Hopefully, you have sown your vegetable and flower seeds in readiness for a bumper and rewarding 2024 display, with plans for exhibiting the results. As usual there will be classes for all ages – gardeners, cooks, floral arrangers, poets, photographers, artists and modellers.

# LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST?

**S4financial**  
SUPPORTING YOUR FINANCIAL LIFE



INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS

Cashflow  
Modelling

Wealth  
Management

Retirement  
Planning

Inheritance  
Tax Planning

Unit A, Causeway Farm, Cricket Green,  
Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, RG27 8PS



01276 34932



[www.s4financial.co.uk](http://www.s4financial.co.uk)

E-mail: [steven.vallery@s4financial.co.uk](mailto:steven.vallery@s4financial.co.uk)



Our Company is owned and run by Dan & Kerrie Adams, and we are based in Sherfield in Loddon covering a 20 mile radius.

We offer garden maintenance services on either a one off or regular basis.

Our contact details are:

01256 974863 / 07788 413746

Email: [dkagardening@gmail.com](mailto:dkagardening@gmail.com)

*lsc*

LOUISE SANDERS  
OSTEOPATHS

Free car park  
Emergency appointments  
Home visits  
Free advice on rehabilitation  
Free advice on exercises  
Free ergonomics advice

DO YOU SUFFER FROM.....

Back Pain, Sciatica,  
Headaches,  
Sports Injuries,  
Shoulder Problems  
Neck Pain, Joint Pain,  
Elbow & Wrist Problems,  
Muscular Strains

OLD BASING

Old Basing Health Centre,  
Manor Lane

Old Basing | Hampshire | RG24 7AE  
07798 587150





## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

### **ADVERTISE IN THE BASINGA**

For Contract, Classified and Leaflet Distribution  
Contact [advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk)



**Domestic ironing services**  
Based in Old Basing, Hampshire

30% off for all new Customers

[ironit@justironit.com](mailto:ironit@justironit.com)  
07764 181688  
[justironit.com](http://justironit.com)

## ADVERTISERS NEWS

Welcome to JUST IRON IT on page 15, BOUNCE IN A DAY on page 20 and Impressions Garden Maintenance LTD on page 25.

*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.*

*Our Privacy Policy is available to read on the website which includes the GDPR requirements for publishing photographs.*

*Contacts for general enquiries and assistance:*

*Paid Advertising - [advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk)*

*Magazine and Website - [editor@basinga.org.uk](mailto:editor@basinga.org.uk)*

*All Advertisements in the magazine and website are inserted in good faith and the Basinga Management Committee accepts no responsibility for any statement, omission or errors made by the advertisers; nor endorses the products or services advertised. The views and opinions expressed in the Basinga are those of the organisations, individuals and authors concerned and not necessarily those of the Basinga Management Committee.*

# GRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND DIGITAL WORLD

Greenhouse Graphics, the home of sustainable print and graphics since 1993 and widely recognised as a leading sustainable print centre in the UK, pioneering green innovations including our unique carbon calculator.

If you are looking to improve your sustainability and reduce your print carbon footprint please visit our website or call the team on 01256 880770.

**01256 880770**

[www.greenhousegraphics.co.uk](http://www.greenhousegraphics.co.uk) [info@greenhousegraphics.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhousegraphics.co.uk)



**greenhouse**   
Design | Print | Signage | Display

## FREE ADS – BUY AND SELL

**Note:** All ads are processed in received date order. Ads not included this month will be entered in the next issue, space permitting. If you do not want your ad to appear later, contact the Advertising Manager (see page 42 for contact details). Ads also appear on the website: [www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk) (with photographs if available).

### **MIRROR – NEW**

**£110**

**07753638163**

Bespoke made cherry with walnut strip octagonal mirror with key shelf and hooks. 440mm x 440mm. Mirror 270mm x 270mm. £110 brand new never used.

### **CROSS-TRAINER**

**£130**

**07753638163**

Reebok Z-Power Cross Trainer - Black. Excellent condition £130 (bought for £379) with 9 months of John Lewis extended guarantee which is believed to be able to transfer. Can be dismantled by purchaser if required.

## CONCESSION ADVERTS

### **PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH**

The Ploughman's Lunch, in the Parish Room, St Mary's Church, is on **Thursday, 21st March, at 12.25pm**. Book in advance (Tel. **07946 596778**) as numbers are limited.

### **DEMENTIA EDUCATION SESSIONS**

**Bluebird Care** are holding **Community Practical Dementia** education sessions over the next few months as part of our new Dementia Care Adviser Service.

These sessions are aimed at supporting **Family Carers in the North Hampshire** area who are looking after someone with dementia. To attend and reserve a seat at one of these sessions, email: [kingsclere@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:kingsclere@bluebirdcare.co.uk) to book the venue you wish to attend and we will contact you to confirm your booking:

**Thursday, 29th February, 10am to noon** at **Viabes Community Centre**, The Harrow Way, Basingstoke RG22 4BJ

### **BASINGSTOKE CONCERT BAND**

presents a **SPRING CONCERT – 'Music inspired by Literature'** at Christ Church Chineham, RG24 8LT, on **Saturday, 20th April, 2024 – 7.30pm to 9.30pm**

Tickets **£10** (U16 free). Tickets can be purchased from band members or at the door.

### **LOU TAYLOR'S MOTOWN & SOUL NIGHT**

Announcing the return of the hugely popular **Lou Taylor's Motown & Soul Night**, on **Saturday, 9th March: 7.30pm for 8.00pm** at **The Royal British Legion, Crown Lane, Old Basing RG24 7DN**.

See page 21 for further details...

### **OLD BASING AND LYCHPIT GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

Do you have an appointment this month and need transport then why not give us a call. We do not have set charges as being a non-profit-making organisation we work on the basis of voluntary donations. Our number is: **0333 0440116** - Hope to hear from you.





**DESIGN & BUILD, PLANTING, DECKING, FENCING  
TURFING, PATIOS, DRIVEWAYS & MAINTENANCE**

**FULLY INSURED & CRB CHECKED**

**CONTACT JONATHAN FOR A FREE QUOTATION**

**01256 412723 - 0771 7214521**

**E: [info@jcooklandscapes.co.uk](mailto:info@jcooklandscapes.co.uk)**

**[www.jcooklandscapes.co.uk](http://www.jcooklandscapes.co.uk)**

## **P.C PROPERTY MAINTENANCE** LOCAL HANDYMAN SERVICE

All aspects of home  
and property maintenance

- Carpentry • Painting
- Plumbing • Artex/Ceiling
- Repairs • Tiling • Fencing
- General Maintenance

25 Years Experience  
Friendly Reliable Service

Call Now On

**07796 485747**

[p.crossin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:p.crossin@hotmail.co.uk)



**07704 513000**

Friendly, experienced and local for all your  
Plumbing & Heating needs!

Bathrooms installations. Water softeners. Boiler repairs/  
replacements. Services. Gas safe landlords checks.  
System cleanses. Outside taps. No job too small.



191149

**Martin Cole**  
Plumbing Limited



- Heating Systems • Boiler Replacements •
- Cylinder Replacements • Un-vented Systems •
- Radiators • Pumps, Motorized Valves • Showers •
- Thermostatic Radiator Valves • Water Softeners •
- Bathroom, Ensuite • Cloakroom (complete installations) •
- Household Plumbing Repairs • Taps •
- Ballvalves • Washers • etc. •

**Tel: 01256 352419**

Local Plumber

[martincole@btinternet.com](mailto:martincole@btinternet.com)

# **B&M FENCING**

## **GARDEN & LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES**

- |                     |                      |                    |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Panels (3' - 6')  | • Reclaimed Sleepers | • Sharp Sand       |
| • Trellis           | • Softwood Sleepers  | • Building Sand    |
| • Concrete Post     | • Oak Sleepers       | • Ballast          |
| • Closeboard Panels | • Decking            | • Scalpings        |
| • Natural Sandstone | • Rolawn Turf        | • 10mm Gravel      |
| • Paving Slabs      | • Topsoil            | • 20mm Gravel      |
| • Block Paving      | • Landscape Bark     | • Decorative Stone |

**Delivery Service Available**

Mon-Fri  
7.45 - 5pm  
Sat 9am - 5pm

**01256 762739**

Fencing  
Fitting Service  
Free Estimates

[www.bmfencing.co.uk](http://www.bmfencing.co.uk)

Reading Road, Hook, Hants, RG27 9DB

[enquires@bmfencing.co.uk](mailto:enquires@bmfencing.co.uk)

## MORE CONCESSION ADS

### THE BASINGSTOKE AREA YOUTH ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR

**Saturday, March 2nd at 7.30pm.** Returning to **The Anvil** and showcasing some of the best musical talent from across the borough. The wind, strings, percussion, guitar, and vocal ensembles will perform well-known favourites. The evening will also feature guest choir Hampshire Harmony to celebrate their 60th anniversary, in a programme that will appeal to all. This 'one night only' concert, is a great opportunity to support your community, whilst raising money for the Mayor's charity appeal. This year's concert will support Shopmobility Basingstoke and Citizens Advice Basingstoke and Tadley.

The Mayor and Mayoress will greet you in the main foyer on arrival to welcome you to join them for an evening of entertainment.

Purchase tickets in person or by telephone. The **Box Office** is only open **Monday to Friday, 10am to 2pm**, telephone number: **01256 844244**

Tickets: **£20**. Over 65s and f/t students **£16**, under 16s **£13** (includes £3 booking fee)

For information on the venue please contact The Box Office or visit the website at **Anvil Arts**. There will be a bucket collection at the end of the evening for the Mayors Charity which we hope you will support.

**We do hope you will be able to join us.**

## Basingstoke Blues Club

BBC3 [www.facebook.com/groups/BasingstokeBluesClub/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/BasingstokeBluesClub/)

in association with the Basingstoke Railway Social Club  
Station Approach, Basingstoke, RG21 5NB

# 2024

**17th  
FEB**

Legendary "Best British Blues Band" and "Best British Blues Album" award winner

**JON AMOR TRIO**

**16th  
MAR**

"Young Artist of the Year" at the UK Blues Awards for the last three consecutive years

**CONNOR SELBY**

**13th  
APR**

Blues and beyond! A three piece power trio in the flavour of Hendrix, SRV, Clapton

**BRENT HUTCHINSON BAND**

**18th  
MAY**

Thomas is quickly making waves in the blues scene - catch him on his way to the top!

**THOMAS HEPPELL BAND**

Full details at [basingstokeblues.co.uk](https://basingstokeblues.co.uk)

All welcome - 8pm till late. £10 cash on the door.  
Licensed bar and low prices.

Profits to Brain Tumour Research - Charity number 1153487.

## LEAP YEAR CELEBRATION

featuring

# ***Clive Fortune Big Band***

Saturday 2nd March 2024

7.30pm

SHERFIELD-ON-LODDON VILLAGE HALL

Bring your own nibbles

Please support our fundraising cash/contactless bar

## An Evening of Big Band Swing

TICKETS £12 EACH AVAILABLE FROM:

- Cash at Sherfield Shop
- Online: <https://sherfieldvillagehall.co.uk/sherfield-on-loddon-events/>
- BACS: [events@sherfieldvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@sherfieldvillagehall.co.uk)
- Tel: Natalie 01256 880075

19

DO YOU HAVE A WILL IN PLACE?



CLARKE  
& SON  
SOLICITORS

A Will is quite possibly one of the most important documents you will ever sign.

Call now to book a free Will healthcheck or to start the process of making your Will.

Clarke & Son Solicitors LLP

Manor House 8 Winchester Road Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 8UG

T: 01256 320555

[www.clarkeandson.co.uk](http://www.clarkeandson.co.uk)

**GMK**

*Decorating Services*

INTERIOR • EXTERIOR • PLASTERING

*Friendly Prompt & Efficient Service*

*Over 25 Years Experience*

*Fully Insured*

*Call Gary On:*

**(01256) 329138 07767446834**

Local Bouncy Castle hire!

Great rates, friendly service and  
good availability!

[www.bounceinaday.co.uk](http://www.bounceinaday.co.uk)

[info@bounceinaday.co.uk](mailto:info@bounceinaday.co.uk)

Full Public Liability Insurance

**BOUNCE  
IN A  
DAY**  
.co.uk



Looking for a Letting Service from an  
Agent who cares?  
**You'll find us on The Street**



all  
**aspects**  
LETTING  
SERVICES

**20% Discount with this advert**

**01256 470411**

69A The Street, Old Basing RG24 7BY  
[info@allaspectslettingservices.co.uk](mailto:info@allaspectslettingservices.co.uk)



[www.allaspectslettingservices.co.uk](http://www.allaspectslettingservices.co.uk)

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT • RELOCATION CONSULTANTS • INVENTORY SERVICES**



## BASINGSTOKE LIONS CLUB



### LOU TAYLOR'S MOTOWN & SOUL NIGHT

Announcing the return of the hugely popular **Lou Taylor's Motown & Soul Night**

**Saturday, 9th March: 7.30pm for 8.00pm at The Royal British Legion, Crown Lane, Old Basing RG24 7DN.**

We know when we're on to a winner – and in Lou Taylor we certainly are and so very lucky that he can be with us again, especially given his pedigree!

Lou has worked alongside some of the top names in the music industry supporting artists such as Boy George, Alexander O'Neal, Edwin Starr, Martha Reeves, Gino Washington, Bitty Mclean and Peter Andre.

He began his professional life as a session musician, playing bass guitar and singing backing vocals in studios and on the live scene for numerous artistes. Finally moving to centre stage, Lou secured a deal with RCA (signed by one Mr. Simon Cowell) which resulted in the release of a remix of Bryan Adams "Summer of '69".

Since his first show for us in 2016, Lou returned in 2018, 2022 and 2023 – and now 2024! With such popularity, we recommend securing your tickets early.

**Tickets: £12.50** available from [www.basingstokelions.org.uk](http://www.basingstokelions.org.uk) or

[tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk) or **01256 850254**

## A TRIBUTE TO DON GRASSI



Don Grassi, who was involved in building and managing Old Basing Village Hall until recently, has sadly passed away on 5th January, aged 88 years.

Old Basing Village Hall is a registered charity which is run by volunteers for the good of the local community.

Don and his wife Sheila became involved with the village hall in 1977, becoming part of the steering group and put a tremendous amount of effort into raising funds to build the hall. This eventually led to the hall being opened in 1982.

Don was involved with other members of the committee in many aspects of the construction of the village hall including the wooden floor, which is still in use today, and constructing a steel walkway in the roof for maintenance

access plus many and varied other projects over the years.

He provided an outstanding contribution to building and maintaining the hall over the last 40 years. He was a great engineer and could always be called upon for sound advice and help when needed and he will be missed greatly by all on the committee and regular users of the hall.

Don was born and grew up in Old Basing; his many friends and family will miss his sense of humour and many anecdotes about village life in days gone past.

**Graham Steele, Old Basing Village Hall**

## A JOURNEY

Dear Friends,

As I write this I am busily finalising preparations for our journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter - our Lenten journey which hopefully (and prayerfully) finds us more fully the human beings whom we really are rather than the versions of ourselves which we perhaps think we should be.

Within this journey are all of the beautiful stopping places along the way - Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday and then the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.



It is from there that we begin to walk again those sadly familiar steps through the streets of Jerusalem - the voices and the stories of millennia still echoing and calling us onwards. This is not a journey or an offer for a select few who meet the criteria - but for each and every one of us to be part of a journey through life which continues to ask questions, which sometimes gets things wrong.... But which, at every turn, no matter what, gathers everyone in - just as they are - in love. No ifs, no buts.

Jesus Christ challenged the earthly powers which oppressed those who were weaker in society. Through us - all of us of all faiths and none - it is possible to issue the same challenge today. The message of the Gospel is a clear message of inclusion and love.

Christ embodied a kingdom in the here and now where none might be left behind, where all are gathered in, where all are equal. This cost. It still costs. But the message and the potential outcome remains the same.

Lent is a time of re-turning to this truth at the heart of humanity - that together (beautiful in diversity) we are stronger and more powerful than we can ever imagine. In ways which will indeed bring down the mighty and lift up the humble.

The power of a child is beautiful in that that power is one of love. Jesus spoke of us becoming like little children. This is not weakness and vulnerability. On the contrary - this is extreme wealth and extreme power - for all of us.

I invite you to journey with us in community this Lent. Be welcomed and know that you are loved - just as you are. The only change required is that you become fully you, fully whole.

Love & Blessings,

Jo

# ST MARY'S CHURCH

## REGULAR SERVICES



Sunday	8.00am	BCP Communion
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist
Monday	8.45am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion
Thursday	8.45 am	Morning Prayer
Friday	8.45 am	Morning Prayer

All are welcome to join us – please just come along. If you'd like to join the **9.30am** Sunday service from home, you can do so via St Mary's Facebook page.

You can keep up to date with services and events at St Mary's via our Facebook page or our website: [www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](http://www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

## LENT STUDY GROUP CONTINUES

It is not too late to join us for friendly discussion at our joint Lent study group which continues on a **Thursday** afternoon at **2.30pm** up to and including **21st March**. Meeting at Old Basing Methodist Church for the February sessions and then continuing in **St. Mary's Parish Room in March**.

Any questions? Please call: **01256 323103** (Revd Claire) or **01256 363612** (Revd Jo)

## MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE - Sunday, 10th March at 9.30am

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

We would love you to join us as we journey together through Holy Week and Easter together this March.

<b>Sunday 24th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday</b> service. Gather at The Crown car park to process to church at <b>9.20am</b> if you would like.
<b>25th, 26th &amp; 27th</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Thurs. 28th</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> service
<b>Friday 29th</b>	<b>noon</b> <b>1.00pm</b>  <b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Good Friday to 1.00pm</b> ; an hour of silent reflection. <b>to 2.00pm</b> ; an hour of music and readings suitable for the day and ... <b>to 3.00pm</b> . a liturgy based on the Cross. Come for as long as you are able, arrive and leave whenever.
<b>Sat. 30th</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil</b>
<b>Sunday 31st</b>	<b>8.00am</b> <b>9:30am</b>	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b> service <b>Family Communion</b> service

*Continued on page 24*

*Continued from page 23*

## **FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH**

At St Mary's we are very fortunate to have a team of flower arrangers who enhance the beauty of the church with their arrangements. If you'd like to donate towards the cost of an arrangement in memory of a loved one please do get in touch with Debbie.

## **BASINGSTOKE FOODBANK & PET FOODBANK**

A huge thank you to everyone who is supporting the Foodbank at this time. A reminder that we have a collection point outside the church or please drop items off to the Co-op on Linden Avenue or Tesco at Chineham. For a list of items that are in particular short supply please visit [www.basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk) We are also taking in donations of pet food and other items on behalf of Helping Dogs & Cats Rescue UK, based in Basingstoke. There is a separate box where donations can be left.

## **WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS AT ST MARY'S**

Did you know that if you live in the parish of Old Basing and Lychpit, or have a strong link to the parish (what we call a "qualifying connection") you may be able to marry at St Mary's. Please do get in touch if you'd like to explore the possibility of having your wedding at St Mary's. We also welcome all baptism enquiries.

## **PASTORAL SUPPORT**

If you would like pastoral support please contact Revd. Jo, mobile: **01256 363612**, or email her: [vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk) or contact Debbie, St Mary's Administrator, telephone: **07541 698235** or email: [admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk)

## **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.

## **WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Every week we send out a bulletin with information about what is happening at the church. If you'd like to be added to our distribution list please contact Debbie. We are also able to hand deliver bulletins to those without internet access

## **FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

Spring is on its way. Hooray! The Friends of St Mary's Church (FOSTM) are reflecting on the magnificent success of the pantomime last November. A huge thanks to all who made that possible. We hope to capitalise on the fun with new events. To help us do that we have welcomed three new members to the committee; Gary Taylor, Petr Guthrie and Bridget Innes-Kerr. They have already started to fire up the team.

Our first project will be a quiz; date yet to be confirmed. Look out for posters around the parish and on the "Events" tab of the our website: [www.friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org](http://www.friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org) for details.

We intend to bring you new events and new locations as suggested by the attendees of the extraordinary AGM back in December. If you have any venues or fund-raising ideas for us, please contact us at: [members@friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org](mailto:members@friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org)

The ongoing intention of FOSTM is to maintain the fabric of St Mary's Church so that this historic building will remain for future generations. In addition to the events, we have a 100 club with a monthly prize. However, you do need to be a member of the 'Friends'.

**Membership** (per anum): **U16 – £2; Individual – £10; Family – £15; Life – £100/£150**



## Impressions Garden Maintenance LTD

Regular & reliable garden maintenance service

Email enquiries to: IGM LTD@hotmail.com

Visit: [www.IGM-LTD.co.uk](http://www.IGM-LTD.co.uk)

Company number: 14530560

Waste carrier registration number: CBDL364362

## LEWIS HEATING & PLUMBING



We are a local reliable family business and strive to provide outstanding customer service & workmanship; Endorsed by Which Trusted traders.



**Telephone: 01256 413716**

**Mobile: 07804 030889**

**email: [mark.lewis97@ntlworld.com](mailto:mark.lewis97@ntlworld.com)**

**web: [lewisheatingandplumbing.co.uk](http://lewisheatingandplumbing.co.uk)**

## Renown RENOVATIONS

Kitchens - Extensions - Home Renovations

**07920 850385**

**[info@renownltd.co.uk](mailto:info@renownltd.co.uk)**



## Piano Lessons



All ages and abilities

Beginners welcome

Qualified and experienced teacher

Philippa Ford 01256 470174

## A. SEWELL

[www.asewell.co.uk](http://www.asewell.co.uk)



### Lighting, Electrical & Audio Visual

All Lighting and Electrical work undertaken including:

- Security & Emergency Lighting
- Interior & Exterior Lighting Design & Installation
- TV, Telephone and Data Distribution
- Multi-room Audio/Visual
- Alarm Systems, CCTV & Door Access Systems
- Electrical Alterations & Re-wires



**01256 329893**

**01252 844663**



## OLD BASING VILLAGE HALL

*Whatever your function needs  
your  
Village Hall can meet them.*

**Contact: Booking Secretary**

**Mobile: 07544 289932**

**Email: [bookings@oldbasingvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@oldbasingvillagehall.co.uk)**



## A-Foardable Domestics

**WE REPAIR....**

**Washing Machines, Cookers, Dishwashers, Fridge Freezers,  
Ovens, Vacuum Cleaners & Tumble Dryers.**

Repairing  
Since 1995

Low  
Pricing

Family  
Run

Qualified  
Engineers

Basingstoke  
Based

**Call: 07891 465499 | Email: [afdomeotics@engineer.com](mailto:afdomeotics@engineer.com)  
Web: [www.afdomeotics.com](http://www.afdomeotics.com)**

## CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)



This month's working parties will be on **Saturday, 2nd March** at **10.00am** – meet by the PIOCC noticeboard at the entrance to the Conservation Area. We will continue our seasonal conservation work and woodland management. On **Thursday, 21st March** (the third Thursday of the month) at **2.00pm** we will meet by the shed as we plan to help Rev Jo tidy up some of the wilder areas in the Vicarage

garden, once again to encourage the wild flowers and help the wildlife. All are welcome.

Churchyard Conservation is a community project, not just for churchgoers, so please come along if you would like to be involved. You will receive a warm welcome. 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). We look forward to seeing our regular volunteers and also new participants.

Thank you to all who joined us for the Big Garden Birdwatch in January. We saw: Wood Pigeons; Great Tits; Robins; Jackdaws; Blue Tits; Blackbirds; Magpies; Goldcrests; a Wren; a Coal Tit; a Tree Creeper; Grey Squirrels.

Next month on **Tuesday, 9th April**, we will hold our short **AGM** followed by a talk on "Arosa, Switzerland – Snow & Flowers" by Margaret & Tim Carr in **St Mary's Parish Room** at **8.00pm**. Please reserve the date. We look forward to seeing you.

The Conservation Area is a community space for everyone to enjoy. You are very welcome to visit and perhaps take a moment to sit, relax and enjoy the churchyard, a haven for us all. The early Daffodils, Primroses and bright yellow Lesser Celandines are appearing.

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

**Margaret Carr**

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

## VILLAGE CAFE



Spring is definitely on the way; I love to see the first blooms and leaves appearing after the dull, dark days of winter. With spring, comes a change to cafe opening hours; we are back to opening weekly:

**Friday afternoons at the Parish room, 2.00 - 4.00pm.**

Dates for your diary to come along and see us are :-  
**1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd March.**

We will then have a **two week break for Easter, re-opening on 12th April.**

Dates for April and May : **12th, 19th and 26th April.**  
**3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th May.**

We look forward to welcoming you.

**Deb Thorne**

*Full article can be found in Basing Extra.*

To advertise here contact  
[advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk)

## The Complete Tree Service



- Residential & commercial work
- Tree removal, thinning & lifting
- Scrub clearance & hedge trimming
- Stumps removed

Fully trained & certified staff      Health & Safety focused  
£10m Public Liability Insurance      30 years experience  
*We guarantee we can help. Call for professional, friendly advice...*

Teams all over Hampshire, Surrey, Sussex & the South:

# 01256 763 162

Visit our website for images, video footage,  
client lists and more:

[www.cedardale.co.uk](http://www.cedardale.co.uk)



## BASING HOUSE

RUINS AND GROUNDS

Enjoy our museum and garden, plus special events,  
activity trails and more throughout the year!



### THINGS TO DO

- Discover the Great Barn and spot the artillery damage still visible on its walls
- Explore the ruins and imagine what the house would have looked like
- Visit the walled garden and learn about fascinating history in the museum
- Walk your dog, let the kids adventure outdoors and find a picnic spot to enjoy the views

## 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.



Hampshire Cultural Trust is a registered charity (no. 1158583) and company (no. 0598225) in England and Wales.

Barton's Lane | Basingstoke | Hampshire RG24 8AE  
01256 463965

[enquiries@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk)

[hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house](http://hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house)

## PROBUS: BEHIND THE SCENES AT BBC TELEVISION CENTRE

We all sit and watch television without a thought as to what is entailed in putting each programme together. And in the days when there was only the two broadcasters of the BBC and ITV the technology was nothing like today, which brought its own difficulties.



**Jenny Mallin** was the speaker at the latest **Probus Club** meeting at the Test Valley Golf Club and gave an insight into how TV production life was in the seventies. This was through her experiences gained over seven years working at the BBC Television Centre in Shepherd's Bush, West London.

How news programmes were put together with breaking news events that demanded being featured with split seconds decisions on what to drop from the programme. News film taking up to an hour to process even after arriving at the BBC and then the introduction of ENG, electronic news gathering, with the use of camcorder type film taken by outside reporters.

Jenny recalled her time on the Generation Game working with the legendary Bruce Forsyth and his female assistant Anthea Redfern as a Contestant Researcher and Games Deviser to three years on Mastermind with Magnus Magnusson and a myriad of disc jockeys on Top of the Pops and whether songs were sung live or mimed.



Memories were stirred as Probus members enjoyed this nostalgic view of a simpler life when the only decision to be made about what to watch on the "telly" was whether your choice was on the BBC or on ITV.

Information about the activities of the **Probus Club of Basingstoke** can be seen on their web site, **[www.probusbasingstoke.club](http://www.probusbasingstoke.club)** or phone their Secretary, **Stephen Thair** on **07745 243543**.

## THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

Whilst visiting the countryside is a wonderful way to refresh the mind and body, it is also home to those trying to maintain and look after it. Remember to respect other people and protect the natural environment, making sure to leave things as you found them, by following the **Countryside Code**. This includes:

- Avoiding gates, but if you have to use them, make sure they remain closed if that's how you found them.
- Taking all litter home with you.
- Keeping dogs on leads and under control, especially when indicated by signs.
- Following signs that outline public footpaths and alternative routes.
- Making sure you don't pass through farm yards, gardens or close to people's homes.





ALL MAKES SERVICING & REPAIRS  
THE VOLVO & NISSAN SPECIALISTS



MOT DUE  
BOOK  
NOW



TEL: 01256 364753

WWW.GARAGEBASINGSTOKE.CO.UK

UNIT 1 PENDELL FARM, FARLEIGH ROAD, CLIDDSEDEN, BASINGSTOKE, HANTS, RG25 2HA

## Aarons Garden Services

- Tree/Hedge Care • Fencing Repaired
- Grass Cutting • Strimming • Patios Pressure Cleaned
- All Garden Rubbish Cleared • Free Estimates

Registered Waste Carrier

07721015248

aaronsgs1951@gmail.com

## CARER / COMPANION available.

Self employed with 25 + years experience  
Offering all aspects of care

Also: GENERAL HELP around your home/garden.  
TRIPS OUT to shops/appointments.  
IRONING & LAUNDRY service.

Call Callie: 07969 335672

## Lee Quinlan

Bathroom & Kitchen Fitter

*"You buy it and I'll fit it"*

All associated work undertaken:  
Plumbing, Tiling, Plastering, Flooring,  
Woodwork & Electrical.

tel: 01256 811830

email: enquiry@leequinlan.co.uk

web: leequinlan.co.uk

## S. M. DECORATORS

*Interior & Exterior  
Prompt & Efficient Service  
Competitive Prices  
Fully Insured Company  
Over 25 Years Experience  
Skim Plastering and  
Paperhanging Specialists  
City & Guilds Qualified  
All Work Guaranteed  
For Your  
Free Estimate Or Advice  
Please call Steve on  
01256 811929*

## Weller Mackrill

Chartered Certified Accountants  
and Tax Advisers

Accounts - Tax & VAT Returns - PAYE & CIS - IR35 advice  
Company formations - Tax planning - Free initial consultation

Weller Mackrill, South Building, Upper Farm, Wootton St Lawrence,  
Basingstoke. RG23 8PE

For a friendly and sensibly priced service  
Please ring 01256 782059

E-mail:

paul@wellermackrill.co.uk  
james@wellermackrill.co.uk



**BOB  
BERRY  
FENCING**

Over 35 years experience in all  
types of domestic, commercial and  
industrial fencing

FREE estimates and advice with  
no obligation and good quality  
workmanship are GUARANTEED

**CALL US 01256 358 940**  
**www.bobberryfencing.co.uk**

## GOLF DAYS IN OLD BASING

Now Spring is almost here, it's time to look forward to getting back on to the golf course with the sun on our backs! So, to enable the negotiation of competitive rates, I have already booked three provisional dates for golf days during 2024, especially for residents of Old Basing and Lychpit, although friends and families from afar will also be very welcome.

The annual **Good Old Basing Charity** golf day will take place on **Friday, 20th September** at **Sherfield Oaks**, at which you will enjoy 18 holes of golf, coffee & bacon roll, and two-course dinner including a free drink to take out on the course, plus contribution to prizes.

Before that however, to boost **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal** funds, I'm again running a **Team Texas Scramble** which is always a lot of fun so get three other mates and enter a team on **Monday, 8th April**. This event will cost you just £51 each (£204 for a team of four) with coffee, lunch, prizes etc, though there will be opportunities to donate to the Poppy Appeal during the day. Entry forms are available from me now.

Then, to coincide as near as possible with **Armed Forces Day**, I have booked **Sherfield Oaks** for **Monday, 3rd June** and this day will also consist of coffee & bacon roll to begin, 18 holes and a late lunch along with the prize giving. There will also be cash prizes for Nearest the pin and Longest drive holes, plus a raffle/auction and the fee will include a small donation to The Poppy Appeal.

Fees are substantially reduced for members of Sherfield Oaks golf club.

So please support these events by putting the dates in your diary NOW and request an entry form from me nearer the time for each. Watch the Basinga for these dates.

I very much look forward to seeing many of you there.

**Rick Bourne 07900 648675 rickbourne@yahoo.com**

**Old Basing and Hampshire RBL Golf secretary.**

## OLD BASING TENNIS CLUB

Was one of your new year's resolutions to enjoy the countryside more and take up a new sport? If so, why not try us out at the **Old Basing Tennis Club**? We are a friendly club and welcome people of all abilities; you can play as little or as much as you like to suit your timetable.

At Old Basing Tennis Club we offer: **Free access to four high quality courts all year round for members; A Pay and Play option for non-members; Regular coaching sessions for juniors aged 5-14; Individual coaching and drills sessions for adults; Social club sessions all year round on Sunday at 10.00am, Wednesday at 2.00pm and on Tuesday and Friday evenings at 6.00pm from April to October when you just turn up and there will always be others to play with; Basingstoke & District League matches against other clubs for the more competitively minded; Year-round social events with barbecues in the summer.**

Our facilities include: **A refurbished clubhouse on site with tea and coffee facilities; Free parking; A beautiful location overlooking the Old Basing Recreation Ground.**

Want to find out more and make new friends? Why not visit us or take a look at our website: **clubspark.lta.org.uk/oldbasingtennisclub** or simply email:

**obtc.information@gmail.com** for more information.

# W.T.HILL

## Painter & Decorator

Internal & External

Over 30 Years Experience

Tel: 07748808069/01256 467901

Free Quotations

Proud members of

**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

### NO STRESS MATHEMATICS COACHING

Tuition for A Level and GCSE mathematics in a friendly, relaxed, stress free way from an exceptionally experienced qualified teacher.

I have many years of teaching in comprehensive schools, 6th Form Colleges, and private tuition. 20 years as head of mathematics department, with a proven record of success.

I can be contacted at;  
nostressmaths16@gmail.com



THE  
**HAMPSHIRE**  
— VET —

Providing staffed overnight inpatient care to pets of Basingstoke

Accepting New Patients Now

-  The Hampshire Vet, Shortwood Copse Lane, Beggarwood, Basingstoke. RG23 7NL
-  01256 639707
-  info@thehampshirevet.co.uk
-  www.thehampshirevet.co.uk

#### Refer a friend voucher

Please present this to your first appointment along with the name and address of your friend and both receive £15 off a future consultation (T&C's apply).

Friends name: \_\_\_\_\_

Friends address: \_\_\_\_\_



# WESTPORT GREY

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

01256 636511

Extensions | Loft Conversions | Renovations | New Builds



**WWW.WESTPORTGREY.CO.UK**

Westport Grey Ltd. - Registered in England - No. 6216684

**BUILDING YOUR DREAMS**

## BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP



At the meeting held on 7th February the Chairman, David Cowling, welcomed 45 members and one visitor to the first meeting of 2024, as there had been no meeting in January. He also reminded everyone that the next meeting was the AGM where there were several items to be discussed and decisions made regarding the

future of the group. The Welfare Officer, Christine Broadbent, reported that that she was following up on those members who required her assistance.

Our speaker this month was **Fred Swift 'The Wiltshire Beekeeper'**. Fred said that last year had been a difficult one due to the unpredictable weather probably due to climate change. This is also contributing to the appearance in the UK of the Asian Hornet which can have a devastating effect on hives with one hornet killing hundreds of bees at a time. For this reason, it's spread throughout the country is being closely monitored. Despite all the setbacks he was pleased to report that the honey yield had been about normal. Fred also brought along items for sale made with the honey he collects including different types of honey, hand cream, candles and honeycombs.



His website [www.thewiltshirebeekeeper.com](http://www.thewiltshirebeekeeper.com) gives more information.

The outing to **Arundel Castle and Gardens** is on **Thursday, 18th April** and the cost is **£50 (£52 for non-members)**. The coach will leave **Oakley at 9.00am** and **Basingstoke Leisure Park at 9.15am** aiming to arrive at 11.00am.

At our **next meeting on 6th March** following the **AGM** our speaker will be Peter Robinson from **Neighbourcare Basingstoke** and our speaker for April will be Daniel Cowling whose talk is titled 'Should we follow the leader? Leadership in Challenging Times'.

The group meets on the **first Wednesday of the month** at the **Brookvale Village Hall from 10.00am to noon** and all retired Civil Servants and their relatives and friends are welcome. Further details about the group and information about the meetings and trips can be obtained by contacting [csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com](mailto:csrfbasingstoke@gmail.com)

**Margaret Atkinson**

## THE IVY CLUB

We celebrated St. Valentine's Day with a late lunch of fish and chips followed by prize bingo which was great fun and a magnificent raffle and thanks to our fund raising we were able to offer our celebrations free of charge to our members.

Easter will be our next celebration: hot cross buns all round.

Our numbers continue to grow, currently standing at 60. We offer a varied programme and it is sufficiently popular that we meet weekly. We are looking into the possibility of having a film afternoon: nothing like a Maggie Smith movie and planning our next outing.

If you would like to know more about The Ivy Club, then give me a call on **01256 328196**

**Sue Wilson (Chairman)**



To advertise here contact  
[advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk)

WE'RE MORE THAN JUST A LEAKY TAP



## Boilers

Installations  
 Servicing  
 Breakdowns



## Bathrooms

Cloakrooms  
 En-suites  
 Shower rooms



## Plumbing

Taps  
 Toilets  
 All plumbing jobs



Contact us for a FREE estimate



[info@catlinph.co.uk](mailto:info@catlinph.co.uk) • 07774 741021

need a **painter** and **decorator**?

- professional
- friendly
- affordable



- experienced
- reliable
- fully insured

pscdecoratingservices@gmail.com

call us today for a free no obligation quote  
**01256 334852 07919 358050**  
[pscdecoratingservices@gmail.com](mailto:pscdecoratingservices@gmail.com)



Back, Neck or other MSK Pain?  
 Experienced Professionals who Listen  
 Gordon and Annette Linscott  
[www.spineteam.co.uk](http://www.spineteam.co.uk) 01256 466 666



## Tree Surgeon

01256 763859

07766 256788

[TreeSceneArb@gmail.com](mailto:TreeSceneArb@gmail.com)



**Adrian Stanley**  
 BSc(Hon) AA Tech Cert

Qualified & experienced  
 arborist

- All aspects of tree work & stump grinding
- Fully insured (£5m) - free estimates
- Logs supplied

### Showroom

The old Station Andover Rd  
Oakley Basingstoke RG23 7HA  
Tel: (01256) 782070  
OPEN 9am - 5pm MONDAY - FRIDAY  
CLOSED WEDNESDAY  
SATURDAY OPEN 10am - 3pm



**Serving Basingstoke for 40 Years**



**Many Items in stock for Fast Free Delivery**

**CARPET EDGING SERVICE  
ALSO AVAILABLE**

**Rugs Made Your size**

**VINYL, WOOD, CARPETS,  
LAMINATE, LVT,  
FURNITURE FOR DINING ROOM,  
LOUNGE, BEDROOM AND STUDY,  
BEDS MADE IN ENGLAND**

[www.oakley-furnishing.co.uk](http://www.oakley-furnishing.co.uk)



**10  
YEAR  
GUARANTEE**



# NJP Heating Services

## 0% finance

**on all Worcester Bosch boilers**

complete with up to 10 year guarantees on all  
Worcester Bosch boilers and controls

**Contact us today for your free quote**

**07717 741999 or  
01256 782202**

[nick@njpheating.com](mailto:nick@njpheating.com) | [njpheating.com](http://njpheating.com)



## THE MILL FIELD CONSERVATION GROUP



Finally spring is in the air, what a lovely thought.....Why not blow the cobwebs away by volunteering at the last official session of the winter 2023/2024 season.

The next **work party** is planned for **Saturday, 16th March**. We will be repairing the fence around the stream area and cutting back small scrubby trees to prevent them getting too big. The fence was created as part of a DEFRA project, and has been flattened, our intention is to prevent people and dogs from entering the protected area. We meet at the far end of the site (Pyotts Hill end) on the edge of the lower meadow near the stream. (Precise **what3words** address is **rear.wasp.script**)

No experience is necessary just wear appropriate clothes and footwear, please meet us at the lower path. We will provide the necessary tools and some refreshments

### What's around this month:

We should start hearing the resident birds such as Song Thrush, Robin and Wren in full song. While we say farewell to the Redwings, Fieldfare, Siskins and Lesser Redpolls who are heading back north, the first of the summer migrants begin to arrive starting with Chiffchaff and Blackcap (the very first ones you hear braved the winter).

The plant life suddenly starts to burst to life with Lesser Celandine and Arum Lillies (Lords and ladies) coming through with many trees starting to flower. Mammal wise Roe and Muntjac will be heard barking in the woods and when warm enough bats start to emerge. If we get any spring-like weather butterflies should start appearing such as the Red Admiral, Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell or Brimstone and maybe the occasional reptile too!

Remember we have a Facebook page, search for "Mill Field Conservation Group", there you will find posted events, photos of wildlife and other information will be shared.

Email: [millfieldnature@gmail.com](mailto:millfieldnature@gmail.com)

Facebook: **Mill Field Conservation Group**

## CHINEHAM AND OLD BASING NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER



We meet at **2.00pm on the first Monday of the month**. We have a **monthly lunch** at local venues on different days and a **Book Group** which meets at **8.00pm on the 4th Thursday**. The National Office also arranges Zoom talks and a series of lessons, such as drawing or sign language, for no extra cost, and a national quiz

evening. The annual subscription is a modest £32.

February was our planning meeting. To whet your appetite, in March the topic is 'Infamous Women', followed by April learning about 'Living in the Caribbean'. In May we will research 'Redundant Occupations', June 'Items in the News' and July 'Technology – Love it or Hate It'. August will be a Cheese and Wine afternoon, September an evening supper, October 'Spouse of a Famous Person', November National Quiz and December culminates in our home-cooked Christmas lunch. January starts with talking about anything beginning with the letter J then back to planning for 2025 in February. There are also interim meetings involving eating, drinking and walking and ad hoc trips to the cinema.

New Members are very welcome. For information look at the website: [nwr.org.uk](http://nwr.org.uk) or for an informal chat contact: Dusty Brough **01256 357276**, [dmbc861@gmail.com](mailto:dmbc861@gmail.com)

**Sandie Tapping**

## MARCH IN YOUR GARDEN

The snowdrops are out, daffodils poking their heads up and crocuses making a gorgeous display all over the village. Let's hope that winter is finally behind us, spring is with us and this growing season will have some normality to it!

There is a lot of sowing that can be done. Some flowers can be started off in the greenhouse, but hardy annuals such as poppies, certain varieties of sweet peas and cornflowers can be sown directly into the ground. Plant tender summer-flowering bulbs such as gladioli and lily now, they can provide dramatic, tall blooms, that are scented, to adorn your summer borders. Also, snowdrops can be planted now for next year. Apple and cherry trees can also be planted, but be sure to be ready with the horticultural fleece in case of frosts! They will damage the young leaves. Silver and grey leaf shrubs are the most at risk of frosts at this time of year.

Now is a good time to divide over-grown clumps of summer-flowering perennials but make sure they are kept well watered afterwards – division is most successful when the plants are not in active growth. Ornamental grasses should have dead foliage cut back to allow for new growth. If the weather stays nice and dry, lawns may need a mow, mine is looking rather unsightly at the moment so fingers crossed we get some sun! You should aim to mow it once a week. Roses will do well being fed with a balanced fertiliser or special rose feed. This is also the last opportunity to prune your roses.

Greenhouses can suffer from condensation in springtime, open any vents on warmer days. Whilst you are out, and preferably before the month gets going, search round your pots, bricks and all those nooks and crannies for hibernating snails and slugs and dispose of them before they run amok.

Onion sets can be planted this month. Growing onions from sets is generally easier, they are less likely to be affected by disease, and the crop will mature earlier. However, they are more prone to bolting (when a flower is produced instead of a bulb) – to reduce this risk, plant the heat-treated sets offered for cultivars prone to bolting. Also, make sure you sow under some netting to prevent inquisitive birds from undoing all your hard work.

If you didn't have any luck with broad beans sown in November, not to worry, more can be sown now direct into the ground for harvests throughout the summer, however they will do battle with blackfly, more so than the November-sown crop.

Pond life will start to stir, fish become more active and may be thinking of breeding. As a result, water quality may deteriorate, so get those pumps and filters back on if they have been turned off over winter. Start feeding fish moderately when the water temperature reaches a happy 7°C (45°F) for a week, and more regularly when the temperature is over 10°C (50°F).

Mow established lawns when the weather is mild enough and the grass shows signs of growth. Ensure the first cut of the season is light, raising the blades 0.5cm (¼in) higher than the usual cutting height.

Have you thought about growing asparagus? Rumour has it that it is one of the vegetables that have superior flavour when grown at home compared to when bought at the supermarket or market. They are easy to grow, as long as the conditions are correct. They like light, well-draining soil, free of weeds and big stones. If you have such a space then by all means start buying crowns. They need to be planted this month. If not then why not bear it in mind for next year? A note of caution, it does go quickly!



## NATURE NOTES FOR MARCH

Spring is here!! Well, almost. The famous Belle Vue daffodils appeared in mid-January but after many years of claiming them as the first ones 'out,' it seems as if many new varieties of daffs are early bloomers and a number of you have some showing, Ann Price being one.

Travelling near Esher last week (early Feb) there was a whole roundabout with the central grass area completely covered in yellow. Had I not been driving I would have taken a picture as it looked gorgeous. Additionally, the churchyard is now awash with snowdrops and with longer, brighter days now here, you just feel a little more like smiling.

Regular newshound Stephen Thair just reported frogs spawn in his pond, noted on 5th February, a full two weeks earlier than in 2023 so the mild weather has clearly got the plants juices flowing.

There was 'exciting news' from my good friend Jim Andrews that a Waxwing or two had been seen around the Bramley area and then thirty turned up in Aldermaston churchyard. So, while it's not been cold enough to produce an eruption, there is at least a chance you could spot them locally.

Another lovely winter visitor that used to be quite common in gardens is the Siskin, but I had to travel to Blashford Lakes Reserve near Ringwood a week or so back to see them. And there were hundreds, all chattering away at the top of the alders or hungrily feeding on the woodland hide feeders, along with Goldfinches and Tits aplenty. I had not been there before, but I'll certainly go again as it presents a great cross-section of birding opportunities with hides near woodland, streams, lakes, reed beds and grass flats. I think April and May must be a suitable time to revisit as, although a lot of the overwintering ducks will have gone, in will be all the summer visitors so it'll be warbler heaven.

I did note also that wardens there have erected an Osprey platform high up in a tree by the side of one of the lakes. I know these majestic birds have stopped off to rest and feed whilst on migration back to the north of the country, but I'm sure there could be a time when they just might decide to stay and breed. Now THAT would be a coup.

Good news, as an outcome, comes from Mike Freer who emailed me and said, 'I thought you might like this picture of two poor little goldfinches that stunned themselves flying into my patio windows. I kept them warm in my hands until they recovered and I'm glad to say they both flew away after 10-15 minutes. Bless'em'

Well Mike, good stuff and you did exactly the right thing as its often the case that a bird will be shocked rather than badly hurt and during that period of recovery, they are vulnerable to cold and predation.

If you did the RSPB Garden Birdwatch, I hope you had a good count and hopefully some species that you might not see every day. I think we had 13 species with the most prolific bird being actually, the Goldfinch! In the past month they have ousted the Blue Tits on the group of sunflower heart feeders and at their peak during the count, we had seven present at one point. Colourful and noisy!

**Rick Bourne.**

Don't forget to send all your nature related stories and photos to [rickbourne@yahoo.com](mailto:rickbourne@yahoo.com) or [naturenotes@basinga.org.uk](mailto:naturenotes@basinga.org.uk) For all your bird food requirements, order 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.

## DIARY DATES FOR MARCH 2024

For details of services and events at St Mary's Church please see page 23

### March

Fri 1	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Cafe in St. Mary's Parish Room.
Sat 2	10.00am – 1.00pm	PIOCC Working Party. Meet by the noticeboard.
	7.30pm	Mayor's Spring Charity Concert. See page 19.
Mon 4	2.00pm	Chineham and Old Basing NWR. See page 35.
Tue 5	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
Wed 6	noon – 2.00pm	Civil Service Retirement Fellowship. See page 32.
Thu 7	7.45pm	for 8.00pm start. RBL monthly meeting. Jack Morris Hall.
Fri 8	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Cafe in St. Mary's Parish Room.
Sat 9	7.30pm	Lou Taylor's Motown, Royal British Legion Hall. Page 21
<b>Sun 10</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Deadline for April's Basinga copy to Editor. See page 3</b>
Wed 13	7.45pm	BDRS Meeting and Talk. Wote St. Club. See page 12
Fri 15	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Cafe in St. Mary's Parish Room.
Sat 16	10.00am – noon	The Mill Field Conservation Working Party. See page 35
Thu 21	2.00pm – 4.00pm	PIOCC Working Party. Meet at the shed.
	8.00pm	NWR Book Club meeting. See page 35 for details.
Fri 22	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Cafe in St. Mary's Parish Room.
Wed 27	7.45pm	BDRS Meeting and Talk. Wote St. Club. See page 12
Thu 28	7.30pm	RBL Women's Section meeting. Jack Morris Hall. Competition is a decorated eggcup.
Fri 29	11.00am – 4.00pm	Basing House reopens. See page 12
	noon – 4.00pm	Helping Dogs and Cats UK Eggstravaganza. See page 10

### April

Tue 2	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
-------	--------	--

## BASINGA EXTRA

The following articles, that we couldn't find room for in this printed version of Basinga, can also be found on **Basinga Extra**, our website: **[basinga.org.uk](http://basinga.org.uk)**

*Village Cafe (full article)*

*Hook and Odiham Rugby Club*

*Places To Be Proud Of Awards*

*Borough heritage Sites Revamp*

*Councillor Community Grant Scheme*

*Citizen's Advice Bureau*

*The Pink Place Cancer Charity*

*Crime prevention Bulletin*



**Now open in Belle Vue Rd**  
**Old Basing.**  
**Hairdressing for the whole**  
**family.**  
**01256 357333**



**TIRED OF  
 DEALING WITH  
 DENTURES?**

Experience the freedom of a complete set of teeth securely fixed to your jaw, without the hassle of implants! Discover ItalDent innovative cutting-edge 3D technology solution, by scheduling a free appointment to chat with our clinical experts.

ItalDent Implant and Dental Centre | 01256 355268  
 Unit Q, Loddon Business Centre, Roentgen Road, Basingstoke, Hants RG24 8NG

**To advertise here contact**  
**advertising@basinga.org.uk**

## GARDEN SOLUTIONS NEIL INKLEY

**SPECIALIST IN FENCING, TURFING,  
 PATIOS ALSO GENERAL GARDEN WORK**  
 including Lawns, Hedges, Clearance,  
 and Pressure Cleaning

**Local References      Free Estimates**  
**01256 882108 or 07768 105488**



- Additional sockets
- Outdoor power and lighting
- Indoor lighting / Recessed downlights
- Electrical safety certificates (EICR's)
- Fusebox/consumer unit upgrades
- EV Chargers

**Call James on 07776 188 365**  
**Email: james@waveelectrical.net**

## R. LOVELOCK HEATING & PLUMBING

ALL ASPECTS OF PLUMBING  
 INCLUDING

- BOILER FITTING • SERVICING & REPAIRS
- GENERAL PLUMBING

**MOB: 07383 064464**  
**EMAIL: contact@riovelockheating.co.uk**



## Spencer & Peyton Ltd

*Established 1961*

3rd Generation  
 family owned  
 and run Funeral  
 Directors and  
 Monumental  
 Masons

**24 Hours**

**Our family serving your  
 family for over 60 years**

**380 Worting Road**  
**Basingstoke, RG22 5DZ**  
**01256 323165**

**7 London Road**  
**Hook, RG27 9DY**  
**01256 761717**

**Trading Standards approved**

**funerals@spencerandpeyton.co.uk**  
**www.spencerandpeyton.co.uk**

**ON SITE FLORIST**



**01256 355556**  
**www.theflowergirlflorist.co.uk**



Did you hear  
**ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE**  
has an **ebay** store?

Whether  
**antiques &  
collectibles** are  
your passion

or maybe it's  
**fashion,**

you love playing  
**games.**



or sprucing  
up your  
**home,**



you can shop for what you need  
and support your local Hospice. Go to  
our website and follow the link for **ebay**.  
[www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk)



# **ADVERTISE IN THE BASINGA**

## **All sizes available:**

**Enquire by email to [advertising@basinga.org.uk](mailto:advertising@basinga.org.uk) or visit [www.basinga.org.uk](http://www.basinga.org.uk) on the 'Advertise with us' dropdown menu for Contract, Classified and Flyer Distribution details.**

## **At no additional cost:**

**All adverts appear on our website.**

**Adverts can be changed throughout the year.**

**Contract Adverts can be linked to the advertisers website and to an optional, advertiser supplied, write up on their company and its activities and can include photos.**



**SERVING THE PEOPLE OF BASINGSTOKE & NORTH HAMPSHIRE SINCE 1968**

**FINANCE  
NOW  
AVAILABLE**

**Please ask  
for details**

**DESIGN,  
SALES & FULL  
INSTALLATION  
SERVICE**

**01256 363123 | [twoguys.co.uk](http://twoguys.co.uk)**

**ARMSTRONG ROAD, DANESHILL EAST, BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE RG24 8NU**

## ● BASINGA

<b>CO-EDITOR:</b> Colin Follett, 101 The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7DA	01256 326909
<b>CO-EDITOR:</b> Lyn Caswell, 1 Lingfield Close, Old Basing, RG24 7ED	07909 962141
<b>SECRETARY:</b> Graham Merry, 40 Linden Avenue, Old Basing, RG24 7HS	01256 463908
<b>TREASURER:</b> Andy Grove, 30 Pyotts Copse, Old Basing, RG24 8WE	07918 644187
<b>ADVERTISING MANAGER:</b> Lou Eddy, 66D The Street, RG24 7BY	07879 637899
<b>DISTRIBUTION:</b>	
<b>Old Basing Area:</b> Peter Watson, 19 Priory Gardens, Old Basing, RG24 7DS	01256 352299
<b>Lychpit Area:</b> Andrée McLean, 6 Pimpernel Way, Lychpit, RG24 8SS	01256 819006
<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> Revd. Jo Mulliner    The Vicarage, Church Lane, Old Basing. email: vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk	01256 363612
<b>ADMINISTRATOR:</b> Debbie Filer    email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk	07541 698235

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

**SUNDAY:** 8am Holy Communion; 9.30am Sung Eucharist  
**OTHER DAYS:** Wednesday, 10am – Holy Communion; Monday, Thursday and Friday, 8.45am – 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 Claire Simpson	01256 323103
email: revclaire72@btinternet.com	
<b>SUNDAY SERVICE:</b> Morning Service 10.30am	

### Roman Catholic

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

*all  
CAPABILITIES  
welcome, by  
APPOINTMENT  
ONLY*

*please join us for...*

## **COMPUTER CONFIDENCE SESSIONS**

*Every Wednesday, 10.00am -1pm*

### **CHINEHAM LIBRARY**

**Centre Drive, Chineham, Basingstoke RG24 8BQ**

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

### **BASINGSTOKE DISCOVERY CENTRE LIBRARY**

**Festival Place, Basingstoke RG21 7LS**

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

1-2-1 sessions available for the over 50's, including IT skills, setting up new devices and getting online as well as software and hardware issues.

*Contact us to book..*

Call: **01962 868545** or email:

**[kim.stone@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:kim.stone@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk)**

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

# **Crusade**

## **CLEANING SERVICES**



Based in Old Basing, our services include:

- Domestic and commercial
- Window cleaning
- Conservatory roof cleaning
- Gutter and down pipe clearance
- Soffit, fascias and gutter cleaning
- Pressure washing

Contact us for a free quotation

# **01256 766899**

[www.crusadecleaning.co.uk](http://www.crusadecleaning.co.uk)