

September 2022

BASINGA



Alan Morris



Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Magazine
www.basinga.org.uk



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SEPTEMBER COVER PHOTO AND NOTES AND NEWS

Odiham was the driest place in Britain in July. Old Basing could not have been far behind as we faced sweltering conditions continuing into mid August. The **front cover photo** is of a **tinder-dry Common** is by **Alan Morris** taken on 16th August before the first rain arrived.

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 **October edition** is **6pm on Saturday, 10th September**. 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**

OLD BASING AND LYCHPIT VILLAGE SHOW

By the time the Basinga reaches you, plans for the **2022 Old Basing & Lychpit Village Show** will have been finalised, entry forms completed and exhibits made ready for display.

After the Covid disruptions of the last two years, we are delighted to be back with our full tried and tested format. This will include presentations of vegetables, fruit, flowers, domestic produce, handicrafts, flower arrangements, photography, homemade drinks, demonstrations of the constructive skills of children and with opportunities for everyone to participate and vie for silverware and other prizes. All classes will be judged professionally.

The refreshment area will provide an opportunity to rest the feet, meet friends and participate in the raffle, tombola and bid for prize-winning items at the end of the afternoon in our 4pm auction. In summary much to entertain the whole family, so do come along.

Remember the Village Show, **Sunday, 4th September**, opening **2.30pm**, in **Old Basing Village Hall**. The entrance fee has not changed at **£1** for those **over 15 years of age**, others **free if accompanied by an adult**.

Dennis Cole (The Corner House, Church Lane, Old Basing; tel. **01236 324749**)

OLD BASING VILLAGE HALL AGM

The **Old Basing Village Hall AGM** will be held on **Thursday, 8th September**, at **8.15pm**, in the Frank Goddard Room at the Old Basing Village Hall.

Our committee member numbers are dwindling and so, again, we appeal for volunteers to attend our AGM in the hope they would be interested in joining our Management Committee. We meet approximately six times per year to discuss the maintenance and management of this wonderful asset to the village of Old Basing. Why not come along, have a drink, meet the committee and maybe join our team. We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Sue Ingleby (Treasurer)

OLD BASING VILLAGE HALL DOG SHOW

The **Old Basing Village Hall Dog Show** takes place **Sunday, 11th September**, at **1pm**, in **Old Basing Village Hall**.

Refreshments are from 1pm. Judging will start at 2pm by Mastamariner Graham and Catherine Emeritt and The Basingstoke Vets, Jamie Cole and Emily Scott. There will also be **tables** available to **hire** for any dog-related items and services at **£5 a table**. Book early to avoid disappointment. There are different categories for your beautiful dog companions to enter which will be **£5 per dog**. Could you leave your car at home and walk your dog to the Old Basing Village Hall, as there will be restricted parking?

This competition is open to dogs/owners that live in the parish of Old Basing and Lychpit.

CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION AGM

The **Old Basing & Lychpit Carnival Association AGM** will be held on **Wednesday, 12th October**, at **7.30pm**, in the **Pavilion Tea Room** at the **Recreation Ground**. All are welcome. In addition to the formal election of Committee members and Officers, the Committee usually share donations with the local community at this annual meeting but, for the third year running, as there was sadly no Carnival, we are unable to do so. We are very much hoping that next year 'normal service will be resumed' and the delayed 50th Celebration Carnival will be held on **Saturday, 17th June, 2023**.

OLD BASING & LYCHPIT CARNIVAL COMMITTEE TREASURE HUNT

The **Old Basing & Lychpit Carnival Committee** would love you to come along with your friends and family to take part in this fun **Treasure Hunt** around the village on **Sunday, 18th September**.

Meet us at the **Pavilion Tea Room** at the **Recreation Ground** between **10.30am and 12.30pm** to collect your free pack, follow the village trail to find the answers to the clues and meet back at the Pavilion Tea Room by 3pm for refreshments afterwards.

Stay for a cuppa and cake and enjoy the raffle prize draw (first prize is £150 cash; there's also distillery experiences to be won; a hamper; family passes for local days out; and much, much more)!

If you haven't bought your raffle tickets already, there will be an opportunity for you to do that on the day. If you could remember to bring cash for refreshments and raffle tickets that would be great.

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CIL FUNDING

Further to our article in the August Basinga about CIL funding, we are pleased to report that the first grant applications have been submitted and were agreed by the Parish Council at its meeting on 2nd August. The first recipients are:

Basing Royals Football Club: £10,000 towards ground works for a football pitch next to the Royal British Legion.

Old Basing Village Hall: £10,000 towards refurbishment of the men's toilet facilities

Churchyard Conservation Group: £1,000 towards the purchase of a strimmer and hedging plants to facilitate improvements to St Mary's Churchyard.

OVERGROWN HEDGES

In the Parish Office we often receive calls about hedges not being trimmed and tree branches that overhang pavements making it difficult for those with buggies, mobility scooters et. to pass. It is the responsibility of all residents to ensure that hedges and trees surrounding their property are kept trimmed and do not restrict access along pavements.

Officially the 'Bird Nesting Season' is from February until August (advice from Natural England) and it is recommended that tree or hedge cutting should be done outside of these months. However, as the nesting period may start before or end after this period, if an overgrown hedge causes a hazard to those using a pavement this should be carried out carefully to ensure minimal disturbance to any birds that may still be nesting.

Trees and hedges along main roads and on land not owned by residents are the responsibility of Hampshire Highways and any hazardous overgrowth should be reported to Hampshire County Council.

RIVERBANK EROSION

The reinforcement of the riverbank carried out by Hampshire County Council last year along the footpath from Bartons Mill to Swing Swang Lane has come under some pressure from people and dogs using the river to cool off in the hot weather – the stone and wooden barriers are failing and the bank starting to erode. We have reported this to Hampshire County Council in the hope that they will take swift action to remedy the problem before it becomes any worse. In the meantime, if your dog does need to cool off, try to get it to access the river via the (albeit narrow) steps provided.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two **meeting dates** are **Tuesday 6th September** and **4th October** commencing at **7.30pm**. Please let us know if you are unable to manage the stairs to the meeting room so we can make alternative arrangements.

Parish Clerk: **Mrs Sandra Tuck** Deputy Clerk: **Mrs Kate Hope**

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

Telephone: **01256 462847**

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LETTER TO THE BASINGSTOKE GAZETTE

The letter below has been sent to the Editor of the **Basingstoke Gazette** and is re-printed here.

The Editor Basingstoke Gazette

Sent by email

28th July 2022

Dear Editor,

Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council

The Pavilion The Recreation Ground The Street Old Basing RG24 7DA

Parish Councillors were recently invited to a consultation run by Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design Limited concerning the development of land east of Basingstoke. Leaving aside the fact that this was not face to face and the medium of Zoom proved to be completely inadequate for the purpose, the whole process was very unsatisfactory and rushed.

Firstly the area in question was designated for 450 houses under the current Local Plan. This is being revised by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council but still has many processes to go through. However, Tibbalds seemed to know that the development will be 900 houses. They obviously know more than the Borough Councillors do; this suggests things have been decided already and any consultation on the content of the Local Plan will be held only for show.

Tibbalds displayed precious little knowledge of the area they were talking about. They did not appreciate the difficulties relating to transport along the A33, did not mention the incinerator at Whitmarsh Lane which lies within the area and asked the attendees what facilities there were in the wider area, information which a search on Google maps would have provided. We were asked hypothetical questions or ones which for which only an impressionistic answer could have been given. For example, how different groups of people (children, older people) used Chineham centre. A meaningful answer to that question would require some actual research.

There was no acknowledgement that this is a 'greenfield' site and development would impact on biodiversity and wildlife, no mention of green corridors or mitigation of this impact. Active travel was mentioned by an attendee but the infrastructure to support this had not been considered.

ELECTORAL REGISTER

Don't miss your chance to make sure you are on the **Electoral Register**. Households in the borough will be contacted throughout August and September by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council to ensure their details are correct on the electoral register as part of the annual canvass. For residents who are eligible to register to vote, it is a legal requirement to be on the electoral register. As well as giving people the opportunity to vote, the electoral register is also used by credit agencies to check the names and addresses of people applying for credit, jury duty selection and to carry out identity checks to detect fraud and money laundering.

The full revised register of electors will be published in December 2022. For more information call **01256 845467** or visit **www.basingstoke.gov.uk/canvass**



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SOLVE



THIS is the moment! Call to stand up for our countryside or It Will Be Built On. **SOLVE** is holding a meeting to **Reduce Housing Numbers and Protect Our River Catchment** on **Monday, 12th September**, at **7pm**, at Jack Morris Hall, **Old Basing Royal British Legion Hall**. Please book at www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for 'SOLVE Meeting Reduce Housing Numbers and Protect Our River' Catchment. E- tickets will be required on the night or registration on arrival.

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, 27th September, from 5.30pm. Event details to follow.

We are in the middle of a Local Plan Update which will have serious ramifications for Lychpit and Basing. Your Councillors will be attending a Scrutiny Meeting on Friday, 2nd September, to discuss water in the Borough which is a major issue. On Monday, 5th September, councillors are selecting Strategic Sites to be added to the existing allocated list of large greenfield sites to be developed up to 2039. We are at a very dangerous fork in the road where it is possible that MORE than a couple of greenfield sites immediately east of Basing and Lychpit could be selected in the final list.

We need your support like never before, SOLVE needs you. Together we can make a difference.

Peter Bloyce and Kate Tuck (Co-chairs SOLVE) – website: www.solveloddon.org

COUNCILLOR GRANTS

Dear Residents, Local Charities and Community Groups, as your elected Borough Councillors we have a small pot of money ranging from £100 to £1,000 available to award to locally based community groups or charities in our Ward of Basing and Upton Grey. These awards are governed by strict criteria detailed in this link www.basingstoke.gov.uk/cllr-community-grants

Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, Cllr Sven Godesen and Cllr Kate Tuck would love to hear from you if your group or charity is interested in seeking a small grant by no later than close of business **Friday, 21st October**, by email to cllr.onnalee.cubitt@basingstoke.gov.uk with a brief outline of your reasons to be selected as the chosen groups for us to support PRIOR to submitting the formal application. Sadly not every application will be successful.

We look forward to hearing from you and your group and to learning about your deserving causes and the benefits you provide to our wonderful community. Spread the word.

Cllr. Onnalee Cubitt, Cllr. Sven Godesen and Cllr. Kate Tuck

MAYOR'S CHARITY SKYDIVE

Mayor's 'daunting' freefall fundraiser Daredevil **Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane Cllr Paul Miller** is set to part in a **charity skydive** to raise funds for his charity appeal. His first ever jump from a plane will take place on **Saturday, 10th September**, and will raise money for his chosen charities **Tough Enough To Care** and **The Pink Place** incorporating the **Blue Space**. Cllr Miller, aged 77, will take the leap along with representatives from his charities and will free fall from 15,000 feet before parachuting to the ground at Old Sarum Airfield. To find out more about the Mayor's skydive and to make a donation to the charity appeal visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/mayor-skydive

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ADVERTISERS NEWS

Welcome to The Barber Parlour on page 16.

We ask for submissions to the magazine and website to be made via 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:

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PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

Ploughman's Lunch in the Parish Room, St Mary's Church, on Thursday, 15th September, 12.25pm. Book in advance (tel. 07946 596778) as numbers are limited.

BASINGSTOKE VARIETY SHOW

The Basingstoke Variety Show returns once again to The Anvil, on Saturday, 1st October, at 7.30pm, showcasing some of the best talent from across the borough, including soloists, schools, and groups. This year's show will include music, dance and theatre. With a large cast of local performers this is a great opportunity to support our community, whilst raising money for the Mayor's charity appeal. For tickets call 01256 844244 or go to www.anvilarts.org.uk

BASINGA ADVERTISERS

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Our **Late Summer Market** is being held on **Sunday 28th August** and **Late Summer Bank Holiday Monday, 29th August**. We have stalls for gifts, vintage items and locally made produce in our wonderful historic Barn.

There will be live music both days, with a saxophone soloist on Sunday and IJO, a four-piece swing band on the Bank Holiday Monday. Jessie Childs, author of a highly acclaimed new book about Basing House – *The Siege of Loyalty House* – will be present for a book signing on the Saturday.

There is also children's entertainment between 11.30am and 2.30pm, with fairy outfits, bubbles and games! Admission is £3.

Our fairy trail, which spans the whole site and which captures the imagination of children of all ages will still be running, as well.

Over the weekend, **Saturday 17th** and **Sunday 18th September**, we have the **English Civil War's Marquess of Winchester's Regiment** visiting. They will bring, in a small way, the days of the siege of the House in the 1640s back to life. It was these sieges that led to the destruction of the House which in Tudor times was one of the grandest in England, but also a crucial Royalist outpost between London and the West Country.

Some re-enactors will give displays of the weaponry and drill used during the Civil War while others will show aspects of ordinary life in the 17th century in their tented village. As is the case with all re-enactments of this nature there will be some bangs and crashes.

Parking for both events will be in our car park just off Bartons Lane by the Bartons Mill Pub. We do ask visitors not to park in The Street.

Fuller details of these events are on our website at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events?location=6

Andrew Howard (tel. **01256 327014**)

BASING SINGERS SEEKING AN ACCOMPANIST

Basing Singers are looking for an **accompanist**. Our loyal accompanist has been with Basing Singers for 13 years, but sadly has now decided the time has come to step aside and to hand over to another suitably talented keyboard player. The choir has therefore started the search for her replacement. Basing Singers is an amateur four-part SATB (Soprano, Alto, Tenor & Bass) adult choir with around 40 members. We enjoy singing all types of music – classical and pop, sacred and secular, ancient and modern and rehearse from **7.30 to 9.30pm** on **Wednesday evenings** in Old Basing.

We generally perform around three main concerts each year and are invited to sing at a number of smaller events. Mostly we perform with piano or keyboard accompaniment but also join with other choirs for larger scale concerts with orchestra. There is more information about Basing Singers on our website www.basingsingers.org.uk

If you are interested in becoming Basing Singers' new accompanist and would like to know more please email basingsingers@btopenworld.com with details of your experience. Or, for more information, contact **Mike Leaming** (Basing Singers' Honorary Secretary) on **07702 883117**.

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OLD BASING WI



Our speaker at our August meeting was Olive Butler, who asked such vexing questions as “why is a tin of evaporated milk full?” Olive has visited us before and kept us smiling with her amusing tales and monologues.

Our September meeting takes place on **Tuesday, 6th September**, at the **Parish Room, St Mary’s Church**, at **7.30pm**, when our speaker will be Sophie Fryer who will be talking to us about millinery and hats. Sophie is a couture milliner based in Camberley who has her own business called ‘Hats Off’, that supplies hats and fascinators for events such as Ascot. Our competition this evening will be ‘A Hat’, so dig out your best and bring it along! We will also be collecting money for our skittles lunch at the September meeting, so it will be the last chance to get your name down.

For details of the WI in Hampshire and other WI activities: 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

CHINEHAM AND OLD BASING NWR



National Women’s Register (NWR) is an international group for women to meet up for friendship and discussion. Each Group decides how and what it wants to do. Chineham and Old Basing NWR’s style is informal and relaxed with a mix of serious and more light-hearted meetings. We meet at **2pm** on the **first Monday of the month** in **each other’s homes or gardens**. We also meet for **lunch in a pub** or arrange **ad-hoc trips**. Some members meet in the **evening every 4th**

Thursday to discuss a chosen **book**.

In **August** we usually have a very popular wine-tasting afternoon but Covid struck our knowledgeable tutor. Instead we reconvened the venue and had a discussion on random topics beginning with the letter G. We talked about: grapes; gin; Gerontius; gastronomy; Grenada; gourmets; the history of games and giraffes. Our lively minded members are interested in everything and talk about anything.

In **September** we will be having an evening meeting entitled ‘Music and Mains’ which will be a delicious meal cooked by chef extraordinaire Dusty accompanied by music and wine.

In **October** back to a more serious topic when we will be discussing the Colston Four.

If you have commitments on Monday afternoons the NWR website gives details of other local NWR groups which meet in the evenings or on different days or even solely online. Becoming an independent member is an option for those women who want to be connected to other women via a national organisation but don’t have a suitable local group. Independent members are able to attend national NWR events, receive NWR magazines and newsletters but meet online.

Find out more about NWR at www.nwr.org.uk or you can contact **Dusty Brough** via dmbc861@gmail.com or tel. **01256 357276**.

Sandie Tapping

New Years start at lots of different times of year. Do you ever consider those which affect you?

There is the calendar year which starts at the beginning of January, the church's year starts on Advent Sunday, which because it is four Sundays before Christmas moves around a bit. Your birthday, whenever that is, marks the end of one personal year and the beginning of the next. If you are working then your employer may set your leave year in different ways, for some everyone starts on the same date, while for others it can be the anniversary of when you started

September marks two different years which we will celebrate at St Mary's. The first will be the beginning of the academic year when playgroups, schools, colleges and universities will start or return. We will be marking this with a **'Blessing of the Bags'** on **Sunday, 4th September, at 9.30am** (*read more on facing page*) as part of our normal Holy Communion service when you are invited to bring a bag associated with school or work to have it blessed together with the activities that you will use it for.

Second, **Sunday, 25th September**, marks the end of the farming year with our celebration of Harvest and giving thanks for God's provision to us (*read more on facing page*). When I write this at the beginning of August we have just seen record breaking temperatures and dry weather. This has meant difficulties for our farmers and growers. It may be you have been able to grow some produce at home over the year which you would like to give thanks for

We know that not all are fortunate to be able to afford food and many in our community are struggling. That is why we will be collecting for the **Basingstoke Foodbank**. The website **basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk** provides a list of items that are needed at any time, and who to contact if you need help. You can also ring the **Citizens Advice Bureau** free on **0808 278 7829** who act as a referral partner for the Basingstoke Foodbank.

We will be blessed by the attendance of **Bishop David, Bishop of Basingstoke**, who will lead our Harvest Festival at 9.30am service on that day and we hope to welcome our uniformed organisations.

Whatever your circumstance, wherever you are in your various 'years' you will receive a warm welcome at St Mary's.

With every blessing.

Robert Jackson (Churchwarden)

BLESSING OF THE BAGS SERVICE

Sunday, 4th September, 9.30am

September brings new beginnings for many families, with children starting nursery, school or moving up a class. At the start of the new school year, we shall once again be praying for God's blessing on the places we go and the people we meet. So children and adults are invited to bring school bags, handbags or briefcases with you to church on 4th September and towards the end of the service we'll be blessing all the bags.



ST MARY'S HARVEST SERVICE

Sunday, 25th September, 9.30am

We shall be led in worship for our Harvest Service by the **Rt Revd David Williams, Bishop of Basingstoke**. Once again we shall be inviting donations to the Basingstoke Foodbank. Please note that the donations crate has now been moved back to the church lobby. For a list of items in particular short supply please see the Foodbank's website.

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8am	BCP Communion (no service on Sunday 25th)
	9.30am	Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
Monday	9.15am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10am	Holy Communion
Thursday	9.15am	Morning Prayer
Friday	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	10am	Diddy Disciples, restarts 16th September only term time

If you'd like to join the 9.30am Sunday service from home, you can do so via St Mary's Facebook page. Up-to-date details of all services are available on the St Mary's website www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

All enquiries for weddings and baptisms should be directed to **Debbie Filer**, St Mary's Administrator, tel. **07541 698235**; email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Please direct any enquiries to **Debbie Filer**, St Mary's Administrator (details as above), who'll be able to put you in contact with Revd John Morley who is assisting us at this time.

HALL FOR HIRE

We look forward in September to the return of the variety of local groups who use the Parish Room. The room is used regularly by the Basing Singers, Drama Tots, the WI, Tea and Tots, The Village Café, Infinite Harmony yoga, the Alzheimer's Society and various U3A groups. It is also the venue for the monthly Ploughmen's Lunch. 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** (details as above).

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** (details above). We are also able to hand deliver bulletins to those without internet access.

ST MARY'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Please do make a note in your diaries that **St Mary's Tree Festival** will take place over the weekend of **10th and 11th December** to be preceded by a **Christmas 'Singalong'** on the evening of **Friday, 9th December**. The theme this year is 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', and we look forward once again to welcoming you to St Mary's over the weekend.

Once again we're inviting local groups, families and individuals to submit either an indoor or outdoor tree. Further details of the weekend will follow next month.

CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)

We look forward to welcoming our regular volunteers and also new participants. This month's **working parties** will be on **Saturday, 3rd September**, at **10am** and **Thursday, 22nd September**, at **2pm** – meet by the **PIOCC noticeboard** at the entrance to the Conservation Area. We will finish the summer season maintenance so next month we can move onto our conservation work and woodland management. We are always delighted to welcome new participants.



We are a friendly group. This community project is not just for churchgoers, we welcome all who would like to help. The tools are provided. Just turn up in gardening clothes and bring gloves. Our **Saturday morning** sessions last about **three hours** (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our **Thursday afternoons** about **two hours**. Our volunteers make a real difference.

As we move towards autumn the nights are cooler and mornings misty, but the days can still be pleasantly warm and summery, gentler than the heatwaves of high summer. Remarkably following the heatwaves there are still flowers in the glade providing sustenance for the late summer insects, including butterflies. Why not come and see what you can find? Or perhaps just enjoy an opportunity for a moment of peace or prayer on the WI seat with its lovely view of the church. The Conservation Area is a community space for all to enjoy.

A date for your diaries: **Monday, 3rd October**, our **Open Meeting** will mark the start of the winter Conservation programme. Please join us at **8pm** in the **Parish Room, St Mary's Church**. For further information please ring **Fay Farrant** on **01256 476863**.

Margaret Carr

www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

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FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

Wherever you are in the country you are within a Church of England parish. Our parish, of Old Basing and Lychpit serves about 10,000 people, who have the right to be baptised, married and buried by this church. Since 1894 Parish Councils, elected by adult parishioners, have been responsible for dealing with the many administrative tasks of a community and separate premises have been established for their business and meetings. Parish Councils receive grants to cover their business, but the parish church has to fund itself which it does from donations, legacies, collections and rental fees from community groups such as Drama Tots, the Basing Singers and others.

The church's operating costs are some £110,000 a year, of which about £70,000 goes to the Diocese of Winchester to pay for the incumbent and diocesan support services. The remainder is spent on the upkeep of the church, its cleaning, heating, electricity, administration help, the choir, the organist and the flowers. Much help is provided free by volunteers. It is they who make it possible to keep the church open to the public and to make it a place of welcome and beauty and a centre of the community of Old Basing and Lychpit.

But, the big but is, the maintenance of the fabric of the church. The damage is caused by age and weathering. The state of the building is monitored, every five years, by the Diocesan architect, and you will remember, how, pre-lockdown there was much work done on the fabric, and a large contribution to that was made by The Friends. Another inspection has taken place recently and has shown more work is required. We are trying to rebuild our resources to be able to meet a request for help with the cost.

Our next event is on **Saturday, 8th October**, at **7.30pm** (doors open **7pm**) in the **Parish Room**. '**Steventon – The Cradle of Jane Austen's Genius**', a talk by Michael Kenning, a former Rector of Steventon, who is now a Trustee and Vice-Chairman of the Jane Austen Society. So come along and enjoy it in the knowledge that you are helping to preserve a very special building.

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S PANTOMIME

The **Friends of St Mary's** are proposing to put on a pantomime for the village in **November 2023**. It will be staged in the **Old Basing Village Hall** on **Saturday 25th and Sunday, 26th November, 2023**. After the last few years this is an opportunity for the village to get together, and to have a lot of fun!

Many talents and skills will be needed to get the show up and running. In addition to actors there will be roles for front of house, set construction and painting, costume, props, chaperones, rehearsal and secretarial support.

If you or any member of your family would like to be part of this enterprise and if you are able to commit to rehearsals and the **performance dates**, please email The Friends to make contact on **igfkershaw@btinternet.com**

Tell us your area of interest and we would love to chat with you!

Whatever your gifts, put the dates in your diary because we will need an audience too!

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- Walk your dog or find a picnic spot

INFORMATION

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VILLAGE CAFÉ

A warm welcome back to all our customers after our summer break. We hope you have enjoyed the lovely weather and spent time with family and friends.

We **re-open** our doors on **Friday, 2nd September**, with a **Macmillan fund raising afternoon**, a charity we like to support annually. We are open **weekly** throughout **September** and will then change our hours over the **winter months**, opening for the **first Friday of each month only**. We will make each café afternoon a little more of an event to hopefully provide you with something a little more. Our dates for the coming months are:

- 7th October** Which will be our birthday celebration
- 4th November** We hope to provide a pop-up shop but will confirm nearer the time
- 2nd December** We will have our lovely local florist, Davia, visiting
- 6th January** We are hoping to organise a clothes swap afternoon
- 3rd February** Event to be confirmed

Pop these dates into your diary now so you don't miss us.

We also have news on the second **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** our fundraising has enabled us to purchase. We are installing the device at the **Co-op** on Linden Avenue. Huge thanks to the owners of the building, lovely local residents who many of you know, Bob Pyle and Mary Salmon. Bob and Mary have always been huge supporters of the community and we are very grateful for their help providing a site for our second AED.

Our fundraising will continue and we will be supporting local community projects which we feel can bring the most to our community.



I thought it would be nice to introduce our café volunteers to you all and so this month, I will start with **Lesley Turner** (*see photo, left*). For fun, I've asked Lesley a few questions:

What got you involved with the cafe? I wanted to give something back to the community on my day off, love chatting to people and baking

Favourite pastime? Walking my dogs and trash tv

Favourite tipple! G&T (or three!)

Netflix or book? Netflix

Signature dish? Lasagne

Dream dinner party guest? Billy Connolly

Lesley is a tireless organiser for the café and a much-valued member of our team.

If anyone has a couple of hours to spare on a Friday afternoon and would like to join us, please get in contact via our Facebook page, we are a friendly bunch and all are welcome.

Deborah Thorne

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OLD BASING BOWLING CLUB

The Bowls Club are now three quarters of the way through our summer season – it has been a successful one in very many ways.

We have continued to recruit many first-time new bowlers and our membership now stands at 103 – the highest for many years with the largest cohort of lady members in living memory.

Our club holds the important role of President of the local Basingstoke and District Bowling Association for 2022 – Tom Regan-Atkins has hosted a large celebratory Presidents Day at the Club and we will also be the host club for the local competition finals over two days in September.



A pleasing number of experienced bowlers have made good progress in both County and National competitions. Of particular note was the pairing of **Yvonne Banister** and **Anita Christian** in reaching the **Hampshire County Finals** in July, with both now having achieved their prestigious **County Badges** (see photo, below).

Local competitions are now at their semi-final stages, with Old Basing being represented in eight different local semi-finals.

The Club is represented by six different teams in local leagues, with two of these teams being 'top' of their individual leagues for the whole season so far.

Social bowling continues to be very popular, with well-attended **'roll ups'** on **Monday** and **Friday afternoons** and **Tuesday evenings**.

A full schedule of weekend friendly matches with other clubs from Hampshire and Berkshire is also in place.

As the season end draws closer many members are into the final stages of internal club competitions, with 14

different Cups to be played for.

Next year – 2023 – is the **75th anniversary of Old Basing Bowling Club**, with several celebratory events being planned for.

We are a friendly club that is clearly 'on the up', so please do drop by the **Recreation Ground** to watch the bowling action, have a drink or enquire about becoming a member!

Malcolm Christian (Chairman, Old Basing Bowling Club)

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BUILDING YOUR DREAMS



A new school year is about to begin and lots of children are changing classes or starting new schools. Amongst other things, this means a lot of name-learning for both pupils and teachers.

Names are such a key part of our identity. Whilst in most instances, we have not chosen our names, they tend to be the first piece of information about ourselves which gets shared with others and is the main way of identifying one another.

What though, if someone gets your name wrong? Most people have, at one time or another, experienced another person mispronouncing or misspelling their name or using a completely different one. This leads to the awkward situation of either correcting them or letting them continue using the wrong name. It's completely understandable why one might choose to correct. Our names are part of our identity and out of respect, people should be doing their utmost to get them right. It is though, also understandable that people might sometimes get them wrong. One reason, is simply memory problems. Another issue though, is that names come from many different cultural origins and linguistic backgrounds and so it can be challenging for a person seeing or even hearing a name whose origin isn't linked to any language which they speak, to pronounce it.

This relates to one of the reasons why LinguaTastic strongly believes in starting language learning from a young age. When learning a new language later on in life, a person will always relate the new sounds back to the sounds they are already familiar with (which is why it can be difficult to get away from a 'foreign' accent). Whereas, in a young child, whose brain has a lot more plasticity, the sounds of a new language are easily and accurately adopted.

So, if you have a little one and would like to give them a head start in languages, you might want to e-mail info@linguatastic.com

On a final note, **Basingstoke Multicultural Forum's World Party** will be taking place at **Eastrop Park** on **Saturday, 17th September**. LinguaTastic will be on stage in the afternoon, involving the public in some fun dancing and singing.

THE MILL FIELD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE



We intend to start our winter work party schedule in October starting with a blitz on the larger dogwood, dates will be posted on our Facebook page.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR THIS MONTH

Signalling the end of summer, you will notice the movement of House Martins, Swallows and Swifts as they fly back south followed by Hobbys, you may get the chance to see a Redstart or Whinchat onsite or maybe something a little rarer. If the weather is kind, amongst the grass you should spot butterflies such as the Marbled White, Silver-Washed Fritillary and Purple Emperor.

Anne Francis

Email: millfieldnature@gmail.com

Facebook: **Mill Field Conservation Group**

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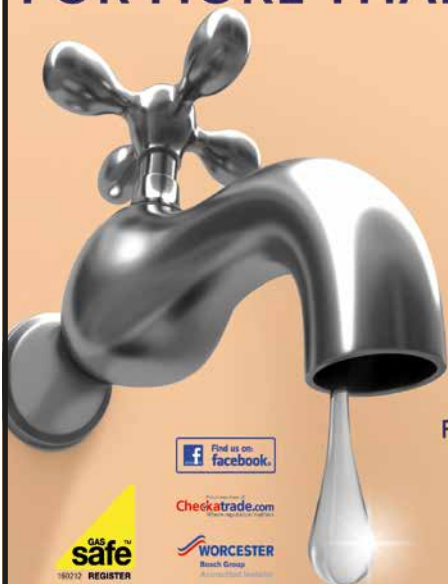
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OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

LIVE ON



OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Monthly Branch Meeting: Thursday, 1st September, 8pm, in the Jack Morris Hall

OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

General Meeting: Thursday, 22nd September, 7.30pm, in the Jack Morris Hall. Speaker Hugo Cubitt giving an insight into his life as the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire. Competition: an item of vintage/retro clothing. Visitors welcome.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

I am pleased to announce that Old Basing and District, including Hook, has now collected **£29,339.57** for the **Poppy Appeal**, I cannot thank enough, everyone who has made this total possible.

This year's Poppy Appeal and November's Remembrance is fast approaching, and we need additional **volunteers** for Old Basing, Chineham and Hook, if you can spare a few hours between **Saturday, 6th November** and **Saturday, 12th November**, please contact me on either of the email addresses below.

Also, if you wish to commemorate Remembrance with a **Poppy wreath** there are over 3,000 different emblems available and several styles so you can pay respects. There are also several smaller, wooden tributes available if you prefer.

I can be contacted on either: **hampshire.chairman@rbl.community** or
tim.russell1888@gmail.com

All money raised goes to the Poppy Appeal. Thank you for your continued support.

Tim Russell (Poppy Appeal Organiser Old Basing & District and Hook)

GOOD OLD BASING GOLF DAY 2022

You now have a week to get your entry in to the annual **Good Old Basing Charity Golf Day** that will be held on **Friday, 16th September**, at **Sherfield Oaks Golf Course**.

Contact me by phone or email for a form if you would like to play in what is our eighteenth annual event. This year the day will start around 12.30pm for coffee and bacon roll, 18 holes of golf on the Waterloo Course at 1.30pm and a two-course dinner, plus contribution to prizes, all for just £55! Partners are cordially invited to come along for the evening meal and presentation at a cost of £15. Cost to members of Sherfield Oaks will be £25.

We look forward to seeing everyone again who have helped to raise many thousands of pounds for worthy causes, not forgetting that it is YOU the winner, who gets to choose THAT charity. And if you've not entered before, that's even better as you will be very welcome.

All **entries and payments** must be in **LATEST Thursday, 9th September**.

Rick Bourne

SEPTEMBER IN YOUR GARDEN

It's hard to believe that summer has matured, especially as it only seems like yesterday that the daffodils were dancing in the breeze. With the changing of the seasons there are lots of jobs to do in the garden in September. With autumn approaching and summer almost over, there are plenty of tasks to tackle to get ahead before the cold, harsh winter months. But less about that – let's enjoy the colours and hues of summer we still have!

September is the perfect time to plant container-grown shrubs, fruit bushes, trees, perennials and bulbs for next year because the soil is moist and still warm, creating ideal conditions for plants to become established before the ground freezes. Hopefully fruit and vegetables have cropped well. There may be some apples and pears to harvest but check they are fully ripe, either by the fruit coming away from the stem easily, or if you cut into the fruit the seeds are starting to turn brown, they should then store for some time. This year has been great for soft fruit. Freezer and jam cupboard are replete with produce. There is no secret about jam making, except getting 'the set' right, I will, however, leave any recipes to the likes of the WI.

Extend the colour in your garden by planting out bulbs from mid September. Ensuring you have colour throughout spring try Snowdrops, Crocus, Anemone, Grape Hyacinth, Tulips, Mini daffodils, Fritillaries and Hyacinths. Take advantage of free plants. Collect seeds, take cuttings or split perennials. Share your surplus with neighbours who may be very pleased with reciprocal produce. As the temperature drops it's a good idea to protect border plants by mulching. It's best to apply when the soil is damp or wet and make sure you weed first. It will help your soil from drying out, improve its texture and help protect the roots of tender plants such as dahlias or Verbena from frost – a good two-inch (five-centimetre) layer is best.

September is a great time to give your lawn some much needed love to revitalise it after the hot dry weather and ensure that it's fit enough to get through the winter. Depending on the state of our lawns and erratic rainfall it is time to rake, aerate and feed with an autumn lawn fertiliser; this will help develop healthier and stronger roots. For the best results always apply after mowing and before rain is expected. If, like ours, your lawn is shaded or waterlogged, moss can be a nuisance. Rake well and aerate with a fork – use a sandy top dressing to keep the drainage. At this time of year light becomes essential for lawns to develop strong roots, be sure to rake leaves regularly.

Lastly let's enjoy what we have created and the things to come – planting good thoughts helps feed our minds with the right fuel.

OLD BASING GARDEN AND ALLOTMENT SOCIETY (OBAGS)

Old Basing Garden and Allotment Society (OBAGS) is pleased to announce that the **Trading Hut at Riley Lane** (opposite the Bolton Arms) will be re-opening on the following **Sundays** in 2022: **4th September (10.30am to noon)**; **2nd October (11am to noon)**; **6th November (11am to noon)**; and **4th December (11am to noon)**. Anyone is welcome to purchase items from the shop, providing they pay a small fee (£2 for the remainder of 2022) to join OBAGS. The Trading Hut sells compost and other garden sundries, saving on petrol by providing a local service for people of Old Basing and Lychpit. OBAGS is looking for more volunteers to man the shop during 2023 – if you think you could help, let a member of the committee know. Visit OBAGS website www.obags.uk for more information.

So, who remembers the summer of 1976? Certainly I do, not only because I got married that year but because we all enjoyed/endured (depending on your point of view) the hottest and driest summer ever. Until now. And because the temperatures are higher and there are 'more of us' the pressure on water supplies are even greater so driving dirty cars and bathing with a friend are now back in vogue!

Seriously, I do hope that you who feed the birds and mammals such as hedgehogs haven't forgotten to leave out plenty of water too as it's a desperate time for wild creatures of all descriptions, even those in still waters where deoxygenation is a real risk.



I built a bog garden last winter and it's been thriving this year, just needing a bit of assistance this past month to keep it from drying out, but last evening (8th August) a female **Southern Hawker** flew right in and hovered just above the shallow pond area. What a beautiful creature when viewed up really close like that. I didn't have a camera to hand and although I found an image (see *left*), the one we saw was greener so the pic doesn't do it justice.

Still on the subject of good-looking flying things, **Chris Beadle** found this lovely **Elephant Hawkmoth** (see *photo, right*) residing in the conservatory last week. It is one of several Hawkmoths that can be found in the UK, depending on the time of year and location so I wouldn't be surprised if others aren't seen in the coming weeks.

Bats are having a successful time of it in these conditions with so many insects on the wing as dusk falls and we've seen many (pipistrelles I believe) around our local gardens and with another larger species literally skimming our heads as we chatted over our front gate late one evening.



With fine weather and an abundance of insects, I alluded last month to the likelihood that breeding birds should have done quite well this year and Stephen Thair noted his front porch nest box is about to produce its third brood of House Sparrows. It looks as if the previous fledglings are still about too as a group of about 20 spadgers, looking like a big family creche, were chatting away on the telegraph wires along his driveway. We've seen similar here too so it's odd that Sparrows are 'supposed' to be in decline.

I received a call this week from a lady in North Waltham who, unbeknown to me, has run a wildlife rescue centre for many years and it's always good to know as frequently an injured bird or animal needs attention or a displaced youngster requires special care to bring it to maturity. In this instance she was seeking advice as to where there might be a few House Martins about as she had a couple of youngsters to release. **Rita** is the founder of the **Greenman Wildlife Care** and can be reached on **01256 398223** if you find yourself unsure as to what to do.

Don't forget to send all your nature-related photos to rickbourne@yahoo.com or 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 SEPTEMBER

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

SEPTEMBER

Thu 1	8.00pm	Old Basing RBL Monthly Branch Meeting (J Morris Hall)
Fri 2	10.30am – noon	Ladies First Friday Coffee Morning (10 Olivers Walk)
Fri 2	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 3	10.00am – 1.00pm	PIOCC Churchyard Conservation (meet at noticeboard)
Sun 4	10.30am – noon	OBAGS Trading Hut Open (Riley Lane)
	2.30pm	Old Basing and Lychpit Village Show. OB Village Hall
Tue 6	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting (The Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
Tue 6	7.00pm	WI Meeting (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Thu 8	8.15pm	Old Basing Village Hall AGM (F Goddard Room, OBVH)
Fri 9	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Mon 12	7.00pm	SOLVE Meeting (Jack Morris Hall, RBL)
Sun 11	1.00pm	Old Basing Village Hall Dog Show (OBVH)
Thu 15	12.25pm	Ploughman's Lunch (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Fri 16	12.30pm	Good Old Basing Charity Golf Day (Sherfield Oaks GC)
Fri 16	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 17	11.00am – 4.00pm	English Civil War Re-Enactment W'kend (Basing House)
Sun 18	11.00am – 4.00pm	English Civil War Re-Enactment W'kend (Basing House)
Sun 18	10.30am – 12.30pm	Old Basing & Lychpit Carnival Committee Treasure Hunt
Thu 22	2.00pm – 4.00pm	PIOCC Churchyard Conservation (meet at noticeboard)
	7.30pm	RBL Womens Section General Meeting (Jack Morris Hall)
Fri 23	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Fri 30	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)

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

Basingstoke & District Railway Society; Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship; Bluefins; Food to Get a Second Lease of Life In Hampshire; Hampshire & Isle Of Wight Wildlife Trust; Probus Summer Pub Lunch; Rotary Christmas Shoebox Appeal; U3A; Worried About Someone's Gambling?



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Lychpit Area: Andree McLean, 6 Pimpernel Way, Lychpit, RG24 8SS	01256 819006
WEBMASTER: Alan Morris, 29 Lingfield Close, Old Basing, RG24 7ED	01256 329417

● OLD BASING & LYCHPIT PARISH COUNCIL

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

● CHURCH INFORMATION FOR THE AREA

Church of England (Parish of Old Basing & Lychpit)

VICAR: Please direct all enquiries to Debbie Filer, St Mary's Administrator Email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk	07541 698235
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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

MINISTER: Rev'd David Jenkins	0118 3271592
	07973 195566

SUNDAY SERVICE: Morning Service 10.30am

Roman Catholic

PRIEST: Fr Dominic Adeiza	01256 465214
St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke	
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Community Hall

Relax Yoga

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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



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