August 2018

## BASINGA



Anna Fairs





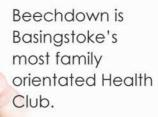
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#### **AUGUST 2018 - NOTES AND NEWS**

The cover photograph this month is by **Anna Fairs**. The emperor Augustus named this month after himself, following the trend set by his great-uncle Julius Caesar with July. In Anglo Saxon times the month was called "weodmonath", weed month. How appropriate as only weeds seem to grow in this prolonged period of dry, hot weather. With that in mind, there are two pages of gardening advice in this month's issue.

Many significant events took place in the month of August. In 1774, Joseph Presistley discovered oxygen. How did we manage to breathe before? The Model T Ford, the first mass produced car went on sale in 1908. Corporal Punishment in schools was officially banned in 1987. Columbus set sail on his first voyage and made his way to the Canary Islands.

In this edition of Basinga we have a report from the Carnival Committee, thanking some of the many helpers and participants that made this event such a great success, again. Next year's carnival will take place on **Saturday**, **15th June**. Cultural events take place in **Basing House**, with **Sense and Sensibility**, by **Jane Austen**, and **Shakespeare's The Tempest** at the **Vyne National Trust House**. Tickets for both are available online, see the individual articles for details. The Infant School is looking for two School Governors, see page 21 to find out more.

#### **BASINGA ARTICLES**

Considerable changes have been made in the last three years to the way in which Basinga is produced. We have upgraded our computers to accommodate industry standard Adobe software and use cloud computing to share and process the magazine, from anywhere in the world.

We are now in a good position to make changes to the appearance and content of the Basinga. We would ask you, our readers, to let us know what you like or dislike about our magazine; what we could add to each publication to make them more interesting; how we could attract a wider readership; village life and events that you'd like to see covered. We would welcome any positive suggestions or constructive criticism. Please e-mail: editor@basinga.org.uk with your thoughts and ideas.

We welcome both regular and occasional items for the Basinga. The very last date for copy to the Editor for the **September edition** is **6.00 pm** on **Friday, 10th August.** Please use the forms on **www.basinga.org.uk** to get your dates, articles and letters to us (see also "Basinga and the GDPR" on the website). All advertising enquiries – classified, free adverts or inserts (flyers) can also be made via the Basinga website. Don't forget that we only accept articles with **300 words maximum**.

**Basinga Team** 

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

The **Basinga Team** are looking to recruit an **Assistant Advertising Manager** to learn what is involved in this part of our activity and to lend support to the advertising manager when necessary. For more information contact the Editor at **editor@basinga.org.uk** 

On a much more positive note, we are very pleased to welcome new recruit **Brian Baker** as our **Web Technician** to our team. He will share responsibility for the management and upkeep of our website, **Basinga Extra**.

#### **NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE**

August sees the school summer holidays in full fling. And Basing House has a lot to offer those looking to occupy children and those looking to get away from them.

Firstly, there is the production of *Sense and Sensibility* in our walled garden on **Sunday 19th August**, with the gates opening at **5.00pm** and the performance starting at **6.00pm**, but there is more about that elsewhere in this Basinga, on page 19. Our Thursday craft mornings continue, as do our guided tours at **2.30pm** every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** throughout the month.

If you are looking for something to do with children (or grandchildren), remember that Basing House ruins sit in 14 acres of Hampshire countryside. It isn't just looking at old bricks, there is much to explore for people of all ages. We have a marked nature trail with a free guide leaflet, and the house mouse - William Pawlet – featuring in his own free quiz book.

On **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from **7th August** to the end of the month we'll be opening our **dig pits** to young would-be archaeologists, between **11.30am** and **12.30** and between **2.00** and **3.00pm** These let children learn real archaeological techniques and make real finds in our sandpits. There they can find rings, bones, pottery, metalwork, and other artefacts and find out how to excavate them carefully, record their finds, and clean and interpret them.

Basing House tickets are valid for a year, but do not cover *Sense and Sensibility*. There is small extra charge to take part in dig pits. Full details about Basing House, guided tours, courses, events, parking and how to book are at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events?venue=6 Otherwise ring 01256 463965 or call in at the visitor centre, next to the Great Barn between 11.00am and 4.00pm, Saturday to Thursday

**Andrew Howard** 

#### **CHINEHAM LIBRARY**

This year's **Summer Reading Challenge**, **Mischief Makers**, got off to a good start on the 14th July, and is even busier now that the schools have broken up. Don't worry if your child hasn't yet signed up, as they have until **15th September** to read six books and earn their medal and certificate. **Mischief Makers** is accompanied by extra activities including crafts on Wednesdays, and quizzes to take away and be entered for a prize draw. It is best to check times for crafts in advance as these do vary.

Many of the regular children's activities for children take a break for the summer, specifically Chatterbooks and Coding Club. **Saturday Storytimes** for pre-schoolers continue at **10.00am** on **all Saturdays except the first in the month** and **Rhymetimes** continue on **Tuesdays** with the **under ones** session at **10.00am** and the **over ones** at **11.00am**.

Age Concern have finished their sessions for the Summer, which will resume again in the Autumn. If you want to book sessions please contact their office on: 01256 423874. The CHIPPS group are also not meeting this month. The crime reading group are meeting on the 1st September at 10.30am, and the general reading group on 25th August. Please contact the library for details of the writing group dates, and if you are interested in joining any of these groups.

We have received an encouraging response to our appeal for Summer reading Challenge volunteers. We are also looking for volunteers to assist us throughout the year if anyone is interested in volunteering on a regular basis. For the most up-to-date information please call into the library or check social media. We hope to see you soon.

Cathy Foster





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#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

#### PARISH COUNCILLOR UPDATE

We are pleased to welcome **Alan Renwick** who was co-opted on to the Parish Council at the July meeting. Many will remember that Alan has previously served as a Councillor and Parish Council Chairman and we are sure his past experience will prove useful in the future.

Unfortunately, due to health issues, Councillor Alan Jones has made the decision to resign from the Parish Council. Since becoming a Councillor in November 2015, Alan has been actively involved with parish issues including Parish Council representative on the HCC Road Safety Panel and the Community Transport Forum, working closely with the Borough Council to maintain the service of the No. 55 Community Bus.

As a result of Alan's resignation, and if no election is required, the Parish Council will be seeking to co-opt a new Councillor to represent Old Basing.

#### TESCO BAGS OF HELP SCHEME

The Parish Council's project to install an item of Special Needs Outdoor Fitness Equipment on the Recreation Ground is now in the local Tesco stores and Basingstoke Tesco Metro. Please be sure to ask for your tokens and vote – you have until the end of August to help us achieve our target.

#### COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Thank you to all those who responded to our request for volunteers to read and record the Community Newsletter – we now have a list of 6 volunteers and are currently sourcing suitable recording equipment in time for the next edition in September. If this is successful, an audio version will be made available to other visually impaired members of the community. If you or a relative might be interested in this option, please contact the parish office.

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates are **Tuesday**, **7th August** and **4th September** at **7.30 pm** in the **Pavilion Committee Room**. All are welcome and anyone with impaired mobility should contact the Parish Office so they can be accommodated.

#### PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr. Mark Oszczyk (contact via Parish Office)

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sandra Tuck Deputy Clerk Mrs Heather Mountford

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

Telephone: 01256 462847 Office Hours: Monay to Thursday, 10.00am to noon

e-mail: clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk. Website: www.oldbasing.gov.uk

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I am pleased for those who worked on the Neighbourhood Plan that they got a ringing endorsement in the recent referendum. However, I am somewhat sceptical of the claim that it was "supported by 86% of residents" (July magazine). That would indeed be magnificent. I suspect that you should have reported that it was supported by 86% of those who voted in the referendum. Which inevitably leads me to ask about the 'turnout'. What proportion of the electorate chose to vote? I think it is only right that we are told.

**Keith Bailey** 



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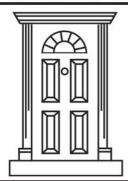


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#### **CARNIVAL UPDATE**

Wow what can I say? What an amazing array of colourful, fantastic and great book related procession entrants at this year's carnival combined with such wonderful support with another record number attending and a dazzling arena display from our local talented young dancers. I hope you were as blow away as much as I was and of course the lovely weather helped too J.

On behalf of the Carnival Committee, I wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for their amazing support again at this year's Carnival. Special thanks to the Chairman of Hampshire County Council, **Cllr Elaine Still** for opening the carnival, in particular Elaine's lovely curtsey to the Royal Family, spending time with our royal party and giving rosettes to our cherished cars and bikes attendees, new for 2018. Elaine was accompanied by **Maria Miller**, MP.

The day was only possible because of the army of volunteers who provided their time, muscles and support, on and before the day. Some of these helpers come year in, year out and some are new this year for example the **Basing Singers** who man the gates, **Mervynne**, **Nadine** and **Lesley** who supported **Sandie** in the tea tent and **Terry**, **Roger**, **Sue** and **Helen** who ran the BBQ and **Jackie and family** who helped **Kath** run the tombola. **The Basingstoke Shed Men** who helped erect the marquees and **Pat**, **Tracy**, **Roy**, **Caroline**, **Nick**, **Ivan**, **Nigel** and **friends** who helped marshal the procession route and **Helen**, **Emily**, **Ollie** and **Sam** who made all the social media and communications possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to the Carnival Committee, who continue to work so hard, in so many different ways, to make the Carnival such an enjoyable and successful day! The other key person in our team is **Stephen Richardson**, the Grounds and Facilities Manager at the Rec. Without Stephen and his team we would never get everything out and up in preparation or away in such a timely and safe way!

Thanks also to all our sponsors, who provide raffle prizes and advertisements, which all support the success of the carnival. Special thanks to everyone who took part in the Scarecrow competition, and **Sandie Rice** for coordinating it. It was lovely to see the scarecrows around the village and this really added to the carnival feel on the day seeing all the scarecrows. Thanks to **Aidan Hannigan** for another amazing programme. Congratulations to **Jocelyn-Peer Production** for winning the adult prize for their wonderful tribute to the First World War and to **Lucy O'Neil** for winning the child prize for her *Rapunzel*.

Congratulations to the **Linguatastic Language School** for winning the **Viner Cup** as the overall procession winner for their amazing *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* entry. I hope you will agree all the procession entries were spectacular and the judges said they are finding it more and more difficult each year as the standard is getting even harder to judge. Congratulation also to **The Crown** for winning the **2018 Tug of War**.

Thank you to **Russell Taylor and his son** for allowing us to use their cherished cars in the procession to bring our royal party to the carnival in style.

Now that the 2018 carnival is over, the committee have already started planning for next year's carnival, which will be held on **Saturday**, **15th June**, **2019** and the theme will be confirmed at the Old Basing Carnival Committee Annual General Meeting.

Our AGM will be held on **Wednesday, 10th October, 2018** in the **Frank Goddard Room** in the **Village Hall at 8.00pm**. At the Annual General Meeting, the Committee will once again continued on page 13

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be sharing out some of the profits to local groups that helped and/or took part in this year's carnival procession. If you would like to be considered for a share, please send your request, indicating what the money will be used for, in writing to: **Joe Croombs, 12 The Smithy, Bramley, Hampshire RG26 5AY** or email: **oldbasingcarnival@outlook.com** by **Saturday, 1st September.** If emailing, all emails will be acknowledged and therefore if you do not get a response with 72 hours, please re-send. **This date is set and no late requests will be accepted. Please note that no telephone or individual requests will be considered.** A member of your group is required to be present at the Annual General Meeting.

Thanks again for all your support and we look forward to another great year. If you have any suggestions for further improvements, we would love to hear from you.

Joe Croombs

Chair, Old Basing Carnival Committee

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#### DON'T LEAVE IT TOO LATE. BE AWARE OF YOUR PROSTATE!

Every hour a man dies from prostate cancer. That's 10,900 deaths a year. In the next twelve months 44,000 men will be diagnosed with the disease. The number of men diagnosed per year has already overtaken the number for breast cancer. By 2030 prostate cancer is set to become the most common cancer overall in the UK.

Most cases occur in men over fifty. One in eight men gets prostate cancer. Black men have a one in four chance of getting the disease. If there is a family history, these risks increase even more. These are stark and worrying statistics

There is a lot of ignorance about the prostate. It is a very small gland, about the size and shape of a walnut. It sits under the bladder and surrounds the urethra – the tube through which men pee. It's no surprise therefore that one possible worrying symptom is the need to urinate more frequently and at night. But sometimes there are no symptoms of the disease at all!

Like all cancers, early detection can save lives. The answer is simple: know the symptoms, get checked if you are worried. A simple blood test is all that it takes. Become more familiar with the disease before it becomes too familiar with you. Look at the information on the **Prostate Cancer UK** website; it will give you everything you need to know.

If you, or someone you know, is already one of the 400,000 sufferers, then why not join your local support group? The **North Hampshire Prostate Cancer Support Group (NHPCSG)** helps men and their partners whose lives are affected. The Group meets monthly, offers friendship and support and has talks on health matters. Members share their experiences and feelings. As an old advert says "It's good to talk".

Looking after your health and general fitness can be especially valuable in combating some of the effects of the disease and of its treatments, like fatigue for example.

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#### **VILLAGE SHOW**

The Flower Show Committee hope that the current very hot weather is not causing too much distress to gardeners in the Village, we can't win can we, too wet, too cold and now too hot! We hope though it there will be bumper crop of exhibits for the Show on Sunday, 9th September at 2.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Committee were saddened to hear of the death of our President Dr Alan Gibberd, he became Chairman of the Old Basing Flower Show in February 1990. Until April 2001 the Flower Show Committee reported to the AGM of the Resident's Association. Alan stood down as Chairman at the first autonomous AGM of the Old Basing and Lychpit Village Show in April 2002 and in his report stated that 'apart from interminable arguments about Victoria sponges he had enjoyed his time. He retired from the Committee in 2008, the year he was 80. Following the death of Betty Holmes he was delighted to be asked to become our President in November 2009 and had conducted every AGM since. There are plans to present a cup in his memory for the Best Rose in Show at future Village Shows.

Don't forget of course the Village Show Website for all details of how to enter the Show.

Submissions to the magazine and website can be made via www.basinga.org.uk using the web forms:

Selection for Articles/Leters and Diary Dates will be found on the "Submissions" dropdown and for Free and Concession Ads on the "Advertise with us" dropdown. Paid advertising enquiries can also be made in the same way.

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 submission must be received by the 10th of the month previous to the magazine issue month.

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

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#### **FREE ADS**

Note: All ads are processed in received date order. Ads not included this month will be entered in next issue, space permitting. If you do not want your ad to appear later contact the Advertising Manager. Ads may also appear on the web site with pictures.

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#### **CONCESSION ADVERTS - WHAT'S ON**

**OLD BASING ALLOTMENT & GARDEN SOCIETY:** Shop will only be open on Sundays 5th/19th August, from 10.30.am to noon.

**LADIES FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING**: The next occasions will be at the home of Mrs Robyn Lewin 49 Saxon Way Lychpit on 3rd August and then at the home of Mrs June Brant 19 Rosehip Way Lychpit on 7th September both from 10.30 am to noon.

**FRIENDS OF SHERFIELD:** Family Fun Day, Saturday 23rd September 11am to 4pm. Free Entry at Sherfield School RG27 OHU. A Celebration of the Schools Talent and Community Spirit with lots of stalls, fair rides, BBQ, live music and beer tent plus lots more.

#### LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE ACADEMY

Linguatastic had a particularly enjoyable carnival this year, not least because dressed up as "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory", we won first prize in class and a further overall prize out of all of the carnival entries! There were indeed, some very imaginative costumes created. Thank you to all who joined us and made an effort. Our interpretation of the theme didn't just stop after being judged though. All along the route, we handed out Willy Wonka treats and in the arena we – despite sound system challenges – put on a spectacle with dances about chocolate (to fit in with our book title), a caterpillar train (to link in with the book The Hungry Caterpillar) and a rabbit (to link in with the Peter Rabbit books). Thank you to our participants, but also to the wonderful Old Basing Carnival Committee who put in an extraordinary amount of time and effort to ensure the event runs smoothly.

This month is when things are certainly a bit quieter. We do not completely stop though. Over the school holidays, we'll be holding French, Spanish and German sessions for babies and toddlers (and their parents/carers) where there will be games, songs, dancing, craft and story-telling in the target language. For further information, please get in touch (e-mail info@ linguatastic.com or telephone 471 474).

And finally, we wish all those who took A-levels and GCSEs this year, the very best when they receive their results on Thursdays 16th and 23rd August, respectively.

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#### **NWR - A NATIONWIDE GROUP FOR WOMEN**

Our topic this month was Charities and we had a very pleasant afternoon sitting outside in the garden of our hostess in a nice shady corner which provided very welcome protection from the heat. A few of our members are involved with two Charities, the widely know CAB and the perhaps less well known Headway which supports individuals with brain injuries (and their families and carers). We were given some very useful information and lots of facts and figures to show the biggest area of need in the area and the services these two excellent charities provide. We followed this with a more wide ranging discussion around charities generally from local to global.

This month we will be having our usual lunch and our reading group will be discussing *Hagseed* by Margaret Atwood.

If you are looking for a friendly group to meet with for some lively conversation you can be sure of a warm welcome. We are a very social group and our informal meetings are usually held in the afternoon in each others' homes on the **first Monday of the month.** We also have a regular **Lunch Club** and a **Reading Group** who meet in the evening **every 4th Thursday**. For more information about **NWR** do look at the website: **nwr.org.uk** or to find out about our group do come along to any of our meetings (to check us out with no obligation to join) please contact: **Evelyn Jones**, email: **evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk** Telephone: **01256 816636** 

#### SENSE AND SENSIBILITY AT BASING HOUSE

A wonderful evening performance of one of **Jane Austen's** most popular novels **Sense and Sensibility** will be performed by the renowned **Chapterhouse Theatre Company** outdoors in the **walled garden at Basing House** on **Sunday, 19th August**. Join **Chapterhouse** as Elinor and Marianne Dashwood make their first forays into the exciting world of Regency society. Adapted by award-winning writer Laura Turner, this exquisite and lively tale follows the sisters as they fall in love, make mistakes and experience heartbreak for the first time in their quest to find a balance between sense and sensibility. Beautifully designed Regency costumes make this an evening of unmissable summer garden theatre. Picnic with family and friends in the picturesque walled garden for the perfect evening of magical theatre under the stars. Make sure you bring rugs or low-back seating.

**Chapterhouse Theatre Company** is now in its 19th year of touring open-air theatre to stunning country houses, castles and heritage sites across the UK and Ireland. From the first year of performances at 30 venues, Chapterhouse now visits over 180 venues every year, and has become a greatly anticipated addition to thousands of theatregoers' calendars.

Entrance is from **5.00 pm** and the performance starts at **6.00pm**. Pricing information is available and ticket purchase is available at the Visitor Centre, by phone on **01256 463965** or at via the website **www.seetickets.com/event/sense-and-sensibility/basing-house/1194211** 

There is a **free car park at Basing House Lodge, Redbridge Lane, Old Basing RG24 7HB** (please use the car park and not on the street in the village). Visitors arriving **on foot** should enter via **Garrison Gate** (near The Crown pub).

Tickets are non-refundable, non-transferable. Performances will go ahead in all but the worst weather. For more information telephone **01256 463965** or go to:

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/event/sense-and-sensibility-0



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#### **GOVERNOR VACANCIES**

**Old Basing Infant School** has two vacancies within its Governing body. One is for a **Coopted Governor** and the other is for an **Associate Member** that we'd like to fill as soon as possible. The Associate Member will be primarily responsible for the identification and realisation of appropriate Grants that can be utilised by the School to deliver various Projects within its Landscape Strategy (which is available to view on the School Website) and will report directly into the Resource and Income Generating Committees. The Co-opted Governor role will operate within the full Governing Body.

As a **Governor** we are looking for somebody who:

- Has an open and enquiring mind
- Shows a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- · Has a desire to play a part in improving our school
- Is willing to build an open relationship with the staff and act as a critical friend
- Maybe has marketing and promoting skills (though not essential)

If you feel you are such a person please contact the current Chair of Governors, Johnathan Richards on 07887 512364 or the Chair of the Resources and Landscape Strategy Committees, Maurice Belgrave on 07775 557635 for more information. The link below includes an application form, which can be submitted to the school, or you can apply online at the site: www3.hants.gov.uk/education/governors/gov-volunteer.htm

For the **Associate member** role the governing body has identified the following skills:

- Knowledge and experience of applying for Grants and looking for opportunities to maximise income
- Experience of Financial Planning and management and/or facilities management and procurement
- People with links to local businesses
- One of the key traits we are looking for above all else is your time.

Please note that for the protection of children all Governor and Associate Member appointments are subject to a vetting process and identity check.

Alison Attenborough

#### **OLD BASING TENNIS CLUB**

As I write this we are still enjoying the heat wave - it is so good to play tennis outside in this weather! If you would like to find out more about the club please email our secretary Jan at: **OBTC.Information@gmail.com** 

Club nights take place on Tuesdays and Fridays from 6.00pm onwards.

August sees the quarter finals and semi finals of our **Summer Tournament** taking place, with **Finals Day** on **Saturday**, **1st September** - we welcome spectators, so if you would like to see some great tennis please do come and watch.

A date for your diary: the **OBTC Annual Quiz** will be held on **Saturday, 10th November**, in **Old Basing Village Hall** - more details to follow.

Lynne Thomas, Chair.

#### MADE BY HAND AND A BIG CHRISTMAS TREE (I KNOW IT IS AUGUST!)

How do you relax? Do you like to make things? Do you like to do this on your own or with other people? Do you like to be creative or just to wonder at others' creations? Perhaps you like all these things at different times.

I was asking myself these questions the other day and I realised that I love to do things with my hands. What I make is not always very useful but it can be beautiful. Very often it is made with love for someone special.

When I am on my own I can tackle quite complex crochet or knitting or even tatting which is primitive lacemaking. Often the rhythm of these activities means that I find myself naturally praying. Sometimes the concentration I need means that there is no room for worries and tension slips away.

On other occasions I am with people who are meeting together to make things, do a puzzle or just chat over a drink and biscuits or cake. People help each other to learn new things. I get the chance to do this at the Methodist chapel in Old Basing. I love these afternoons. They are so gentle and peaceful although there is laughter too. Everyone is welcome.

So where does the Christmas tree come in? A group of local churches are knitting a five metre Christmas tree complete with knitted decorations. Not all the details are finalised but this will be somewhere in Basingstoke where the public can visit it. As many people as we can get to join in will be invited to contribute green knitted or crocheted squares of six or eight or ten inches. Ultimately these will be used to make blankets. The more creative can make decorations. If the tree brings people joy then they can give money to a charity. If that all seems like a daft idea it did to me too until I saw a similar tree in Tilehurst (who have given us their frame). It was so inspiring to see it towering above us and to hear the stories of people who had knitted it. It brought me joy! It was made by hand with such love and excitement and delight. I believe together with the writer of psalm 139 that we are all made that way and that gives me joy too!

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well." From psalm 139.

The Christmas tree has an email address and I am sure it would love to hear from you! **knittedchristmastree@gmail.com** 

May I wish you God's blessing,

Rev'd Alison

#### THIS MONTH AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Sunday, 12th August All Age Eucharist at 10.00am.
Monday, 20th August Tea and Talk Cafe at 2.00pm

After the weekly 9:30am service at St Mary's refreshments are served in the Parish Room which is an informal setting in which to meet other members of the congregation. If you have time after the service do join us, you will be very welcome.

For more details about the life of St Mary's please visit **www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk** or find *St Mary's Face Book* page and follow us on *Twitter* (@OB&L\_St Marys) where you will find fresh updates including sermons. The church is open daily for prayer and you are welcome as you are every Sunday.

Looking forward:

Sunday, 9th September Patronal Festival at 10.00am
Sunday, 7th October Harvest Festival at 10.00am

#### **OLD BASING METHODIST CHURCH**

Monday, 6th August Vision day, 10.00am until 2.00pm Bring your own lunch, drinks

will be provided.

Tuesday, August 14th MHA Lunch Club followed by games at 12noon until 3.00pm

Tuesday, 28th August Mid-week Prayers and Reflection from 2.00pm until 4.00pm

The will be no craft group during August.

Our regular **Sunday worship** starts at **10.30am**, coffee and tea are served after the service Children are welcome into our junior church. Come and join us - a warm welcome awaits you.

#### **CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)**

This month the working parties will be on **Saturday 4th August** at **10.00am** and **Thursday 23rd August** at **2.00pm** – meet in the church lobby.

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 3 hours (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our Thursday afternoons about 2 hours.

Early this month the swifts will depart for Africa leaving the churchyard strangely quiet, but there is still plenty to see. If you look closely the uncut grassy areas abound with meadow flowers and on sunny days there are butterflies too. Meadow Brown butterflies like the tall grasses of the open meadow whilst Speckled Woods prefer the shady woodland. The pink/mauve marjoram flowers in the sunny centre attract the smaller Gatekeeper butterflies while nearby the buddleia flowers are popular with the more showy Red Admirals. Perhaps you will also see Small Tortoiseshells, Peacocks or Painted Lady butterflies nectaring there too. Marbled Whites, the second brood of Brimstones and Common Blues may also be seen this month. Why not come and see what you can find? The Conservation Area is a community space for all to enjoy. The WI seat is a lovely peaceful shady spot to enjoy a moment of peace and reflection. For further information please ring Fay Farrant on 01256 476863.

#### **BURIAL AT ST MARY'S**

For some time now, the churchyard at St Mary's has been closed for full burials, but it has been possible to inter cremated remains in the dedicated area on the south side of the church. Unfortunately, this area is now nearly full, and the Parochial Church Council, after extensive investigation has been unable to find a practical or affordable solution to extending or relocating the Cremated Remains area. Consequently, we are sad to say that in the near future it will no longer be possible to inter ashes in the churchyard except in an existing plot. However, we are fortunate to have nearby the excellent area set aside at Riley Lane by the Parish Council to be the final resting place for members of our community.

Debbie Filer

#### **OLD BASING WI**

30 Members enjoyed a lovely garden party in the warm evening sunshine in July. Thanks to Freda for providing the venue and to the Committee for providing the buffet. The puddings were judged using the recognized method of sampling every one numerous times!

The trip in June to the Watercress Line at Alresford was very enjoyable by all accounts, and the cream tea and scones were singled out for special mention!

Our next meeting will take place on **Tuesday**, **7th August at 7.30pm** at the **Parish Rooms** when we will be entertained by **Alan Purkiss** who will be talking about his experiences as a **Motorway Cop**. The competition this evening will be a car related item.

Other regular activities such as the lunch at Wyevale, monthly local walks and the Craft group meeting will be taking place. For further details about the Old Basing WI please go to the website: **www.hampshirewi.org.uk** click on **WI**'s from the top of the page and then select **Old Basing** from the list.

**Linda Frawley** 

#### **VOICES TOGETHER**

At **7.00 pm** on **Sunday 30th September** local musicians will present a concert in Basingstoke's concert hall, **The Anvil**, entitled '*Voices Together*'.

Under the banner of the 'Basingstoke Festival of Choirs' hundreds of enthusiastic singers will be joining forces to present a programme of music to suit all tastes and ages. They will be accompanied by the Heritage Light Orchestra. Special guests are Vocal Point and also St Mary's Church of England Junior School Choir who will be displaying the very best of the village's young talent.

The programme will include the music of Carl Orff, Karl Jenkins, Gilbert and Sullivan, Verdi and more, all guaranteed to lift the spirits and ensure a joyous evening of music making.

Tickets cost £16.00 (under 16s £8) and are now available from www.anvilarts.org.uk/ or by phoning 01256 844244 or by visiting the Anvil Box Office.

Suzanne Wilson

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#### **FUSED GLASS STUDIO OPENING**

**Hampshire Open Studios Scheme** is encouraging local artists throughout Hampshire to open their studios and homes to showcase their work, some of which hopefully you will buy as well as admire – giving an ideal opportunity to acquire an original piece. There are several artists showing interesting and inspirational work in the area. To find them and for more information visit the website: **www.hampshireopenstudios.com** 

**Aileen Mayers** is a local fused glass artist who will be opening her studio in Old Basing under the scheme and you would be very welcome to visit and browse her colourful fused glass artwork including glass pictures and hangings, glass homewares including dishes and coasters, and dichroic and glass jewellery.

The Glass Studio, 8 Almond Close, Old Basing, Opening dates: every day from Saturday 18th to Bank Holiday Monday 27th August, from 11.00am to 5.00pm

Other times of the year by appointment please phone **01256 476732**. For further details please go to: **www.aileenmayers.co.uk** 

Aileen Mayers

#### VIKING BADMINTON CLUB

Viking Badminton Club boasts members from all walks of Basingstoke life so as another season drew to a close club members eagerly awaited the local league results. The Mixed A team did just enough to stay in the Division 1. In the 2nd Division, Mixed B has also come fifth but with a greater margin and firmly secured their place. The Open A (Men's) have come a respectable fourth. The ladies on the other hand played a blinder and came top of Division 1.

This season we are again on the hunt for new members and are hoping to have enough support for the coming season to play an Open B team.

If you are a club player: played at University or used to play and life got in the way and would like to try a small, friendly club, the season runs from early **September** through to end **April** (the first night's free).

For full club details please visit our web site: **vikingbadmintonclub.org.uk**. And watch out for a very special new member offer!

#### **BASINGSTOKE AND DISTRICT RAILWAY SOCIETY**

As usual we continue with our programme of meetings in August, going abroad again for the meeting on **Wednesday**, **8th August** when **David Plant** will present **Steam in Bulgaria** recalling his visit to the country in 2014.

The following meeting on **Wednesday**, **22nd August** will take us on the narrow gauge in the London area on **The Royal Arsenal Railway**. **Ian Bull** will tell us all about the railway built for the Woolwich Arsenal which finally ceased operation in 1971.

Our meetings are held at **7.45pm** at **The Wote Street Club** in **New Road** in **Basingstoke** town. We welcome new members to the Society and we are always pleased to see non-members at our meetings at a cost of just £3.

More information about the Society, membership and future meetings can be found on our website at **www.bdrs70d.com** or telephone **01256 331002**.

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There are around 16 million gardens in the UK, and each one has huge potential for wildlife. Together they form a verdant patchwork across the landscape, linking urban green spaces with nature reserves and the wider countryside. If we manage our gardens for wildlife, we can help reverse the decline of many species suffering from habitat fragmentation.

Habitat fragmentation is a big problem for wildlife – just like we need roads and pavements to get from one place to another, wildlife needs connected green spaces, and a lack of suitable habitats has contributed to the decline of a number of species including hedgehogs, song thrushes and stag beetles.

However, if we manage our gardens sympathetically for wildlife, these creatures and many more will feel the benefits. So give it a go and watch as wildlife brings colour, movement and beauty to your garden.

Here are five simple ways you can turn your garden into a wildlife haven.

- Butterflies bring beauty to any garden. Attract them with nectar-rich flowers like verbena, scabious and ice-plant. Go for plants with simple flowers that make it easy for butterflies to get at the nectar; many cottage garden flowers are suitable. Plant in a sheltered sunny spot and don't forget to provide food plants for caterpillars too, such as nettle.
- You can have an attractive and productive garden without using chemical fertilisers
  and pesticides. You can make and use your own compost and encourage insect and
  slug eating creatures. Gardeners' friends include frogs and toads, birds, and small
  mammals like bats and hedgehogs all of which eat insects or slugs. Ladybirds,
  lacewings and hoverflies feast on aphids.
- Make your own natural fertiliser by composting garden waste and vegetable kitchen scraps in a home-made box or bought compost bin. If you have limited space, you can still make compost in a small 'worm bin' in your house or back garden.
- Climbing plants on fences and walls make nesting and roosting sites for birds, and a
  haven for insects and small animals. Choose plants like quince and honeysuckle which
  have nectar-rich flowers followed by fruit. Make sure you have some evergreens too;
  ivy is especially valuable.
- Different species of birds eat different things in different ways and places. Provide
  nuts, seeds and fat in feeders, trays and on the ground. Insect eaters will appreciate
  mealworms sprinkled on the ground or in fat. Move feeding places from time to time
  to guard against predators, disease and unwelcome visitors such as rats. Remember
  that water is vitally important, so if you have a bird bath or pond keep it topped up.

Alice Ashcroft

**Assistant Communications Officer** 

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#### CHILDREN'S EVENTS AT BASINGSTOKE DISCOVERY CENTRE

Mischief Makers – Summer Reading Challenge (continues through August) From Saturday, 14th July / FREE

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme produced by The Reading Agency and delivered by libraries to support children's reading across the Summer Holidays. Aimed at 4 to 11 years olds, the challenge is for children to read any six books over the summer. Children can read whatever they like, fiction books, fact books, joke books, picture books, audiobooks, just as long as they are borrowed from the library. This years theme is Mischief Makers and is inspired by the much-loved iconic children's title The Beano, which celebrates its 80th anniversary. Simply visit the Discovery Centre to sign up – its completely free of charge.

#### **Peter Rabbit Day**

Wednesday, 1st August: 10.00am to noon / FREE

Join us for free crafts, puzzles, trails, colouring, construction and other surprises

#### Children's Sculpture Workshop

Our Friendly Giant is retiring this summer – we've loved having him looking after our Children's Library – but now it's time for a new sculpture to take his place. Join Lucy and volunteers from Basingstoke NADFAS to create a spectacular large recycled sculpture based on Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit to be displayed in the Discovery Centre for everyone to see. You can also create your own Mischief Maker puppet to take home too in this 90-minute workshop.

#### **Comic Day**

Tuesday, 14th August: 10.00am to noon / FREE

Join us for free crafts, puzzles, trails, colouring, construction and other surprises

#### **Children's Crafts**

Saturday, 18th August / from 10.00am / FREE / Ages 3+

Bounce into the library for craft inspired by Winnie the Pooh and his friends to celebrate Christopher Robin's birthday

#### Beano Day

Tuesday, 28th August: 10am to noon / FREE / Ages 3+

Join us for free crafts, puzzles, trails, colouring, construction and other surprises.

Above are the FREE activities being offered by the **Basingstoke Discovery Centre**. There are many more paid-for courses designed for children during the summer and these can be found on Basinga's website, **Basinga Extra** at **www.basinga.org.uk** or directly through Hampshire's website at **www.hants.gov.uk/shop** and follow links to Basingstoke Discovery Centre.

#### **NATIONAL TRUST, THE VYNE**

#### Whipping up a storm

With their dynamic adaptation of *The Tempest*, all-male Shakespearian theatre company **The Lord Chamberlain's Men** have begun their tour of the UK. One of the selected venues is Tudor mansion **The Vyne** near Basingstoke. With the façade of the National Trust property revealed for the first time following a £5.4m roof project, The Vyne is to provide a quintessentially British backdrop for the performance on **Saturday**, **11th August**. An interview with their artistic director and booking information can be found in Basinga Extra, **basinga.org.uk** 



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#### PROBUS HEARS ABOUT THE RISE OF RAF ODIHAM

Most know little about our local airfield, home to the largest deployment of helicopters in the UK. Retired RAF Squadron Leader Chris Perkins MVO, of Kempshott, outlined the history of RAF Odiham to the Probus Club of Basingstoke.

The RAF had a summer camp on Odiham Down in 1925 and grass runways allowed some flying. The 1930s saw expansion with two tarmac runways for heavier planes. The Empire Air Day in 1937 was visit by Luftwaffe General Erhard Milch who earmarked Odiham for his HQ should England be conquered.

At the start of WW2 the men of RAF Odiham deployed to France. Replacements were RAuxAF Squadrons 613/614 together with WAAFs filling administrative support posts. Change continued in 1940; RCAF 110 Squadron arrived with established Belgium/French Flying Training units visited by General De Gaulle.

There were only four occasions when the airfield was attacked by Junkers 88 with several people killed in the village.

The Army Co-operation Command formed in December 1940 had Curtiss Tomahawks for photo reconnaissance missions flown by Canadian 100 Squadron and 171 Squadron.

May 1942 saw the first of the 1000 bomber raids with 13 Squadron's Blenheim Mk 1Vs. They went on three raids with several losses with crews buried in Holland. August 1942 saw 13 and 613 Squadrons supporting the Dieppe raid. From November 1942 Odiham experienced a build up of planes preparing for the invasion of Europe.

1945 saw Lord Haw Haw repatriated from Germany, a strafing range in Dogmersfield Park and Transport Command arriving with Dakota aircraft. Many fighter aircraft were based here; Hawker Tempest Mk11, Spitfire Mk1V and the first Vampire jets.

On 10th July 2018, the RAF century was celebrated with an impressive fly past in London. The 1953 RAF Coronation Review at Odiham was much bigger with 331 planes on the ground and a fly past of 641 planes. This was, and will probably be, the largest ever collection of RAF planes ever seen.

#### BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

It was pleasing to see over 60 people at the meeting held on 4th July including three visitors and some members who had not been able to attend for a while. After enjoying the usual tea, coffee and biscuits David Cowling, the Chairman, welcomed everyone and gave a reminder that if anyone had not completed their form relating to the new Data Protection Act it should be completed and returned as soon as possible. Christine Broadbent, the Welfare Officer, gave her report and then Tony Brazier, the Secretary, gave details of the forthcoming trip to **Polesden Lacey,** a National Trust property, on **Tuesday, 11th September.** He also asked for any ideas for speakers and trips for next year which will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday**, **1st August** when we have a return visit from **Mel Rees** who will be speaking on "**My Family and Other Meerkats**". The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at **Brookvale Village Hall** from **10.00am** to **noon** and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Further details about meetings can be obtained from the Secretary **Tony Brazier** on **07715 640171** and for information about any of our trips please contact **Kate Lambeth** on **01256 328791**.

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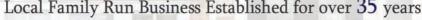
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#### **OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION UPDATE**

#### **Branch Meeting**

On **Thursday, 2nd August** a Royal British Legion Branch meeting will be held at **7.45pm** for an **8.00pm** start in the **Jack Morris Hall**.

#### Carnival Skittles.

Regrettably this year's event has had to be cancelled due to lack of time. The World Cup and other events held recently at the RBL meant that staff were fully stretched and without any immediate offers of assistance to run the three night competition it has been postponed until later in the year. This might not fit entirely with Carnival fund distribution but anything raised can and will be carried over until 2019.

#### **Armed Forces Golf day**

The **Poppy Appeal** benefited by £337 thanks to the generosity of the 24 players who took part on June 25th at Sherfield Oaks course. **Chris Godfrey** thrashed the field with a superb 44 **points** on the day and took away the prizes of wine, chocolates and the Poppy Golf classic Gold Medal. Thank you to all who entered.

#### The Good Old Basing golf day

Following hot on the heels of the Armed Forces event is the **Annual Parish Golf Day** which will be on **Friday**, **21st September**, again at **Sherfield Oaks** and is open to any resident of Old Basing, Lychpit or to people working in, related to or formerly off the Parish.

Forms are available from the RBL or from me. Entries close 14th September!

**Rick Bourne**, on behalf of Old Basing RBL

#### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMENS SECTION**

On **Saturday, 4th August** the Women's Section of the RBL hosts the **Summer Bazaar** at **11.00am to 2.00pm** in the **Jack Morris Hall**. Lots of bargains, books, jewellery, Tombola, bric-a-brac, cakes. Refreshments will be served. Come and join us.

On **Thursday, 23rd August** a **General Meeting** will be held, followed by **Liz Woods** talking about 'Life in the RAF'. Competition: Ornate Picture frame up to A4 size (12" x 8.5")

Sue Wilson, Publicity

#### THE BASINGSTOKE AND DISTRICT DISABILITY FORUM

The Disability Forum was set up to promote inclusion and opportunities for people with disabilities through the provision of information and bringing people together. The Forum, which launched in February 2014, brings together all people with disabilities, their families, friends and carers in the Basingstoke area as well as any organisations, government departments, businesses and individuals interested in disability and inclusion.

**Basingstoke Disability ConneXions** support a monthly get together for anyone affected by any type of disability. Come in for a chat and enjoy a free tea or coffee and biscuits, meet new people and talk about issues that are important to you.

Monthly sessions take place on the first Tuesday in the Discovery Centre from 12.30pm to 2.30pm. For August 7th the guest speaker topic is Seated Tai Chi for all, followed by Universal Credits. Phone 01256 423869 for more information.

#### **AUGUST IN YOUR GARDEN**

What better way to start this month's article then by saying how much I enjoyed walking round the open gardens during the St Mary's Summer Festival of Flowers the weekend of 7th and 8th July. The time and dedication that has so obviously gone in to so many gardens is a joy to behold, while the glorious weather helped show the gardens to their best possible advantage. As a gardener it is always inspirational to have a look and see what others are up too, so do look out for open garden days in the future!

One plant that I noticed in more than a few gardens was the Black Elder, Sambucus Nigra, an absolutely stunning plant, a black-leaved version of the common elderflower basically. The blossoms can be used to make elderflower champagne and cordial, supposedly with a pinker tint then the usual elderflower. The berries make excellent wine. They require minimal care, but at this time of the month benefit from a slight pruning to keep them bushy, making sure to keep all cuts just above healthy bud growth.

Another observation is the popularity of wild flowers, especially wild flower 'meadows.' Any garden of any space can achieve something beautiful and beneficial to nature. Now would be a good time to sow Cowslips and Primroses in trays, Feverfew and Wild Cornflower can be sown direct where they are to flower. If you are lucky enough to have a wildflower meadow or patch, mow it now to spread the seeds.

Of course the priority this month after the searing heat of June and July is to keep on watering. Every day I water my container plants, but plants in beds I tend to give a thorough watering every week with the hosepipe. Sweetcorn, pumpkins and courgettes need a lot of water and are the exception to this rule. Keep feeding plants too, tomato food is a good all-round fertiliser for sweetcorn, tomatoes (obviously), aubergines, cucumber and peppers. Sweetcorn will be ready for eating when you can press your fingernail into the corn and its juices are milky. For best results cook within the hour. Potato blight rears its head this month, make sure you know how to recognise it, and what to do if you suspect it.

Other jobs that need doing include pruning climbing roses once they have finished flowering. Wisteria will also benefit from pruning, remove all 'whippy' side shoots from the main branch.

Cuttings can be taken of Fuschia now and will quickly take root, ensuring that they survive the winter. Ensure that water baths are topped up, and also ponds. Tomato plants should by now have five to six trusses on each plant, if so remove the growing tip and the lower leaves to allow light in and prevent disease spreading. Water regularly to avoid blossom end rot and split tomatoes. Start saving seeds from fruit, vegetables and flowers for sowing next year.

Finally a tip for thirsty plants! Place grass clippings on a plastic sheet and leave for a day in the sun. Turn the pile and leave until they have gone brown then apply the mulch by spreading round each plant. Simple and effective!

#### **NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST**

I thought Chris Packham was the only person Id ever heard of waxing lyrically about animal poo of multiple types, the discovery of which clearly pointed to that animal being in the vicinity. So I was somewhat surprised that me, going on about hedgehog droppings last month, produced a whole string of reports from residents suggesting that we do still have lots of hogs around us!

Whether its due to the very hot weather bringing them out earlier in the evening or perhaps the fact that WE are all spending much more time outdoors later in the day to stay cool that it us that have become more aware. Whatever, not in many years has there been so many sightings and nocturnal feeding going on as now by caring Basing-ites. I include Lychpit-ites in that too, namely Reg Wood who lives just off Binfields Road in The Hedgerows who has been feeding a pair most nights with bird fare such as nuts and sunflower seeds. Bits of fatballs and dried mealworms are the order of the day for the several in our garden and their visits have been most evenings around 9.45pm. Water put out seems generally ignored but we persist as it is so very hot and dry one would think dehydration would surely be an issue. Roger Rummey (Holly Drive) is feeding his prickly visitors the traditional fare of cat food which I guess would be moist enough to be a very attractive dinner!

Sadly, one creature perished on Hatch Lane yesterday (8th) and it astonishes me that drivers aren't able to drive round or across them, especially as 30mph or less should make this a doddle. Or are people choosing to ignore the animals or their speed? Or both?

Colin and Viv Williams in Fairthorne (also hog poo spotters!) commented on the lack of bees and found myself nodding in agreement with their observations that their lavender hedge, usually a hive of activity (sorry for the pun) but was earily quiet this time round. The same here, one could expect to count 30-50 bees at any one time, this year perhaps ten? It's worrying.

Gill Moore took a walk around the Millfield early one morning in late June and it produced an unfamiliar harsh animal sound. Gill learnt later that it was almost certainly a female Muntjac deer that could have recently given birth. This was a new one on me for sure as apparently they repeatedly call out straight after producing their young in an effort to acquire another mate. Amazing.

Roving reporter Stephen Thair reported a Reed Warbler sighting near the Great Barn, always a good find and he may have perhaps heard the very scratchy but varied tune of this drab little bird before actually seeing it. The other excitement (his description) is that the Bank Voles living in his compost heap had two charming silver coloured babies. However, he was then sorry to have to report bad vole behaviour! Mrs Thair (Margaret) was looking up the garden when she saw a campanula she had planted in front of their pond sway, and then collapse as it was being felled by one of the little blighters who dragged if off into the undergrowth. Since then several French beans have had their stems severed, so they think they know who the culprit is!

Don't forget to send all your nature related photos to naturenotes@basinga.org.uk

Richard Bourne, telephone: 01256 321108, e-mail: rbourne@glenair.co.uk

For 'Bird Drop-ins', use answer-phone: 01256 842722

#### **DIARY DATES FOR AUGUST**

(For details of services and events as St Mary's Church, please refer to page 23)

August
--------

Thu 2	7.45pm –	for 8.00pm start. RBL Branch Meeting. Jack Morris Hall		
	1			
Fri 3	10.30am – noon	Ladies First Friday Coffee Morning. 49 Saxons Way, Lychpit		
Sat 4	10.00am -	PIOCC. Meet in church lobby.		
	11.00am - 2.00pm	Womens Section RBL Summer Bazaar		
Sun 5	11.00an – noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society. SHOP OPEN		
Mon 6	10.00am - 2.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church. Vision Day.		
Tue 7	7.30pm –	Old Basing WI. Motorway Cop Talk. Parish Rooms.		
	7.30pm –	Parish Council Meeting. Pavilion Committee Room.		
Wed 8	7.45pm –	Basingstoke and District Railway Society talk: Steam in Bulgaria with David Plant		
Fri 10	6.00pm LAST I	DAY FOR COPY FOR JULY BASINGA see page 3		
Tue 14	noon - 3.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church. MHA lunch club and games		
Sun 19	11.00am - noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society. SHOP OPEN		
	5.00pm -	for 6.00pm. Sense and Sensibility at Basing House		
Wed 22	7.45pm –	Basingstoke and District Railway Society talk: The Royal Arsenal Railway with Ian Bull		
Thu 23	2.00pm -	PIOCC. Meet in church lobby.		
	7.30pm –	RBL Womens Section General Meeting. Jack Morris Hall		
Tue 28	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church. Mid-week prayers / reflections		
September				
Tue 4	7.30pm –	Parish Council Meeting. Pavilion Committee Room.		
Fri 7	10.30am - noon	Ladies First Friday Coffee Morning. 19 Rosehip Way Lychpit		

#### **BASINGA EXTRA**

Articles, letters and fuller versions of some magazine content can be found in our on-line magazine Basinga Extra at www.basinga.org.uk

Anvil Arts	Sense and Sensibility
Basingstoke Voluntary Action	Friends of Sherfield
Bluebird Care	Tempest at The Vyne
Basingstoke & District Disability Forum	Basingstoke Discovery Centre
Basingstoke Lions Club	Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship
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CHURCHWARDENS: Tricia Renwick Tel: 326155

lan Kershaw Tel: 355500

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