

July 2021

BASINGA



Daniel Neat



Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Magazine
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JULY NOTES AND NEWS

The **cover photo** this month is the the **Tudor Great Barn** at **Basing House** by **Daniel Neat**.

It was completed in 1535, the year of King Henry VIII's first visit to Basing House. It was visited again by Henry VIII in 1544 on a Royal Progress when he stopped for his loyal subjects to have the opportunity to have an audience with their King.

This event is recreated in the Great Barn on **Saturday, 31st July** (see page 10 for more details).

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BASINGA

We welcome both regular and occasional items for the Basinga. The very last date for copy to the Editor for the **August edition** is **6pm on Saturday, 10th July**. Please use the forms on the **Basinga** website **www.basinga.org.uk** to get your dates, articles and letters to us (see box on page 15 for further instructions).

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

PHOTOS AND LOGOS FOR THE BASINGA

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

Should you wish to submit multiple photos, or a photo is too 'large', they can be emailed directly to the **Editor**.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Joyce and Joe Harman of Bexmoor Way would like to thank everyone who came to their aid last Saturday following an accident in the Mill Field.

Joyce unfortunately fractured her hip in a fall whilst walking a friend's dog. Thanks to the kind help of a number of strangers, Joe, Joyce and Archie the dog were all taken care of until the ambulance arrived and sped her away to Basingstoke Hospital.

Following hip replacement surgery and thanks to the excellent care provided by NHS staff, Joyce is on the road to recovery and hopes to be home soon.

Thank you again for all your help; it was very much appreciated.

Joyce, Joe and Archie

OLD BASING AND LYCHPIT CARNIVAL

Old Basing and Lychpit Carnival Committee.....ASSEMBLE. Okay so we are not exactly *The Avengers* but the Carnival Committee have been awoken from their slumber and this month will be our first 'official' meeting in a long time. My name is **Gary May** and I am the new **Chair** of the **Carnival Committee** and although lots has been going on in the background, we are now donning our shields and swords and tight superhero lycra outfits (not sure that is an image anyone wants in their head!) and over the next few months we will be not only be starting to plan next year's Carnival (which even if I say so myself will be fantastic and should have a few surprises....watch this space!) but we will also be trying to do some other events to bring together the local community who have now been unleashed into the wild and can't wait to get out and about and do things.

So our first announcement, albeit it's a bit later than usual, will be our **Annual Scarecrow Event**. I am sure most people are aware of the format but this year we will be adding a bit extra with two categories. So to those who are new to the event, this year we will be starting **Sunday, 1st August**, and finishing **Friday, 27th August**, and we have a **general category** for anyone who would like to enter and a second category is a **junior (under 12s)** with the theme of David Walliams' books. Please have lots of fun designing your scarecrows and positioning them somewhere that passing people can see safely. We will then be designing a map that people can print from our website or from Facebook that shows where they all are. Last year was great with lots of effort made and lots of walking around the village area for people to see the great scarecrows. This year the Carnival Committee will be awarding a £25 voucher to each category winner, so let your imaginations run wild, we can't wait to see the entries

Website: www.oldbasingcarnival.com

Facebook: **Old Basing & Lychpit Carnival**

Gary May

OLD BASING WI



In June we welcomed back Sarah Delves who gave us another very entertaining Zoom talk on "The History of Handbags from the Stone Age to the present day". Sarah has been an antiques dealer for many years before becoming interested in handbags in particular. She is also an adviser to the V&A Museum and is a dealer in handbags and ladies' accessories. We all showed our prettiest evening bag to the camera and had a few words about why they were special to us.

Also in June, our very successful Summer Sale took place at the Lychpit Village Hall, as well as our appearance at the St Mary's Summer Festival. More details of these next month.

Our **July Summer Luncheon** is by RSVP only, and takes place on **Tuesday, 6th July**. Members have been sent details of venue and timings etc. Please don't forget to bring a chair to sit on, your £2 towards the event cost and some money for raffle tickets. Food and drink costs have been subsidised considerably from our funds and will be provided by the Committee. Let's hope for good weather!

Details of the WI in Hampshire and other WI activities are at 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

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ANNUAL PARISH AWARD

Due to COVID restrictions there was no Annual Parish Award in 2020 and the Parish Council made a donation to the Basingstoke Food Bank in its place. The past year has, however, highlighted the many public-spirited people in our Parish who have gone out of their way to help friends and neighbours and we would like to hear from you if you wish to nominate someone to receive the award during 2021 which will be presented later in the year. Nominees from previous years who have not previously received the award will automatically be considered.

SCHOOL PARKING

At long last the yellow lines along sections of Milkingpen Lane, around the schools, have been painted and it is hoped this will improve traffic flow along this part of the village and that parents dropping off children at school will respect the restrictions.

We have also been made aware of similar problems in Ivar Gardens by parents parking to drop their children at Binfields School and understand from County Councillor, Elaine Still, that HCC Highways also have plans to put parking restrictions in place there, hopefully during 2021 subject to funding being available.

HOUSING THREAT

Those who have read the Parish Council's Community Newsletter will be aware that the threat of more houses being built on sites east of Old Basing and the Loddon Valley is still very real. The Parish Council will continue to oppose any further development in this area and continues to put pressure on the Borough Council to progress the already agreed development of Manydown.

Any support from residents to help fight the destruction of the Loddon Valley would be welcome so if you feel you can help, if only to offer your support for the Parish Council's stance, please email or write to the Parish Council.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

At its meeting in June the Parish Council agreed its initial response to the Climate Emergency and will publish details in the Autumn Community Newsletter due to be distributed in September. An outline of these plans will also be published on this page of the Basinga.

To achieve its aims the Council will need to involve the community generally so if you feel you may have skills that would be useful please look out for the article and, when the time comes, contact the Parish Office.



PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates are **Tuesday 6th July** and **3rd August** at **7.30 pm**.

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

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NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE

Between **Friday, 30th July**, and **Sunday, 1st August**, much is happening at Basing House – outdoor theatre performances, a visit from Henry VIII and an Alice in Wonderland Day.

The weekend starts on the **Friday 30th July**, with the **Chapterhouse Theatre Company** presenting ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***. The performance will start at **7pm** in the **Walled Garden** with the **gates opening at 6pm** for picnics in the garden.

The next day, **Saturday 31st July**, we go back to 1544 and **King Henry VIII** is on a **Royal Progress** and has halted at Basing House to afford his loyal subjects the opportunity to have 'audience' with their King. This evening of theatrical history, is performed in the magnificent **Tudor Great Barn**, completed in 1535, the year of King Henry VIII's first visit to Basing House.

On **Sunday, 1st August**, there will be adventures and magic at Basing House as we celebrate ***Alice in Wonderland***. Take a trip down the rabbit hole, play croquet or giant cards on the lawn and have a go at our Alice-themed crafts. The Bothy Tea Room will be open for Mad Hatter Teas and you can explore the site with our White Rabbit "I'm Late for an Important Date" trail (purchased at an extra cost and includes a prize).

As part of Alice in Wonderland Day, the **Chapterhouse Theatre Company** will perform a production of ***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland***. This starts at **3pm** with the **gates opening at 2pm** for picnics or Mad Hatter Tea Parties in the garden. Mad Hatter Teas will be available from our Bothy Tea Room.

Further information, prices, and advice on what to bring and where to park can be found at **www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events?venue=6**

Andrew Howard

CHINEHAM & OLD BASING NWR (NATIONAL WOMEN'S REGISTER)

Hopefully we have just had our last meeting via Zoom and laast month our topic was "Islands of the British Isles". Apparently we have well over 1,000 islands, depending on your definition, but 136 that are permanently inhabited. We looked at Holy Island of Lindisfarne, St Agnes in the Scilly Isles, the Island of Mull and Canvey Island which gave us all new ideas for possible future staycation destinations.

Our lunch club resumed this month with a very pleasant meet up in The Bolton Arms, following guidelines of course. Our **book group** is still meeting via **Zoom** on the **fourth Thursday of each month in the evenings** but hoping to resume face-to-face meetings very soon. This month we are reading *Shame*, by Jasvinder Sanghera, which was recommended following her excellent talk provided by our National Group.

We continue to be thankful for NWR's National Group for all the talks, quizzes and myriad of other activities and support it has provided throughout the last year so if you would like to take advantage of all our organisation offers do come along. You are welcome to sit in on any meetings with no obligation to join or even speak if you would prefer to observe. You can be sure of a warm welcome.

For more information about this nationwide organisation go to **www.nwr.org.uk** or for our local group **www.basinga.org.uk/wp/national-womens-register** or contact our Local Organiser, **Karen Dann** – tel. **01256 328488** or email: **karen.dann@gmail.com**

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For those people who need medical attention on the same day the telephone triage system makes sure that those who need to be seen in person get access to a doctor. It also ensures that the surgeries can maintain social distancing measures so that all patients and staff stay safe.

All of us who are comfortable with using technology can help by using the various online options rather than simply phoning the Practice. This means that the phone lines are available for those who need quick attention. You can book appointments, view test results, and access your own medical records via the Practice online services and the NHS App.

One of the on-line services, e-consult, has really taken off over the last year. The service is easy to use, and you will get a response within 48 hours either by email, text or a call from a doctor.

The pandemic has transformed the way our GPs have to work – we cannot imagine any of them envisaged doing video consultations 12 months ago but now they are a regular occurrence. It has also meant that as patients we are having to learn new ways of getting the advice and help we need.

The purpose of the Patient Participation Group is to work collaboratively with the Practice to help improve services through feedback and sharing patient interests and concerns. As we emerge from the pandemic and the NHS looks to future ways of working this is going to be even more important. If you would like to join the group or feed in your views please contact us through the surgery website – www.odihamhealthcentre.co.uk – there is a contact point under the section called "Have your Say".

MARIE CURIE

Marie Curie are thrilled to announce a three-year charity partnership with the fabulous **Legends Festivals**, organised by Starlight. This gives us the opportunity to raise awareness of Marie Curie's services and to raise much needed funds.

The festival takes place in Basingstoke on the **Saturday 4th** and **Sunday 5th September**. Different tribute bands play each day so please come and **volunteer** for the Saturday, Sunday or both days! You know how important Marie Curie is to those living with a terminal illness and their families. The shifts are: **Saturday 4th September (1–5 pm and 5–9pm); Sunday 5th September (1–5 pm and 5–9 pm)**.

As part of our partnership with Starlight, our role is to collect donations in our buckets and also to marshal. The marshalling is directing anyone who asks the nearest bar, toilet, first-aid tent etc. Any adult volunteering can have two free tickets for a child, partner or friend. You can bring picnic things to enjoy the music before/after your shift.

Contact **Sally Sansom** – tel. **07702 958560** or email: sally.sansom@mariecurie.org.uk

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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.

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BASINGTOKE U3A



Our activities are beginning to surface again, as the warmer weather allows us to come together outside. Walking football has started, with rounders and netball groups hopefully late June or beginning of July.

Our membership fee of £7.50 allows you to take part in as many activities as you want, through to the end of August. You can sign up through our website: **basinstokeu3aenquiries@gmail.com** or ring **07787 520281** if you're not online. If you'd like to meet some of us in person before you decide to become a member, we're planning a **Meet and Greet Day** on **Wednesday, 8th September** (pandemic allowing). There you'll be able to talk to the different group leaders and learn more about their activities. More details to follow, but you might like to pop the date in your diary.



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We often hear people say that they 'can't do art' but we think we can change your mind. Our workshops and projects introduce a variety of creative activities, often inviting as guest artists, other practitioners from disciplines such as film, music, poetry and performance. We hope our workshops are fun to take part in and give you a wide introduction to creative art practices that will help you to bring your creative work alive.

So, whatever your background or experience, or if you have forgotten the last time you picked up a paint brush or pen, tapped a rhythm on the worktop or danced around the kitchen whilst tea was cooking and generally felt good about life, we have a workshop or project for you. We believe this is an essential part of being who you are.

Alongside our workshops we have a passion in working with people who have survived challenging life experiences. Experiences that may have impacted on mental wellbeing. With a focus on recovery we create safe and supportive creative environments where you can work and get to know other people who understand and 'get it' without the necessity of words. We find that this provides the ideal conditions for someone to find their confidence, process their experiences, connect with others and start living their lives to the full.

Your life experiences are what make you, you, and are essential in bringing life and meaning to creative work.

We would like to use this opportunity to let you know about our new project **Looking Through The Window**. This project is aimed at people who have experienced an increase in levels of anxiety or depression during COVID-19. If you feel you have been affected you can be referred by your Social Prescriber at your GP Surgery, Support Services, Secondary Mental Health Care Teams or apply through self referral.

Please take a look at our brand new website (*see bottom of page*) to see some of the workshops and projects we are currently running.

The Directors and guest artists have a number of lived experiences and learnt skills to inform the creative workshops and projects so you are never far away from someone who 'gets it'. Each workshop is subtly underpinned with psychological knowledge and approaches as well as an understanding of why art is an essential element of thriving communities.

The core ethos of the organisation is in listening and co producing work that is participant led. Sculptor and Founder **Corinne Marsh**, has taught art extensively in the UK and Europe. She is passionate about working with you to charge your work and life with vitality, in so doing bring positive change to communities. We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in joining a workshop or project, or just need to find our more information about any of our projects or public workshops.

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Website: www.artwell-basingstoke.co.uk

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BUSKERS SET TO BRING BACK SUMMER STREET TUNES

Buskers and street performers are being invited to make music and bring some much-needed entertainment to Basingstoke town centre as shoppers return.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is offering street artists, individuals and groups, aged over 14, the opportunity to perform to shoppers in the town centre on **Saturdays and Sundays throughout the summer**.

As part of a series of COVID-safe outdoor arts and theatrical productions, ahead of Basingstoke Festival which runs from 25th June to Sunday, 11th July, buskers will be given a time to perform and can collect donations in the normal way at official busk-stops in three designated areas at the Top of The Town.

Social distancing measures will be in place to keep street performers and shoppers safe and for those unable to soak in the performances live, they will be shared on the Basingstoke Festival social media channels.

Cabinet Member for Communities, Planning and Infrastructure Cllr Simon Bound said: "It's great to see shoppers returning to the town centre following the latest unlocking of COVID restrictions and we have been working hard to organise a host of outdoor activities for everyone to enjoy. We are lucky to have a number of talented performers and are keen to give them an opportunity to showcase their work and perform live to crowds in the town centre to give residents and visitors a much-needed boost. If you are interested in performing, please get in touch with us at **www.festival@basingstoke.gov.uk** "

To find out more about performing this summer in Basingstoke town centre, and to receive a copy of our Buskers' Code of Conduct, please email **festival@basingstoke.gov.uk**

For more information on **Basingstoke Festival** and how to take part, you are best to visit **www.basingstokefestival.co.uk** or you can follow **@BasingstokeFestival** on Facebook and **@BstokeFestival** on Twitter and Instagram.

The website will be regularly updated as more acts are confirmed.

BASINGSTOKE DEANE ROTARY CLUB

It has been a privilege for Rotary in North Hampshire to play a part in the vaccine programme at The Hampshire Court Hotel and latterly at Jameson House. Our carparking role began in December and involved six Rotary clubs co-operating together in rain, snow and glorious sunshine to facilitate patients access to vaccination. We've appreciated being able to work with our colleagues, health professionals and other volunteers in this whole team effort at this time of national importance and to have played our part in the UK's successful vaccination programme in our battle against COVID-19

One of the things Rotarians rarely admit to is the selfish side of volunteering and that is that we always come away feeling that we have made a difference. It's a very uplifting feeling and we know it has helped our general wellbeing and mental health in recent times. If you haven't experienced that feeling, then come and volunteer with us at any of the many upcoming events e wil be invloved in. There'll be a welcome for you.

To find out more contact **Chris Flemming** – email: **Rotaract@bl-rotary.org** or tel. **07942 471526**.

RANDOM ACTS OF GENEROSITY

Dear friends,

One of the things that has been apparent over the last year is the generosity of the people of Old Basing and Lychpit, whether it is supporting the foodbank (via the box on the Vicarage porch), sharing items outside houses for others to collect, or generously giving of time to help one another, it's heartening to see and experience.

As children we are sometimes taught that to give something away is to have less, but as we grow up we begin to grasp that giving what we have to help others does not diminish us, but instead benefits us the giver as well as the receiver. It leaves us feeling warm and happy to be able to share with others. Generosity is therefore a double gift, one that benefits receiver and giver.

For Christians, any act of generosity, given freely and unconditionally, without expectation or strings attached is an opportunity to participate in the love of God, and can help to draw us closer to God. At the heart of Christian theology is the concept of the grace of God. This idea means, in essence, that God is overwhelmingly generous and entirely selfless in God's love for creation. God pours out love and invites us to participate in that love, to continue to share that love with others. Generosity therefore becomes not only a double gift, but a triple gift: one that benefits receiver and giver and draws us closer to God.

Whether this is your belief or not, generosity still takes on a life of its own, for the truly generous act has a way of generating good feeling for the receiver as well as the giver. Moreover, it can spark a chain of generosity. For really overwhelming generosity has a way of making the recipient desire to act with generosity in response, not because they have to, but because it feels good. Why not try a random act of generosity this month and see what happens?

With love,

Reverend Heather



ST MARY'S CHURCH



SERVICES IN ST MARY'S

Sunday	8am – BCP Holy Communion
	9.30am – Eucharist
Wednesday	10am – Holy Communion
Thursday	9.15am – Morning Prayer

A number of services are also live-streamed on our Facebook page 'St Mary's Old Basing and Lychpit' and some are later uploaded to our YouTube Channel.

If you have any **prayer requests** you can contact **Reverend Heather** (text or call **07745 731729**).

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

The church continues to be open for **individual prayer** from **10am to 4pm (Sundays 11.30am to 4pm)**. Please continue to wear a facemask in the church.

OUR SUMMER FESTIVAL

"Summer Days Are Here Again" took place over the weekend of **26th and 27th June**. The **displays** are in place until **Sunday, 4th July**, so there's still time to wonder down and take a look to see what summer means to the local groups and families taking part.

FLOWERS AT ST MARY'S

At St Mary's we are very fortunate to have a team of volunteer flower arrangers who enhance the beauty of our church building with their arrangements. As a couple of our arrangers have moved out of the area, we are urgently looking for more people to join the team.

You don't need to have a wealth of experience as support will be given – just a love of flowers! A rota is in place so it wouldn't be a big commitment. If you'd like to know more as to what's involved please get in touch with **Debbie**, St Mary's Administrator, on **07541 698235**, email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Every **Thursday** we send out a bulletin with information about what is happening at the church. To be added to our distribution list email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

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

BASINGSTOKE FOODBANK

A huge thank you to everyone who continues to support the Foodbank at this time. The Foodbank are trying to keep the numbers of visitors to their warehouse to a minimum, therefore, please do continue to drop items off to The Vicarage (located on the corner of Church Lane and Milkingpen Lane) or one of the other local collection points: the Co-op on Linden Avenue, and Tesco at Chineham. For a list of items that are in particular short supply please visit www.basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

OLD BASING METHODIST CHURCH

Old Basing Methodist Church will be open for worship again during **July** at **10.30am**.

Marion Wales (Steward)

CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)



This month's **Working Parties** are on **Saturday, 3rd July**, at **10am** and **Thursday, 22nd July**, at **2pm** – meet in the **Conservation Area**. For the time being our Saturday Working Parties will continue to finish earlier at noon. Tools, which have been disinfected, will be provided. All are very welcome, both our regular volunteers and new participants. We are a community project, not just for churchgoers. Our volunteers make a real difference. We will continue the summer

season maintenance to encourage the wild flowers and associated wildlife.

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

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

Margaret Carr – www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

BERYL MULLENDER (1937–2021)

We are sad to report that long-term Old Basing resident, community servant and Basingstoke's Unsung Hero Award winner, **Beryl Mullender**, has sadly passed away unexpectedly, aged **83**.

Together with her husband Michael, Beryl first moved into Old Basing with their young son to a 'new build' house in Holly Drive in 1962. At that point Fairthorne Rise was just open fields!

Beryl was a stalwart supporter of the Old Basing and Basingstoke community with extensive service to the Scout and Guide Associations over 65 years. While she was Guide Leader for the Old Basing troop Beryl gained renown for taking them on walks through the village calling out "come on girls!" to keep up the pace. Never one for doing things by halves, Beryl maintained her lengthy walks to the end, covering circular routes around the village as her 'permitted exercise' during lockdown. After all, why pop to the local shop at the end of the road if you can turn this into a 'proper walk'!

In her life story Beryl also mentions being one of a team who staged the first ever Schools' Spring Fayre in the village, and volunteering at the local Welfare Clinic in the Royal British Legion Hall each week.



A **memorial service** will be held at **St Mary's Church**, Old Basing, on **Saturday, 3rd July**, at **1.45pm**. All Welcome. Further details available at www.mullender.org

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BASINGSTOKE'S NEW MAYOR

"A tremendous honour" is how **Basingstoke and Deane's new Mayor, Cllr Onnalee Cubitt** views her forthcoming year in office. Cllr Cubitt, who represents Basing and Upton Grey ward, was made Mayor on **27th May** at the annual Council meeting held at The Haymarket, owing to COVID restrictions on the number able to fit in the Council Chamber. Having served two years as Deputy Mayor, following Cllr Taylor's Mayoral term being extended in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Cllr Cubitt is looking forward to getting out and about to meet as many borough residents and businesses as possible, in line with guidelines, as restrictions ease and lift.

This year, the new Mayor and her Consort, her husband Hugo Cubitt DL, hope to be able to resume many of the annual events on the Mayoral calendar in person, rather than online. She said: "I am very excited to become Mayor of this wonderful borough and celebrate all that it has to offer, especially after the difficulties of the pandemic. It will feel extra special to attend events and ceremonies in person and meet people, one of the pleasures that we will no longer take for granted."

The Mayor's Charity Appeal 2021/22 supports two local good causes – The Community Furniture Project and The Friends of St Michael's Hospice.

Since the early 1990s, Cllr Cubitt has been involved in helping to raise funds for St Michael's Hospice. The Friends of St. Michael's Hospice's fundraising contributes towards maintaining the excellent standard of palliative care for which the hospice is renowned.

Described by Cllr Cubitt as "simply amazing", The Community Furniture Project gives a new life to unwanted furniture, appliances, bicycles and household goods, selling them to raise money, as well as providing at low cost or free to those in need. The project gives local people with learning disabilities or mental health conditions the opportunity to train and gain new skills.

Cllr Cubitt has been a board member of Loddon Social Enterprise Ltd for over 12 years. The charity provides a safe working environment for adults with learning disabilities. She was also a local education authority governor of Dove House School, an outstanding local special educational needs secondary school, for a number of years before it became an academy.

The Mayor is also hoping to use the year to encourage more adults to volunteer to support the army, air, sea, police and St John Ambulance cadet groups. Cllr Cubitt has seen what a difference the cadet movements can make to young people, helping them to develop life skills, such as problem solving and teamwork. She is keen that the current lack of volunteers doesn't stop more young people having the chance to benefit.

Cllr Cubitt was raised in Weston Patrick and has spent most of her life in Basingstoke and Deane. She has been a borough councillor since 2008 and lives in Up Nately. The couple have two children, Billy, aged 21, and Summer, 19, who are both studying at universities in Oxford.

After leaving school, Cllr Cubitt was a voluntary worker in Sri Lanka, teaching English and Mathematics in an orphanage in Moratuwa. Cllr Cubitt holds a joint Anglo-French BA Hons degree in European Business Studies and a Diplome d'Ecole Superieure de Commerce de Reims, ESC Reims. She joined Standard Chartered Bank as a graduate trainee in 1988

Continued on page 28

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- Explore the ruins and imagine what the house would have looked like
- Visit the walled garden and learn about Basing House's fascinating history in the museum
- Walk your dog or find a picnic spot

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Continued on page 26

and spent the next 14 years based in London in international finance. She also worked for a couple of other banks before returning to Standard Chartered Bank in 1997 to be Head of Loan Syndications, running a multi-national team covering Africa, the Middle East, the Indian sub-continent and Europe.

She met her Hampshire-born husband Hugo by the shores of Lough Dan in the Wicklow Mountains. In 2001, Onnalee and Hugo moved to Basingstoke and Deane and founded a local building company specialising in period properties. The couple have been extensively involved with fundraising for a number of charities over the years, including St Michael's Hospice and the Army Benevolent Fund. They also raised £550,000 for the Piam Brown Ward, the children's cancer ward in University Hospital Southampton, where their daughter Summer spent three years being treated for T Cell Lymphoblastic Lymphoma.

The Deputy Mayor for Basingstoke and Deane 2021/22 is Cllr Paul Miller and the Deputy Mayoress is his wife Sandra.

For more information on the Basingstoke and Deane Mayor visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/mayor

BROADHURST GROVE AND SAXON WAY

Areas of communal space at **Broadhurst Grove** and **Saxon Way**, in Old Basing, are to be considered for **Local Green Space designation**, as part of the council's Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan update. Both locations are privately owned public open space which are already protected from redevelopment by the green infrastructure policy contained in the adopted Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council is in the early stages of updating its local plan and is considering the introduction of a Local Green Space policy which would enable communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. The local plan is the key document that guides how planning applications are determined, including setting out how the environment of the borough will be protected and enhanced and where different kinds of development will be allowed or not allowed. Extensive work to update it in the coming months will include public consultation.

The open spaces in Broadhurst Grove and Saxon Way were put forward for protection through the council's Issues and Options consultation as the first step in updating the local plan, held in autumn 2020, by Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Council. If designated, they would be afforded a high level of protection in the planning system, consistent with green belts. Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Communities, Planning and Infrastructure Cllr Simon Bound said: "I am pleased to report that both Broadhurst Grove and Saxon Way have been put forward for consideration as Local Green Spaces as part of the Local Plan Update. I hope that this will bring some reassurance to the residents who have enjoyed using the space for a number of years."

The council has begun assessing all of the land promoted for Local Green Space designation against national policy and principles. The result of these assessments will be published as part of the draft Local Plan Update consultation, which is due to take place in early 2022. This consultation will provide an opportunity for all relevant landowners to make representations about proposed designations. The Local Plan Update is due for adoption in 2024.

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SPECIAL MAYORAL VISIT FOR CIVIL WAR COMPETITION WINNERS

Winners of an **English Civil War Arts and Poetry Competition**, inspired by the **Battle of Basing House** in **1645**, have been presented with prizes by the new Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane.

The competition, organised by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Hampshire Cultural Trust and Hampshire County Council, invited students in the borough to produce a piece of artwork, music or a poem relating to the battle at Basing House, which was besieged and destroyed by Oliver Cromwell and his army.

Pupils have been learning the history of Basing House, which was the last Royalist stronghold in the south east and a key site in the battle between King and Parliament at the end of the English Civil War.

The winners were chosen from a huge number of competition entries, including submissions by young people from local primary schools, secondary schools and sixth form colleges, by the former Mayor Cllr Diane Taylor and Alan Turton, a former curator at Basing House, author and Civil War expert.

Mayor Cllr Onnalee Cubitt was joined at Basing House by her Consort Hugo Cubitt, special guest Alan Turton and his wife Nicola and Helen Sinnamon, Schools Manager (Milestones Museum and Basing House) at Hampshire Cultural Trust.

The winners received an engraved plaque from the Mayor and an annual family pass to Basing House, one of the borough's most popular historical attractions. In addition, both of the winners' year groups will enjoy a free educational visit to Basing House, including a guided tour by Alan Turton. All winners and finalists were presented with a commemorative certificate for their creative achievement. They were:

Lucy Perks (Primary Winner) – St Mary's School, Old Basing

Harry Harvey (Finalist) – Daneshill School

George Lincon (Finalist) – Daneshill School

Charlotte Salt (Finalist) – St Mary's School, Old Basing

Charlie Bowden (Secondary and Sixth Form Winner) – Queen Mary's College

Cllr Cubitt said: "The English Civil War project in borough schools has given pupils a greater insight into the fascinating history of Basing House and the competition was originally launched to mark the 375th anniversary of the Battle of Basing House last year. As my first engagement since becoming the Mayor of Basingstoke and Deane, I was pleased to meet the winners of the competition and to talk about their winning entries which were so imaginative and really conjured up a sense of local history, bringing the siege and final battle of Basing House to life."

Secondary and Sixth Form category winner Charlie Bowden added: "It was great to be able to come together to appreciate the work of all the finalists and learn more about the history of Basing House by exploring the site of the ruins, and I felt very proud and grateful to receive the certificate and plaque for my work."

Alan Turton said: "It was a great pleasure to be involved in this project and a delight to meet the winners and know that they have been prompted to think deeply about the English Civil War, which was such a crucial and formative part of our national and local history."

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It's been another strange academic year, but like in every other, these past few months have evoked lots of different emotions, what with the oldest children sitting exams and both old and young ones leaving us to start new chapters in their lives.

What we will soon be changing our focus to is 2021–2022, when LinguaTastic will hopefully be able to run a bit more like it used to pre-COVID. All being well, we'll be running our French, German and Spanish groups for pre-schoolers face-to-face in Chineham. We'll also be running our after-school clubs in French, German, Spanish and Italian for primary school children, with on-foot collection from Four Lanes and Great Binfields schools. Not forgetting of course, our classes for secondary school pupils and adults.

The plan is also to be back in most schools in September, so if you have a child at Old Basing, St Mary's or Great Binfields and would like them to learn French or Spanish with us at school, do please get in touch with either the school or us: **Info@linguatastic.com**

But back to July! We still have a few weeks left of this academic year and we'll be filling our online lessons and our face-to-face pre-schoolers' lessons with some fun summer-related activities to get us in the mood for the long break ahead. And of course for the French groups, there's "Le quatorze juillet" to celebrate! Remember, to sound particularly authentic when speaking French, don't refer to it as "Bastille Day" since although the day is to do with "la Bastille" in France, the day is either referred to as "Le quatorze juillet" or "La fête nationale".

THE MILL FIELD CONSERVATION GROUP



July is a vibrant month for the wildlife in the field; Parent Goldfinch will be carrying food back to feed their young in the nest and Whitethroats will be stalking around the scrub. During the day the stream is a popular spot for Swallows and House Martins swooping in on flying insects whilst visitors later in the evening will see an increase in the number of bats on the wing.

Our butterflies and moths are emerging on sunny days so look out for daytime moths such as the Silver Y and the Burnet, distinctive for its red spots on black wings.

Those looking for plants in July will find the Bee and Common Spot orchids, as well as the flowering of the towering Woolly Thistle.

Check out our Facebook page for photos.

Anne Francis (Tel. 07974 944439)

Email: **millfieldoldbasing@yahoo.co.uk**

Facebook: **Mill Field Conservation Group**

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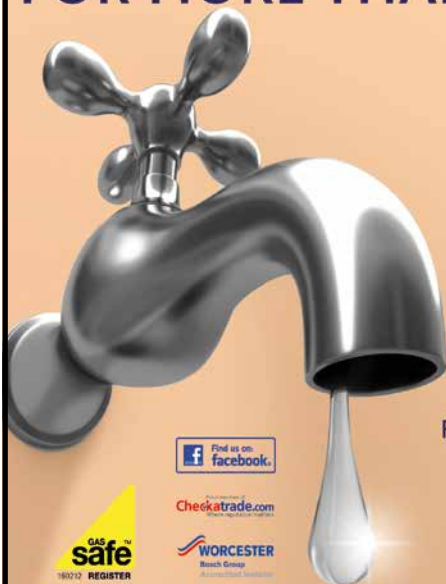
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POPPY APPEAL



Thank you everyone who has helped the **Poppy Appeal** in Old Basing and Hook reach the total of **£16,321** so far. This year's Poppy Appeal ends on **Sunday, 30th September**, and to raise even more before the next Poppy Appeal starts, I am asking every reader to donate items you no longer need.

Examples of items include second-hand clothes; old coins (oreign or sterling); old toys, teddy bears and dolls with hinged joints; fountain pens; cameras; old jewellery; and silver-plated or silver tea sets.

I have a comprehensive list detailing how you can declutter a room, or a whole house, and have a stock of large clear plastic bags to help you.

Please make sure you only donate items not wanted by you or your family.

For all enquiries, please call me, **Tim Russell**, on **0777 2883964** or you can email either **hampshire.chairman@rbl.community** or **tim.russell1888@gmail.com**

Tim Russell (Poppy Appeal Organiser)

WOMEN'S SECTION

It will be a welcome back for both existing and new members to join our **Birthday Meeting** on **Thursday, 22nd July**, in the **Royal British Legion Hall** from **7.30pm** and to bring you up to date with what has been going on. Firstly Sheila Essery has moved and therefore this left a vacancy for a new Treasurer. After discussion, Avril Mitchell, our long-term and exceedingly efficient Chairman is now taking on the role of Treasurer and Secretary and our thanks must go to her for looking after us so well for so long. One of our committee members Sue Chewter is now taking on the role as Chairman and we all wish her the best of luck in her new role. Thanks also must go to Diana Werry-Thomas and June Brant for representing the RBL Women's Section in the Flower Festival at St Mary's in June. Looking forward to meeting up again.

Sue Wilson

PLAY CROQUET

Croquet: six hoops, four balls, a mallet and a patch of grass. Sounds easy enough? However croquet is a game of skill and strategy, angles, tactics and guile. A bit like snooker on grass. It is enjoyable at all levels and you don't need to be an athlete to play it. There is an excellent facility in Basingstoke with a top class lawn and a cosy clubhouse.

If you would like to give it a try we will be having an **open day** on **Saturday 26th June**. Just turn up any time between **10am** and **2pm**. Equipment will be provided, just wear casual comfortable clothes and flat shoes. There is no charge for try-out. While you are waiting we have some excellent training videos on the website – well worth a look.

If that date has passed by the time you read this, please use the contact form on the website and we can arrange a convenient time for you to come for a try-out. We are based in **St Andrews Road, South Ham, Basingstoke**.

Please see our website for more information: **www.basingstokecroquet.co.uk**

JULY IN YOUR GARDEN

June has been “flaming” and hopefully by the time you are reading this the hot weather has continued. If so, being water wise will be the order of the month. Using water butts, trying to only water pots and new plants if dry and keeping bird baths and ponds clean and topped up should all be priorities.

Unless in drought, lawns should be mown regularly. Setting the blades slightly higher can protect the grass in very hot weather, but any brown patches will soon recover once autumn rains return. Try to only use a sprinkler if absolutely necessary. Ants and weeds will probably be your biggest problems right now, so brush off the former and spot treat or dig out the latter. The growing rate of the grass will slow towards the end of summer so setting a higher blade height then will make the grass more resistant to wear.

Summer baskets can be kept looking at their best if they are cut back and then fed. This can encourage new growth and revive their display. Deadhead flower borders and cut back hardy geraniums and delphiniums after the first flush of flowers to encourage more blooms.

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

Evergreen hedges such as *Lonicera nitida*, Box and Privet can be clipped this month and the clippings added to the compost heap if they aren't too woody. Once Clematis Montana has finished flowering, it can be cut back – hard if necessary. Honeysuckle and climbing roses will need tying in to their supports, the latter need to be tied as horizontal as possible to ensure the best showing of flowers. If you need to propagate any shrubs, now is the time to take softwood cuttings of plants such as lavender, rosemary, hydrangea and philadelphus.

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

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

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

JULY NATURE NOTES

Spring duly arrived in late May and proved the key for Cuckoo reports as they began to be heard in numbers. Though quite clearly the same bird, many residents in Cavalier Road heard one calling from the canal area on 26th May, the first time here for several years. Alongside our most iconic summer visitor, numbers of Swallows appeared, drawn up from the continent on the sudden southerly airflow followed a week or so later by the first Swifts.

We were personally delighted that my daughter and her family, who recently moved to a property in Up Nately that has a stable block, were 'selected' by a pair of Swallows that patiently waited for the weather to improve before building a nest.

Christine Stuart in Lychpit was the first to call me to say that half a dozen Swifts were racing and screaming above the rooftops in Lambs Row, gradually moving over the Mill Field and into the sky over Paddockfields, where, as I've mentioned previously, the good residents have erected nesting boxes to accommodate Swifts and House Martins.

Talking of nest boxes, I complained last month about one of ours being taken over by bees but another, a miniature 'G-R' post box has been selected by a pair of Great Tits, much to our delight. The box has been up for about five years with not a sniff so it was heartening to see these guys arrive. At the time of writing (9th June), the eggs have just hatched so ins and outs are VERY frequent!

I suggested last time that as spring warms up the garden, one might come across a Slowworm or two. Well, we all had to be patient but eventually it did and Ann Price sent me the photo here of a very fit looking specimen making its way across her patio, clearly appreciating the underfloor heating below it.

Terry MacInish, a keep snapper, sent me an amusing shot of a Pheasant-Squirrel face off, or perhaps they knew one another and were having a chat? Anyway, it was well caught Terry.

Many thanks to everyone who sent me pictures of the now infamous Peacock and Hen that roamed the streets and gardens and even rooftops of Old Basing for almost two weeks. The photo here is from Mike Simpson in Linden Avenue. The birds had found their way originally to the Belle Vue estate from Blacklands Farm, their adopted home, and caused many a double take from residents and motorists alike. The hen laid a couple of unfertilised eggs by the front porch of Paul and Jill Eckersley in Cavalier Road but eventually with her boyfriend deciding to go home, 'Prunella' was gently captured and taken unceremoniously back there too about five days later. Peacocks can be difficult to handle and care not where



they go so were causing consternation to 'step-parents' Ashleigh and Brad so the birds are now off to a farm near Aldermaston where they can be monitored more closely.

Everyone agreed though that it was great to have them about for all that.

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 JULY

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

JULY

Tue 3	10.00am	PIOCC working party (Conservation Area, St Mary's Church)
Tue 6	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (Royal British Legion Hall) Old Basing WI Summer Luncheon
Sat 10		DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR AUGUST'S BASINGA
Thu 22	2.00pm 7.30pm	PIOCC working party (Conservation Area, St Mary's Church) Old Basing Royal British Legion Women's Section Birthday Meeting (Royal British Legion Hall)
Fri 30	7.00pm	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> (Walled Garden, Basing House – gates open 6.00pm)
Sat 31	7.00pm	King Henry VIII on a Royal Progress (Great Tudor Barn, Basing House)

AUG

Sun 1	3.00pm	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> (Walled Garden, Basing House – gates open 2.00pm)
Sun 1–Fri 27		Old Basing and Lychpit Carnival Scarecrow Event (houses and gardens around the parish)

BASINGA EXTRA

We were not able to include every article that we received; that (listed below) is available online on our website: www.basinga.org.uk

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CHURCH INFORMATION FOR THE AREA

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VICAR: Rev'd Heather Leppard, The Vicarage, Church Lane, Old Basing 01256 363612

Email: vicar@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk 07745 731729

ADMINISTRATOR: Debbie Filer 07541 698235

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OTHER DAYS: Wednesday, 10am Holy Communion

*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
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Community Hall

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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

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Community Hall



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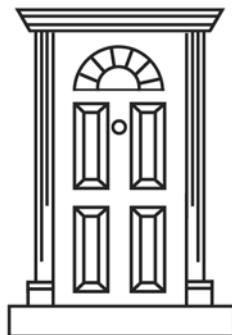
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