

June 2022

BASINGA



Alan Morris



Old Basing and Lychpit Parish Magazine
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JUNE NOTES AND NEWS

The **front cover photo** this month (by **Alan Morris**) is of the knitted **Postbox Topper** in Belle Vue Parade which commemorates the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** this month. It is marked by various events in the village including the **Old Basing Village Fun Day** (see page 4) a **Civil War Re-enactment** on **The Common** (see page 13).

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 **July edition** is **6pm on Friday, 10th June**.

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

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

PHOTOS AND LOGOS FOR THE BASINGA

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

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

WANTED – BASINGA ADVERTISING ADMINISTRATOR

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

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

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

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

BASINGA ADVERTISERS

The Basinga magazine is distributed free of charge to over three thousand households and premises in the Old Basing and Lychpit area. The magazine is produced and distributed by teams of volunteers, while our printing costs are covered by paid adverts from local businesses. Without the income from adverts we would not be able to function and our readership's support for our advertisers is crucial in maintaining this magazine.

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

Our website www.basinga.org.uk has a list of our advertisers, either alphabetically or by magazine page; from the home page choose 'OUR ADVERTISERS' and then 'OUR CONTRACT ADS'.

OLD BASING VILLAGE FUN DAY



Firstly I have great news. On **4th May** the **Old Basing Scouts and Guide Hall Trustees** received planning approval for a **new hall** on land owned in trust for the young people of our village. This milestone has taken more than 10 years to achieve and was only possible with support from so many wonderful people in the parish of Old Basing and Lychpit. Thank you all!



On **Saturday, 18th June**, we have the **Old Basing Village Fun Day**. Please come and join us at the field behind our old (derelict) hall on Milkingpen Lane to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 100 years of Scouting in our village and much more of the voluntary service within our community.

We hope to help you all have a fun day and enjoy our site for the afternoon. We will be serving lunch from a barbeque and light refreshments (including ice cream and soft drinks). There will be music, many games and activities for people for all ages and abilities. Please wear a decorated hat to help us celebrate the day and enter our competition for the best hat of the day; judging will take place at 2pm. We hope that many will come and join in making a special day of celebration for our community.

Entrance is from **noon** on payment of **£1 per adult (children accompanied by an adult will gain entry free of charge)**. We plan to start **packing up** at **4pm** but we will be guided by how much fun you are having on the day.

We have (very) limited parking options at the site and hope to reserve the closest spots for Blue Badge users. Please either walk or cycle to the event (if you are able) but if you need to drive please park responsibly in the spaces that are available around our village and enjoy a short walk to our site.

Andy Molloy (Trustee for Old Basing Scouts & Guides Hall)

Mobile: **07766 985108**

Twitter: **@oldbasingtweets**

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 7th May **Cllr Alan Renwick** stood down as Chairman and **Cllr Peter Bloyce**, was elected in his place. **Cllr Murray Campbell** will take on the role of Vice-Chairman previously held by Peter.

Councillors and staff would like to thank Alan for his leadership throughout his three years as Chairman, during which some long-standing issues have been progressed and brought to a conclusion.

Alan will remain as a member of the Parish Council and will continue, alongside Peter and Murray, as an active member of the Planning Response Sub-Committee which is committed to fighting the threat of further development around the Parish.

NEW BOROUGH COUNCILLOR

Congratulations to Old Basing Parish Councillor, **Kate Tuck**, on her successful election as a **Borough Councillor** representing Basing and Upton Grey Ward at the local elections in May. Kate is a keen environmentalist and will continue to oppose the threat of further development in and around the local area.

NEW DEFIBRILATOR

The **Old Basing Tennis Club** must also be congratulated on raising sufficient funds for the purchase and installation of a **defibrillator** (or **AED**) outside its clubhouse in Riley Lane, Old Basing. The Club held an enjoyable “unveiling” ceremony attended by the then Mayor, Cllr Onnalee Cubitt, followed by a barbeque (*read more on page 32*).

This new AED follows the installation of a similar device purchased by the Village Café and installed at St Mary’s Church. These, together with the two already located outside the Lychpit Community Hall and the Parish Office at the Recreation Ground means that these potential life-saving machines are just a short distance away for most residents and visitors; although, of course, we all hope they are not needed!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates are **Tuesday 7th June** and **5th July**, commencing at **7.30 pm**.

Parish Clerk: **Mrs Sandra Tuck**

Deputy Clerk: **Mrs Kate Hope**

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

Telephone: **01256 462847**

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

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KATE TUCK (COUNCILLOR FOR BASING & UPTON GREY WARD)

Thank you to all who voted in the election, and however you cast your vote it is an honour to represent you. Please do contact me (see contact details below) – no issue is too small.

We have a huge battle ahead with the Borough's housing target set at 18,480 by 2031 – this is simply unsustainable no matter where you live. You have all told me that you value our countryside and access to nature – in the town centre, in our river valleys and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. All are under threat like never before and I need your support as we work through the Local Plan Update over the next few months. A huge "thank you". People and places matter – not politics!

Kate Tuck (newly elected councillor for Basing and Upton Grey Ward)

Email: katetuck21@gmail.com

Mobile: **07747 000534**

SOLVE NEWS

BDBC LOCAL PLAN

We expect that, with the Borough elections over, the process of the revision of the Local Plan will be accelerated. We may soon know which areas are allocated for development. You will have your say when the Draft Local Plan goes to public consultation, expected late summer/early autumn. Please do keep in touch with our campaign through our website www.solveloddon.org

SCOUT AND GUIDE FAMILY FUN DAY

We will have a **stall** at the **Scout and Guide Family Fun Day** on **Saturday, 18th June** (*read more on page 4*), so please come and talk to us and find out what we are about and we can update you on our activities.

LOCAL WILDLIFE

Calling all wildlife enthusiasts. We are trying to find out about the biodiversity in the valley in a more consistent manner. We have contacted various organisations to see if they have records of eg butterflies, moths, bats, other insects. Do you know anyone with a bat detector or a moth lamp? We have a good list of birds including several red listed in the UK.

The Loddon Valley cuckoo has made it back from Africa and is calling along the valley again and at least one skylark is singing. With the better weather take a walk and maybe take binoculars and or lenses to look at the large and small wildlife.



Saving Loddon Valley
for future generations

You can log your finds on our site (*see below*). We are looking into doing hedge surveys and making a guide to family activities that can be done along a chalk stream. Walking with a river expert last month we were astonished when he identified a place where a large sea trout had laid their eggs in a redd (nest)! So they came all the way up the Thames and up the Loddon from Reading to our patch!

Gill Moore and Kate Tuck

Website: www.solveloddon.org or log your finds at:
www.inaturalist.org/projects/loddon-valley



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OLD BASING & LYCHPIT CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

The Carnival has been an annual occurrence for nearly 50 years but behind the scenes it takes 10 months to create, plan and deliver. Over the last two years Covid has meant we have not been able to organise a Carnival and this year the relaxation of the rules came just too late for us to book arena events, confirm stalls and create that special Carnival feeling. Nevertheless, we are organising other fun events throughout the summer this year including a **Scarecrow Festival**, a **Village Treasure Hunt** and a **raffle** so please look out for our posters dotted around the village and regular updates on our Facebook page.

For a number of reasons, a significant amount of the existing Committee have either left or are planning to leave later in the year. This means that there will not be enough people remaining to organise and run a Carnival in 2023 unless new volunteers to join the Committee come forward now. Please help us. We are sure there are lovely folk out there, villagers who have enjoyed the Carnival for years, who have time on their hands. Maybe you have previous committee experience, have worked with enthusiastic teams as part of your job, or just know that you have great organisational skills and you would love to put them to good use. We need you! Please consider joining the Carnival Committee. If we are unable to recruit sufficient new Committee members, the Old Basing & Lychpit Carnival Association will be dissolved at the next AGM and there will be no more Carnivals.

Peter Head (acting Chair); **Debbie Dooley** (Treasurer); **Hilary Todd** (Secretary)

Email: oldbasingcarnival@gmail.com

Mobile: **07774 416345**

NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE

As part of the **2022 Platinum Jubilee celebrations** the **Sealed Knot** will hold an **English Civil War Re-enactment on The Common**, the site of the Siege of Basing House between the years 1642 and 1645. The house, whose owners were supporters of King Charles I, was subject to three sieges by Parliament forces, eventually being overrun by Oliver Cromwell resulting in significant damage to the house and its eventual destruction. The remaining house and grounds are today cared for by Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT), who will be joining the Sealed Knot in delivering this event. The event will take place on **Friday 3rd** and **Saturday 4th June**. These events will be free to pedestrians, with a request for donations for parking on The Common via temporary gates on Park Lane.

The event starts on **Friday** at **noon** and will end at **4.30pm** the **following day**. Access to the Basing House ruins (south of The Street) will be free of charge on these days. However, the Barn area (on the north side of The Street) will be closed, as will the normal Basing House car park by Bartons Mill. Garrison Gate (the main entrance from The Street) will also be closed, with entrance to the Basing House site only available from Basingstoke Common. As we expect many visitors, some from afar, this should reduce potential traffic difficulties in the village. Normal arrangements will apply on Thursday and Sunday (11am to 4pm).

Old Basing joins the ranks of the villages with books set in them with the publication of **Jesse Childs's** book, **The Siege of Loyalty House**. She will be at the event signing copies.

Looking ahead to **July** we will have the **Tudor Weekend** on **9th/10th July** and the **Basingstoke Rock Choir** performing in the Walled Garden on **14th July**.

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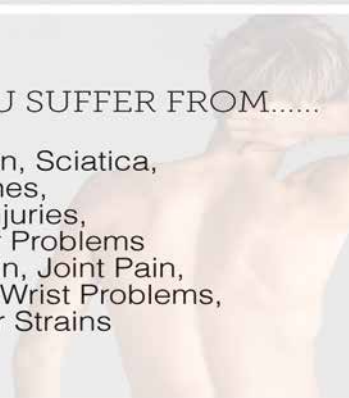


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We ask for submissions to the magazine and website to be made via www.basinga.org.uk using the web forms:

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

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

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

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

Contacts for general enquiries and assistance:

Paid Advertising - advertising@basinga.org.uk

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PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

Ploughman's Lunch at the **Parish Room, St Mary's Church, on Thursday, 16th June at 12.25pm**. It is important to book in advance as numbers are limited. Telephone **07946 596778** to secure a place.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR CAR BOOT SALE

Old Basing Village Hall is hosting an **Indoor and Outdoor Car Boot Sale** on **Sunday, 26th June, from 10.30am to 1pm. Entry £1 (children go free)**. Refreshments and toilet facilities available. Come along and grab yourself a bargain! More visitor parking at the Recreation Ground.



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OLD BASING WI



Our Annual Meeting took place in May and our new committee was duly elected. Our next meeting takes place on **Tuesday, 7th June**, at **7.30pm**, at the **St Mary's Church Parish Room** when we will welcome Carl Shallow who will be telling us about 'Scamming and How to Avoid it'. Our competition this evening will be "A homemade craft item".

On **Saturday, 11th June**, we will be holding another one of our popular **Summer Sales**, this time at the **Beddington Centre**. from **11am**. We will be joined by the **Village Show Committee** who will be selling plants outside. This event is open to all, so please come along and buy one of our delicious cakes, craft items or a jar of jam! But get there early as it is always a sell-out.

Later in the month we will be supporting **St Mary's Flower Festival** (see pages 22 to 23) with a stall depicting '70 Glorious Years'. Do drop along to our stall for a chat and find out a bit more about what we do here in Old Basing. Maybe you could test your knowledge in our Platinum Jubilee quiz?

Details of the **WI in Hampshire** can be found at **www.hampshirewi.org.uk** and if you would like to join our long-running and thriving group, please contact our President **Sue Stewart** by email at **oldbasingpres@hampshirewi.org.uk**

CHINEHAM AND OLD BASING NWR



NWR (National Women's Register) is a nationwide-organisation with 358 groups throughout the UK, each run to suit the needs of its members. If you enjoy lively conversation, the choice of a variety of activities and events and the chance to make new friends then NWR could be for you.

Our meeting in May discussed 'Pioneering Women'. We heard about well-known women like Eleanor Roosevelt and some less well-known like Doris Page, a charity campaigner for the disabled; Gladys Aylwood depicted in the film *Inn of the Sixth Happiness*; Gertrude Bell, Queen of the Desert; Elizabeth Garret Fawcette, first woman in Britain to qualify as a physician and surgeon; and Anna Bissell, the first female CEO in the USA.

As well as our own local group, NWR's National Group provides a mixture of talks and activities, so if you'd like to take advantage of all that our organisation offers do come along.

We **meet** in **member's homes**, usually at **2pm** on the **first Monday of the month** but occasionally in the **evening** and our **Reading Group** meets at **8pm** on **fourth Thursday every month**.

We also have a **lunch club** that meets at **different venues once a month**. Do come along to any meeting if you would like to find out more. You can be sure of a warm welcome with no obligation to join.

If you would like more information do look at the website **nwr.org.uk** or for our local group **www.basinga.org.uk/wp/national-womens-register** or contact our Local Organiser, **Dusty Brough** – tel: **01256 357276** or email **dmbc861@gmail.com**

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VILLAGE CAFÉ

Summer, the season of Pimms and sunshine hopefully! We hope you have spotted our new banners advertising the café which is currently open on **Friday afternoons** from **2 to 4pm** at the **St Mary's Church Parish Room**. We appreciate that not all of our customers use social media so the new banners (*see photo, below*) are out there to remind you all.

The café will continue weekly during term time so please pop in and visit us. We have been looking at how the café can continue going forward, especially as times are a bit harder for everyone with the cost of living rising so much. As from **September**, the café will trial **opening once a month**, on the **first Friday** and we are hoping to make each one a bit of an event, starting on **2nd September** with a **Macmillan fund raising afternoon**, a date for your diaries. We are always open to suggestions and feedback from our customers so are introducing a feedback slip which you can complete and leave with us when you visit.

Following our success at raising enough money to install two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in the village, we will focus on supporting projects within our community going forward. We are a volunteer-run café whose mission is to provide a friendly meeting place and to support the community where we can.



Here at the café we are always pleased to see groups of friends and family enjoying a relaxing hour or so together, maybe just catching up or celebrating a birthday and are happy to provide a pre-booked table and an afternoon tea for those who would like one. Just contact us via our Facebook page and we will reserve a table for you to enjoy homemade scones and cake with your choice of beverage.

We are lucky to have a great team of volunteer bakers and baristas but if anyone would like to join us, please get in touch.

You can contact us via our **Facebook page** or by calling **07901 531152**.

ST MARY'S CHURCH FLOWER FESTIVAL



FRIDAY, 24TH JUNE

The Festival will start at **7.30pm**, with a preview of the **Floral Arrangements** and **Art Exhibition**. There will be the chance to buy the art whilst listening to Jo Jarret-Kerr, St Mary's Organist and BSC Chorale. **Tickets** (including glass of wine/juice) are available for **£6** from stmaryschurch.flowerfestival@gmail.com or call Debbie Filer (**07541 698235**).



SATURDAY, 25TH JUNE (MORNING)

The church is open for a **Summer Fayre** from **11am** to **4pm**. We will have many stalls, a barbecue, cream teas, refreshments and music from the Barrel Organ Boys.



SATURDAY, 25TH JUNE (MORNING)

We have both the **Infant** and **Junior School Choirs** performing from **2pm**



SUNDAY, 26TH JUNE

The festival **resumes** from **11am** when there will be a more relaxed feel with the raffle and refreshments continuing. A highlight will be the **British Legion Band** at 2pm



ALL WEEKEND

All weekend we have the ever popular **Open Gardens**. Entry is **£7.50 per adult (children free)**. Entrance booklets can be purchased from the church.

St Mary's Conservation Area will once again be part of the **children's activities** with trails, quizzes and competitions to enjoy.

Please save the weekend to come and enjoy flowers, music, gardens and, of course, art. This will be a very special weekend!

ST MARY'S CHURCH

		REGULAR SERVICES
Sunday	8 am	BCP Communion
	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
Monday	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10 am	Holy Communion
Thursday	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
Friday	9.15 am	Morning Prayer
	10 am	Diddy Disciples (term time only)



Up-to-date details of all services and other news is available on the St Mary's website: www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk – please do not come to church if you have Covid.

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

CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)



This month's working parties will be on **Saturday, 11th June, at 10am** and **Thursday, 23rd June, at 2pm** – meet by the **PIOCC noticeboard** at the entrance to the Conservation Area.

Please note that the Saturday working party has been moved to the second Saturday of the month to avoid the Jubilee weekend.

We will continue the summer season maintenance to encourage the wildflowers and associated wildlife. All are very welcome, both our regular volunteers and new participants. We are a community project, not just for churchgoers. Our volunteers make a real difference. You will be warmly welcomed. Just turn up in gardening clothes and bring gloves. The tools are provided.

Our **Saturday morning** sessions last about **three hours** (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our **Thursday afternoons** about **two hours**.

St Mary's Church Summer Festival is **Friday 24th to Sunday 26th June** (see pages 22–23); we hope you enjoy the exhibits and visit our Conservation Area for the fun there too.

As mid-summer approaches walking around the churchyard is an experience of discovery and revelation. Look for insects, bumblebees and butterflies love the flowers in the Central Glade. On sunny days Speckled Wood butterflies fly through the woodland while in the open grassland Meadow Brown and Ringlets may be found.

See what you can find, or sit on the WI seat, relax peacefully and allow the healing peace to soothe. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this area.

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

Margaret Carr

www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

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THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH

TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SATURDAY, 11TH JUNE, BETWEEN 2 AND 5PM

The Friends are holding a **Salmon and Bubbly Party** in the garden of **Kingfishers, The Street, Old Basing**, by kind permission of **Sven and Trixie Godesen**.

All are invited to a family afternoon in a beautiful garden by the river.

There will be music and a raffle.

Admission is by ticket only. The price is **£15 per ticket** which includes two glasses of fizz or a soft drink and smoked salmon canapés. **Accompanied children are free of charge** but the accompanying adult must be responsible for their safety and conduct

You will need to bring your own folding chairs or rugs.

SATURDAY, 9TH JULY, AT 7.30PM (DOORS OPEN 7PM)

In the **Parish Room of St Mary's Church** the Friends are hosting two shows as previews before they transfer to the Edinburgh Festival.

First, in ***Diary of a Nobody***, the accident prone hero, Charles Pooter, comes to life as life's little ironies are revealed by the insecure and prim Pooter.

Second, Gilbert & Sullivan's ***Nightmare*** involves a comic tale of a career lost for the longest-serving member of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company.

Tickets cost **£12** each. There will be a cash bar available.

To obtain tickets for either event please contact **Ian Kershaw** on **01256 355500** or at **igfkershaw@btinternet.com**

Website **www.friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org**

THE IVY CLUB

Our membership continues to increase, which is great and slowly but surely the jigsaw-exchange programme is taking off. For **June** you are welcome to come and **exchange your jigsaws** on the **15th and 29th June**, all it costs is **£1** which is donated to charity, anytime between **2 and 4pm** (we also have books for sale 50p each).

May saw our coach outing to Wells (Somerset) and although the weather could have been a lot, lot better it gave us the opportunity to look around the cathedral, the architecture of which is amazing. It was also market day with lots of local produce. A good day was had by all and to finish it off we came back via Cheddar Gorge thanks to our lovely coach driver, David (Mortons Travel).

Sadly I have to report the passing of two of our members in May, Dorothy Lambert and Pat Perman, both ladies being truly brave in the face of the dreaded C.

The **Dogs Trust** from Newbury are visiting us on **1st June** and we have our seaside-trip to **Weymouth** on **Tuesday, 19th July** to look forward to.

Don't forget The Ivy Club is open every **Wednesday** in the **RBL Hall**, from **1.30** until **4pm**, costing **£2** which includes refreshments and a raffle.

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FRIENDS OF OLD BASING SCHOOLS SUMMER FAIR



The Friends of Old Basing Schools are excited to be holding our **Summer Fair** again on **Sunday, 3rd July**, at **St Mary's Junior School** from **noon to 3pm**. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun, it's just **£1.50 entry for adults (children are free)**. All monies raised will go to **Old Basing Infant School** and **St Mary's Junior School**.

The Fair will be opened by the Old Basing Royal British Legion Corps of Drums. There will be lots to see and do at the Fair: a falconry display, plant stall, various games, bouncy castles, external stalls, an assault course and lots to win on the tombola! We will also have a barbeque, beer, Pimms, refreshments and cakes available. A raffle, with lots of amazing prizes will be held, tickets available in advance by email foobssummerfair@gmail.com

Many thanks to S4 Financial and Barons for sponsoring our event. Also the Fair wouldn't be possible without a team of committed and dedicated parents, carers, and teachers known as the **Friends of Old Basing Schools (FOOBS)**.

Our aim is to raise money, through enjoyable events, in order to purchase those little extras that all the children can enjoy during their time at schools. We hope the school families have enjoyed our events this year and we already have lots more planned including the return of our **FOOBS Trail Run**. This will be on **Sunday, 9th October**, with a **10K** and **6K** from the Recreation Ground.

We are of course always looking for new volunteers, either to join the committee or to help at one off events throughout the year as volunteers really are the key to successful fundraising! If anyone would like to help on the day, like on a stall or could donate plants, please contact foobssummerfair@gmail.com

For general queries regarding **FOOBS** contact friendsofoldbasingschools@gmail.com

AGM – BEDDINGTON CENTRE

The **Annual General Meeting** of the **Beddington Centre** will be held at the Beddington Centre, on **Tuesday, 28th June**, at **8pm**. Everyone is welcome.

BASINGSTOKE MAKERSPACE

Basingstoke Makerspace is fully open after the Covid lockdown. Basingstoke Makerspace is a not-for-profit community workshop for people who enjoy making, creating, collaborating, sharing and learning new skills.

The Makerspace has a wide range of tools and equipment available for the use of members. The current list of equipment includes a Laser cutter, woodworking lathe, bandsaw, industrial sewing machine, 3D printers, a vacuum former and much more. There is also a photographic studio and darkroom. Members get 24/7 access to the space.

There are regular presentations and workshops on various topics, for example, recent events have covered amateur radio satellite communications, pottery, using Blender (an open-source 3D creation software suite) and making holograms.

There is a weekly **Open Evening** on **Tuesdays** from **7 to 9pm**. Why not pay us a visit and see what we do? We can be found at **Maritime House, 65 New Road, Basingstoke**.

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Welcome the month of June! It is thought by many that this month was named after the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and well-being of women. There is though, also the theory that the name came from the Latin juvenis, 'young people',

who were celebrated at this time. For the purposes of this article, we are going to go with the latter and celebrate young people. Afterall, whilst we do teach adults, children are the ones we first started educating 30 plus years ago and they are of course, our future. Indeed, LinguaTastic has now got to that stage where the children of children who used to come to us are now attending.

Over the years, kids have come out with some hilarious comments related to our activities with them. Most of them have to be heard in the context to be fully appreciated, but there's one phrase which does get reported back to us every now and again. It is when a parent 'tries' to say something in the other language and the child comments "No, Mummy, you have to say it like this". The children are usually right! That's the beauty of learning a language from a young age, you are not yet so 'stuck' in the sounds of your native language. You can hear and can reproduce the subtle sounds of a different language. Adults tend to link their native language to the one they are learning and then end up speaking with an accent and incorrect grammar. Another advantage children have over adults is that they are often more confident. They're not yet as embarrassed about trying to say a new word and love repeating words. Tied in with this is that lots of the learning can be done through singing and dancing. Think of the alphabet, we teach the children this through song and it sticks in their head, imagine though singing the alphabet in a small group as an adult (cringe)!

Let's therefore celebrate the little ones in the world!

OLD BASING BOWLS CLUB

The outdoor bowls season has started for Old Basing Bowls Club, with numerous matches and friendlies in the diary until mid-September.

During the winter closed season members have kept in touch regularly via a range of social events held in the clubhouse, whilst our awards evening and dinner in November saw over thirty members receiving cups, trophies and plaques to acknowledge successes in 2021.

Two busy **Open Days** were held at the start of this season to attract new members and to give potential new bowlers the chance to sign up for coaching and advice. The Club now has nearly **80 active members** and participates in competitions and leagues at local, county and national level.

We are pleased to have a positive and supportive relationship with the Parish Council, and also hope to widen our work with the local community – for example hosting training for the village defibrillator and providing bowls activities for young people. Our wider work also saw two members officiating at the Disability Bowls Munro Cup events in Cardiff at the end of April. We also participated in the national Bowls Big Weekend at the end of May – providing free bowls based fun activities and hospitality to promote our support.

Malcolm Christian (Chairman, Old Basing Bowls Club)

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DEFIBRILATOR UNVEILED AT OLD BASING TENNIS CLUB

Old Basing Tennis Club is delighted that on **Friday, 6th May**, our newly installed **defibrillator** was officially unveiled by **Basingstoke & Deane Mayor, Councillor Onnalee Cubitt** (see *photos below*), at a ceremony when we also held a well-attended club night and barbeque.



Over 35 members, many playing tennis before the ceremony started, plus invited guests, came along on a lovely sunny evening to unveil this life-saving piece of equipment that can be used to start someone's heart if it has stopped working.

Club Chairman, Nigel Hatt, commented "We realised that our tennis club was in the perfect location next to the recreation ground, allotments and footpaths to site a defibrillator that would benefit not only our club members but also the many hundreds of people who use the surrounding area. Following the generosity of many club members, local people and businesses as well as well-attended fund raising events, we achieved

our goal of raising the money to fit a defibrillator to the outside of our clubhouse within a few months."

"We were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council, Councillor Onnalee Cubitt, who represents the Basing and Upton Grey Ward as well as other Old Basing Parish Councillors and our tennis-playing members to help us celebrate this important achievement."

Our tennis club is over 90 years old and has been a key community asset for the residents of Old Basing and surrounding areas for many years, where people can play tennis, keep fit, enjoy the open air and beautiful surroundings and socialise with friends.

Club sessions are **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** from **6pm** and **Sunday mornings** from **10am**. Courts can be booked by a handy app and our four courts have been newly resurfaced and painted, making them a joy to play on at any time of year.

For more information on joining email obtc.information@gmail.com or visit our website or Facebook pages.



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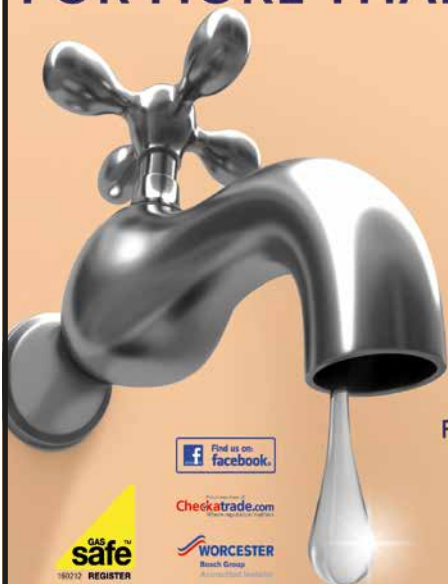
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LIVE ON



OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Monthly Branch Meeting Thursday, 9th June, 8pm (Jack Morris Hall)
Armed Forces Golf Day Monday 27th June (Sherfield Oaks Golf Course)

OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION

General Meeting Thursday, 23rd June, 7.30pm (Jack Morris Hall)
Competition 'a brooch'. All welcome

THE MILL FIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

WHAT'S AROUND THIS MONTH?



May brought us a fleeting visit from a Nightingale and a Grasshopper Warbler. We also have Mistle Thrushes breeding around the edge of the reserve who are easy to spot especially around the play area. An exciting spot by a local was a **Barred Grass Snake** (see photo below), which is the first confirmation of this species here since it became its own official species separate from a normal grass snake in 2017.

During June we should see flowerings of the orchids (Common Spot and Pyramid, both a purple colour) and the Grass (pink) and Meadow (yellow) Vetchling. On warmer days butterflies to watch out for are Meadow Brown, along with the Marbled White. There'll be increased numbers of birds around the field feeding their young, the nesting Whitethroats being particularly noticeable, and we should also be seeing Swifts and House Martins in flight and the raptors such as the Hobby hunting from above. Dragonflies will also start to appear in the areas of the field near the water and the woods. Early in the morning, or later in the evening, there's also the possibility of seeing a grazing roe deer or a fox.

For those of you visiting the field, the latest sightings of all the flora and fauna (and there is a lot!) is listed on the Mill Field display board near the Little Basing entrance. Fabulous photos can also be seen on our Facebook page. As you can see from both we are so lucky to have such a rich nature reserve so it is important for all of us to stay on the paths to protect the wildlife.



Anne Francis (tel. 07974 944439)

Email: millfieldnature@gmail.com

Facebook: **Mill Field Conservation Group**

JUNE IN YOUR GARDEN

There are plenty of jobs to do out there this month. Top of the list is weeds. They seem to reappear as soon as your back is turned; so regular hoeing is essential to make sure they don't take control. Perennial weeds, or those with long tap roots such as dandelions, thistles, bindweed and nettles, need to be dug out with a garden fork, otherwise they will just re-appear. Be sure to dig out every single bit of bindweed lest it re-shoot.

Lawns can be mown once a week now and edged with a half-moon edging iron to ensure that the borders are kept neat. If you have a compost heap, you can add the clippings to your pile, but be sure to do so only in thin layers to keep it properly aerated. It is a good idea to alternate green compost with 'brown' layers such as clean shredded paper or cardboard to keep the air circulating. If moss is a problem in your lawn, then you can use a combined moss killer and fertiliser to treat it, but you may want to live with a little moss, as it will keep the lawn looking green if drought hits.

Summer bedding plants and home-raised seedlings should now have been hardened off and are ready to plant into your borders and pots. Be sure to water them in well and continue to keep them hydrated in warm weather. Annuals are perfect for filling in gaps in borders and if you are quick, there is still enough time to sow late flowering plants such as *Calendula* and *Godetia*. For those who are thinking ahead, winter bedding plants such as pansies can be sown now, as can next year's wallflowers. Tidy up spring flowering perennials by cutting back foliage, which should encourage a new flush. Lift and divide hostas, primula and overcrowded bulbs. Stake tall flowers to prevent wind damage and keep tying in sweet peas and other climbing flowers.

Evergreen hedges such as *Lonicera nitida*, Box and Privet can be clipped this month and the slipping 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, you'll be thankful for it next year as it develop into something of a monster, it can block out light and impede entrance if grown around a window or doorway. 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.

If you are growing your own, you can keep sowing salad crops, French and Runner beans, squash, sweetcorn and outdoor cucumbers, all directly into prepared ground outside. Keep an eye out for blight on potatoes and tomatoes. Plant out vegetables such as winter brassica and sweet peppers; quick crops like radish can be sown in gaps between crops. You should be thinning your apple, pear and plum trees this month to ensure the best crop. Summer prune red and white currants and gooseberries.

All types of pests can be problematic at this time of year whether in the vegetable or flower borders. Keep an eye out for slugs eating young seedlings, caterpillars, carrot fly and aphids. Small amounts can be dealt with by hand but consider investing in mail order ladybirds (yes it is a thing – ladybirds are put in tubes, delivered first class and feed on popcorn) or nematodes (microscopic creatures, that act as parasites on other insects) to treat more severe infestations.

NATURE NOTES FOR JUNE

We are a fickle bunch aren't we? One week we are praying for nice weather so we can then its, 'crumbs we could do with some rain!' But it is true. As I write on 9th May we've seen no appreciable rain for four to five weeks and already my water butts (I have six), are all dry. The warm sunshine and southerly drift of a fortnight ago allowed many bird migrants to cross the water to these shores so it was a relief to get messaged Swallows appearing in Up Nately and Newnham Lane, birds returning to their nesting sites of last summer.

What certainly didn't go unnoticed, and to everyone's delight, was that of a Cuckoo calling in the vicinity of Hodds Farm on 5th May, the sound of which carried right along the length of Cavalier Road. It's been a few years since one has been here to my knowledge and thanks to my neighbour Pat Brace for alerting me to its presence quite early on that morning. Tony Stoney reported hearing a bird too near Silchester and Laura Haystaff said one was very loud and close to her home at Up Nately. And Swifts just turned up across Lychpit, spotted by Christine Stuart in Lambs Row, who reckoned about eight were zooming around her bit of sky on 11th May.

Fingers crossed this good weather continues for the nesting Blue Tits as their search for insects, aphids and caterpillars increases as hungry mouths appear from hatching eggs. Two of our five nestboxes sound as if they have young in them and Terry McAnish's camera box in Cavalier Close revealed eighth chicks at the weekend.

Stephen Thair has already spied a young Greenfinch in his Park Lane garden so the parents of that one must have 'started' very early. And then to confuse things further, after an uninteresting winter for spotting unusual visitors, a male Siskin turned up in early May to snack on Stephens' sunflower feeder.



Regular photograph contributor **Anthony Hutton** came up trumps again with half a dozen super shots and I found it hard to select just two to include. The first is of an arriving **Swallow** (see *left*), sweeping across the tops of the rapeseed flowers at a Mapledurwell field. There must have been a bounty of insects for the bird to start putting on weight after its marathon flight, as Anthony mentioned how tricky it was to get this

snap. The second is of what could be best described as 'the tiny bird with the big voice', ie, a **Wren** (see *right*). Framed perfectly by Anthony in mid-tune its just a shame this column doesn't have the technology to provide sound as well as visual feasts.



Finally, it's unusual to see an Owl during the day so to see two different birds in one walk is weird but that's what happened to Alan Williams on a stroll near Silchester. Firstly, a Tawny cruised by, settling in a tree not then 15 minutes later there was a Barn Owl sitting on a post looking back toward the walkers. Insomniacs or perhaps bad hunting the previous night!

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 JUNE

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

JUNE

Fri 3	10.30am – noon	Ladies First Friday Coffee Morning (7 Olivers Walk)
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Fri 3 – Sat 4		Civil War Re-enactment (The Common)
Tue 7	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (The Pavilion, Recreation Ground)
	7.30pm	WI Meeting ((Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Thu 9	8.00pm	RBL Branch Meeting (Jack Morris Hall)
Fri 10	6.00pm	DEADLINE FOR JULY COPY TO BASINGA EDITOR
	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 11	10.00am – 1.00pm	PIOCC Churchyard Conservation (meet noticeboard)
	11.00am	WI Summer Sale (Beddington Centre)
	2.00pm – 5.00pm	Salmon and Bubbly Party (garden Kingfishers, The Street)
Thu 16	12.25pm	Ploughmnan's Lunch (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Fri 17	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Sat 18	noon – 4.00pm	Old Basing Village Fun Day (off Milkingpen Lane)
Thu 23	2.00pm – 4.00pm	PIOCC Churchyard Conservation (meet noticeboard)
	7.30pm	RBL Women's Section General Meeting (Jack Morris Hall)
Fri 24	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)
Fri 24 – Sun 26		St Mary's Church Flower Festival (St Mary's Church)
Sun 26	10.30am – 1.00pm	Indoor & Outdoor Car Boot Sale (Old Basing Village Hall)
Mon 27		Armed Forces Golf Day (Sherfield Oaks Golf Course)
Tue 28	8.00pm	AGM Beddington Centre (Beddington Centre)

BASINGA EXTRA

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

Basingstoke & District Railway Society; Basingstoke and Deane Rotary; Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship; Basingstoke Lions Club; BDDF Free Postal Newsletter Service; Free Courses with RCS; Hampshire & Isle Of Wight Wildlife Trust; Probus Enjoys a Twin Visit to Salisbury; Refunds on Event Tickets; Sunflower Celebration; U3A Blue Skies and Bluebells; Ukraine Supporters Network



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● OLD BASING & LYCHPIT PARISH COUNCIL

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

● CHURCH INFORMATION FOR THE AREA

Church of England (Parish of Old Basing & Lychpit)

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

Regular Services at St Mary's Church, Old Basing

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

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

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

Old Basing Methodist Church

MINISTER: Rev'd David Jenkins	0118 3271592 07973 195566
--------------------------------------	------------------------------

SUNDAY SERVICE: Morning Service 10.30am

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Lychpit

Community Hall

Relax Yoga

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Tuesday's

19.15 - 20.15

St Mary's

Church Hall,

Old Basing

Sunday Morning Yoga

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Sunday's

09.15 - 10.15

Lychpit

Community Hall

Sunday Night Satsang

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1st Sunday

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18.30 - 19.30

Lychpit

Community Hall



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