May 2018

BASINGA



Tony Tuck





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

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MAY 2018 - NOTES AND NEWS

The **cover photo** this month by **Tony Tuck** is the opening of a new project, the **Old Basing Book Exchange** (see below for details).

On a sad note, **Glaysher Family Butcher** (see below and page 19) was forced to close its doors for the last time on 31st March. Opened in June 2008, a lady by the name of Lorraine Self was the first customer, she was the last customer as well – rather fitting.

BASINGA ARTICLES

We welcome both regular and occasional items for the Basinga. The very last date for copy to the **Editor** for the **JUNE edition** is by **6 pm** on **Thursday**, **10th May**. Send emails to: **editor@basinga.org.uk** All advertising enquiries – classified, free adverts or inserts (flyers) to **advertising@basinga.org.uk** Don't forget that we only accept articles with **300 words maximum**. All articles sent by email should be sent to the **Editor** as an **attachment**.

If we are unable to get your copy in this month's edition please look for it on our website (Basinga Extra): www.basinga.org.uk (see page 38 for a full list this month).

THE OLD BASING BOOK EXCHANGE

A book exchange project in **Old Basing** was officially opened on **Saturday, 7th Apri**l, by local children's author **Sue Lawrence** who wrote the charming *Harry, A Cat's Tale*.

The formerly dilapidated **Pyotts Hill red telephone kiosk** was adopted and refurbished by the **Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council**. With its new lease of life it was relocated nearby, and now sits on the approach to the **Old Basing Recreation Ground**, adjacent to **Olivers Battery**.

The idea of a village book exchange came from local business owner **Laura Haystaff** of **The Topiary Salon**. "I have seen book exchanges popping up in villages similar to ours and thought was a great idea for our own. We held an exchange before Christmas at our salon, and the idea carried from there."

Local families were treated to a book reading from Sue Lawrence on the lawns of the recreation ground before cutting the ribbon to launch the village project.

Laura added, "With many thanks to the parish council for helping this come to fruition, I hope the villagers will enjoy having their our own little library on their doorstep".

Residents of all ages will be able exchange a book they no longer need for a new read. The community project will run annually from **Easter to the end of October**, it will be continued to be sponsored by The Topiary hair salon and supported by the parish council. For information please visit the project's **Facebook** page **@OldBasingBookExchange**

GLAYSHER FAMILY BUTCHERS CLOSURE

Glaysher Family Butchers in Belle Vue Road has closed it doors for the last time. "We would like to thank our regular customers for their loyal support all year round, with special thanks going to Mikki and Duncan at the Bolton Arms, for their tremendous loyalty for the last ten years and Hazel Vanbergen and Susan McKenna for their continued advertising campaign over the years. All our regulars will be sadly missed." (see also page 19).

Chris, Kay, Kimberley and Chris

OLD BASING & LYCHPIT VILLAGE SHOW

Well spring has arrived, well not as this is written for the May Basinga. It does mean though that the long-awaited **2018 edition** of the **Village Show Schedule** is now available at **outlets around the village.** So hopefully the gardens are beginning to bloom and all the hard work through the long winter evenings on all your handicrafts has not been wasted.

You can now get hold of the Schedule and decide which class, or classes you are going to enter for the **Show** on **Sunday**, **9th September**, in the **Old Basing Village Hall**.

You can of course look at the **Village Show website** for all the details of the **Schedule** and also for tips and hints of how to prepare your entries for the Show at **www.oblvs.org.uk**

OLD BASING VILLAGE HALL - AGM

The Old Basing Village Hall AGM will be held on Thursday, 10th May, at 8 pm, in the Frank Goddard Room at the Village Hall. Refreshments will precede the meeting.

Our committee member numbers are dwindling and so, again, we appeal for volunteers to attend our AGM in the hope they would be interested in joining our Management Committee. We meet approximately six times per year to discuss the maintenance and management of this wonderful asset to the village of Old Basing.

Why not come along, have a drink, listen to how the hall is looked after and maybe join our team. We look forward to seeing you on the night.

Sue Ingleby, Treasurer

CARNIVAL TOMBOLA

I am again asking for donations for the yearly **Carnival Tombola** on **Saturday, 16th June**. With kind permission of the **Co-op manager** I will leave a **green box** situated **near the tills** which I come and empty regularly. I appreciate anything suitable, such as toiletries/anything the shop sells/unwanted presents /bottles, always make the stall attractive.

Kath Davies, tel. 01256 473402

BUS ROUTE 55

Bus Route 55 went out to tendor at the beginning of February. I am happy to say that **Basingstoke Community Transport** won the contract for the next three years. However we have cancelled the bus going to the **Hospital** via **Popley** as it was not getting the usage so now the bus just goes from **Old Basing** to **Tesco**.

We are now looking to start a pilot route going from **Tesco**, on to **Lidl**, then on to **Waitrose**, and ending in **Church Street**, Basingstoke, but we first need to establish if there would be any interest.

For any thoughts on this proposal please contact: Andy Lipscombe, Operations Manager, Basingstoke Community Transport Chute House, Church Street, Basingstoke, RG21 7QT. Tel. 01256 320501; mobile: 07584 177909; email: andy_bct@hotmail.co.uk

Andy Lipscombe





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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

DUDLEY CLARKE

Councillors were sorry to learn of the death of **Dudley (Doug) Clarke** who passed away on 18th March. Doug was a Councillor for many years including serving as Parish Council Chairman and Chairman of the Planning Committee.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year's **meeting** will be held in the **Parish Room**, adjacent to **St Mary's Church**, on **Tuesday**, **15th May**, **at 7.30 pm**. Our **Speaker** this year will be **Councillor Hayley Eachus** who will talk about waste and recycling locally.

OLD BASING BOOK EXCHANGE

See page 3 for information

MILKINGPEN LANE BRIDGE

The saga continues – many will have been inconvenienced over Easter by further flooding under the bridge. Network Rail are now fully engaged in trying to locate the source of the problem and will be carrying out further work in this respect. In addition, County and Borough Councillors visited the site on Easter Saturday with Cllr Ron Hubbard, the Portfolio Holder for Highways, so he could see for himself the extent of the regular problem faced by residents.

FALSE TELEPHONE PREFERENCE SERVICE CALLS

Information, Action Fraud, Hampshire: Fraudsters are cold-calling victims stating they are calling from a well-known UK telecommunication service provider and claim to provide a 'Telephone Preference Service' (an enhanced call-barring service), which includes barring international call centres. Victims are asked to confirm/provide bank account details and told there is a one-off charge for the service. Instead, they see unauthorised monthly debits deducted from their accounts. The fraudsters often target the elderly and in all cases direct debits are set up without following proper procedures. The victim is not sent written confirmation of the direct debit instruction, which should be sent within three days. When victims attempted to call back, the number was either unreachable or the direct debit cancellation request was refused.

Protect yourself: There is only one Telephone Preference Service (TPS) which is the only official UK 'do-not-call' register for opting out of live telesales calls. It is FREE to sign-up – TPS never charge for registration. You can register at **www.tpsonline.org.uk** – you will receive postal confirmation of genuine direct debits. If you notice unauthorised payments leaving your account, contact your bank. Always be wary of providing personal information, or confirming personal information the caller claims to hold is correct and be certain you know who you are talking to. If in doubt hang up immediately. If you have been affected by this, or any other type of fraud, report it to **Action Fraud** at **www.actionfraud.police.uk** or call **0300 123 2040**.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates (open to the public) are Tuesdays, 1st May, and 5th June, at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion. If you have impaired mobility, contact the Parish Office.

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

Clerk: Mrs Sandra Tuck Deputy Clerk: Mrs Heather Mountford

Address: The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, The Street, Old Basing, RG24 7DA (tel. 01256)

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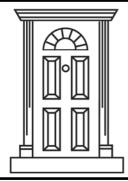


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NEWS FROM BASING HOUSE

Our first couple of weeks of opening in 2018 were remarkable and we thank our neighbours for bearing with us through this time. Firstly, we discovered we had travellers in our car park, and we only just moved those on before the annual arrival of the Sealed Knot. Generally, these re-enactors camp out for the duration of their visit on the field between Bartons Mill and Swing Swang Lane, but this year's constant rain made it difficult to drive into this area, and even harder to be sure you would be able to drive off again at the end. As a result many of them, quite understandably, chose not to park in the field and chose to use Bartons Lane and our visitor car park instead. As a result they, and the visitors who braved the weather, rather congested the area. And it really was bad in the field with most of the caravans having to be towed out by a tractor when they left.

In May, we hope we are back to our normal programme. We'll have guided tours, generally on Tuesdays and Thursdays, setting out from the Visitor Centre by the Great Barn at 1.30 pm. Thursday Morning Craft Mornings continue, although Thursday, 24th May, is the one Thursday this season without one. Our courses this month are the Photo Walkshop, on Saturday, 19th May, when participants can walk the grounds of Basing House with a professional photographer and discover new camera techniques and skills as they explore different locations. All cameras, ages and abilities are welcome. Finally, there is wood engraving on Thursday, 24th May. Full details of these courses and their costs, and those for the rest of the year are at www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/venue-events/68 (remember, your standard ticket now lasts all year).

Andrew Howard, tel. 01256 327014

THE MILL FIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

EVENT NEWS

May brings the start of our summer events, the first of which will be a guided Morning Bird Walk through the reserve on Tuesday, 8th May, at 8 am. Our expert guide will point out and identify, by sight and sound, the birds present in and around the field – always an interesting and informative experience. We'll meet by the play area, in the corner of the field nearest to Bartons Mill Pub. However, if you miss the start then we should be easy to spot somewhere in the field. As ever, all are welcome.

WHAT'S AROUND THIS MONTH

During May we'll be seeing much more wildlife around the field, with many of our migrant species of birds returning and more butterflies beginning to appear. Swifts will start arriving, joining the Swallows and House Martins that will already be here. Other migrants making their presence heard include the Whitethroat, Garden warblers and Willow warblers along with the distinctive sound of the Cuckoo, also watch for the Goldfinches singing from the tops of bushes as they're nesting. Evening visitors to the field will likely see the Tawny Owl on its regular hunts, as well as perhaps two species of bats, the Pipistrelle with its irregular flight above head height, and the less common, Common Serotine, its broad wings giving it a more leisurely flight at about tree-top height.

Drop in on our Facebook page, regularly updated with stunning photos of the field's wildlife

Anne Francis, tel. 07974 944439; Email: millfieldoldbasing@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: Mill Field Conservation Group

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Milkingpen Lane flood

My name is Stephen Poulter. I was born in the village of Old Basing in 1958. Apart from some years away, I have lived in the village all of my life.

I moved back to the village in 2013. Up till then I have never seen the bridge in Milkingpen Lane flood as bad as it has now. I am one for safety in every way, I also like to help people when I can. To this end I have had words with the Highways Authority about putting up the signs closing the lane as and when we need to, and a lot quicker than the Highways Authorities can do it.

There are some, however, who think that these warning and closed signs are to be ignored, to their costs. Yes some 4 X 4 vehicles may get through the flooded bridge, but to date there are many drivers who have come unstuck!

I would like to thank the many people in the village who have thanked me for keeping them from becoming a victim of the flood but I would like to point out to those who are moving the signs, please remember if you are caught by the police removing these vital signs, you could face up to a £1,000 fine.

I am sorry to cause the school run problems but I would rather them take a long way around and be safe rather than end up in the middle of a flooded bridge and face large insurance increases.

Mr Stephen Poulter, Milkingpen Lane, Old Basing. Email: s_poulter@LIVE.COM

LITTER

Litter and particularly plastic litter is a real problem worldwide but also in our parish. Over the last six years, whilst walking my dog, I've collected over 300 carrier bags of the stuff from various woods, paths and fields in and around Lychpit and Old Basing. I've attached some photographs. (See Basinga website). Despite recent bad weather I've collected 20 bags already this year, about half of which I've cleared from the Loddon. Each week I remain disappointed by the 'fresh' litter (predominantly plastic bottles and drinks cans) left by those too idle to take their litter home. What's worse though is the disgraceful lack of interest and response from local town councillors.

Over the years I've brought the problem to our elected representatives' attentions numerous times only to be ignored or at best provided with an inadequate, disinterested response and a complete and utter failure to do anything positive! Perhaps I should start depositing all the rubbish I collect at the reception of our civic offices or our councillors' homes? That might stimulate some action.

If anyone would like to join me in helping remove this awful plastic rubbish from our parish, I would be happy for them to contact me via my email address. There would be no onerous commitment involved, just some co-ordination and keeping track of efforts made so that we can quantify what we achieve and perhaps persuade or shame our councillors into taking some positive action themselves.

Jeremy van Hagen, 10 Higher Mead, Lychpit. Email: jeremyvanhagen@gmail.com



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FRIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING: The next occasions will be at the home of Mrs Betty Lewis 8 Olivers Walk Lychpit on 4th May and then at the home of Mrs Dusty Brough 7 Olivers Walk Lychpit on 1st June (both at 10.30 am to noon).

THE PINK PLACE CHARITY PAMPER EVENING: Wednesday 16th May. 6.30 to 10.00 pm at The Holiday Inn, Basingstoke, RG21 3EE. Relax and enjoy an evening dedicated to your wellbeing. Therapies from £7 including manicure, massage, reiki, trade stalls and much more. Tickets cost £10pp and this includes a welcome drink. For ticket sales please contact Natasha on 07899 970 841 or email: pinkplaceinfo@gmail.com

THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH OLD BASING AND LYCHPIT: Are having their AGM on Wednesday 16 May at 7pm in the Bolton Chapel. Reverend Alec will be giving a talk about the Church after the meeting.

BOLTON UNDER 5's SUMMER FAYRE: Saturday 12th May 12-3 pm. Bouncy Castles, Face painting, Sports day games, Crafts, Local business stalls, BBQ, Pimms, refreshments, Cake stall and much more. A fun filled, Royal Wedding themed day for all the family! Advance tickets available from Bolton Under 5s Preschool and includes entrance, unlimited bouncy castle, 1 soft drink, a burger/hotdog and craft activities. £5 per child/£4 per adult. Entry only tickets available on the day. £2 per child/£1 per adult.

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IS THIS THE END FOR THE HIGH STREET?

For years, I have shopped at the local Glaysher Family Butchers for excellent meat, sausages of almost infinite variety, home-made pies and pasties, and service with a smile, wit and a genuine interest in the needs and lives of villagers. Sadly, the shop is closing tomorrow because there are not enough customers to keep it going. There are 5,500 homes in the village, but the issue is that over the past three years more and more people have turned to home delivery from the supermarkets or order their meat from internet suppliers. This closure follows the local artisan bakery, which used to sell fresh bread every day. Now, they bake loaves only at the weekend and for special orders. They just couldn't compete with the supermarkets. Office workers would queue for freshly made rolls and sandwiches at the local cafe, but after a M&S Simply Food opened nearby, joining the huge Tesco, local trade has fallen off a cliff. When the owner of the general store retired, no one was willing to take on the business and so it closed. Not everyone wants or is able to drive to shopping centres, buy in bulk or purchase online. Shopping for everyday items has always been one of the major activities of village life and provides an opportunity for isolated elderly residents to associate with others. But 2018 in my village means we no longer have daily deliveries by the postman, milk is delivered only a couple of times a week due to economies of scale, the bus service is limited, there is no Post Office, the ATM is not always working and in winter the side roads are not gritted and the payements are death traps for the unwary. Yes, there are attractions to living in the countryside, but a village life based on four wheels and the internet is doomed.

Mrs HAZEL VANBERGEN, Old Basing, Hants

(This article appeared in the *Daily Mail*, on **30th March**, **2018** –a sad indictment of modern village life in Old Basing, and modern village life in general?)

NWR - A DISCUSSION GROUP FOR WOMEN

As 2018 is the centenary of the 1918 Suffrage Act it seemed appropriate to have a meeting on the Suffrage movement and find out a little more about the women involved and their remarkable lives. We all did a little research (so much easier these days with Google!) and had some interesting stories to share with the rest of the group about the actions of some of these amazing women and the indignities many of them had to endure in their quest to achieve votes for women.

We will also be having our **monthly lunch club** and **Reading Group meetings**. Usually our meetings are held in the **afternoon** on the **first Monday of each month**, unless there is a bank holiday, and for our next meeting on **Monday**, **30th April**, we will share various **bucket lists** – from those of us who have one of course! Our **Reading Group** meets on the **fourth Thursday of the month**, in the **evening**, and this month we will be discussing **The Vinegar Girl** by **Anne Tyler**.

If you want to check us out, our meetings are very friendly and informal, usually but not always, in the afternoon in each others' homes. There is a lot of information about **NWR** at **nwr.org.uk** or to find out more about our group in particular, or to come along to any of our meetings (no obligation to join), contact **Avril Keable**, email: **avrilkeable@hotmail.co.uk** or tel. **01256 322832**; or **Evelyn Jones**, email: **evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk** or tel. **01256 816636**.



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OLD BASING WI

In April we enjoyed a fascinating talk by Jill Daniels. Her subject was the New Forest which, despite its name, is one of the oldest royal hunting areas in the country, and created by William 1st as a royal hunting forest. We galloped around the New Forest towns and villages by way of a slide show and learnt many interesting facts about the people who lived there, including William Tyrrell who allegedly shot William Rufus with a bow and arrow, and Alice Hargreaves who is buried at Lyndhurst Church and who was the inspiration for Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 1st May, at 7.30 pm in the Parish Room, St Mary's Church, which will be the Member's AGM. The competition that evening will be a homemade cake to be judged by the members. Other events coming up include a trip to see Singin' in the Rain, at The Haymarket in May, and a trip on the Watercress Line, as well as the regular walks, lunches and coffee meetings.

For further information about the Old Basing WI please go to **www.hampshirewi.org.uk** click on WI's from the top of the page and select Old Basing from the list.

OLD BASING TENNIS CLUB

Hopefully May will see us playing tennis on some lovely evenings – either at **club nights** (**Tuesday** and **Friday** at **6 pm**) or when playing league matches.

On **Saturday**, **12th May**, we are holding an **LTA Open Day**, between **11 am** and **3 pm**. This day is **free** and we shall provide rackets and balls. So if you, or any member of your family, would like to 'have a go' please do come along and see the club's great location, courts and clubhouse and have some fun! We would love to see you! We welcome new members at any time and we shall have a membership offer on the day.

For more information about the club please contact either the Secretary: **info@obltc.org.uk** or the Chair: **lynne.thomas82btinternet.com**

BASINGSTOKE AND DISTRICT RAILWAY SOCIETY

Our first meeting in May will bring us right up to date with the modern railway. On **Wednesday, 9th May**, Dave Penney, the Managing Director of Chiltern Railways, which has been recognised as one of the country's most innovative and go-ahead passenger operations in recent years, will tell us all about **'Running a Modern Railway'**.

The following meeting, on **Wednesday, 23rd May**, will also tell us something of the trials and tribulations of running a railway, only this time it will be one of Britain's premier heritage railways. Ian Foot, who has had various roles during 29 Years on the **North York Moors Railway**, will give us a talk to include a short history, a description of the line and an insight into running over Network Rail tracks to Whitby.

Our meetings are held at 7.45 pm at the Wote Street Club in New Road in Basingstoke town centre. We welcome new members to the Society and we are always pleased to see non-members at our meetings. More information about the Society, membership and future meetings can be found on our website www.bdrs70d.com or telephone 01256 331002.

THE PEACE, WHICH PASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING

In the leaving,

in the letting go,

let there be this to hold onto at the last:

the remembering of joy,

the offering of gratitude,

the persisting of hope,

the enduring of love,

the receiving of grace,

the blessing of peace.

(Jan Richardson)

Where do you find peace? Lingering beside the crystal clear river Loddon, rambling across a buttercup strewn Basing common, sharing sprouts at a Big Turkey Community Lunch, sitting at the bedside of a dying lady still giving out her blessings, sharing landlord's generous fare at the Bolton with weary carol singers, drumming with a Katakala visitor overjoyed by her Basing welcome, stopping for a cuppa after OBL Good Neighbours' hospital run to hear wartime tales, praying in the churchyard under starlit sky, gazing into the eyes of the lamb of God in the west window at St Mary's altar, sitting amidst a gaggle of school children creating images of God's creation, simply sharing tea in The Bakehouse or at the Methodist church, dropping a rabbit at the feet of your supper providers?

You may have more exotic examples in your life where you feel at peace, but in all of the above and many more, I (or in one case my dog Dougan), have found deep peace here in Old Basing and Lychpit. We often think of peace as an absence – of noise, distraction, busyness. But peace is something much more. Not simply absence, but presence. Inner presence. Shortly after Jesus' resurrection, and at his ascension, Jesus offered his disciples the hope and gift of peace as presence – 'My peace I leave you, my peace I give you'. The peace which fills our emptiness, which floods our hearts, which passes our understanding. God's peace.

Sometimes it's in the freedom and space we create for others in a letting go, where the deep blessing of peace can be found. Today I write for the last time in this great Basinga (such a wonderful example of community generosity and care, connecting so many, freely). This month I shall be ending my time here serving as curate in the parish; in June moving from St Mary's to serve in new communities, beginning by assisting across the Basingstoke churches team. I have found real peace and joy here in wonderful Old Basing & Lychpit, in a community where beauty, goodness and loving care are found day-in, day-out.

It has been such a blessing to live and serve here with you, and I shall be so sad to leave. Thank you for all your kindness, warmth, hospitality, love (and more than a little patience!) over the last nearly three years. It would be wonderful to see you at a final, **all-age**, **service** at **St Mary's** on **Sunday**, **13th May**, at **10 am** (please stay for refreshments).

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of one another, and may you be deeply blessed.

With love, thanks, and ongoing prayers,

Rev Sarah, and dog Dougan

THIS MONTH AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

Saturday 5 May Men's Breakfast Group from 8.45 to 10 am. Men of all ages are

invited to join us for good food and fellowship.

Wednesday 9 May Songs of Praise at Basingfield Court at 2.30 pm (all welcome)

Thursday 10 May

Early Morning Ascension Day Service at 8 am (outside St Mary's), followed by breakfast. All welcome to both or either.

There will be 24 hours of Prayer in the Bolton Chapel – 9 am Thursday through to 9 am Friday. Part of Thy Kingdom Come

novena of prayer across the world (see details in church).

Sunday 13 May Ascension Sunday All-Age Worship. NB: 10 am (Rev Sarah's

farewell service).

Sunday 13–19 May Christian Aid Week ending with camping and Big Brekkie. Please

join us camping in the churchyard on Friday 18th to Saturday 19th in support of Christian Aid Week (£10 per pitch). For more information tel. 07884 353030 or visit our Facebook page.

Traidcraft Stall after the **9.30** am service in the **Parish Room** selling all kinds of Fair Trade food and craft items with the proceeds going to the producers in developing countries. *St Mary's is a Fair Trade church*.

Sunday 20 May Pentecost Sunday

After the weekly **9.30** am service at St Mary's refreshments are served in the **Parish Room** which is an informal setting in which to meet other members of the congregation. If you have time after the service do join us, you will be very welcome.

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

OLD BASING METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesdays 1 and 15 May Craft Group Tuesday. Bring your own craft or items will be

provided (2 to 4 pm).

Tuesday 8 May MHA lunch Club followed by games (noon to pm)

Friday 11May 'Coffee Break' our monthly coffee morning (10.30 am to noon)

Tuesday 22 May Prayer time and reflection (from 2 pm)

Our regular **Sunday worship** starts at **10.30 am**, coffee and tea are served after the service. Children are welcome into our junior church.

Come and join us for Worship, Friday coffee and Tuesday craft – a warm welcome awaits you.

Debbie Robertson

CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION GROUP (PIOCC)

Thank you to everyone who attended last month's **AGM**. It was lovely seeing you. This month the **working parties** will be on **Saturday**, **5th May**, at **10 am** and **Thursday**, **24th May**, at **2 pm** – meet in the **church lobby**. We will start the new maintenance summer season when we strim and collect the grass for composting to reduce the fertility of the area to encourage the wild flowers. All are very welcome. We look forward to seeing our regular volunteers and also new participants.

This is a community project, not just for churchgoers, so please come along if you would like to be involved. We will give you a warm welcome. Just turn up in gardening clothes and bring gloves. The tools are provided. Our **Saturday morning sessions** last about **thee hours** (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our **Thursday afternoons** about **two hours**.

The Conservation Area is a community space for everyone to enjoy. Although the dawn chorus crescendos at first light, the birds continue to sing during the day as they command territories for nesting. Butterflies and bees appear on the warmer sunny days. Often the best time to see them is after a rain shower when they are cooler and fly less vigorously. If you look carefully amongst the longer grass you may also spot Ragged Robin with its fringed pink petals and the paler petals of Ladies Smock, plants associated with traditional water meadows, like those that ran through the village alongside the River Loddon. 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 for reflection.

For further information please ring Fay Farrant on 01256 476863.

Margaret Carr - email: www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH SUMMER FESTIVAL

Calling all local artists. The popular **Art Exhibition** will be part of **St Mary's Summer Festival** during the weekend of **7th** and **8th July** and we are inviting local artists, whatever their media, to exhibit. The exhibition will be part of a festival weekend with a **Flower Festival** and **open gardens**. If you would like to **exhibit** please contact **Brenda Chapman** on **01256 467036**. Alternatively, **entry forms** will be available from **St Mary's Church**. For artists and non-artists alike, save the weekend to come and enjoy flowers, music, gardens and, of course, art.

Tricia Renwick. Churchwarden

DOROTHY AND COLIN LOVERIDGE

Jan and family would like to thank friends, neighbours and local family for all their support during recent sad times, with the death of **Colin**, aged 80, in January and then **Dorothy**, aged 94, in March. Thank you too to all those who donated in memory of Dorothy and Colin to The Royal British Legion.

Dorothy (previously Hine, nee Dyke) was particularly active in the local community, having been an Auxiliary Fire woman, then a 'Special Constable/Sergeant' for 20 years, whilst also teaching cycling proficiency at schools, safety in the home to Brownies and Guides, a spell as a lollipop lady, a Parish Councillor, and a long-standing member of The Royal British Legion. Many will remember her from these roles over the years.

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COFFEE CATCH UP CAFÉ (IN SUPPORT OF THE SCOUT HUT APPEAL)

The Coffee Catch Up Café will be re-opening its doors over the summer months, starting on Friday, 11th May, with all proceeds going to the Old Basing Scout Hut Appeal. The café will be open every Friday, 2 to 4 pm, in the Parish Room of St Mary's Church. We look forward to seeing you!

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

They are moments of movie magic. Gene Kelly joyously dancing down the street in the pouring rain. Donald O'Connor's amazing physical dexterity in *Make 'Em Laugh*. Gene, Donald and Debbie Reynolds skipping over the sofa in *Good Mornin'*, *Good Mornin'*! Now see them recreated on stage, as **Basingstoke Amateur Theatrical Society** brings one of the best-loved musical comedies of all time to **The Haymarket**.

Singin' in the Rain is the hilarious tale of 1920s Hollywood struggling to cope with the introduction of "talking pictures". Among the cast of talented local performers is Bryn Hughes as film idol Don Lockwood – the Gene Kelly role. Don's screen partnership with silent movie diva Lina Lamont, played by Kirsty Bennett, is loved by the film-going public – but in reality they can't stand each other! Much to Lina's fury, Don falls in love with young actress Kathy Selden, played by Anneke Wass, while Don's best friend Cosmo Brown, played by William Keel-Stocker, keeps the laughs coming. Stars are born, egos are bruised, every song and dance number is a lavish spectacle! And yes...you may get wet!

Celebrating 60 years of **BATS**, *Singin'* in the *Rain* promises to be a joyful evening at the theatre – packed with great musical numbers – and may even inspire you to swing round the nearest lamppost! *Singin'* in *The Rain* is directed by Ray Jeffery and the musical director is Trevor Defferd. Choreography is by Julie Morris and Karen McCloy.

Singin' in The Rain is at The Haymarket, Basingstoke, from Wednesday 9th to Saturday 19th May. Performances at 7.30 pm with extra 2.30 pm shows on Saturdays 12th and 19th.

Buy tickets from www.anvilarts.org.uk call 01256 844244 or visit the Anvil Arts box office.

BOLTON UNDER 5'S PRESCHOOL

We hope everyone had a lovely Easter break – we finished the last term with lots of exciting visitors come in to chat to the children, including Rev Sarah from the church and the local dentist. This new half term we are planning more visits from other local organisations as well as getting outside more and more, using our lovely garden and going for nature walks.

If you are interested in your child joining our preschool, we have spaces and would welcome you to come in and meet our staff, see our setting in action, etc. Please do call on **07881 920709** or **01256 326196** to arrange a time for a visit.

Please save the date for our **Royal Wedding-themed Summer Fayre** on **Saturday, 12th May** (see page 17 for details).

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LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE ACADEMY

Dementia Awareness Week runs from Tuesday 15th until Monday, 21st May, this year. In the UK there are about 800,000 people with dementia. A diagnosis of dementia is often devastating to the person concerned and of course, their friends and family members. Although not a "magic solution", it is interesting to note that several recent studies have shown that bilingualism can delay the age of onset of dementia. For a while now it has been known that several lifestyle factors – such as healthy eating, exercise and mental activity – could help to reduce our risk of dementia, but it's encouraging to think that the type of mental activity which switching between different languages offers, is particularly helpful. This is possibly good news for the majority of the world, since it is estimated that over half of the people in the world are bilingual or multilingual. Sadly however, it is estimated that over 95% of the British population are monolingual English speakers and therefore do not speak another language fluently.

And if you take the numbers studying languages at school, college and/or university, it's not looking as though there's going to be much change soon. According to a recent survey, less than half of secondary school pupils take a Modern Foreign Language GCSE, with just one third achieving a good grade.

Let us though, not end on a negative note. We at Linguatastic are delighted to be teaching many talented and dedicated young people and adults and as we enter the exam period, would like to wish them all the very best with sitting the various papers. For further information on the cognitive benefits of bilingualism, please do not hesitate to email: **info@linguatastic.com** and we'd be happy to forward you some interesting articles. For further information on Dementia, visit: **alzheimers.org.uk**

CHINEHAM LIBRARY

We hope that you enjoyed your Easter break and are enjoying the lighter evenings. We already have some more events for your diaries: there is 'Beyond Narnia' on Thursday, 14th June, at 7.30 pm, which will include readings from the works of C.S. Lewis. Then the annual Summer Reading Challenge starts in July. Please consider whether you could assist with this if you are aged 14 plus, and could offer even one slot a week to work with the local children.

All the regular activities take place as usual with Rhymetimes on Tuesdays, for under ones at 10 am and over ones at 11 am. There are craft sessions on Saturdays, 5th May and 2nd June, to drop in to between 10 am and noon, and Storytimes at 10 am on all other Saturdays, except Elmer Day on the 26th May. Saturday afternoons there is Lego to play with at Construction Club between 2 and 3.30 pm. Age Concern provide IT training for the over 50s on Wednesday mornings, with sessions bookable through their office on 01256 423874.

Our regular groups will meet as usual with Crime Reading group on Saturdays 12th May and 9th June, and the Saturday Reading Group on 26th May and 30th June. The CHIPPS reading group will meet on Wednesdays, 9th May and 13th June, and Chatterbooks for junior-school-aged children on Thursdays 10th May and 14th June. For further information about these and the next Coding Club please contact the Library. The Writing Group will meet on Thursdays 3rd and 31st May, 5.30 to 7 pm, and anyone else with an interest in creative writing would be very welcome to join. Please see social media for the latest information or ask the staff.

Cathy Foster

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OLD BASING INFANT SCHOOL

March was a 'sporty' month for us at Old Basing Infants despite 'The Beast from the East' doing its best to upset our plans! Various children have taken part in an **inter-school gymnastics competition** and attended a **Football Festival**. On both occasions the children showed great enthusiasm and teamwork living up to our school values.

We also had a **'Sports Week'** leading up to Sport Relief Day. Despite the cold temperatures children took part in a Skipathon, Hoola-Hoopathon, a dance-off contest, Kwik Cricket, our annual Sports' Morning and ended the week completing the Sport Relief mile whilst dressed as famous sports stars. I think I speak for all the staff when I say that the childrens' skills, enthusiasm and resilience was nothing short of amazing. The children also learned how the money raised for Sport Relief gets used to help children less fortunate than them. Thanks must go to our PE leader, Miss Fish, for ensuring our children have access to such a great range of sporting opportunities.

In addition to a wide range of physical activities we also encourage children to develop their mental strength and resilience. In the past, we were fortunate to have a **volunteer** to run a very popular **Chess Club** at the school and are now looking for someone to take this on again. So, do you have a passion for chess and a spare 45 minutes on one afternoon a week that you could dedicate to teaching a small group of keen chess 'newbies'? The club would run after school finishes at **3.15 pm**. If you would be interested in helping us out please contact **Mrs McCarley**, head teacher, via the school office on **01256 325704**. Thank you, in anticipation,

A. Attenborough, Yr R Class Teacher

PROBUS HAS A TASTE OF THE VYNE

The history of this local Tudor Palace, situated south of Bramley, and its much publicised roof project were the subject of a talk given by Chris Burrows to the Probus Club of Basingstoke. Built in 1268 the building was added to over the years. Sir William Sandys, had developed the property into a Tudor palace, and had the honour and great cost of being a recipient of the King Henry V111 and Queen Anne Boleyn's "progress" in 1535. Baron Sandys endowed the Holy Ghost Chapel in Basingstoke and is buried there. The painted glass windows from the Chapel were installed at The Vyne, some of which underwent restoration in 2016. Chaloner Chute bought the Tudor palace in 1653 demolished it in 1665, rebuilding in the Palladium style. In 1767 John Chute began further modernisation and installed the grand staircase that can be seen today. The Vyne, was bequeathed, by Sir Charles Chute, to the National Trust in 1956.

After years of patching up the extensive roof it was decided to completely remove and replace was the best course of action. Started in 2014 a cover was constructed over the whole building including a lift for materials and passengers. Some chimneys were taken down so that a walkway could be constructed around the complex for the use of 150,000 visitors. February 2018 saw the walkway removed so that the original chimneys could be rebuilt. Some 70,000 hand-made tiles have been used of which nearly 13,000 were bought by visitors in the "Tagatile" scheme allowing personal messages to be written raising £64,000 towards the budget of £5,400,000.

It will take three months to remove the roof covering and 41 miles of scaffolding but without the use of a helicopter or aerial photographs no one else will be able to wonder at the skill levels used by the renovation team over the last four years.



Lee Quinlan

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BUILDING YOUR DREAMS

BASINGSTOKE LIONS CLUB

At the last business meeting we elected our Officers for the next year – actually it was more of a recycling job which is a great pity. I say that because one of the best features of membership is that it allows you to do jobs you've never done before in a truly supportive atmosphere. For instance the three members who joined in 2012 have undertaken website (design and technical aspects), Twitter, Facebook, Membership Secretary, Dinner Secretary, Welfare Director and President – things they'd never done before but in which they are now thoroughly proficient. They all developed their own ideas on the subjects which they applied with the assistance and support of the other members. Success breeds confidence! You should try it! Come and join us!

Our last fundraising event was *Murder in the Main* put on for us by Ann Davis and The Oakley Pantomime Society. It was a fascinating evening's entertainment. Each table became a team of detectives. We started with a "Crime Writers" quiz. Then the actors took to the stage to portray the seamy side of Oakley village life (I want to go and live in Oakley!) It had convoluted relationships of all sorts – familial, amorous and financial which led to a death. But who did it and why? It was up to the teams to decide. It was clear that at our table there was no meeting of minds. So we resorted to the democratic process. No wonder the country's in such a mess! We were wrong, wrong, wrong! But it was wonderful fun. In the next life I'm gonna be an MP!

Our next foray into fundraising was when we ran the bar for the Basingstoke Breast Cancer Self Help Group (BBCSHG) at their variety concert in Queen Mary's College Hall, organised by Renée Smith. What an enormous success that was. There were 240 people who turned up to watch an incredible variety of acts (dancers, bands, singers and comedians) perform. It was obviously very thirsty work because we had the busiest night behind the bar that we've ever had. We donated our net profit of £300 to the BBCSHG who wound up the evening with a very spirited rendition of "We Are The Champions" which they surely are!

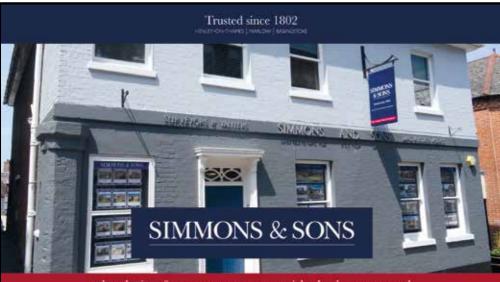
In addition to that we spent £474.94 replacing/repairing furniture and white goods for families without the resources to do it for themselves. We pledged a further £1,190 to help six other cases, two for child assistance, three for equipment for elderly people, and a donation towards a minibus replacement. We have 11 other petitions under consideration.

To conclude, I can do no better than to reiterate last month's plea. Our fundraising and welfare work has helped many people and many organisations over the past 50 years. But, without new members, the help which has been vital to so many may soon disappear. Please consider joining us. You can get in touch with us through our website **www.basingstokelions.org.uk** (just put your contact details on the "Contact Us" page). Someone will get in touch and invite you to come along to one of our meetings where you can see what we are like; there would be absolutely no pressure on you to join - just an opportunity to 'suck it and see'...

BASINGSTOKE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT FELLOWSHIP

The **next meeting** is on **Wednesday**, **2nd May**, when the speaker will be Alan Grace on Amazing Berlin 1914–1989. The group meets on the **first Wednesday of each month** at **Brookvale Village Hall** from **10 am** to **noon** and all retired Civil Servants and their partners are welcome. Further details about meetings and outings can be obtained from the Secretary **Tony Brazier** on **01256 418770**.

David Cowling



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OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION UPDATE

MONTHLY BRANCH MEETING

The monthly branch meeting will be on Thursday, 10th May (a week later than normal because of Council elections), 7.45 for 8 pm in the Jack Morris Hall at the Royal British Legion in Crown Lane.

Rick Bourne

COFFEE MORNING AND PLANT SALE

On Saturday, 12th May, we have our ever-popular Coffee Morning and Plant Sale from 10 am till 1 pm in the Jack Morris Hall at The British Legion in Crown Lane. Some highlights to look out for are Hardy Fuchsias, Begonias and Petunias, to name but a few. Come early as we regularly sell out. If you have any donations, please arrive before 10 am. All money collected goes to the Poppy Appeal. For all enquiries: hampshire.chairman@rbl.community

Tim Russell, Poppy Appeal Organiser

ARMED FORCES GOLF DAY

Roll up roll up all you golfers. On Monday, 25th June, the Waterloo course at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club has been booked for the Royal British Legion to run another Poppy Appeal fund raising golf day. The cost for the day has decreased from the past three years, now being £42 per person (£168 team of four) and this includes a donation to the Poppy Appeal. Cost for members will be £22.50. Please ask me Rick Bourne for an entry form on 07714 289157, email: rbourne@glenair.co.uk or collect a form from the Royal British Legion bar.

Rick Bourne, Tim Russell and Tracey Merritt (on behalf of Old Basing RBL)

BASINGSTOKE BLUES CLUB

In association with the Basingstoke Railway Social Club, Station Approach, Basingstoke, Basingstoke Blues Club presents on Saturday, 19th May, The Robin Bibi Band. Robin is a talented musician who creates a great rapport with his audience playing blues, funk, rock, reggae and jazz, all rolled together into his own unique style. He has backed B.B. King, Robert Plant, Jimmy Page, Ben E. King and Helen Shapiro. He is liable to move your head, your heart and of course your feet, so don't miss this fantastic event! All welcome, 8 pm till late. Licensed bar and low prices. Profits to Brain Tumour Research. Future dates: Saturday, 16th June, The Producers. For further details contact Rex (tel. 01256 321837 or 07979 422590) or see our Facebook page – Basingstoke Blues Club (BBC3).

BASINGSTOKE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GOES TO THE MOVIES!

This exciting new collaboration sees **Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra** join radio broadcaster Rory McAllister to perform a programme of popular film music as the fifth concert in Rory's **'Cinema in Symphony'** series. The programme includes music from *Frozen, Star Wars, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Mary Poppins, The Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter* as well as the beautiful 2nd movement of Beethoven's 7th Symphony which was used in *The King's Speech*. The concert, taking place on **Saturday, 16th June**, at **7.30 pm**, at **The Anvil**, will be hosted by Rory and there will be Storm Troopers and other well-known film characters. Children are very welcome and are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite character from one of the films. For **tickets** contact **The Anvil** – tel. **01256 844244** or **www.anvilarts.org.uk**

MAY IN YOUR GARDEN

As I write this (early April) it has not been a particularly warm spring so far and we have had more than our fair share of rain. Even if it does warm up in May, be careful, we can still be caught out by the odd cold snap, so don't be too tempted to plant out tender plants at the first signs of a warm spell, especially Courgette, Tomatoes and Pumpkins. Ideally you would harden tender plants off by putting them outside in the daytime and bringing them back inside before nightfall. Do this for seven to ten days and they should be more prepared for their lives outside.

There is so much to sow this month, beetroot, radish, salad onions, and turnips to name but a few, but do be careful of pests, May is the month when most pests seem to be at their most active. Carrot fly is the most annoying of them all, so remain vigilant and keep carrots covered with a fine mesh. Check your gooseberry bushes for Green Gooseberry Sawfly before it strips the leaves bare. An organic method to prevent an attack is to soak a bucket of foxglove leaves in two pints of water, leave for two days, strain and spray on the plants before an attack occurs.

If you have a pond, you will almost certainly have Duckweed and Blanket weed! Take as much out as you can, and thin excessive oxygenating plant growth. Leave any cuttings by the pond overnight to let any insects, snails etc to crawl back into the pond.

If you are growing onions, remember that they like a lot of water (an inch a week to get them growing at their best). Garlic does not like too much water and only needs to be watered during very dry periods, so if grown near each make sure that their water needs are met!

Other jobs for the month include tying sweet peas to their support to encourage them to climb, lifting forget-me-not plants to prevent them spreading (they spread like wild fire!) to plant Brassicas and Leeks into their final positions, and to prune spring-flowering clematis after it has flowered to prevent it growing too far.

If you have a new lawn or have recently seeded be sure to keep it well watered if this weather continues. It is time to apply a lawn feed and weed to keep it looking at its most lush, and to lower the mower blades to the summer height.

In the hope that warm weather will arrive in May, can I remind you to dampen your greenhouses and start erecting shading to prevent your plants from being scorched by the heat. You can use special white paint, but I tend to use fine scaffold meshing, and re-use that year on year.

SITUATION VACANT: WRITER FOR "THIS MONTH IN YOUR GARDEN

A new **writer** of the **"This Month In Your Garden"** feature (above) is urgently required by the Basinga.

Ideally the candidate will have knowledge or be able to write about four aspects of gardening: flowers, fruit and vegetables, lawns and pond care. He or she will be able to offer unusual tips or tricks to help grow a variety of popular fruits, vegetables and flowers, and maintain a pond. Also to be aware of the seasons and what are the main jobs to be done from month to month. They should try to give advice and what would benefit most people (no point writing about plants that no one is growing). Lastly, they should try to encourage people to try new gardening ideas or plant new things.

If you are interested please contact the Editor in the first instance at editor@basinga.org.uk

NATURE NOTES FOR MAY

Crumbs, was I ever wrong about March finishing on a spring-like theme. Another 'Beast from the East' blew in, albeit a weaker affair than the first one but regardless it's only this week (9th April) that temperatures have felt anything like mild. If only it would stop raining as it's impossible to get started on the garden or cut grass and I'm sure the birds are unsure whether to start planning their families or not. A Blackbird has been collecting and taking away beakfull's of nesting material and it may well be the same bird that has rebuilt another on a fence ledge behind a pyracanthus. Robins have taken ownership of a nest box but so far haven't laid and Blue Tits are inspecting their boxes too.

It's not all bad though because at this time of year I'm on the look out and listen for incoming migrants and Saturday gone (7th April) I heard my first Chiffchaff of the year, sounding off over in the canal area. Lawrie Spicer then called to say that a Swallow had turned up at Huish Farm the day before but now there were ten! Brimstone butterflies were on the wing in number on 31st March.

Roving reporter Phil Males sent me an updated 'Date Table' to show that 20th March was when the first proper lumps of frog spawn appeared which is the latest since 2010, again which was a snowy spring. Clearly, both air and water temperatures guide the amphibians but of course it got cold again after this date so fingers crossed for success.

Another of my regular contributors, Stephen Thair, sent in a comprehensive set of observations on return from holiday, for which I am very grateful. Coming back to ice and snow from a sunny climate is never fun and he reported that frog spawn found in his pond only survived the cold spell because he brought a clump inside and there are now signs of tiny tadpoles taking shape. Alas the parents couldn't withstand the freezing conditions and Stephen found about 20 dead frogs in the relatively shallow water when the ice went.

Great photos in the garden however of a Siskin tucking into peanuts and a Hen Sparrowhawk tucking into what we think might have been a female Blackcap! He knew a pair had been overwintering in his garden but there now only seems to be the male left. Stephen has a motion camera which takes stunning close up images and a few of these are now on the Basinga Extra photo gallery, although they require a health warning!

Another successful raptor seen was another Hen Sparrowhawk that claimed a Wood Pigeon in the middle of Blenheim Road. Nick Hall, from Lingfield Close, commented that the predator was virtually oblivious to passing traffic and people while it went about its macabre business, finally dragging its unfortunate victim to the comparative safety of the roadside.

Finally, I'd given Lapwings a couple of mentions last month and Roy Lane told me he thought he'd seen one whilst driving somewhere. His description made me smile though because he said he saw what looked like a Newcastle United scarf in the sky! An excellent comparison!

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

Richard Bourne – tel. 01256 321108; email: rbourne@glenair.co.uk
For 'Bird Drop-ins', use answerphone: 01256 842722

DIARY DATES FOR MAY

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

(1 of details of services and events as servicing sendrein, preuse refer to page 20)				
Tue 1	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting (Pavilion Committee Room, The Rec)		
	7.30 pm	WI Members' AGM (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)		
Fri 4	10.30 am – noon	Ladies' First Friday Coffee Morning (8 Olivers Walk, Lychpit)		
Sat 5	10.00 am	PIOCC Working Party (meet church lobby, St Mary's Church)		
Sun 6	10.30 am – noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop (Riley Lane)		
Tue 8	8.00 am	Morning Bird Walk, Mill Field (meet play area, Bartons Mill)		
Wed 9	7.30 pm	Singin' in The Rain (The Haymarket, Basingstoke) runs till Sat		
		19th May (extra 2.30 pm shows Sat 12th and Sat 19th)		
	7.30 pm	Basingstoke & District Railway Society talk (Wote Street Club)		
Thu 10		LAST DATE FOR COPY TO EDITOR (SEE PAGE 3)		
	7.45 pm	Royal British Legion Branch Meeting (Jack Morris Hall, RBL)		
	8.00 pm	Old Basing Village Hall AGM (Frank Goddard Room, OBVH)		
Fri 11	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm	Coffee Catch Up Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)		
Sat 12	10.00 am – 1.00 pm	Coffee Morning & Plant Sale (Jack Morris Hall, RBL)		
	11.00 am – 3.00 pm	LTA Open Day (Old Basing Tennis Club, Recreation Ground)		
	12 noon – 3.00 pm	Bolton Under 5's Preschool Summer Fayre (Beddington Centre,		
		Riley Lane)		
Sun 13	10.30 am – noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop; plant sale 11 am		
		to noon (Riley Lane)		
Tue 15	7.30 pm	Annual Parish Meeting (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)		
Wed 16		Pink Place Charity Pamper Evening (Holiday Inn, Basingstoke)		
	7.00 pm	Friends of St Mary's Church Old Basing and Lychpit AGM		
		(Bolton Chapel, St Mary's Church)		
Thu 17	12.30 pm	Ploughman's Lunch (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)		
Fri 18	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm			
Sat 19	8.00 pm	Basingstoke Blues Club, The Robin Bibi Band (Basingstoke		
		Railway Social Club, Station Approach, Basingstoke)		
	10.30 am – noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop (Riley Lane)		
Wed 23	1	Basingstoke & District Railway Society talk (Wote Street Club)		
Thu 24	1	PIOCC Working Party (meet church lobby, St Mary's Church)		
Fri 25	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm			
Sun 27	10.30 am – noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop (Riley Lane)		

LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE

Fri 1	10.30 am – noon	Ladies' First Friday Coffee Morning (7 Olivers Walk, Lychpit0
Tue 5	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting (Pavilion Committee Room, The Rec)

BASINGA EXTRA

A number of articles have been in competition for a place in this month's printed magazine. Those for which space could not be found are available at www.basinga.org.uk

Celebrations at Basingfield Court; Events at Basingstoke Discovery Centre; Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (Earthworms); Highlights at Anvil Arts during May; Odiham & Old Basing Health Centres Patient Participation Group (Shingles)

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