October 2018

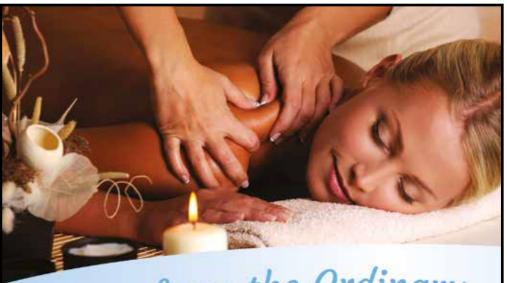
## BASINGA



Anna Fairs



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



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#### **OCTOBER 2018 - NOTES AND NEWS**

The cover photograph this month is by Anna Fairs, taken at the Village Show. Someone certainly knows their onions, or is it shallots?

#### **BASINGA ARTICLES**

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

#### SITUATIONS VACANT

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

We would be grateful for **volunteers** from the **Park Avenue** area to **distribute** the Basinga every month. The houses that need deliveries are: **1 to 10** and **28 to 38**. Volunteers should contact Peter Watson, preferable by e-mail: **basing@basinga.org.uk**, or **07790 279954** for further information.

The Basinga Team

#### **OLD BASING & LYCHPIT BIG TURKEY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Depending on when you are reading this there are less than 90 shopping days to go to Christmas. On that basis it is time to turn your attention to Christmas and put **Saturday, 29th December**, in the diary for the Old Basing & Lychpit Christmas Turkey Lunch.

The Christmas Lunch will be held at **Old Basing Village Hall** starting with drinks served from noon and lunch at **1.00 pm**. This will be the fourth consecutive year this hugely popular event will be held where the objective is to provide a complimentary Christmas meal with an afternoon of entertainment to families; young and old to unify the community of Old Basing & Lychpit especially during this special seasonal time of the year.

Places are limited to 180 therefore please book early to avoid disappointment. You can either sign up for the event in the foyer of St Mary's Church from late September onwards or contact Rachel Jones (email: rachelj.broadwater@googlemail.com or call 07717 002651).

As previous years transport will be available for those that have difficulty attending the event.

Volunteers to help are welcome and if you can spare some time on the day or before then also please contact Rachel.

This is an event organised by volunteers from Old Basing & Lychpit for the families and residents of our community, in order to create a greater identity and community spirit. It relies on the funding from the Parish Council, support from St Mary's, the generosity of local vendors and from donations on the day.

We look forward to seeing you all in December.

Andrew D Jones

#### **CHINEHAM LIBRARY**

The **Summer Reading Challenge** finally finished on 15th September. It was a great success at Chineham with over **800 children** taking part, assisted by a lovely large team of volunteers.

Everything is now back into its normal pattern at the library, so for children this includes **Rhymetimes** on **Tuesday** mornings, for under ones at **10.00am** and over ones at **11.00am**. **Crafts** resume on the first **Saturday of every month**, between 10.00am and noon, and **Storytimes** at **10.00am** on the other weeks. **Construction Club with Lego** to play with meets **2.00 to 3.30pm**. Then in the week, the **Chatterbooks** group meets on **18th October** from **3.45** to **4.45pm**, and there are now two **coding clubs** with places bookable through the library.

Age Concern are back here on Wednesday mornings providing computer training for the over 50s between 10.00am and 1.00pm. Places are bookable through their office, telephone: 01256 423874. The Crime Reading Group are meeting on 13th October at 10.30am for one hour and the general reading group at these hours on 27th October. The CHIPPS group for parents and pre-schoolers meets on 10th October from 10.00 to 11.00am. The writing group is trialling meeting on a Saturday this month, the 6th, from 10 -11.30am, so if Thursdays have not been possible please do come and support this meeting. Future dates will then be arranged.

There is also an event coming up in **November**, to commemorate the centenary of the **First World War** finishing. '**Lest we Forget**' takes place on **15th November at 7.30pm**, with tickets costing £5 bookable through the library or online. It features Jonathan Jones presenting relevant readings and poetry, including works by the war poets. This performance was a sell-out at Newbury Festival this year!

For the most up-to-date information please check social media.

Cathy Foster

#### THE VILLAGE PANTOMIME

This amazing show returns to the **Village Hall** this year to entertain you with "Cinderella and The Merry Men", a pantomime with a difference, evolving from a collaboration between Rowena Hackett (Director) and Rosemary Kershaw (Producer) with support from The Friends of St Mary's.

A diverse group of people from the village make up the cast and crew. They were welcomed in June by The Friends of St Mary's hosting a convivial get together in the Parish Room. Now the set and wardrobe have talented teams building, painting and sewing, whilst others are learning lines and rehearsing. Programmes are being prepared and refreshments planned.

Tickets will be available for you to buy on Monday, 8th October from St Mary's Junior School, The Crown, The Bolton Arms, The Topiary Salon, and committee members.

The performances take place on **Saturday**, **24th November** at **2.30pm** and again at **7.30pm** and on **Sunday**, **25th November** at **4.00pm**.

Ticket prices are: **adults – £15**, **children** under 12 - £8. Put the dates in your calendar and "Come to the Show!"

Peter Dark, Showbiz Correspondent





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#### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

#### **NEW COUNCILLOR**

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome, Old Basing resident, **John Robinson** who was coopted at the August meeting. We are sure John's knowledge and skills developed during his career and in his current voluntary roles will be a valuable contribution to the Parish Council. He regularly walks around the Parish and takes a keen interest in local issues such as anti-social behaviour, inconsiderate parking and road safety.

#### OWENS FARM DEVELOPMENT, NEWNHAM ROAD, HOOK

Following a presentation by Mr Harry Hayden at the September Parish Council Meeting, the Parish Council has again confirmed its support for the Hook Action Group and Newnham Parish Council in opposing this proposed development and has written to the Planning Inspectorate outlining the basis for its concerns. Although the development itself will not directly affect Old Basing and Lychpit, the resulting increase in traffic and potential damage to the environment, including the River Loddon, is a serious concern.

#### TESCO "BAGS OF HELP" SCHEME

Thank you to all those Tesco shoppers who voted for the Parish Council's project to install an item of Special Needs Outdoor Fitness Equipment on the Recreation Ground. We were up against two other very worthy causes and, although not yet confirmed, we hope to receive a grant of £1,000.00.

#### RECENT FUNDRAISING EVENT

Many residents will have attended the **Colour Run and BBQ** on the recreation ground at the end of July. The event was organised by members of the **National Citizens Service Group** and, no doubt helped by the lovely summer weather, raised over £400.00 for its chosen charity: **MO: Transformation Mental Health.** 

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates are **Tuesday, 2nd October** and **6th November** at **7.30pm** in the **Pavilion Committee Room.** All are welcome and anyone with impaired mobility should contact the Parish Office so they can be accommodated.

#### PARISH COUNCIL

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

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sandra Tuck Deputy Clerk: Mrs Heather Mountford

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

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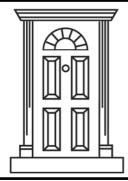


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#### DEAR EDITOR.

Please forgive the presumptive nature of this correspondence, but I am writing concerning The Basinga and possible changes to its design and content. Whilst I enjoy and appreciate the fact that it has basically looked the same for the five years I have been based in the village, I wonder if it is now time to make a few small changes? I am not suggesting a redesign (I bet that the simple layout and regularity of its presentation is a hit with many Basinga readers) but a little tweaking.

Firstly, can I start with the use of photographs? Villagers could be given the opportunity to submit images for publication on the front cover. There could be a small competition each month to find a photograph for forthcoming issues - perhaps on a different theme each time. Changing from one regular contributor to a range would potentially be both enjoyable and interesting. It would also be good to see the occasional photograph appearing within the Basinga's pages. For example, including pictures from local events or celebrations could be a positive addition.

Secondly - the content. I enjoy many of the features including those about gardening and nature (even though I am definitely not green-fingered.) When reading all of the pieces in The Basinga I feel as if I am with old friends: there is something very reassuring about opening the magazine and finding the regular contributions - it feels as though the village is solid and safe. However, it could be fun to add some new features (if the space allowed.) For example, perhaps there could be a 'Youth Voice' section; maybe a crossword or a quiz page and what about a recipe page that highlights using local ingredients?

Finally, I do not believe that a change in design or layout is necessary. Setting out the magazine in columns or using colour or more dynamic fonts will not actually increase the readership. In fact, such alterations may even have a detrimental effect. One of the super things about the magazine is how easy it is to read (something which is valuable especially for elderly residents.) People do not pick up the Basinga to be wowed by the design, nor to be entertained - they read it primarily to be informed. In this age of virtual communication and the superficial nature of social media, it is good to have something solid, reliable and accessible land on the mat once a month.

Denise Myers, Lingfield Close.

#### THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY AND COFFEE MORNING

"No child should feel alone." The Children's Society works to support children across the country who are homeless, runaways or refugees, children who are victims of abuse, neglect or debt, children who feel scared, unloved and unable to cope.

A Christmas card sale and coffee morning in aid of The Children's Society will be held from 10.00am to noon on Saturday 13th October in The Parish Room. This is an opportunity for you to buy your Christmas cards in good time!

There will be a variety of stalls including a raffle, cakes, bric-a-brac and a new stall called "Glitz Bits and Bubbles" where you will find beads and bangles, scarves and bubble bath/shower gel/soaps – all the things that you have been given but never used. Please give generously, who knows, it may be someone else's favourite! Similarly, our cake stall is made famous by your generous baking skills

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Rosemary Kershaw

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#### LYME DISEASE

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can be spread to humans by infected ticks. It's usually easier to treat if it's diagnosed early. Ticks that may cause Lyme disease are found all over the UK, but high-risk areas include grassy and wooded areas in southern England and the Scottish Highlands.

Tick bites aren't always painful. You may not notice a tick unless you see it on your skin. Regularly check your skin and your children's or pets' skin after being outdoors.

Many people with early symptoms of Lyme disease develop a circular red skin rash often described as a bull's eye on a dartboard. The rash can appear up to three months after being bitten by a tick and usually lasts for several weeks. Most rashes appear within the first four weeks. The rash is not necessarily at the site of the tick bite.

Not everyone with Lyme disease gets the rash. Some people also have flu-like symptoms in the early stages, such as: a high temperature, or feeling hot and shivery; headaches; muscle and joint pain; tiredness and loss of energy

Only a small number of ticks are infected with the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. A tick bite can only cause Lyme disease in humans if the tick has already bitten an infected animal. But it's still important to be aware of ticks and to safely remove them as soon as possible, just in case.

To remove a tick safely: Use fine-tipped tweezers or a tick-removal tool – you can buy these from some pharmacies, vets and pet shops. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible. Slowly pull upwards, taking care not to squeeze or crush the tick. Dispose of it when you've removed it. Clean the bite with antiseptic or soap and water.

The risk of getting ill is low. You don't need to do anything else unless you become unwell.

See a GP if: you've been bitten by a tick or visited an area in the past month where infected ticks are found AND you get flu-like symptoms – such as feeling hot and shivery, headaches, aching muscles or feeling sick, or a circular red rash

Your GP will ask about your symptoms and consider any rash or recent tick bites you know about. Lyme disease can be difficult to diagnose. It has similar symptoms to other conditions and there is not always an obvious rash.

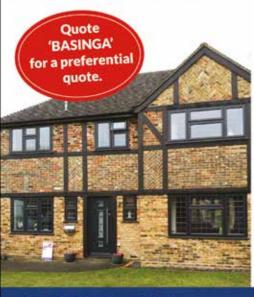
A blood test is available to help diagnose Lyme disease but it is often a clinical diagnosis based on the patient's symptoms, as the test can take some time to show as positive.

If your GP thinks you might have Lyme disease, they'll prescribe a 3-week course of antibiotics. It's important to finish the course, even if you start to feel better.

Most people with Lyme disease get better after antibiotic treatment. This can take months for some people, but the symptoms should improve over time.

To reduce the risk of being bitten: cover your skin while walking outdoors and tuck your trousers into your socks; use insect repellent on your clothes and skin – products containing DEET are best; stick to paths whenever possible; wear light-coloured clothing so ticks are easier to spot and brush off

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

Submissions made via the forms now provide a common input for both the magazine and website and are automatically routed to the member of the team responsible for processing them. All submission must be received by the 10th of the month (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 new GDPR requirements for publishing photographs.

Contacts for general enquiries and assistance:

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#### THE VILLAGE CAFE

Following the recent sad closure of the Bakehouse, would anyone be interested in helping to run a Friday afternoon community cafe? St Mary's Church has kindly offered free use of the Parish Room (and will provide the coffee/tea and cake for a nominal charge). All that's needed are volunteers to help on a rota basis and to come forward with fun ideas and thoughts as to how to make the afternoon popular for all ages.

The Village Cafe will be launched on Friday, 12th October, opening times are 2.00pm to 4.30pm. All proceeds from the café will go to The Ark Cancer Centre in Basingstoke. The previous cafe, Coffee Catch Up, raised over £1,000 for local causes. If you are interested in helping out please message me directly, by email: admin@stmarysoldbasing.org.uk or call me: 07541 698235.

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**OLD BASING ALLOTMENT & GARDEN SOCIETY:** Now we are coming into autumn/ winter period when the shop will be open Sunday's 11.00 am to Noon only on 7th October, 4th November and 2nd of December.

**LADIES FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING**: The next occasions will be at the home of Mrs Christine Stuart, 44 Lambs Row, Lychpit, on 5th October, and then at the home of Mrs Ann Price, 10 Olivers Walk on 2nd November. Both from 10.30 a.m. to noon. For more information contact Sheila Stone, tel. 01256 350238.

#### **ODIHAM & OLD BASING PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**

#### EVENING AND SATURDAY APPOINTMENTS FROM SEPTEMBER 2018

From Monday, 3rd September the Practice is working with Crown Heights Medical Centre and Bramblys Grange Medical Centre to provide improved access to appointments between 6.30pm and 8.00pm Monday to Friday and 8.30am and noon on Saturdays. Patients of this Practice will be able to book an appointment to see a GP or a nurse on weekday evenings or Saturday mornings. The appointments will either take place at this Practice, Crown Heights or Bramblys Grange. When booking an appointment the Receptionist will advise you where it will be held.

#### FLU CLINICS

We are advised these will take place a little later than normal this year because NHS England is staggering the delivery of vaccines to Surgeries. Patients will receive further information regarding their flu appointments via letter or text message

#### LYMES DISEASE

See the article on page 13 about symptoms, treatment and prevention of this disease.

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

Our 2018 season is drawing to a close, and Basing House closes to the public on Wednesday, 31st October, to reopen in March 2019. There will be the usual seasonal break in our closure for the annual **Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 1st December.** 

Some of you will have enjoyed the Chapter House Theatre Company's production of Sense and Sensibility on 19th August under ideal conditions which showed off both the performance and the surroundings to great effect. Special thanks are due to our gardening volunteers for the hard work they put in making the walled garden look so good for the event. We hope to have the Chapter House Company back for another event in 2019.

On **Saturday, 27th October** we will be running **Halloween Ghost Tours** of our 14-acre site, passing among the ruins of our nearly 500 year-old house, and with optional trips through our ultra-spooky 100 metre long, 1 metre high Tudor tunnel. These will be at **5:00pm**, ideal for families, **6:30pm** and an "extra spooky" tour at **8:30pm**. These tours are priced at £5 for adults and £3 for children and are among the few events that are not included in our all year tickets; tickets for these are for these events only.

Thursday craft mornings continue on the 4th, 11th and 25th October while this month also sees our craft course programme continue with green woodworking (3rd), leather book making(10th), a stone carving taster day (15th) and at half term family puppet workshop and a pumpkin, lanterns and mummies workshop (both 24th).

Full details about Basing House, guided tours, courses, events, and how to book can be found at www.hampshireculture.org.uk/events?venue=6 Otherwise ring 01256 463965 or call in at the visitor centre, next to the Great Barn between 11.00am and 4.00pm, Saturday to Thursday.

**Andrew Howard** 01256 327014

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

At **7.45pm** on **Wednesday, 10th October** we will go **Steaming Through Sussex**. Bill Gages' talk will include tales of wind and fire at Bognor Regis, the runaway steam horse at Petworth, steam on the Midhurst to Petworth line, the eccentric Selsey Tramway and, as a bonus, a visit to Hayling Island. Plenty of variety there!

At the following meeting on **Wednesday, 24th October**, at the earlier than usual time of **7.30pm**, Mike Bunn returns for the third time with another of his French presentations. **A Tour de France by Narrow Gauge** will cover the rise and fall of the vast network of narrow gauge lines in rural France and take a look at those that survive providing local transport and as preservation sites and tourist lines.

Our meetings are held 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 at a cost of just £3. More information about the Society, membership and future meetings can be found on our website at **www.bdrs70d.com** or telephone **01256 331002**.

Tony Wright



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#### THE MILL FIELD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

Event News: Join us at our next volunteer morning on Sunday, 21st October when we will tackle some of the scrub. We aim to clear areas of ash, oak and thorn to allow smaller plants to flourish and renew the views for walkers across the site. No special skills are required just appropriate clothes and footwear and we will provide tea, coffee and tools. We meet at the Play area at 10.00am or find us in the field and the task will run for two hours and is a great way to get some fresh air and free exercise.

**Path maintenance:** Much of our activity is spent trying to keep the main paths around the site as accessible as possible, through clearing scrub, laying chippings and sleepers. This is so that users of the field can keep to the paths throughout the year and not have to make detours and inadvertently create new paths. It is really important to the site as a Local Nature Reserve to provide shelter for the wildlife, therefore the more paths that are inadvertently created the more difficult it is for the habitats to exist. So we respectfully ask all users of the field to please keep to the main paths and respect the reserve.

What to Look out for this month: Now autumn is underway you may see the last of the summers migrants going south and the winter ones arriving such as Redwings. Watch out for large groups of starlings and the last of this year's butterflies on the ivy. With the misty mornings spiders are more obvious with their fabulous webs, and around the stream there will still be dragonflies such as the common darter and you never know something a little rarer!

Anne Francis (07974 944439)

Email: millfieldoldbasing@yahoo.co.uk or Facebook: Mill Field Conservation Group

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

**Finals' Day** on Saturday, 1st September was a great success - fine weather and excellent tennis! Well done to the runners up and congratulations to the winners! **Here are the results:** 

Men's Singles: Jamie Thomas beat Mike Chamberlain 6-0 6-0 Ladies' Singles: Penny Luke beat Bev Cleaver 6-4: Men's Doubles: Jamie Thomas and Andy Mountford beat James Chamberlin and Del Salter 6-3 6-3: Ladies' Doubles: Penny Luke and Jane Hatter beat Sandie Benham and Bev Cleaver3-6 6-4 10/5: Mixed Doubles: Lynne Thomas and Jamie Thomas beat Penny Luke and Andy Mountford 6-1 6-1: Men's Handicap: Graeme Robertson and Nigel Hatt (0) beat Clive Barham and Rob Lewin (-15) 3-6 6-3 10/8: Ladies' Handicap: Lynn Pullen and Jan Petto (0) beat Robyn Lewin and Lynne Thomas (-15) 6-3 6-1

Our Annual General Meeting is on Tuesday, 6th November and on Saturday, 10th November we will be holding our ANNUAL QUIZ. Starting at 7.00 for 7.30pm at the Old Basing Village Hall. Teams of 6 people (please think of a name for your team) costing £6 pp Please bring your own food & drink.. §A raffle will be held during the evening.

We hope you can come & join us for this enjoyable evening!

To book a table please contact Carol Torselli by email: OBTC.Information@gmail.com or phone: 01256 818149

Lynne Thomas, Chair

#### LOOKING FORWARD AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Father Alec formally left the parish on 2nd September.

St. Mary's now has to follow a legal process designed to give the parish an opportunity to express its views, reflect on its needs and appoint the right person for the job of vicar. We were able to start that process last month.

The appointment of a vicar involves the Bishop, Magdelen College, Oxford, as the Patron of the Church, the Archdeacon of Winchester and the Parochial Church Council.

The PCC has already met the Bishop of Basingstoke and Archdeacon. It is now drawing up two important documents. The first is a profile of the parish of Old Basing & Lychpit. This sets out the details of the parish and its priorities. The second is a description of the role the PCC wants the new vicar to take in the parish and the key gifts and experience necessary for the post.

The PCC will be meeting on 18th October to finalise the documents and the detailed arrangements to obtain candidates for the post. Two members of the PCC will be elected as representatives to take part in the interview process.

Candidates will be interviewed by the Bishop, Patron and the two parish representatives on 11th December. All have to agree on the appointment.

If there is agreement the candidate is offered the job. If there is no agreement or the candidate refuses the position we have to start again.

This will all take time. The average length of a vacancy in the Church of England is 6 to 9 months.

The PCC already has plans in place to make sure that the life of the church can continue uninterrupted.

We are fortunate to be able to call on a number of retired clergy. All our regular services will continue. The church will still be available for baptisms, weddings and funerals and other special services.

On Sunday 7th October at 10 a.m. our Harvest Festival takes place. We will be collecting donations of produce and money for the Basingstoke Foodbank.

On Friday 2nd November we have a special service with music and prayers focused on All Souls' Day. It is an opportunity to remember deceased family members and friends. The service will start at 7 p.m. and refreshments will be available in the parish room from 6.15. If you would like anyone remembered at the service please add their name to the list available in the church.

#### Ian Kershaw - Churchwarden

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

Sunday 7th October At 10.00 am: St Mary's Harvest Festival with donations invited

to the Basingstoke Foodbank. The service will be taken by Revd.

Malcolm Surman.

We look forward to welcoming visiting ministers who will be leading our other services in the coming weeks:

Sunday 14th October Revd. Canon Ken Batt (8.00am Holy Communion and 9.30am

Sung Eucharist).

Sunday 21st October Revd. Malcolm Surman (8.00am Holy Communion and

9.30am Sung Eucharist)

Sunday 28th October Revd. Canon Ken Batt (8.00m Holy Communion and 9.30am

Sung Eucharist)

Other Dates to note at St Mary's:

Saturday 6th October Men's Breakfast, 8.45am in the Parish Room. If you fancy a full

English breakfast do pop along to the Parish Room, you'd be most

welcome (price: £4)

Monday 22nd October Tea & Talk Café, 2.00pm in the Parish Room. All welcome, and

there is no charge.

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

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

Looking forward:

Friday 2nd November All Souls Service at 7.00pm (a service for the bereaved, with

refreshments from 6.15pm)

Sunday 11th November Remembrance Day Service at 10.00 am

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

**Sunday, October 7th is** our annual **Harvest Thanksgiving** service. Worship led by **Revd. Valerie Fisher.** Traditional gifts will be sold and the money raised will be given to the Basingstoke Food Bank. Practical gifts of flip flops, lollipops individual bottled water and baby wipes will be given to Basingstoke Street Pastors. The service will be followed by a bring and share lunch.

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

Come and join us for worship, **Friday 'Coffee Break'** and **Tuesday Craft** - a warm welcome awaits you, please see **page 38**, Diary dates for October for more information.

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

On **Monday, 1st October** at our **Open Meeting** to mark the start of our winter Conservation programme **Margaret and Tim Carr** will present "**Spring in Switzerland**", an evening of photographs taken earlier this year, around Pontresina in the beautiful Swiss Alps. We look forward to seeing you at 8pm in St Mary's Parish Room. All are welcome.

This month's working parties will be on **Saturday, 6th October at 10.00am** and **Thursday 25th October at 2.00pm – meet in the church lobby**. With the arrival of autumn we will be starting our seasonal conservation work, including woodland management. All are welcome. We look forward to welcoming our regular volunteers and also new participants.

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

The leaves are now turning and berries ripening to provide food for the wildlife. It's the best season for finding fungi too, but please, remember some are poisonous. Why not come and see what you can find? Or perhaps just enjoy a peaceful moment for prayer or reflection on the WI seat. The Conservation Area is a community space for all to enjoy.

For further information please ring Fay Farrant on 01256 476863.

Margaret Carr www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

#### OLD BASING & LYCHPIT VILLAGE SHOW

This is being written the day after the Show at the Village Hall on Sunday, 9th September, phew, what a busy week end. On Saturday evening after setting up the tables and laying out the spaces for the different classes and putting up all the signs the Committee went home, only to rise early on Sunday morning to welcome all the entrants from 8.00am. The number of entries was up this year with 19 new entrants, the highest number of entries since 2010. Once they had all laid out all the produce, flowers and cakes of all shapes and sizes including 11 entries for the Men and Boys cake making, photographs and handicrafts, the judging started, and as always our independent judges spent the next couple of hours examining, tasting and admiring all the entries. Then the marks were added up and the winners of all the cups and trophies were ascertained.

At 2.30pm the doors opened and in rushed the excited entrants, have I won? The general public then followed, in greater numbers than in previous years, where they enjoyed participating in the raffle and tombola, and then sitting down to refresh themselves with tea, coffee and cake.

The Committee would like to thank all helpers, entrants, advertisers in the Schedule and of course the public for supporting the Annual Village Show, look out for details of next years Show in the Basinga. Our **Annual General Meeting** will take place in the **Parish Room** on **Tuesday, November 13th** at **8.00pm**.

Mark Offord

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#### CHINEHAM AND OLD BASING NWR

Our topic for September was a discussion on the Advertising Industry. This included what adverts we liked and which we really disliked, and what we thought influenced our choice of purchases. We thought that catchy jingles and tunes helped us to remember past advertising campaigns. Internet reviews were considered increasingly important as many of us skip through the adverts on the TV when watching a recording.

The **Reading Group** have been reading *Then we Came to the End*. The story takes place in a Chicago advertising agency so an appropriate choice following our September meeting.

Our next discussion meeting on **1st October** will be "Modern Inventions – Love them or Hate them". On **6th October** some members will be travelling to Salisbury for a national day conference entitled "The Audacity to Dream: Celebrating our NHS". There will be a mix of keynote speeches (including by former M.P. Ann Widdecombe) and thought-provoking afternoon workshops exploring both the history and future of the NHS in these uncertain times. **November's meeting** will be in the evening when we participate in the **National Telephone Quiz**. This is always a brilliant evening as we test our cryptic and general knowledge skills against hundreds of other groups.

National Women's Register (NWR) has groups across the UK that connects women who are interested in everything and talk about anything! You would be very welcome to join us for lively conversation and make new friends. We meet at 2.00pm on the first Monday of the month in each other's homes. We also meet up for trips to the cinema and theatre and any other activity that has enough support. We have a regular Lunch Club which is sometimes preceded by a walk (next date 17th October) and the Reading Group meet in the evening every fourth Thursday.

For information about **NWR** please look at the website: **nwr.org.uk**. To check out the local group do come to any of our meetings. If after trying a couple of meetings you decide to join the membership fee is £23 per annum. Please contact **Evelyn Jones** via her email **evelyncjjones@hotmail.co.uk** or phone her on **01256 816636** for more details.

#### **OLD BASING WI**

Our September talk was given by a volunteer from the Thrive organization which is a charity whose aim is to transform people's lives through gardening. We heard how gardening improves physical and mental health, as well as communication and thinking skills and how 9,000 of their volunteers work with people of all ages to overcome their disabilities though social and therapeutic horticulture. More about this fascinating charity can be found on their website at www.carryongardening.org.uk

Next month is a **Member's meeting** on **Tuesday, 2nd October** at **7.30pm**, where we will have a talk from Sue Atrill, who will be telling us about her favourite moments in her role as our WI adviser, before she retires at the end of the year. Cakes will be provided! The competition next month will be a photo of a seaside town.

We shall be running a trip to see the **B.A.T.S** production of "*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*" at the **Haymarket** in **November** and also we have our regular **skittles evening** on **9th October** at the **Loddon Vale Bowls Club**. For details of all our activities during the next month please go to the Hampshire WI website at **www.hampshirewi.org.uk** Click on WI's from the top of the page and select Old Basing from the list.

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#### **WORLD SIGHT DAY**

Will be held on Thursday, 11 October, from 9.00am to 3.00pm at Old Basing Mall

- 45 million people in the world are blind
- 90% live in areas with little or no access to treatment
- Top causes of blindness: cataracts, glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration
- 80% of blindness is curable and preventable
- 66% of the blind are women or girls
- 1.2 billion people don't have access to GLASSES

An annual event acknowledged in different ways internationally, World Sight Day sees the Basingstoke Lions Club for the sixth consecutive year inviting people to bring their redundant spectacles to the Club's stand, this year situated in Old Basing Mall (by Boots), on Thursday, 11 October between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm.

Visitors to the stand can also find information leaflets, receive advice on help available locally and see small items of equipment, all relating to those with impaired vision. Various local sight loss organisations are supporting the day through the supply of literature and equipment, and opticians in the town are also supporting the event.

Between **noon and 2.00pm "Lennie the Lion"**, a familiar figure at various community events, will prowl the area collecting the unwanted specstacles. from participating opticians; and he's always happy to be photographed doing so!

The aim of this Day, during which Lions Clubs around the world conduct various sight-related projects, is to focus attention on the global issue of avoidable blindness and visual impairment and thus raise awareness about the importance of eye health and the need for quality eye care services for all. The projects include vision screenings, spectacle donations, restorative surgeries, eye health education programmes, and the donation of assistive devices to those with vision impairment.

As part of **SPECKTREK**, a programme for recycling spectacles developed by Lions Clubs International, over 300,000 pairs were collected last year across Great Britain and Ireland and sent to eye camps in Africa, India and Eastern Europe in partnership with Medico Lions Clubs de France.

It is hoped that once again the kind people of Basingstoke will reach into drawers and cupboards, retrieve any old glasses for which they have no further use, and bring them to the Lions' stand for re-homing; such a simple act can change the lives of the recipients beyond measure.

(Note: No spectacle cases, thank you)

Contact Ann Vicars at av@mypostoffice.co.uk

#### **BASINGSTOKE VARIETY SHOW**

At the **Anvil** on **Saturday**, **6th October**. Some of the area's most talented groups and soloists in a one night only show in aid of the **Mayor's Charity Appeal**. Tickets available from the Anvil; **01256 844244**, via their website: **www.anvilarts.org.uk** or in person at the box office. See inserted leaflet for more detail and prices.

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#### TRAIL AND FUN RUN UPDATE

It really is the final countdown now to our inaugural **F.O.O.B.S Trail and Fun Run** which is taking place on **Sunday, 14th October**. Last minute preparations continue at pace, with the committee members and other volunteers working hard behind the scenes to ensure a great family fun day for all in our village.

We still have some entry spots available for all three races (2km, 5km and 10 km) - make sure you don't miss out and visit the online site to enter, which you can access via the F.O.O.B.S website: **foobs.weebly.com/fun-run** Please remember the focus is on fun and while of course some of our more seasoned runners will be looking for a possible Personal Best on a new course, the runs have been designed to be accessible to all. Please do consider joining in the fun and also encourage your children to sign up to the 2km race. All finishers of all three races will receive a fantastic medal, certainly the children will enjoy taking those to school to show off to their teachers!

Finally, we would still warmly welcome any readers who would like to be involved and offer their services on the day as marshals to please get in touch with us at the usual address: **foobsfunrun@gmail.com** 

Happy running, see you soon!

Michele Byrne Race Secretary

#### PROBUS HEARS ABOUT THE ARCHITECTS OF REMEMBRANCE

November sees the centenary of the end of the Great War, the war to end all wars. In the last four years many have travelled to see the battlefields to gain a sense of what our forefathers endured during this appalling period in our history which cost the lives of so many.

As well as seeing evidence of the trench warfare, they have seen the War graves, those silent battalions who lie in such tranquillity. Fewer people realise how these outstanding scenes came about and who were responsible for those temples of serenity we so admire today.

Rhydian Vaughan, who is Vice President of the Bramley Royal British Legion, has been Battlefield Guiding since 2000 with eclectic groups, large and small, old and young. Passion is his driving force and bringing history to life: his strap line is "Without a passionate Guide a battlefield is just a field."

The Probus Club of Basingstoke was enlightened to hear about how the War Graves and Memorials to the fallen of WW1 were designed and laid out by the three great architects of the time, Lutyens, Blomfield and Baker. Despite the fact that they all clashed with mighty egos, their legacy and architectural genius is responsible for the impressive array of headstones and memorials to be seen across this part of northern France and Flanders.

The Imperial War Graves Commission was set up in 1917 and is today called the Commonwealth War Graves Commission whose headquarters are in Maidenhead. Regional offices are France, Belgium, Cyprus, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The fallen with no known grave are listed on the Memorials to the Missing including the Thiepval Memorial on the Somme and the Menin Gate, Ypres, where buglers play Last Post every day.

See www.cwgc.org

www.probusbasingstoke.wordpress.com



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#### **BASINGSTOKE LIONS CLUB**

We celebrated the lazy, hazy days of summer with a finger food dinner in one of the member's garden. The weather was obligingly balmy and it provided a great opportunity for us to meet and mingle. And the great news is that we'll be doing the same sort thing again very shortly in aid of the MacMillan Nurses Coffee Morning. I hope you are all going to join in.

Welfare: We spent £854. This covered four cases of breakdowns of family equipment. We also funded medals for disability footballers and donated £200 towards the hire of a sign language interpreter by St John's Ambulance for a candidate on a First Aid course. The largest commitment was the purchase of a mobility aid for a 2-year-old Downs Syndrome child; money well spent!

Fundraising: The Hampshire Police Band play for us at QMC on 13th October and The Caerphilly Male Voice Choir sing for us on 17th November. Our ticket prices are very low and you get free parking. Get in touch with us via: www.basingstokelions.org.uk or by contacting one of: tony.bamberger@hotmail.co.uk or mauricehockley@hotmail.com or jomolincoln@btinternet.com

Quiz Night at the Cliddesden Millenium Hall is on 3rd November. Invitations have already been issued so if you want to join in the fun, apply direct to: philipjhwilson@btinternet.com

Thursday 11th October - World Sight Day: See page 28 for full details

**Membership:** Our business meetings are usually good for a laugh or two, so do send us a message via our website and you'll get an invitation to come along and see what we're like – no pressure, it's all up to you. Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you.

Philip Wilson

#### LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE ACADEMY

Did you know that **October is "Positive Attitudes Month"?** At Linguatastic, we always try to have a positive attitude towards learning other languages and learning about other countries and cultures and so this "celebration" got us thinking...

Are there differences between nation(s) in terms of levels of positive attitudes? Indeed, what does it really mean to have a positive attitude? A report into positive emotions was published by Gallup in 2014 and was based on survey data from around 1,000 residents in each of 138 countries.

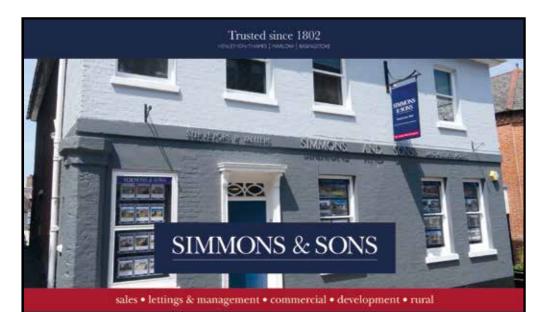
The report stated that nine out of the top 10 countries with the highest percentages of residents experiencing positive emotions were located in Latin America! Paraguay came in No. 1, followed by Panama, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Colombia. Denmark was the only country in the top 10 not located in Latin America.

But what did the researchers define experiencing positive emotions as?

Well, here's the list: smiling or laughing; experiencing enjoyment; being treated with respect,; feeling well-rested; learning or doing something interesting on the previous day.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Linguatastic would claim to offer an environment conducive to all of the above (apart from maybe being somewhere to rest!). So, if you'd like to get your positive emotions going, you know where to come!

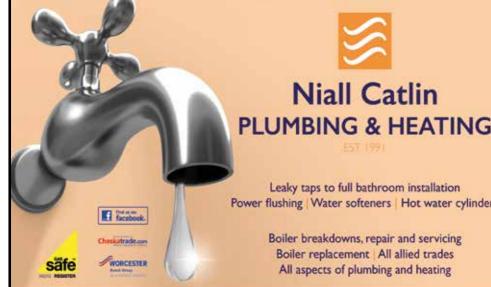
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#### **SPIDERS: OUR EIGHT LEGGED ALLIES**

#### by Alice Ashcroft, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

They've inspired some of our best loved novels, superheroes have been modelled around them, and without them the world might be overrun with swarms of insects. But despite this, spiders carry a formidable reputation, and few creatures strike fear into the general populace with such impressive efficiency.

Spiders are at their most active during the autumn, so it's likely you've seen more creepy crawlies than usual in recent weeks. At this very moment, someone, somewhere is flailing wildly and screaming at the top of their lungs because an affable arachnid, no bigger than a fifty pence piece, has wandered within three feet of them.

For many people, this fear stems from the idea that spiders are venomous and will attack if given half a chance. While it is true that almost all spiders are venomous, this is only a problem if you happen to be a flying insect. Spiders in the UK pose little risk to human health, and in fact we should probably be grateful for their presence in our homes.

Spiders are excellent housekeepers and go to great lengths to clear out unwanted insects. They will happily feast on bottle flies and bed bugs, both of which are not only irritating to humans, but have the potential to spread disease.

So if you find a spider in your bedroom, there's no need to panic. It's highly unlikely that he or she will feel the urge to climb into your mouth while you sleep, and there is no evidence to support the claim that the average person consumes eight spiders a year this way. This is just another sad example of fake spider news.

It is, however, an undeniable fact that spiders play a very important role in the eco-system, providing a vital food source for a huge variety of birds whilst keeping insect populations under control.

It is also true that spiders are marvels of nature, with an incredible range of talents. Spider silk is amazingly lightweight; a strand long enough to go all the way around the Earth would weigh less than 500 grams - the same as a bag of sugar! It's also as strong as Kevlar, the material used to make bulletproof vests.

In front of their face, spiders have two small arms called pedipalps. Some species use these to communicate; for example, some male spiders will wave at females to show they are worthy of affection; quite sweet, when you think about it.

Love them or hate them, spiders are all around us, and we'd be much worse off without them. So next time you see one pottering about the house, don't run for the hills; either place it outside, or give it a wave and leave it be.

**Alice Ashcroft** Assistant Communications Officer

#### **OCTOBER IN YOUR GARDEN**

Winter is coming...with autumn in full swing the gardener can find themselves caught between the end of this year's work, and the beginning of the next. Even with spring long in the distance, it is not too early to sow early varieties of Broad Bean towards the end of the month to overwinter in the greenhouse. They will provide earlier beans, and hopefully be finished before the black fly. Similarly, sweet peas can be sown in a cold frame, and will offer earlier blooms to spring sown peas, extending the display.

Citrus shrubs in pots that have enjoyed the summer outside need to be brought back inside to a sunny, frost-free, location. A temperature between 39 and 54°F (4 and 12°C) is ideal, avoiding draughts and heat sources. Those of us lucky enough to have a conservatory have the perfect spot. Reduce watering, but ensure lemons do not dry out.

For those who enjoy growing citrus plants, and want to grow something a bit special, look into growing a Yuzu tree. It is a Japanese citrus that is hardy enough to be planted in the ground after a few years conditioning. They were once hard to come by in this country, but are now becoming readily available, and would make an excellent and unusual Christmas present!

Climbing roses ought to be pruned as soon as they have finished flowering and tie the stems to avoid wind damage. Fallen rose leaves and petals should be removed and disposed of (not composted) as black spot can carry over to the next year. Borders can continue to be mulched until it becomes too wet and damp. You should avoid feeding plants late in the season, as this will encourage soft, sappy growth that is more vulnerable to damage by frost and by wet, also encouraging fungal diseases to develop.

If you have dahlias and cannas wait for the first frosts to hit before lifting the tubers or rhizomes. Here in the south they may be all right left in the ground to overwinter if covered with a protective layer of straw or bracken, though be prepared for flowering to be late and/or poor the following year. If you have patio containers remember to raise them on to bricks or purpose-made pot feet to avoid them sitting in water during the winter.

This month should see the final mowing of the lawn for the year to neaten them up before the winter but don't cut lower than 1 inch (2.5 centimetres). It is important to keep the leaves off of the grass too, as well as any fallen apples or pears, to allow light and air through to the blades. Remember to try and avoid walking over the lawn if it becomes wet and waterlogged. After cutting an autumn lawn feed can be applied – low in nitrogen, these feeds discourage lush green growth that would only succumb to cold and diseases over the winter months.

We all enjoy hanging baskets in the summer, and once again the village looked fantastic with flowers hanging from many houses. This can be continued through the winter by planting up plants now that offer winter interest, such as Cyclamen, Crocus, Winter Pansy and Viola. Don't forget to get some Hyacinth bulbs early this month if you would like to have them flower during Christmas and New Year.

As many trees and shrubs go into dormancy over the winter now is an ideal time to move them if you so wish, Rhubarb crowns can also be lifted and divided into two or three, with some being given away, discarded or used to grow a new plant. This promotes long life and prevents them from bolting the following year. This should be done on older crowns, five or six years of age they recommend but I usually leave them a few more years. It is hard to remember just how long I have had them in all honesty!

#### **NATURE NOTES FOR OCTOBER**

Web master Kevin Curtis sent me a video clip taken by a works colleague who had been taking an early (or late) walk on the common. The lady captured the image of a Barn Owl quartering the margins down in the dip near Basing House and her emotion came across on the recording. It was a smashing moment as she filmed the silent and ghostly shape gliding effortlessly and beautifully in its search for mice and voles. Brilliant.

Yesterday (9th) was the Village Show and it was very well supported and attended. It also gave me chance to chat with several residents about their recent sightings and I was delighted to hear from one gentleman (whose name I sadly didn't get) but he had undoubtedly recently seen an Otter. This was on Basing Fens, a wild piece of water meadow between Basing Road and Eastrop, where the chap admitted he had briefly got lost on. The big plus however was witnessing the unmistakable shape and size of what is probably the UK's favourite mammal, playing in the water. At first I queried if it was a Mink but this gentleman clearly knew what he was seeing as the larger, grey coloured sleek and playful animal differs wildly from the black and wiry creature that zipped across Newnham Lane last week, noted by a passing motorist. Yes, mink down this part of the Loddon now so they're spreading again.

Another customer of mine and frequent reporter, Mike Wall and his wife Josie of Manor Lane have reported hedgehogs in their canal-bordering garden all summer long but there are now five of the prickly visitors most nights, feasting on bird feeder excess and specialist hedgehog food.

Indeed, at this time of year, hedgehogs in the wild are relentlessly foraging for food - conserving as much fat as possible for the cold months ahead when they'll head off to a suitable location to hibernate. The hedgehog's staple diet consists of beetles, caterpillars and earthworms and it's in the winter months that these little critters are increasingly hard to come by, hence the hedgehog's ability to hibernate through the barren months. If you have found a hedgehog you are concerned about please use gardening gloves to collect it up, bring it indoors and put it in a high sided cardboard box with an old towel or fleece in the bottom for the hedgehog to hide under. Fill a hot water bottle so that when it is wrapped in a towel there is a nice gentle heat coming through and put that in the bottom of the box with the hedgehog, ensuring it has room to get off the bottle and making sure the bottle is kept warm (if allowed to go cold it will do more harm than good). Put the box somewhere quiet. Offer meaty cat or dog food and fresh water then call us as soon as possible on 01584 890 801, the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

Now, a final yet important thing to note: my email address is changing from now as I have just retired – rickbourne@yahoo.com

Don't forget to send all your nature related photos to **naturenotes@basinga.org.uk** but ring or send stories to:

Richard Bourne, telephone: 01256 321108 or by new email: rickbourne@yahoo.com For 'Bird Drop-ins', use answer-phone 01256 842722

#### **DIARY DATES FOR OCTOBER**

(For details of services and events at St. Mary's and Methodist Churches please see p23)

(For det	ans of servic	les and e	vents at St. Wai y 8 and Methodist Churches please see p23)
Tue 2	2.00pm -	4.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church Craft group
	7.30pm -		Old Basing Women's Institute. Talk by Sue Atrill
Thu 4	7.45pm -		for 8.00pm start. RBL Branch meeting. Jack Morris Hall
Fri 5	10.30am -	noon	First Friday Coffee Morning, 44 Lambs Row, Lychpit
Sat 6	10.00am -	1.00am	PIOCC Churchyard conservation. Meet in church lobby.
	7.30pm -		Basingstoke Variety Show in aid of Mayor's Charity Appeal
Sun 7	10.30am –		Old Basing Methodist Church annual Harvest Festival
	11.00am -	noon	Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society shop opening
Tue 9	noon –	3.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church MHA lunch club and singing
			Old Basing WI Skittles Evening - Loddon Vale Bowls Club
Wed 10 6.00pm LAST DAY FOR COPY FOR NOVEMBER ISSUE – see page 3			
	7.45pm -		BDRS Steaming through Sussex. Wote Street Club
Thu 11	9.00am -	3.00pm	World Sight Day. Old Basing Mall, opposite Boots
Fri 12	10.30am –	noon	Old Basing Methodist Friday Church Coffee Break
	2.00pm -	4.30pm	The Village Cafe will open in The Parish Room, St Mary's Church. All are welcome and volunteers needed.
Sat 13	10.00am -	noon	The Children's Society Coffee Morning Parish Room
Sun 14	10.30am /	noon	FOOBS Fun Run. See <b>foobs.weebly.com</b> for start details
Tue 16	2.00pm -	4.00pm	Old Basing Methodist Church Craft group
Thu 18	2.00pm -		Old Basing Methodist Church - Council Meeting
Sun 21	10.00am -		Mill Field Scrub Bash - meet play area near Barton's Mill
Wed 24	7.30 _		BDRS. A Tour de France by Narrow Gauge by Mike Bunn
			Wote Street Club
Thu 25	2.00pm -	4.00pm	PIOCC Churchyard conservation group.
	7.30pm –		RBL Women's Section AGM and election in the Jack Morris Hall. Competition: a wartime memento.
Sat 27	5.00pm –		Basing House Halloween Ghost Tours. Read article on <b>page 19</b> for details of the three tour times.

#### **BASINGA EXTRA**

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

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