September 2019

## BASINGA



Gulsara Munbayeva





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



#### SEPTEMBER NEWS

The cover photograph this month is an **aerial photo of Old Basing** taken by **Gulsara Munbayeva** from a Cessna light aircraft at 2,200 feet.

The first Old Basing Flower Show was held in 1864. It was organised by Admiral Booth and described by the Reverend Hessey, Vicar of St Mary's Church, as "the best thing the Admiral ever did". In the beginning the show was held in the garden of Old Basing House which was then the property of Admiral Booth, and later in the "Park" in the ruins, it then moved to the Recreation Ground and became a very large affair, with tents, marquees, and great quantities of bunting. Cottagers entered prize flowers and vegetables, gardens were judged and prizes were awarded for the best collections of flowers, fruit and vegetables. There were athletics, bicycle sports, military sports, a band, switchbacks, roundabouts, dancing, the day ending with a firework display.

Not quite on the same scale but still an important annual event in village life, the **Old Basing & Lychpit Village Show**, takes place on **Sunday, 8th September** (see page 10 for more details).

#### **BASINGA**

We welcome both regular and occasional items for the Basinga. The very last date for copy to the Editor for the July edition is **6 pm on Tuesday**, **10th September**. Please use the forms on the Basinga website: **www.basinga.org.uk** to get your dates, articles and letters to us (see box on page 15 for further instructions). All advertising enquiries — classified, free adverts or inserts (flyers) can also be made via the Basinga website. Don't forget that we only accept articles with about a **300 word maximum**.

#### REQUEST FOR PHOTOS AND LOGOS

We are very grateful to Anna Fairs for her excellent images over the past years and we look forward to many more. If any reader would like to offer up a photograph of the village environment we would be more than happy to receive them, either for immediate use, as above, or to build up a portfolio of 'village views' that we can use when appropriate.

We are also making changes to our presentation and would welcome club and society logos and the option to use photographs within articles. Please send via the Editor.

#### **ADVERTISING ASSISTANT NEEDED**

The team would still like to recruit an Advertising Assistant to provide back up to the Advertising Manager. This is an opportunity to learn new skills in processing advertiser enquires and advert graphics. Knowledge of Word and Excel would be an advantage but training will be available in the use of Adobe InDesign and Photoshop applications. For information volunteer about this role please contact: advertising@basinga.org.uk

#### **BASINGA DELIVERERS NEEDED**

The Basinga requires reserve local deliverers of the Basinga in Old Basing. It's not an arduous task and it requires less than an hour a month to deliver the magazine in your local area. If interested email basing@basinga.org.uk or tel. 07790 279954 or 01256 352299

#### THE COMMON

We are Trustees of the It goes without saying we love the Common.

The Common is around 95 acres of land governed by an 18th Century Act of Parliament.

As Trustees we are responsible annually for settling a small number of invoices namely public liability insurance, water charges and the occasional repairs required. Sadly due to dog poo and dog-poo bags, hay has no value. Hence it is necessary to run a small number of livestock on the Common in order to cover the invoices.

The Common needs a minimum of 50 livestock to both generate the income needed and to graze the Common effectively.

We have historically had either horses and/or cattle on the Common from May to October or when the grass is eaten, whichever is the earlier. Five years ago Cllr Sven Godesen was advised by The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Trust that cattle were better for the biodiversity of the Common.

However, recently we have been unable to find a cattle farmer prepared to put cattle on to the Common due to dog poo and dog-poo bags amongst other things. We love having horses on the Common but we must have a minimum of 50 horses.

The ragwort needs controlling. We did try to set up a working party of residents to help us maintain the Common but sadly had only one person offering to help. Historically pulling ragwort out was considered the best way to control ragwort. However, the current advice from environmental experts is that pulling ragwort is more destructive to the environment than spraying due to soil disruption.

We have had numerous meetings with relevant Council Officers. We formulated a Plan. The Council eventually found a farmer to graze 50 cattle on the Common, provided that we control the ragwort. Unfortunately the farmer does not want horses with his cattle. Our Plan was to cut the Common twice as a "one off" exercise. Once at the end of March and then the second cut after May in accordance with RSPB guidelines. After the May cut we then planned to control the ragwort. Thereafter the cattle will be put out to graze until October or thereabouts.

Even nature needs controlling. Our Plan will result in an improvement in the overall state of the Common. The farmer will have responsibility for the stock fencing and the water trough. We repeat we love the Common. Our objective has always been to manage the Common on behalf of you, the local community, and we hope you trust us to make the right decisions.

If any of you would like us to have a meeting to discuss our Plan in greater detail please email us on Clr.sven.godesen@basingstoke.gov.uk

Cllrs Sven Godesen and Onnalee Cubitt





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#### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

#### **NUMBER 55 BUS**

In our report last month we stated that the routing of the No. 55 bus meant that Lychpit residents were not dropped off where they had originally joined the bus. This was not accurate in that, if Lychpit residents did wish to return to the point where they joined the bus they could remain on the bus whilst it travelled around Old Basing before reaching the Lychpit stop on its way back to Basingstoke. If residents did not wish to stay on the bus for what could be an additional 20 minutes they needed to alight at the top of Binfields Road by the Barn Animal Hospital and walk the rest of the way.

We are pleased to report that our request for the No. 55 bus to make a short diversion to drop off Lychpit residents at the "Tesco Express" stop before returning to its route into Old Basing via Bartons Lane has been agreed by the officer responsible for Community Transport. This change was implemented during August and will run for an initial trial period of three months before being becoming permanent if the change is a success.

#### **NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT**

A new roundabout suitable for wheelchair users and purchased with S106 grant funding has been installed at the recreation ground. It has already had plenty of use during the school holidays and we hope it continues to give pleasure to those visiting the "rec".

#### **ALLOTMENT AND CEMETERY INSPECTIONS**

The next inspections will take place week-commencing 7th October and we hope that the recent fine weather has enabled allotment holders to work on their plots and produce a good crop of vegetables and fruit. Please remember to let us know if you are unable to manage your plot due to illness or other situation to avoid us sending a "warning" letter. During the last Cemetery inspection we had to remove a number of glass containers as these are a hazard to our grounds staff when strimming around headstones. If you are unsure of the rules regarding tributes on graves we have copies available and will be happy to post a copy if you are unable to visit the office.

#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next two meeting dates are **Tuesday 3rd September** and **1st October** 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 Clerk Mrs Sandra Tuck (Deputy Clerk: Mrs Heather Mountford)

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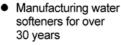
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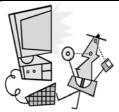
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#### **OLD BASING & LYCHPIT VILLAGE SHOW**

With a month to go to your Village Show, it is time to finish off that handicraft item, make a selection of your best photos and put the cork in your wine and beer entry! Entry forms can be found on our website at **www.oblvs.org.uk** or in the **yellow booklets** that are available free from all the usual places in the Village.

There is a new Class 1 which is a photo of a decorative hanging basket or planter. For this class only, a hard copy photo should have been delivered to the Show Secretary no later than 12th August – so if you haven't done by now it's to late!

On the day itself, the Village Hall is open to the public at **2.30pm**, after the judging has taken place, for you to view the exhibits. We also have a fine selection of raffle prizes this year, thanks to local businesses. There will be a tombola, a produce stall and our famous "tearoom" where you can purchase a drink and a slice of homemade cake. Many items will be **auctioned off** at **4pm** after the prizes have been awarded.

So come and support your Village Show by entering a class or two and by coming on the day to see what wonderful things have been made and grown by your neighbours! We look forward to seeing you on **Sunday**, **8th September**.

#### OLD BASING VILLAGE HALL JUMBLE SALE

Come and grab yourself a bargain, join us at the **Old Basing Village Hall Jumble Sale** on **Saturday, 14th September**, at **2pm**. A wide range of items for all ages, plus tea, coffees and cakes.

Is it time to tidy some cupboards? Does your garage need a declutter? We would be grateful for contributions to sell. We appreciate bric-a-brac, good quality clothing, gardening tools, books and toys! Unfortunately we can't take large items of furniture, but everything else, yes please.

Please leave your items in the outer porch from **Monday, 9th September**, through to **noon** on **Saturday, 14th September**.

This is a fundraising event, helping to enable the volunteer committee to maintain our wonderful hall. If you would like to help on the day, with sorting or selling, we would love to see you there. Sorters arrive at 10am, sellers 1.45pm. Entry 25p.

Laura Haystaff (Old Basing Village Hall Committee), tel. 07969 072230

#### VILLAGE CAFÉ - A CAFÉ FOR THE VILLAGE, BY THE VILLAGE!

The **Village Café** will re-open following our short summer break on **Friday, 6th September,** from **2 to 4.30 pm** in the **Parish Room** of **St Mary's Church**. Thank you all for your generosity and support since we opened up last October. From now until Christmas all profits will go to a local homeless charity (further details next month).

We'd love to hear from you if you would like to get involved, either as a baker or volunteer. Please call **07813 186328** or email **thevillagecafeoIdbasing@gmail.com** 

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#### **BUSES OF OLD BASING: PART 6**

In the last edition of this magazine we went back 40 years to May 1979. This month we are looking to the future, to the year 2049. What will be the situation regarding mass transportation 30 years hence?

Before we consider the future, let's briefly look at the current situation around the district. Stagecoach run the number 10 from Old Basing to town. It is an hourly service. no service on Sundays, and no good at all if you want to travel after 6pm. The 13 is an hourly Stagecoach service along the A30; the 55 is an infrequent but well used community bus service linking Old Basing to Chineham centre. Numbers 7 and 14 go from Chineham/Lychpit to Basingstoke. In other words things are looking grim unless you drive. This is partly explained by the withdrawal of subsidies by an increasingly skint County Council. With a few exceptions the only bus services now operating are those that are commercially viable. If a bus service is not profitable it will not run.

Now let's fast forward to 2049. Back in 2019 it was announced by Prime Minister Theresa May (remember her?) that the Climate Change Act was to be amended so that the UK became an emissionsfree zone by 2050. Despite hiccups along the way most vehicles are now powered by electricity or hydrogen. Buses are no exception. Running costs of these vehicles are low but GPS-enabled road-pricing means that private motorists are deterred from using their vehicles for short journeys. Buses, trams and light rail systems are now enjoying a popularity not seen for a century. Most towns and cities have made their centres pedestrian friendly and no cars are allowed within a central "clean-air" zone.

A series of transport hubs have been built around the Basingstoke area. In our locality there is one on the Reading railway line at Carpenters Down (Popley) and another on the London line near the recreation ground. A network of silent buses run to these hubs every 20 minutes (hourly between 6pm and midnight). At these interchanges the passenger can connect with main-line services to London, Reading and the West Country or transfer to the fast and efficient tram to Basingstoke or Hook. Fares are regulated and by law are capped at a daily rate equivalent to the hourly minimum wage (now £20). Travel for the under 18s and those over retirement age (now 70 I'm afraid) is free.

This system has been introduced across what remains of the UK but has not been without incident. The amount of vehicles being charged overnight has led to problems with power supplies. Nuclear power was outlawed in 2031 and although there is a large network of offshore wind turbines, land-based ones (including the four on Basingstoke Common) have proved deeply unpopular, as have tidal barrages. In short, the National Grid struggles to keep up with demand despite importing solar-generated supplies and constructing a series of photosynthesis generating stations. The cost of introducing the public transport infrastructure has been very expensive and largely funded by a 0.5% levy on all financial transactions. But at least we can still move around and breathe some clean air.

The rantings of a mad fantasist? Maybe. Only time will tell.

I have enjoyed writing these short articles and I hope you have enjoyed reading them. I've run out of things to say about buses now. But if you see an old man, possibly in an anorak, standing at a local bus stop with an angry look on his face, it's probably me, so give me a lift if heading towards town!

lan Maynard

Editor: Thank you lan, your writings have been most enjoyable.

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Selection for Articles/Letters and Diary Dates will be found on the "Submissions" drop down and for Free and Concession Ads on the "Advertise with us" drop down. 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.

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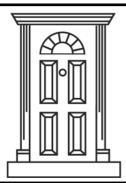
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**GARAGE SALE AT 103 THE STREET, OLD BASING:** Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September, 11am – 4pm.

**BASINGSTOKE VARIETY SHOW 2019:** Saturday, 5th October, 7.30pm, at The Anvil.All proceeds from the evening will go to the Mayor's Charity Appeal 2019/20. A range of acts from Indian dance and ballet to a drum corps, a Samba band and dancing dogs. Tickets available via The Anvil Box Office. Tel. 01256 844244 or book online www.anvilarts.org.uk or box.office@anvilarts.org.uk (see poster on website "Forthcoming Events").

#### **DUMMER FAIR IN AID OF TRELOAR'S**

The Dummer Fair has been a firm favourite in many diaries for nearly a quarter of a century, being one of the most successful charity fairs in Hampshire, sponsored by Savills.

This year's Fair will be on **Wednesday 9th** and **Thursday 10th October** at **Dummer Cricket Centre** (RG25 2AR). The **preview evening** on the **9th** will start at **5:30pm** and run until **9pm**, and guests will receive complimentary wine upon arrival. The Fair will then be open from **9:30am to 3.30pm** on the **Thursday**, with the café open for light lunches and coffees.

There are 95 stalls confirmed, with 46 of them new to the Fair this year. The stalls range from crafts and food to clothing and gifts so there are sure to be plenty of items to tempt you as early Christmas gifts or just to treat yourself! A full list of all the confirmed stalls is available on our website **www.dummerfair.org.uk** and we are very proud to be supporting so many local and independent business at this year's Fair.

Every purchase made at the Fair will go to directly helping Treloar's. Treloar's is a charity based in Alton for children and young people with complex physical disabilities aged between two to 25 years old from all across the UK.

This year guests will now be able to purchase tickets to The Dummer Fair online at: **ww.dummerfair.org.uk** and take advantage of our early bird pricing for both Wednesday and Thursday tickets. Parking on site is free and plentiful.

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#### EAST OF BASINGSTOKE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT MASTERPLAN

Part of my role as the Cabinet Member for Planning, Infrastructure and the Natural Environment is to work out ways that the Council and residents can work together to preserve and enhance the natural environment in the Borough.

To that end, I have set in train a plan to establish an East of Basingstoke Natural Environment masterplan. I want to set out how the areas that include Crabtree Plantation, Basingstoke Common, The Lime Pits, Basing Fen, Mill Field and the River Loddon are used, protected from development and enhanced for the benefit of all. I am well aware of some of the issues that have caused residents concern, such as the outdated play equipment at Redbridge Lane, the anti-social activity at the Lime Pits and the motorbikes on Basing Fen. For too long these issues have not been dealt with and mainly because of land ownership issues and a lack of co-ordination to the whole area.

Furthermore, the area contains parts of the Borough's most significant history in Basing House and its surrounds and the route of the Basingstoke Canal. It is my view that these assets need enhancing, but for each to be truly appreciated, the natural environment in which they sit must be preserved, enhanced and protected from development.

My plan is that the masterplan will sit under the Borough's Green Infrastructure Strategy which itself has planning weight as it is mentioned within the Local Plan. As such, the Strategy will seek to preserve and enhance the natural environment and protect it from development.

I have had a number of discussions with local residents, environmental groups and some of the landowners and all have been supportive of the idea of a masterplan that will set how important the natural environment is to the east of Basingstoke and in and around Old Basing. I hope to have discussions with local residents and the Parish Council as we start to work out what we would like to achieve as part of the masterplan.

If you would like to make suggestions then please contact me (Cllr Mark Ruffell), email: cllr.mark.ruffell@basingstoke.gov.uk

Cllr Mark Ruffell

#### **BEA PRESTON (13.03.30 - 23.05.19)**

The family would like to thank everyone for their cards and messages of condolence after the sad loss of mum. She was a powerhouse of activity and threw herself into village life from the day she arrived 51 years ago.

She and her husband John were heavily involved in the Residents Association, the Village Show and Country Watch to name but a few.

During the service and afternoon tea £240.66 was raised for Cancer Research UK. Many thanks to everyone who contributed so generously.

Roland, Linda, Sara, Melanie and Penny

### **Open Mornings**

Saturday 5th October 10.00am – 1.00pm

Monday 18th November 9.30am – 12.00pm

> Year 3 & Reception Taster Day

8th November 2019 8.45am - 3.30pm

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#### THE MILL FIELD LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

Our first **work party** for this winter kicks off on **Sunday 29th September**, and anyone is welcome to join in. You can come along to just one or as many work parties as you want, there is no commitment, just a couple of hours and it is free. This month we will be clearing back paths which have become overgrown. For anyone who feels they have limited ability we always have easier jobs to take care of.

As usual tools, gloves and the vital tea, coffee and biscuits shall be provided. We **meet at the play area at Bartons Mill pub at 10am** or if you know the field, meet us on the lower path near where it goes into the woods. If you are a regular user of the field and have a couple of spares hours please do come along.

#### WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR THIS MONTH

Signalling the end of summer, you will notice the movement of House Martins, Swallows and Swifts as they fly back south followed by Hobbys, you may get the chance to see a Redstart or Whinchat onsite or maybe something a little rarer. If the weather is kind, amongst the grass you should spot butterflies such as the Marbled White, Silver-Washed Fritillary and Purple Emperor.

Anne Francis – tel. 07974 944439; email: millfieldoldbasing@yahoo.co.uk Facebook: Mill Field Conservation Group

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

The weekend of the **28th/29th September** sees **re-enactors** from the Civil War period take over Basing House. Members of the **English Civil War Society** will share their living history displays and take part in a skirmish. Normal admission fees and times apply for this event, and entry is free to those who have visited in the last year and who have valid annual tickets. We do have to point out that villagers may be able to hear some of the musket fire from the skirmishes.

On every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** in **September** we will be running our "**Lost Tudor Palace**" tour which lasts 90 minutes and is included in our admission ticket which is valid for admission to the site for twelve months. The tour sets out from our **visitor centre**, on the eastern end of the Great Barn at **1.30pm** on **Tuesdays** and **11.15am** on **Thursdays**.

Following their performance of *Pride and Prejudice* in the Basing House walled garden in July, the **Chapterhouse theatre company** will be returning to perform *Wuthering Heights* on **Sunday**, **1st September (gates opening 5pm; performance starting 6pm.** You'll need to bring low-backed chairs and probably a picnic. Tickets available on the night but allow extra time to buy them, Tudor ruins were not designed for modern payment systems!

Our popular annual **Christmas Fair**, in the Great Barn, will be held on **Saturday**, **30th November**. Full details about Basing House, its events, fees, events and how to book are at **www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house** otherwise ring **01256 463965** or call in at the visitor centre, next to the Great Barn between **11am and 4pm**, **Saturday to Thursday**. Basinga articles are written some time ahead of events, and the information on the website is therefore more up to date, and occasionally more correct.

**Andrew Howard** (tel. **01256 327014**)

#### BLESSINGS AT THE START OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Dear friends,

It seems barely any time at all since we welcomed the children from St Mary's Junior School into church for their end-of-term acts of worship and we prayed for God's blessing upon them as the summer holidays began. I hope that the holidays have been filled with rest, play and all sorts of new experiences. Now the school year is about to begin again, with the promise of plenty more new experiences to look forward to.

The new school year is for many families a time of both excitement and apprehension as children start a new nursery or school, or moving up a class. And so it is a great time to be reminded that God is always with us. We hear in the Bible God's promise "I will be with you wherever you go."

As Christians, we trust that God will surround us with love and guide us in life. We also trust that God will be a light in the darkness, a beacon of hope calling us forwards. When we celebrate God's blessing we are giving thanks for all that God gives us.

We will be marking start of the new school year at St Mary's Church on Sunday, 1st September in our 9:30am service, by incorporating a blessing of school bags into our service.

This will be an opportunity to pray for God's blessing upon our lives and to give thanks for the places we go and the people we meet, whether this be at school, in the workplace or in the community. We hope to see you there – children are welcome to bring a school bag or book bag, and adults a bag or briefcase!

With love,



Revd Heather

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

Sunday, 1 September Blessing of School Bags (9.30am): Bring your school bag,

book bag or briefcase to church. Towards the end of the service we will bless them and you, praying for God's blessing on the

places we go and the people we meet.

Saturday, 7 September Men's Breakfast Group (8.45 to 10am): Men of all ages are

invited to come along to a full English breakfast in the Parish

Room – you'd be most welcome (price £4).

Sunday, 8 September Patronal Festival (9.30am): A special day for the St Mary's

Church as we celebrate the birth of our named saint, Mary,

mother of Jesus.

Monday, 23 September Tea & Talk Café (2pm): In the Parish Room. All welcome, no

charge.

#### LOOKING FORWARD

Sunday, 6 October Harvest Festival (10am)

The church is open daily for prayer and you are welcome as you are every Sunday.

Sunday services take place every week at 8 and 9.30am. All are welcome. There is a children's corner where young children can play and pray. During the 9.30am service, Junior Church meets for primary-school-age children in the Parish Room.

After the 9.30am service 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 Facebook page** where you will find fresh updates.

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

Sunday, 1 September Covenant Service and Gift Day

Tuesday, 3 & 17 Sept Craft Group (2 to 4 pm): Bring your own craft or items will be

provided

Tuesday, 10 September MHA Lunch Club (noon to 3pm): Followed by activities

Friday, 13 September Coffee Break (10.30am till noon): Our monthly coffee morning

Tuesday, 24 September Prayer time (2.30 to 3.30 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, midweek prayers and Tuesday craft – a warm welcome awaits you.

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

We emptied our compost bins last month. This ideal "mulch" material, is available for collection from behind the bins in the Conservation Area. In return we would appreciate a small donation to help our funds.

This month's working parties will be on Saturday, 7th September, at 10am and Thursday, 26th September, at 2pm — meet in the church lobby. We will finish the summer season maintenance so next month we can move onto our conservation work, including woodland management. We look forward to welcoming 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. Just turn up in gardening clothes and bring gloves. The tools are provided. Our Saturday morning sessions last about three hours (with a coffee break and chance to relax) and our Thursday afternoons about two hours.

As we move towards autumn the nights are cooler and mornings misty, but the days can still be pleasantly warm and summery. There are still flowers in the glade providing sustenance for the late summer insects, including butterflies. They love warm weather so should be flying well, especially if we have a heat wave towards the end of the month. Why not come and see what you can find? Or perhaps just enjoy an opportunity for a moment of peace or prayer on the WI seat with its lovely view of the church. The Conservation Area is a community space for all to enjoy.

A date for your diaries: on **Monday**, **7th October**, our **Open Meeting** will mark the start of the winter Conservation programme. Please join us at **8pm** in **St Mary's Parish Room**. For further information please ring **Fay Farrant** on **01256 476863**.

Margaret Carr - www.stmarysoldbasing.org.uk

#### **BASINGSTOKE NEIGHBOURCARE**

Do you have a few hours to make a real difference in your community? At **Basingstoke NeighbourCare** we support our clients by providing an accompanied transport service to those who are unable to easily use other forms of public transport, e.g. for the elderly, infirm or those who need a little help with mobility. This includes transporting people to medical appointments, providing trips to visit a loved one, taking them to older persons' clubs, or simply taking them shopping. We need you during the day time on weekdays. You would use your own car and we pay you 45 pence per mile to cover your costs.

We also offer a befriending service for lonely and isolated members of the community. Befrienders are volunteers who are matched carefully with clients who are in need of company or help with reading or form filling.

Our volunteers devote anything from an hour a week to a couple of hours a day to assist our clients and we know from the feedback and comments we receive from clients and their families that our service really makes a difference to the lives of the people they help.

As is often the case, demand for our services continues to outstrip supply so we're in great need of additional volunteer drivers and befrienders. If you feel that you could help us, then please telephone **01256 423855** or email info@neighbourcare.com

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

#### **VOLUNTEERS' EVENING**

Did you help out with last year's **Christmas lunch** or perhaps you are interested in joining the team this year? Come to our **Volunteers' Evening** on **Saturday, 28th September**, at **7pm**, in the **Parish Room**, when we will be thanking all the 2018 volunteers and sharing plans for the 2019 lunch. This hugely popular annual Christmas lunch will be in its fifth consecutive year, but we can only do this with your support. Come along to find out how you could help, as well as enjoy a delicious lunch. Email: **bigturkeylunch@outlook.com** or call **07544 998292**.

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



There is nothing better than playing tennis outside when it is warm and sunny and this summer the weather has been kind to us. **Club nights** continue to take place on **Tuesday** and **Friday** evenings from **6pm until dusk**. We welcome new members.

On **Saturday, 7th September,** we are holding our **Summer Tournament Finals' Day** followed by a BBQ and trophy presentation – spectators are most welcome. A date for your diary: the **OBTC Annual Quiz** will be held on **Saturday, 16th November**, in **Lychpit Village Hall** – full details next month.

If you would like to join our club please get in touch with our Secretary, **Jan**, by emailing **OBTC. Information@gmail.com** (website: **www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/OldBasingTennisClub** – we are also on Facebook and Instagram).

Lynne Thomas (Chairperson)

#### **CHINEHAM AND OLD BASING NWR**

National Women's Register (NWR) is an international group for women to meet up for friendship and discussion. The Chineham and Old Basing NWR was formed in 1982. Despite living in Chineham since 1981 I only discovered the Group a couple of years ago. In July some of us enjoyed a sumptuous tea at the Parlour Tea Rooms. We also went to Newbury Races, where we had a chance to dress up, and lose a little money. August was a very popular meeting, we are fortunate to have a member whose very knowledgeable husband guided us through a selection of wines. In September we are discussing Inspiring Women from the last 50 years, for October the topic is Poland. In November we are going to the Christmas Market in Valkenburg.

We meet at **2pm** on the **first Monday of the month**. We also meet at other times for lunch or *ad hoc* trips, as well as having a Reading Group meeting in the evening every fourth Thursday. The current book is Into the *Darkest Corner* by Elizabeth Haynes.

New members are always welcome. Find out more about NWR from www.nwr.co.uk or for specific information about our Local Group email Sandie: sandra.tapping@gmail.com or tel. Karen on 01256 328488. If you have commitments Monday afternoons the NWR website gives details of other local NWR groups which meet evenings or on different days.

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

#### INFORMATION

BASING HOUSE | Barton's Lane | Basingstoke | Hampshire RG24 8AE



www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basing-house

#### **OLD BASING WI**

Members were entertained at our August Members' meeting by Terri Reid who spoke to us about *The Woman in the Brown Caravan* and other tales of Hampshire folklore.

Our next **meeting** takes place on **Tuesday, 3rd September, at 7.30pm,** in **St Mary's Church Parish Room**, when our speaker will be Hazel Fotheringham from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust who will be telling us about her work. The competition this evening will be a photograph that you have taken of Hampshire wildlife.

A note for Members' diaries is the **talk** taking place on **Wednesday, 9th October**, at the **Loddon Bowls Club**, when the Loddon WI group have arranged for Lady Carnarvon to speak to us about her life at Highclere Castle and the filming of *Downton Abbey*.

As well as our regular coffee mornings and lunches, we hold a walk once a month and a popular craft morning. For further details of our activities this 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). We are always ready to welcome new members.

#### **OLD BASING IVY CLUB**

What a glorious day we had at the seaside, the weather was perfect and a good time was had by all. We are going to organise another trip before Christmas to **Bordon Country Market** with all the attractions they offer as well as being able to visit their restaurant for a carvery. We are planning on going on **Tuesday**, **12th November**, with our usual pick up points at the **Co-op**, **Belle Vue Play area**, **Royal British Legion** and **Oakfields** at **Lychpit** commencing at **10am**. The cost will be **£10** per head. including the driver's tip. We will be **returning** at around **3pm**. If you would like to join us then please telephone me, **Sue Wilson** on **01256 328196**, to book your seat which is on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Ivy Club are also celebrating their **60th Birthday** this year and we are having a **birthday party** on **Wednesday**, **25th September**, **from 1.30 until 4pm** (**Jack Morris Hall**, **Royal British Legion**). If you have ever been a member of The Ivy Club and you would like to join us you would be very welcome but we would like you to RSVP for catering purposes. We have entertainment by "The Barrel Organ Boys" and The Carnival Chorus Choir.

We welcome new members, meeting weekly on a **Wednesday**, **1.30 until 4pm**, in the **Jack Morris Hall**, **Royal British Legion**, only qualification – you must be 60 years or over.

Sue Wilson (Chairman)

#### **OLD BASING ALLOTMENT AND GARDEN SOCIETY**

This month the allotment **shop** will be open on the **8th** and **22nd September** from **10.30am to noon**. Your plots should be bountiful with the fruits of your labour this month and harvesting should be in full swing. Autumn raspberries, runner beans and squashes should be abundant and ready for picking. If you have gluts, consider making some jams, chutneys or curds. There is an excellent recipe for Chris Hall's St Clements Curd, great if you have some spare cooking apples, on our website: **www.obags.uk/curds** 

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#### **BOLTON UNDER 5S**

Welcome back our BU5 children; we're really looking forward to hearing about your summer adventures! Welcome also to our newbies and their families – our current children are excited to meet you and we have lots of fun activities planned, plus our 'All about Me' topic.

Although we have new children joining us, we can't forget our last cohort and the fun we had with them. Despite the drizzly weather, we had a great Graduation party with Kate from DramaTots entertaining the children, before their parents joined us and watched their child receive their certificate and a momento of their time at BU5. Whilst it is always sad to say goodbye, they are ready to move on, so we wish them every happiness in their educational journey.

We were sad to say goodbye to Claudia, who is moving on after five years of fun antics with the children, but offer a warm welcome to Sarah M, Sarah W, Jodie and Louise who've recently joined our team of key persons for the children, ready for the new educational year!

Our Autumn term is already full of plans for exciting visits, walks, harvest festival celebrations and lots more. If anyone in the local community has an interesting hobby or occupation and would like to visit us, we'd love to hear from you. These experiences are fabulous learning opportunities and lots of fun for the children. Please email: admin@boltonunder5s.com or call and ask for Tina.

If you are interested in your child joining our 'Outstanding' preschool, we have spaces from September 2020 and would welcome you to come in to see our setting in action and to meet our team, ask questions etc. Please tel. **07781 920709** to arrange a time for a visit.

#### LINGUATASTIC LANGUAGE ACADEMY

It's European Day of Languages on Thursday, 26th September, a day which is all about promoting the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. It seeks to increase plurilingualism and intercultural understanding and encourage lifelong learning (principles on which Linguatastic is founded). Particularly as the Brexit deadline is fast-approaching, maybe we need to take some time and reflect on our relationship with languages in this country?

There have never been more opportunities to work or study in a different country. However, not only Brexit threatens our chances of taking advantage of these opportunities. Globalisation and patterns of business ownership mean that citizens increasingly need language skills to work effectively, even within their own countries, English alone is no longer enough. Even if you only know a few words of the language of a country you visit, this enables you to make new friends and contacts. Learning other peoples' languages is a way of helping us to understand each other better and overcome our cultural differences.

Linguatastic offers a wide variety of classes and is pleased to announce a new Spanish class for babies and toddlers with their parents on Wednesday mornings. For further information: info@linguatastic.com or tel. 01256 471474.



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#### **CHINEHAM LIBRARY**

We hope that you have had an enjoyable Summer. We are back into our regular routines at the library, and **Summer Reading Challenge** finishes on **Saturday, 14th September**. Please ensure that all children who are participating collect their medals and certificates by this date in order to avoid disappointment. Hopefully we can improve on our finishing rate from 2018. We will also be awarding the prizes for the space-themed colouring competition.

Several events for children have been enjoyed in the Summer, including Slime Lab and the Big Sculpture workshop. More exciting events are already planned for half term. These will include the **Quirks Animal Roadshow** on the **Tuesday, 29th October**, at **4pm**, with the opportunity to interact with various animals. **Tickets** costing £6 will be available from the usual sources.

Regular activities for children continue as usual, with **Rhymetimes** on **Tuesdays** for **under ones** at **10am** and **over ones** at **11am**. **Storytimes** take place every **Saturday except the first in the month at 11am**. **Chatterbooks** meets on **Thursday**, **12th September**, from **3.45pm** for crafts and fun.

Both reading groups meet again this month, with the **crime reading group** on **Saturday**, **14th** and the general reading group on **Saturday 28th**. Both run from **10.30 to 11.30am**. Our **creative writing group** meets on **Thursday**, **19th September** from **5.30 to 7pm**. The **Cuppa and Chat group** meets for fellowship **fortnightly** on **Wednesday** mornings from **10am to noon**, please contact the library for the next dates. You are very welcome to join them for conversation and refreshments. **Age Concern** will return to the library for computer sessions for the over 50s on **Wednesday mornings**. Please contact their area office on: **01256 423874** to arrange your sessions, availability is good at present. Some future events for adults will be advertised shortly.

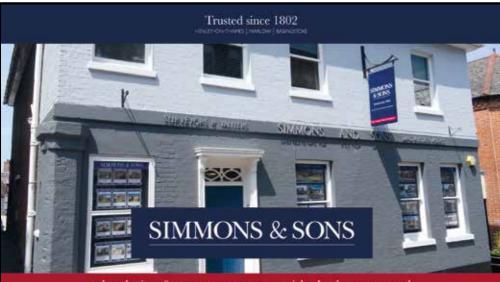
#### **BASINGSTOKE CONCERT BAND**

Basingstoke Concert Band are returning to stage their very own Proms Concert on Saturday, 21st September, at 7:30pm at Sherfield Park Community Centre (RG27 0FP), featuring Guest Soprano: Helen Clutterbuck. Tickets: £10 (under 16's free) available from Group members, Sherfield Park Community Hall on the night; 07503 881241 (Tim). Website: www.ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/3300

Programme includes music from the films *Moment for Morricone* and *Where Eagles Dare* plus the traditional British patriotic pieces Rule Britannia, Jerusalem and Auld Lang Syne.

#### **BASINGSTOKE BLUES CLUB**

The Basingstoke Blues Club welcomes Paul Cox and The Proof on their 40th Anniversary Tour on Saturday, 21st September (8pm to late), at the Basingstoke Railway Club, Station Approach, Basingstoke. Paul has reputation as one of Britain's finest Blues/Soul singers, having played with Paul Jones, Ray Charles, Eric Clapton, Paul Rodgers, Bonnie Tyler to name a few. Licensed bar and low prices. Profits to Brain Tumour Research.



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

#### NOTICE FROM THE OLD BASING ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

This year's Poppy Appeal and November's Remembrance event is fast approaching.

We do need additional volunteers who can spare a few hours as a **Poppy Collector** at either the Chineham Shopping Centre or at Tesco's in Hook, if you would like to get involved please contact me on my email below.

Also, if you wish to commemorate those who are serving or those who have served with a Poppy wreath there are over 3,000 different emblems, both military and of numerous organisations available so you can pay respects.

Please let me know if there is a specific tribute you would wish to have on Remembrance Sunday.

I can be contacted on **hampshire.chairman@rbl.community** (all money collected goes to the Poppy Appeal).

**Tim Russell** (Poppy Appeal Organiser, Old Basing Royal British Legion, Hampshire County Chairman)

#### **DIARY DATES**

Thursday, 5th September Friday, 6th September

RBL Branch meeting (7.45 for 8pm), Jack Morris Hall. Good Old Basing Golf Day (see below)

Rick Bourne

#### **WOMEN'S SECTION**

Thursday, 26th September

**General meeting (7.30pm)**, followed by a talk from Emma Wilson RNLD on working with young adults with learning disability. Jack Morris Hall.

Sue Wilson (Publicity)

#### THE GOOD OLD BASING GOLF DAY 2019

Strictly speaking, by the time you are reading, this the closing date for entry, or indeed the event itself, may have passed but if not you still only have HOURS to enter the annual Good Old Basing Charity Golf Day which takes place Friday, 6th September, at Sherfield Oaks Golf Club.

Contact **Steve** or **Rick** (see below) asap for a form if you would like to play in what is our fifteenth annual event. The day will consist of 27 holes of golf, coffee and bacon roll, lunch and two-course dinner, plus contribution to prizes, all for just £58.

Cost to members of Sherfield Oaks will be £32. 'Other halves' are warmly invited to join everyone for the evening meal and presentation for just £15.

Rick Bourne, tel. 07900 648675 and Steve Western, tel. 07920 840985

#### SEPTEMBER JOBS FOR THE GARDEN

Although there will still be plenty of sunny times in the month ahead, the nights start getting longer and the days will be cooler and gustier. As the trees begin changing colour ready to shed their finery, now is the time to net your pond to protect it from the falling leaves. It is also a good time to give a good look at any structures such as pergolas and greenhouses that could be damaged with the coming autumn storms. An extra screw or repair glass panels now will help with structural integrity later when the winds begin to pick up.

Lawns need less mowings now the nights are drawing in and the grass grows slower but you can help toughen them up for winter by scarifying and aerating them before applying a high-potassium autumn feed followed by a top dressing of sand and loam. If you need to repair or replace a lawn, both seed and turf can be used now, and any brown patches caused by summer droughts should start greening up again soon.

There will be plenty to do in the flower beds, mostly in preparation for winter and in beginning to think about next year's display. Perennials that are still flowering will benefit from deadheading but those that are beginning to fade away can be cut back and tidied but not before collecting any seed heads that have formed. Now is the time to divide and replant congested and older plants which will reinvigorate them and give you better flowers next year. If you plan on adding new plants, they will do well now while the soil is still warm. Sweet peas can be sown in cold frames and greenhouses for next year and hardy annuals such as marigolds and poppies can be sown where you want them to flower next summer. Spring flowering bulbs will soon be available to buy in garden centres and supermarkets and can be planted any time from the end of this month through to late November. Spring-flowering biennials like foxgloves and wallflowers that were sown earlier in the year can be planted outside now.

As the temperatures start cooling, tender perennials will need bringing inside to a conservatory or greenhouse to protect them before the first frosts can do any damage, you can also take cuttings of osteospermum and pelargonium, put them in a gritty compost mix and grow them on a light windowsill until next year. This month you can start planting amaryllis in containers and it is also your last chance to get hyacinths in and ready for a Christmas display.

Any houseplants that you brought outside for the summer should now also be moved back inside and watering should now be reduced as their growth will be slowing down as light levels fall. Be sure to check them over thoroughly for pests before you take them inside though, as red spider mite, mealybug and scale insects can all be a problem. Conservatories and greenhouses should be still given good ventilation on warmer days but closed at night. Now there should be a little more space to move in greenhouses, it is an appropriate time to give them a good tidy and clean too.

If you want to move any shrubs, do it now while the soil is still warm and the moisture levels high as they should suffer very little. Prunings of Mock Orange and climbing roses should happen this month as well as evergreen hedges to make sure they are looking at their best for winter. Clear dead leaves from the base of plants to stop them encouraging diseases but do make sure to add them to the compost heap as they will break down into beautiful compost for future years. Happy gardening!

Tracy Braybrook

#### NATURE NOTES (AND COMMON UDATE) FOR SEPTEMBER

It would seem that the dust has well and truly settled regarding the furore about the Common use as I've heard no negative (or positive!) feedback since first including the subject last month. So no news is good news in my book and a stroll with the family and pooch on Sunday (4th August) was very pleasantly serene with happy horses and healthy grass re-growing. It was also nice to see that the horses owners have opened a Facebook page on 'their behalf' so that regular Common users can familiarise themselves on the animals names and a bit of their history.

Thanks to Phil Males for some lovely shots of Southern Hawker dragonflies and to Chris Beadle's photo of an Elephant Hawkmoth, although sadly the creature had expired unnoticed in a corner of a conservatory.

Roger Rummey reported numerous and noisy hedgehogs in his garden and a number of people have commented about the very loud grunting 'hogs' make and for the length of time. Well mating only comes round once or twice a year for hedgehogs so they are going to make the most of it aren't they??

Terry McAnish was surprised just how many birds have been using the feeders in his garden recently and the three photos he sent, which have been forwarded to 'Basinga Extra' www.basinga.org.uk showed a GSW, Nuthatch and no fewer than 10 Blue and one Great Tit occupying the food on offer.

We have myriads of House Sparrows which is good news for what is a declining species. Unfortunately for them a male Sparrowhawk has mapped a flight path from the road, over the side gate, through the feeder area and on to the rear gardens of Belle Vue so there is often a flurry of (mostly) escaping birds as he zones in!

Mink have struck again with a vengeance.

Sven Godesen's riverside haven has for years suffered major waterfowl losses because of these voracious hunters but the ante was upped in a major way when they dispatched two broods of Canada Geese, 10 in total, forcing the pairs of adult birds to flee. A week previously his two large white 'guard geese' were also killed although he admits this could have been a fox.

We all love bees but when 10,000 settle in ones privet hedge its quite concerning. This event occurred mid July, a big swarm filling the air before settling around the queen and quietening right down as dusk approached. We contacted local apiarist Penny Jubin and she came round the following day to take a look and to drop them into a large box next to the hedge. As night fell again and the bees had accepted their temporary new home, she shut them up and took them to one of her hives in Pyotts Hill. All exciting stuff to watch and let's hope they now produce the goods.

My good lady and I enjoyed a cruise to Norway at the end of July and whilst very beautiful scenery and good weather there was a disappointing amount of wildlife/ birdlife to be seen, which may have been purely to do with the time of year. What there were though were loads of Swallows zipping across the lakes and meadows and Painted Lady butterflies which were drawn up on the heatwave we had mid July. We even had several on the ship so it's not hard to see why bugs can easily spread to other countries when they are stowaways.

#### **Rick Bourne**

Don't forget to send all nature-related photos to rickbourne@yahoo.com or naturenotes@basinga.org.uk or tel. 01256 321108. For bird food requirements, order from me at 'Bird Drop-ins', use the former email address or tel. 07900 648675 to place an order or get a form.

#### DIARY DATES FOR SEPTEMBER

## For details of services and events at St Mary's Church and Old Basing Methodist Church see page 23

| Sun 1  | 6.00pm           | Wuthering Heights (Walled Garden, Basing House)               |
|--------|------------------|---|
| Tue 3  | 7.30pm           | Parish Council Meeting (Pavilion Committee Room, Rec)         |
|        | 7.30pm           | Old Basing WI Meeting (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)         |
| Thu 4  | 7.45pm           | Old Basing Royal British Legion Branch Meeting (Jack Morris   |
|        |                  | Hall, Royal British Legion)                                   |
| Fri 6  |                  | Good Old Basing Charity Golf Day (Sherfield Oaks Golf Club)   |
|        | 10.30am – noon   | Ladies' First Friday Coffee Morning (7 Olivers Walk, Lychpit) |
|        | 2.00pm – 4.30pm  | Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)                  |
| Sat 7  |                  | Old Basing Tennis Club Summer Tournament Finals' Day          |
|        | 10.00am          | PIOCC Working Party (meet church lobby, St Mary's Church)     |
| Sun 8  | 10.30am – noon   | Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop (Riley Lane)       |
|        | 2.30 pm          | Old Basing & Lychpit Village Show (Old Basing Village Hall)   |
| Tue 10 |                  | LAST DATE FOR COPY TO EDITOR (SEE PAGE 3)                     |
| Fri 13 | 2.00pm – 4.30pm  | Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)                  |
| Sat 14 | 2.00pm           | Old Basing Village Hall Jumble Sale (Old Basing Village Hall) |
| Thu 19 | 12.30pm – 2.00pm | Ploughman's Lunch (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)             |
| Fri 20 | 2.00pm – 4.30pm  | Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)                  |
| Sat 21 | 7.30pm           | Basingstoke Concert Band Proms Concert (Sherfield Park        |
|        |                  | Community Centre, Sherfield Park)                             |
|        | 8.00pm           | Paul Cox and The Proof (Basingstoke Railway Club)             |
| Thu 25 | 7.30pm           | Old Basing Royal British Legion Women's Section General       |
|        |                  | Meeting (Jack Morris Hall, Royal British Legion)              |
|        | 10.30am – noon   | Old Basing Allotment & Garden Society Shop (Riley Lane)       |
| Wed 25 | 1.30pm – 4.00pm  | Old Basing Ivy Club 60th Birthday Party (Jack Morris Hall)    |
| Thu 26 | 2.00pm           | PIOCC Working Party (meet church lobby, St Mary's Church)     |
| Fri 27 | 2.00pm – 4.30pm  | Village Café (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)                  |
| Sat 28 |                  | Civil Re-enactment (Basing House)                             |
|        | 7.00pm           | Old Basing & Lychpit Big Turkey Community Lunch               |
|        |                  | Volunteers' Evening (Parish Room, St Mary's Church)           |
| Sun 29 |                  | Civil Re-enactment (Basing House)                             |

#### **BASINGA EXTRA**

A number of articles have been in competition for a place in this month's printed magazine. For those for which space couldn't be found go to www.basinga.org.uk

Basingstoke Civil Service Retirement Fellowship; Basingstoke Deane Rotary Club; Basingstoke & District Disabiilty Forum; Basingstoke and District Railway Society; Basingstoke Lions Club; Basingstoke Music and Arts Festival; Basingstoke Sea Cadets; Make sure you're on the Electoral Register; Probus

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

5.30pm Evening Service

OTHER DAYS: Wednesday 10am Holy Communion

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

#### Old Basing Methodist Church

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