

W I N T E R E D I T I O N



Old Basing & Lychpit

Parish Council Community Newsletter

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WINTER 2021



A chilly winters day on the River Loddon
Photographed by Kate Hope



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Parish Notes - WINTER 2021/22

Remembrance Service

Remembrance Sunday is a very poignant day for Old Basing & Lychpit every year, but it was particularly special to see parishioners gather again this year. Since 1921 the Royal British Legion has been helping serving and ex-serving personnel and their families across the country. The Old Basing & District Branch of the Royal British Legion, which was founded in October of that year, continues to play an important role within our Parish and so, to mark its significant contribution and to pay gratitude for its achievements over the past 100 years, the Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council proudly presented a Tommy Figure to members of the Royal British Legion on Sunday 14th November 2021. Our thanks to those who work so hard behind the scenes to manage the Branch.



Our thanks are also extended to those running the Village Café who have raised funds to add another AED machine to the village, which will be located at St Mary's Church. Two other defibrillators can be found in our parish; one at the Recreation Ground near to the public toilets and one at Lychpit Hall close to the main entrance door.

Following the resignation of Richard Barker we are now seeking a Councillor to represent Old Basing. If you are interested and wish to support your community in this way, please contact the Parish Office.

After many years of planning and leading the Annual Boxing Day Walk, Tony Stoney has decided to step down. This is an opportunity for someone else, possibly already a participant on the Boxing Day Walk, who is familiar with local footpaths to take over and lead the 2021 walk and perhaps those in future years. If you would like to take on this annual event, please contact the Parish Office to discuss how you wish to promote it.

Regrettably, it has been decided to cancel the Parish Community Partnership Evening which we had hoped to hold once again this year, at which we offer our thanks to all those volunteers and contributors who keep our village ticking along. Hopefully, in the Spring we will be able to set a new date for a similar event.

Kate Hope
Deputy Clerk to Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council
Office Telephone 01256 462847
www.oldbasing.gov.uk

The Parish Office is open from Monday to Thursday between the hours of 10.00 and 12.00. If you have an URGENT query in my absence, please contact Sandra Tuck

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR 2022

Meetings take place on Tuesday evenings starting at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated. Planning & Development Committee meetings may be cancelled if there are no plans for discussion. Agendas for all meetings are published prior to the meeting on the Parish Council website and notice boards. All meetings are open to the public and time allocated on the Agenda for any member of the public present to address the meeting. Meetings take place in The Pavilion at the Recreation Ground, Old Basing. If you wish to attend a meeting but have difficulty with stairs please let us know (preferably no later than 11 am on the day) to ensure the meeting takes place in a ground floor room.

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANY CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE AT THE TIME OF THE MEETING.

MONTH	FULL PARISH COUNCIL	PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	FINANCE RESOURCES COMMITTEE	OTHER MEETINGS & EVENTS
January	4th	11th & 25th	18th		
February	1st	8th & 22nd		15th	
March	1st	8th & 22nd	15th		
April	5th	12th & 26th			Allotment & Cemetery Inspections W/C 4th April
May	3rd	10th & 24th	17th		Annual Parish Meeting Monday 6th May
June	7th	14th & 28th		21st	
July	5th	12th & 26th	19th		Allotment & Cemetery Inspections W/C 4th July
August	2nd	9th & 23rd			
September	6th	13th & 27th	20th		
October	4th	11th & 25th		18th	Allotment & Cemetery Inspections W/C 3rd Oct.
November	1st	8th & 22nd	15th		
December	6th	13th			Community Partnership Evening Monday 12th at Lychpit Hall

Parish Council

PARISH OFFICE AND RECREATION FACILITIES

 Sandra Tuck (Clerk) clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk	 Stephen Richardson Grounds & Facilities Manager
 Kate Hope (Deputy Clerk) deputy.clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk	Harry Rice Groundsman

COUNCILLORS

 Alan Renwick (Chairman) Old Basing	 Peter Bloyce (Vice-Chairman & Chairman, Planning) Old Basing	 David Whiter Old Basing	 Roger Doust Lychpit
 Alan Jones Old Basing	 John Robinson Old Basing	 Murray Campbell Old Basing	 Steve Brown Lychpit
 Kate Tuck Old Basing	 Sheena Grassi Lychpit	 Gillian Moore Lychpit	



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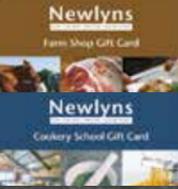
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Old Basing Village Show

As the current Chair of the Old Basing Village Show Committee, I am very pleased to report on another successful Village Show which took place on Sunday 5th September 2021.

The COVID situation had been monitored all through the summer months and by July we felt the right decision was to move ahead with holding the Show albeit with some understandable changes and restrictions.



We were prepared to run the Show at a loss in the circumstances, as we felt that it was important to hold some sort of Show this year having had to cancel last year, but in

the event we are pleased to report that we broke even on the day.

Over 200 people came to the Old Basing Village Hall during the afternoon to view over 300 entries from adults and children from the Parish.

Entries included displays of fruit, vegetables, and flowers as well as wine and beer, handicrafts, photography, baking and preserves, and the popular Children's section. The Rev. Heather Leppard from St Mary's Old Basing presented trophies, medals and certificates to the winners and the children received rosettes and sweets as a prize.

The first Old Basing Flower Show was held in the 1860's and has been running ever since with a short gap during the war years and again in 2020. The Show has been complimented in the past by the Royal Horticultural Society and Domestic Judges as being one of the best that they attend in Hampshire.

It was lovely that the hard-working Committee was able to put on an event this year for the people of Old Basing and Lychpit. The number of entries, particularly in the Children's and handicraft sections was very pleasing. Everyone was complimentary about

how the Show was managed and it is hoped that we will be able to return to near normality next year and hold the Show on the same scale as in previous years. It was encouraging that we had 15 new entrants this year and we look forward to seeing even more people entering next year.

Vice Chairman, Chris Beadle BEM wished to express his thanks to all who took the time to prepare for the Show in what was a very uncertain year, saying it was pleasing to see so many people during the afternoon attending one of the few Village events of this year.

The next Village Show will be held on 4th September 2022. Your Committee will be meeting in early 2022 to finalise the schedule which



we expect to publish on-line around Easter time. Do watch out for publicity in the Basinga.

We are always looking for new people to come and help us on the Committee. The time commitment is not that onerous, with approximately 4 meetings per year, plus the setting up and taking down of tables on the show weekend itself. You do not have to be a gardener, baker or craft enthusiast to help on the Committee; just have an interest in putting on an event for the Parish! Please contact me (Linda Frawley) via our website.

If you are interested in entering next year, more details can be found on our website at www.oblvs.org.uk.

Linda Frawley
Chair of the Old Basing and Lychpit Village Show



Are you **DRIVEN** to make a difference in your Community?



If so, offering a few hours a week to provide much-needed **car transport** would make a huge difference...

One of our functions at **Basingstoke NeighbourCare** is to provide an **accompanied transport service** for those in need in our Community.

- Typically, this might involve our **Volunteer Drivers** spending an hour or so accompanying someone to an appointment with a GP; or perhaps a half-day trip to a local hospital for a consultation.
- Our drivers are reimbursed at the standard HMRC motor mileage rate so all we ask for is your time - whether you can spare **2-3 hours a week**, or perhaps can only offer a **few drives a year** - we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Ready to make a difference? Please call our team on **01256 423855** or if you prefer, email us: info@neighbourcare.com

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"The only way to have a friend is to be one"

Ralph Waldo Emerson



NeighbourCare's **Volunteer Befriending service** transforms the lives of many in our Community – and can build lasting friendships

Basingstoke NeighbourCare matches our **Volunteer Befrienders** to the many elderly, infirm, housebound or simply lonely folk in our area.

- As a **volunteer befriender**, you may well be one of the few familiar faces that our clients will see on a regular basis and they'll come to eagerly anticipate your visit.
- An **hour a week** to share a cup of tea (with biscuits, of course), a chat about the weather, the latest news or whatever may pop up. This makes such a difference to these people's lives and will relieve the loneliness they may often be feeling.

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Old Basing WI

It is with great sadness that Old Basing WI reports the death of our past President Chris Hall in October 2021.



Chris joined the Old Basing WI in 2011 and was a very popular member of our group, being elected President for our Centenary Celebrations in 2019. Chris (on the right of photo) was instrumental

in organising the planting of our Centenary Tree which is on the Recreation Ground. Chris will perhaps be best remembered for her excellent crafting skills and indeed she led our craft group for the past year or so. She very much enjoyed her trips to Denman House where she developed new crafting skills and she was always very generous of her time in imparting her knowledge to others. The WI made a donation to Treloars at Alton in her memory as this was an organisation very close to her heart and Members were given the opportunity to donate to the Dog's Trust which was Chris's chosen charity.

Chris was involved in many other local voluntary activities including the running of the OBAGS allotment shop with her husband Tony, and she was also a volunteer at Basing House. Our condolences go to Tony and family. Old Basing WI will miss her greatly.

Old Basing WI re-started their meetings face to face again in August with a talk from Joyce Meader on the History of Knitting. This was followed in September by Olive Butler talking to us about her experiences as a Children's Entertainer. Our weekly coffee mornings at Conkers Garden Centre are back in full swing as are our monthly lunches at the Hatch.

In October 18 Members, enjoyed an evening of skittles followed by a hot meal at the Loddon Bowls Club. The event was won by Sarah Jones in a tense playoff between the three highest scorers!

In November we met up for tea and cake at the Village Café where we presented them with a cheque for £50 towards the defibrillator and finally, we were able to march with our new flag and wearing our new sashes to St Mary's for the Service of Remembrance on 14th November. This set us up nicely for the Festive Season where we had a lot activities planned. We held our successful and popular stall at the Basing House Christmas Fair, before enjoying our annual Festive lunch at Avenue Nurseries. Our final activity for the year was taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's where we decorated our tree with animals entitled "Guardians of the Manger".



We have many more activities planned for 2022 including a meal at the Bolton Arms in January, and a theatre trip to the Haymarket. Our regular programme of monthly speakers continues on the first Tuesday of

every month at the Parish Rooms starting at 7.30pm.

We welcome ladies of all ages to our friendly group. Please contact our President Sue Stewart by email at oldbasingpres@hampshirewi.org.uk for further information.

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SOLVE

With the excitement of COP26 and the Environment Act 2021 it has been quite a month for all things green. BDBC declared an Ecological Emergency to buddy up with the Climate Emergency and one would like to hope that good things will happen.

The recent Communities, Environment and Partnerships Committee considered how to take the Ecological Emergency forward "To ensure the Ecological (and Climate) Emergencies are strategic priorities for land use planning, planning policies and design guides, and protecting areas for habitat restoration and biodiversity gain. Seek to incorporate biodiversity, nature recovery networks, green and blue infrastructure and ecosystems services into the Local Plan, Neighbourhood Plans and other initiatives." The challenge here is deliverables; love the words but our track record on delivering is... patchy!

We still await the annual surveys on the River Loddon recommended in the current Water Cycle Study Phase 2 Ecological Appraisal 2009. This document also proposed areas for enhancement which included Basing Fen. However it looks as though the Borough will approve 19 battery storage shipping containers/converters in this site instead – it will be a most unfortunate outlook for the Swing Swang lane new residents for whom no amount of screening will obscure this proposed industrial site. There is still time to comment on this one.

The Economic, Planning and Housing Committee has been postponed to 13th December owing to the wrong document being issued. This will consider Old Basing's housing allocation along with the other rural villages. Lychpit's allocation will be considered with the town centre as it is within the Basingstoke Settlement Policy Boundary – nothing like a "divide and conquer" strategy? We are however united around a river that flows through the heart of our community.

So back to EPH and some maths. As we understand it the sites currently being evaluated are 001 Pyotts Hill for 450 more, 002 Lodge Farm 900 houses and 007 Hodds Farm 800 houses, amounting to an extra 2,150 on top of the existing sites in the current Local Plan which have still not been built/delivered which are Swing Swang 100 + Pyotts Hill 450, so a total of 550.

In addition and despite Government Regulation NOT requiring Neighbourhood Plans to be updated every 5 years the Borough is proposing Basing and Lychpit Parish Council find an extra 210 houses to be built under an updated Neighbourhood Plan. This would bring our total to 2910 houses for Old Basing & Lychpit. Parishes throughout the Borough are in uproar as Neighbourhood Plans were completed in good faith and now the Borough is proposing more housing as part of its Local Plan Update.

This will affect us all. Remember you can register to speak at these meetings too. Donations to the cause gratefully received! We are going to need professionals to build our case, an hydrologist, planning consultant and QC to have any hope because this is the level at which other parishes and groups are operating. Apologies for the wordiness of this article but if you have made it this far may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Kate Tuck,
SOLVE – Save Our Loddon Valley Environment
www.solveoddon.org

P.S. Mayor's Poetry Competition - a Celebration of the River Loddon entries by 17th December -
3 ipads to win!

See <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/mayor-poetry-competition>

23 children in our region have an uncertain future

Sadly they didn't get the start in life they deserved. Could you adopt and change their lives forever?

For most people, being part of a family is something they can rely on from birth. Unfortunately, there are children across Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton, who are unable to live with their birth parents, and who are instead cared for by kind and compassionate foster carers.

Lilly is just three and loves playing with her dolls. Siblings Oliver, aged five years and Theo who is nearly three, enjoy going to the local park, or like to play with their toy cars endlessly. They are just some of the children waiting for a permanent family life.

Every child deserves a family life

Today, there are all types of wonderful families from different backgrounds and circumstances who support one or more children to feel included, safe and loved forever. Some families have single parents, while others are couples who are heterosexual, same sex or gender fluid. Ethnicity, religion, or culture, these differences don't matter – what matters is that a child is loved and supported to feel safe and respected.

All children need the love of a parent

School teacher Kirsty knew about the high numbers of black children who were waiting in foster care and felt that with a bit of learning and support she could be a mum and help a child

thrive in a forever home. Kirsty adopted an older child, and says it's the best thing she's ever done.

“

I'm so pleased about adoption I actually encourage other friends... you need to go and do that. Do it. **For me it's been wonderful.**”

Help keep siblings together

Mike and Natalie both felt very strongly that they could offer a family life to a brother and sister who might otherwise stay in the care system for a long time. "Young siblings have a strong bond together but need to be wrapped in the cushion of being loved and cherished by one or more parent. We knew that separating siblings from one another can have long term effects on children."

Adopt South is seeking more mums and dads who can give children a shared life together.

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The Street Bakeshop won Baking Industry Awards 2021 'Baker of the Year'

We are so excited that Tim Goodwin, owner of The Street Bakeshop in Old Basing, was announced 'Baker of the Year' in the Baking Industry Awards 2021.

We are humbled, proud, and excited to receive such a prestigious award. Especially as we have only been operating since August 2020!

Over the last 14 months everyone at The Street Bakeshop has worked non-stop to create wonderful bread, pastries, and cakes. We are so happy that all the hard work is loved by our customers; and to be recognised nationally for the products and service we produce blows us away.

'Baker of the Year' is one of 14 awards that the British Baking Industry judges give out each year. To make it to the finals we competed with other bakers on skill and technical understanding, hands on involvement, interest in and passion for the products, innovation and creative process, knowledge and passion for the baking industry, and the understanding of the customers, wholesale, and retail.

The competition was fierce, and we were up against some remarkable bakers. Tim made it to the finals alongside Mark Woodgate (Marks Cotswolds Bakery) and Lee Smith (Poppyseed Bakery).

The judges said: "Tim's baking oozes class and his standard is evident throughout his entire product range,



with his sourdough at the top of its game. We saw Tim demonstrate quality at every level, through hands-on baking, product creation and development to understand his range and customers. Tim's creativity and baking style was reflective of a considered approach that obviously pays off, the standard in the product spoke for itself, but Tim is able to back up his work with dedication and passion, creating a great baking experience. Tim is a Benchmark due to the great standard he bakes!"

When interviewed, Tim said: "I think the best part of the job is to work with a great team of people who are interested in what we do, who strive to make a better product. We put our heart and soul into everything we do. We think we do a good job, but to actually be accredited, judged and then win is just unbelievable."

We can't wait to find out what the next year will bring. Thank you all for your warm welcome to the village and your continued support.

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Basingstoke's Mayor, local councillors, customers and friends joined Alan this October, in celebrating the 40 year milestone. Squirrels Antiques is the hub of the community at the top of town, giving free advice on antiques, jewellery, militaria, silverware, postcards and collectables. Their passion for the quirky and the unusual is played out in this Aladdins cave of a shop.

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County Councillor Report

Cllr. Elaine Still

County Council's first Climate Change Annual Report published

As COP-26 conference begins in Glasgow, Hampshire County Council has issued a detailed overview of its work towards tackling climate change, covering the 12-month period since the launch of its Climate Change Strategy. This first Climate Change Annual Progress Report 2020 – 2021 sets out the significant progress that is being made across the county to reduce carbon emissions and ensure that Hampshire is prepared for the impacts of climate change. The work is focused on key areas like reducing emissions from transport, making homes more energy efficient, generating local renewable energy and protecting and enhancing our natural environment.



The report makes it clear that Hampshire's residents and communities have a vital role in reducing emissions and preparing for the impacts of climate change in their own homes and through lifestyle choices. Multiple projects have therefore been set up to support communities to be active at a local level.

Among the projects featured is The Greening Campaign which has provided support and advice to 40 Hampshire communities, despite COVID-19, to work through a step-by-step process of reducing their carbon footprint. The first steps include taking very simple actions at a household level, such as reducing how much energy and water they use and to be more energy efficient.

At another level the focus is on actions to generate more local renewable energy. Together with iChoosr, in March 2021, the County Council launched the first Solar Together Campaign in Hampshire – a scheme

that offers high-quality solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and battery storage to help residents generate their own green energy - maximising on bulk buying power to offer competitive prices for the purchase of panels. The County Council is also working with Community Energy South to build a network of community energy projects around the county. Additionally, in supporting households to reduce transport emissions, the County

Council secured Government funding for the installation of 50 on-street residential electric vehicle charge points (in Winchester and Eastleigh) and there are plans to extend this wider.

The Annual Report also highlights the critical role the natural environment plays in helping alleviate the impacts of climate change and how investing in initiatives like tree planting (over 1,250 trees during the past 12 months) and the Parish Pollinator Project to make improvements to pollinator habitats in Hampshire's towns and villages, are essential.

In a separate initiative, Hampshire County Council is offering grants to make community buildings more energy efficient as part of its commitment to combatting climate change. Measures that could be funded include solar panels, LED lighting, window replacements or insulation for buildings such as village halls and community centres. Applications are welcome from parish or town councils as well as community groups in unparished areas of Hampshire. For more information, visit: hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/parish-town-council-investment-fund

2. Boost your immunity this winter

Hampshire County Council is backing the NHS call foreveryone to 'Boost your immunity this winter' by getting the COVID-19 booster and 'flu vaccine. With COVID-19 infection rates continuing to rise across the county, eligible residents are being urged to get their booster and 'flu jabs as soon as possible.

Free flu jabs are available to adults over 50, anyone with a long-term health condition, healthcare workers and carers, most children aged 2-16 years and pregnant women. A free COVID-19 booster is available to adults over 50, carers and health and social care workers, anyone living and working in care homes, people with certain health conditions and people who live with someone who is immunocompromised.

Residents eligible for the COVID-19 booster will be contacted by the NHS – if anyone has not been contacted within a week of reaching six months since their second jab they can call 119 or book online via the NHS National Booking Service. Those who are eligible for a free 'flu vaccine can book an appointment through their GP surgery or local pharmacy. It is not too late to book a first or second dose of the COVID-19 vaccination: anyone aged 16+ can book the vaccine through the National Booking System on the NHS website, go to a walk-in clinic or contact their GP surgery.

3. Support for Hampshire's children

Hampshire's eligible vulnerable children received food vouchers this October half term, thanks to further funding provided to the County Council by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). £591,810 of funding was granted by Hampshire County Council to schools, colleges and early years settings for the purchase of one £15 voucher per child for the one week October half term holiday.

Hampshire County Council is also encouraging parents and carers whose children are or may be eligible for benefits related free school meals to sign-up for free holiday and food scheme spaces over the Christmas and Easter holidays. More than 10,000 Hampshire children benefited from free places during this year's summer holiday. Parents and carers can sign up for free school meals using the Hampshire Online FSM Application (cloudforedu.org.uk) and find out what activities are offer in their area by searching the Family Information and Services Hub.

4. Bus Service Improvement Plan

Hampshire County Council has reached the next important milestone in meeting the ambitions of the Government's 'Bus Back Better' strategy – aimed at driving significant improvements in local bus services (outside of London) - with the approval of its proposed Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP). This sets out the vision and the proposed steps that would be taken to achieve higher standards in bus travel in Hampshire. Hampshire's BSIP aims to be a catalyst for substantially increasing bus use across the whole of the county by creating the conditions that will both attract investment for bus services and infrastructure, as well as grow the number of passengers. A consultation exercise on the proposed BSIP will now be undertaken.

Elaine Still

County Councillor Elaine Still
07747862913
01256880926
elaine.still@hants.gov.uk

Quarterly Crime Update - NHW Oct 2021.

Inspector 2157 Richard Lane

The overall crime trend for Basingstoke District remains downwards and there has been a significant drop on the overall number of offences this year compared to last (10,785 crimes in total, a drop of 966 from 2020 (or 8.2% lower). Our local priorities remain focused on the following issues, linked to the highest forms of harm, whether to the victims or our local community.

1. Drug Related Violence and Harm
- linked to crack cocaine and heroin.

2. Most Serious Violence offences
- robbery and offences linked to the use of knives remain very low. Our current areas of focus include serious violence in the town centre and at the train station.

3. Offences linked to the exploitation, either sexually or criminally, of children and other vulnerable people
- This includes those deemed to be 'repeat missing persons' and those subjected to Modern Day Slavery offences.

4. Domestic Abuse
- Our focus will remain on high risk perpetrators and victims, as well as continuing to improve our service in the delivery of Domestic Violence Prevention Notices/Orders and the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (known as Clare's Law).

Residential Burglary

The overall trend for Residential Burglary offences remains downwards. All Residential Burglary reports that occur within a house are still routinely attended by the Police. As ever, please bear in mind the good crime prevention advice that is out there – make sure doors and windows are properly locked and that if out in the evenings, leave a light on in the house. A recent trend in offences linked to garages in Brighton Hill and South Ham has been noted so please make sure that you are also securing your sheds and garages.

Vehicle Offences

The overall trend of Theft from Motor Vehicle offences remains downwards and remain almost at the lowest levels we have seen in three years. Let's keep it that way. There is a huge amount of crime prevention advice out there. I will, as always, repeat the most obvious one – please check that your car is locked when you leave it. We have also noted a recent increase in thefts of number plates from vehicles in Winklebury.

Anti Social Behaviour

You may have seen the recent press release about nuisance vehicles and car meets. Please encourage reporting of these incidents, especially on line (hampshire.police.uk) as this will help us determine where and when the problem is occurring.

Hate Crime

Hate crimes and incidents come in many different forms. It can be because of hatred on the grounds of race, religion, sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability. A victim does not have to be a member of the group at which the hostility is targeted. In fact, anyone could be a victim of a hate crime. Please encourage the reporting of these types of offences within your communities, either directly to the police or via our third party reporting centres at Citizens Advice or True Vision

www.reportit.org.uk/home.

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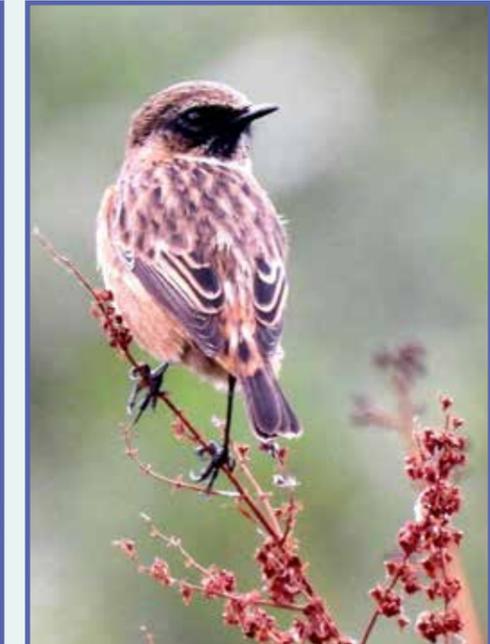
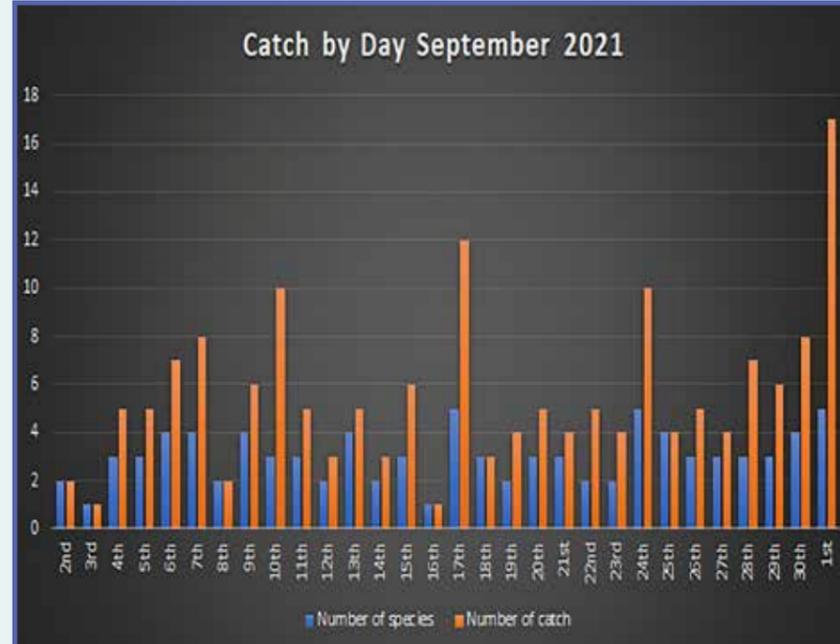
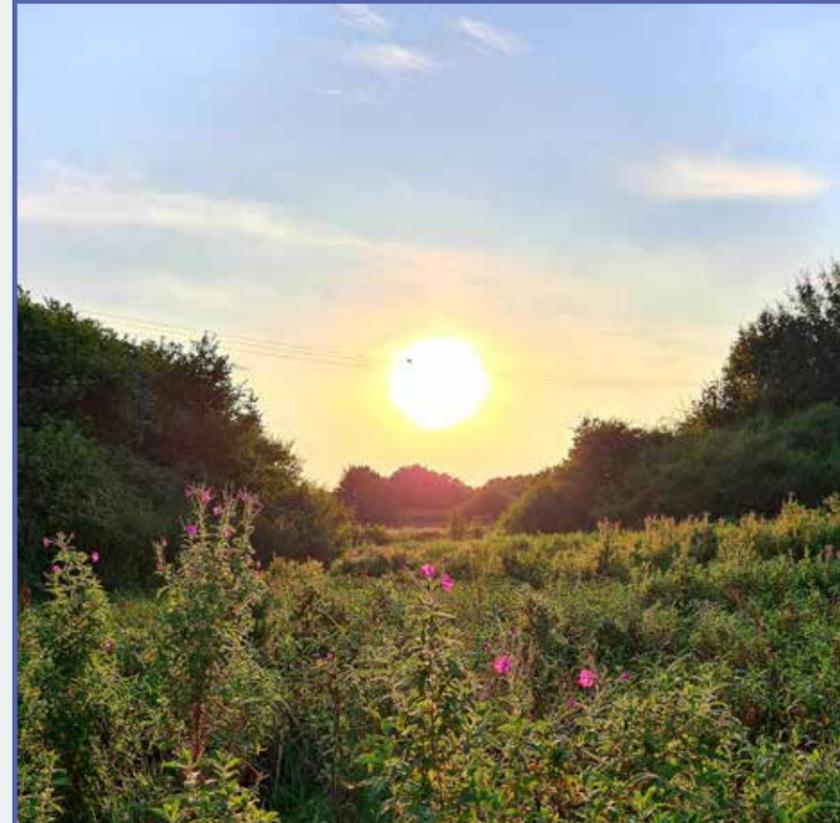
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Millfield Conservation Group

For this newsletter, the Millfield Conservation Group has prepared this bonanza of images captured here in Old Basing & Lychpit, on our beautiful reserve. Jim Andrews is licensed to conduct Mammal surveys, which he carries out every year all through September using humane traps. He also checks the Dormouse boxes, to see what we have on site, and logs population fluctuations. The Whinchat and Stonechat are both migrants to the reserve and it's the first time both have been spotted on the reserve at same time. The Brimstone

were part of a migration through the site this year, with twenty seen together and about thirty recorded in total that day with a couple of Painted Ladies, Migrant Hawker and Lesser Emperor dragonfly being around (sadly not captured for our photo gallery this time).

Other unusual migrants through this autumn have included a glossy Ibis, Whooper Swan, Wryneck and a very elusive probable Bluethroat. Winter is creeping up now, with Redwings now being noted.





National Garden Scheme IN HAMPSHIRE

I know this is the Winter edition of the Parish Newsletter, but it really does not seem like Winter (end of October) with the weather so mild and the leaves clinging doggedly on to the trees.

We are all ready with our leaf blower/sucker/shredder, but to no avail. I'm sure it will hit us all with a vengeance very soon.

Earlier in the year one of our local Hampshire garden owners achieved a milestone with the 10th anniversary of their opening for the National Garden Scheme. This is a great achievement and a lot of weeding and planting and edging. I am sure many of you will recognise Jill Ede - owner of Old Thatch in Winchfield, North Hampshire receiving her 10 year certificate and trowel from our Hampshire County Organiser - Mark Porter.



This is a very well deserved award for Jill, for a very popular garden. Maybe one to note for April 2022, when you might even arrive by the John Pinkerton narrow boat from the wharf on the Basingstoke Canal, near the Barley Mow Pub.

It seems be a time of presentations, for Hampshire this month. Next we have the presentation of a beautiful brass plaque to commemorate the NGS Community Garden Award funding for the raised beds for this amazing project near Fordingbridge in the New Forest. This raised beds project is on an acre of land, which is slowly being cleared and turned into a productive kitchen garden and sensory raised beds area. This one acre area is part of a five acre smallholding, which not only has a productive organic growing area and animals, but places where people can find peace and solitude. The aim is to create this therapeutic horticultural project for people with varying needs.



Here we have Mark Porter (again!) presenting the plaque to Bethany Turner, who has led Project Manna with drive, enthusiasm and dedication.

Your can find out more about Project Manna at www.projectmanna.co.uk It makes very interesting reading.

Before we know it we are going to be into the Snowdrop Season. We have the following gardens opening during February to show off their amazing displays of snowdrops.



CHAWTON HOUSE: Chawton, Alton, GU34 1SJ
Opening: Sunday 6th February 2022 10 am to 3.30pm:
Admission: £6.00 children free
Refreshments: Light refreshments available.

14 acre listed English landscape garden with Snowdrops scattered throughout. Regret not suitable for wheelchairs.
www.ngs.org.uk/view-garden/34092

BRAMDEAN HOUSE Alresford SO24 0JU
Opening: Sunday 13th February 2022 2pm to 4pm
Admission: £7.50 children free
Refreshments: Home-made teas
5 acre garden with carpets of Spring bulbs - especially Snowdrops.
www.ngs.org.uk/view-garden/3145



LITTLE COURT Crawley Winchester SO21 2PU
Opening: Sunday & Monday 13th & 14th and 20th & 21st February 2022
Admission: £5.00 children free
Refreshments: Available
This traditional walled garden is especially exciting with its display of Snowdrops and Spring bulbs www.ngs.org.uk/view-garden/8167



And finally a By Arrangement Garden.
THE DOWN HOUSE Itchen Abbas SO21 1AX
This popular garden is opening for groups of 6+ throughout February and March.
Contact owners Mark & Jackie Porter on [01962 791054](tel:01962791054) OR markstephenporter@gmail.com to arrange a visit.
Admission: £5.00 children free
Refreshments: Home-made teas
www.ngs.org.uk/view-garden/21395

Best Wishes
Pat Beagley (Publicity)
National Garden Scheme - Hampshire
pat.beagley@ngs.org.uk

Photo Credit: Claire Lewis



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Climate action meeting November

The last day of COP 26 was the perfect time to hold the parish's climate action meeting. Lychpit Hall was buzzing as residents came to hear about and discuss climate issues and how it affects us in Old Basing and Lychpit.

Following coffee and an introduction and presentation from the Parish Council, Alison Zarecky from Sustainable Overton (she is also a parish councillor) gave a presentation about actions that her group have been taking, and the enthusiasm within her village. Sustainable Overton have started a number of initiatives, including reducing the use of single use plastics (disposable coffee cups, wipes, nappies), promoting local retailers, a nappy library, repair café, tree planting, energy champions, thermal camera hire, and they are well down the road of developing a community owned solar energy project which will be sited on industrial roofs.

The Parish Council wish to be involved with tackling the causes and effects of climate change, which is why we called this meeting and why we hope to see action within our community. However, we are particularly concerned about the pressure that will be put on people from unprincipled companies, particularly perhaps on the most vulnerable, to spend money inappropriately.

We hope that community energy champions will be able to point people towards reliable sources of advice, and how to proceed, and what actions to take and when. The entire meeting was arranged around tables of eight to ten people, each table with a host who had explored a specific issue and who moved on to the next table after ten minutes, thus giving everyone in the room an insight into each and every topic. To ensure sure the hosts moved on time, Cllr Peter Bloyce rang a hand bell after each ten-minute session. Peter clearly enjoyed his role. Maybe he's a frustrated town crier!

This format allowed for lively discussion and gave time for everyone to gain an insight into ways in which we can make an impact on reducing climate change. The table hosts were seven local people who either had an interest or expertise in aspects of creating a greener environment. The topics discussed were:

Recycling, led by Renate Chaplin. Renate's table was joined by Steve Garrett, who runs a local business that sells re-useable items. The discussion ranged from composting and food waste to sustainable clothing, recycling and a zero-waste café. There has been

considerable interest in this with a suggestion that we start a repair café in Old Basing or Lychpit.

Domestic heating was led by David Whiter, a parish councillor, who has extensive experience of the building industry. This has led to several people wishing to explore the subject further. There may well be commercial and media pressure on residents to install heat pumps when this may not be the most appropriate action. Informed advice will be vital.

Domestic insulation was the topic of Tony Pitt's table. Tony has installed heat pumps in church buildings, but he too warned of the complex issues around installation. He has practical experience of insulating buildings, including his own house.

Transport and electric vehicles are a specialism of Rob Sharpe who has a consultancy offering advice on charging and running electric cars. He distributed a comprehensive information sheet for people to take away. Rob's group also covered walking, cycling and public transport.



One topic was described as "greening", which is taken to mean anything environmental. Led by Cllr Murray Campbell, the group discussed how planting trees and hedges can absorb carbon from the atmosphere while encouraging biodiversity. Planting around properties may also protect against rising temperatures.

Martin Heath, who is a member of the Basingstoke Energy Co-op, led on how to generate electricity locally through a community owned solar farm, following Overton's example. Martin is keen to develop this in the parish, and a number of comments left after the meeting reflected several people's interest in supporting this.

Our final topic was how to inform and educate the community about what will probably happen in the next few years. This topic was led by James Rowlands, who provides sustainability information for the customers of a very well-known building society.

Pleasingly, it's clear that there are people in the parish who are committed to taking action against climate change and protecting our grandchildren's way of life and environment. The Parish Council's aim is to create, support and participate in community action along the lines discussed in the meeting.

We hope to hold a follow – up meeting soon to form an independent group and hope that many of you who couldn't attend the meeting will wish to take part. Comments left after the meeting showed that people want to work together to follow the lead set by Overton and several other towns and parishes around Hampshire, including Alton and Brockenhurst.

We will put the presentations shown at the meeting onto the Parish Council's website (oldbasing.gov.uk) together with a growing body of information about heating, insulation, recycling and other matters concerned with tackling climate change.

If you would like to be involved, and haven't given us your contact details yet, please email stephen.brown@oldbasing.gov.uk and we will include you in the contact list.



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Village cafe

Is it just me or has this year flown by? Unbelievably Christmas is fast approaching and I'm sure it's not been a year since the last one! I'm hoping for a crisp and frosty winter with snow, you'd never guess I am a winter baby!



The best news for us here at the cafe is that we reopened in September after 18 months and it's been brilliant to see our regular customers and some lovely new faces too. We were all unsure how successful reopening would be following so many restrictions but I am pleased to report that most weeks have been a sell out cake wise; we are grateful to you all.

The cafe was started a few years ago now as a small venture but it has grown into a brilliant team of volunteers who make it the success it has become. Without each and every one of them, the cafe would not be able to function as it does; they bake each week and give up their time to help set up, clear up, and serve our customers- it really is true community spirit.

We have introduced a pre-order option which enables you to select your cake choices from our weekly selection and we will keep them for you for you to collect. There is a pre-payment option too to make things easier but we are also taking cash payments as you pick up. You are welcome to bring your own boxes or we can package for you. We also do take away hot drinks- again you can bring along your own cup or we can provide. This pre-order and takeaway option has grown in popularity and we will continue to offer this. In order to avoid disappointment, please pre-order if there is something you particularly want to save being disappointed if you visit us and we have little or no selection left.

As you are aware, the purpose of the cafe is to raise money for a chosen charity but prior to lockdown, we decided to raise money for an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) to be installed in the church grounds. Obviously this has been on hold during such trying times but we are over the moon to report that our target has been reached thanks to your support, and the AED will be installed. In order for people to feel comfortable should they ever need to use an AED, we will be offering training sessions to those interested. Dates and venues will be advised via our Facebook page once the AED had been installed. These devices are life saving and we are so pleased that we can make such a positive contribution to our community. Our aim now is to continuing fund raising for another AED which can be installed at the A30 end of the village to try and provide as much cover as we can, should it ever be needed. We seriously can't thank you enough for your ongoing support and with this, we hope we are able to fund another AED and find a suitable place for it to be situated.

As the year draws to a close and after such trying times for many, all of us at the Village Cafe wish you and your families a happy and healthy festive season.

Deborah Thorne

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Old Basing Bowls Club

Season Review 2021

It was lovely to resume playing a “normal” summer season as lockdown restrictions were lifted.

During the winter of 2020/21 the Club made significant improvements to the Clubhouse and surrounds of the bowling green. Our marketing campaign to attract new members hit the right note with people wanting to return to new activities after the enforced winter lockdown and we attracted over 20 new bowlers for the summer season, taking our membership to a very healthy 80+ members. Our bowlers were able to take part in local League fixtures, weekend friendly matches against other Hampshire and West Berkshire clubs and have rollups between club members.

Significant success was attained at a Hampshire level with Anita Christian winning the North Hampshire Ladies Singles competition, Stella Hayden winning the Ladies two wood singles at North Hampshire level, and our men's Triple team of Malcolm Christian, Matthew Rixson and Martin Cullis triumphing in the Basingstoke and District finals held in Alton.



We are fortunate to have 15 of our own internal Cup competitions and it was very pleasing that 27 members made it to the finals of these in early September.

Over the winter close season members keep in touch via a number of social evenings held at the Clubhouse on the Recreation Ground in Old Basing.

Malcolm Christian
Chairman
Old Basing Bowling Club



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OLD BASING ARCHERS

Letters from a Longbow Archer

Whilst looking for more interesting archery based facts I ended up going down the rabbit hole of archaic British law. These are too good not to share.

In 1363 the Plantagenet king Edward III decreed an Archery Law that made the practice of archery on Sundays and holidays by all males over the age of 14 obligatory and forbade, on pain of death, all sport that prevented it; this included games of dice, tennis and football. It was intended to maintain an available fighting force. A tennis ball or football, no matter how well aimed and how hard it is hit, is very unlikely to knock a French knight off his horse as he barrels towards you. This law was enhanced by Richard III and Henry VIII.

However, in 1845 an Act to Amend the Law Concerning Games and Wagers and an act in 1969 repealed much of the archaic laws dating back to 1297. Whilst we are on the subject of knights of old, it is still illegal to enter the Houses of Parliament wearing a suit of armour. And according to the Section 55 of the Metropolitan Police Act 1839, it is illegal to fire a cannon within 300 yards of a residential dwelling.

In 1371 the Worshipful company of Fletchers (arrow makers) was set up in the city of London after they petitioned the Lord Mayor to make their trade separate from the Bowyers (bow makers). This meant that anyone caught working in both trades would be fined £4. In 1471 a law was passed that stated that bowyers and fletchers were not Freemen of the city and as such were liable to be forced to other areas of the country to make up any shortfall in production. Despite this there was still a shortfall and an act was passed that allowed for the importation of bows and arrows from abroad. Maybe a number of Frenchmen were shot with their own ordnance. Despite all these shortages, it was illegal for women to enter these guilds. However, widows of guild members were able to sneak in under the radar, but officially no woman had worked in them up to 1887.

For those of you who take advantage of discounts at shops, especially the fish counter, the salmon act of 1986 states it is illegal to carry a salmon suspiciously. I have images in my head of people in raincoats, hats and false moustaches, sneaking through Tesco car parks with huge fish poking out from their collars. Strangely there is a law from 1322 that states all beached whales and sturgeons must be offered to the reigning monarch. In 2004 a fisherman accidentally captured a 9 foot long 264lb sturgeon and wrote to the queen offering her the fish. She declined and said he could

dispose of it as he saw fit. However, the fisherman then became the subject of a criminal investigation as it is a criminal offence to deliberately catch or kill a sturgeon. Bizarrely, this sturgeon (subsequently named Stanley) now resides at the Natural History Museum

Something to keep in mind for the end of lockdown, is it is illegal to be drunk in a pub, I know, how many offenders have we seen on a Friday night!

For those of you who are a little slap-dash with your envelopes, to place your stamp with an image of the queen upside down is considered an act of treason.

When you next travel up to London, it is worth remembering that it is illegal to hail a cab whilst it is in motion, you have to go to an appointed rank where no other vehicle is allowed to park. Also don't forget to notify your driver if you have any notifiable diseases like smallpox or the plague...I wonder if Covid-19 has been added to that list of ailments. It is illegal for the driver to carry sufferers and the driver is obliged to carry out an on the spot medical examination to ensure the passenger is hale and hearty. Whilst you are enjoying your free examination and enjoying all the space in your taxi cab, be thankful that the law requiring taxi drivers to carry a bale of hay and nosebag of oats, to feed his horse was repealed in 1976. It is also expressly forbidden for a taxi driver to make an "insulting gesture." Do you suppose they are aware of this? I wouldn't recommend pointing it out as you trundle the streets of London.

So in conclusion, if you see a bunch of Old Basing Archers in a pub the worse for wear, with a fist full of homemade arrows and a sturgeon poking out of our collars and with tennis balls stuffed in pockets, hailing a taxi to post letters with the stamps upside down, blatantly not carrying a bale of hay and sporting some suspicious spots, you might want to look away, least you become embroiled in our clandestine activities. However, if you want to take up a sport with gentle exercise, that's easy to learn but a little challenging to master, has a group of interesting people, one slightly deranged; then archery is for you. Have a look at our website where details can be found on learner courses and dates available. See you there (I'm the deranged one)

Information was gleaned from 'The Strange Laws of Old England' By **Nigel Cawthorne**

Meeting & Party Venues in Old Basing & Lychpit

Old Basing & Lychpit has a number of venues suitable for evening and weekend hire for all types of parties and meetings and other group events. For information on any of the venues contact the Parish Office via the contact form on the website, by email to clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk or telephone 01256 462847.

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Adjacent to St Mary's Church, Old Basing, this room is suitable for groups of up to 60 (seated), 100 (standing). Please note: limited parking. Debbie Filer, Administrator 07541 698235

Basing House

Great Barn – Walled Garden – Courtyard – Learning/Community Room. For more information please visit our website www.hampshireculture.org.uk/basinghouse or call Hannah Miles on 01256 639564 or by email Hannah.miles@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk. Alternatively please contact us at Basing House on 01256 463965 during opening times.

Lychpit Community Hall Pavilion Tea Room

Email deputy.clerk@oldbasing.gov.uk
A calendar showing regular events and hall availability for parties can be found on the Parish Council's website www.oldbasing.gov.uk



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Exercise and You

FLexercise started as The Women's League of Health and Beauty but over the years its working name has changed to reflect the times.

However, nationally, as an organisation it was to celebrate 90 years in March 2020 with an event in Bath. This makes FLexercise one of the pioneers of bringing exercise to everyone. In the 1930s the emphasis was for women, but that is not the case now. Though the event couldn't go ahead classes up and down the country, including locally, kept going throughout the pandemic by moving to electronic means – Zoom, Facebook Live, YouTube.

Where/how classes are taught

Zoom has proved a very effective method of exercising at home and been enjoyed by many people; obviously face-to-face is preferable, but not in all cases. There are people who have joined classes who, because of work, time and other commitments or just lacking confidence would not join a face-to-face class but are enjoying the ongoing classes being beamed into their own homes. There are some great community venues around holding classes and our Lychpit Community Hall is no exception along with the Old Basing Village Hall.

The Actives Lives Adult Survey commissioned by Sport England that was published in mid-October shows that for the period of May 2020 to May 2021 there has been an increase of 2% more inactive adults than from before the COVID pandemic. This is rather concerning when many people took up walking and cycling when the lock down restrictions were introduced and how we all know that physical exercise is going to keep us healthier both physically and mentally. Some groups have been hit much harder by the pandemic than others and any of the inequalities there were in this field seemed to have widened.

Available to everyone

Exercise should be available to everyone, but not prescriptive. We are all individuals, we have different needs, we have different interests and what sort of exercise appeals to one person does not to another; equally age and facilities do come into the equation when making a choice. If you don't enjoy the form of

exercise that you are doing then it won't be helping you as much as it could, find something else.

However, the choice really isn't to do nothing. Sitting around all day means a stiffening of the joints, excess weight appearing in areas that we don't want etc. The aim is to be mobile and active for as long as one is able, that is independent living. Of course, for some it is appreciated it can be difficult.

Exercise doesn't have to be boot camp, park runs, even floor work, but can be done with the aid of a chair. Many exercises to help mobility, posture, core stability and mental health can be done sitting on a chair. I'm not suggesting that everyone should now do chair-based exercise, but it is an option, you just have to find someone who does such classes; they are around, available on zoom, on demand (which means receiving a recorded class you can do in your own time) and face to face.

How active are you?

Of course, vigorous housework, going up and down the stairs counts as physical exercise so maybe you feel you do enough. Which category do you fall into? Average minutes per week:

Inactive = less than 30 minutes

Fairly active = 30-149 minutes

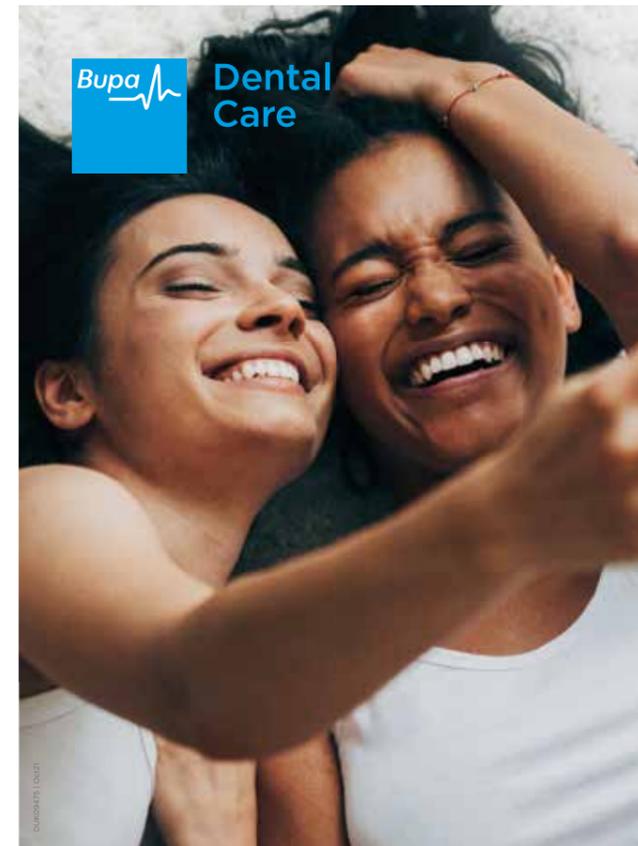
Active = average of 150+ minutes

There is generally scope to do more exercise. Different forms of exercise from that in the ordinary circle of living can be fun, friendly and encourage the use of other sets of muscles so strengthen and mobilise the body throughout.

Message for you

The message in this article is Your Body, Your Move or if you prefer Time to Get Moving. What you do, when you do it, how you do it is your choice. Those of us who teach in the field would be glad to welcome you to a class face to face or online

Alison Howard
alison.flexercise@gmail.com



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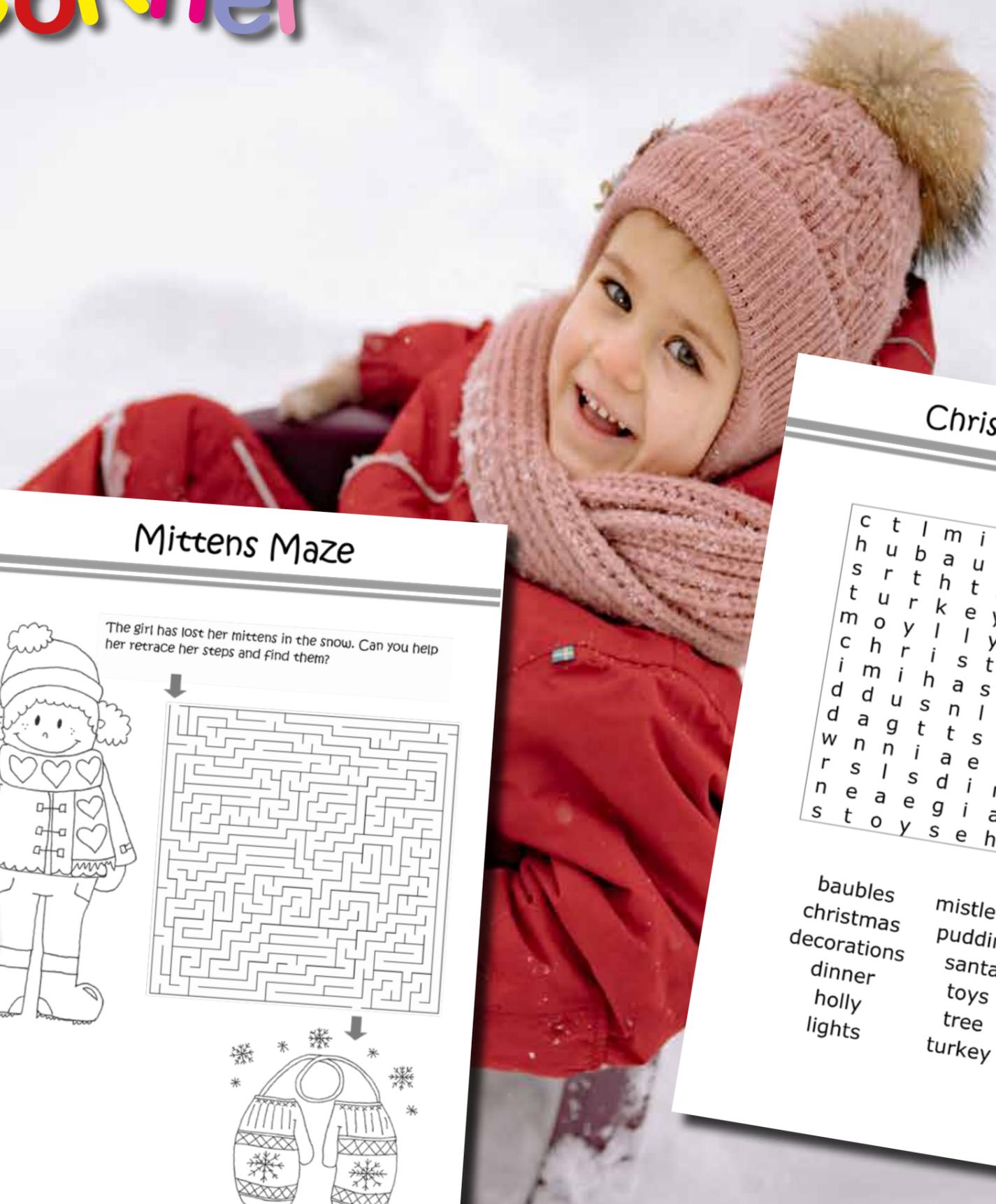
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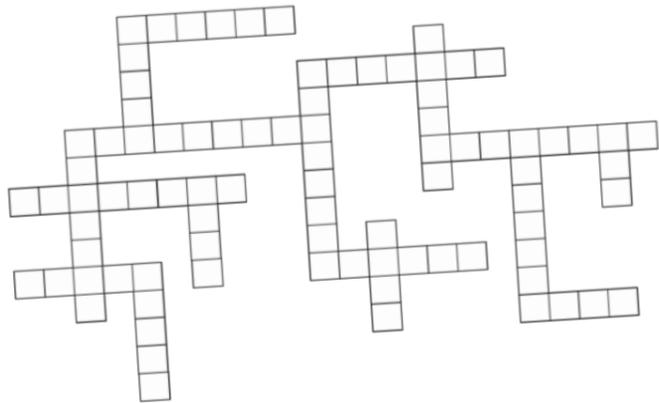
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Children's CoRner



Winter Crossword

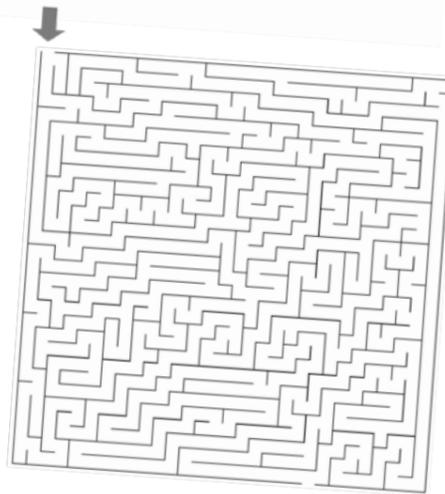


- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| COLD | SKATING |
| EARMUFFS | SLEDGING |
| FROST | SNOW |
| FUN | SNOWBALL |
| GLOVES | SNOWFLAKE |
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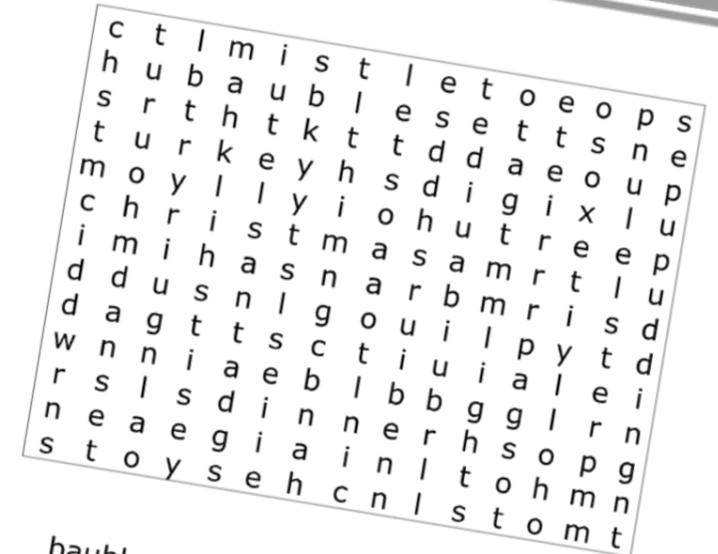
Mittens Maze

The girl has lost her mittens in the snow. Can you help her retrace her steps and find them?



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Christmas Word Search



- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| baubles | mistletoe |
| christmas | pudding |
| decorations | santa |
| dinner | toys |
| holly | tree |
| lights | turkey |



Bolton Under 5's Preschool: Autumn Term 2021

Our Preschool welcomes children between the ages of 2 years and 5 years, after which they will start in the reception year at their chosen infant school.

At BU5's, we provide a wide ranging curriculum, based on the Early Years' Foundation Stage, which continues throughout Year R.

We use child-directed learning, supported by professional observation and interactions, to ensure we can maximise each child's opportunities to improve their observational skills, language and maths' understanding, concentration and social interaction.

Rather than being 'taught', children are encouraged to make their own choices in the room and our beautiful garden, with a trained adult to guide and support them. This self direction encourages independence, plenty of play and collaborative opportunities with their friends, but also with other children who share an interest with them.



It is based on the philosophy that children, of this age particularly, should take pleasure in their chosen activities and learning should happen naturally through real life experiences wherever possible. Children are encouraged to move around the room and garden as they wish, so they can concentrate, for as long as they wish, on a particular activity. This way, they can build up their interests, powers of concentration and vocabulary.

Our children also enjoy additional activities, which change throughout the year, which are based in drama, science, art, music, nature, gardening and craft. These are often supported by lead professionals, who we

continue to work with, such as DramaTots and Mini Professors. There is always a wide range of activities designed to teach specific skills, which the children readily choose.

We work closely with our local infant and primary schools to make sure our children are ready for the move to 'big' school and have the basic skills and confidence needed to just make that transition a little more comfortable and ensure they are school-ready.

It's only right to add a few words about our excellent staff. Sam and Tina have been leading BU5s for over a decade and their enthusiasm is infectious. The rest of our team are great supporters of our approach to learning for our youngsters and bring their own unique skills, knowledge gained over many years and love for the job and, most importantly, for children!

Parents believe we deserve our great reputation and our 'Outstanding' recognition by Ofsted.



September 2022 and September 2023 Spaces Available

Unusually, we have spaces available from next September 2022. If you think our Preschool is the right place for your child, reflecting the kind of opportunities and environment you would choose, please contact us on the number below.

Our Business Manager, Sam Leadbetter, and our Preschool Manager, Tina Smee, would be delighted to show you around our lovely setting, so you can decide for yourselves if it's right for you and your family.

**Wishing you all the season's best,
The BU5's Preschool Parent Committee**

Our Contact Details
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Old Basing Village Nursery

The summer holidays flew by this year and before we knew it it was time to welcome the children back to Nursery School.



The start of a new academic year is always an exciting time and we always enjoy meeting our new starters who have settled in brilliantly. It didn't take long at all to get back into the swing of things.

The children absolutely adore our weekly Wild Child sessions and have already been learning about all kinds of wildlife on our doorstep. Our annual Halloween session saw families hunting for natural resources in order to make a monster potion! Seeing the children engage with and enjoy the local environment during these sessions is a real highlight of the week. As well as Wild Child and Singers and Shakers, we are looking forward to regular art sessions with the wonderful Squiggle and Dot which will further enhance our art provision and provide children to experiment with a broader range of media and methods. We look forward to seeing them produce some pieces they will be really proud of!



As well as being busy at the setting we have been out and about in the community as well - you may have spotted us out and about with our walking rope and hi-vis jackets! We have enjoyed visiting St Mary's Church where Reverend Heather welcomed us to a Harvest celebration. We learnt about the journey of bread from grain to loaf. We were proud to present our donations of tinned and packet foods to the Basingstoke Foodbank and enjoyed the peaceful feeling of being inside the church and singing together.

Following our Harvest theme, we took a trip to our wonderful local bakery, 'The Street Bakeshop' where Susanne and her team took us behind the scenes and showed us around. We were able to identify the ingredients for baking bread with lots of talk about the types of bread they like to eat at home. The children certainly enjoyed being able to feel the dough and watch the bakers knead it before weighing it, slicing it and popping it onto the rack. It was lovely to taste the different breads and for our team to sample the delicious coffee!



COVID-19 has hampered so many of our plans but we were delighted to finally be able to welcome members of the village hall committee to dine with us. The lunch provided a great opportunity to say thank you for all their help and support during the past eighteen months and, in particular, during the pandemic. The children loved having visitors at their tables and our delicious nursery meal got the thumbs up from everyone!

We consider ourselves extremely lucky to have the use of the village hall and it's beautiful surroundings. The village hall management team work incredibly hard to ensure that the hall continues to be a valuable resource for many groups within the Old Basing and Lychpit community. The committee are currently looking to recruit new members and if this is something you are interested in please do contact the Bookings Clerk, Heulwen on [07544 289932](tel:07544289932) or ourselves at the nursery on [07557642510](tel:07557642510) who will always be happy to pass your details on.

Victoria Grayson
Owner and Manager, Old Basing Village Nursery School



FOREST CARE *A family approach to care and support*

Caring Since 1981, Forest Care celebrates their 40th Anniversary by opening a 5th luxury residential care home

Since opening one of the first purpose-built care homes in South of England, Forest Care has flourished over 40 years into a large family company, successfully caring for communities in Hampshire and Surrey. Frank Fogarty Senior founded Forest Care with a homely 48-bed care home in Farnborough. Originally naming the company M.P.F Ltd, after his children, Michael, Philomena and Frank Jnr, the family have evolved the company together.

Forest Care prides itself on caring for the elderly with dignity and respect guiding everything they do. Celebrating every resident's achievements, hobbies and their families is very important. That is why they stand out as an authentic person-centered care provider,



have become multi-award winning and are widely recommended by residents and their loved ones. Each of their four care homes are individually distinctive.

CEDAR LODGE

Frank Senior quickly realised that his approach to providing care in luxury surroundings was a desirable care package for the aging community. In 1989, he purchased land to design and erect a 60-bed purpose-built care home in Frimley Green. Cedar Lodge has continued to be the epitome of a "home". Framed by a forest, every resident continues to enjoy woodland views from their luxury bedrooms combined with five-star hospitality led by resident's choice.

OAK LODGE

Purchasing Oakley Hall in Hampshire in 1993, Frank Senior transformed the former Hilsea College into Oak Lodge, creating a luxury care home set within 315 acres of country estate. Recognising the benefits of purpose-built care homes, in 2013, Oak Lodge and all their residents re-located into their new premises within the estate. Purpose-built on the foundations of a former country farm complex, Oak Lodge combines luxury facilities with a family approach to "outstanding" care.

HOLLY LODGE

The original "Holly Lodge" was sold in 1999, with the plan to relaunch a purpose-built home. In 2005, Frank Fogarty Jnr stepped into the role as proprietor of Forest Care with the ambition to continue his father's legacy. In 2008, this was realised with the reopening of Holly Lodge, a specialist dementia care home, innovatively designed to cultivate both calming and stimulating environments for the elderly in an idyllic woodland setting.

ROWAN LODGE

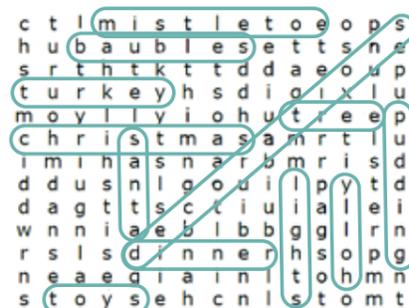
Rowan Lodge is an innovative care home that provides person-centered care. The youngest home in the group, they celebrated their 10th anniversary in September 2021.

5TH DECADE

Forest Care announces that they are opening a 5th care home in Hartley Wintney, Hampshire. Elm Lodge will open its doors in 2023, offering luxury residential care to the community. Forest Care is a growing family business & is proud to have reached their 40th anniversary. They would like to thank their local communities for trusting them to care for their loved ones, and they look forward to continually being there for those in need of care and support.

Children's Corner Answers

Winter Word Search



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